



# NEWS BULLETIN



MARCH 7, 2011

## MINISTER MEETING UPDATE

The AMM met with Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural initiatives *Stan Struthers* on February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 opening with the need for renewed investment in rural water pipelines. Minister Struthers committed to raise this issue with Saskatchewan's Agriculture Minister. The AMM will raise it with other provincial associations and with Manitoba MPs also.

Economic development was raised next, with the AMM requesting an update on the recommendations in the 2008 *Manitoba Connects* report. The Minister indicated he will meet with AMM on this at a later date.

Noxious weeds were also on the agenda, with the AMM urging the Province to establish a coordinated approach to control weed growth and to move forward in its review of The Noxious Weeds Act. The Minister indicated the weed district approach seems to be working and he would like to see it become more established.

The role of MAFRI in municipal land use planning was also raised. The AMM would like to see MAFRI adopt a more cooperative approach to land use planning. The Minister indicated there have been improvements and his department has only

objected to three per cent of the subdivision applications received last year.

The AMM also raised the need for an Ecological Goods and Services Policy for Manitoba with Minister Struthers. ■

The AMM also met with the Minister of Housing and Community Development, *Kerri Irvin-Ross* on February 25<sup>th</sup>.

The AMM opened the meeting by raising the importance of housing. The AMM stressed that a comprehensive strategy must be developed amongst all orders of government so that all Manitobans can be assured decent, affordable housing.

The Minister indicated AMM could help by pushing the Federal Government for greater investment, and she committed to providing the AMM with the Province's perspective on housing needs to assist the AMM in pushing this at the national level. She also noted the Premier has committed to working with other provinces on this issue.

The AMM then raised the possibility of holding a special conference on the issue of housing needs in Manitoba. Such a conference would bring stakeholders together to share their needs with the Province, and allow the Province to share directly with communities the resources and funding available to support them in efforts to address housing needs.

Everyone was supportive of the idea, however unclear how to proceed with competing commitments including a provincial election. Housing will be included on the agenda for the upcoming June District Meetings.

The Community Places Program was also discussed with Minister Irvin-Ross. ■

*Position papers for minister meetings are available at*

[www.amm.mb.ca/  
pol\\_provincial.html](http://www.amm.mb.ca/pol_provincial.html)

## AMM BOARD UPDATE

*The AMM Board of Directors met on February 24, 2011.*

*Western Financial Group President Grant Ostir gave the board a verbal summary on the self insurance program and the proposed 2011/2012 renewal program. The Board also reviewed the status of the AMM's investments.*

*Membership events discussed included the Municipal Officials Seminar, the AMM Education Program, municipal visits and the Mayors, Reeves and CAOs meetings.*

*The Board reviewed the 2009 salary survey and recommendations for the 2011 salary survey.*

*The Board heard from two delegations – Mr. Ron Roteliuk of Central Plains regarding the community profiles website, and a delegation from Western municipalities regarding the Brandon Medical School.*

*Policy issues discussed were the Infrastructure Funding Council, provincial land use planning, cap and trade to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, 2010 and 2011 flooding, Municipal Bridge Program, recycling, 2010-2011 Revised Beaver Management Program Guide, and the Public Utilities Board.*

*The next meeting of the AMM Board will take place on March 24, 2011.*

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## Coming Events

### 2011 Mayors, Reeves and CAOs Meetings

All meetings begin at 10:00 am

Register online at:  
[www.amm.mb.ca/  
events\\_meetings\\_form.html](http://www.amm.mb.ca/events_meetings_form.html)

#### Parkland District Monday, March 14

Hosted by the Village of Bowsman  
Bowsman Legion Hall, 206 2nd Street,  
Bowsman

#### Midwestern District Tuesday, March 15

Hosted by the Municipality of  
Shoal Lake  
Shoal Lake Community Hall, 315 The  
Drive, Shoal Lake

#### Western District Wednesday, March 16

Hosted by the Town of Deloraine and  
the RM of Winchester  
Deloraine Winchester Community Hall,  
111 Cavers St. N., Deloraine

#### Central District Thursday, March 17

Hosted by the RM of Headingley  
Headingley Community Centre, 5353  
Portage Avenue, Headingley

#### Eastern District Friday, March 18

Hosted by the RM of Taché  
Landmark Kinsmen Community Centre,  
191B Arena Road, Landmark

#### Interlake District Monday, March 21

Hosted by the RM of Gimli  
Gimli Recreation Centre, 45  
Centennial Road, Gimli

#### Northern District Tuesday, March 22

Hosted by the Town of Snow Lake  
Elk's Hall, 7 Wekusko Drive, Snow Lake

**(A conference call will be arranged for  
Municipalities unable to attend the  
Northern District meeting.)**

## Coming Events

### 2011 Municipal Officials Seminar and MTCML Trade Show

April 13 and 14, 2011

Brandon Keystone Centre



**\*\*\*Early Bird Registration\*\*\***

**WHEN:** March 7th to 25th

**WHERE:** AMM website

[www.amm.mb.ca](http://www.amm.mb.ca)

**COST:** \$100 plus GST per  
delegate

**\*\*\*AFTER MARCH 25th\*\*\***

**COST:** \$150 plus GST per  
delegate

**Register early and save!**



**SWANA  
Northern Lights  
Chapter  
Conference  
'Climate for  
Change'**

**May 30—June 1, 2011  
Saskatoon, SK**

Visit [www.swananorthernlights.org](http://www.swananorthernlights.org)  
for registration and conference details.

Early bird registration closes March 31,  
2011 and registrations received prior to  
March 18 will be entered in a draw for a  
copy of 'The Handbook of Landfill  
Operations: A Practical Guide for  
Landfill Engineers, Owners, and  
Operators', written by Neal Bolton, P.E.

Following the conference two training  
courses will be offered: Landfill Opera-  
tor Basics and Managing Construction  
and Demolition Waste.

If you work in solid waste management,  
you won't want to miss this conference!

## Coming Events



**FCM Elections  
for National  
Board of  
Directors**

*Have you given any thought to running  
for the Federation of Canadian Muni-  
cipalities' (FCM) National Board of  
Directors? Would you like to have a  
positive influence on policies affecting  
cities and communities at the federal  
level?*

If so, you may want to consider submit-  
ting your nomination for a seat on  
FCM's National Board of Directors. It is  
a productive and rewarding way to  
solve problems in your municipality  
while working with colleagues from  
across Canada.

With its 1,800 members, FCM speaks  
on behalf of 90 per cent of Canada's  
population. Members include Canada's  
largest cities, small urban and rural  
communities, and 18 provincial and  
territorial municipal associations.

Through its membership, represented  
by 74 delegates on the National Board  
of Directors—including five from  
Manitoba—FCM is one of the most  
credible and respected organizations in  
this country.

Important Dates:

- April 5, 2011—Posting of Nominations  
of Table Officer Positions on the FCM  
Website; Circulation of Consent Forms  
and Web Posting for Board Member  
Positions to FCM Members
- May 16, 2011—Deadline for Candidates  
to Submit Nominations for Table Officer  
Positions; Deadline for Submission of  
Consent Forms for Board Member  
Positions
- May 21, 2011—Deadline for Candidates  
to Withdraw from any Table Officer  
Positions
- June 5—FCM 2011 Annual General  
Meeting; Provincial Elections for Board  
Member Positions

For further information on FCM's  
electoral process for its National Board  
of Directors, and to obtain the neces-  
sary election documents, please visit  
our website at [www.fcm.ca](http://www.fcm.ca).