



News Release

Budget, ride-sharing focus of Cities meeting

April 12, 2017 - The Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) Cities Caucus met in Winnipeg today during the Municipal Officials Seminar at the RBC Convention Centre. Not surprisingly, the first topic of discussion was Tuesday's provincial budget.

According to AMM President Chris Goertzen, "When you see what has happened with this budget you see clearly that we, as municipalities have a strong voice," he said. At the same time, "We have many questions regarding where the infrastructure dollars will be spent. As cities, we also need to have the right mechanisms in place to create policy around the available funding."

The Cities Caucus also heard a presentation from Manitoba Indigenous and Municipal Relations on "The Local Vehicles for Hire Act". While the proposed legislation won't be dealt with until the fall session of the Manitoba Legislature, the topic is ripe for discussion, according to AMM Cities Caucus Chair, Rick Chrest. "This is new territory for many Manitoba cities," he said. "It's already a difficult area, and municipalities are now being tasked with deciding whether to regulate and have a local ride-sharing industry. We need to start having this conversation."

Municipal asset management was also up for discussion.

The AMM Cities Caucus meets 2-3 times annually to discuss areas of shared concern. Formed in 2013, it is modelled after the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Big Cities Caucus to provide opportunities for Manitoba cities to share ideas about how to tackle common concerns and address key priorities.

- 30 -

Members of the AMM Cities Caucus:

City of Brandon
City of Dauphin
City of Flin Flon
City of Morden
City of Portage la Prairie
City of Selkirk
City of Steinbach
City of Thompson
City of Winkler
City of Winnipeg

Contact:
Lynne Bereza
Communications Coordinator
204-871-0517
lbereza@amm.mb.ca