

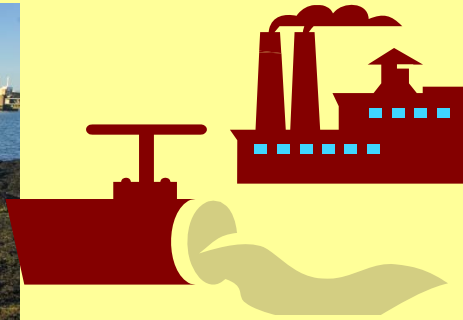


June 2009  
DISTRICT  
MEETINGS



Presentation  
to

# ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA MUNICIPALITIES



*Kristine Schwanke*  
Ass't Associate Secretary

Manitoba





## TOPICS

- ❑ WHO ARE WE?
- ❑ WHAT IS OUR ROLE?
- ❑ HOW ARE DECISIONS MADE?
- ❑ WHAT'S NEW?
- ❑ WHAT'S COMING?
- ❑ QUESTIONS

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# WHO ARE WE?

## THE BOARD

- PROVISION FOR 9 MEMBERS (2 vacancies)
- FULLTIME CHAIR
- OTHER MEMBERS PART-TIME

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# WHO ARE WE?

## THE BOARD

- APPOINTED BY ORDER IN COUNCIL
- INDEFINITE TERMS

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# WHO ARE WE?

## STAFF

- 6 FULLTIME STAFF (3 PROFESSIONAL + 3 OFFICE SUPPORT)
- PLUS 1 IN TRAINING
- PROVISION FOR SUMMER STUDENT

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# WHO ARE WE?

## AUTHORITY

- ESTABLISHED BY STATUTE:

*“THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD ACT”*

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# WHAT IS OUR ROLE?

## PRIMARY MANDATE

- TO DETERMINE WHAT IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST IN REGULATION OF UTILITIES IN A MONOPOLY ENVIRONMENT

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# WHAT IS OUR ROLE?

- RECEIVE, REVIEW AND APPROVE APPLICATIONS
- CONSULTATION

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# WHAT IS OUR ROLE?

- CONSULTATION
  - PUBLICATIONS/ WEBSITE
  - TELEPHONE/ WRITTEN ADVICE

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# WHAT IS OUR ROLE?

- RECEIVE, REVIEW AND APPROVE APPLICATIONS
  - INTERACTIVE WITH APPLICANT
  - INTERVENERS AND PRESENTERS
  - WRITTEN OR ORAL REVIEWS

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# HOW ARE DECISIONS MADE?

- ❑ BOARD PANELS
  - ❑ USUALLY 3 MEMBERS ASSIGNED
  - ❑ BASED ON INTEREST AND EXPERTISE
  - ❑ MOSTLY PERMANENT PANEL ASSIGNMENT
  - ❑ MAY CHANGE BASED ON CIRCUMSTANCES

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# HOW ARE DECISIONS MADE?

- ❑ PROCESS
  - ❑ REVIEW APPLICATION
  - ❑ ASK FOR CLARIFICATIONS (INTERROGATORIES) AND REVIEW RESPONSES
  - ❑ PAPER REVIEW WHERE NO PERCEIVED NEED FOR ORAL HEARING (COST CONTROL) or
  - ❑ ORAL HEARINGS

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# HOW ARE DECISIONS MADE?

## ❑ PROCESS

- ❑ USE OF PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS
- ❑ RARE FOR UTILITY REVIEWS  
(AGAIN- COST CONTROL)
- ❑ PANEL DISCUSSION

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# HOW ARE DECISIONS MADE?

## ❑ ORDERS

- ❑ DECISIONS ARE FRAMED IN THE FORM OF “ORDERS”
- ❑ IT IS HOW THE PUB COMMUNICATES ITS DECISIONS
- ❑ CAN CONTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS and
- ❑ WILL CONTAIN DIRECTIVES

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# HOW ARE DECISIONS MADE?

## ❑ INDEPENDENCE

- ❑ DECISIONS MADE INDEPENDENT OF GOVERNMENT
- ❑ CAN BE RECONSIDERED BY THE BOARD ITSELF or
- ❑ CAN BE APPEALED TO THE COURT OF APPEAL

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# WHAT'S NEW?

- ❑ MINIMUM FILING REQUIREMENTS
- ❑ PSAB STANDARDS APPLIED TO
  - ❑ RATE SETTING
  - ❑ DEFICIT REVIEWS
- ❑ COST ALLOCATION METHODOLOGY

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# WHAT'S NEW?

## MINIMUM FILING REQUIREMENTS

- ❑ GUIDANCE DOCUMENT
- ❑ INTENT IS TO AVOID RECURRING QUESTIONS

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# WHAT'S NEW?

## PSAB STANDARDS APPLIED TO

### ❑ RATE SETTING

- ❑ DETERMINATION OF EXPENSES NOW TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH GENERALLY ACCEPTED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

### ❑ DEFICIT REVIEWS

- ❑ SO ARE DEFICITS

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# WHAT'S NEW?

## PSAB STANDARDS – YOUR CHANGING WORLD

- ❑ ACCRUAL ACCOUNTING
- ❑ AMORTIZATION/ DEPRECIATION
- ❑ DEBENTURE DEBT

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# WHAT'S NEW?

## COST ALLOCATION METHODOLOGY

- ❑ DEFINE A COST ALLOCATION METHODOLOGY FOR SHARED SERVICES
- ❑ APPROVED BY THE BOARD
- ❑ ATTESTED BY CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

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# WHAT'S COMING?

- ❑ NEW GUIDELINES
- ❑ CITY OF WINNIPEG

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***Questions?***  
***Only easy ones!***

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