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Clerk of Committees
Legislative Assembly of Manitoba
Room 251, 450 Broadway
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM), which represents Manitoba's 137 municipalities, I would like to provide some comments regarding Bill 5 - *The Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Amendment Act (PIDA)*.

In light of the provincial government's commitment to ensure municipalities have a 'fair say,' the AMM welcomes the option by regulation for local governments to opt-in to the PIDA framework. Moreover, the AMM also believes flexibility is important, particularly for smaller municipalities who may want to opt-in, when establishing disclosure procedures. For instance, designating a Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) may not be practical for small municipal offices, and therefore municipal employees should be allowed to make a disclosure to the Ombudsman if cases may arise.

Meanwhile, in January 2017, the Civil Service Commission Board informed our organization about available resources to guide designated officers when dealing with disclosures. Additionally, the Civil Service Commission also noted that training has been developed and delivered to designated officers and chief executives outside of government upon request. Therefore, the AMM calls on the Province of Manitoba to provide training and resource materials to all interested municipalities that may want to opt-in to the PIDA framework if requested.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

Sincerely,



Joe Masi
Executive Director

