



# ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA MUNICIPALITIES POLICY BRIEF – MARCH 21, 2022

| Minister of Labour, Consumer Protection and Government Services |  
| Reg Helwer |

*The AMM appreciates the opportunity to meet with Minister Reg Helwer and representatives of Manitoba Labour, Consumer Protection and Government Services. The AMM encourages the Province to consider municipal concerns as well as the effects of funding decisions on local communities throughout the budget process. This document outlines the AMM's position and recommendations on a number of important municipal issues relevant to the Labour, Consumer Protection and Government Services portfolio. The AMM looks forward to working with the Province to strengthen provincial-municipal growth and partnership opportunities.*

## TOP POLICY IMPLICATIONS



- Demand far outpaces provincial and federal dollars as municipalities have identified more than **\$702 million** to upgrade or construct water and wastewater treatment facilities as well as sewer infrastructure across Manitoba.
- Moreover, the growing road and bridge infrastructure deficit is also a concern for all municipalities which translates into a heightened need for continued infrastructure investments from all orders of government.
- The AMM is very pleased to participate as a member of the Manitoba Local Consultative Committee (MBLCC) to review applications and recommend local priorities for the various streams under ICIP.
- Municipalities are in the best position to determine local infrastructure priorities. Thus, it is vital that municipalities can take advantage of our short construction season.
- Approximately 90% of municipalities encounter provincial red tape on a regular basis resulting in added financial or staff resources and delays when dealing with provincial Acts, regulations, license requirements, and permit applications.
- With the ongoing pandemic it is vital that municipalities receive clear, efficient, and effective processes in order to grow and sustain local communities.

## MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

1. **INVESTING IN CANADA INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM (ICIP)**
2. **RED TAPE REDUCTION**

*Municipalities manage 60 per cent of Canada's core public infrastructure yet collect less than 10 cents of every tax dollar. The Canadian municipal infrastructure deficit has been estimated at more than \$238 billion for maintenance of both existing and new infrastructure.*

## **The AMM recommends the government:**

- ❖ **Continue to provide municipalities a 'fair say' to respond to local infrastructure priorities and make available greater funding for water and wastewater treatment facilities; and**
- ❖ **Eliminate red tape by streamlining provincial processes to mitigate costs facing municipalities.**

**ACTIVE AMM LABOUR, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES RESOLUTIONS**

**AMM Resolution #07-2019: No Unilateral Downloading**

**AMM Resolution #29-2017: PUB staffing**

**AMM Resolution #05-2014: Municipal Board and Public Utilities Board**

**AMM Resolution #28-2015: Water and Wastewater Fund**

**AMM Resolution #25-2011: Implement Infrastructure Funding Council Report**

**AMM Resolution #26-2010: Strategy to Address Municipal Infrastructure Deficit**