



NEWS BULLETIN



APRIL 7, 2008

MINISTER MEETINGS CONTINUE

Following is a recap of a number of recent meetings with Ministers:

Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives Rosann Wowchuk February 25th, 2008

The AMM opened the meeting by raising the need for a review of the Noxious Weed Act. The Minister indicated that it would make sense to have her department and AMM review the Act.

Land use and water planning in Manitoba was also discussed. The Minister stressed that municipalities withdrawing from CDs will not help the system, and reiterated that water quality is an important issue for the province. She admitted that the budget will not provide all the funding needed. The AMM also took the opportunity to discuss the CEC report and the importance of sharing the recommendations with AMM prior to its public release.

Emergency livestock disposal planning and the Prairie Grain Roads Program were also discussed.

Minister of Family Services and Housing Gord Mackintosh March 10, 2008

The AMM began the meeting with Minister Mackintosh by raising the need for increased funding for housing. The

Minister indicated that funding for housing rehabilitation programs has started to flow. He acknowledged that in some cases the market is not meeting demands for housing, such as in Neepawa. The Province is working with Brandon and Thompson on housing issues, and the Minister noted that there is a Federal/Provincial/Territorial meeting set for early April.

The Minister was pleased that rural childcare issues are on the AMM agenda. He indicated that much has been done on a long-term affordable strategy and is hoping there will be something in the provincial budget for this area.

Minister of Education, Citizenship and Youth Peter Bjornson March 10th, 2008

The AMM opened the meeting with the issue of reduction of education tax from property. The AMM also raised recent concerns from the RM of Portage regarding education taxes not being paid on crown lands. The Minister admitted that there is a lot of distance to travel to get to 80:20. The Province has added \$53M to education funding, but school boards have increased spending by \$83M. The Tax Incentive Grant (TIG) was designed to give school boards additional revenues so they can hold the line on property tax.

The AMM then raised the method used for the agriculture land rebate. The Minister committed to taking a look at how it is done and explaining the reasoning for the process to AMM.

Regarding anti-drug programs in schools, the Minister indicated that there is a connection to the department of Justice in this issue. He was recently advised that support for the DARE

Position papers from all minister meetings are available at www.amm.mb.ca

program is being pulled in BC as there are concerns with its effectiveness. He noted that programs such as the Lighthouses program and use of community resource officers are working well. The Province has rewritten the health curriculum for schools and drug awareness is a key piece. Drug and alcohol policies are required for all schools and there is opportunity here for local input.

Note – The spring AMM Leader magazine has an article on both the DARE and Lion's Quest Program and will be requesting an update from the Province for the next issue of the magazine.

Amendments to The Public Schools Act for Public Hearings was also discussed with Minister Bjornson.

Minister of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs Oscar Lathlin March 10th, 2008

The Minister was unable to attend, so departmental staff met with AMM.

The AMM began by raising concerns with treaty land entitlements. While municipal land is outside of the Province's jurisdiction they have offered up to five times tax loss compensation in order to help speed up the process. The Province will also help in cases where there are deadlocks between municipalities and First Nations, and has developed guidelines for municipalities to use. The Department agreed that there is a need for greater communication between municipalities and First Nations.

Healthy foods initiatives for Northern communities and funding for Port of Churchill and Northern rail lines were also discussed. ■

WE HOPE YOU ARE ENJOYING YOUR SPRING, 2008 ISSUE OF THE MUNICIPAL LEADER. DID YOU NOTICE WE MAILED THE LEADER WITHOUT

ENVELOPES TO REDUCE WASTE? IT SAVES MONEY, TOO!

IF YOU RECEIVED MORE OF FEWER MAGAZINES THAN YOU NEED, PLEASE LET US KNOW!



Coming Events

Municipal Officials Seminar & MTCML Trade Show

April 16 –17
Keystone Centre
Brandon

- More displays
- Top-notch policy & professional development sessions
- Wine & cheese
- Fireworks!

See you there!



Preliminary agenda and more information available online at

amm.mb.ca/events_seminar.html

Congratulations



...to the winners of the **10th Anniversary Draws** at the 2008 Mayors, Reeves and CAOs meetings. Winners received a Canon 8.0 megapixel digital camera!

Interlake
CAO Lori Postlethwaite
RM of Siglunes

Eastern
CAO Yvette Courcelles
RM of Ste Anne

Parkland
Reeve Marvin Kovachik
RM of Mountain

Midwestern
Reeve Richard Funk
RM of Landsdowne

Western
CAO Brad Coe
RM of Cameron

Central
Reeve Toby Trimble
RM of Portage

Northern
Mayor Audie Dulewich
Town of Lynn Lake

Coming Events



Be sure to enter our current website contest! For details, visit:

[amm.mb.ca/
events_10thanniversary.html](http://amm.mb.ca/events_10thanniversary.html)

There are fabulous prizes to be won!



April 24—25, 2008
Brandon, Manitoba

Capturing Opportunities builds on the great tradition of Rural Forum, but provides even more value with increased opportunities for networking, learning about new business ideas and skills and meeting with an outstanding lineup of speakers.

For more info call 204-761-6317 or visit capturingopportunities.ca

Job Postings

The Town of Deloraine Chief Administrative Officer

The Town of Deloraine invites applications for the position of Chief Administrative Officer.

The CAO will report to the Town Council and will be responsible for the administration, supervision, and co-ordination of all staff, policies, plans and programs approved by Council.

The successful candidate must possess:

- Strong administrative/management skills
- Ability to work with public and employees
- Ability to manage and motivate staff
- Basic understanding of accounting, financing, and budget preparations

Job Postings

•A certificate in the course of Municipal Administrators, or enrolled in the course, or have the ability to complete the course, or relevant Post Secondary Education.

For further information call Mayor Brian Franklin at 204-747-2764 [H] or 204-534-8096. Interested applicants are invited to submit a written application complete with resume by Thursday April 24, 2008. Applications can be mailed to:

CAO Position, Town of Deloraine
c/o Brian Franklin, Mayor
Box 35 Deloraine, MB R0M 0M0
Or via Email: delorain@mts.net

Town of Snow Lake Chief Administrative Officer

Snow Lake has the potential for community growth in the near future and requires a CAO who will be responsible for the overall management of the town operations under the direction of Mayor and Council.

The successful candidate should possess the following:

- Strong administrative/management skills
- Ability to work with the public, employees, and council
- Sound background in accounting
- A certificate course for Municipal Administrators or relevant post-secondary education.

Interested applicants are invited to submit a written application, a detailed resume, and three references via mail, fax, or email to:

The Town of Snow Lake
Attn: Mayor & Council
P.O. Box 40
Snow Lake MB R0B 1M0
snowlake@mts.net
Fax: (204) 358-2112

Additional information on the town is available @www.snowlake.com. Closing date is 4:00 P.M. April 17, 2008.

Complete postings for these and other jobs are available at

<http://www.amm.mb.ca/>