

AMM Meets with the Manitoba Federal Liberal Party Caucus

The AMM had the opportunity on September 14, 2004 to raise Manitoba municipal concerns with the Manitoba Federal Liberal Party Caucus. The AMM focused its federal lobbying on two primary concerns:

BSE and the Community Crisis

The AMM stressed that working to open the border must remain a priority. The AMM agrees, in principle, with the "Made In Canada" solution put forth by the Canadian Cattleman's Association, but did outline three key elements that must be implemented collectively to be effective:

Element 1: Cash Advance

The AMM feels that Canadian cattle producers need an immediate federal cash advance of \$250 per calf on the unsold 2004 calf crop. This advance would be interest free and repayable at the time the cattle were sold. If the border remains closed then the advance would be repayable over five years at a rate of \$50/year/calf.

Element 2: Increased Canadian Slaughter Capacity

The AMM noted that the cash advance should be coupled with an increase in Canadian based slaughter capacity, and recommended that the federal government funnel some of its venture capital funding into encouraging the establishment of additional value-added slaughter facilities in both western and eastern Canada.

On July 1 Statistics Canada released its livestock inventory numbers. There are approximately 1 million more cattle in Canada than there was in July 2003, including a 10% increase in Manitoba, the highest among the western provinces, which highlights the need for slaughter facilities in this province.

Element 3: Inter-provincial Trade Barriers

Finally, the AMM stressed that it is critical that the first two elements be coupled with a strategy to increase our access to domestic and international markets. This will result in a decreased dependence on the U.S. market, and the Canadian cattle industry would be less likely to be impacted as severely in the future as it was in 2003/2004 if the border was to close again.

A New Deal for Cities and Communities

The AMM stressed that Municipal governments are struggling. Their resources have not kept pace with their growing responsibilities, as other orders of government cut transfer payments and offload services.

Out of every tax dollar collected in Canada, only seven cents goes to municipal governments. And, transfers to municipal governments from federal, provincial, and territorial governments, as a percentage of municipal revenues, have been cut by 37 per cent over the last 10 years. At the same time, from 1999 to 2003, provincial/territorial revenues increased by 13 per cent, federal revenues by 12 per cent, and municipal revenues by only eight per cent.

There is a national consensus on the need to put Canadian cities and communities on a more sustainable footing, through the implementation of two core elements. Firstly, the Government of Canada must realize that municipal governments are essential partners in implementing the national agenda. The AMM urged the Government of Canada to develop intergovernmental strategies to build trust, partnership, cooperation and coordination on the fiscal

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front, including formalized pre-budget consultations with the municipal sector.

Secondly, a revenue-sharing agreement is needed to provide a new, net revenue source that is stable and predictable enough to address the large and growing infrastructure deficit faced by municipal governments. The AMM urged the Government of Canada to conclude an agreement with the provinces and territories to provide municipal governments, by the end of 2004, with a total of \$2.5 billion in fuel-tax revenue per year—equivalent to five cents per litre of the federal gasoline tax and two cents per litre of the federal diesel-fuel tax—to support investments in municipal infrastructure, primarily transportation and transit beginning in 2005. Other investments could include water and wastewater.

The AMM also urged the Federal Government to implement a fuel-tax escalator tied to GDP to ensure proportional growth with the economy; and undertake to explore sharing other taxes that grow with the economy. ■

Read the complete position paper from this meeting at

[www.amm.mb.ca/
fedsministermeetings.htm](http://www.amm.mb.ca/fedsministermeetings.htm)

Coming Events

**Technical Meeting
"What's A Little Bit of Dirt Going
to Hurt Lake Winnipeg?"
October 5, 6, & 7, 2004
Gimli, MB**

This technical conference will provide information on the impact that erosion and sediment has on the quality of Manitoba's surface water.

Representatives from the erosion control industry along with provincial and federal departments, as well as non-government organizations will present information about their programs.

To register, contact:

John D. Jonasson, MB Conservation
Ph: (204) 945-7073 or email
jjonasson@gov.mb.ca



**October 18-24,
2004 is
Waste Reduction
Week**

**Composting Matters!
Regional Composting
Conference**

October 20th and 21, 2004

Brandon, Manitoba

Complete agenda available at:

www.resourceconservation.mb.ca

**Manitoba Building Officials
Association Annual Fall
Training Seminar**

October 27-28, 2004 Winnipeg, MB

This seminar will focus on the areas of life safety, alternate construction methods, and ever changing codes.

Sessions include Residential Construction and Commercial Fire Protection.

The MBOA trade show and annual general meeting will also take place. For more information or to register, call (204) 832-1512.

Job Postings

**Public Works Assistant
Town of Gladstone**

The successful applicant will possess a High School Diploma or equivalent and a valid drivers licence. Good public relations skills and communication skills are essential. Experience operating machinery an asset. Certified water treatment operator preferred or willing to take courses in water treatment and distribution. Please contact town office at (204) 385-2332 for a complete job description. Excellent benefits package. Salary to commensurate with education and experience.

Please forward cover letter and resume complete with references by October 18th, 2004 to:

Town of Gladstone
Box 25 Gladstone, MB R0J 0T0
Fax: (204) 385-2391

**Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Beausejour**

The Town of Beausejour invites written application for the position of Chief Administrative Officer.

Under the direction of Council, the CAO is responsible for the overall management of the operations of the town including: Administration, supervision of staff, policies, plans and programs, including economic development and planning initiatives.

Salary range dependent upon qualifications and experience. An attractive benefit package is also provided.

Applications should be marked "Application for Chief Administrative Officer Position" on the outside and should contain a full resume with three references. Application to be forwarded to the undersigned no later than 12:00 pm October 22nd, 2004.

Mayor Harvey Giesbrecht,
Town of Beausejour
Box 1028, Beausejour, MB R0E 0C0
Ph: (204)268-7550 Fax: (204)268-3107
Email:
townoffice@townofbeausejour.com

Job Postings

**Water Treatment Plant Operator
Class I, II, or III
City of Portage la Prairie**

Under the direction of the Water Treatment Operations Foreman ensures the safe and effective monitoring and operation of processes and facilities for the Water Treatment Division.

REQUIRED TO OPERATE EQUIPMENT SUCH AS: Industrial and hand tools, pneumatic tools, lab equipment, calculator, computer, snow blower, chain saw, photocopier, two-way radio, light duty vehicle.

EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE

CLASS I - Completion of Grade 12 plus a Province of MB Class I Certificate in Water Treatment.

SALARY: \$16.60 per hour as per CUPE collective agreement.

CLASS II - Completion of Grade 12, plus a Province of MB Class II Certificate in Water Treatment and Class I Water Distribution Systems.

SALARY: \$17.05 per hour as per CUPE collective agreement.

CLASS III - Completion of Grade 12 plus a Province of MB Class III Certificate in Water Treatment and Class II Water Distribution Systems.

SALARY: \$18.39 per hour as per CUPE collective agreement.

HOURS OF WORK: 7:30 am to 4:30 pm, one hour for lunch Monday to Friday. Required to work one weekend a month and carry a pager during this operating shift. Shift schedule may be subject to change.

Please forward application to:

Human Resources,
City of Portage la Prairie
97 Saskatchewan Avenue East,
Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 0L8
Ph: (204)239-8338 FAX (204)239-1532
Email: HR@city-plap.com

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4:30PM WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 20, 2004 AND MARKED POSTING "2004-12"

Contact the AMM

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

Visit our website at
WWW.AMM.MB.CA

