

5th Annual Lobby Days




DELIVERS SINGULAR MESSAGE

The Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) once again blitzed the Manitoba Legislature this spring in an effort to inform MLAs about top issues facing municipalities. The 5th Annual Lobby Days took place on April 22 and 23, 2009. As has become customary, the AMM met with the NDP caucus as a group and with Conservative and Liberal MLAs on an individual basis.

One message was delivered to all MLAs this year and that is the AMM's most critical issue: the need for alternate revenue for infrastructure investment. "We continued

pushing the Province to share one per cent of the Provincial Sales Tax with municipalities for infrastructure, which would provide municipalities with over \$200 million a year," explains President **Doug Dobrowolski**. Since this resolution was carried by AMM members at the 2008 annual convention, the AMM has raised it with each Minister individually. However, "It is important to ensure all MLAs are aware of the needs of our municipalities," according to President Dobrowolski. "It is good for our members, but also good for the MLAs so they are informed when dealing with their constituents."

The AMM also gave credit where credit was due during Lobby Days. "The Province has brought in some good programs for municipalities, and we acknowledged that," noted Dobrowolski. "But municipalities are facing such enormous challenges that much more is needed. I think MLAs from all three parties heard our message loud and clear."

The position paper presented to all MLAs during the 5th annual Lobby Days is available at <http://www.amm.mb.ca/PDF/MinisterMeetings/2009/Lobby%20Days.pdf>. 



MLA for Brandon West Rick Borotsik



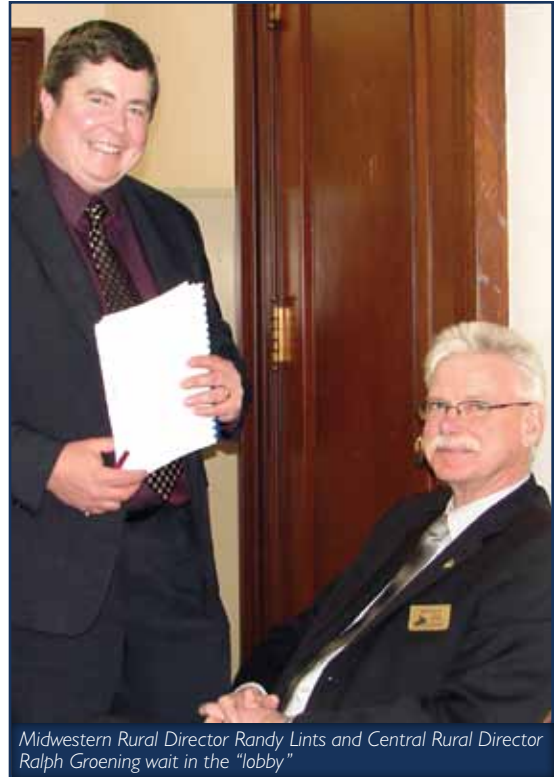
MLA for Ste. Rose Stu Briese makes a point



Alice Bourguin addresses members of the NDP caucus



L to R: Minister of Science, Technology, Energy & Mines, Jim Rondeau; AMM Urban Vice-President Shirley Kalyniuk; MLA for St. Norbert Marilyn Brick; AMM Interlake Rural Director Alice Bourgouin; and AMM Senior Policy Analyst Rachel Philippe



Midwestern Rural Director Randy Lints and Central Rural Director Ralph Groening wait in the "lobby"



Eastern Urban Director Art Rempel and President Doug Dobrowolski present Larry Maguire, MLA for Arthur-Virden with the AMM history book "With One Voice"

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