

Canadian Foundation for Economic Education Introduces Initiatives to Enhance Financial Capability in Manitoba

Partnership with Province of Manitoba will provide opportunities for Manitobans to achieve financial health and well-being.

WINNIPEG, MB – June 6, 2018 – The Canadian Foundation for Economic Education (CFEE) today announced a collaborative initiative to enhance financial education across the province. Manitoba Minister of Education and Training, Ian Wishart and CFEE President, Gary Rabbior introduced – Portals – a multi-faceted program to help improve financial capability. The announcement took place at a student Money Fair Showcase event held in the Rotunda of the Manitoba legislature today. Manitoba is the first province in Canada to partner with CFEE on the Portals program.

Under the Portals program, CFEE will work with the province on a variety of initiatives to improve the financial capabilities of Manitobans. The partnership will focus on five important target groups – youth, parents, newcomers to Manitoba, seniors and Indigenous youth and communities. There will be no cost to the province for the work undertaken by CFEE.

The partnership will entail the following activities in the first year with additional efforts to be undertaken in subsequent years:

- Development of a new, optional high school course for Manitoba youth focusing on financial capability;
- A series of teacher professional development workshops to support implementation of the new course;
- Provision of student and teacher resources to support the new course – including a new, updated, and expanded version of the resource - “Money And Youth - A Guide to Financial Literacy” along with a new accompanying website;
- Expansion of the “Building Futures in Manitoba” program integrating financial education into grades 4-10;
- Collaboration on the “Talk With Our Kids About Money” program targeting grades 4-9 including the encouragement of “Money Fairs” in Manitoba schools;
- A series of workshops for seniors in collaboration with Mayors in a number of Manitoba towns/cities;
- A series of workshops for newcomers to Manitoba in collaboration with Manitoba immigrant serving agencies; and,
- Consultation with Indigenous leaders and experts on how best to adapt the resources and programs for effective use in Indigenous schools and communities.

CFEE has been working with the province of Manitoba for a number of years to assist and support financial education and literacy. It has been a precedent setting level of collaboration between a department of education and non-governmental organization to work together in an area of learning.

The announcement was made today at a Money Fair showcase at the provincial legislature involving students at schools in Brandon and Winnipeg. The event was held as a celebration of the new provincial partnership between the Manitoba government and CFEE. The event showcased CFEE programs: *Talk With Our Kids About Money (TWOKAM)*; Money and Youth; Building Futures in Manitoba; and, workshops for Manitoba newcomers, and seniors. The Money Fair showcase represented one key component of the partnership. For the past two years, the department has supported *'Talk With Our Kids About Money Day'* held in schools and homes across Canada annually on the third Wednesday every April.

Quotes

"Financial skills are important to all Manitobans and we are committed to increasing the financial literacy of all Manitobans, starting right from when they are young and laying a strong foundation for their future. Manitoba has been a leader in our commitment to this area and we are proud to build upon our long history of collaboration with the Canadian Foundation for Economic Education."

Manitoba Minister of Education and Training, Ian Wishart

"Our government is committed to promoting the health and well-being of older Manitobans. Financial stability is a big part of that. This initiative will reach seniors across Manitoba to provide tools to support financial literacy."

Manitoba Minister of Health, Seniors and Active Living, Kelvin Goertzen

"I am very pleased that the Manitoba Department of Education and Training and the Canadian Foundation for Economic Education (CFEE) have begun this collaboration to improve Manitobans' financial literacy. We know students, seniors, new Canadians and Indigenous Peoples can benefit from initiatives that will help them gain knowledge, skills, and confidence that will contribute to their financial well-being."

Canada's Financial Literacy Leader, Financial Consumer Agency of Canada, Jane Rooney

"The Canadian Foundation is honoured and delighted to be entering into a partnership with the government of Manitoba to help improve financial capability among a number of key target groups in the province. This opportunity comes from the success of the work that we have undertaken over the last few years in Manitoba with generous support from Investors Group and Scotiabank."

President of the Canadian Foundation for Economic Education, Gary Rabbior

About CFEE

CFEE is a federally chartered, non-profit, non-partisan organization, founded in 1974, that works to improve economic and financial literacy and enterprising capability. CFEE works collaboratively with ministries and departments of education along with school boards, schools, educators, and teacher associations. CFEE also engages in activities to support and assist newcomers and past immigrants to Canada, and the general public including print resources, videos, workshops, and online resources. Overall, CFEE aspires to help Canadians of all ages be better prepared to undertake their economic roles, responsibilities, and decisions with confidence and competence.

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