

# social purchasing portal

**seed** Supporting  
Employment &  
Economic  
Development  
WINNIPEG INC.

www.sppwinnipeg.org

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## THE PROVINCE HAS JOINED THE PORTAL AS A SUPPORTING PARTNER

The Winnipeg Social Purchasing Portal (SPP) continues to grow. In fact, we are pleased to announce the supporting partnership of the provincial government! This is a great step for the portal and we look forward to many opportunities for supplier partners to attain the business levels that would demand they

hire more employees. We also look forward to seeing the portal give the provincial government the opportunity they obviously desire, to demonstrate their commitment to building up Winnipeg's inner-city communities into healthy, viable places to work and live.

In an informal survey of our supplier partners, it appears business has picked up in general for most. Interestingly, we also heard from a few of the supplier partners that they are getting a lot of new business from other supplier partners. We've also noted many instances where purchaser partners have supported other purchaser partners. This tells us that businesses are willing to support local businesses that are committed to community economic development and they fully understand that a healthy inner-city economy is good for all of Winnipeg.

We recently witnessed an example of suppliers supporting suppliers. EarthShare, an agricultural cooperative needed aprons and promotional clothing. They ordered this from VASA a new clothier worker cooperative; potential supplier. (Suppliers must be in business for six months before being accepted to the portal.) The clothier cooperative had the screening for the shirts done with another supplier, the Screening Shoppe.

## Purchaser Profile: Springboard Promotions



We spoke with Robert Bruce from Springboard Promotions, a purchaser Partner with the portal. His company is changing their name as of September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006 to LOGO Print, Wear & Promotions. In an effort to increase local presence, this is a move to become independent from his brother's Springboard Promotions business in Ontario. With the independence, LOGO Print, Wear & Promotions will move their invoicing to Winnipeg, from Ontario. This is a step that is very important to Bruce who states, "We have to support the local economy as a team. We need to support the little guy and think about where we're buying our groceries, clothing and even cars." He believes our economy is diverse enough that we can meet most of our purchasing needs by buying locally. Bruce sees an increase in business and looks forward to posting an employment position on the portal, even though he's a purchaser partner. (Purchasers commit to buying from suppliers where they are able, suppliers commit to hiring from the Employment Exchange Committee where they are able.)

When reviewing the purchaser partner list, please note we've had a strong addition of non-profit organizations. We are pleased with the activity they have contributed. Currently, our focus is in recruiting more corporate business to the purchaser side. Also, we continue to search out new suppliers that offer the services and products purchasing partners require such as a moving company, flooring store and office supply store among others. We hope you will advise us of any businesses you feel would be a suitable addition to the portal!

Activity has been strong all around. Purchasers have been posting jobs with the employment exchange committee (EEC). Vlessy Villanueva-Sanchez with PATH Resource Centre has been doing a great job coordinating the Employment Exchange Committee and keeping on top of the many postings happening weekly. We're striving for stronger communication all around and it's working. We've had our growing pains as any business, organization or project will have in its infancy but we are confident in the direction the portal is headed.

### Thank you to our financial supporters

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# SPP Suppliers & Purchasers

## supplier partners

### Avenue Chiropractic Centre

quality chiropractic care

### Cosmopolitan Florists

beautiful flowers, plants, gift baskets

### Earthshare Agricultural Co-op

fresh organic produce

### The Enterprise of Art

### Ellice Café & Theatre

### Food for Thought

catering, frozen food, café

### Fresh Option Organic Delivery

fresh organic foods delivered

### FUNtastic Party & Special Event Planning

special events planning & party supplies

### Gunn's Bakery

a Winnipeg tradition of fine baked goods

### Inner-City Renovation

complete renovation service

### Inner-City Janitorial

### Inner-City Property Management

### Kendrick

### Lloyd's Quick Printing

quality, fast printing

### Mondragon Bookstore and Coffeehouse

cozy café and stimulating bookstore

### Natural Cycle

all-weather, fast, affordable courier service

### Neechi Foods

community-owned, grocery & catering

### Northern Star Worker Co-op

Aboriginal star blankets and wall hangings

### Organic Planet Worker Co-op

organic green grocer, deli & catering

### Paradis & Dennis Visual Communications

graphic design & printing

### ParIT Worker Co-op

### Pollock's Hardware

everyday and hard-to-find hardware items

### Prairie Pride Gourmet Baskets

fine gourmet gift baskets

### The Screening Shoppe

silk screening & promotional products

### The Sedentary Nomad

fair trade gifts from around the world

### The Up Shoppe

### Western Label Co.

Labels and digital print services



SEED Winnipeg (Supporting Employment and Economic Development) delivers programs and services that help low-income individuals, groups and organizations start businesses and save money for future goals. The Social Purchasing Portal is an effective way for SEED to model the power of Community Economic Development strategies to foster business development and employment in the inner-city. "We are thankful to Fast Track to Employment in Vancouver for initiating the SPP and are excited to be one of the first sites in Canada to launch this innovative Community Economic Development project," says Cindy Coker, SEED's executive director.

Visit the Social Purchasing Portal at [www.sppwinnipeg.org](http://www.sppwinnipeg.org)

## purchaser partners

Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives - Manitoba

Community Ownership Solutions

Mediation Services

Fort Garry Women's Resource Centre

Mountain Equipment Co-op

University of Manitoba Student's Union

Women's Enterprise Centre of Manitoba

Art City

Marymount

Nine Circles Community Health Centre

Social Planning Council of Winnipeg

Jubilee Fund Inc.

UN Platform for Action Committee Manitoba (UNPAC)

LITE (Local Investment Toward Employment)

Fort Whyte Centre

Tribal Councils Investment Group

Moe Water Delights Inc.

Elizabeth Fry Society Inc.

SEED Winnipeg Inc.

North End Women's Centre

Springboard Promotions

Manitoba Business 4507992 Ltd.

Credit Union Central of Manitoba

S.P.L.A.S.H. Child Care Inc.

University of Winnipeg

Corporate Express Canada Inc.

Hall Molgat Public Accountants

Indian & Northern Affairs Canada

United Way of Winnipeg

Taylor McCaffrey

Assiniboine Credit Union

Mount Carmel Clinic

Birchwood Automotive Group