



ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA MUNICIPALITIES

1910 Saskatchewan Avenue West
Portage la Prairie, Manitoba R1N 0P1

Phone: 204.857.8666
Fax: 204.856.2370

E-mail: amm@amm.mb.ca
Website: www.amm.mb.ca

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Railway Safety Act Review Secretariat
180 Elgin Street, Suite 901
Ottawa, ON K2P 2K3

RE: RAIL SAFETY ACT REVIEW – RAILWAY CROSSINGS

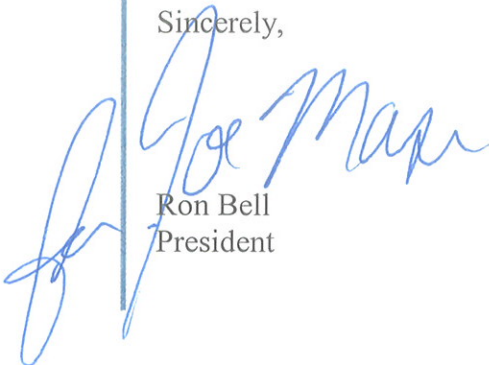
The Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) is writing to address municipal concerns associated with railway crossings. Municipalities understand that these crossings require regular safety inspections, repairs and upgrades to ensure that they are functioning properly.

Currently municipalities are struggling to provide basic services for their communities and therefore it is not prudent to continue to augment their responsibilities. Municipal councils are experiencing the impossible task of delivering all the services expected by both the citizens and other orders of government, while only having access to limited resource streams. It is important to recognize that there are limits to how much municipalities can do with their current revenue streams.

The Grade Crossings Regulations under the Railway Safety Act requires increased responsibility and resources from municipalities. The AMM believes that railway crossings including safety inspections, repairs and upgrades are the responsibility of the Federal Government and should not be offloaded to municipalities. Even with the current Grade Crossing Improvement Program for railway crossing inspection, repair and upgrades municipalities are finding it difficult to cope with the increasing level of responsibility being passed on from the Federal and Provincial Governments.

Given that safety is vital to creating healthy communities, the AMM recommends that the Railway Safety Act Review address the above municipal concerns. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office, and we would be happy to meet any time to discuss this issue in greater detail.

Sincerely,



Ron Bell
President

*Representing
Manitoba's
Municipalities*