

# Portage la Prairie Communities Building Youth Futures Plan 2020-2024

## Where We Are Now


### Graduation


Less students graduated high school in Portage (72.5%\*) than in Manitoba overall (85.1%\*) in 2019.  
In Manitoba, indigenous students graduated on-time less often (50.7%) than non-indigenous students (89.9%) in 2019.

Portage la Prairie youth identified the following issues in their community:

### College, University, Trades

Less than half (41.7%\*\*) of people in Portage have finished college, university or trades programs.  
This is lower than in Manitoba overall (62%) and Canada (70%).

  
Mental health struggles, drug use and addictions

  
Not enough youth engagement

### Unemployment

The amount of people living in Portage who do not work (4.3%) seems to be getting higher\*\*

  
Not enough mentorship

  
Need for diverse learning methods

\*based on five-year student-tracked high school graduation rates.  
\*\* from the 2016 census.

## Our Vision

### Youth Engagement

Youth feel involved in the community and are included in making decisions that impact them.

### Employment

There are local job and training opportunities in the community for youth.

### Aspirational Vision

A youth-oriented, inclusive and diverse community, where every young person thrives, feels supported, and looks forward to the bright future.



### Education

- More students graduate high school
- More youth can easily access college, university or trades programs.
- Creative options exist for students for hands-on learning and to learn about their heritage.

### Mental Health

- Youth know of the mental health resources, like counselling, that are available to them
- Youth can easily use mental health resources when needed.

## How We Will Get There



We will work together



We will start with what already works well in Portage la Prairie



Youth will lead the way

## How We Will Know We Have Made a Difference

### We Hope to Achieve These Outcomes

- Most students (more than 90%) graduate from high school
- More than half (above 60%) of youth finish college, university or trades programs
- Employment rates increase by 20% among youth aged 20-30



### We Will Ask Youth These Questions

- Satisfaction with mental health support and resources in the community
- Opinion of meaningfulness of job and training opportunities
- Satisfaction with community
- Feeling of belonging in the community

### The People Working With Us

Portage la Prairie Community Revitalization Corporation  
Portage la Prairie School Division  
Youth for Christ  
Portage Friendship Centre  
Chamber of Commerce  
Long Plain First Nation

Southern Health-Santé Sud Regional Health Authority  
Portage Learning and Literacy Centre  
Red River College  
City of Portage  
Portage Regional Economic Development  
At least 5 local youth