

May 21, 2013

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

## **Dear Committee Members:**

On behalf of the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM), I would like to provide comments about Bill 27: The Highway Traffic Amendment Act (Charter Bus Service).

As the organization representing all Manitoba municipalities, the AMM identifies and addresses the needs and concerns of its members in order to achieve strong and effective municipal government.

The AMM supports these new measures to give companies more flexibility to meet consumer demand in the form of intercity charter bus service.

The AMM is also pleased that these measures will provide opportunities for local operators to provide bus services, and that safety requirements will be maintained.

In order to help ensure that all communities with residents requiring bus service have transportation options, the AMM also suggests the Province of Manitoba consider incentives for local companies or communities interested in providing bus service. Particularly where there are no other options for intercity bus travel, incentives could help to meet local needs.

In addition, the AMM encourages departmental cooperation to allow more flexible uses of vehicles in practice, such as handi-transit vehicles, providing the service can continue to provide adequate service to handi-transit users.

The AMM appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Doug Dobrowolski

President