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## BUDGET 2012

President Doug Dobrowolski attended the tabling of the 2012 Provincial Budget on April 17 at the Manitoba Legislature. The Budget contained some moderate items of interest to municipalities:

### Budget 2012 Highlights

- The Building Manitoba Fund will grow by \$7.6 million through its tie to the 1 per cent PST. However, \$6.3 million of that amount is conditional.
- Cultural services such as libraries and tourism will suffer no major cuts.
- Manitoba child care centres will see an increase of 900 new child care spaces.
- The Beaver Management Program will see a slight increase in funding.
- Rural airport funding will remain the same, although the budget does not include a capital assistance program the AMM has been calling for.
- An additional 2.5 cents of provincial gas tax is earmarked for provincial, not municipal infrastructure.
- New firefighters are promised to Winnipeg and Brandon. Brandon will also receive funding for an additional police officer.
- The Budget promises to continue increasing the number of apprenticeship and training opportunities for northern Manitoba.



President Dobrowolski responds to media questions following Budget 2012.

### Budget 2012 Concerns

1. The Budget virtually freezes funding to the [Manitoba Water Services Board](#) (MWSB). This fund is an important contributor to municipal water and wastewater infrastructure projects and plays a major role in ensuring rural Manitobans have safe, sustainable water and sewer services in their communities, yet it was ignored in Budget 2012.
2. Manitoba's infrastructure deficit is estimated at more than \$11 billion and the budget does not deliver what is needed—a new source of growth revenue dedicated to fixing the problem. Last year, the Province recognized municipalities need access to growth revenues by changing the legislated annual revenue-sharing formula. This repackaging of existing programs and tying them to the PST began a trend that continues in Budget 2012. However, without a significant investment over and above existing levels municipalities will continue to struggle to address the infrastructure deficit in their communities. The AMM is extremely disappointed in the Province of Manitoba's failure to make a long-term commitment to a sustainable funding solution for municipalities.
3. This issue is further compounded due to population changes resulting from the 2011 Census. This will result in some municipalities seeing reduced per capita funding support through the General Assistance and VLT revenue sharing programs, making funding of local infrastructure priorities even more difficult. ■

*It is important to note that these are early observations from this year's budget, and more information will be released in the coming days and weeks. The AMM will continue to track this year's budget and will update our members as new information is discovered.*

More information on the 2012 Provincial Budget is available at [www.gov.mb.ca/finance/budget12/index.html](http://www.gov.mb.ca/finance/budget12/index.html).

## MINISTER MEETING UPDATE

### The Honourable Ron Kostyshyn, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives

The AMM began the March 1 meeting with Minister Kostyshyn by expressing frustration around rural water pipeline funding. Following the meeting, President Dobrowolski sent letters to Minister Ritz, Kostyshyn and Struthers requesting a meeting to deal with this urgent issue.

Other items discussed with Minister Kostyshyn included economic development, municipal land use planning, noxious weed issues, the proposed Cosmetic Use Pesticide Ban, and rural veterinary board funding.

### Jennifer Howard, Minister of Family Services and Labour

President Dobrowolski opened the meeting with Minister Howard, also on March 1, by urging the Minister to improve emergency response throughout Manitoba. He also asked the Minister to clarify the roles of municipalities regarding fire inspections.

Other items discussed with Minister Howard included provincial floor construction standards, accessibility, the need for an increased shelter allowance rate, and childcare funding.

### The Honourable Christine Melnick, Minister of Immigration and Multiculturalism

The AMM met with Minister Melnick on March 6. President Dobrowolski began by commenting on the success of the Provincial Nominee Program; however, he also raised concerns about additional pressure on municipal infrastructure such as housing due to high immigration.

The AMM also discussed health practitioner recruitment and retention, and increased funding for housing with Minister Melnick.

**BCH.** *The AMM met with federal Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism, the Honourable Jason Kenney, on April 16 to discuss settlement issues. Details will be included in the next AMM news bulletin. ■*

View AMM position papers at [www.amm.mb.ca/pol\\_provincial.html](http://www.amm.mb.ca/pol_provincial.html)



## Notices

### MOS Recap

Just added to the AMM website: [presentations](#) and [photos](#) from the 2012 Municipal Officials Seminar and MTCML Tradeshow.



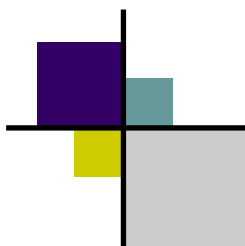
**Thank you to the 676 delegates who attended this year's MOS!**

### 2011 Manitoba Excellence in Sustainability Awards Winners

Congratulations to the RM of Dufferin and the South Basin Mayors and Reeves Inc. on their recent Manitoba Excellence in Sustainability Awards. The awards were presented at the Manitoba Legislature on April 5, 2012.

The RM of Dufferin received the Sustainability in Water and Natural Area Stewardship Award for their Dufferin Wetland Tax Credit Program. The South Basin Mayors and Reeves were recognized for their Lake Friendly Campaign, and awarded the Sustainability in Pollution Prevention and Product Stewardship Award.

More information is available at <http://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?archive=2012-04-01&item=13613>.



## Coming Events

### 2013 TD Green Streets Program

Tree Canada has begun accepting applications for the 2013 TD Green Streets Program.

This is an excellent opportunity for communities to plant trees.

Details about the program/eligibility are available at:

[www.treecanada.ca/site/?page=programs\\_greenstreets&lang=en](http://www.treecanada.ca/site/?page=programs_greenstreets&lang=en)

### WORKSHOP—Bicycle Facilities Design Course

**Sunday, May 27  
Fort Garry Hotel, Winnipeg  
8:30 am to 4:30 pm**

This course is being offered at the annual Canadian Institute of Transportation Engineers (CITE 2012) conference in Winnipeg. The workshop is on Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup> from 08:30 to 16:30.

Conference registration is not required to attend this course.

For more information, visit:

[www.cite7.org/Winnipeg2012/WinnipegWorkshops.php](http://www.cite7.org/Winnipeg2012/WinnipegWorkshops.php)

### Camp Bridges June 1-3, 2012

The Regional Health Authorities of Assiniboine, Brandon and Central are organizing their seventh annual Camp Bridges weekend, a weekend camp for bereaved children and teens. Camp Bridges will be held at Pembina Valley Bible Camp near Morden, Manitoba on **June 1, 2 and 3, 2012**. The goal of Camp Bridges is to support children and teens with their grief and bereavement. This is achieved through activities designed to help share grief and honour memories in a caring community environment.

Camp Bridges 2011 was held last June at the Camp Wanakumbac Site at Clear Lake and hosted 50 children and teens between the ages of 7 and 17.

For more information, visit:

<http://www.rha-central.mb.ca/>

## Job Postings

### Chief Administrative Officer RM of Montcalm

The RM of Montcalm invites written applications for the position of Chief Administrative Officer, with duties to commence immediately.

Montcalm is located south of Winnipeg in south central Manitoba, has a population of 1,309 and covers approximately 469 square kilometres. The Municipal Office is located in Letellier.

The successful applicant should possess the following:

- Graduate of, or enrolled in the Manitoba Municipal Administration Program
- Knowledge of municipal accounting practices, financing and budget preparation
- Experience in the *Muniware* Accounting Software program and other *Microsoft* software programs
- Knowledge of applicable Provincial Statutes as it relates to Municipalities
- Ability to communicate effectively with the public, employees and Council Members
- Experience in preparing Agendas and Council Minutes
- Experience in interpreting and managing Zoning by-laws, Development Plans and other municipal agreements
- Fully Bilingual in both official languages English and Français

The RM of Montcalm offers an excellent benefits package. Salary is dependent upon qualifications and related experience. Background information on the RM of Montcalm may be viewed at:

[www.rmofmontcalm.com](http://www.rmofmontcalm.com)

or contact Mitch Duval at [montcalm@mts.net](mailto:montcalm@mts.net) or Yves Sabourin at [ysabinc@gmail.com](mailto:ysabinc@gmail.com)

Please submit a complete resume marked "Private & Confidential", including three work related references, no later than **Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012** to:

RM of Montcalm  
Box 300-46 First St. East  
Letellier, Manitoba  
R0G 1C0