



September 21, 2009

Clerk of Committees
249 Legislative Building
Winnipeg MB R3C 0V8

Re: Bill 4 – The Community Revitalization Tax Increment Financing Act

The AMM would like to thank the Committee for the opportunity to submit comments on Bill 4: The Community Revitalization Tax Increment Financing Act. The AMM is supportive of this bill as it offers municipalities another tool to promote and attract investment in their communities.

Bill 4 provides new tools to promote community economic development by moving the incremental education tax that would have been paid into a community revitalization fund whose purpose is the revitalize communities, encourage economic development, enhance social and cultural development and preserve heritage projects.

Municipalities are pleased to see amendments included from the original bill that will strengthen municipal control over where the funds will be spent. In particular section 15(7) ensures that a grant from the fund will only be used for a purpose agreed to by the municipality.

The AMM is also pleased to see included in the bill a system of accountability and transparency in how the fund is administered. By requiring audited statements and an annual report transparency is ensured.

While municipalities still face overwhelming challenges when it comes to downloading and a ballooning municipal infrastructure deficit, we are appreciative of new tools that will help municipalities attract investment into their communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Dobrowolski". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent loop at the end.

Doug Dobrowolski
President