



May 28, 2014

Western Canadian municipalities find common ground

Representatives from the provincial urban and rural municipal associations of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba gathered last week in Winnipeg. The Western Canadian Municipal Association (WCMA) meets annually to discuss items of common interest.

"It is extremely valuable to find out what is going on in other provinces," said *Doug Dobrowolski*, President of the AMM. "Often, our experiences mirror those of our counterparts."

A priority topic coming out of the meeting was the National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP) being developed by the federal government. The group committed to send a letter expressing concern that this fund not be lumped in with the existing Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) program. "Municipalities need to be involved in establishing the criteria for this program," said *David Marit*, President of the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM).

"It is extremely valuable to find out what is going on in other provinces."

President Doug Dobrowolski

The New Building Canada Fund was another topic of discussion. Collectively, the group expressed frustration in the delivery of program details, concern the 2014 construction season will be delayed, and disappointment with the small community allotment of 10 percent.

All expressed further frustration that, in each of the three provinces, the provincial governments were given the majority of control over the BCF. "Our organizations represent exactly the same number of people as the provincial governments," noted *Helen Rice*, President of the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA).

Each association is exploring ways to secure alternative revenue sources to fund infrastructure. "Local governments are facing real challenges, and without new ways to generate infrastructure dollars our economies will suffer," said *Bob Barss*, President of the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties (AAMDC). *Debra Button*, President of the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA), agreed. "It doesn't matter if the provinces have a 'planning for growth' agenda if the communities can't grow due to a lack of revenue," she said.

Also on the agenda was rail safety, by-law enforcement, and natural resources. SARM, AAMDC and AMM updated the group on actions each has taken on the current grain movement challenge including lifting of municipal road bans to facilitate product movement. The AMM also highlighted some issues specific to Manitoba, including the cosmetic pesticide ban and municipal amalgamation. •



Pictured L to R: Laurent Mougéot, Chief Executive Officer, SUMA; Debra Button, President, SUMA; Darren Hill, Executive Member, SUMA; Barry Gunther, Vice-President of Villages, Resort Villages and Northern Municipalities, SUMA; Ralph Groening, Rural Vice-President, AMM; Eileen Clarke, Urban Vice-President, AMM; Ray Orb, Vice-President, SARM; Doug Dobrowolski, President, AMM; Dave Marit, President, SARM; Laurel Feltin, A/Executive Director, SARM; Joe Masi, Executive Director, AMM; John McGowan, Chief Executive Officer, AUMA; Helen Rice, President, AUMA; Gerald Rhodes, Executive Director, AAMDC; and Bob Barss, President, AAMDC.



Coming Events

2014 June District Meetings

Interlake District

Monday, June 9

Quarry Park Heritage Arts Centre,
166 Main Street, Stonewall

Central District

Tuesday, June 10

Miami Community Centre,
34112 PTH 23, Miami

Western District

Wednesday, June 11

Tundra Oil & Gas Place,
900 5th Avenue, Virden

Midwestern District

Thursday, June 12

Hamiota Community Centre,
50 4th Street, Hamiota

Parkland District

Friday, June 13

Ukrainian Parish Hall,
13 River Avenue South, Ethelbert

Eastern District

Monday, June 16 **

This meeting will begin at 1:00 pm.

Sun Gro Centre,
3602 Veterans Lane, Beausejour

Northern District

Tuesday, June 17

Flin Flon City Hall,
20 First Avenue, Flin Flon

Register online at:

www.amm.mb.ca/events_june_form_2014.cfm

Final Reminder 2014 Resolution Process

This is a FINAL reminder that the deadline to submit resolutions for all June District Meetings is:

June 1, 2014

The resolution must be passed by Council to be eligible.

If you have any questions regarding resolutions for the upcoming June District Meetings, please contact:

Lindsay Thomson,
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lthomson@amm.mb.ca
1-204-856-2371

Notices



Partner 4 Growth

Providing funds for economic opportunity in your region

**The application deadline is
May 31, 2014**

The Partner 4 Growth program provides up to \$15,000 in cost-shared funding to rural municipalities and non-profit organizations in rural and northern Manitoba to help strengthen or diversify economic activity in their regions. Partner 4 Growth will fund:

- a maximum of \$8,000 for projects that identify strategic economic opportunities and the feasibility of economic opportunities such as:
 - strategic planning
 - feasibility studies
- a maximum of \$15,000 for projects intended to implement activities to pursue strategic economic opportunities such as:
 - business retention and expansion
 - training and workshops
 - investment attraction

Applications are now available for 2014/15 at www.manitoba.ca/agriculture or contact your local Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development GO Office.

Regretfully, the AMM has been notified that Mayor William Danylchuk of the RM of Taché passed away yesterday.

William served on the AMM Board of Directors as Eastern Rural Director from 2005-2007.

Deepest sympathies are extended to William's family.

Job Postings

Municipality of Rhineland Chief Financial Officer

The Municipality of Rhineland has an opening for a Chief Financial Officer.

Overview of Responsibilities:

Reporting to the Chief Administrative Officer, the CFO will lead the Financial Team. The CFO will be responsible for all municipal account functions including budgeting, payroll, taxation & revenue. The CFO will be responsible for the overall management of financial operations and provides strategic policy direction, planning recommendations and advice to the CAO, other members of the management team and Council on all financial matters.

Qualifications:

- A professional accounting designation or a degree in Public Business Administration specializing in finance or related discipline blended with a minimum of five years of progressively responsible senior management experience.
- The ability to articulate complex policies to Council, colleagues, public and private sector counterparts, community groups, and the public.
- Strategic thinking abilities, solution development and exceptional team leadership skills to deliver results in a complex and consultative environment.
- Excellent communication, facilitation and problem solving skills.

Remuneration

This is permanent full-time position with a competitive salary and a comprehensive benefit package.

For more information, please visit www.rmrhineland.com or contact the Municipality of Rhineland office at 72 2nd St. NE in Altona.

Michael Rempel, CAO
204-324-5357

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Applications must be received before 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 17, 2014.