



NEWS BULLETIN



DECEMBER 23, 2010

MINISTER MEETINGS UPDATE

The AMM met with Minister of Finance *Rosann Wowchuk* on November 1, 2010, to present its budget submission for 2011.

The AMM opened the meeting with an overview of the core challenges for municipalities, explaining to Minister Wowchuk the need for a greater investment in municipal infrastructure, an end to the downloading of responsibilities to municipalities and a commitment to provide new alternate revenues to municipalities.

The AMM's complete 2011 Provincial Budget Submission is available at http://www.amm.mb.ca/pol_budgets.html

Although the need for alternate revenues affects all aspects of municipal government, municipalities have ongoing challenges in other areas as well, and the AMM noted there are several priority issues that should be addressed in the 2011-12 Provincial Budget. Some of the issues raised with Minister Wowchuk included housing, the need for high speed internet in all areas of Manitoba, health care, recreation, immigration, and a number of other issues. ■

The AMM met with Minister of Water Stewardship *Christine Melnick* regarding the Minor Works Drainage Policy on November 3rd, 2010. The intent of the meeting was to raise concerns with the Minor Works Policy directly with the Minister.

The Minister indicated that she was frustrated with how this process was working as well, but some policy is required. The move of workers from the west to east side of the Province worked well. Roughly 500 applications were dealt with, the focus being on minor works applications.

The Province is pleased with the Whitemud CD project where applications are being approved on the spot when all of the parties get together at the site. More CDs should be looking at this as surface water management plans are needed. The need to develop a quicker policy for oil well applications in the Birtle area was raised also, and the Province will look into this.

The Province would like to see municipalities send in drainage plans in advance for mass approval. The RM of Macdonald is working on this with the Department.

The Minister indicated that while her department does now require approval, they are interested in finding the easiest solution to meet everyone's expectations. ■

AMM BOARD MEETS

The AMM Board of Directors held its last meeting of 2010 on December 16, 2010 at the AMM office in Portage la Prairie.

President Dobrowolski began the meeting by welcoming the four new directors—Mayor Jim Goymer (Northern), Mayor Chris Goertzen (Eastern Urban), Mayor Bob Stefaniuk (Eastern Rural), and Councillor Trevor King (Interlake Rural).

The meeting began with a review of the AMM and MTCML financial statements for the period ending November 30, 2010.

The Board agreed to hire McCandless and Tramley to review the draft agreement prepared by Multi-Material Stewardship Manitoba Inc. The agreement would be used as the template for municipalities for their recycling program.

The Board also reviewed the positive membership emails received regarding the Annual Convention. A full review of the 2010 Convention will be presented at the January Board meeting.

The draft agenda for April's Municipal Officials Seminar was reviewed, as were the Newly Elected Training Seminar dates coming up in January and February.

The Board also discussed the Women in Municipal Government reception held during Convention.

Policy issues discussed included an overview of the proposed New Home Warranty Legislation, the Infrastructure Funding Council, the deadline extension for federal stimulus projects, the Community Profiles website, 2010 flooding, Regional Airports Regulation, beaver control, and the Municipal Bridge Program.

The Board reviewed the Hansard and several Bills currently being debated in the Legislature.

The next meeting of the AMM Board of Directors will be held on January 20, 2010. ■



**Happy Holidays from the Board of Directors
& Staff of the Association of Manitoba
Municipalities.**



Coming Events

Newly Elected Municipal Official Training Seminars

Manitoba Local Government, Municipal Finance and Advisory Services, in collaboration with the AMM, will present 2011 Newly Elected Municipal Officials Training.

This training will include key municipal governance issues such as finance, conflict of interest and service delivery, all from a council perspective.

Cost: \$75 plus GST (includes lunch)
Time: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

January 26 WINKLER

Heartland Resort, 851 Main Street

January 27 ARBORG

Arborg-Bifrost Community Centre, Crosstown Ave.

January 28 HEADINGLEY

Headingley Community Hall, 5353 Portage Ave.

February 2 SOURIS

St. Paul United Church, 47-5th Ave.

February 3 BIRTLE

Birtle United Church, 684 Vince Street

February 4 DAUPHIN

St. Viator's Roman Catholic Church, 307 Whitmore Ave

February 23 GLADSTONE

Gladstone District Community Centre, 79 5th Street

February 24 STE. ANNE

Seine River Banquet Hall, 80 Arena Road

March 1 THOMPSON

St. John's United Church, 52 Caribou Road

Online registration is now available at http://www.amm.mb.ca/events_education_reg.cfm

Register before January 19, 2011 to ensure your seat at the session of your choice.

Need more information? Email: dbelbin@amm.mb.ca

Coming Events

15th Annual Recreation Connections Manitoba Provincial Conference *Interact. Learn. Network.*

February 16th – 18th,
Victoria Inn, Winnipeg

- **Interact** with conference delegates focusing on improving the quality of life in Manitoba through recreation, sport and leisure.
- **Learn** through workshops and keynotes that address topics and issues relevant to recreation in Manitoba.
- **Network** with delegates and presenters from across the province and beyond.

This year's conference promises to be educational, inspirational, fun...and the biggest ever with **27 workshops to choose from** (including one presented by AMM Executive Director Joe Masi). This is an event that municipal officials do not want to miss!

Keynote presenters are **John Furlong** (former CEO, 2010 Vancouver Olympics and Paralympics), **Dr. Colin Higgs** (Canadian Sport for Life) and **Alf Grigg** (Professor, Recreation & Leisure Programs, Seneca College).

Register on-line and be eligible for a prize!

www.reconnections.com

Coming Events

Working Together

Manitoba Planning Conference
2011



Partnering for Healthy Sustainable Communities

Conference dates:
March 9-11, 2011

Conference location:
Delta Winnipeg,
350 St. Mary Avenue, Winnipeg

Conference website:
<http://mppi.mb.ca/conf2011WorkingTogether.asp>

Official conference hotel:
Delta Winnipeg,
350 St. Mary Avenue, Winnipeg
Toll free reservations:
(888) 890-322
Group reservation number:
0311MANI_003

Does your non-profit, volunteer organization need funds for:

- Capital & Renovations?
- Operating Costs?
- Furniture & Equipment?
- Playground Development?
- Special Projects?

Grant application forms and criteria are available at: www.mbcsc.ca
For more information, please call:
(204) 940-4450
Or email: applications@mbcsc.ca

Supporting Manitoba non-profit community service organizations with funding provided by the Province of Manitoba

NO APPLICATION DEADLINE



MANITOBA COMMUNITY SERVICES COUNCIL INC.