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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IJUSTCITY'S STATEMENT ON MANITOBA'S PLAN TO END CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

Winnipeg, January 17, 2025 – 1JustCity is pleased to hear of “Your Way Home” – Manitoba’s Plan to End Chronic Homelessness. This initiative marks a critical step toward addressing the complexities of homelessness and ensuring that every Manitoban has access to safe, stable, and permanent housing.

1JustCity has witnessed firsthand the growing need for safe, affordable housing and comprehensive support and case management services. Our programs—including eviction prevention, housing support, and our winter overnight shelter—have provided immediate relief to those in crisis. However, long-term solutions require coordinated effort and significant investment. We are encouraged by the government’s commitment to expanding social housing, investing in wraparound supports, and implementing a Housing First model within Manitoba Housing. This plan could address the hesitancy individuals living in encampments feel by ensuring they are able to move into housing with others who have become their family. By working alongside community organizations, Indigenous governments, municipalities, and the private sector, this plan can create real, lasting change.

“We are pleased to learn Tessa Blaikie Whitecloud has been appointed as the Senior Advisor on Ending Chronic Homelessness,” said Glynis Quinn, Executive Director of 1JustCity. “Tessa has experience working in the sector and we know that she will continue to collaborate as we move forward to provide a service that will meet the diverse and unique needs of individuals living unsheltered in Winnipeg. This is a significant step forward in coordinating efforts across the province to ensure a strategic, unified, and effective approach.”

As an organization dedicated to supporting individuals experiencing poverty, isolation, and homelessness, we look forward to partnering with the province to ensure that those most vulnerable receive the essential support they need to obtain stable housing. Ending chronic homelessness requires compassion, collaboration, and a shared commitment to the belief that everyone deserves a place to call home. We are committed to working alongside the government and community partners to provide essential services, support, and pathways to stability for those in need. We look forward to participating in the “Your Way Home” initiative and are eager to see more people access a place that meets their needs, and they can call home.

1JustCity has been loving our neighbours through our member charities for over 50 years. We are located in Winnipeg, Manitoba, on Treaty One Territory and the homeland of the Red River Métis. Through the work of our member charities – Oak Table (Osborne Village), Pimicikamak Wellness Centre (Central/West End), and West Broadway. Our vision is to create a Winnipeg that is founded on justice, where all are heard, all are welcome, all are cared for, all are celebrated, and all are working together.

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