



Community Transportation Toolkit

Handi-van services are an important resource for older adults in rural Manitoba where fewer and fewer transportation options are available. These services provide an effective and efficient travel option that connects older adults to medical needs as well as to life enhancing activities that may otherwise be neglected. In communities with few transportation resources, handi-van programs also lend support to families and care givers that currently help meet the essential needs of Manitoba's aging populations.

Many communities throughout rural Manitoba receive funding provided by Manitoba Intergovernmental Affairs through the Mobility Disadvantaged Transportation Program (MDTP) to support the provision of handi-van services for mobility disadvantaged persons, including seniors. In 2009, the Province will provide annual funding support to 66 municipalities in Manitoba.

This Toolkit is meant to inform various groups on how the MDTP guidelines may be implemented in a way that meets the unique and diverse needs of each community, while maintaining the integrity and intention of the MDTP program.

These groups include stakeholders such as:

- Handi-van service providers
- Handi-van users
- Senior service providers
- Municipal governments

The Tool Kit consists of three modules to inform communities as to how best make the guidelines work to the advantage of their locality. These modules include:

Module 1 - Interpreting the MDTP Guidelines: A User-friendly Reader for Communities

This is a guide to the foundations of MDTP funding and will be useful for community members who:

- Are considering establishing a handi-van service and need to know the basics or;
- Would like to become more informed about, or become involved with an existing handi-van service



Module 2 - Planning For and Improving Handi-van Service: A Discussion Guide and Checklist

This section will be useful for community members who:

- Would like to make informed decisions as they consider establishing a handi-van service;
- Are seeking solutions to current challenges in order to enhance a existing handi-van service;
- Are addressing community changes by preparing for future handi-van service needs.

Module 3 - A Guide to Community and Regional Engagement: For Stakeholders of Handi-van Services

This section will help engage others in conversations about transportation for mobility disadvantaged community members and will be useful for those who:

- Are considering establishing a handi-van service and want to ensure it is responsive to community and regional needs;
- Would like to see an existing handi-van service work with other communities to improve the affordability and accessibility of the service or;
- Are seeking financially viable alternatives to handi-van where the community is too small or isolated to support its own service