

AMM meets with Transportation Minister

The AMM met with the Minister of Transportation and Government Services, **Ron Lemieux**, on April 25.

The AMM opened the meeting by raising the highways capital budget. Minister Lemieux noted that it is very difficult for the Provincial budget to meet the actual level of need, and that more dollars are needed from the Federal Government. He also noted much of the increase in expenses on highways is due to increasing costs in areas such as labour, materials, and also inflation.

On the subject of bridge and airport assistance, the Minister indicated that current revenues don't allow the Province to fund these areas, but that the

Province would be willing to revisit them if Federal support is forthcoming.

The AMM also raised the issue of decentralization of government positions, specific to the recent concerns in the towns of Minnedosa and Neepawa. The Minister stated that there is no recentralization program. He did express that he has spoken directly with both communities and understands their concern on this issue. He added that the department would try to assist concerned communities in any way they can.

The AMM and the Minister also briefly discussed the Municipal Agenda general issue. ■

Meetings with Hydro, Chambers of Commerce

The AMM often meets with various groups and organizations to discuss areas of shared concern. Recently, the AMM met with Manitoba Hydro, and both the Winnipeg and Manitoba Chambers of Commerce.

The AMM began the April 19 meeting with **Manitoba Hydro** by discussing concerns with customers being connected to power when their building permits may not be in place. Hydro committed to responding to AMM on what can be done.

Hydro provided an update on the Waskwatum Dam which will hopefully begin construction on July 1st. Wind generation was also discussed, and it was noted that while St. Leon is up and running, 61% of the time there is no power generation, meaning there is still a need for hydropower.

In closing, Hydro noted that it sees itself as a key part of any community and committed to discussing their district restructuring report with the AMM once completed in May.

Also taking place on April 19 was a meeting with both the Winnipeg and Manitoba **Chambers of Commerce**. The AMM began these meetings by providing an overview of the roles, responsibilities and resources of municipal government issue. The issue of education tax was also discussed, along with pandemic preparedness planning.

Both meetings ended with the Chambers giving the AMM an update on their recent initiatives. ■



Each year the AMM sends out the provincial responses we have received on resolutions passed at Convention. We are pleased to do so again – this time in an electronic format. These CD-ROMS will reach your mailbox this week, along with the latest issue of The Municipal Leader magazine.

AMM reaches milestone

The AMM recently had the honour of receiving a *Centennial Organization Award* from the Manitoba Historical Society. The Awards Ceremony took place on Sunday, April 23, 2006. The Honourable John Harvard, Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba, presented the award to AMM Rural Vice-President Garry Wasylowski, and AMM Executive Director Joe Masi.

The AMM has a long history of lobbying for the betterment of municipal governments in Manitoba. We believe that following the template laid out by the original Union of Manitoba Municipalities (UMM) and Manitoba Association of Urban Municipalities (MAUM), in which rural and urban municipalities work hand in hand for the betterment of all, has allowed us to reach this milestone.

The AMM is delighted to receive this prestigious award, and we sincerely thank the Manitoba Historical Society for honouring our association. ■



AMM Executive Director Joe Masi, The Honourable John Harvard, Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba, and AMM Rural Vice President Garry Wasylowski.

From the AMM Office...

Announcements

Changes to MMAA Executive

Dale Lyle, City Manager with the City of Portage la Prairie, was recently elected to the position of President of the Manitoba Municipal Administrator's Association. As MMAA President, Dale also sits on the AMM Board of Directors. He replaces Val Turner, who served as MMAA President since April, 2004.

Ernie Epp, CAO for the Town of Morden was elected Vice-President.

Congratulations Dale and Ernie!

Notices

Survey Monument Restoration Program

Right now, most municipalities receive mylar copies of their registered plans from the Land Titles Office. To ease storage and access to the registered plans, the Property Registry is offering to send out digital copies instead of the mylar copies. There would be an additional savings to your municipality when the plan requires correction since you would no longer be required to send your copy to the Land Titles Office for correction. Once the plan is corrected a new digital version would be sent to the municipality.

Interested municipalities would be required to sign an agreement indicating that digital versions of the plans would not be used for third party distribution.

For more information contact Gary Fraser, Examiner of Surveys at (204) 945-2281.

CLIMATE CHANGE CONNECTION

Creating Climate Friendly Communities

The above resource guide is now available. To obtain a copy, contact:

Rachel Van Caesele, Manager
Climate Change Connection
Tel: 943-4836 Fax: 989-8476
E-mail: climate.connection@mts.net

Notices



Municipal Composting— Get started!

Do you have questions about municipal composting—what the benefits are as part of a waste management strategy, what your process options are, how to get a program started, how to improve your current project, or what to do with your black gold once it's finished?

Composting 101 for Municipalities, a series of intensive day-long regional workshops is designed for you and your team. Events will be held in six locations across the province—**Melita** May 24th, **Minnedosa** May 25th, **Portage** May 30th, **Winkler** June 6th, **Beausejour** June 8th, and **Thompson** June 14th—with limited class sizes to enhance the up-close learning. Tours, take-home resources, lunch and all-day coffee—come get your questions answered and get started!

REGISTRATION DEADLINE is fast approaching—reserve your team's spots today! For more info, visit www.resourceconservation.mb.ca or call Christine at (866) 394-8880.

Job Postings

Chief Executive Officer Triple R CFDC—Morris

Triple R Community Futures Development Corporation (CFDC) seeks a Chief Executive Officer. Triple R, based in Morris, is a non-profit organization representing 16 municipalities in southern Manitoba and providing economic and community development services.

Please forward resume by 4:00 pm., Wednesday, May 31, 2006 to:

Triple R CFDC
Box 190, Morris, MB, R0G 1K0
Fax: (204) 735-2704

Email rburns@xplornet.com

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Complete job posting available at
www.amm.mb.ca/member_job.html

Contact the AMM

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