



NEWS BULLETIN



MAY 10, 2010

APRIL MINISTER MEETINGS

Honourable Andrew Swan Minister of Justice—April 19, 2010

The AMM opened the meeting by raising the issue of peace officer training and validation. The Minister indicated that some municipalities have been incorrectly issuing offense notices.

Parking violations were discussed next. The AMM would like the Province to allow municipalities to restrict the re-issuance of driver and vehicle licenses until parking and traffic violation fines are paid. Minister Swan indicated The Summary Convictions Act is in need of an overhaul and this process will take time. The process of getting parking violations added to driver's licenses could be in excess of \$200,000 to establish and \$100,000 a year to operate, which might not be feasible when compared to the overall revenue that would be generated. It was suggested that stakeholders get together and find other solutions.

The AMM also raised concerns with the new Police Services Act, particularly the requirement for mandatory police boards. The Minister indicated the standards will be developed through regulation but councils will retain the right to set policing budgets. The establishment of boards has been postponed until after the next municipal election.

The AMM also discussed municipal policing costs and the issue of MPIC compensation for traffic control at accident scenes with Minister Swan.

Honourable Diane McGifford Minister of Advanced Education and Literacy—April 29, 2010

The AMM raised three main issues with Minister McGifford – the need for apprenticeship opportunities for water and wastewater operators, the need

for local training opportunities around emerging technological expertise, and the need for a review of the public libraries funding formula.

The Minister indicated the Province agrees water and wastewater operation should be an apprenticeship trade. She also noted Red River and Assiniboine Community College have talked about emerging technology training, but added the challenge is always to make sure you are not too far ahead or behind the curve. Regarding library funding, Minister McGifford indicated she was not aware of Manitoba's low funding for libraries nationally. She agreed an investment in libraries is an investment in the health of a community.

Honourable Theresa Oswald Minister of Health—April 29, 2010

The first issue on the agenda was health practitioner recruitment, training and retention. The AMM expressed appreciation for initiatives like regional training programs, enhanced training for other medical professionals besides physicians, and the commitment to increase international medical graduate spaces. However, the AMM reminded the Minister the Province is the order of government responsible for health care, yet municipalities are being forced to bid for physicians by offering financial or other incentives. The AMM urged the Province to expand its strategy to ensure access to healthcare for all communities.

The Minister indicated Manitoba is seeing a net increase in health practitioners, however there have been some backslides with specialists. The department is trying to bring technology to rural areas to make the work environment attractive, and has implemented Northern pay differential and a physician settlement fund. The



*President Doug Dobrowolski and
The Honourable Andrew Swan*

Minister indicated that she has heard concerns about downloading, and her intent is to saturate the market to decrease what doctors are able to demand from communities.

The proposed medical school in Brandon was also discussed. The AMM encouraged the Province to move quickly with the feasibility study on this issue. Minister Oswald indicated the issue is being led by Advanced Education and not yet at the feasibility study stage.

The AMM then brought up the issue of community contributions to health capital projects, pointing out this is a perfect example of downloading a financial burden to municipalities. The AMM urged the Province to eliminate the policy and accept full responsibility for health care services. The Minister indicated she understands the concern and committed to raise the issue with the Finance Minister.

Other issues discussed with Minister Oswald included funding for regional palliative care and centralization of ambulance services. ■

*Complete position papers are
available at [http://
www.amm.mb.ca/
pol_provincial.html](http://www.amm.mb.ca/pol_provincial.html)*

Coming Events

AMM Education 2010

Strategic Thinking at the Speed of Change

Monday, May 17—9:00 am to 3:30 pm
Victoria Inn, Brandon

Join your municipal colleagues for "Strategic Thinking at the Speed of Change" in Brandon. The session will be led by Steve Pilote of People First HR Services.

\$100 plus GST (includes lunch)

REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!

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

AMM District Meetings

Register now at:

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

Parkland District – June 10

Hosted by the City & RM of Dauphin

Please register by Monday, June 7

Midwestern District – June 11

Hosted by the Town of Gladstone and RM of Westbourne

Please register by Tuesday, June 8

Western District – June 14

Hosted by the RM of Woodworth

Please register by Wednesday, June 9

Central District – June 15

Hosted by the Town of Manitou and RM of Pembina

Please register by Thursday, June 10

Eastern District – June 16

Hosted by the City of Steinbach

Please register for by Friday, June 11

Interlake District – June 17

Hosted by the RM of Armstrong

Please register by Monday, June 14

Northern District – June 18

Hosted by the City of Flin Flon

Please register by Tuesday, June 15

See you there!

Coming Events

Western Canada Cemetery Association 24TH CONVENTION & TRADE-SHOW—WINNIPEG September 12th - 14th

Not to be missed if you operate a cemetery!

Do you feel buried in the muddy bog of modern day cemetery management and in need of some advice, sharing of ideas and learning to help you through? Have you needed to find the answer to a difficult or new situation? Have you had to say no to a client and felt maybe it wasn't the best decision?

If you just answered yes to any of the above questions, then the WCCA Convention is for you. This year's theme 'Through The Mire' has events planned to help you find your way *through the mire* of cemetery business. Visit <http://westerncemetery.com/files/File/forms/wccamembershipapp.pdf> for the excellent line up of knowledgeable speakers and special events



Manitoba Association of Regional Recyclers

2010 Summer Meeting & Tour

Thursday, June 24,
2010
11 am - 3 pm

Hunt's Country Road House, RM of St.

Andrews (in conjunction with its Annual Open House 3 - 8 pm)

COST: MARR Members - no charge - please register below to facilitate refreshment & venue arrangements. Non-Members - \$25 (lunch & tour included) - can pay in advance or upon arrival, but please register below at:

[http://www.marrmb.com/
summer2010/register.html](http://www.marrmb.com/summer2010/register.html)

**Agenda & meeting details TBA.
Thank you for marking your calendars!**

Job Postings

RM of Shell River Chief Administrative Officer

The RM of Shell River invites written applications for the position of Chief Administrative Officer.

Under the direction of Council, the CAO will be responsible for the overall management of the municipality in accordance with legislated requirements; and the by-laws, policies and procedures established by Council.

The successful candidate shall be a graduate of, or enrolled in, the Manitoba Municipal Administration Program (or similar program) and will possess technical skills in municipal administration, financial management and human resource management. Strong communication, analytical, and leadership skills are just some of the requirements of the position. Post-secondary education in a relevant discipline would be an asset.

Starting salary range is \$40,000 - \$50,000; the right candidate can expect a salary and benefits package that reflects his or her level of experience.

Please submit a resume, including three work-related references, by 4:30 PM on Friday, May 21, 2010 to:

RM of Shell River
Box 998, Roblin, Manitoba
R0L 1P0
(204) 937-8496 or shellrvr@mts.net



Have you given any thought to running for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' (FCM) National Board of Directors?

All you have to do is meet four simple conditions: be a municipally-elected official; fill in the consent form; obtain a resolution from your local government and attend the meeting of your provincial caucus at FCM's annual conference that will be held this year in Toronto from May 28 to 31.

For further information please visit our website at www.fcm.ca, or contact Jeff McConnell at:

Jeffmcconnell@mhmlaw.ca