



Association of Manitoba Municipalities

**ADVANCED EDUCATION
AND TRAINING**

APRIL 29

2024

SUMMARY OF MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES

The AMM appreciates the opportunity to meet with Minister Renée Cable and representatives of Manitoba Advanced Education and Training. 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 Advanced Education and Training portfolio. The AMM looks forward to working with the Province to strengthen provincial-municipal growth and partnership opportunities.



Water and
Wastewater
Operator
Certification

- **Support municipalities with localized training and enhanced education to promote recruitment and retention in water and wastewater professions.**

Water and Wastewater Operator Certification

RECOMMENDATIONS

- ✔ ***Support municipalities with localized training and enhanced education to promote recruitment and retention in water and wastewater professions.***

For **more than two decades**, municipalities have consistently voiced concerns regarding Water and Wastewater Operator Certification. Current certification and recertification requirements for water treatment plant operators pose a hardship on small communities. The stringent certification standards are discouraging potential recruits from entering the field, and for those who do, many struggle to pass the exam due to irrelevant questions. This is problematic given the demand for water and wastewater infrastructure continues to increase.

As the demand for certified treatment operators grows, the urgency to retain and attract qualified professionals will also escalate. Thus, municipalities want to see immediate solutions to help recruit and retain facility operators. While the AMM acknowledges the ongoing efforts by the Department of Environment and Climate Change and the Certification Advisory Committee (CAC) in reviewing certification issues, training requirements, and administrative processes, the comprehensive report with recommendations from the CAC has not yet been publicly released. Therefore, it is vital for the Department to collaborate with Manitoba Environment and Climate Change to address municipal concerns and promptly implement recommendations aimed at enhancing educational opportunities in the water and wastewater profession.

Moving forward, it is vital to empower municipalities in their ongoing efforts to attract and retain skilled water and wastewater facility operators. It is crucial for the Province to collaborate with relevant departments to investigate alternative local training opportunities, ensuring that all municipalities can access training for water and wastewater operators. Supporting more localized and modernized training opportunities could also assist in promoting this profession, contributing to improved recruitment and retention.

Active AMM 2023 Advanced Education and Training Resolutions

AMM Resolution #44-2023: Veterinarian Education

Sponsor(s)

Coldwell RM (Interlake)

Harrison Park, Municipality (Midwestern)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to commit to long-term recruitment and retention of veterinarians by creating a veterinarian college within one of Manitoba existing post-secondary education institutions; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to consider allowing a certain number of annual seat allotments to be specific to those wanting to pursue Large Animal Veterinary.

***** For further information on any resolution, please contact the AMM office.***