



MEMBER ADVISORY

AMM CONVENTION TO MOVE TO WINNIPEG ANNUALLY

February 4th 2010 – Recently the AMM Board of Directors made the decision to move the AMM Convention to Winnipeg annually. This was certainly not a decision the board took lightly and a great deal of thought was given to the impact of this decision on the City of Brandon and all our members.

The AMM Board felt very strongly that before communicating this decision to all members the City of Brandon deserved to be notified first. The AMM had an opportunity to meet with the Mayor on January 21st and notified him of the decision and the reasons behind it. Mayor Burgess has now informed his council of this decision so AMM would like to immediately notify the rest of the membership of the decision and the reasons behind it.

The main reason for moving the convention to Winnipeg is the lack of hotel rooms in Brandon. The AMM heard from a number of member municipalities who could not book rooms for the 2009 Convention and therefore did not attend. Trade show displayers, who are also a very valuable part of the convention, also expressed frustration with being unable to get rooms. The AMM Board feels very strongly that all members should be given the opportunity to attend our events, especially when the leadership and direction of the organization are being decided.

While it is unfortunate that the Convention will not be returning to Brandon the Board would like to thank the City of Brandon for hosting our event over the years. The AMM's Municipal Officials Seminar will continue to stay in Brandon annually and the AMM will be continuing to host education sessions and other events in Brandon.

Most importantly, AMM is not closing the door on Brandon forever. The major obstacle right now is the lack of hotel rooms in the city. Should a number of new rooms be added to meet the demand of all members and trade show displayers the decision will certainly be reconsidered.

The AMM will be including this item on the agenda for the upcoming Mayors, Reeves and CAOs meeting to discuss it in greater detail. The AMM will also be sending out further information about how these changes impact hotel rooms already booked for future dates. As the 2010 Convention is already set for Winnipeg, this change will take effect for 2011.
