



OCTOBER 2, 2009

AMM COMMENTS ON BILLS 35, 4

On September 28 President Dobrowolski made a presentation to the Standing Committee on Legislative Affairs on **Bill 35: The Municipal Conflict of Interest and Campaign Financing Act.**

President Dobrowolski began by stating the AMM believes in making all orders of government more transparent, and supports many of the new directions in Bill 35. However, there are several concerns as well.

First, the AMM is concerned with the requirement that all financial disclosure statements must be made public after November, 2009. Since residents already have the right to ask the chief administrative officer (CAO) whether an elected official is in conflict when making a decision, AMM is unsure why there is a need for change in this bill.

The AMM also feels it is unjust to change the rules in the middle of the current mandate. Prior the last municipal election, municipal officials put their names forward based on a clear set of rules. It is understood that by entering public office one's life becomes more public; however there was never a commitment to have one's financial disclosure information available for anyone to review anytime.

President Dobrowolski also questioned the impact these rules will have on attracting candidates to run for municipal office, and encouraged a public education campaign to let everyone—both those seeking re-election and those running for the first time—know about the new rules. He also stressed that Bill 35 should not go so far that it becomes too onerous to run for council or to serve one's community.

**BOTH SUBMISSIONS
MAY BE VIEWED AT**

[HTTP://
WWW.AMM.MB.CA/
POL_LEG.HTML](http://www.amm.mb.ca/pol_leg.html)

*The AMM also submitted comments on **Bill 4: The Community Revitalization Tax Increment Financing Act.** The AMM supports this Bill as it offers municipalities a tool to promote and attract investment in their communities. Bill 4 provides a new fund to promote community economic development, and ensures that a grant from the fund will only be used for a purpose agreed to by the municipality. ■*



AMM Board meets

The AMM Board of Directors met on September 24, 2009.

The meeting opened with the Exchange Group presenting the audited AMM and MTCML financial statements for 2008/2009. The Board also adopted the proposed 2009/2010 budget, and reviewed a report on AMM investments and Loss Pool Fund.

Policy issues discussed included the Building Canada Fund, elimination of Greyhound bus passenger service in Manitoba, minor works drainage policy, alternate revenue for municipalities, HST, municipal download survey, crown lands management and beaver control program, Onsite Wastewater Management Regulation, water and wastewater operator training, MPIC compensation rates, and drought in South-west Manitoba.

The Board was informed Bill 4 was sent to committee and Bill 35 would be presented to the Standing Committee on Legislative Affairs on September 28.

In other business, the Board instructed staff to bring ideas to the next meeting about educating the public on municipal government and the electoral process for the 2010 municipal elections.

The next meeting of the AMM Board will take place October 22, 2009. ■

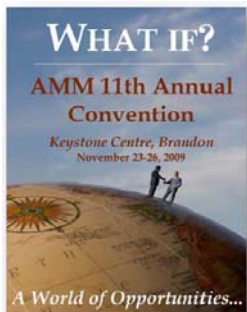
PROVINCE HEAVY-HANDED ON EJECTOR BAN

The AMM is extremely disappointed in the Province's recent decision to move forward with aggressive amendments to the Onsite Wastewater Management Systems Regulation, particularly the province-wide ban on sewage ejectors, despite widespread objection heard through its consultation with municipalities.

President Dobrowolski explains: "Many municipalities had concerns with the proposed amendments right from the start. We have absolutely no problem with supporting the amendments in environmentally sensitive areas, but to apply these rules to the entire province is excessive."

The AMM will continue to monitor the impact the new rules will have. Members will also debate a resolution at the Annual Convention asking for the Province to apply the new regulation on a "case by case basis where there are scientifically justified environmental concerns and identified high risk areas." ■

Coming Events



AMM 11th Annual Convention
November 23-26, 2009
Keystone Centre
Brandon, MB

Visit our website at
www.amm.mb.ca
FOR ALL THE DETAILS!

AMM Education 2009

Public Engagement & Participation

Friday, October 16, 2009

9:00 am to 3:30 pm

CanadInns Polo Park

Registration Fee: **\$75.00 plus GST**

Workshop Leader:

Ruth Marr, M.Sc. – President, Marr Consulting Services

Register online at http://www.amm.mb.ca/events_edu_register.html



20/20— A New Vision for a Childcare System November 9-10, 2009

Registration for "20/20 - a New Vision for a Childcare System," the conference on innovative governance and financing options for childcare is now open!

For full details, registration information and workshop descriptions and bios of our great speakers please visit

<http://childcaremanitoba.org/>

Coming Events

The Manitoba Eco-Network invites you to a one-day water workshop

Developing Soft Water Paths in Manitoba Municipalities

- Learn about water soft path principles and processes
- Hear from local experts on water management conditions and future needs
- Identify a vision and goals for a desired water future
- Using the water soft path steps, assess water conservation measures and tools
- Build scenarios comparing different approaches to water management,
- identify barriers and develop key water conservation targets and strategies
- Brainstorm elements of an action plan and discuss implementation tools (e.g. bylaws, education, outreach, building codes)

DATE: October 23, 9:30am - 4:00pm

LOCATION: Canad Inns, 2401 Sask. Ave. W., Portage la Prairie

FEE: \$20 includes lunch & workbook

REGISTER by: Monday, October 19

CONTACT:
sacha@mbeconetwork.org
(204) 943-0318



Waste Reduction Week

Waste Reduction Week (WRW)

is October 19th to 25th all across Canada. Our official mascots, Oscar the Grouch and the Sesame Street Gang, encourage us all to practice the first-and-foremost of the 3 R's –

Reduce. Find out how your community can become "meaner and greener" at

www.wrwcanda.com/municipalities.htm

Register today!

Coming Events



Manitoba Conservation Districts Association (MCDA) 34th Annual Convention & Tradeshow

"Our Environment: The Co\$ of Doing Nothing"

December 7 to 9, 2009

Keystone Centre – Brandon

Early Bird Registration Deadline – November 16, 2009

More info available on line at
www.mcda.ca

Email mcda@mts.net or Phone 204.571.1097 or contact your local Conservation District office

Transportation Options Network For Seniors (TONS) Regional Networking Consultations

TONS will be holding a series of round table discussions throughout Rural Manitoba this fall to discuss Handi-Vans.

All meetings are from 6:00-9:00 pm

South Eastman

Thursday October 1 2009

Cinema Station, 508 Hébert Avenue, St-Pierre-Jolys

North East

Friday October 9 2009

Sun Gro Centre, 360 Veterans' Lane, Beausejour

Piney/Reynolds

Week of October 12 2009

Western

October 27 2009,

Hamiota Community Centre

Dauphin Area

October 28 2009, Location TBA

South Central

Week of November 2 2009

Location TBA

South West

Week of November 2 2009

Location TBA

Contact e.mcnairnay-ra@uwinnipeg.ca to register.