

Manitoba funds bedbug strategy

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The Manitoba government is heading into battle against bedbugs, launching a strategy that will see \$770,000 set aside for the first year of the plan.

Part of the money will be earmarked for a bedbug phone line to offer information on infestations, while a grant program will also be created to help not-for-profit community organizations in their education, management and prevention efforts.

"Bedbugs can cause a great deal of stress and financial hardship for those affected. They are not exclusive to any one area or group of people [and] everyone in our communities will have a role to play in finding affordable solutions," Healthy Living, Youth and Seniors Minister Jim Rondeau stated in a news release issued Thursday.

The province will provide support to individuals and organizations facing bedbug infestations while helping build a coalition of municipalities, health authorities, business groups and other key stakeholders to establish a province-wide approach, Rondeau announced at a bedbug symposium in Brandon.

The strategy will provide organizations with access to specialized materials — such as mattress and box-spring encasements, specialized laundry bags and insect monitors — to help combat bedbugs at low cost.

For the full article from cbc.ca, [click here](#).

WFP article, [click here](#).

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