

Looking forward to engaging with constituents



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CONSTITUENCY
REPORT

There is so much in our community to be proud of, including our fabulous parks. I am looking forward to the opportunity to engage with residents later this month while I visit several of our green spaces and share some Manitoba 150 memorabilia.

Please watch for further details about this on social media or call the office for more information.

Speaking of celebrating, the Building

Sustainable Communities (BSC) grant has provided several Fort Richmond organizations with much-needed financial support. Overall, BSC reflects funding priorities that will support key projects and economic activity at a local level as well as reflecting a smaller program that respects current fiscal circumstances.

In our community, this grant will give over \$150,000 in total to several groups that applied and received approval. As previously announced, the South Winnipeg Community Centre Richmond site is receiving funds to replace its artificial ice-chilling plant.

Epiphany Lutheran Church, Immanuel Fellowship Church, Mary, Mother of the Church, and Trinity United Church are all

receiving grants to help with renovations as well as youth mentorship and empowerment. Congratulations to these groups and the Fort Richmond residents they support.

Thank you to all the Fort Richmond residents who participated in the province's fourth phase of reopening by providing feedback to our government's coronavirus planning committees (#RestartMB). As we learn to live with COVID-19, it is important to continue to follow the health recommendations needed to keep our vulnerable populations as safe as possible.

Although summer is still in full swing, I know many families are wondering about the fall, specifically about what the school year will look like for students and their

families.

Guidelines have been developed to support the transition back to in-class learning for all students on Sept. 8. Schools will continue to follow public health advice for the duration of the pandemic. This means there may be adaptations throughout the school year. Building the confidence of families and mitigating risk will be key.

I love to hear from you, so please feel free to reach out to my constituency office at 204-221-8881 or email contact@sarahguillemard.com.

For accurate and timely information surrounding COVID-19 measures, please visit www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/index.html

Searching for the common good



BETTER
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BUREAU

A family enjoys lunch at a picnic table under a shelter near the edge of the park. Beside them, in the open field, a group of young men and women engage in a high-spirited game of Frisbee. On the adjacent path, an older couple strolls through a colourful and well-kept garden. It's a classic scene of a city park, one you likely know well, and perhaps the best visual representation of an abstract ethical concept.

These groups co-existing peacefully in an area maintained by all demonstrates the power of "the common good." The park-goers have properly thrown away their garbage, admired the flowers from a safe distance, and were conscious enough to not blare their personal music to a level that would disturb those around them.

With these small acts of respect for their shared space, they're contributing to the common good. They make little sacrifices, such as walking a bit farther to the garbage can, so that others (and the earth) can benefit. Examples of the common good far exceed a nice day at the park. Big picture examples are accessible health-care systems, non-discriminatory and effective public safety mechanisms, fair political systems, and a healthy natural environment.

These are concepts many strive toward — systems that benefit each member of society. Unfortunately, they are often thwarted by differences in values, individualistic think-



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Public parks and how people co-exist in them are emblematic of the notion of 'public good.'

ing and disparity in the burdens each person must shoulder.

A shift toward the big-picture common good requires more than teaching children to put their garbage in the trash. It requires continued education on ethics and serious debates exploring the reasons for it and the benefits reaped from it. These are the types of discussions students get in LIFT, a free program on ethical decision-making delivered by the Better Business Bureau Foundation.

"The common good" is one of five approaches to ethical decision-making students learn about throughout the program. Since its launch in 2017, LIFT has taken off, expanding through schools, community groups, businesses and post-secondary programs. The program can be adapted to any age group. It teaches people how to retrain their brain to think through the societal impacts of their choices before they make them. And it gives them the incentive to make decisions that do contribute to the

common good.

With more and more people learning through LIFT, more social systems can look and feel a little more like that peaceful day in the park. There are ways to think about a decision before you make it that will help you and those around you. Register for a free program, LIFT, that teaches these methods for ethical decision-making: <https://bbblift.eventbrite.ca>