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On November 27, 2007 before taking the stage for the Ministerial Forum, Premier Gary Doer and members of the Provincial Cabinet met with the AMM Board of Directors to discuss a variety of municipal issues.

To begin the AMM raised the need to take a serious look at the role of municipal government in Manitoba, explaining the current ad hoc approaches to funding and shifting responsibilities are not working. Municipal governments are left scrambling to play greater roles and fill vacancies left by the Provincial and Federal Governments, and many communities are barely managing to stay ahead of the wave of ever-growing responsibilities.

The AMM suggested a three-pronged approach to alleviate this situation, beginning with the need for alternate revenue. The AMM asked the Province of Manitoba to allocate the equivalent of one per cent of the provincial sales tax to municipalities for infrastructure, splitting it equally on a per capita basis.

The AMM then explained that while alternate revenues are needed, so too is an alternate relationship whereby consideration be given to how decisions made at the Cabinet table impact municipalities. The Province should strive to ensure new initiatives do not adversely impact municipalities.

Finally, the need for a whole new approach to governance in Manitoba was outlined, with the AMM pointing to trends across Canada and the recognition that municipalities are an important order of government. Their growing stature means the time has come to seriously discuss the need for municipalities to be more active partners in the governance structure of this province.

Several other issues were also raised during the meeting with the Premier and Cabinet, including:

- TLE Compensation for Municipalities
- Legal Cost of Negotiating TLEs
- Promoting Business Development and Apprenticeships in Rural Manitoba
- Recycling
- Cleanup of Abandoned Sites
- Education Tax on Property
- Funding for Libraries
- Increased Funding for Recreation Facilities
- Disaster Financial Assistance and Permanent Flood Protection
- Affordable Housing in Rural Manitoba
- Health Professional Recruitment, Retention and Training
- Community Capital Contributions to Health Projects
- Infrastructure
- Highways Capital Budget
- Rail Line Abandonment
- Planning
- Policing
- The Youth Criminal Justice Act
- Funding for Renewable Energy
- Rural and Northern Internet and Cell Phone Service
- Impacts of Water Legislation on Municipalities
- Tripartite Water Funding Program
- Drainage