



# 2019 Mayors, Reeves and CAOs Meetings

March 18, 2019 - Winnipeg





# Ralph Groening

President

# 2019 Provincial Budget

- Operating/public safety grant funding maintained at **2016** levels
  - This **three-year freeze** does not recognize inflationary increases and puts greater financial and administrative pressures on municipalities
- PST reduced to 7% effective July 1<sup>st</sup> (expected to save municipalities \$3.1M annually)
  - AMM will continue to advocate for full PST exemption/rebate
- **\$2M** ↑ to Manitoba Water Services Board to support municipal water and sewer projects
- Streamlined and responsive community grant program
  - 7 programs rolled into 1 program/application
  - AMM will continue to participate in assessing applications and make recommendations on these community grants

# 2019 Provincial Budget

- **\$10M** in flexible funding to enhance support for municipal roads and bridges outside of Winnipeg
  - ALL municipalities will receive funding (allocated based on population thresholds)
  - NO red tape/applications, greater flexibility, stackable (funding is totally unconditional)
- No commitment to share cannabis taxation revenues
  - AMM continues to urge the Province of Manitoba to provide at least one-third (33%) of total annual excise tax revenue collected on cannabis sales to Manitoba municipalities
- **\$10M** to establish Manitoba Economic Development Office
  - New regional organization will be established to deliver economic development programming in rural Manitoba – this process will be led by the AMM and Manitoba Chambers of Commerce

# Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) Program Review

- Objectives: modernize the DFA program; reduce red tape and administrative burdens; and minimize financial risk to the Province of Manitoba and municipalities while maximizing recovery through the federal DFAA
- DFA Program Review final report completed – awaiting formal presentation to the Minister of Infrastructure
- A number of areas have been identified to improve the DFA Program and make it more accessible and responsive to the needs of municipalities



# Kam Blight

Vice-President

# Provincial Drainage Regulations

- Reducing red tape for low-risk, low-impact drainage projects is long overdue.
- AMM commended the provincial government for proposing a 14-day approval period through a streamlined registration process with an option for applicants to bundle individual projects on one application under particular circumstances.
- AMM also welcomed the proposed exemption for like-for-like culvert replacements since these routine projects are often delayed due to red tape, which frustrates municipalities.
- AMM continues to meet with Manitoba Sustainable Development staff to discuss municipal concerns.

# MI Service Delivery Model Review

- November 2017: MI launched a comprehensive review of its service delivery model
- April 2018: MI consultation with Mayors, Reeves, CAOs
  - AMM strongly advised against any sort of downloading or offloading of responsibilities to municipalities
- NEW MI-AMM Working Group has been established to discuss possible opportunities between municipalities and the department to deliver regular maintenance services
  - **Early April 2019: informational package and questionnaire will be sent to all of your municipal offices – your feedback is essential**
  - Any possible changes regarding responsibilities between individual municipalities and Manitoba Infrastructure will be made in full agreement by both parties



# Brad Saluk

Vice-President

# Traffic and Transportation Modernization Act

- *The Traffic and Transportation Modernization Act* (TTMA) officially came into effect on March 1, 2019.
  - TTMA eliminates the Highway Traffic Board and allows municipalities to make by-laws to set their own speed limits on roads under their authority.
- Municipalities are now able to set speed limits up to 90 km/h and they have the ability to override the default speed of 50 km/h by by-law in certain circumstances.
  - Speed limit by-laws should be in placed within six (6) months after TTMA comes into force. Thus, by September 1, 2019, all municipalities should have a by-law in place.
- Manitoba Infrastructure has developed resource guides to assist municipalities to set speed limits and develop speed limit by-laws.
- **MOS Breakout Session: March 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am**

# Strengthening Protections for Municipal Officials

- Bill 2: *The Municipal Amendment Act* (Strengthening Codes of Conduct for Council Members)
  - Aims to standardize Codes of Conduct by defining certain content and minimum standards and values
- Municipalities will be required, by by-law, to establish a Code of Conduct based on the Regulation
- All elected officials will be required to take training with six months of being elected (online format, up to 2 hours to complete)
- Appeals process has yet to be established
- AMM will be making a formal presentation on Bill 2 to the Legislative Committee



Thank you!