



**Boys & Girls Clubs
of Winnipeg**

A good place to be

February 9, 2015

STARS

Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
1536 Wynkoop St., Suite 100, Denver CO 80202

Re: UWinnipeg Community Charter

With its grand opening in the summer of 2014, the \$40 million dollar UNITED Health and RecPlex at the University of Winnipeg is the newest and most comprehensive athletic and wellness facility built in Winnipeg's inner-city. This was the kind of space that was desperately needed by many of the campus' surrounding neighbourhoods, where high levels of poverty and low levels of educational attainment or the norm.

Many of the community organizations in the area, including the Boys and Girls Club of Winnipeg understand that recreational opportunities are a great way to foster leadership and create a sense of opportunity for young people. By creating the Community Charter (in consultation with community organizations), UWinnipeg ensures that local groups will have ongoing access to this facility.

The Community Charter builds on the work that UWinnipeg has already done to diversify sports and recreation opportunities for inner-city youth. This includes the creation of the Inner-City Junior Wesmen which provides team sports opportunities for 300 boys and girls. They have also created the Inner-City Sport for All Fund which raises funds to maintain and create more recreational programming.

For these reasons, the Community Charter is not only innovative, but it enhances sustainability on campus by bringing neighbourhood youth into the campus to play and achieve while enhancing the diversity of the campus.

Sincerely,

Ron Brown
President & CEO