



Donna Belbin, AMM Events Coordinator

## Education PREVIEW

### Session #3 – PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2009 • CLARION INN, WINNIPEG

The final seminar in the 2009 AMM Education Program – **Public Engagement and Participation** – will guide you in building a plan for your municipality to incorporate public engagement as a method for the community’s involvement.

Public engagement is a recently-used term that describes the involvement of authority or decision-making body listening to, developing their understanding of, and interacting with general individuals or groups within the discussion area.

Many see public engagement as participatory democracy in that it puts decision-making powers more directly in the hands of citizens, and it increases the feeling among individual citizens that they belong in their community.

“The public” is a complex entity made up of different sub-groups, including governments, stakeholders, opinion leaders, ordinary citizens and communities; all of whom can and should be engaged for different purposes.

Public engagement can contain a unique mix of people and institutions. A satisfactory approach to public engagement must provide a reliable way of dealing with “the public” by engaging various subgroups through different kinds of dialogue.

During the seminar, you will learn:

- What public engagement is and what your role as a municipal government plays;
- How to identify when there is a need for dialogue and whom you should be having it with; and
- How to determine the right engagement process for the circumstance.

This seminar will highlight approaches and practical tools that can be used to provide citizens with meaningful opportunities for involvement, and to be fair, open and transparent in all aspects of its operations.

Register online today at [http://www.amm.mb.ca/events\\_edu\\_register.html](http://www.amm.mb.ca/events_edu_register.html).

### PSAB Implementation PSAB REPORTING MODEL

The final round of PSAB training sessions are here. The 2009 training sessions start in the last week of June and continue on through the summer. The 2009 training sessions are on the reporting requirements for PSAB or “PSAB Reporting Model.”

The goal of the training sessions is to help CAOs and their staff members understand the key differences between the new PSAB financial statements and the statements prepared in the past. This will ensure that they have a sufficient understanding of the statements and can provide financial information and analysis to council and citizens. In conjunction with the reference manual, CAOs and their finance staff will learn:

- What statements and schedules will be required?
- Notes to the financial statements, how will these change and what additional disclosures will be required?
- “Accumulated Surplus”, the net book value of your municipality. What does it include and how will you report it or present it?
- “Net Debt”, what is it and what does it mean to your municipality?
- How will municipalities budget under PSAB?
- How will they convert a budget prepared on a cash basis for presentation in a set of PSAB financial statements?
- How will municipalities prepare the 2008 comparative figures?
- Other issues relating to this major accounting change.

#### PSAB Training Schedule

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Visit the AMM Events Calendar at  
[http://www.amm.mb.ca/events\\_calendar.asp](http://www.amm.mb.ca/events_calendar.asp)

## PSAB 2009 TRAINING SCHEDULE

### BRANDON – Victoria Inn

Wednesday, July 29  
Thursday, August 13  
Thursday, September 3  
Wednesday, September 9

### WINNIPEG – Clarion Inn & Suites

Thursday, August 6  
Wednesday, August 12  
Wednesday, August 19  
Tuesday, September 1  
Thursday, September 10

### DAUPHIN - Super 8

Thursday, August 20

### RUSSELL - Russell Inn & Conference Centre

Wednesday, August 5  
Friday, September 11

### PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE – Canad Inns

Wednesday, August 26

### THOMPSON – Thompson City Hall

Friday, August 28

### “AUDITORS ONLY” TRAINING SESSIONS

Thursday, October 1: Winnipeg - Clarion Inn & Suites  
Monday, October 5: Russell –  
Russell Inn & Conference Centre

Register at [http://www.amm.mb.ca/training\\_sessions\\_2008.cfm](http://www.amm.mb.ca/training_sessions_2008.cfm)



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