



JANUARY 31, 2007

AMM visits El Salvador

AMM officials recently returned from a 10-day trip to El Salvador that was anything but a vacation. Their mission was to develop a work plan that will assist their counterpart organization, The Corporation of Municipalities of the Republic of El Salvador ([COMURES](#)), to move ahead with a lobbying strategy in a country with a very different political landscape from ours.

“FCM sponsors international activities with funding from the Canadian International Development Agency ([CIDA](#))”, explains President Bell, who was accompanied by Rural Vice-President Doug Dobrowolski and Executive Director Joe Masi. COMURES first visited the AMM last summer to see how it operates, setting the wheels in motion for a longer-term association between the two organizations.

“The trip we just returned from allowed us to chart our course for the next several years,” says Bell. “We developed a work plan that involves COMURES returning here for more in-depth study in how we lobby government and communicate with our members. After that, we will return there to provide further assistance.”

Bell continues, “Despite our many differences we have the same goals for our organizations – to achieve strong and effective municipal government. It is what we constantly strive for ourselves, and if we can help COMURES to achieve that we will both be better associations for it.” ■



l to r - AMM Executive Director Joe Masi, Rural VP Doug Dobrowolski, Ambassador to El Salvador Stéphanie Allard-Gomez, President Ron Bell, and FCM representative Micheline Caron.

AMM Board Update

The AMM Board of Directors met on January 25, 2007.

The Board discussed recent movement in the education tax debate in Manitoba. The AMM reiterated its position as stated in resolution 14/06 which asks for an 80:20 funding formula.

Board members were informed that all municipalities have now received their funding through the Gas Tax Agreement .

Public Sector Accounting was discussed as the AMM represents municipalities in the process of developing this system.

The Board agreed that the AMM Water Issues Paper should be raised through the next meeting of the Watershed Forum.

President Bell and Vice-President Dobrowolski provided highlights of the mission to El Salvador.

Action was taken on a number of resolutions and policy files.

The next meeting of the AMM Board will take place on February 22, 2007. ■

Healthy Living Update

The AMM met with the Honourable Kerri Irvin-Ross, Minister of Healthy Living on January 25th, 2007.

The AMM opened the meeting by raising the issue of joint use of facilities. While highlighting the good work and many opportunities existing in this area, the AMM stressed that the costs cannot be simply downloaded to municipalities.

The AMM then raised the topic of funding for recreation centres. While this funding does not come directly from the Minister's department, the AMM pointed out major links between healthy living and quality infrastructure. The AMM also raised the need to provide adequate funding and support to recreation commissions and the Recreation Connections group.

Also discussed was the issue of seniors independent living and housing, with the AMM highlighting the importance of seniors to the community. The Minister indicated new age-friendly initiatives are on the horizon over the next year.

The AMM closed the meeting by raising the general issue of creating fiscal balance between municipalities and other orders of government. ■

Coming Events

2007 Mayors, Reeves & CAOs Meetings

- Monday, March 5** Eastern District
RM of Lac du Bonnet
- Tuesday, March 6** Central District
RM of Macdonald
- Wednesday, March 7** Western District
RM of South Cypress & Village of Glenboro
- Thursday, March 8** Midwestern District
RM of Langford & Town of Neepawa
- Friday, March 9** Parklands District
RM of Ste. Rose
- Monday, March 19** Northern District
Town of Lynn Lake
- Tuesday, March 20** Interlake District
Town of Winnipeg Beach

For specific locations, visit

http://www.amm.mb.ca/events_meetings.html

Coming Events



Session #1: Human Resources for Elected Officials Essential tools to enhance your role as an elected official.

After four months of your four-year term on your municipal council, dedicate a day to professional development!

Register now:

http://www.amm.mb.ca/events_edu_register.html

Notices

Hometown 2007 Grant Applications Now Available

Applications are now available for the 2007 Hometown Manitoba program by contacting any Growing Opportunities Centre.

Combined with financing from communities, non-profit organizations, co-operatives or businesses, Hometown Manitoba creates opportunities for communities to make their main streets more attractive to residents and tourists, enhance local buildings and develop vacant green space.

The deadline for applications is **March 15, 2007**. A list of GO centres is available at www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/contact/agoffices or by calling toll free at 1-800-567-7334.

REMINDER

AMM Municipal Innovation Awards
Deadline is February 7, 2007.
or more information visit:

www.amm.mb.ca/res_tools.html

Job Postings

Chief Administrative Officer RM of Ste. Anne

The Council of The RM of Ste. Anne is seeking applications for the position of Chief Administrative Officer.

Candidates will display strong interpersonal and communication skills bolstered by a broad knowledge of municipal finances, administration, planning and economic development. You will direct the preparation of the annual financial plan including the general operating budget and capital budget. You will establish appropriate financial controls to ensure all services, programs and policies are delivered in a cost effective manner.

The CAO is expected to supervise and provide direction to office staff and to attend/record minutes of all Council and committee meetings.

Preference will be given to graduates of the University of Manitoba Municipal Administration Course or equivalent, with at least five years of rural municipal experience preferably as a CAO or a senior manager. Candidates are expected to have excellent office skills including computer, internet and web site development experience. Bilingualism and willingness to live locally will be considered an asset. salary and benefit package commensurate with experience.

Applications accompanied by at least three references are to be forwarded in a sealed envelope marked CAO Application, to Reeve Art Bergmann at the following address :

RM of Ste. Anne
141 Central Avenue
Ste. Anne, MB R5H 1C3

Deadline for applications is 4:30 PM, Thursday, February 15, 2007.

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



**AMM
Municipal
Officials
Seminar
and
MTCML
Trade
Show**

**& MTCML
Trade Show**

February 26 & 27, 2007
**Keystone Centre,
Brandon**

Visit http://www.amm.mb.ca/events_seminar.html
For updates