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NOTE: Resolutions categorized as Standing Policy will not be brought to the Convention floor for debate unless requested by delegates.



AMM By-law #1-2015

As part of the changes made at the 2014 Annual Convention to the 1998 By-law, the By-law was changed to provide for the election of Directors from each District, except the City of Winnipeg, to be the two candidates who receive the highest number of votes.

It is proposed that the By-law be changed to clarify that the selection of candidates for the Northern District be the candidate receiving highest number of votes from The Pas, Flin Flon, Snow Lake and Grand Rapids, and the candidate who receives the highest number of votes from Thompson, Lynn Lake, Leaf Rapids, Churchill, Gillam and the LGD of Mystery Lake.

Be it resolved that the following change to the 1998 By-law is approved:

1. Section 4 of Article 4 is amended by adding the following sentence at the end of the section:

“For the Northern District, the Directors shall be made up of the candidate who receives the highest number of votes from The Pas, Flin Flon, Snow Lake and Grand Rapids, and the candidate who receives the highest number of votes from Thompson, Lynn Lake, Leaf Rapids, Churchill, Gillam and the LGD of Mystery Lake.”
2. This amendment is effective immediately upon approval by the Members.



AMM By-laws

AMM By-law #2-2015

Currently the 1998 By-law is silent on the length of the appointment when filling a vacancy on the Executive Committee, whether it is for the remainder of the unexpired term or until the next AGM.

It is proposed that the 1998 By-law be amended to clarify that the appointment is for the remainder of the unexpired term, consistent with the appointment for Board member vacancies for the “full-unexpired term of the vacant directorship”.

Be it resolved that the following change to the 1998 By-law is approved:

1. Section 6 of Article 5 is amended by adding the following at the end of the section:

“The Executive Officer appointed under this section shall serve for the full-unexpired term of the vacancy being filled.”
2. This amendment is effective immediately upon approval by the Members.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #1-2015

PST Rebate

Sponsor(s)

Portage la Prairie, RM (Central)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal Government
Manitoba Finance

WHEREAS all municipalities in Manitoba are required to pay Provincial Sales Tax (PST) on applicable services, supplies, capital projects, etc.;

AND WHEREAS the amount of PST paid by Manitoba municipalities is a significant expense to municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the federal government provides a 100% rebate on the GST paid by municipalities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to rebate 100% of PST paid by municipalities.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #2-2015

Amalgamation Costs

Sponsor(s)

Louise, Mun. (Central)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal Government

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to pick up the costs which were incurred by amalgamated municipalities before and after January 1, 2015 according to the Province's demands.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #3-2015

Flexible and Equitable Debt Ratio Formula

Sponsor(s)

Steinbach, City (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal Government
Manitoba Finance

WHEREAS the province has established a required debt ratio formula that applies to all municipalities regardless of their individual circumstances;

AND WHEREAS total debt levels and amortization terms vary considerably from municipality to municipality;

AND WHEREAS the current debt ratio formula does not include all revenue from municipal utilities but does include all debt;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to review its current required debt ratios formula;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Province of Manitoba be encouraged to draft a more flexible and equitable debt ratio formula that takes into account the unique circumstances of individual municipalities.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #4-2015

Sustainable Taxation and Revenue

Sponsor(s)

Mountain, RM (Parkland)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal Government

WHEREAS municipalities struggle with large infrastructure deficits and mounting regulations requiring significant financial investments;

AND WHEREAS this financial burden is compounded by the elements of rural decline, including population and assessment loss;

AND WHEREAS municipal revenue sources are severely restricted, primarily to assessment-based levy;

AND WHEREAS municipal funding agreements are increasingly based on and limited by population, inversely related to costs which escalate to provide services in rural areas;

AND WHEREAS federal and provincial grant sources are increasingly application and competition based, pitting small RMs against large urban centres, First Nations, and at times private enterprise;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to retool the traditional model of property-based taxation to include alternative revenue sources and additional tax-sharing agreements for the purpose of creating a sustainable tax model and revenue sources for municipalities.



AMM Resolution #5-2015

Service-Based Taxation Models

Sponsor(s)

Springfield, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal Government
Manitoba Finance

WHEREAS the tax system in Manitoba is based solely on the assessed value of property;

AND WHEREAS tax funded services are not delivered equally throughout most municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the current tax structure does not permit Council to adjust the responsibility for the payment on taxes without a special levy assessment;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to establish a task force to consider service-based taxation models.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #6-2015

Grant-in-Lieu of Taxes

Sponsor(s)

Alexander, RM (Eastern)
Springfield, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal Government
Manitoba Finance

WHEREAS other orders of government have the ability to establish grants-in-lieu of taxes;

AND WHEREAS there is no mechanism for a local authority to review or request a revision to the value of properties owned through grant-in-lieu of taxes;

AND WHEREAS land assessments have increased;

AND WHEREAS Her Majesty the Queen (HMQ) leases have increased;

AND WHEREAS there has been no increase in grants-in-lieu of taxes from the Province to municipalities;

AND WHEREAS in some cases there has been a decrease in the grant-in-lieu of taxes;

AND WHEREAS monies from the Province do not reflect monies granted to municipalities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to establish a one-year task force to review and update the categories and rates for grants-in-lieu of taxes.



AMM Resolution #7-2015

Clarification of Assessor Role

Sponsor(s)

Springfield, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal Government

WHEREAS the assessor at a meeting held May 19, 2015 advised members of council and municipal staff to inform citizens that individuals concerned about their assessment were to call the Selkirk Assessment Office to discuss their concerns and that the Board of Revision should be considered a last resort;

AND WHEREAS a number of citizens have called municipal staff and told them that they had been advised by Selkirk Assessment Office personnel to appeal to the Board of Revision and that they have not been assessed appropriately in the past;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to clarify the role of the assessor to address appellant concerns outside of the Board of the Revision;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the result of those discussions be communicated immediately to all councils.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #8-2015

Digital Technology for Subdivision Approval

Sponsor(s)

Morden, City (Central)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal Government

WHEREAS the subdivision process requires physical circulation of documents, plans, and information to all affected agencies, provincial and otherwise (e.g., Hydro, MTS, etc.);

AND WHEREAS physical signatures are necessary to sign agreements, Mylar plans, and approvals, usually in Winnipeg before returning said documents to regional offices;

AND WHEREAS this process requires considerable time and resources to complete, which results in delayed revenues and economic activity for Manitoba's cities, towns, and municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the AMM believes that Manitoba is among the last of Canada's jurisdictions that has not embraced the use of digital technology to simplify and expedite this and similar processes;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to implement a digitally-based submission, review, commenting, and approvals system to eliminate delays, reduce red tape, and reduce unnecessary administrative costs.



AMM Resolution #9-2015

Municipal Census

Sponsor(s)

Neepawa, Town (Midwestern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal Government

WHEREAS there is currently no existing governing legislation in the Province of Manitoba to allow for local authorities to conduct a municipal census, thus defaulting to the federal process whereby population data and other valuable supporting information is gathered by Statistics Canada at 5-year Intervals;

AND WHEREAS population data and information gathered in a census year is used extensively by all levels of government for the development of programs and is a valuable component for determining proportionate funding for municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the 5-year census interval greatly affects the ability of a growing community to represent itself fairly and equitable on an annual basis, as only information gathered in a census year is recognized and valid with no recourse existing to appeal outdated data;

AND WHEREAS precedents exist in other provincial jurisdictions in Canada that provide authority for municipalities to conduct a municipal census and to recognize such data;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to enact legislation that would allow municipalities to conduct a municipal census.



AMM Resolution #10-2015

Waste Management Facilities Regulation

Sponsor(s)

Piney, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Conservation and
Water Stewardship

WHEREAS Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship is proposing a new Waste Management Facilities (WMF) Regulation;

AND WHEREAS municipalities will carry the weight of increased costs associated with the new classification scheme;

AND WHEREAS many municipalities will struggle to manage these costs due to limited financial resources;

AND WHEREAS the proposed regulation will also result in increased administrative burdens for municipalities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to significantly reduce the financial and administrative impact of the newly proposed Waste Management Facilities Regulation.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #11-2015

Water Control Work Permits

Sponsor(s)

Gilbert Plains, Mun. (Parkland)

Department(s)

Manitoba Conservation and
Water Stewardship

WHEREAS The Water Rights Act provides the authorization for water control works to be issued in perpetuity so minor works can be maintained as desired as long as they comply with license conditions;

AND WHEREAS existing permits allow for annual maintenance without monitoring or further permission which may result in moving vast amounts of soil and creating significant change to the landscape over time;

AND WHEREAS drainage works authorized on private property directly impact municipal infrastructure;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to amend provincial policy to ensure ongoing maintenance done under the authority of water control works permits do NOT exceed the original parameters of said permits.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT water works permits can be subject to review to ensure compliance.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #12-2015

Funding for Retention/Drought Proofing Works

Sponsor(s)

Springfield, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Conservation and
Water Stewardship

WHEREAS there is a need to give serious consideration to sustainable funding to Conservation Districts responsible for drainage;

AND WHEREAS there is a need to develop a process to identify the need for retention/drought proofing works;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to develop a process and criteria for 50/50 funding for qualifying retention/drought proofing works



AMM Resolution #13-2015

Trans Canada Trail Funding

Sponsor(s)

Harrison Park, Mun. (Midwestern)
Yellowhead, RM (Midwestern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Conservation and
Water Stewardship
Canadian Heritage

WHEREAS the Trans Canada Trail Network runs East to West through the province of Manitoba providing recreational benefits to all citizens;

AND WHEREAS *Trails Manitoba* is the parent body for the 22 Trail Groups in the province who are the keepers of Trans Canada Trail;

AND WHEREAS these individual Trail Groups in Manitoba must receive their financial assistance for trail maintenance through grants from *Trails Manitoba*;

AND WHEREAS there is currently no annual funding from the Province of Manitoba for the maintenance requirements in the annual *Trails Manitoba* budget leaving a crippling shortfall;

AND WHEREAS municipalities that house the Trans Canada Trail Groups are often called upon to bear the financial burden of ongoing trail maintenance and projects;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to allocate funding to *Trails Manitoba* in order to meet the demands of maintenance on the Trans Canada Trail in Manitoba.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #14-2015

Amend The High-Level Radioactive Waste Act

Sponsor(s)

Lynn Lake, Town (Northern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Conservation and
Water Stewardship

WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba and the Government of Canada have both expressed a desire for the development of northern Manitoba and northern Canada;

AND WHEREAS the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) has received a mandate from the Government of Canada to create a facility for the long-term safe storage and management of used high-level nuclear fuel in a suitable geologic structure within a municipality of Canada with an informed and willing host community;

AND WHEREAS federal legislation prohibits the import of used nuclear fuel into Canada from any other country;

AND WHEREAS Canada has among the most stringent regulations and requirements in the world regarding high-level used nuclear fuel;

AND WHEREAS the Canadian Nuclear Industry has a need and requirement to invest between \$40-\$60 billion or more in the development and establishment of a facility to host high-level used nuclear fuel and research additional long-term solutions at a world-class nuclear research facility;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba enacted the High-Level Radioactive Waste Act in 1987 before a safe and effective plan was developed by the Canadian Nuclear Industry;

AND WHEREAS the NWMO may reopen the Expressions of Interest Phase to other municipalities if it feels it needs to;

AND WHEREAS the current format of the Manitoba High-Level Radioactive Waste Act is a prohibitive impediment to any Manitoba municipality which may wish to be considered as a viable location to host such a facility for the long-term management of used high-level nuclear fuel;

cont'd on next page



Resolutions

#14-2015 - continued

AND WHEREAS the vast majority of North-West Manitoba is sparsely populated and in desperate need of economic development and stability to re-grow struggling communities;

AND WHEREAS the economic development and investment that such projects could bring involve great benefits to northern Manitoba and the rest of the Province;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to amend the High-Level Radioactive Waste Act to allow for the development of a long-term radioactive waste storage and research facility in Manitoba within willing and informed municipalities.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #15-2015

Composting

Sponsor(s)

Stonewall, Town (Interlake)

Department(s)

Manitoba Conservation and
Water Stewardship

WHEREAS the Town of Stonewall has an agreement with a local farmer who receives all yard waste for composting;

AND WHEREAS the compost is directly applied to the fields;

AND WHEREAS Green Manitoba has advised the farmer that only the material that undergoes the composting process, which is considered as the biological decomposition of organic material carried out under controlled aerobic conditions and undergoes a thermophilic phase that produces compost will be eligible for the Manitoba Composts Support Payment (MCSP);

AND WHEREAS Green Manitoba states that direct application of organic material to land is not considered composting and currently does not meet the program goals and criteria;

AND WHEREAS this direct composting has resulted in reduced waste at the landfill;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to consider all types of composting including direct composting as eligible to receive Manitoba Composts Support Payments.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #16-2015

Night Hunting Ban

Sponsor(s)

North Norfolk, Mun. (Central)

Department(s)

Manitoba Conservation and
Water Stewardship

WHEREAS the practice of Spot Lighting (night hunting) is extremely dangerous and has the potential to negatively impact all Manitobans, livestock and property;

AND WHEREAS the Manitoba Wildlife Federation is lobbying for the Province to ban all night hunting in Manitoba;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM support the Manitoba Wildlife Federation in their effort to have the Province amend the Wildlife Act to have a ban on night hunting for ALL residents of Manitoba.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #17-2015

Municipal Night Lighting Maps

Sponsor(s)

Fisher, RM (Interlake)

Department(s)

Manitoba Conservation and
Water Stewardship

WHEREAS night lighting is a persistent and dangerous hunting practice, posing a danger to both residents and livestock;

AND WHEREAS the Manitoba Hunting Guide states, Rights based hunters “may not discharge a rifle or shot gun at night where it is dangerous to do so;”

AND WHEREAS the above statement indicates that Manitoba Conservation deems night lighting and the discharge of rifles and shotguns at night to be a safe practice in some unspecified areas of Manitoba;

AND WHEREAS Manitoba Conservation has failed to define safe and unsafe night hunting areas of Manitoba;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to provide municipalities with maps that clearly define areas in which Manitoba Conservation deems night lighting to be a safe hunting practice.



AMM Resolution #18-2015

Emergency Medical Response and Stretcher Transportation Act

Sponsor(s)

Woodlands, RM (Interlake)

Department(s)

Manitoba Health

WHEREAS Section 13(1) Regulation 22/2006 of “The Emergency Medical Response and Stretcher Transportation Act” requires license holders must ensure emergency medical response (EMR) services are available continuously, 24 hours per day, 365 days per year, within a response time standard acceptable to the Minister;

AND WHEREAS some municipalities might have volunteer-based fire departments that are trained to carry out EMR services;

AND WHEREAS such volunteer fire departments might not be able to guarantee EMR services are available 24 hours a day, 365 days per year;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to amend The Emergency Medical Response and Stretcher Transportation Act to license trained volunteer fire departments that can provide EMR services with limited outages.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #19-2015

Medical Inter-Facility Transportation

Sponsor(s)

Pinawa, LGD (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Health

WHEREAS approximately 90% of ambulance transports are for non-emergency inter-facility transports;

AND WHEREAS this significantly impacts the availability of ambulances for emergencies;

AND WHEREAS there are other jurisdictions where a significant number of non-emergency inter-facility transports are managed by private organizations;

AND WHEREAS an alternative method of inter-facility transportation would free up ambulances and EMS staff for emergencies plus increase capacity for proactive in-home visits (Community Paramedics) by EMS personnel with higher risk patients, and in particular, the elderly, which has been proven to be highly effective in other jurisdictions in Canada;

AND WHEREAS EMS staff could also have capacity for assisting in rural Emergency Room care;

AND WHEREAS this scenario would improve the quality of health care in rural areas, reduce the number of 911 calls, and likely reduce the cost of providing rural health care;

AND WHEREAS the member municipalities of the Eastern Region Community Health Committee are prepared to participate in a pilot project;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to facilitate a pilot project to establish the feasibility of privately managed medical inter-facility transportation.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #20-2015

Physician License Review

Sponsor(s)

Roblin, Mun. (Parkland)

Department(s)

Manitoba Health

WHEREAS the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba's mandate is to protect the public as consumers of medical care and to promote the safe and ethical delivery of medical care by physicians in Manitoba;

AND WHEREAS the College made changes to the International Medical Graduate (IMG) licensing procedure that has had a huge, negative impact on communities in Manitoba because regulations aren't as stringent as in other Provinces;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to review the licensure requirements.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #21-2015

Rural Fire Department Funding

Sponsor(s)

Oakland-Wawanesa, Mun. (Western)

Department(s)

Manitoba Labour and Immigration

WHEREAS small rural fire departments are faced with ever increasing costs in maintaining and operating firefighting equipment;

AND WHEREAS rules for fire equipment replacement fall under the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards as well as Work Place Health and Safety, often making the costs of equipment replacement prohibitive in small fire departments;

AND WHEREAS bunker gear according to the NFPA standard should be replaced every 10 years, major equipment is to be replaced or refurbished every 20 years, and Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) are to be replaced every 15 years;

AND WHEREAS the daily operating costs such as fuel, insurance, apparatus, hose, nozzles, clothes, and paying volunteers continue to increase;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba for financial assistance for rural fire departments in the acquisition of major firefighting equipment to keep up to the standards that are set by NFPA and Workplace Health and Safety.



AMM Resolution #22-2015

Reimbursement for Fire Services

Sponsor(s)

Powerview-Pine Falls, Town (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Labour and Immigration
Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern
Affairs

WHEREAS fire protection services to reduce the loss of life and property for ALL Manitobans is considered high priority;

AND WHEREAS for many Manitoba municipalities this includes their First Nation neighbours for which there is no legal agreement to provide firefighting services and compensation for same;

AND WHEREAS the onus currently falls to individual municipalities to acquire agreements with First Nation Communities for fire protection services provided and the process to obtain such agreements is cumbersome and difficult to ensure continuity;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM and the Manitoba Association of Fire Chiefs, which can also include the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs, lobby the Province of Manitoba and the federal government to implement a claim system matrix based on fixed rates, similar to the MPI claim matrix, wherein municipalities are able to receive reimbursement for fire services rendered to First Nation Communities.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #23-2015

Signage for Municipal Fire Bans

Sponsor(s)

Stuartburn, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Infrastructure and
Transportation

Manitoba Labour and Immigration

WHEREAS at various times and within various regions of the province, each municipality has had at one time or another had to implement a burn/fire ban;

AND WHEREAS there are no recognized standard highway signs notifying the public of these bans;

AND WHEREAS each municipality has erected their own customized signs which vary from municipality to municipality;

AND WHEREAS it would be most beneficial if the Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation implemented a standardized regulatory sign to be used in each municipality when a ban is implemented by that respective municipality;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to adopt under the Highway Traffic Act a recognizable regulatory sign to be used by each Town or RM during burn/fire bans all across the Province.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #24-2015

Deadline for Farmland School Tax Rebate

Sponsor(s)

Woodlands, RM (Interlake)

Department(s)

Manitoba Finance

WHEREAS the Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation provides farmers tax relief through the Farmland School Tax Rebate program;

AND WHEREAS farmers must pay the current year's taxes and apply for the Farmland School Tax Rebate on eligible farmland by the deadline of March 31 of the following year;

AND WHEREAS the application deadline puts a financial hardship on many farmers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to extend the deadline to two years to apply for the Farmland School Tax Rebate.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #25-2015

Business Education Tax

Sponsor(s)

Taché, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Finance

WHEREAS the provincial government presently offers tax relief to specific sectors of the population that own property and pay education services taxes;

AND WHEREAS it is the municipality's opinion that business owners should be included to qualify for a rebate of school taxes;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to extend a rebate of some form to those within the commercial sector paying business school taxes.



AMM Resolution #26-2015

Manitoba Hydro Rate Billing

Sponsor(s)

Lac du Bonnet, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Hydro

WHEREAS Manitoba communities are finding it increasingly more difficult to operate their ice hockey arenas for their residents because of increasing costs;

AND WHEREAS ice hockey arenas have their primary use during the winter months;

AND WHEREAS Manitoba Hydro electricity costs are based on a demand rate for power consumed which in turn adds a considerable amount to overall operational costs;

AND WHEREAS during the summer months when local arenas may only be used occasionally, much less electric power is being consumed, but the demand rate is still applicable;

AND WHEREAS the demand rate makes it inordinately expensive to operate the arena for only four or five uses per month;

AND WHEREAS lower electricity rates would allow communities to make greater use of their arenas during the summer without paying a high demand rate monthly bill;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby Manitoba Hydro to charge the affected arenas and other municipally-owned buildings, such as community centres, only for actual power used and not at the level of the demand rate.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #27-2015

Recreation Centre Insurance Costs

Sponsor(s)

Fisher, RM (Interlake)

Department(s)

AMM

WHEREAS recreation centres are important assets for quality of life and building healthy communities, which in turn help attract families and new residents;

AND WHEREAS the Province has committed to supporting recreation and healthy communities;

AND WHEREAS the Province has recognized the valuable tools recreation can provide to reduce crime and increase physical activity and community development;

ND WHEREAS many recreation centres continue to struggle with high operating costs including hydro and insurance fees, which can make running the recreation centre unaffordable for the community;

AND WHEREAS the AMM Resolution #38-2013 addresses the issue of lobbying the Province of Manitoba to have Manitoba Hydro charge for actual use rather than demand billing for recreation centres;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM explore ways to support new and existing programs to assist recreation centres and municipalities with rising insurance costs.



AMM Resolution #28-2015

Water and Wastewater Fund

Sponsor(s)

Morden, City (Central)

Department(s)

Manitoba Infrastructure and
Transportation
Infrastructure Canada

WHEREAS the continuing legislative changes to waste water and water infrastructure have continued to place high burdens onto the rate payers of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS there is no dedicated mechanism apart from burdening both the current and future rate payers by borrowing funds to undertake required infrastructure to meet ever changing legislative regulations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the provincial and federal governments to establish a water and wastewater fund that provides for an as-of-right 66% of the infrastructure costs for projects that are necessary because of legislative and regulatory requirements of the provincial and federal governments.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #29-2015

Railway Assessments

Sponsor(s)

North Norfolk, Mun. (Central)

Department(s)

Manitoba Infrastructure and
Transportation
Infrastructure Canada

WHEREAS the volume of railroad traffic including the transport of dangerous and flammable goods is increasing in Manitoba;

AND WHEREAS the increased rail traffic is increasing costs for emergency response training and equipment and rail crossing safety devices for municipalities;

AND WHEREAS portioned assessments of residential and farm properties and golf courses have changed to reflect changing market circumstances while railway assessments have remained at 25% since Regulation 184/98 of the Municipal Assessment Act came into force on January 1, 1999;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to evaluate the portioned assessment of railroads to more adequately reflect the rail industry position in Manitoba.



AMM Resolution #30-2015

Canada-Manitoba Job Fund Agreement

Sponsor(s)

Winnipeg Beach, Town (Interlake)

Department(s)

Manitoba Jobs and the Economy
Employment and Social Development
Canada

WHEREAS the Canada-Manitoba Job Fund Agreement offers funding toward the cost of training provided by eligible third-party trainers, with the Government of Canada providing two-thirds of the cost of training, up to a maximum of \$10,000 per grant;

AND WHEREAS Eligible Recipients under this agreement excludes Municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the Agreement calls for a review of its terms in year 2 (2015/2016) of the program;

AND WHEREAS municipalities incur training costs, especially in the training of Water and Wastewater Treatment and Distribution to meet provincial mandated requirements that can reach \$10,000 or more per operator;

AND WHEREAS such training provides the operators with skills that can result in long-term, specialized employment, thus fulfilling the objectives of the Canada-Manitoba Job Fund Agreement;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the federal and provincial governments to revise the Agreement to include municipalities as Eligible Recipients under the Canada-Manitoba Job Fund Agreement.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #31-2015

Emergency Response Communication Equipment

Sponsor(s)

Emerson-Franklin, Mun. (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Emergency Measures

WHEREAS provincial, federal and municipal governments play a prominent role in emergencies;

AND WHEREAS the primary responsibility to deal with emergencies lies with local authorities;

AND WHEREAS municipalities utilize the MTS Fleetnet network as the emergency communication system;

AND WHEREAS MTS is planning to upgrade its Fleetnet system to digital in the near future;

AND WHEREAS there will be a significant cost to municipalities for the upgrade of digital fleet net equipment (\$3,000 per radio);

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the federal government and Province of Manitoba to provide funding opportunities similar to the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program to assist with the purchase of emergency response communication equipment to reduce the cost and to increase the ability of municipalities to respond effectively.



AMM Resolution #32-2015

Recreation Opportunities Grants

Sponsor(s)

Portage la Prairie, City (Central)

Department(s)

Manitoba Children and Youth
Opportunities

WHEREAS municipalities with populations over 10,000 are currently ineligible to receive recreation grants under the Recreation Opportunities-Partners in Leisure program administered by the Province of Manitoba;

AND WHEREAS changing the program criteria to include municipalities with populations over 10,000 would benefit those municipalities greatly and treat all municipalities within the province fairly;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to consider including municipalities with populations over 10,000 when issuing recreation grants under the Recreation Opportunities-Partners in Leisure program.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #33-2015

Restorative Justice

Sponsor(s)

Thompson, City (Northern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Justice

WHEREAS the City of Thompson chaired a regional multi-stakeholder committee entitled the Thompson Economic Diversification Working Group (TEDWG) which developed an action plan for a Restorative Justice Facility;

AND WHEREAS a Restorative Justice Facility in Northern Manitoba was considered as a top priority by the TEDWG process;

AND WHEREAS the Restorative Justice Facility Action Plan was submitted to the Province of Manitoba in February 2012;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba's Adult Corrections Capacity Review identified restorative justice as an alternative approach in dealing with corrections in 2013;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to establish restorative justice facilities in underserved areas of Manitoba.



AMM Resolution #34-2015

Insurance Premium Freezes

Sponsor(s)

Deloraine-Winchester, Mun. (Western)

Department(s)

Manitoba Agriculture, Food & Rural
Development

Manitoba Emergency Measures

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba and the federal government to freeze premiums related to crop insurance and unseeded acres for producers within municipalities who may be impacted by conditions where there has been a declared State of Local Emergency or a formal Request for Disaster Financial Assistance.



AMM Resolution #35-2015

TLE Consultation & Support

Sponsor(s)

Lac du Bonnet, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Aboriginal and
Northern Affairs
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

WHEREAS on March 17, 2015 a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba (TRCM), Treaty Land Entitlement Committee of Manitoba Inc. (TLEC), and the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) to jointly engage provincial and federal orders of government and other stakeholders to achieve the objectives for work done under the Treaty Land Entitlement Framework Agreement (TLEFA) and expedite the process;

AND WHEREAS the AMM represents all municipalities in Manitoba:

AND WHEREAS the Rural Municipality of Lac du Bonnet local government as directed under 3.07 of the TLEFA, has in reasonable and good faith, presented municipal concerns in relation to TLE land selections in 2002 and again in 2014 to the Entitlement First Nation and the Province;

AND WHEREAS Section 3.07(2) of the TLEFA states: Where a Municipality expresses concerns about the land being support as Reserve Land, the Entitlement First Nation shall make reasonable efforts to address the concerns of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the Entitlement First Nation has not addressed all concerns;

AND WHEREAS the Provincial Department of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs has not addressed all concerns;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to provide clear support to municipalities in the Treaty Land Entitlement Process through proper consulting and lobbying the Province for answers prior to setting apart the entitlement land as reserve.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #36-2015

Council Meeting Invocation

Sponsor(s)

Taché, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

AMM

WHEREAS a recent Supreme Court Ruling prohibited prayer at Saguenay Council Meetings;

AND WHEREAS there are potential impacts to any Municipalities Invocation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT that AMM review this matter on behalf of all municipalities and report back to the membership.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #37-2015 – Standing Policy

PST Exemption

Sponsor(s)

Mountain, RM (Parkland)

Department(s)

Manitoba Finance

WHEREAS one level of government should not be subject to taxes of another level of government;

AND WHEREAS the additional financial burden creates undue hardship for municipalities struggling with infrastructure deficits where the money could be better spent;

AND WHEREAS the Provincial Sales Tax (PST) increased rather than decreased;

AND WHEREAS only \$.08 of every \$1 of PST directly benefits provincial municipalities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to exempt Manitoba municipalities from the Provincial Sales Tax (PST).

* **Standing Policy Note:** This resolution is consistent with AMM policy and will not be brought forward to the Convention floor unless requested by delegates.

AMM Resolution #02-2013 requests the Province of Manitoba to eliminate the PST for municipal governments.



AMM Resolution #38-2015 – Standing Policy

Improve Cellular Reception Services

Sponsor(s)

Taché, RM (Eastern)

Rosburn, Mun. (Midwestern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Jobs and the Economy

Industry Canada

WHEREAS cellular phone service has become an essential service to the general population and is extremely important in emergency situations;

AND WHEREAS cellular reception in rural areas has often been reported to be erratic and inadequate;

AND WHEREAS municipalities have communicated this concern to major service providers on numerous opportunities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to improve cellular service across Manitoba.

* **Standing Policy Note:** This resolution is consistent with AMM policy and will not be brought forward to the Convention floor unless requested by delegates.

AMM Resolutions #00-2012, #50-2012, #21-2014 request cellular services to be improved and deemed an essential service.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #39-2015 – Standing Policy

Increase Assessment Branch Staffing

Sponsor(s)

The Pas, Town (Northern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal Government

WHEREAS Assessment Services is responsible for the assessment of all real and personal property in the Province of Manitoba;

AND WHEREAS, historically the assessment cycle was done every four years;

AND WHEREAS the Province recognized the need to carry out an assessment every second year to reflect changes in market value and in 2010 commenced the two year cycle;

AND WHEREAS as a result of this implementation, the physical general re-inspection of properties has fallen behind due to job positions not being filled within the Assessment Branch;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to either increase staffing or at the very least bring the Assessment Branch staff up to full level to enable municipalities the ability to address discrepancies in assessment.

* **Standing Policy Note:** This resolution is consistent with AMM policy and will not be brought forward to the Convention floor unless requested by delegates.

AMM Resolution #46-2011 requests staffing levels of field assessment officers to be increased by at least 15 per cent.



AMM Resolution #40-2015 – Standing Policy

VLT Revenues

Sponsor(s)

Thompson, City (Northern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Finance

Manitoba Municipal Government

WHEREAS addictions, poverty and homelessness are social issues that emanate from the misuse of Video Lottery Terminals (VLTs) and the abuse of alcohol;

AND WHEREAS the AMM has passed resolutions in recent years regarding the distribution of VLT revenues and abuse of alcohol;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba needs to live up to its social responsibility regarding the social impacts that VLTs and the abuse of alcohol have on individuals and communities;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba needs to devote a portion of VLT revenues to address the social impacts caused by VLTs and abuse of alcohol;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to devote 15% of VLT revenue to address addictions, poverty and homelessness in communities that have a high level of social problems created as a result of misuse of VLTs and abuse of alcohol.

* **Standing Policy Note:** This resolution is consistent with AMM policy and will not be brought forward to the Convention floor unless requested by delegates.

AMM Resolution #09-2013 requests the Province to Manitoba implement a strategy that addresses and mitigates the social problems linked with VLT misuse.



AMM Resolution #41-2015 – Standing Policy

Core Funding for Conservation Districts

Sponsor(s)

Bifrost-Riverton, Mun. (Interlake)

Department(s)

Manitoba Conservation and
Water Stewardship

WHEREAS it was the original intention of the Province of Manitoba to have all Municipalities and local governments (i.e., towns, villages, cities, First Nations) within the province in a Conservation District (CD);

WHEREAS since 1972 the Province of Manitoba has been promoting for all Municipalities and local governments to join a Conservation District but had significant growth, modernization and improvements after 1999;

WHEREAS there are currently Municipalities and local governments who are requesting to join a Conservation District, but because of recent cut backs and reduced core funding from the Province of Manitoba, the Province of Manitoba is not willing to contribute financially to new municipal partnership or match core funding of existing CD's 75%;

WHEREAS the municipalities, local governments, Province of Manitoba and its residents recognize the importance to maintain and improve watershed health in order to have sustainable communities;

WHEREAS it is recognized that Conservation Districts are one of the few organizations that complete the actual work on the land to ensure a clean environment, healthy watersheds and sustainable communities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to reinstate matching core funding of 75%;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the funding be made for all new municipalities and local governments that want to participate in the Conservation District program.

* **Standing Policy Note:** This resolution is consistent with AMM policy and will not be brought forward to the Convention floor unless requested by delegates.

AMM Resolution #41-2013 requests increased funding for conservation districts to at least the level of funding received prior to the 2013 provincial budget cuts.



AMM Resolution #42-2015 – Standing Policy

Aggregate Mining Fees

Sponsor(s)

Ste. Anne, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Mineral Resources

WHEREAS the RM of Ste. Anne requires the payment of fees based on the quantity of aggregate removed from land in the Rural Municipality of Ste. Anne by the organization removing it, pursuant to The Municipal Act, Regulations 48/97, as amended, and 216/2004;

AND WHEREAS Schedule A (Subsection 2(2)) only prescribes an increase in fees for mining aggregate until 2013, at which point the fees remain the same for years to follow;

AND WHEREAS the RM of Ste. Anne does not receive enough tax dollars from those mining aggregate in the municipality to sufficiently contribute to the impact their operations have on municipal infrastructure and therefore depends on aggregate fee revenue to compensate for this;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to amend the regulations prescribing increases to the amount of aggregate mining fees municipalities may collect from mining operations in their municipalities.

* **Standing Policy Note:** This resolution is consistent with AMM policy and will not be brought forward to the Convention floor unless requested by delegates.

AMM Resolution #09-2014 requests the Province of Manitoba to review and amend the maximum aggregate mining and transportation fees.



Resolutions

AMM Resolution #43-2015 – Standing Policy

Dutch Elm Disease Management

Sponsor(s)

Souris-Glenwood, Mun. (Western)

Department(s)

Manitoba Conservation and
Water Stewardship

WHEREAS the AMM passed Resolution #11-2014 at its 2014 Annual Convention in regards to the Province of Manitoba Dutch Elm Tree Removal Program and changes to the Community Cost Sharing Agreements;

AND WHEREAS communities have not received any further information from the Province of Manitoba to reconsider the program changes to the Community Cost Sharing Agreements;

AND WHEREAS the costs that will be incurred by each community will have considerable negative impacts on budgets for removal of diseased elm trees;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to maintain the removal of diseased elm trees as a provincial responsibility or provide adequate funding to allow for the removal of diseased trees.

* **Standing Policy Note:** This resolution is consistent with AMM policy and will not be brought forward to the Convention floor unless requested by delegates.

AMM Resolution #11-2014 requests the Province of Manitoba to maintain the removal of diseased elm trees or provide communities with 100 per cent cost recovery funding.



AMM Resolution #44-2015 – Standing Policy

Funding for Problem Beavers

Sponsor(s)

Rosburn, Mun. (Midwestern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Agriculture, Food & Rural
Development

WHEREAS Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship is responsible for the control of deer, moose, bear, birds, fish, coyotes, wolves, etc. and was previously responsible for problem beavers, before downloading responsibility on municipalities and providing minimal compensation for beaver control;

AND WHEREAS the control of beaver activity places a substantial strain on a municipality's human and financial resources and can cause serious damages to infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS Manitoba Conservation in part manages beaver populations by requiring trapping licenses and permits;

AND WHEREAS ongoing costs associated with trapping beavers and removal of dams are beyond the resources of some municipalities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to cost share 50/50 the expenses for removal of beaver dams and cleanout of blocked culverts on municipal property;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of Manitoba assumes all costs associated with the removal of problem beavers and dams on Crown Lands;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to take back responsibility for the control of problem beavers.

* **Standing Policy Note:** This resolution is consistent with AMM policy and will not be brought forward to the Convention floor unless requested by delegates.

AMM Resolution #16-2013 requests the Province of Manitoba to take back responsibility for controlling problem beavers.

