



NEWS BULLETIN



FEBRUARY 26, 2008

MINISTER MEETING UPDATE

The AMM has continued its annual round of meetings with Provincial Cabinet Ministers this month.

Kerri Irvin-Ross, Minister of Healthy Living and Minister responsible for seniors
January 25th, 2008

The AMM opened the meeting by thanking the Minister for the opportunity to participate in the Age Friendly initiative. The Minister stressed that she views this initiative as making communities more accessible for all people, not just seniors.

The AMM then raised the issue of joint use of community facilities. The Minister indicated that all facilities, urban and rural, should be explored. The AMM noted this is happening in many areas already.

Regarding funding for recreation operations, the Minister stated she is aware of the concerns of Recreation Connections, and noted investing money in programming helps to reduce crime and improve health. She also noted funding for recreation infrastructure was committed in the election and the Throne Speech. The AMM stressed that this area needs its own infrastructure program.

The AMM also raised community contributions to health capital projects. The department staff indicated that they would like to discuss this issue further with AMM.

Eric Robinson, Minister of Culture, Heritage and Tourism
Thursday, February 7th, 2008

Minister Robinson opened the meeting by updating the AMM on the issues raised at the Ministerial Forum at Convention.

THE AMM INFORMED EACH MINISTER OF ITS SERIOUS CONCERNS WITH THE PROPOSED DIRECTION FOR CONSERVATION DISTRICTS, AND WILL BRING THESE CONCERNS TO ALL MINISTERS THIS YEAR.

The AMM then raised the issue of funding for libraries. The Minister noted that there are new libraries being established and access being improved as well. He noted the Province is in year two of a four-year implementation plan.

The AMM also raised the need for increased funding for recreation infrastructure as well as for recreation practitioners. The Minister has asked for a joint federal/provincial program in this area. He reiterated the provincial commitment to \$60M over four years for recreation and asked that AMM draft a letter on this commitment so he could take it forward to his cabinet colleagues. The Minister also agreed that funding for recreation practitioners is insufficient.

The AMM also raised the issue of LEED Silver certification and joint use of facilities with the Minister.

Nancy Allan, Minister of Labour and Immigration
Tuesday, February 12th, 2008

The AMM opened the meeting with by discussing the need for mandatory 911 services across the Province. The Minister noted there is a committee reviewing this. She also mentioned the lag issues between notifying fire and ambulance have been dealt with. The Minister also indicated there are automatic vehicle locators in all ambulances.

The AMM asked for an update on changes to fire inspections, as fire chiefs are still expressing the need for additional resources. The Minister indicated that the Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC) is working with communities, and will perform the inspections if a municipality requests it. The department will let mutual aid districts know about this also.

The AMM asked for an update on the impact of changes to building codes for municipalities. The Minister indicated that they will be launching consultations on energy efficiency standards in the near future, with a building code review in 2010. The AMM also raised the issue of municipalities having to obtain LEED Silver certification for buildings over 6000 square feet that receives Provincial dollars. The department will look into this.

On the issue of provincial floor construction standards, Minister Allan indicated they are waiting for the national review to be completed. It was suggested that better communication between planning officers and fire chiefs would help. ■



Position papers from all minister meetings are available at: www.amm.mb.ca/pol_provincial.html

Coming Events

2008 Mayors, Reeves and CAO's Meetings

Meetings will begin at 10:00 a.m. Please visit the AMM website to register for the District Meeting you plan to attend.

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

Interlake District - March 13

Host: RM of Gimli
Johnson Hall, 5th Floor, Waterfront Centre, 94 First Avenue, Gimli

Eastern District - March 14

Host: RM of Piney
Woodridge Community Hall, Denis Street, Woodridge

Parkland District - March 17

Host: Town of Swan River
War Veterans Community Hall, 119 -6th Avenue North, Swan River

Midwestern District - March 18

Host: RM and Town of Russell
The Russell Inn, Hwy 16 and 83, Russell

Western District - March 19

Host: RM of Glenwood and Town of Souris
Souris-Glenwood Community Hall, 30 - 3rd Avenue West, Souris

Central District - March 20

Host: City of Winkler
Activity Centre 55 Plus, 394 6th Street, Winkler

Northern District - March 26

Conference Call

Coming Events



Enter our February contest!

AMM Website Hunt

To enter, visit our website at [amm.mb.ca/
events_10thanniversary.html](http://amm.mb.ca/events_10thanniversary.html)

****Deadline is March 14****

There are fabulous prizes to be won!

Regional Meetings Share Your Ideas Help us review veterinary services in Manitoba

The Manitoba government is holding a series of public meetings across the province to get your input into veterinary services in Manitoba. These meetings will help shape recommendations for meeting both current and future demands of Manitoba's livestock producers and animal owners.

Make yourself heard! Register for the meeting closest to you by calling Ann Johner of MAFRI at 204-945-7648 or your local GO office on or before February 27. All meetings begin at 10:00 am. *Lunch will be provided at all meetings.*

ERIKSDALE - March 3, Eriksdale Community Hall, 6-1st Ave.

DAUPHIN - March 4, Parkland Recreation Complex, 200 - 1st Street South East, Lions Den room

SOURIS - March 5, Souris and Glenwood Memorial Complex - Kirkup Lounge, 32 - 34th Avenue

ST. CLAUDE - March 6, North side of St. Claude Rec Centre - 58 Provincial Road 240

OAK BLUFF - March 7, Oak Bluff Rec. Centre, 101 MacDonald Road

Coming Events

The Creative Construct: Building for Culture and Creativity Symposium April 28 - May 1 — Ottawa

This symposium will bring together noted speakers, experts and artists from across Canada and around the world to examine the role and importance of cultural infrastructure in furthering culture and creativity in cities and communities.

Delegates will include cultural planners and policy-makers, civic leaders and elected officials, and educators and urban theorists interested in sharing ideas and learning about the latest innovations and developments from around the world.

For further information visit www.cultureandcommunities.ca

**April 24 and 25
Keystone Centre, Brandon**



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

Farewell

...to Elicia Funk, term Administrative Assistant—Board & Administration, who has accepted a position with the Neighbourhoods Alive! program in Portage la Prairie. Elicia has been filling in for Julia Green who is on parental leave.

Erika Rempel will be filling the position until Julia returns.



**April 16 -17
Keystone
Centre
Brandon**

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

See you there!