

Welcome to the 2020 June District Meetings!



ASSOCIATION OF
MANITOBA
MUNICIPALITIES

COVID-19 Update



- The AMM appealed to both orders of government requesting greater financial & economic assistance to support all municipalities.
- Province flowing 75% of operating grants now, with remaining 25% in the fall.
- Province increasing infrastructure investment by \$500 Million to help restart Manitoba's economy.

2020 Provincial Budget



- 2020 Budget again maintained municipal operating basket funding at **2016 levels**.
- Provincial commitment to increase the Payroll Tax thresholds effective January 1, 2021 .
- \$5.7 million fund to help municipalities respond to smaller scale floods and emergency events.
- \$6 million in funding for provincial police services agreements, which includes funding for an additional 27 police officers.
- However, no commitment to share cannabis taxation revenues with municipalities despite anticipated provincial budget revenues starting this year.

AMM-Province Strategic Collaboration Group & Municipal Service Delivery Improvement Program



- In response to our '**Partners in Growth**' campaign, the AMM and provincial government agreed to establish a joint working group on strategic collaboration
- Working Group has discussed the **Municipal Service Delivery Improvement Program**, which should hopefully be launched soon.
- This program will allow municipalities to work with firms to conduct value-for-money reviews to evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of funding spent on **six key service delivery areas**:
Transportation protection, water and sewer, recreation and culture, planning and general government administration.
- This program is completely voluntary.

Investing in Canada Infrastructure Plan (ICIP2)



- Phase 2 will see \$1.17 billion in federal funding over the next decade to support Manitoba's infrastructure needs in **four streams**:
Public transit, green infrastructure, community, culture and recreation infrastructure and rural and northern communities infrastructure
- AMM is pleased to participate as a member of the Manitoba Local Consultative Committee which reviews ICIP project submissions and recommends local priorities to the Province.
- Province has **NOT** yet provided the full list of prioritized projects to the federal government for their approval.
- However, AMM supports the Province calling on the Federal government for greater flexibility regarding ICIP funding streams.
- AMM continues to urge both orders of government to **immediately expedite approvals** so that municipalities can take advantage of our short construction season and grow their communities.

Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) Formula Changes



- Proposed changes will result in municipalities covering the first **\$3.25 per capita, up from \$1 per capita**, before the new DFA formula applies.
- Also announced an optional program for municipalities to redirect funds destined for payments under the provincial-municipal DFA cost-sharing formula to disaster mitigation and preparedness measures.
- The DFA program would need to first qualify for the federal cost-sharing under the DFAA, in which the Province would then reimburse municipalities for 100% of eligible DFA costs.
- AMM believes these changes must be reversed immediately and continues to call on the Province to restore the previous disaster assistance cost-sharing formula.

Bill 48 (The Planning Amendment and City of Winnipeg Charter Amendment Act)



- Private sector development plays a significant role in job creation and building sustainable local communities
- Bill 48 proposes amendments that will establish a new **Capital Planning Region** which includes the City of Winnipeg and surrounding capital region municipalities as well as the creation of new regional planning boards.
- Bill 48 also proposes **shifting decision-making powers** regarding local land use planning away from all elected Councils to the provincially appointed Municipal Board, whose decision would then be final.
- Another significant amendment is the **new prescriptive timelines** for approvals of development in the City of Winnipeg and all other municipalities and planning districts.
- We continue to relay our position that local Councils know their communities best and therefore should maintain autonomy and authority over local development decisions within their communities.

Provincial Drainage Regulations & Water Management



- On October 2, the Province launched a new approach to drainage *under The Water Rights Act* to help streamline the approval process for producers and landowners while reducing red tape for low-risk, low-impact drainage projects
- Province launched [a new Water Licensing Portal](#) that enables applicants to submit and track applications.
- Disappointed to hear concerns regarding increased costs, administrative time and red tape from our members that have recently used this new portal system.
- On December 30, [the Province proclaimed *The Watershed District Act* and unveiled two new regulations](#) that will formalize a watershed-based approach
- *The Watershed Districts Act* modernizes the Conservation District program by shifting districts to watershed-based boundaries and adding flexibility for local watershed districts in the areas.

Bill 2: The Municipal Amendment Act



- In March, Manitoba Municipal Relations held a focus group with key stakeholders including AMM, MMAA, AMBM and various municipal officials.
- On May 11, the Province opened a 45-day online public consultation regarding the regulatory changes which outlines: *minimum Codes of Conduct, complaints process, sanctions, and remedial measures to address Code of Conduct violations including appeals.*
- Content of this training aims to align with the same set of ethical standards and procedures expected of members of the Manitoba Legislative Assembly and Manitoba government employees.
- All elected officials will be required to complete the mandatory training within six months of when the legislative amendments **come into force on November 1, 2020**, as well as within six months of being elected or re-elected.

Public Safety Communications Service (PSCS)



- At our 2019 Annual Convention, Premier Brian Pallister announced the provincial commitment to fully fund the PSCS annual operating costs on behalf of municipalities.
- Municipalities will not be charged monthly subscriber fees once the PSCS becomes fully operational
- All municipalities will be required to review and sign a PSCS Participation Agreement before fully transitioning.
- The template agreement is currently under review by AMM's legal counsel and negotiations are currently transpiring with the Province to ensure this agreement protects municipalities for the full length of the PSCS contract (which is 15 years)



THANK
YOU