

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

DIRECTORS

Councillor Ralph Groening

RM of Morris

Mayor Melvin Klassen

Town of Altona

Reeve Alice Bourgouin

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 Karen MacKinnon

City of Flin Flon

Councillor Russ Wyatt

City of Winnipeg

Ernie Epp

President of the Manitoba Municipal Administrators Association



Ron Bell, President

Striving for POSITIVE CHANGES

On June 16, during the Northern District Meeting held in Thompson, delegates elected **Karen MacKinnon**, Councillor with the City of Flin Flon, to the position of AMM Northern Director. As well, **Oswald Sawh** was acclaimed to the second Northern Director position. Congratulations Oswald, and welcome

Karen – I am sure you will make a valuable contribution to our board.

The continued growth of our board has me reflecting on the recent Honourary Life/Past Presidents Luncheon hosted by the AMM at the end of May (for a recap, see page 10). This luncheon was a part of our 10th Anniversary Celebrations and we welcomed 16 former officials, most of who served on either UMM or MAUM before the amalgamation into present-day AMM. The recurring theme during the luncheon was that serving a municipal association creates strong friendships, great memories, and positive changes for municipalities. That sentiment continues to be true today and a stronger, more representative board of directors can only enhance our work.

Speaking of positive changes, our membership passed 79 resolutions at our recent round of June Districts, which will certainly make for a busy, exciting 10th annual convention! The high number of resolutions this year has me convinced that while our issues continue to grow, so does our voice. Your strength and dedication to the

work that you do for your municipalities are what give us the strength needed to lobby effectively on the issues that matter. The stronger your voice, the stronger ours will be.

A strong voice is definitely needed for one of the issues that is pressing municipalities more and more all the time

– the need for new growth revenues. We all know there is an infrastructure deficit, and we all know that municipalities are being asked to do more with less all the time. What municipalities need is additional revenues. This is what FCM and AMM have stated time and time again, and what Canadians reported through a cross-Canada survey. Canadians clearly articulated they would have preferred that the Federal Government had left the GST at 6% and used

the funds toward municipal infrastructure needs. Ad hoc transfers from other orders of government simply do not work. What we need is access to long-term, sustainable and predictable funding, and the AMM and FCM will be pushing both the Provincial and Federal Government to this end. And as we move forward, we will be fueled by YOUR voices to give us the strength needed as we continue striving for positive change for all of our municipalities. **LE**

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