



2024/2025

Report to Community






Land Acknowledgement

Seven Oaks School Division acknowledges that we are on the ancestral lands of the Anishinaabeg, Ininew, Anishininew, Dakota Oyate, Dene and the birthplace and homelands of the Red River Métis Nation. We are committed to working collaboratively with Indigenous Nations to foster relationships that heal and build respect.

Water is the fundamental element of life, and our access to water comes from Treaty 3, Shoal Lake 40 First Nation. We express our deep gratitude for this vital gift, which sustains life in our schools and in our daily lives.

In the words of the late, Honourable Murray Sinclair, Mazina Giizhik-iban, “Education got us into this mess and education will get us out of it.” This is the work of our Seven Oaks School Division community.





OUR Mission Statement

The Seven Oaks School Division is a Community of Learners, every one of whom shares the responsibility to assist children in acquiring an education that will enable them to lead fulfilling lives within the world as moral people and contributing members of society.



Vision

Every student, every opportunity, every day

.....

Core Values

Community Values

Diversity

Equity

Inclusion

Community

Learning Values

Mastery

Independence

Rigour

Relevance

Relationship Values

Belonging

Generosity

Relationship

Participation

.....

Division Priorities

Strong Teaching and Rich Learning

Implement varied and evidence based instructional practices.

Truth & Reconciliation and Anti Racism

Honour the principles of reconciliation and actualize the vision of Mamàhtawisiwin: The Wonder We Are Born With.

Inclusive, Safe and Welcoming Environments

Implement inclusive practices that ensure all students are meaningfully engaged in appropriate programming that meets their unique learning needs.

Advocacy for Public Education

Engage school communities in setting the future direction through meaningful consultation and collaborative decision making.



A Message from the Board Chair



It's with great pleasure that we present the 2024–2025 Report to the Community, a reflection of the vibrant learning, growth and shared purpose that defines the Seven Oaks School Division.

This past year, we welcomed nearly 12,400 students across 27 schools, each one a future difference-maker. Our commitment to strong teaching and rich learning, along with fostering inclusive and welcoming environments and advancing Truth and Reconciliation, continues to guide every decision we make. With nearly 83% of our budget directed to classrooms—well above the provincial average of 79%—we remain focused on what matters most: helping our students reach their full potential.

We believe every student deserves the opportunity to succeed. That's why we offer a wide range of supports designed to remove barriers and expand possibilities. From free access to band instruments and supervised lunches to field trips and low-cost school supplies, we're dedicated to providing the resources our students need to thrive. Through career-focused programs and clear pathways to post-secondary education, our students excel in academics, the arts, athletics, Indigenous cultural programming and beyond. We truly believe success grows from passion, purpose and opportunity.

While Seven Oaks School Division faces ongoing funding challenges and financial commitments related to our growth, the Seven Oaks board of trustees remains steadfast in our focus on the priorities that will advance our vision: every student, every opportunity, every day. We are especially proud that through dedicated advocacy, trustees have secured approval for the construction of three vital new K-8 schools: École Mino Pimatisiwin in the Aurora neighbourhood (opening 2026); a new school in Meadowlands (opening 2027); and another in Highland Pointe (opening 2029). We extend our sincere gratitude to the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning Tracy Schmidt and McPhillips MLA JD Devgan for their invaluable partnership and advocacy in support of Seven Oaks families.

To the students and families who partnered with trustees and senior administration during our collaboration meetings, thank you! Your feedback and insights are crucial to identifying, refining and advancing divisional priorities, and we look forward to future opportunities for dialogue.

To our community, thank you for your continued support and partnership. Together, we're building an inclusive and inspiring future for every learner in Seven Oaks.

Edward Ploszay
Seven Oaks School Division Board Chair

Board of Trustees



Diane Cameron
*Amber Trails, Aurora,
Highland Pointe & Maples*



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Highland Pointe & Maples*



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*Amber Trails, Aurora,
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Rivergrove & West Kildonan*



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Rivergrove & West Kildonan*



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Tiffany Winchar
West St Paul

Superintendents Team



From L to R: **Jennifer McGowan**—Assistant Superintendent (Human Resources), **Jenny Hughes**—Assistant Superintendent (Student Services), **Heather Marks**—Assistant Superintendent (Curriculum), **Tony Kreml**—Superintendent, **Sherri Denysuik**—Assistant Superintendent (Indigenous Education), **Jennifer West**—CFO/Secretary Treasurer, **Chris Kwan**—Assistant Secretary Treasurer

Seven Oaks School Division At A Glance



12,500

Students



3 High Schools



3 MET Schools



21 Elementary/
Middle Schools

1 Land Based
Education Centre

2 Adult Education
Centres

Nearly

2,700

Students are registered
in french immersion



4 Elementary Schools

2 Middle Schools

1 High School



3,000

students in K – 8
are transported to and
from schools daily



1,500

people are employed
by Seven Oaks School Division



1,050

students are enrolled in in
Filipino, Ojibwe, Punjabi and
Ukrainian bilingual programs

350 pre school
aged children
participated in
pre kindergarten
programming

350 Indigenous
middle years
students
engaged
in cultural
programming

500 Indigenous
senior years
students
engaged
in cultural
programming

800 students
participated
in summer
programs at
no fee

A budget of nearly **\$208 million** will support over **12,500** students across **27** schools for the 2025/2026 school year

83.2%

of Seven Oaks School Division expenditures go directly to the classroom. Provincial average is 79.2%

3,000

students transported by SOSD buses

3 K-8 schools are slated to open by 2029.

1. École Mino Pimatisiwin (Aurora) in 2026
2. Meadowlands (anticipated 2027)
3. Highland Pointe (2029)



22,000

hours of community facility use



220


days booked at the Seven Oaks Performing Arts Centre




95%

graduation rate over the past 5 years


\$856,000 in provincial funding and **\$256,000** in federal funding to support universal nutrition in all Schools




1,995
STUDENTS
IN FIDDLE



6,717
STUDENTS
IN CHOIR




2,830
STUDENTS
IN BAND



665
STUDENTS IN
VISUAL ART

ARTS AT A GLANCE

Arts education offers students numerous opportunities to explore their creativity, develop teamwork skills and showcase their talents to family and friends.



3,038
STUDENTS
IN UKULELE
/GUITAR



2,086
STUDENTS
IN RECORDER



3,590
STUDENTS
IN DANCE



1,535
STUDENTS
IN MUSICAL
THEATRE



345

**REGISTERED
COACHES**



10,512

rostered participants from early years to high school in football, cross country, hockey, handball, curling, soccer, volleyball, basketball, flag football, track and field, golf, lacrosse, rugby, ultimate, baseball and softball.

SPORTS

BY THE NUMBERS.

Youth sports promote physical health, build character and teach essential life skills like teamwork, discipline and resilience.



4,229

**EARLY YEARS
ATHLETES**



1,798

**SENIOR
YEARS
ATHLETES**



4,485

**MIDDLE YEARS
ATHLETES**

In the 2024 - 2025 school year, our enrolment grew to nearly 12,400 students in 27 schools.

That means we have 12,400 future difference makers in our classrooms and that many reasons to spend on what matters: helping our students achieve their fullest potential.

To do this, we deliver more for less, finding efficiencies and economies of scale wherever possible at no cost to quality education. Our spending strategy allows us to put nearly 83% of our budget straight into classrooms and programs that make a difference.

We buy supplies in bulk and send all of our purchasing and contracts to tender, giving us savings we can pass on to parents. We offer band instruments, lunch supervision, lockers and field trips at no cost. This alone saves parents \$740 per year, per child.

In addition, we offer students the opportunity to participate in Learn to Skate, Swim and Bike programs, as well as the Sistema Winnipeg (Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra) music program at no cost. A range of summer engagement activities are also available—all completely free of charge.

This alleviates some pressures on our parents and gives our students the potential to grow, explore and realize their potential.

Smart, focused and deliberate – that's how we spend.

Cost Savings to parents:



\$120
**SCHOOL
SUPPLIES**



\$350
**LUNCH
SUPERVISION**



\$220
**BAND
INSTRUMENTS**



\$50
**FIELD TRIPS/
LOCKER FEES**

“Success over a lifetime isn’t defined by scores—it’s shaped by purpose, passion and growth.”

Teaching required curriculum is a priority for our division. We know that true success grows out of student engagement and passion rather than academic achievement alone.

We are steadfast in our commitment to provide opportunities for our students to explore, experiment and find that engagement in whatever piques their individual interests.

From Beyond Grade 12 Now, which offers in school post-secondary coursework at no charge, to Career Ready vocational programs like Plumbing and Pipefitting, HVAC, Health Care Aide and Aviation Technology (and more!) to Indigenous focused cultural programming, our priority is to help our students recognize and realize their potential.

These programs captivate students, unleash passions and potential and ultimately elevate our divisional graduation rate, which is consistently above the 90 percent mark.

Our students graduate into the larger world with expanded horizons and expanded minds. And that is the ultimate success story.

Success by the numbers:



95%

graduation rate
over the past 5 years



175

enrolled in timetabled
university courses



850

students enrolled in Indigenous
focused cultural programming

\$640,000

of scholarship money awarded to the class of 2025

More than
2 out of 3

graduates go on to further education



Literacy

Over **84%**

of our students are approaching or meeting Reading goals by the beginning of grade 3. This includes reading comprehension, setting and reflecting on reading goals and making sense of texts. By Grade 8, over **91%** of our students are approaching or meeting grade-level goals in reading and writing. These important benchmarks include using writing conventions, developing language, reading comprehension and others.



Numeracy

Over **87%**

of our students are approaching or meeting key goals in Numeracy by early Grade 3. These measures include predicting patterns, number sense and using mental math strategies. By the middle of Grade 7, over **91%** of our students are approaching or meeting important measures in Numeracy that include working with decimals and fraction, mental math and mental math strategies.

While we are proud of our work in these areas, we have a strong and on-going commitment to work in these areas.

Seven Oaks is among Winnipeg's most culturally rich and diverse neighbourhoods.

Our division welcomes families from many cultural, religious and social backgrounds and we rely on this diversity to create a unique, rich environment for all who study, work, play and live in our schools.

We are committed to providing learning experiences that explore our community's roots, from wherever they stem. We also honour the land which our schools are built and place a strong focus on Indigenous perspectives.

Our goal is for every family to find their home in Seven Oaks, without compromising what makes each of us unique.

No matter who you are, you're welcome here.

English

French (Immersion and basic)

Filipino Bilingual

Punjabi Bilingual

English as an
Additional Language

Ukrainian Bilingual

Ojibwe Bilingual



Our Commitment to Truth and Reconciliation

As we continue our journey of Truth and Reconciliation, we are guided by a deep respect for the truth and a deep understanding of our responsibility to reconciliation. We are committed to ensuring that every student understands the vital contributions of Indigenous peoples in our country, the profound and lasting impacts of colonization, the legacy of residential schools and our shared treaty responsibilities.

To this end, we continue to infuse Indigenous worldviews through the teachings from our elders of *mino pimatisiwin* (living the good life), treaty education for all and the history of residential schools into our curriculum. We learn from the wisdom of Elders, Knowledge Holders and actively support the preservation and revitalization of Indigenous languages and cultures.

We are proud to offer Ojibwe language programs at Riverbend, Edmund Partridge schools and West Kildonan Collegiate. We are also proud to offer Michif language learning at Garden City Collegiate. Our land-based learning and teachings centre, Aki, continues to thrive through the foundation of Indigenous ways of knowing, being and learning. We are excited to be offering Indigenous focused cultural exploration programs in our middle and senior years schools. K-8 schools host Pow Wow clubs, jigging clubs and drum groups and for the past 16 years we have been celebrating Indigenous culture and achievements with a vibrant graduation Pow Wow and feast.

At Seven Oaks, we acknowledge that Truth and Reconciliation is a shared responsibility—one that calls for the active engagement of our entire community.

Indigenous Excellence Awards – We See You Gi-Waabamigoom

We proudly hosted our inaugural Indigenous Excellence Awards evening, a heartfelt celebration honouring the outstanding accomplishments of 52 inspiring Indigenous youth from grades 8 through 12.

These awards recognized excellence across a wide range of areas including **culture, identity, sports, academics, the arts, leadership** and their contributions as **remarkable community members**. Each recipient exemplified strength, resilience and brilliance in their own unique way.

It was a beautiful and moving evening shared with the youth, their families and friends, school administrators and staff. We were deeply honoured to have Minister Bernadette Smith join us in support of the youth, adding a special touch to an already unforgettable night.

The stories and achievements of these young leaders inspired all of us to reflect on the future—one that is rooted in **love, community, dedication** and the spirit of **mino-pimatisiwin**, living the good life. We are proud to know that the Indigenous Excellence Awards will flourish for many years to come, creating ripples of inspiration and pride that will be felt across Seven Oaks and beyond.

Growing Together in Seven Oaks

Seven Oaks is expanding, and we're thoughtfully planning for the future. Construction is underway for École Mino Pimatisiwin School, a dual track K–8 school in the Aurora neighbourhood, set to open in 2026. We've also received approval for two more K–8 schools: one in Meadowlands (2027) and another in Highland Pointe (opening 2029). Looking ahead, we've secured land for a future high school in Highland Pointe and are currently awaiting final approval. To better support families, every new school will include an on-site childcare centre—part of our commitment to inclusive, community-rooted education.



Universal Nutrition Program

The Universally Accessible School Nutrition Program

This year students in the Seven Oaks School Division benefitted from a transformative investment in student well-being, made possible through significant funding from both the provincial (\$856,000) and federal (\$250,000) governments. This vital support through the Universally Accessible School Nutrition Program has allowed us to expand and strengthen our programs, ensuring that every student has access to nutritious food while at school.

Schools across the division were able to offer a range of nutrition initiatives—from cold and/or hot breakfasts and lunches to healthy snack options throughout the day— all of which were designed to meet students' needs and support their learning, development and overall health.

For many years, Seven Oaks has prioritized student nourishment using various grants and divisional funding to ensure that children don't go hungry at school. This new government investment builds on that foundation and empowers us to reach even more students with consistent, reliable access to healthy food. We look forward to the continued governmental support in the coming years with funds already allocated to the Seven Oaks School Division totalling \$1,250,000 for the 2025-26 school year.

Hunger should never stand in the way of learning. By removing barriers to healthy food, this initiative not only supports academic success—it also fosters equity, community care and a sense of belonging for all students in Seven Oaks. We deeply appreciate the commitment from our government partners in helping us build schools where no student is left behind.

Creating a Healthier Learning Environment Together

This year, we introduced a new cell phone policy designed to help students stay present and connected in the classroom. By limiting phone use at the K–8 level and guiding responsible use for high school students, we've seen encouraging results: 85% of middle years students said they were able to focus better, 81% felt peer relationships improved and 83% of high school students reported positive changes when phones stayed out of sight during lessons. Thank you for supporting this collective step toward healthier habits and stronger learning communities.



St. Boniface Hospital Youth BIOlab

Twenty-three grade 8 students from Seven Oaks participated in the Youth BIOlab Jeunesse at St. Boniface Hospital Research to gain a close-up look at the diversity in healthcare careers over the course of a series of nine visits. In one such visit, the students had a hands-on experience of a brain dissection to look at the impacts of Alzheimer's disease.

The Youth BIOlab Jeunesse is part of the Pathways Program, a collaborative initiative between the division and the Rady Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Manitoba. It was spearheaded by Seven Oaks School Division and Dean Peter Nickerson with a goal of actively supporting early learners in exploring future career paths in health sciences.



Representation and Relationship

The This Is Us 2025 report reflects Seven Oaks School Division's ongoing commitment to equity, inclusion and antiracism by examining staff diversity through both quantitative data and lived narratives. The updated data highlights growing representation of racialized and multilingual staff across our division, a reflection of our evolving workforce and deepening connections with the communities we serve. We remain dedicated to building on this progress to more fully reflect the diversity of Winnipeg North communities within Seven Oaks. Stories shared by staff, particularly those who are Indigenous and racialized highlight the transformative power of identity-affirming relationships and culturally responsive teaching. These experiences reinforce the importance of moving beyond surface-level inclusion toward deeper systemic change. The report calls for continued action to ensure that our schools reflect and uplift the communities they serve. It reminds us that antiracism is not just about who is present but how they are supported, valued and empowered. The report will be available in September 2025.



Budget Considerations That Reflect our Priorities

At Seven Oaks School Division, we are deeply committed to ensuring every student receives a high-quality education and reaches their full potential. We prioritize spending where it matters most—in the classroom and on programs that actively engage students in learning. Recent provincial data shows that nearly 83% of division expenditures go directly to the classroom, compared to the provincial average of almost 79%.

Our sustained investment has consistently delivered results. Graduation rates exceed 90%, and two-thirds of our students go on to pursue further education through trade schools, colleges or universities.

From kindergarten through high school, our students benefit from a system rich with opportunity:



Early Years

- Small class sizes
- Evidence-based literacy and numeracy approaches
- Emphasis on strong student–teacher relationships
- Pow Wow clubs celebrating Indigenous culture



Middle Years

- A wide range of extracurricular activities, arts and athletics to support self-discovery
- Extensive choral and band programs
- Integrated Technology, Arts and Sports programming in every school
- Indigenous-focused learning experiences



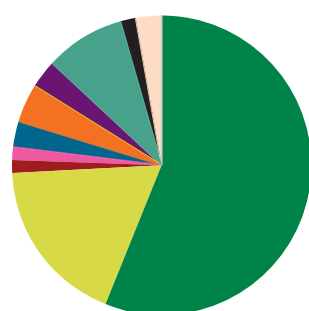
High School

- Responsive programming tailored to student interests and goals
- Career-ready education leading to certifications, employment and college training
- Post-secondary dual credit opportunities
- The award-winning MET Schools
- Wayfinders mentorship and after-school support
- Indigenous Cultural credit programs
- Tech Hub – a multimedia experience and mentorship by industry professionals

2025–2026 Budget Planning

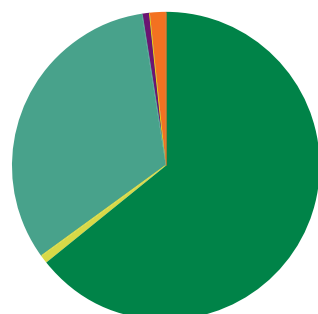
Faced with growing enrolment and increased operating costs, trustees aimed to maintain staffing ratios and programming while crafting a budget. Meeting those goals required a 7.2% increase in revenues. Provincial funding rose by 3% resulting in a budget shortfall. After consultation and extensive deliberation, the Board of Trustees concluded that cutting teachers, staff, supports or programming was not an acceptable solution.

On March 3, 2025, the Board approved a budget—one that invests where it counts, protects existing opportunities and addresses ongoing financial pressures. The budget includes a mill rate increase of 4.5% and preserves current staffing and programming levels.



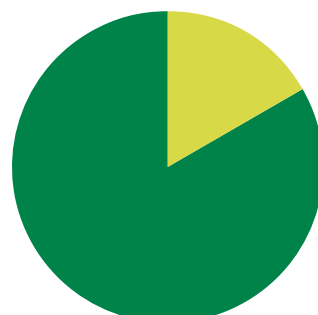
How Each Dollar is Spent

Regular Instruction	56.3%
Student Support Services	18.0%
Adult Learning Centres	1.3%
Community Education and Services	1.5%
Divisional Administration	2.7%
Instructional and Other Support Services	4.2%
Transportation of Pupils	2.9%
Operations and Maintenance	8.7%
Fiscal	1.7%
Capital	2.6%



Where the Money Comes From

Provincial Government	64.3%
Federal Government	0.8%
Municipal Government	32.5%
Adult Education Program	0.8%
Other	1.6%



Operating Expenditures by Type

Salaries and Benefits	83.3%
Supplies, Services and Capital	16.7%

1. **A E. WRIGHT COMMUNITY SCHOOL**
1520 Jefferson Ave. R2P 1K1 • K-8 Filipino Dual Track
Principal: Harpreet Panag 204.632.6314
2. **AMBER TRAILS COMMUNITY SCHOOL**
1575 Templeton Ave. R2P 2T5 • K-8 & K-3 Punjabi Dual Track
Principal: Navjeet Kambo 204.697.5965
3. **ÉCOLE BELMONT,**
525 Belmont Ave. R2V 0Z6 • K-5 Fr Imm
Principal: Crystal Hanson 204.338.7893
4. **COLLICUTT SCHOOL**
75 Cottingham St. R2V 3B5 • K-5
Principal: Jamil Mian 204.338.7937
5. **ÉCOLE CONSTABLE EDWARD FINNEY**
25 Anglia Ave. R2P 2R1 • K-5 Dual Track
Principal: Natalie Trudeau 204-694-8688
6. **EDMUND PARTRIDGE COMMUNITY SCHOOL**
1874 Main St. R2V 2A6 • 6-8
Principal: Sean McGillivray 204.339.9889
7. **ELWICK COMMUNITY SCHOOL**
30 Maberley Rd. R2P 0E2 • K-8
Principal: Stephanie Luna 204.633.5641
8. **FOREST PARK SCHOOL**
130 Forest Park Dr. R2V 2R8 • K-5
Principal: Tanya Kohut 204.338.9341
9. **COLLÈGE GARDEN CITY COLLEGIATE**
711 Jefferson Ave. R2V 0P7 • 9-12 Dual Track
Principal: Howard Kowalchuk 204.339.2058
10. **GOVERNOR SEMPLE SCHOOL**
150 Hartford Ave. R2V 0V7 • K-5,
Principal: Jillian Green 204.339.7112
11. **H.C. AVERY SCHOOL**
10 Marigold Bay, R2V 2M1 • 6-8,
Principal: Mark Gilchrist 204.334.4391
12. **JAMES NISBET COMMUNITY SCHOOL**
70 Doubleday Dr. R2P 0P4 • K-8
Principal: Martina Vergata 204.633.8870
13. **ÉCOLE LEILA NORTH COMM. SCHOOL**
20 Allen Blye Dr. R2P 2S5 • 6-8 Dual Track
Principal: Dena Arnold 204.694.8071
14. **MAPLES COLLEGIATE**
1330 Jefferson Ave. R2P 1L3 • 9-12
Principal: Melissa Delaronde 204.632.6641
15. **MAPLES MET SCHOOL**
1330 Jefferson Ave. R2P 1L3 • 9-12
Principal: Marshall Mays 204.632.6641
16. **MARGARET PARK SCHOOL**
385 Cork Ave. R2V 1R6 • K-5
Principal: Tammy Harder 204.338.9384
17. **EXCHANGE MET SCHOOL**
100-321 McDermot Ave. R3A 0A4 • 9-12
Principal: Jane Suchy 204.589.9854
18. **O.V. JEWITT COMMUNITY SCHOOL**
66 Neville St. R2P 1W3 • K-8
Principal: Tannis Nishibata-Chan 204.633.1714
19. **R.F. MORRISON SCHOOL**
25 Morrison St. R2V 3B3 • K-6 Ukr Dual Track
Principal: Amber Anderson 204.338.7804
20. **RIVERBEND COMMUNITY SCHOOL**
123 Red River Blvd. R2V 3X9 • K-5 Ojibwe Dual Track
Principal: Ross Meacham 204.334.8417
21. **ÉCOLE RIVIÈRE-ROUGE COMMUNITY**
55 Swinford Way R2V 4X2 • K-5 Fr Imm
Principal: Veronique Laprise 204.697.5962
22. **SEVEN OAKS MET SCHOOL**
640 Jefferson Ave. R2V 0P2 • 9-12
Principal: Nancy Janelle 204.336.5050
23. **ÉCOLE SEVEN OAKS MIDDLE SCHOOL**
800 Salter St. R2V 2E6 • 6-8 Dual Track
Principal: Melanie Sharp 204.586.0327
24. **SEVEN OAKS ADULT EDUCATION CENTRE**
1747 Main St. R2V 1Z6
Director: Kimberly Dalton 204.589.9852
25. **SEVEN ADULT LEARNING CENTRE**
950 Jefferson Ave. R2P 1W1
Director: Shelby McNish 204.632.1716
26. **SEVEN OAKS IMMIGRANT SERVICES**
950 Jefferson Ave. R2P 1W1
Program Director: Jana McKee 204.632.1716
27. **ÉCOLE TEMPLETON**
1310 Templeton Ave. R2P 2T1 • K-5 Fr Imm
Principal: Leanna Loewen 204.589.9853
28. **VICTORY SCHOOL**
395 Jefferson Ave. R2V 0N3 • K-5
Principal: Andrew Volk 204.586.9716
29. **WAYFINDERS PROGRAM**
100-1330 Jefferson Ave. R2P 1L3
Director: Meghan Loewen-Cook 204.631.5849
30. **WEST KILDONAN COLLEGIATE**
101 Ridgecrest Ave. R2V 4T6 • 9-12
Principal: Adam Hildebrandt 204.339.6959
31. **WEST ST PAUL SCHOOL**
3740 Main St. R4A 1A4 • K-8,
Principal: Yolanda Czerwonka 204.339.1964



To learn more about Seven Oaks School Division,
visit our website at www.7oaks.org