

AMM welcomes new Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs

The AMM welcomes the newly appointed Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and Trade, Scott Smith.

"We are looking forward to working with Scott", said AMM President Stuart Briese, while noting there is often a learning curve with a new post.

However, "Scott's municipal background is definitely an asset to our organization. We meet with our minister on a regular basis and also depend on our minister to assist in our liaisons with other departments, so someone with a municipal perspective definitely makes it easier to get things done."

President Briese added that the AMM will waste no time in requesting a meeting with the Minister, as there are a couple of issues that need to be focused on as soon as possible. "We will ask for a meeting immediately to discuss the AMM's number one issue, education taxes on property."

The other issue the AMM wants to move to the forefront is a Federal New Deal for municipalities.

"Municipal governments are struggling" said Briese. "The New Deal has important ramifications for all municipalities across Canada, and some strategies really need to be put into place in order to maximize the benefit to all municipalities, whether urban or rural. We are looking forward to working with the Province, and our new Minister, to make those strategies a reality."

Briese also expressed appreciation to former Intergovernmental Affairs Minister, Rosann Wowchuk for her dedication to the portfolio over the past four months, noting that she balanced it with her many other responsibilities. "We enjoyed working with Rosann and wish her all the best."

CONTACT THE AMM

1910 Saskatchewan Avenue W.
Portage la Prairie, MB R1N
0P1
Tel: 204-856-2366
Fax: 204-856-2370
Email: amm@amm.mb.ca

www.amm.mb.ca

Municipal visits cover ground

Between October 4 and October 8, 2004, representatives from the AMM met with Councils from several Central and Western district municipalities to discuss issues the AMM Board has been working on in recent months, and to hear from the councils regarding the issues facing that district.

"Municipal visits are important to the AMM because they offer us the chance to meet our members from a specific region and communicate on a more individual level with them. We are looking forward to meeting some of the officials in these districts as well as hear the concerns within their communities," said AMM President Stuart Briese.

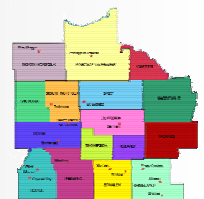
While many issues were discussed during the meetings, some of the primary ones included education taxes on property, a Federal New Deal for municipalities, and the BSE crisis.

AMM Representatives included Briese, Urban Vice-President Ron Bell, Rural Vice-President Garry Wasylowski, and executive director Joe Masi. AMM Directors from both districts also attended: For the Western District, Pipestone Reeve Karen Caldwell and Virden Mayor Stan Ward, and for the Central District MacDonald Councillor Doug Dobrowolski and Altona Councillor Rick Martel.

Municipalities visited last week

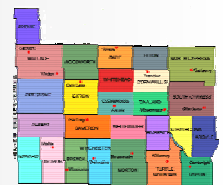
Central District:

- Village of Notre Dame
- RM of Victoria
- Village of MacGregor/RM of North Norfolk
- Town of Treherne/RM of South Norfolk
- Village of Somerset/RM of Lorne
- Town of Carman
- Town of Pilot Mound
- Village of Crystal City/RM of Louise



Western District:

- Town of Deloraine
- Town of Boissevain/RM of Morton
- RM of Albert
- RM of Edward
- Town of Melita/RM of Arthur
- Village of Waskada/RM of Brenda
- Town of Oak Lake/RM of Sifton
- City of Brandon



Notices

Manitoba Planning Excellence Awards

The Manitoba Planning Excellence Awards recognize individuals, organizations, companies, and Manitoba planning authorities (municipalities/planning districts) in their efforts to enhance our communities through innovative and high quality land use planning related initiatives.

If you would like to nominate a project in your community, please fill out a nomination package, available by contacting your local Community Planning Services regional office or the Community and Neighborhood Planning Division of Manitoba Intergovernmental Affairs and Trade at (204) 945-8161.

Nomination forms must be returned no later than **December 21, 2004** to:

*Manitoba Planning Excellence Awards
Community and Land Use Planning
Services Division
Intergovernmental Affairs and Trade,
400-800 Portage Avenue,
Winnipeg, MB R3G 0N4*

The awards will be presented during the Manitoba Planning Conference in Brandon February 9th to 11th, 2005.

Legal Costs for TLE Agreements

The AMM has obtained a list, from the Law Society of Manitoba, of lawyers who have experience in negotiating Treaty Land Entitlements. Since training is one of the major reasons for the high costs of providing legal services, having access to a pool of well-trained legal counsel may help to reduce costs for municipalities. Phone numbers are also provided below:

Thompson

Malcolm McDonald—204-677-2366

The Pas

Lore Mirwaldt—204-623-7845

Winnipeg

Michelle Pollock-Kohn—204-957-6410

David Newman—204-956-3521

Norman Boudreau—204-957-1717

Notices

New Rental Supply Program

The New Rental Supply Program is a component of the Affordable Housing Initiative (AHI) in Manitoba. This program is intended to assist with the development of a new supply of rental stock by providing financial assistance through a forgivable loan. Proposal Development Funding (PDF) may also be made available to eligible non-profit proponents to facilitate pre-development work on proposals.

Proposals must proceed through a four stage application and project development process. As the deadline for submission of proposals is November 16, 2004, those municipalities who have not yet initiated their Expressions of Interest may have to wait for the next intake period.

For more information, please contact:

*George Gaba
Manager, Provincial Delivery
Affordable Housing Initiative
Phone: 204-945-8799
Toll-free: 1-866-689-5566
email: ggaba@gov.mb.ca*

Coming Events

Community Development & Community Economic Development Gathering

Do you work in community economic development or the social economy, or are you interested to find out more about these approaches to revitalizing communities? Plan to attend this learning event and networking opportunity. A variety of topics will be discussed, including a Rural Social Economy workshop in the afternoon featuring local case studies.

Registration is free - lunch included

The event will be held on:

October 26th, 2004

at

Canad Inns Polo Park, Winnipeg

Register online at

www.devstudios.com/uwCommunity

Coming Events

Rendering Meetings

Two meetings are upcoming to discuss possible options for the disposal of deadstock, offal, and butcher waste. All relevant stakeholders are urged to attend.

Representatives from the Provincial Government, the AMM, the Manitoba Cattle Producers Association (MCPA), and the Manitoba Meat Producers Association will participate.

Meeting #1

October 20, 2004
11:00 a.m.

Parkland Recreation Complex
200-1st St. S.E.
Dauphin, MB

Meeting #2

October 25, 2004
3:00 p.m.

Legion Hall
1st Avenue &
Highway 68
Eriksdale, MB

For more information please contact:

*Diane Roberts
MB Agriculture, Food and Rural
Initiatives
Phone: 204-945-7678*

or

*Tyler MacAfee
AMM Director of Policy &
Communications
Phone: 204-856-2362
Email: tmacafee@amm.mb.ca*

Farewell to
Doris Klippenstein
who has retired from the
AMM after 15 years of
service. Doris's last day of
work was Friday,
October 15, 2004.

All the best,
Doris, we
will miss
working
with you!

