

# 2016 Mayors, Reeves and CAOs Meetings

April 12, 2016  
Brandon





**Chris Goertzen**  
*President*



# 2016 Provincial Election

- AMM has dedicated significant resources to run a comprehensive, province-wide, multi-media election campaign that demands a **FAIR SHARE** and a **FAIR SAY** for Manitoba communities
- Local Councils are responsible for maintaining **60%** of infrastructure despite being allowed to collect only **8 cents** of every tax dollar to get the job done
- With 1 week to go, challenge the candidates!



# Federal Infrastructure Funding

- Government of Canada is poised to make unprecedented investments in Canada's public infrastructure
  - **\$60B** over ten years
- **\$11.9 billion** (Phase 1) in new infrastructure investments:
  - **\$3.4B**: public transit
    - Manitoba share: \$83M over 3 years
  - **\$5.0B**: water, wastewater, and green infrastructure
    - New 4-year, **\$2B** Clean Water and Wastewater Fund
  - **\$3.4B**: social infrastructure (affordable housing, cultural/recreational facilities)
- **\$500M** over 5 years to enhance broadband connectivity



# Provincial Infrastructure Funding

- Increased funding support for infrastructure, flood mitigation, water and wastewater projects, cell service and broadband Internet access, tourism, and recreation centres
- New Partnership with the City of Winnipeg outlined along with priority projects in Brandon
- New, five-year **\$325 million Growing Communities Fund**
  - \$219M previously committed
  - \$91M for waste-water treatment plants
  - \$12.5M recreational fund
  - \$2.5M community airport program



# Alternate Revenues & PST Rebate

- **85%** of Manitobans agree local Councils across the province deserve both a **FAIR SHARE** of tax dollars and a **FAIR SAY** in how they're spent
- Need for a more efficient allocation of existing tax dollars, while identifying “grow as we grow” revenues
- Municipalities continue to pay more than **\$25 million** annually in PST to provincial coffers
- **69%** of Manitobans feel that money raised from the PST increase should flow directly to municipalities



# Amalgamation Costs

- **\$1M** Amalgamation Costs Funding Support Program
- 47 communities are now able to recover some hard costs through this fund, particularly those related to computer hardware and software upgrades and office expansions
- Positive step, but more support needed from the Province of Manitoba



# Policing Costs & Services

- Municipalities continue to pay more than **60%** of Canada's policing costs, including costs for federally mandated responsibilities
- Costs are rapidly increasing and unsustainable
- ***The Mental Health Amendment Act***
  - Would enable “qualified persons” to supervise MHA individuals
- RCMP Labour Relations: Collective Bargaining/Unionization
  - Potential for increased costs for municipalities





# Subdivision Approval TAC

- Subdivision Approval Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) has issued a report with **44** recommendations to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and transparency of common conditions of subdivision approval
- Recommendations have already been endorsed by the AMM Board of Directors and Interdepartmental Planning Board of Deputy Ministers
- If fully implemented, overall subdivision processing times should be significantly reduced, possibly up to one year



# Cosmetic Pesticide Ban

- Province of Manitoba has clarified the circumstances in which **municipal sidewalks, ditches, and centre median boulevards** are exempt from the applicability of the *Non-Essential Pesticide Use Regulation*
- Restrictions on pesticide use only apply if these types of routes have active transportation or recreational infrastructure
- Hard surface sidewalks not associated with a lawn are exempt





**Ralph Groening**

Vice-President



# DFAA Changes

- Federal funding for smaller disaster events has been eliminated (in effect since Feb. 2015)
- Changes represent a federal download to the provincial government, which may eventually result in the major downloading of financial costs onto municipalities in the near future
- This will affect **ALL** Manitobans in the event of flooding
  - Prairie Provinces account for 82% of all DFAA weather event costs
  - \$900M in claims expected over the next 5 years



# Partner 4 Growth Program

- Funding increase from \$260,000 to \$400,000 (54% ↑)
- Grants for assisting communities to strengthen or diversify development projects and undertake feasibility studies will be increased from \$8,000 to \$10,000 (25% ↑)
- Grants for completing projects with regional implications will be increased from \$15,000 to \$25,000 (66.7% ↑)
- Eligibility requirements have also been broadened, as newly-amalgamated municipalities are now able to be sole applicants for program funding



# Rural Economic Development Strategy

- With 37 per cent of Manitoba's population and 12,000+ businesses, rural Manitoba is vital to the provincial economy
- Province of Manitoba has contributed \$75,000 to the rural economic development strategy project
- September 2015: Rural Economic Development Steering Committee formed (AMM co-Chair) and held its first meeting
- January 2016: Discussion Document released following extensive stakeholder consultations
  - We welcome comments/suggestions/ideas!



# Accessibility Legislation & Standards

- Accessibility legislation requires municipalities to create Accessibility Plans
- Municipalities with populations over 10,000 must develop multi-year Accessibility Plans by the end of 2016 that identify barriers in policies, programs, and services and propose ways to eliminate them
- Smaller municipalities will have until the end of 2017 to complete these plans
- **NO provincial funding support to comply with standards**



# Prov.-Mun. Justice Advisory Committee (PMJAC)

- AMM & Province of Manitoba are refining its collaboration on justice and community safety issues
- Terms of Reference for Manitoba Contract Advisory Committee have expired
- Members of the new *Provincial-Municipal Justice Advisory Committee* will be announced very soon
  - Applicants will be selected based on geographic representation, municipality size, and experience with different types of police service agreements





# MPI Claim Rates for MVAs

- For this year, the basic rate increased from \$771 to **\$788**, and the complex rate increased from \$1,028 to **\$1,051** (2.2% ↑)
- MPI offers two rebate programs, which provide compensatory funding for the use of some firefighting equipment and for “securing the scene” of an accident
- **Funds are available! \$\$\$**



# Noxious Weeds Regulation

- MAFRD moving ahead with regulatory changes to *The Noxious Weeds Act* (Bill 32)
- Proposed regulatory changes include moving the categorization and classification of noxious weeds out of the *Act* and into the regulations
- AMM supports MWSA, including increase from \$500 to \$1500 for noxious weeds removal costs
- Special levy maximum amount increasing from \$10 to \$25 per acre of land





**Melvin Klassen**  
*Vice-President*



# Modernizing Education Funding

- “80/20” funding model
  - Many describe the current share as a “60/40” model
- AMM-MSBA recently renewed discussions with the shared objective of establishing a task force to review opportunities and options concerning the school funding model in Manitoba
  - December 2015: joint letter to Minister Allum



# Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) Support

- 1 year since AMM-TRCM-TLEC MoU
- Working Group has been established consisting of municipal, First Nation, provincial, and federal partners
  - Reviewing TLE-related municipal service agreements, drafting template agreements to assist municipalities, and identifying barriers to effective collaboration
- TLE Informational Package forthcoming to assist municipalities
  - Community Accord template, FAQ Factsheet
- AMM also continues to urge the Province to devote additional resources to support TLE initiatives



# Waste Management Facilities Regulation

- Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship committed to not enacting any regulatory changes without the AMM's support
- Continuation of the existing landfill classification scheme, no mandatory closures of facilities, increased license thresholds, and streamlined permitting process
- **Certification requirements include an exemption option for Class 3 operators**
  - Funding commitment secured from Green Manitoba to support facility operators to obtain certification



# Recycling Strategy

- WRARS program: **\$7.6M** was rebated alone last year by Green Manitoba
  - All municipalities are supported by this program, and rebates are increasing year-over-year
- MMSM recently concluded public consultations on the PPP Program Plan Renewal for 2017-2021
- Tire Stewardship Manitoba (TSM) also recently conducted public consultations, as it is requesting mandate extension to 2021
  - 70 full-time jobs created while generating \$7M in direct economic activity



# Dutch Elm Disease Management

- Lack of provincial funding support and downloading of responsibility to remove diseased elms to municipalities is both problematic and unwarranted
- Provincial government allocates only **\$1.05M** to safely remove more than 5,600 diseased trees across the province
- Communities receive a \$2,000 administrative grant plus **\$181.32** per tree for every diseased elm tree removed, yet actual removal costs can be upwards of **\$1,000** per tree
- Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship conducting program review/evaluation (aware of municipal concerns)





# Conservation Districts

- Effective watershed management and retention of wetland benefits demand financial support from the Province of Manitoba
- **Bill 5 – *The Surface Water Management Act***
  - AMM appealed for increased provincial funding to support the implementation of Conservation District water management plans
- CDs are still feeling the effects of provincial budget cuts in 2013, which have had a significant negative impact at the local level due to staff and programming challenges



# MB Hydro Recreation Centre Pilot Program

- Pilot Project has expanded, as Manitoba Hydro has assisted more than 25 additional recreational facilities throughout the province
- AMM-Manitoba Hydro “Power Smart Programs for Municipal Recreation Facilities” brochure available
  - Various incentive and financing programs are offered by Manitoba Hydro to assist with energy efficient upgrades
- Power Smart programs can help off-set high operating costs



**FAIR SHARE. FAIR SAY.**  
**FOR MANITOBA MUNICIPALITIES**

Thank you!