6TH ANNUAL

MUNICIPAL



AWARD

Thursday, April 15 10:00 am

Convention Hall Keystone Centre, Brandon

The Municipal Excellence Award allows municipalities to share best practice ideas with other communities. What better way to showcase your municipality! Finalists will be highlighted in the Summer, 2010 issue of the Municipal Leader.

The winning municipality or municipalities will also receive a framed print by local Manitoba artist

Hans-Ulrich Arnold.

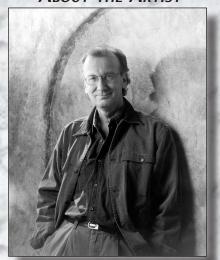
For more information about the Municipal Excellence Award, visit the AMM website at www.amm.mb.ca.

Your municipality could be next year's winner!



RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE IN MUNICIPAL GOVERNANCE





Born in Germany, Hans-Ulrich Arnold has lived in Winnipeg, Manitoba for most of his life. He travels throughout the country year-round collecting images for new book projects and photographic art distribution. He has inspired viewers through his workshops, presentations, magazines, calendars and photographic art displays.

He recently published his first book, "Wish you were here: Photographic Images of the Canadian Landscape", a tribute to our natural surroundings as seen by one prairie photographer. His work is sold internationally. He can be contacted by visiting his website at www.hansarnoldphoto.com

MUNICIPAL EXCELLENCE FINALISTS FOR 2010

Sustainable Development Plan - Town of Snow Lake

In 2008, the discovery of large gold and zinc deposits along with the planned reopening of the New Britannia Gold Mine resulted in an expected influx of mine workers and their families. The Town of Snow Lake created a Twenty Year Sustainable Community Plan to ensure sufficient ecofriendly and cost efficient residential, commercial and industrial property would be developed. Sustainable Plan recommendations currently being implemented include repairing unsafe sidewalks, creating a greener economy by banning plastic bag use, and promoting a partnership between the Age-Friendly Initiative and the local Senior Centre. This Sustainable Community Plan will be flexible for any Snow Lake eventuality, and could be adapted for any single industry mining town in Manitoba, Canada, or any country.

Joint Regional Recreation Facility and Governing Authority -City of Portage la Prairie and Rural Municipality of Portage la Prairie

The new PCU Centre will house a main arena, secondary arena, fitness centre, aquatic centre, multipurpose room, large atrium, concession and banquet services, offices, retail and meeting space. The entire project meets LEED silver requirements, and the jointly owned, operated and funded facility was designed to move both the City and RM of Portage la Prairie significantly forward. The magnitude of the project would be impossible without the participation of both municipalities, who created the Portage Regional Recreation Authority (PRRA) to ensure dedicated oversight of all recreation in both municipalities. Members of the PRRA Board, charged with governing recreation services inside both municipal boundaries, are council members appointed in equal numbers, ensuring the needs of both City and RM will be addressed.

Industrial Incubator Mall - Town of Morden

Morden's manufacturing base is largely comprised of family businesses that started small and expanded to become some of the area's largest employers. With this manufacturing history in mind, Morden Community Development Corporation (MCDC), owned by the Town of Morden, created an industrial incubator mall. MCDC purchased a 25,185 square foot building in Morden's Industrial Park and renovated it to create affordable rental units of various sizes that are available for start-up businesses for a period of up to five years. MCDC believes that the solutions to the economic downturn already exist within the community of Morden, and the incubator mall is a way of helping individuals achieve their goals by providing a space to start a new business. With leases starting April 1, 2010, 80% of the building is already occupied.

Building a Sustainable Community - Town of Gladstone

In 2007, Gladstone was selected as one of the first ten communities in Manitoba to be designated "Age Friendly". At the same time, council acknowledged it needed the younger generation to provide services for seniors to enable them to age with dignity in the community. A committee of stakeholders was formed to provide insight into the town's strengths and weaknesses and initiate the steps required to rebuild the declining community. Within two years, Gladstone has two new multi-unit housing facilities, increased communication of public information, incorporated accessibility upgrades within the Senior Centre, and increased awareness of health services within the community. A new residential housing development is underway, another housing facility is scheduled for construction this spring, the community has experienced eight million dollars of commercial development, and the population has increased by approximately 10 per cent.

North Red Christmas Hamper Drive -

City of Selkirk, RM of St. Andrews and RM of St. Clements

The volunteers and staff from the St. Andrews, St. Clements and Selkirk municipalities are dedicated to see that all needy families are able to celebrate Christmas. The North Red Christmas Hamper Drive ensures this happens. Prior to 2007, the three municipalities each provided Christmas Hampers to families in need in their respective municipalities. A joint effort was born in 2007 with a streamlined program now operating out of one central location, resulting in a more efficient and cost effective program for everyone involved. Over 500 Christmas hampers are now delivered to area families each year.

AND THE WINNER IS...