

# social purchasing portal

seed  
WINNIPEG INC.

www.sppwinnipeg.org

February 2006 Vol 2 • No. 1

## Community organization supports inner-city businesses

Supporting inner-city businesses is one way community organizations contribute to the neighbourhoods in which they are located, says Janet Johnstone. Janet is the executive director of The Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba, an organization that actively seeks to reduce the involvement of women and girls in the criminal justice system, and one of the SPP's Purchaser Partners. Although they are relatively small fry, by focusing their purchasing dollars they are able to have a big impact on businesses in their North End community.

Elizabeth Fry regularly buys from many SPP Supplier Partners. Gunn's Bakery supplies them with specialty cakes. Neechi Foods provides catering. And The Up Shoppe supplies clothing for Elizabeth Fry's clients. Several months ago Janet needed 300 books printed in short order. Lloyd's Quick Printing – located just a couple blocks away – was able to meet her tight time lines. "They were fabulous," says Janet. "I just walked up the street to look at the proof and by the time I was back in the office they had already sent a quote over. We saved valuable time not having to drive across town for services."



**Janet Johnstone, executive director of the Elizabeth Fry Society, with employees of Inner City Renovation.**

Lately Janet has seen a lot of the folks from another SPP Supplier, Inner City Renovation. ICR has taken on the role of construction manager and is also providing some general contracting services for Elizabeth Fry's major renovation project. "They constantly amaze me. They anticipate every need and pay attention to each detail," says Janet. She's also thrilled to support a social enterprise that provides skill-building opportunities to many inner-city residents. "ICR provides employment for under-employed individuals and others who face barriers and also places an emphasis on hiring women. Their

entry-level positions often lead people to more specialized employment."

For Elizabeth Fry, purchasing is not just about saving a buck by trying to get the best deal. It's about individuals and organizations and businesses all working together to create a better community. "When we support inner-city businesses, they in turn invest in the neighbourhood. They fix up their storefronts, and provide employment to inner-city residents who in turn use their wages to fix up their own places. So the money stays within the community and that's what causes community growth."

In addition to purchasing from SPP Supplier businesses, Janet promotes the SPP to other inner-city organizations. "Whenever I have two or three people sitting down I ask them, 'Do you belong to the SPP?'" To find out how your business can join the SPP, visit our website at [www.sppwinnipeg.org](http://www.sppwinnipeg.org) or call Terri or Brad at 927-9935.

### What is the Social Purchasing Portal (SPP) ?

The Social Purchasing Portal is an online networking and supply resource designed for progressive businesses that are committed to strengthening Winnipeg's inner-city while creating employment opportunities for people who face barriers in the workforce.

Visit the Portal on line and see for yourself how your business can play a part in this innovative approach to strengthening Winnipeg's economy:  
[www.sppwinnipeg.org](http://www.sppwinnipeg.org)

### Welcome to our New SPP Purchasers and Suppliers

#### New Purchaser Partners

Art City  
Fort Whyte Centre  
Jubilee Fund  
LITE  
Marymount  
Nine Circles Community Health Centre  
Social Planning Council of Winnipeg

Tribal Councils Investment Group  
University of Manitoba Students' Union  
UNPAC  
Women's Enterprise Centre of Manitoba

#### New Supplier Partner

Ellice Café and Theatre

### Thank you to our financial supporters



## Sign up as a Partner today. Here's how...

### Sign up as a purchaser

#### Purchaser Partner's commitment:

- support the suppliers involved in the Social Purchasing Portal
- promote the SPP to other potential purchasers
- sign the SPP Purchaser Partner Letter of Commitment

#### Purchaser Partner's benefits:

- logo featured on the portal
- providing a tangible contribution to the revitalization of Winnipeg's core areas
- strengthening inner-city businesses and providing employment

#### How to sign up:

- Visit [www.sppwinnipeg.org](http://www.sppwinnipeg.org) and click on "Purchaser Sign-Up"
- For more information contact Terri or Brad at 927-9935 or [terri@seedwinnipeg.ca](mailto:terri@seedwinnipeg.ca) or [brad@seedwinnipeg.ca](mailto:brad@seedwinnipeg.ca)

### Sign up as a supplier

#### Supplier Partner's commitment:

- operate in Winnipeg's inner-city or be a business with a stated social purpose
- use the services of the SPP Employment Network
- sign the SPP Supplier Partner Letter of Commitment

#### Suppliers Partner's benefits:

- free advertising through the portal
- access to productive new business opportunities
- HR (human resource) support through the Employment Exchange

#### How to sign up:

- Visit [www.sppwinnipeg.org](http://www.sppwinnipeg.org) and click on "Supplier Sign-Up"
- For more information contact Terri or Brad at 927-9935 or [terri@seedwinnipeg.ca](mailto:terri@seedwinnipeg.ca) or [brad@seedwinnipeg.ca](mailto:brad@seedwinnipeg.ca)

#### SPP Employment Exchange Committee

The SPP Employment Exchange Committee (EEC) is a partnership of 17 non-profit member agencies each working with people who have faced multiple barriers to employment. The EEC responds to job postings from SPP Supplier and Purchaser Partners. The EEC is coordinated by the PATH Resource Centre. For more information please contact Vlessy Villaneuva-Sanchez at 927-2306.



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)

#### SPP Supplier Partners

- Avenue Chiropractic Centre
- Cosmopolitan Florists
- EarthShare Agricultural Co-operative
- Ellice Café and Theatre
- Food for Thought
- Fresh Option Organic Delivery
- FUNtastic Party & Special Event Planning
- Gunn's Bakery
- Inner-City Renovation
- Kendrick's Printing
- Lloyd's Quick Printing
- Mondragon Bookstore and Coffeehouse
- Natural Cycle
- Neechi Foods
- Northern Star Worker Co-op
- Organic Planet Worker Co-op
- Paradis & Dennis Visual Communications
- Pollock's Hardware
- Prairie Pride Gourmet Baskets
- The Screening Shoppe
- The Sedentary Nomad
- The Up Shoppe
- Western Label Co.

#### SPP Purchaser Partners

- Art City
- Assiniboine Credit Union
- The Birchwood Automotive Group
- Corporate Express Canada Inc.
- Credit Union Central of Manitoba
- Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba
- Fort Whyte Centre
- Hall Molgat Public Accountants
- Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
- Jubilee Fund
- Local Investment Toward Employment (LITE)
- Manitoba Business #4507992
- Marymount
- Moe Water Delights Inc.
- Mount Carmel Clinic
- Nine Circles Community Health Centre
- North End Women's Centre
- SEED Winnipeg Inc.
- Social Planning Council of Winnipeg
- SPLASH Child Care Inc.
- Springboard Promotions
- Taylor McCaffrey LLP
- Tribal Councils Investment Group
- UN Platform for Action Committee (UNPAC)
- United Way of Winnipeg
- University of Manitoba Students' Union
- University of Winnipeg
- Women's Enterprise Centre of Manitoba