

**MEDIA RELEASE****For Immediate Release****October 8, 2025****Major Federal Investment Announced for Gordon Block Project in Downtown Regina**

Regina, SK – The Regina Downtown Business Improvement District (RDBID), in partnership with Harvard Developments and the City of Regina, is excited to announce a significant federal investment to support the ongoing revitalization of downtown Regina.

Through Prairies Economic Development Canada (PrairiesCan), the Gordon Block project has been awarded \$920,000 in funding over the next three years. This investment represents a strong vote of confidence in the future of downtown Regina and will allow the continuation of the Gordon Block revitalization project, which includes the development of the interim use space, the Skuare.

"Downtowns are the heart of our cities and vital to their economic development. Having had the privilege of visiting Regina this summer, I've seen firsthand the pride and potential of its downtown. Our government knows that building a stronger Canada starts in our downtowns — by supporting small businesses and entrepreneurs, strengthening local economies, and fostering a sense of community identity," said the Honourable Eleanor Olszewski, Minister of Emergency Management and Community Resilience and Minister responsible for Prairies Economic Development Canada. "The Regina Downtown Business Improvement District and the City of Regina are leading important work to revitalize the city's core, contributing to a higher quality of life and more economic opportunities for all."

Located in a prime location in the heart of downtown Regina, just off Pat Fiacco Plaza and Victoria Park, the Gordon Block property has long been recognized as a key site with immense potential. The Skuare is a multi-phase downtown revitalization initiative led by RDBID and its partners, focused on transforming the Gordon Block site.

The vision for the Skuare is to create a vibrant hub for interim use that supports local business, culture, and community life. Plans include developing the space for flexible, interim activations and events, creating new opportunities for performances, pop-ups, and community gatherings in the city's core.

"This federal funding is a game-changer for the Gordon Block and for our downtown," said Judith Veresuk, Executive Director of RDBID. "The Skuare project is all about activating a key space in the city's core, turning it into a dynamic destination for everyone to enjoy. This investment will help us create a vibrant, flexible hub that brings more life, business, and energy to our community."

Early planning and investment from local partners laid the groundwork, but additional funding was needed to move the project forward. With PrairiesCan's support, the Gordon Block is now positioned to become a cornerstone of downtown renewal—creating a new and dynamic space to strengthen Regina's city center.

The announcement event, held at the Regina Downtown Chalet in Victoria Park, featured remarks from Mayor Chad Bachynski, Kenric Exner of Harvard Developments and Judith Veresuk, along with a video message from Honourable Eleanor Olszewski, Minister for PrairiesCan.

"The Skuare is a bold reflection of the growing momentum in downtown Regina," said Rosanne Hill Blaisdell, President and CEO of Harvard Developments. "As long-time investors in our downtown core, we're proud to support this imaginative project and grateful for the City and Federal Government's meaningful investment. Together, we're excited to create a space that celebrates local culture, builds community, and adds vibrancy to the heart of our city."

"This investment marks a pivotal moment in our journey to reimagine downtown Regina," said Mayor Chad Bachynski. "The Skuare represents more than just bricks and mortar, this inviting space demonstrates our commitment to building a vibrant, inclusive, and resilient city core. With support from PrairiesCan and our dedicated local partners, we're creating a space that reflects the energy, creativity and spirit of Regina."

The RDBID team will now begin the next steps of the project, working closely with local partners, stakeholders, and the community to bring the vision for Gordon Block and the Skuare to life.

#### **Media Contact:**

Rimo Creer  
Manager of Marketing and Communications  
Regina Downtown Business Improvement District  
306-351-2368  
rcreer@reginadowntown.ca