



# NEWS BULLETIN



MAY 22, 2009

## AMM MEETS WITH MANITOBA HYDRO; PUB

**T**he AMM met with the Manitoba Public Utilities Board (PUB) on April 30.

The AMM opened the meeting with the need for better communication and for decisions impacting municipalities to be made with municipal input and representation in the process. The PUB expressed a desire to work more closely with AMM and will work together with AMM and Manitoba Municipal Administrators' Association (MMAA) to find ways to get input into the process.

Other items discussed included:

- **Adoption of accounting standards** - The PUB indicated it is supportive of working together on this issue.
- **Minimum filing requirement** - The PUB indicated that the only format that will work is through orders. While this creates issues for municipalities it makes the process trans-

parent and open for public input and ensures consistency.

- **Shared personnel and equipment costs between general and utility operations** – The PUB indicated this process would be simple for municipalities.
- **Discontinuance and financial reporting** - The PUB indicated that requirements for municipal officers are now consistent with the requirements as laid out in the Child and Family Services Act. Municipalities will have to provide an insert in the second notice, but the process is only required if municipalities want to disconnect service.
- **Capital projects and approval process** - There was a discussion around the need for dual hearings with the Municipal Board and the PUB. The PUB indicated some cases could be simplified into a single process, however this would

require a change to the current legislation.

Other issues discussed with the PUB included surcharges and multiple step rates, and regulation of co-ops and privately owned utilities.

**T**he AMM also met with the President and CEO of Manitoba Hydro Bob Brennan, along with Municipal & Government Services Officer Rob Cox on April 30.

The AMM opened the meeting with by raising the Elton Energy Cooperative Model. Hydro raised concerns that the cost of the model is too high because buying power is difficult as it does not base the price on current market conditions or other input factors.

On the subject of wind power and standard offer contracts, Hydro noted wind works well on a smaller scale. Manitoba has good wind resources and small sites will be feasible as costs decrease through mass production. Hydro indicated that a Western Canada Power Grid is a possibility; however, it will not be solely powered by wind as it is not reliable enough.

The AMM also raised the issue of hydro in recreation facilities. Hydro indicated it has done much to help recreation centres with energy costs. Hydro will look at developing a loan program for municipal facility improvement projects.

Regarding nuclear power options for Manitoba, Hydro indicated that they have had discussions with Pinawa and Atomic Energy Canada. Hydro is a clean, cheap energy source and will be difficult to replace. There are many unknowns around nuclear power and clean coal technologies that must be considered before moving in this direction. ■

## 2009 JUNE DISTRICT MEETINGS

**Eastern District - Monday, June 15, 2009**  
Hosted by the RM of East St. Paul

**Central District - Tuesday, June 16, 2009**  
Hosted by the Town of Altona & the RM of Rhineland

**Western District - Wednesday, June 17, 2009**  
Hosted by the Municipality of Killarney-Turtle Mountain

**Midwestern District - Thursday, June 18, 2009**  
Hosted by the Village of Binscarth, the RM of Russell & the Town of Russell

**Parkland District - Friday, June 19, 2009**  
Hosted by the Town of Roblin & the RM of Shell River

**Northern District - Monday, June 22, 2009**  
Hosted by the Town of Lynn Lake

**Interlake District - Tuesday, June 23, 2009**  
Hosted by the City of Selkirk

Visit [http://www.amm.mb.ca/events\\_june\\_form.html](http://www.amm.mb.ca/events_june_form.html) to register!

## Coming Events



### June District Meetings - AMM Board of Directors Elections

Please be reminded that this year at the June District meetings we will be electing all of the Director positions on the AMM Board of Directors.

It is important to remember the following points if you are considering letting your name stand for Director on the AMM Board of Directors:

- You must be an elected official from a member municipality to be eligible to run for the AMM Board of Directors.
- Each of the 7 Districts shall have 2 representatives on the board, one from an urban municipality and one from a rural municipality, except the Northern District.
- For the Northern District, representation on the Board shall be comprised of one representative from one of the following municipalities: *The Pas, Kelsey, Flin Flon, Snow Lake or Grand Rapids.*
- The other representative shall be from one of the following municipalities: *Thompson, Lynn Lake, Leaf Rapids, Churchill, Gillam or Mystery Lake.*
- The term of office for the Directors shall be 2 years until June of 2011.
- In order to be elected, a candidate must receive 50% plus one of the total votes cast.
- All elected officials and Chief Administrative Officers of a member municipality for a particular district may vote at the June District meeting.

If you have any questions about the election for the AMM Board of Directors, please feel free to contact:

**Joe Masi, Executive Director**  
204-856-2360  
[jmasi@amm.mb.ca](mailto:jmasi@amm.mb.ca)

## Coming Events

### PSAB Implementation 2009 Training Sessions PSAB Reporting Model

The implementation of PSAB by municipalities in Manitoba is in its final phase. Most municipalities have completed their tangible capital assets and are getting ready to prepare their 2009 financial statements in accordance with PSAB GAAP.

On-line registration for the 2009 Training Sessions is available on the AMM website at:

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

## Notices

### Province Establishes Year-Round E-Waste Depots

Manitobans can now recycle their old computer equipment, VCRs, stereos, microwaves and phones at new, year-round e-waste depots with extended hours of operation throughout the province.

Manitobans now have access to 30 e-waste collection depots. Ten of these sites will offer year-round collection including five in Winnipeg. More sites will be added over the course of the summer.

Year-round depots have been established in *Ninette* at Southwest Community Options, 210 Queen St.; in *Selkirk* at Responsible Electronic Recycling, 511 Robinson Ave.; in *Minnedosa-Neepawa* at Evergreen Environmental Technologies on PR 466; in *Steinbach* at Eastman Recycling, 60 Industrial Rd.; and at the City of *Brandon* MRF at 3000 Victoria Ave. E.

Electronic waste depots will accept the following materials from residential sources only: TVs, VCRs, stereos, microwaves, phones, computer equipment, laptops, printers, scanners, fax machines and copiers.

Specific times and dates and all the latest information is available at [www.greenmanitoba.ca](http://www.greenmanitoba.ca) or by calling 1-866-460-3118.

## Notices

### Sunshine Fund News

Since 1979, the Manitoba Camping Association & Winnipeg Free Press have helped send over 19,000 Manitoba children & youth to an Accredited Manitoba Summer Camp through the **Sunshine Fund**. The **Sunshine Fund** provides financial subsidy to financially challenged families within Manitoba that will enable their children to experience summer camp.

For more information about Application Procedures, Eligibility and listing of Accredited Manitoba Camps, please contact Bryan Ezako, Executive Director at 204.784.1134 or visit [www.mbcamping.ca](http://www.mbcamping.ca).

### Community Adjustment Fund

Canadian workers, families and businesses in communities that are hardest hit by the global recession will be able to pursue new economic opportunities in their communities thanks to Community Adjustment Fund, a major job creating investment contained in the Harper Government's Economic Action Plan.

For more information, visit [http://www.wd.gc.ca/eng/77\\_11300.asp](http://www.wd.gc.ca/eng/77_11300.asp).

### Recreational Infrastructure Canada Program (RInC) accessible to Western Communities

Local hockey rinks, swimming pools, and other community sites throughout the West will be eligible to receive funding for upgrades, renovations, and fix-ups thanks to the new Recreational Infrastructure Canada Program (RInC) in Canada's Economic Action Plan.

Funding for the RInC program is now available through Western Economic Diversification Canada.

Visit [http://www.wd.gc.ca/eng/77\\_11288.asp](http://www.wd.gc.ca/eng/77_11288.asp) for more details.

