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News Release

Amalgamation, DFA top resolution debate

November 19, 2013 - The Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) 15th Annual Convention takes place from November 25 - 28, 2013 at the Keystone Centre in Brandon. Approximately 1,000 registered delegates will vote on resolutions which will form the AMM's lobbying direction for the coming year.

According to AMM President Doug Dobrowolski, although the 39 resolutions up for debate span a wide variety of issues, one topic stands out due to its frequency: forced municipal amalgamation. "There are three resolutions up for debate on amalgamation (#1, 4, and 5), plus an emergency resolution calling for the AMM to initiate legal proceedings on this issue," says Dobrowolski. The emergency resolution, sponsored by the Town of Plum Coulee, will be debated first due to its urgency.

Another topic seeing several resolutions up for debate is Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA). Resolution #18, sponsored by the City of Brandon, calls for a review of current DFA policies along with an increase both to funding and eligibility criteria. Resolutions #19 and 20 call for further amendments to DFA programs.

Resolutions from northern Manitoba are also plentiful this year, with six sponsored by the City of Thompson. These include resolution #31, which asks that northern Manitoba municipalities to be included in the creation of a second generation Northern Development strategy, and #33, which calls for a police cadet program for rural and northern Manitoba.

The department seeing the highest number of resolutions is Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship, with resolutions #11-17 highlighting issues in this area.

Two resolutions sessions are scheduled to take place:

Tuesday, November 26 - 3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, November 27 - 1:00 p.m.

All media are welcome to attend. A complete agenda and list of resolutions is available on the AMM website at: http://www.amm.mb.ca/events_convention.html

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