Call for Applications:

Northern Manitoba Food, Culture & Community Fund

This fund is a cooperative effort of funders and northern Manitoba people.

Why the fund exists: We want to support communities in northern Manitoba to increase access to healthy food and to improve community health and community economic development. To do a good job of providing this support, we want to learn about and understand northern cultures, values, strengths and challenges through respectful, mutual sharing of stories and ideas. Finally, if this collaborative funding approach works well it could be replicated.

Steps to Applying:
1. Call or email Julie Price to discuss your project idea. She will work with you to see if your idea fits with this funding opportunity and she has examples of activities that could be supported by this fund.

   Julie will send you the application form once you talk to her.

   Julie can be reached in Winnipeg at 204.990.1215 or by email at julie.price@tidescanada.org

2. Complete an Application. This includes describing your community and the project and activities that you would like to do. It also includes a budget showing the money you need and how it will be spent. Julie can help you complete this application if needed.

3. Send your completed application to Julie by December 18th, 2013. Remember, she can help you record your ideas and complete the application if you would like some help, but you need to contact her well before the application deadline!

   Applications should be emailed to Julie at julie.price@tidescanada.org no later than December 18th, 2013.
IMPORTANT FUND INFORMATION

**Food-related Community Economic Development** is the focus of this fund. Your community project should involve food and have an impact on community economic development (see page 3 for a definition).

**Are you in the north?** To apply your community must be north of the line on the map (see page 4).

**Does your project benefit a group of people?** We want to support groups of people and we believe in the strength of community. We recommend that you have a minimum of 15 families/households participating. However, speak to Julie if you have a project with less than 15 families to see if you can still apply.

**Does your community experience economic and food-related challenges?** We want to support people and communities that really need it.

**Do you have an organization to administer the funds?** Grants will not be administered to individual bank accounts. Be sure to speak with Julie and tell her how your project will be administered.

**Grant amounts.** The top limit that we will be able to grant to any one project is $25,000. There is a $1,000 minimum granting amount.

**Project start & completion dates.** Grants will be awarded in early 2014 and spending must be completed by Dec 15th, 2014.

**Your Responsibilities.** We want you to know that if you receive a grant, we will ask the following things of you & your community:

1. **Financial Responsibility.** You are responsible to spend the money as planned and provide documentation. We will give you a simple template and ask you to keep receipts.

2. **Story Sharing, Pictures & Evaluation.** Tell us what happened! Both Tides Canada and Health in Common will help you to do this. We want to know what was important to your community about this project, what worked well, and what could have been improved. Together we will learn how to become stronger.

3. **Sharing with others.** You will be asked to share the benefits received (knowledge, skills, and resources) with other communities as you see fit. We would like to learn how you do this. You will also participate in four conference calls to share stories with other communities who received grants from us.

4. **Hosting Visitors.** You may be asked to host us in your community. We would cover the costs. We want to come together to share our stories and hear yours.

**Our Responsibilities.** These are the things that you can expect from us:

1. **Respectful.** We will be respectful and clear with you and your community.

2. **Information Sharing.** We will try to support your work financially and also by sharing information about other grant opportunities or resource that could benefit your work. With your permission, we will share the stories of your work to the public and other potential supporters.

3. **Listening.** We will listen to your ideas and to your questions, comments, concerns or challenges.
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

**What is Community Economic Development?** We have decided to follow the Neechi Principles of Community Economic Development. See [www.arch.umanitoba.ca/greenmap/pages/GrnMapPl_msNeechi/](http://www.arch.umanitoba.ca/greenmap/pages/GrnMapPl_msNeechi/) for a full description of each principle. The Community Economic Development Principles as developed by Neechi Foods Worker Co-op include:

- Use of locally produced goods and services
- Production of goods and services for local use
- Local re-investment of profits
- Long-term employment of local residents
- Local skill development
- Local decision-making
- Public health
- Physical environment
- Neighbourhood stability
- Human dignity
- Support for other CED initiatives

**The Partners:**
The Northern Manitoba Funding Collaborative is the cooperative effort of funders and northern people.

Northern Manitobans providing advice, support and guidance are Hilda Dysart, Noel Allard, Sofia Rablauskus, Jim Beardy, and Moneca Sinclair. Funding and expertise provided by The J.W. McConnell Family Foundation, The Thomas Sill Foundation, Province of Manitoba, Northern Healthy Foods Initiative, Heifer International Canada, Aboriginal Economic Resources Development Fund, Lake Winnipeg Foundation, and Anonymous Donor. Tides Canada contributes financially and hosts the fund.

**Fund Background:**
Northern Manitoba is a region where communities currently struggle with very high rates of poverty, food insecurity, and related health issues. But it was not always this way. The partners who created the [Northern Manitoba Food, Culture & Community Fund](#) seek to support communities to address these issues by supporting locally appropriate projects. This is the first collaborative funding effort in Northern Manitoba.

By sharing the experiences, resources, wisdom and desire for supportive change, and focusing our energies on northern Manitoba, we expect to take part in creating a sustained and positive change in the north, and witnessing the blossoming health of northern people, economies and food systems, and the development of local capacity and community champions. The Collaborative brings together previously active northern support organizations while critically involving new support organizations in the work.

Tides Canada, the national public foundation that hosts the fund, also supports communities in three territories and northern portions of other provinces that share similarities with northern Manitoba.
Your community must be located north of the Aboriginal and Northern Affairs boundary line.