

What does the AMM do for you?



The civic election of last October resulted in over 30% newly elected officials. While those re-elected are (hopefully) well acquainted with the AMM organization and our staff, those who are new to municipal life are not. It seems timely to introduce you to our office and the day-to-day work that we do on your behalf.

The AMM office is located in Portage la Prairie, Manitoba. It's central location works well for our Directors who must travel from all parts of the province for board meetings. As well, our close proximity to Winnipeg allows for the frequent meetings that take place in the capital city. Nine full-time employees staff the office.

Joe Masi is the AMM's Executive Director and coordinates the overall activities and business affairs of the AMM. Joe reports to the Board of Directors, and ensures that the AMM by-laws, policies and procedures are maintained. Joe is proactive in responding to the on-going changes in municipal government to ensure that the AMM continually evolves to meet its mandate. Joe may be contacted directly at 204-856-2360 or e-mail at jmasi@amm.mb.ca

The AMM is actually divided into two 'sides' – an Administration and Marketing side and a Policy and Communications side.

Administration & Marketing

Linda Hargest is the Director of Administration & Marketing. Linda manages the administrative and financial procedures for the AMM and the Municipalities Trading Company of Manitoba Ltd. (MTCML), which is the business arm of the AMM. For more information about the MTCML, see page 66.

Linda is also responsible for overseeing Event and Education planning. Contact Linda directly at 204-856-2361 or e-mail her at lhargest@amm.mb.ca

Patti De Baets, Finance Coordinator, is responsible for the invoicing and accounting of both the AMM and MTCML. Call or e-mail her to place orders, discuss invoices or if you have questions about official suppliers. Contact Patti directly at 204-856-2367 or e-mail her at pdebaets@amm.mb.ca

Donna Belbin, Events Coordinator, assists in the planning and organizing of the AMM Annual Convention, June District Meetings, Municipal Officials Seminar, AMM Education Program, Mayors, Reeves and CAO meetings, Municipal District meetings, and other related special events. For any questions related to AMM events, please contact Donna directly at 204-856-2374 or e-mail her at dbelbin@amm.mb.ca

Policy & Communications

Tyler MacAfee, Director of Policy & Communications, manages the Policy & Communications side of the AMM. Tyler's primary responsibility is to coordinate and develop the lobbying activities of the AMM. Tyler oversees the preparation of the written materials and research activities for the AMM lobbying strategies. Tyler is also responsible for coordinating the resolutions process and the communication strategy of the AMM. Contact Tyler directly at 204-856-2362 or e-mail at tmacafee@amm.mb.ca

Working with Tyler is **Kimberly Ballance**, Senior Policy Analyst. Kimberly works on lobbying strategies affecting all government departments. Contact Kimberly directly at 204-856-2371 or e-mail her at kballance@amm.mb.ca. (Kimberly is filling the position of Senior Policy Analyst while Rachel Philippe is on maternity leave.)

Also on the Policy & Communications side is **Lynne Bereza**, Communications Coordinator. Lynne oversees the AMM website; the *Municipal Leader* quarterly magazine; the AMM annual report; and the bi-monthly news bulletin. To place an ad in the bi-weekly news bulletin or on the AMM website, contact Lynne at 204-856-2366 or e-mail her at lbereza@amm.mb.ca

Rounding out the Policy & Communications department is **Erika Rempel**, Administrative Assistant (Policy & Communications). Erika provides administrative support to the AMM Policy and Communications department. Contact Erika directly at 204-856-2369 or e-mail her at erempel@amm.mb.ca

Finally, while 'technically' on the Administration & Marketing 'side' of the AMM, **Julia Green**, Administrative Assistant (Board & Administration), really provides support for the entire office. Julia provides administrative support to the AMM; coordinates Board activities; compiles the Salary Survey; and handles phone and email inquiries. Contact Julia directly at 204-856-2365 or e-mail her at jgreen@amm.mb.ca

Our staff consists of dedicated professionals who are always available to assist our members in any way. Please feel free to call or email us with any questions or concerns you may have, or visit our website at www.amm.mb.ca for the most up-to-date information. 💰

www.amm.mb.ca

A quick and easy way to find out almost everything you need to know about the AMM, our activities, and what we're doing right now is to visit our website at www.amm.mb.ca. The site is updated frequently with the most up to date information from both the Administration & Marketing and Policy & Communications departments. In fact, by visiting the AMM website you can:

- Read Board of Director biographies;
- Link to our members websites;
- Read AMM annual reports;
- Read/subscribe to receive the AMM bi-weekly news bulletin;
- Read/subscribe to receive AMM news releases;
- Search or post classified ads;
- Search or post municipal job ads;
- View our Events Calendar;
- View the most up-to-date info on all events, including the AMM Annual Convention, Municipal Officials Seminar, MTCML Trade Show, Mayors, Reeves & CAOs Meetings, and June District Meetings
- Find out about this year's AMM Education Program
- Register for AMM Education sessions
- Meet the MTCML Official Suppliers
- View the MTCML Product Catalogue
- Find information about the AMM Fuel Program
- See Sample By-Laws and job descriptions
- View presentations from past AMM events
- View special reports
- Find out how to submit your municipality for a *Municipal Innovation Award*
- Read "Tools for Change" municipal success stories
- Find out how to advertise in the AMM magazine
- View AMM policy papers
- View AMM legislative presentations
- View our annual Brief to the Premier and Cabinet
- See Federal/Provincial budget submissions
- Search our online database of active resolutions
- Read past and present issues of *Municipal Leader* online

Lobbying 101

The AMM 8th Annual Convention has come and gone, and the work of carrying out our lobbying direction as driven by you, our membership, has begun for another year. While further issues will be raised throughout the year at regular regional meetings and municipal visits, it is the resolutions voted on at the Annual Convention that have set the main lobbying course of the AMM for the next 12 months. Following is a short overview of how we will chart this course.

Immediately after the Convention, the AMM forwarded all carried resolutions to the appropriate government departments for their response. This is extremely helpful to the AMM's lobbying efforts as it gives us an indication of where government stands on an issue. This also ensures the issue appears on the government's radar. Once all of the government's responses are received, the AMM will forward them on to our members.

We will also update members on our communications activities through our news bulletin, *Municipal Leader* magazine, resolutions updates, and at our various events. In addition, position papers for each government department, along with a searchable database of active AMM resolutions, are available on our website at www.amm.mb.ca.

Once we know the government's response to the issues, we will then begin to address the active resolutions in a number of different ways. We will highlight the issues through letters, position papers at our regular meetings with Provincial Cabinet Ministers, and during Lobby Days in April. AMM Board members also sit on a variety of external committees of government, so that we have active input into issues that affect municipalities.

Some resolutions are very straightforward and will be resolved at the staff level. Others are more complicated and will require a number of meetings and correspondence before they are resolved. Resolutions may be dropped only when they are completed (the recent decision by the Province to fund inter-facility patient transfers, for instance, will likely result in a resolution carried since 1999 being dropped), or when there is no resolution possible. In this situation, the AMM Board of Directors must agree on whether to drop the resolution.

The 22 resolutions passed by the AMM membership at Convention 2006 will be incorporated into our active files. Currently, AMM has over 200 active resolutions.

With that in mind, we certainly look forward to a busy year ahead. Rest assured that we will work on ALL resolutions to the best of our ability, and continue keep you up to date on our progress.