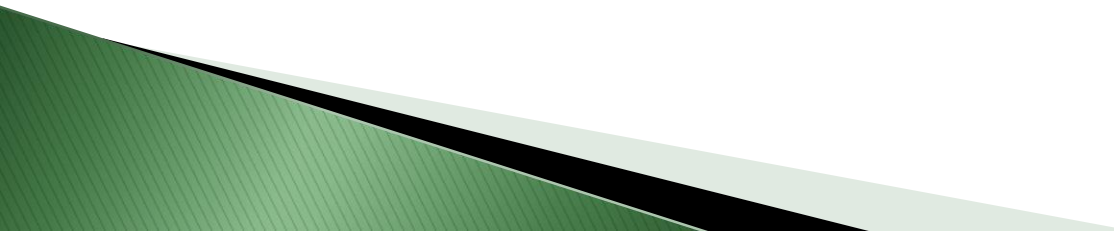


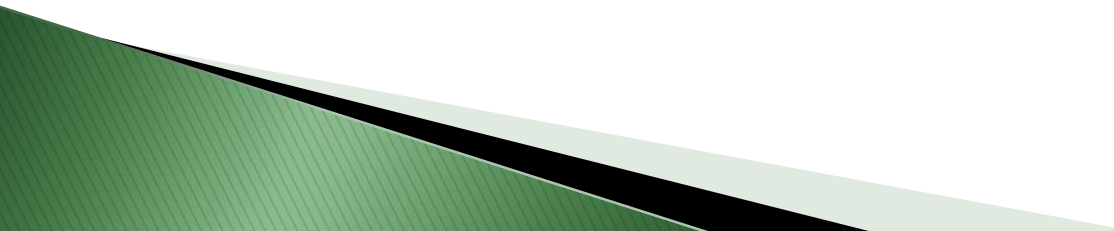
# The Municipal Council Conflict of Interest Act

Once Elected.....What is Expected?  
Newly Elected Municipal Official Training Seminar 2015

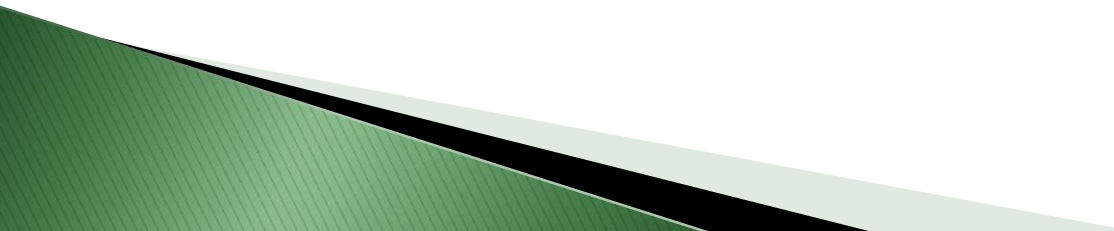
# Conflict of Interest

- Defining 'conflict of interest'
  - *The Municipal Council Conflict of Interest Act*
  - Who, What and When
  - Direct and indirect pecuniary (financial) interests
  - Exemptions
- 

# Types of Conflicts

- ▶ Voting where you have a financial interest
  - ▶ Use of “insider” information
  - ▶ Receiving compensation from individuals, businesses or corporations
  - ▶ Use of position to influence a decision of council
- 

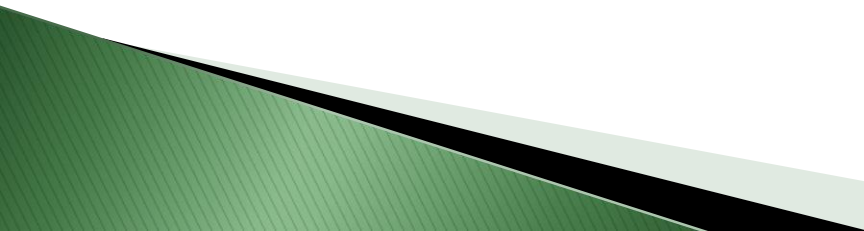
# Disclosure at Meetings

- ▶ Disclose before the matter is discussed
  - ▶ Withdraw from the meeting – do not vote or participate in debate on the matter
  - ▶ Physically leave the room
  - ▶ Do not attempt to influence the matter at any time
- 

# Role of the Courts

- ▶ Only the Court of Queen's Bench can make a declaration that you have violated a provision of *The Municipal Council Conflict of Interest Act*
- ▶ Applications alleging violations of the *Act* may be made by council or by an elector
- ▶ Six years to bring an application
- ▶ Penalties for being found in violation are severe!
  - Loss of your seat on council
  - Possible order of restitution

# Statement of Assets and Interests

- ▶ Complete each year by November 30 and keep updated
  - ▶ Includes real estate in the Province of Manitoba
  - ▶ You are not required to disclose the value of assets
  - ▶ You must disclose gifts worth over \$250 that you did not receive from family members
  - ▶ Statement is a public document
- 

# Perceived Conflicts of Interest

- ▶ What if the matter before council concerns the interests of a friend or relative?
- ▶ Your citizens may perceive a conflict in decisions where you have no financial interest.
- ▶ Even if the matter before council would not be a conflict under *The Municipal Council Conflict of Interest Act*, consider declaring a conflict and withdrawing where the *appearance* or *perception* of conflict exists.