



NEWS BULLETIN



MARCH 30, 2009

AMM Board Meets

The AMM Board of Directors met on February 26, 2009. (Due to space limitations we could not include a recap last issue.)

Administrative items discussed included a report on road allowances created by McCandless Tramley Municipal Lawyers. As well, the Director of Administration and Marketing gave a verbal update of the Insurance Program 2009/2010 renewal from HED Insurance. The Board agreed to renew the Insurance program through HED provided the plan does not increase more than 4%.

The Board reviewed a number of membership events, including the Mayors, Reeves and CAOs meetings, the 2009 Municipal Officials Seminar, and the Western Region municipal visits.

The 2009 Salary Survey was discussed and will be sent to members in April. The Board also reviewed several AMM policy and procedures.

Under policy issues, the Board reviewed the FCM Analysis of the Federal Budget. President Dobrowolski gave a verbal update on recent meetings with Federal and Provincial Ministers regarding the Building Canada Fund. The Board also discussed the possibility of funding additional staff to assist with the processing of applications and allocation of gas tax funds.

The Board reviewed a report from Multi-Material Stewardship Manitoba (MMSM) regarding the recycling regulation, and received an overview of key changes to the proposed Onsite Wastewater Management Systems Regulation (OWMS). The Board agreed to send an information package to all municipalities, discuss the OWMS issue at the Mayors, Reeves and CAOs meetings, and offer a plenary session on this topic at MOS.

Other policy items discussed included the minor works licensing policy for drainage, water and wastewater operator training, and disaster financial assistance.

The next meeting of the AMM Board of Directors took place on March 27, 2009 and will be reported on next issue. ■

Municipalities left behind

The AMM had high hopes that the Province would acknowledge Manitoba's municipal infrastructure deficit with more dollars on March 25. However, President Dobrowolski was left disappointed after Budget 2009 was tabled at the Manitoba Legislature. *"Municipalities have been living on crumbs for some time and this budget did nothing to improve our situation,"* explained Dobrowolski. *"Our core, bread and butter issue – infrastructure – was largely ignored. What amounts to an increase of about \$4 million for municipalities doesn't begin to make a dent in the corresponding increase to the infrastructure deficit. It also doesn't deal with the root issue of rising construction costs, which we've seen double or triple in recent years."*

There are a few good things for AMM members in the budget, including increased funding for transit, more funding for electronic and household hazardous waste, enhanced opportunities for rural medical students, and money for public housing. What it lacked, however, was acknowledgement

"Municipalities have been living on crumbs for some time..."

President Doug Dobrowolski

of just how big the infrastructure deficit really is. *"A new recreation centre or even a water treatment plant upgrade can't be had for \$4 million,"* said President Dobrowolski. *"If you're lucky, that amount might build 75 km of road."*

In the last few years municipalities have struggled while the Province changes regulations and increases costs in areas like water and wastewater management, building standards, and road construction. These downloads have also contributed to the dire situation in Manitoba communities, yet yesterday's additional \$4 million doesn't come close to providing what is needed.

"Manitoba has 198 municipalities dealing with these issues," stressed Dobrowolski, "and they are going to fall further behind with Budget 2009." ■

JUST ADDED TO WWW.AMM.MB.CA

- ▶ *Mayors, Reeves and CAOs recap*
- ▶ *The Municipal Leader - Spring, 2009*
- ▶ *Registration form for Provincial Land Use Policies Review meetings*

...and much more!



Coming Events

**Municipal
Officials Seminar &
MTCML Trade Show**
April 15 & 16, 2009

Keystone
Centre,
Brandon

**NEW THIS
YEAR -
ON-LINE**

**PRE-REGISTRATION
FOR MOS**

Visit

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

to register and ensure you are
entered in the

*****Mystery Draw*****

Registration deadline:

April 8, 2009

June District Meetings

June District Meetings are quickly
approaching, which means it is time
again for resolutions. Remember:

- We have moved to a Category system (Category 1, 2 or 3)
- Only emerging issues may be raised after the June District Meetings
- Resolutions that are the same as the current AMM lobbying position will not be permitted when the existing resolution is less than four years old. Resolutions calling for a change in the current AMM position will be permitted.

Questions? Please contact:

**Tyler MacAfee, Director of
Policy and Communications**

Phone: 204-856-2362

Fax: 204-856-2370

Email: tmacafee@amm.mb.ca

Coming Events

**Provincial Land Use
Policies Review**
*Consultation with Local
Governments*

**Schedule of Local Government
Workshops:**

Municipal Elected Official and their staff
are encouraged to participate in one of
the following workshops that have been
organized for them in their District.

All workshops run from 9:30 am - noon.

Parkland

April 20, 2009 in Gilbert Plains at the
Community Centre Curling Hall

Mid Western

April 21, 2009 in Shoal Lake at the
Shoal Lake Community Hall

Western

April 22, 2009 in Souris at the Souris
Glenwood Memorial Complex

Central

April 23, 2009 in Carman at the
United Church Hall

Northern

April 30, 2009 in Thompson at the
Rec Centre

Interlake

May 4, 2009 in Fraserwood at the
Fraserwood Hall

Eastern

May 7, 2009 in Beausejour at the
Brokenhead River Community Hall

**To reserve your seat at the workshop
in your region, please register online:**

[http://www.amm.mb.ca/
provin-
cial_land_use_registration.html](http://www.amm.mb.ca/provin-
cial_land_use_registration.html)

Other Ways to Get Involved:

You may also share your feedback by
forwarding written comments to the ad-
dress, fax or email below by **May 8,
2009.**

Provincial Land Use Policies Review
Community Planning and Development
Division

Manitoba Intergovernmental Affairs
604 - 800 Portage Avenue

Winnipeg, MB R3G 0N4

Fax: (204) 945-5059

E-mail: PLUPS@gov.mb.ca

Coming Events

**MCDA 2nd
Annual Info Day**
Tuesday,
April 21,
2009



Manitoba
Conservation Districts
Association (MCDA) is hosting their sec-
ond *Info Day* on Tuesday April 21, 2009
at the Pioneer Room - Keystone Centre
- Brandon, Manitoba.

**Open House/registration from
12:30 to 1:15**

The afternoon will include information
about work and programs from Conser-
vation Districts, MCDA's activities
and projects, and guest speaker Mayor
Chris Goertzen of Steinbach. Door
prizes and refreshments will be served.

**Please RSVP on or before Friday
April 17, 2009 to mcda@mts.net or
phone 204-571-1097.**



**Small Market
Sustainability:
Size Matters**

**March 11-14,
2009**

**Victoria Inn Hotel & Convention
Centre - Winnipeg, MB**

SWANA Northern Lights Chapter &
CPWA Manitoba Chapter are pleased to
announce that **Rod Black**, the Voice of
CTV Sports & TSN, will be the 2009
Conference Keynote Speaker. For more
information go to www.swanacpwa.ca

Registration is also now open for the
SWANA **Landfill Operations Basics
Training Course**, May 14 & 15 in con-
junction with the 2009 Conference. This
course is endorsed as the industry-
leading best practice in all Canadian
jurisdictions and will feature Manitoba-
specific content.

**Space is limited...register today at
[www.swananorthernlights.org/
training.html](http://www.swananorthernlights.org/
training.html)**