

## Red Road Lodge in trouble after funding denied

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The head of Winnipeg's Red Road Lodge says he is baffled that he has been turned down for a federal grant, after years of receiving it.

Chief executive officer Richard Walls runs the lodge, which houses clients recovering from addictions and mental health issues, as well as providing programming for people on the street. Walls took over the Occidental Hotel years ago and turned it into a non-profit, alcohol-free facility that provides transitional housing, access to mental-health staff, and a resource centre that includes a computer lab and an art studio.

But Walls said he was recently turned down flat for a federal grant from the Homelessness Partnering Strategy after doubling his request for money. Walls said without that money, he has to lay off staff and there will be an immediate impact.

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