



# ✧ Merchants Corner Project Announcement cont'd ✧



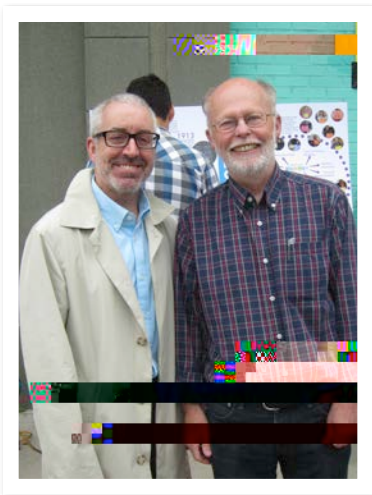
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it will include 30 units of much-needed affordable housing. The University of Winnipeg's Department of Urban and Inner-City Studies will relocate there along with the Community Education Development Association: Pathways to Education Program. CEDA: Pathways will work to ensure there is support for youth at-risk to finish high school. The Department of UIC Studies will help adults to achieve Mature Student status

and pursue post-secondary education.

Jim Silver, Chair of UIC, said "this is great example of what can be achieved when the North End Community comes together to create a vision and a plan and when the Provincial government—which deserves a great deal of credit on this and other North End projects—supports us with serious funding. This project, with its innovative approach to education, will be transformative."



change and says the “North End rising” slogan is catching on.

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## STAN MCKAY

Elder Stan McKay opened with the blessing, saying “It’s about human beings in family.”

## MICHAEL CHAMPAGNE

Michael Champagne, Member of the Board of the North End Community Renewal Corporation (NECRC), described the project as an example of what happens when the people of a community collaborate. Here, he says, “everyone has a place in the circle.” Champagne is a driving force among the progressive youth in the North End and a student in the Department of Urban and Inner-City Studies. He sees the Merchants Corner Project as part of a larger

## PETER BJORNSON

The Honourable Peter Bjornson, MLA for Gimli and the Minister of Housing and Community Development, said that the project is “transformative for the community because of the vision of the community.”

## KATHY MALLET

Community leader Kathy Mallett remembered working on Selkirk Avenue in the 1980’s when there was a single community agency on the street. The Merchants Corner Project, she says, will be the “jewel of Selkirk Avenue” and the “hope of the North End.”