

AMM Board of Directors

EXECUTIVE

President
Mayor Ron Bell,
Town of Birtle

Vice-President, Rural
Councillor Doug Dobrowolski,
RM of Macdonald

Vice-President, Urban
Mayor Shirley Kalyniuk,
Town of Rossburn

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Town of Altona

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RM of Rosser

Mayor Randy Sigurdson,
Town of Arborg

Reeve George Harbottle
RM of Alexander

Councillor Art Rempel,
City of Steinbach

Reeve Roger Wilson,
RM of Birtle

Mayor Eileen Clarke,
Town of Gladstone

Reeve Robert Misko,
RM of Hillsburg

Mayor Rene Maillard,
Town of Ste. Rose du Lac

Councillor Alan Ransom,
RM of Morton

Councillor Maxine Chacun,
Town of Virden

Councillor Oswald Sawh,
City of Thompson

Councillor Russ Wyatt,
City of Winnipeg

Dale Lyle,
President of the Manitoba Municipal
Administrators Association



Ron Bell, President

Unprecedented invitation for your Association

On July 9, 2007, in Winnipeg, the AMM made a presentation to the annual meeting of Provincial-Territorial Ministers Responsible for Local Government. The AMM participated at the meeting at the invitation of **The Honourable Steve Ashton**, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, on behalf of all of the Ministers across Canada. This is a significant event for the AMM. While the Ministers meet annually to discuss issues that relate to their common goal of strong and viable municipalities, it is unprecedented for a municipal association to be invited to be part of the agenda. Certainly, the AMM meets with our Provincial Cabinet Ministers on an annual basis, but to be asked to speak to a captive audience of Ministers from every province and territory was nothing short of a great honour – and a great opportunity.

How did we use this opportunity? We raised what we see as some of the significant challenges facing municipalities across Canada, and how we can work with Provincial Ministers in the future to address some of these challenges. This opportunity was a good first step towards working with Provincial Local Government Ministers, on an ongoing basis, for the future health and prosperity of municipalities across Canada.

We respectfully thank Minister Ashton for the invitation; and we do hope that our ideas and suggestions are considered. The presentation is available on the AMM website at www.amm.mb.ca.

While on the subject of provincial governments, I wish to congratulate **Premier**

Gary Doer on his third term victory. The AMM enjoys an excellent working relationship with the Province and I am confident that will continue throughout this next term. At the same time, the AMM looks forward to seeing some of the promises made during the election campaign come to fruition. While we continue to push government to implement their campaign promises, it is notable that some of the ideas that would be most beneficial to municipalities, and address some of the outstanding AMM resolutions, cross party lines. Will we push for those ideas to be looked at as well, regardless of which party promised them? Absolutely.

As you know, June District Meetings have come and gone and with them, another round of elections for AMM District Directors. I bid farewell to long-time Northern Director **Bert Lagimodiere**, whose presence at the AMM board table was valued and will be sorely missed. I also wish the best to **William Danylchuk**, Eastern Rural Director, whose contributions during his term were welcome. At the same time, I welcome our three new board members: Midwestern Urban Director **Eileen Clarke**, Mayor of the Town of Gladstone; Northern Director **Oswald Sawh**, Councillor for the City of Thompson; and Eastern Rural Director **George Harbottle**, Reeve of the RM of Alexander. Fresh ideas and new perspectives are indeed positive and we look forward to working with you.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer! ☺

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