

Federal gas tax revenue agreements

What's happening across Canada?

AMM members have undoubtedly heard much about the upcoming "New Deal" for municipalities. The Federal Government announced the details back in February of 2005, and have since signed a number of agreements with various provinces. Following is an overview of the agreements that have been signed to date:

Canada-Yukon Agreement

- Allocation will be determined by November 1, 2005
- There are two funds in the agreement—Planning and Capacity Building (up to 5% of total funds) and Community Works (remaining funds)
- Eligible projects include: public transit, water, wastewater, solid waste, community energy systems, active transportation, capacity building
- 25% of funding is allocated to First Nations communities

Canada-Alberta Agreement

- Government of Alberta will sign MOU's with each individual municipal government
- Eligible projects include public transit, water, wastewater, solid waste, community energy systems, and capacity building

- Roads and bridges are permitted for municipalities except Calgary and Edmonton

Canada-Ontario-AMO-City of Toronto Agreement

- Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) will administer funds for all municipal governments except Toronto
- Allocation based on per-capita distribution
- Eligible projects include public transit, water, wastewater, solid waste, community energy systems, and capacity building. Roads and bridges permitted for municipalities with populations under 500,000.

Canada-British Columbia-UBCM Agreement

- Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) will play a leadership role in administration
- Allocation of funds based on tiers of local government—1, 2 and 3
- Eligible project categories based on tier. Roads and bridges permitted for tier 1 and 2 local governments.

Canada-Quebec Agreement

- Funding will be used for drinking water, wastewater, local road networks and public transit

- More than 25% of funds will be allocated to public transit
- More than 20% of funds will be allocated to rural communities, a larger proportion in comparison to Quebec's rural residents

Canada-Nunavut Agreement

- 10 year agreement; municipalities must complete a Community Capital Plan prior to year 4
- Tax-based municipalities will get 15% of funds
- Non-tax-based municipalities will receive 57.9% of funds with an additional 25% for urgent, high priority projects
- Eligible projects include water, wastewater, solid waste and capacity building

Canada-Saskatchewan Agreement

- \$147 million over five years, ramping up to \$59.1 billion in year five
- Per capita allocation, with 20% of allocation for each municipality for projects of regional benefit
- Roads, bridges and tunnels permitted for all municipalities but Regina and Saskatchewan must demonstrate the impact on sustainable outcomes.

Here in Manitoba we continue to make progress toward an agreement with the Federal Government and the Province on the transfer of gas tax funds. The AMM has worked very diligently on this issue and continues to push for an agreement that is beneficial to all municipalities.

All parties are working hard to secure a New Deal Agreement that is fair and equitable for Manitoba. We will forward more details to our members as soon as they are available. ■

The AMM has worked very diligently on this issue and continues to push for an agreement that is beneficial to all municipalities.

AMM Convention



Resolutions Deadline

The deadline for resolutions to be accepted for the 2005 AMM Convention will be Monday, September 19th, 2005 at 4:00 pm. Resolutions must be passed by Council to be considered by the AMM Convention Resolutions Committee.

Any resolutions received after the September 19th deadline will be considered late resolutions. Late resolutions will be reviewed by the Convention Resolutions Committee and will only be considered if they deal with an emerging issue.

Please submit your resolutions to the information below. Please clearly indicate that the resolution is for consideration at the Convention.

Tyler MacAfee,
Director of Policy & Communications
AMM

1910 Saskatchewan Avenue W.
Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 0P1
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Fax: (204) 856-2370

Email: tmacafee@amm.mb.ca

Annual Banquet Tickets

AMM Members, please make sure to order your BANQUET TICKETS for the **Annual Banquet** on Wednesday, November 23, 2005 as soon as possible! Due to space limitations we anticipate a waiting list for tickets this year. First come, first served. Order yours today by calling:

Erika Rempel
(204) 856-2365

Email: erempel@amm.mb.ca

Announcements

Manitoba Municipal Efficiency Project (MMEP) Update

Earlier this year, the AMM secured funding to have energy audits done on municipally owned or operated buildings in 15 communities. The auditor is Ray Bodnar, Project Manager from the KGS Group. The first audits are underway, and upon completion each municipal council will receive a detailed report from the energy auditor outlining areas where efficiencies could be improved.

This is an excellent project and it is wonderful to have it started. The AMM would like to thank the MMEP Management Committee, including *Lizbeth Liebgott* with Man. Conservation, *Pat Done* with Man. Culture, Heritage and Tourism, *John Zyla* with PFRA, and *Terry Silcox* and *Marnie Danzinger*, both with Man. Hydro.

Coming Events

Local History Workshop

Monday, September 26/05
Dalnavert Museum & Visitors Centre
61 Carlton St., Winnipeg
9:00 am—4:30 pm

A one-day workshop will be offered by the Manitoba Historical Society, in collaboration with Friesens History Books of Altona, to help people and groups who are preparing books on the history of their communities, organizations, and families. With presentations and demonstrations by historians, archivists, and publishing professionals. Workshop includes:

- Setting up history book committee
- Research techniques
- Writing, editing, and preparing text
- Collecting and choosing photos
- Computer training

Registration will begin at 8:30. Fee is \$25 per person, including lunch. Registration deadline is Sept. 19/05.

For more information please contact:

Ted Miller, (204) 284-2855 or

Gordon Goldsborough, (204) 474-7469

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Soon—the
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