



ASSOCIATION OF
MANITOBA
MUNICIPALITIES



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MANITOBA
MUNICIPALITIES

2023

RESOLUTIONS BOOKLET

Association of Manitoba Municipalities



RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE



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RULES FOR RESOLUTIONS SESSIONS

1. On Convention Day, members of the Resolutions Committee will read out the operative clauses of a given resolution - i.e., the resolved portion.
2. The Chair will move the resolution.
3. The Chair will call for a seconder who will second the resolution by providing their name and municipality.
4. The seconder will open debate on the resolution. Then any municipal official is welcome to speak in favour or opposition to the resolution at hand; microphones will be labelled specifically for those “in favour” and “opposed”.
5. Anyone speaking to a resolution will have a maximum of **two minutes**. The time remaining for speakers will be displayed, counting from two minutes to zero, at which time microphones will be turned off.
6. As provided for in Robert’s Rules of Order, the Chair will call for speakers alternately from each microphone position. If no speakers with an alternate position request the floor, the Chair may, after entertaining three or more speakers to the one position, end debate even if further speakers to the position have already requested the floor.
7. No one may speak twice per resolution unless for clarification.
8. The seconder will be invited to close debate.

AMENDMENTS

9. Amendments to motions may be introduced by any registered voting delegate. Unlike the “Standing Order” for main motions, the Chair will not move an amendment.
10. Once the motion to amend has been introduced, the Chair will decide if the amendment is in order (i.e., does not change the intent of the motion).
11. If the Chair decides the motion is in order, they will call for a seconder.
12. Once the amendment has been moved and seconded, the motion to amend will be dealt with in the same way as all motions as outlined in the Standing Orders and Rules of Order.
13. Unlike main motions, however, amendments to the amendment will not be accepted.
14. Discussion on an amendment must address the amendment only and not the merits of the main motion.
15. The Chair will entertain only two amendments per resolution.
16. Should more than two amendments come forward, the Chair may send the resolution to the Resolutions Committee and the Parliamentarian for their consideration.
17. The decision of the Chair is final.

DEBATING STANDING POLICY RESOLUTIONS

18. A delegate wishing to debate a ‘Standing Policy’ resolution must move a motion asking the Chair to “suspend the rules”.
19. If there is a seconder, the Chair will ask for the vote on the motion. The motion passes if 2/3 of delegates vote in favour of it.
20. If the motion is passed, the remainder of the debate follows the normal resolution process.

RESOLUTION CATEGORIES

The following categories shall apply to all resolutions submitted for consideration by the Association of Manitoba Municipalities at either the annual Fall Convention or District Meetings.

CATEGORY 1: MUNICIPAL ISSUES

Category 1 resolutions are resolutions whose outcome has the potential to impact a majority of municipalities.

It is possible that the outcome of a Category 1 resolution might not immediately impact all municipalities, but the outcome has the potential to impact a majority of municipalities. This impact may be direct or indirect.

Examples of areas of influence of Category 1 resolutions include direct changes to legislation that govern municipalities, such as *The Municipal Act*, or more indirect changes to government programs that might impact municipalities, like a change in the provincial drainage program.

Category 1 resolutions, if passed at the District Meetings, will be brought forward to the main Resolutions Committee for consideration at the Annual Convention.

CATEGORY 2: LOCAL OR REGIONAL MUNICIPAL ISSUES

Category 2 resolutions deal with local or regional issues that affect one region or only a small number of municipal governments.

An example of a Category 2 resolution would be a resolution dealing with a necessary improvement to a specific local road.

Resolutions in this grouping will be presented at the District Meetings; however, they will not be submitted for consideration at the annual Fall Convention. A resolution in this category, if passed at the District Meeting, will be dealt with by the Board of Directors as they see fit.

CATEGORY 3: NON-MUNICIPAL ISSUES

Non-municipal issues do not affect municipal governments.

Resolutions in this grouping will not be presented at the District Meetings or the annual Fall Convention; instead, they will be dealt with by the Board of Directors as they see fit.

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NOTE: Resolutions categorized as ‘Standing Policy’ will not be brought to the Convention floor for debate unless requested by delegates in accordance with the resolutions session’s rules.

By-Law 2023

AMM By-Law Change (proposed by AMM Board of Directors)

Currently, as worded, Article 5 of By-Law 1998, Section 2, states that nominations for the positions of President and Vice-President shall be made by notice in writing by a Regular Member to the Executive Director no later than 21 days prior to the opening day of the AMM Fall Convention. The nomination is ineffective unless accepted by the nominee by notice in writing to the Executive Director prior to the opening day of the AMM Fall Convention. Nominees can only accept nominations for one position, that is, for the position of President or Vice-President position, not both.

Be it resolved that the following change to By-law 1998 is therefore approved:

*(1) nominations for the positions of President and Vice-President shall be made by notice in writing by a Regular Member to the Executive Director no later than 21 days before the opening day of the AMM Fall Convention. The nomination is ineffective unless accepted by the nominee by notice in writing to the Executive Director **no later than 14 days** before the opening day of the AMM Fall Convention. Nominees can only accept nomination for one position, that is, for the position of President or for Vice-President position, not both.*

AMM Resolution #01-2023

New Funding Model

Sponsor(s)

St. Clements, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations
Infrastructure and Communities Canada
FCM

WHEREAS the funding model for municipalities has not changed substantially for decades; and

WHEREAS it is widely known that municipalities receive less than .10¢ for every \$1.00 of taxes paid; and

WHEREAS the federal and provincial governments have downloaded responsibilities and corresponding costs to municipalities during that time period; and

WHEREAS many capital grants require the municipality pay 33% to 50% of the cost of the project; and

WHEREAS municipalities are required to alleviate the infrastructure deficit and invest in climate change mitigation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM continue to lobby the Province of Manitoba for a new funding model for municipalities; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM partner with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to lobby the Government of Canada for a new funding model for municipalities.

AMM Resolution #02-2023

Multi-Level Funding for Capital Projects

Sponsor(s)

Boissevain-Morton, Municipality (Western)

Department(s)

Infrastructure and Communities Canada
Finance Canada
Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations
Manitoba Consumer Protection and
Government Services

WHEREAS *Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program* (ICIP) capital project applications closed in 2019 in Manitoba; and

WHEREAS ICIP approvals are only funding the original capital project application request; and

WHEREAS capital projects (such as ICIP) are being approved multiple years after the original application; and

WHEREAS some municipal capital projects have far exceeded a 25% increase in price due to inflation costs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to work with the Government of Canada to cover all inflationary costs associated with funding capital projects for Manitoba municipalities.

AMM Resolution #03-2023

CCBF Funding Formula Distribution

Sponsor(s)

Fisher, RM (Interlake)

Department(s)

Infrastructure and Communities Canada
Finance Canada
Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations
Manitoba Consumer Protection and
Government Services
Manitoba Finance

WHEREAS the Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) is a permanent source of funding provided up front, twice a year, to provinces and territories, who in turn flow this funding to their municipalities to support local infrastructure priorities; and

WHEREAS 90 per cent of the money allocated to each Province and Territory is based on a per capita calculation; and

WHEREAS rural population has decreased but the infrastructure has remained the same or increased;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the provincial and federal governments for a new calculation to distribute funds to cover the ever increasing price of maintaining infrastructure in our Province.

AMM Resolution #04-2023

Building Sustainable Communities Program

Sponsor(s)

Winkler, City (Central)
Altona, Town (Central)
Pembina, Municipality (Central)
Morden, City (Central)
Steinbach, City (Eastern)
Thompson, City (Northern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations

WHEREAS the Building Sustainable Communities Program was developed to foster thriving and sustainable communities, help provide a high quality of life for Manitobans by responding to neighbourhood, municipal and regional priorities and strengthen the non-profit sector and promotes capacity, sustainability, and resilience in our communities; and

WHEREAS the Building Sustainable Communities Program currently requires applicants to match eligible BSC project funding on a 50% basis including 10% from non-government funding sources for all projects except planning projects (provincial funding includes support provided by any provincial department or agency including Manitoba Hydro, organizations funded by the Province such as School Divisions, as well as the Trails Manitoba Grant Programs); and

WHEREAS municipal governments have limited revenue sources outside of government funds. The 10% non-governmental funding requirement of this program creates barriers to municipalities seeking funds to improve the quality of life for Manitobans and discourages municipalities from submitting applications;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to eliminate the 10% non-government funding criteria from the Building Sustainable Communities Program.

AMM Resolution #05-2023

Municipal Board Delays

Sponsor(s)

Altona, Town (Central)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations

WHEREAS the Municipal Board administers hundreds of property assessment appeals each year; and

WHEREAS the Municipal Board currently has a backlog of appeals it manages through a staged process; and

WHEREAS the passing of Bill 37 has significantly increased the workload of appeals administered by the Municipal Board; and

WHEREAS the existence of prescribed deadlines within *The Planning Amendment Act* for planning decisions by the Municipal Board and the lack of deadlines within *The Assessment Act* for assessment appeals by the Municipal Board has prioritized planning decisions over assessment decisions; and

WHEREAS delays in assessment appeal decisions by the Municipal Board may significantly impact municipal finances; and

WHEREAS the AMM has called on the Provincial Government to expedite a review of Bill 37;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba for legislative changes necessary to address the growing backlog of planning and assessment appeals under the Municipal Board's management with a goal of ensuring that planning and assessment appeals are expedited within a 6-month timeframe.

AMM Resolution #06-2023

Subdivision and Variation Joint Applications

Sponsor(s)

St. Clements, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations

WHEREAS when a subdivision of land is proposed with lots that do not meet the minimum Zoning By-law width and/or area requirement, a variance approval is required as a condition of subdivision approval; and

WHEREAS both subdivision and variance applications are reviewed by the local municipal Council making this effectively a dual approval process, which is both redundant and inefficient;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to refine *The Planning Act* in order to make the subdivision approval process more efficient, by removing the requirement for variance approval when proposed lots do not meet the minimum Zoning By-law width and/or area requirement.

AMM Resolution #07-2023

Assessments

Sponsor(s)

Coldwell, RM (Interlake)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations

WHEREAS municipalities rely on the Province to provide the assessments on land to be taxed; and

WHEREAS the municipal assessment directly correlates to the available revenue for a municipality to operate; and

WHEREAS municipal Councils must exercise due diligence in ensuring fair and just taxation to all ratepayers; and

WHEREAS the current method of assessment capture seems to be leaving broad gaps between assessment classes, thus resulting in one class receiving increases one year while another receives increases the next time; and

WHEREAS the process results in a perceived unfair increase in taxation to that particular class in that year making it difficult for municipalities to maintain equal increases across the board;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to provide assessments in a manner that allows for a uniform annual reassessment across a municipality while recognizing the sales that are in that area.

AMM Resolution #08-2023

Property Assessment

Sponsor(s)

Morris, RM (Central)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations

WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba provides services to determine market value assessments for properties in Manitoba; and

WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba Regulation 184/98, under *The Municipal Assessment Act* of Manitoba provides for various classification portioning percentages to determine what the ‘portioned’ or ‘taxable’ assessment should be for properties; and

WHEREAS the current 'Tax Tools' that the Province of Manitoba allows municipalities to use are burdensome to implement; and

WHEREAS there are some municipalities within the Province that would like to have some flexibility in determining what the portioning percentages should be; and

WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba is currently working at modification of the assessment system;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to amend Regulation 184/98 to reflect a 5% variation either above or below the portioning percentage as shown in the following portioning structure; and

Class	Provincial Recommendation	Municipal Range Allowance
Residential 1	45%	40% to 50%
Residential 2	45%	40% to 50%
Residential 3	45%	40% to 50%
Farm Property	26%	21% to 31%
Institutional	65%	60% to 70%
Pipeline	50%	45% to 55%
Railway	25%	20% to 30%
Designated Recreational	10%	5% to 15%
Other	65%	60% to 70%

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT municipalities that desire to choose a portioning factor other than the factor recommended by the Province of Manitoba, must do so by creating a by-law stating those percentages as given within the allowable ‘Municipal Range Allowance’ given above.

AMM Resolution #09-2023

Assessment Appeal By-Pass

Sponsor(s)

Portage la Prairie, RM (Central)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations

WHEREAS the Board of Revision functions as an appeal body empowered to set assessments; and

WHEREAS the Board of Revision is made up of representatives appointed by the municipal council;

WHEREAS appeals are presented by the appellants to the Board of Revision; and

WHEREAS a dismissal without a hearing means that the appellant has no recourse to the Municipal Board as a second level of appeal; and

WHEREAS appellants can currently bypass the Board of Revision by stating they “confirm” the assessment and proceed to second level of appeal to the Municipal Board; and

WHEREAS all appellants should appear and present their case in full to the Board of Revision before any opportunity for recourse to the Municipal Board as a second level of appeal;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to prohibit confirmation of assessment or any other means to bypass the Board of Revision, without automatic dismissal of the appeal and no recourse to the Municipal Board.

AMM Resolution #10-2023

Tax Exemptions

Sponsor(s)

Beausejour, Town (Eastern)
Brokenhead, RM (Eastern)
Whitemouth, RM (Eastern)
Lac du Bonnet, Town (Eastern)
Lac du Bonnet, RM (Eastern)
Springfield, RM (Eastern)
Pinawa, LGD (Eastern)
Alexander, RM (Eastern)
Reynolds, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations

WHEREAS Manitoba municipalities share resources such as fire departments, libraries and recreation facilities; and

WHEREAS the facilities are jointly owned by two or more municipalities; and

WHEREAS the facility is located in one municipality; and

WHEREAS under section 22(1) of *The Municipal Assessment Act* real property is exempt from taxation if it is owned by the municipality other than for local improvements; and

WHEREAS the percentage of ownership that is retained by the other municipality is therefore taxable;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to revise *The Municipal Act* to exempt property jointly owned by municipalities from taxation regardless of what municipality the facility is located in.

AMM Resolution #11-2023

Manitoba Municipal Interest Rate

Sponsor(s)

Boissevain-Morton, Municipality (Western)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations

WHEREAS in The Municipal Act Regulation 50/97 clause 6 sets the maximum penalty rate for property taxes at 1.25%; and

WHEREAS in today's world Manitoba ratepayers are enduring significant inflation costs which includes rate increases on outstanding penalties;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to amend Regulation 50/97 clause 6 to reflect today's interest rate standards.

AMM Resolution #12-2023

Funding Formula

Sponsor(s)	Department(s)
Pipestone, RM (Western)	Manitoba Economic Development, Investment, Trade and Natural Resources Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations

WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba acquires a great deal of revenue from the extraction of natural resources throughout Manitoba; and

WHEREAS this economic activity creates a significant increase in the volume of traffic and increased loaded weights on Municipal infrastructure, often causing serious damage to roads and bridges not designed to carry this weight; and

WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba is encouraging the development of the extraction of our natural resources but not providing additional funding to support Municipalities in maintaining and upgrading infrastructure;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba for a funding formula whereby a percentage of natural resource extraction revenue returned to affected Manitoba municipalities whose infrastructure is impacted by the traffic generated by natural resource extraction.

AMM Resolution #13-2023

Fire Equipment

Sponsor(s)

St. Clements, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations
Infrastructure Canada

WHEREAS municipalities around Manitoba are tasked with keeping their communities and citizens safe through fire department infrastructure such as sophisticated fire halls, fire trucks, rescue boats, personal protective equipment and specialized motor vehicle extrication gear; and

WHEREAS in some rural municipalities they have more than one fire hall with some having up to three in one municipality; and

WHEREAS in each one of these halls, there is all the above-mentioned equipment with one fire truck alone costing in excess of \$600,000 dollars and in most cases each hall having 4 pieces of this equipment; and

WHEREAS the costs of the above is steadily increasing at a rate higher than inflation. Municipalities are having an increasingly harder time sustaining this type of expenditure; and

WHEREAS the provincial government should have a part to play in protecting Manitobans as whole no matter what municipality they live in;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to provide yearly funding to municipalities on a per fire hall basis and on the upgrades needed on a constant basis; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT this funding should be sourced from both provincial and federal resources.

AMM Resolution #14-2023

Short-Term Rentals

Sponsor(s)

Harrison Park, Municipality (Midwestern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations
Manitoba Consumer Protection and
Government Services

WHEREAS short-terms rentals (rentals less than 30 consecutive days) in Manitoba municipalities have dramatically increased; and

WHEREAS there is a lack of affordable and long-term housing in municipalities as investors are purchasing one or more residential homes in municipalities solely for the purpose of creating a short-term rental business; and

WHEREAS short-term rentals have created friction in some neighbourhoods due to noise and unchecked behaviour; and

WHEREAS there has been an extensive increase in cost and concerns from municipal ratepayers, and added workload to by-law enforcement, council, and administration; and

WHEREAS several municipalities have amended their zoning by-law to either prohibit or allow short-term rentals with a conditional use permit; and

WHEREAS it has become increasingly difficult to regulate and manage the effects of short-term rentals in residential zones as there are no consistent regulations in place; and

WHEREAS other Canadian jurisdictions have implemented or are implementing regulations on short-term rentals;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to regulate short-term rentals, including requiring digital platforms to ensure accommodations listed on their websites comply with Manitoba and local municipal by-laws.

AMM Resolution #15-2023

Code of Conduct Amendment

Sponsor(s)

St. Andrews, RM (Interlake)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations

WHEREAS *The Manitoba Municipal Act* Elected Officials Code of Conduct policy provides a framework for ethical conduct by elected officials, however, the policy needs to be updated to better protect elected officials from unfair or politically motivated allegations of misconduct; and

WHEREAS Section 83[2] of *The Municipal Act* provides that a Duty of the Head of Council is a] to preside when in attendance at a council meeting, except where the procedures by-law or this or any other Act otherwise provides; which creates an opportunity for unfair or politically motivated actions against council members; and

WHEREAS Section 84.1(4) of the current policy puts the final decision of sanctions on council members, which can create new conflicts of interest and undermine the integrity of the process; and

WHEREAS an independent body can provide a fair and impartial decision-making process that protects the rights of elected officials while ensuring accountability;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to amend *The Manitoba Municipal Act* Code of Conduct policy to ensure that the policy is based on clear and objective standards of conduct and avoids subjective or ambiguous terms that can be used to justify politically motivated allegations of misconduct as follows:

1. Remove the reference to excepting procedural bylaws from Section 83[2] of *The Municipal Act*; and
2. Remove the final decision of sanctions from council members and establish an independent body, such as a provincial ethics commissioner, to make decisions on sanctions; and
3. Ensure that the independent body has the necessary resources and expertise to make informed decisions on sanctions; and
4. Provide elected officials with adequate protection and support during investigations and hearings; and
5. Ensure that the independent body operates transparently and provides clear reasons for its decisions.

AMM Resolution #16-2023

Election Rules

Sponsor(s)

Riding Mountain West, RM (Midwestern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations

WHEREAS *The Municipal Councils and School Boards Elections Act* under Section 38 states who may be nominated as a candidate; and

WHEREAS *The Manitoba Municipal Act* under Section 90 lists the eligibility for nomination and elections criteria; and

WHEREAS there is no provision in either Act for a criterion that a candidate must primarily reside in the area they wish to be nominated;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to amend *The Municipal Act* to state that a prospective nominee be a resident that have lived in the Municipality for at least three consecutive months immediately preceding the day of the election if they wish to be elected in for municipal Council.

AMM Resolution #17-2023

Essential Services Legislation

Sponsor(s)

Selkirk, City (Interlake)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations

WHEREAS communities across Manitoba with water and wastewater utilities provide critical services to citizens, businesses, industry, and healthcare institutions; and

WHEREAS disturbance of, or interruption to, these services have a detrimental impact on livelihoods and puts citizens at serious risk of illness or death, particularly when service to healthcare facilities is interrupted; and

WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg has requested the Province of Manitoba consider amending *The Essential Services Act* to specifically name Winnipeg's utility employees as essential services employees; and

WHEREAS *The Essential Services Act* states that essential services are those that are necessary to enable an employer to prevent danger to life, health, or safety or prevent serious environmental damage; and

WHEREAS provincial 'Water Treatment Plants' are already declared essential services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to include provisions within *The Essential Services Act*, that identify municipal water and wastewater services as essential services and ensure employees delivering those services are required to work during a work stoppage.

AMM Resolution #18-2023

Survey Monument Restoration Program

Sponsor(s)

Riding Mountain West, RM (Midwestern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations

WHEREAS municipalities are responsible for protecting survey outline monuments and for the cost of replacing lost or disturbed survey outline monuments within their boundaries as set out in *The Surveys Act*. Survey outline monuments are a key component of the land registry process in Manitoba and all the processes that flow from land descriptions. These monuments are important to municipalities and their residents, to the Government of Manitoba and to Teranet Manitoba for the purposes of a secure land tenure system; and

WHEREAS as part of its responsibilities as Manitoba's service provider, Teranet Manitoba provides an annual fund of up to \$300,000 to assist municipalities, on a 50/50 cost share basis, with the costs of re-establishing survey outline monuments. Funds are available from Teranet Manitoba on a first come first serve basis;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM to lobby the Province of Manitoba to double the funding to \$600,000.00 to assist municipalities to be able to ensure restoration of survey monuments happens in a timely fashion.

AMM Resolution #19-2023

Reduction of Staff within Provincial Departments

Sponsor(s)	Department(s)
Viriden, Town (Western)	Manitoba Consumer Protection and Government Services Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations

WHEREAS recreation is an essential service for communities as it contributes to the well-being and quality of life for our citizens and the economic health of our region; and

WHEREAS in 2016, the Recreation and Regional Services Branch of the Province of Manitoba was moved to the Municipal Relations Department and renamed the Community Development Branch; and

WHEREAS this move resulted in the loss of the Recreation Branch that provided expertise in recreation delivery and addressed issues that are important to all municipalities and non-profit organizations; and

WHEREAS this move resulted in a reduction in staff in the regional offices, reducing the department's ability to respond to questions from municipalities and non-profit organizations, specifically around grant applications, organizational renewals, project planning, connections in our region, and so much more, in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS municipalities are also being affected by vacancies in other areas within Municipal Relations, such as Assessment Services, Municipal Finance and Community Planning; and

WHEREAS Municipal Relations is working hard to partner with municipalities to build strong, healthy communities; and

WHEREAS in order to do this, it is essential to ensure that adequate staff with relative experience and knowledge are employed in all regions of the Province in order to guarantee that these valuable resources and services provided are available to all communities throughout the Province; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to ensure that all branches within the Municipal Relations Department are adequately staffed with appropriately trained personnel and to include the re-establishment of the Recreation Branch, in order to provide the services and resources necessary for municipalities to grow.

AMM Resolution #20-2023

Funding for Municipally Owned Airports

Sponsor(s)

Virden, Town (Western)

Department(s)

Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure

Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations

WHEREAS locally owned and operated airports are critical infrastructure for municipalities in providing access to emergency medical response for Lifeflight and medivac transfers; and

WHEREAS these locally owned and operated airports are also essential for the creation of economic development opportunities for the region; and

WHEREAS with the increased reliance on airports for medical transfers, particularly now with the decrease in rural paramedics and the closing of rural hospitals and emergency departments, it is essential for airport owners to ensure runways are accessible year-round for medical related use on a 24/7 basis; and

WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba created the Manitoba Airports Assistance Program to provide revenue to local airports, who qualify under the program, to assist in their continued operation and maintenance; and

WHEREAS the annual grant set out in the program is \$2,400.00 for those airports with paved runways and \$1,200.00 for those with unpaved runways; and

WHEREAS this grant has not increased in amount for a period in excess of 20 years; and

WHEREAS the cost to operate airports, which includes runway repair and maintenance, insurance, snow clearing, mowing, and lighting has increased dramatically over the past 20 years, with \$2,400.00 not even covering the cost of clean-up after one snowfall event; and

WHEREAS this increased maintenance along with the increase in cost for all operations, has become a burden for small municipalities operating rural airports;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to increase the annual operating grants to airport owners.

AMM Resolution #21-2023

Hire Local

Sponsor(s)	Department(s)
Stuartburn, RM (Eastern)	Manitoba Consumer Protection and Government Services
Brokenhead, RM (Eastern)	Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure
Ste. Anne, RM (Eastern)	Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations
Reynolds, RM (Eastern)	FCM
Beausejour, Town (Eastern)	Infrastructure and Communities Canada
Alexander, RM (Eastern)	

WHEREAS rural municipalities welcome, value and benefit from local businesses being established within the municipality; and

WHEREAS to ensure businesses are able to thrive in these challenging times; and

WHEREAS it is in the best interest of both rural Municipalities and the Province of Manitoba to strengthen local, Made-in-Manitoba businesses;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to ensure when provincial work is being completed within a municipality, local businesses within that municipality be given first preference as the Contractor, pending they meet the requirements to complete the work; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM request the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to lobby the Government of Canada on behalf of all Canadian municipalities to ensure the federal government give the same consideration when federal work is done within Canadian municipalities.

AMM Resolution #22-2023

Fair Allocation of the Cost of Policing

Sponsor(s)

Winkler, City (Central)
Morden, City (Central)
Selkirk, City (Interlake)
Thompson, City (Northern)
Dauphin, City (Parkland)
Swan River, Town (Parkland)
Beausejour, Town (Eastern)
Lac du Bonnet, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Justice

WHEREAS the cost of all policing in Manitoba is taking up greater and greater amounts of municipal budgets, particularly in urban municipalities; and

WHEREAS the root causes of crime, and therefore the need for policing, are issues arising from failures in systems beyond the scope of municipal governments such as mental health, addiction (health), and socio-economic status; and

WHEREAS municipalities that serve as hubs for health and social services attract people in need of those services and then must address the negative outcomes when services fail to meet those needs; and

WHEREAS municipal boundaries have absolutely no effect on the incidence of crime; and

WHEREAS the current funding model for policing in Manitoba has not been materially changed in decades, no longer meets the needs of the realities of today, and inappropriately puts the burden of policing the taxation of real property; and

WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba has undertaken an independent review of the legislative requirements to provide policing as well as the administration and distribution of provincial funding support for municipal policing;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to amend *The Police Services Act* to ensure that the model for funding policing in Manitoba is equitable, transparent, and aligns the allocation of costs with the capacity to pay and the jurisdictional responsibility over the root causes of crime.

AMM Resolution #23-2023

Full Staffing for RCMP Detachments

Sponsor(s)	Department(s)
Dauphin, City (Parkland)	Manitoba Justice
Dauphin, RM (Parkland)	Public Safety Canada
Ste. Rose, Municipality (Parkland)	FCM
Gilbert Plains, Municipality (Parkland)	
McCreary, Municipality (Parkland)	

WHEREAS the RCMP provide policing services to many municipalities in Manitoba; and

WHEREAS we know through conversations with our local RCMP detachments and through first-hand experience that they are operating with up to 40% vacancies; and

WHEREAS we have experienced the negative effects of these vacancies by having longer wait times on the phone, longer response times to emergency calls, unavailability to attend less-severe crimes, lengthy or no call backs to inquiries, and limited to no police presence over night; and

WHEREAS for those municipalities who pay for the RCMP through Municipal Police Service Agreements (MPSA), the yearly cost of those RCMP contracts have increased by as much as 40% over the last five years; and

WHEREAS municipalities know that the RCMP members assigned to their areas are doing the best they can but are hindered by a lack of staffing;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM work with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to lobby the federal and provincial governments to increase the number of RCMP members in the force to fully staff each department, through various ways like increasing capacity at the RCMP Depot in Regina to train more new members.

AMM Resolution #24-2023

By-Law Enforcement

Sponsor(s):

Lac du Bonnet, RM (Eastern)
Beausejour, Town (Eastern)
Brokenhead, RM (Eastern)
Reynolds, RM (Eastern)
Springfield, RM (Eastern)
Pinawa, LGD (Eastern)
Alexander, RM (Eastern)

Department(s):

Manitoba Justice

WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba and Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) recognizes that public safety is a primary concern for all communities, municipalities, its residents, and all Manitobans; and

WHEREAS by-law enforcement is an important component under the umbrella of public safety and there is a greater onus on all communities and municipalities to provide increased by-law enforcement, as well as public safety patrols; and

WHEREAS *The Manitoba Municipal Act* provides communities and municipalities with the ability to develop and enforce bylaws with the appointment of a designated officer; and

WHEREAS the Provincial government has also enacted *The Municipal By-law Enforcement Act* and *The Provincial Offences Act* to assist communities and municipalities with by-law enforcement; and

WHEREAS *The Provincial Offences Act* provides authority for "By-law Enforcement Officers" to enforce municipal by-laws as designated officials under *The Municipal Act*; and

WHEREAS in a March 2022 memo, Manitoba Justice and Municipal Relations highlighted to all municipalities and communities that Enforcement Officers did not have "Peace Officer" authority; and

WHEREAS By-Law Enforcement Officers perform an important role in addressing public safety and provincial courts, as well as criminal case law does recognize them as "Peace Officers"; and

WHEREAS in November 2022, the membership of the Association of Manitoba Municipalities passed Resolution #28-2022 requesting that the Province address By-law Enforcement Officers, within the ongoing review of *The Police Services Act*, providing them with "Peace Officers" designation and also develop training standards; and

WHEREAS since that time, Manitoba Justice has done several presentations to communities, municipalities, and at AMM conferences, outlining the Community Safety Officer (CSO) and First Nations Safety Officer (FNSO) program, and put forth Bill 34 amendments to *The Police Services Act* to clarify the roles and processes for the CSO/FNSO within legislation; and

WHEREAS the CSO/FNSO programs were developed in 2013 and 2014 being intended to provide local governments with lower cost alternatives to augment existing police services, to address low risk issues, with the police agency essentially becoming and assuming the daily supervisory control of these officers; and

WHEREAS CSOs/FNSOs would be designated "Peace Officers", with limited authorities, with the critical requirement being that they must be a direct employee of the municipalities or community; and

WHEREAS the direct employee requirement is not practical for all 137 municipalities and communities, as many municipalities and communities contract out by-law enforcement to external agencies and would also contract out the CSO/FNSO; and

WHEREAS as a direct employee of the CSO/FNSO the municipalities and communities would also be responsible for costs of training, outfitting, operational and supervisory control; and

WHEREAS policing and by-law enforcement requirements between urban and rural cities, municipalities and communities are different and, in some instances, unique; and

WHEREAS in the Eastern Manitoba region, many municipalities and communities contract out by-law enforcement duties to private companies, with some municipalities and communities sharing these bylaw enforcement services through a regional approach; and

WHEREAS the Manitoba Government is adopting a layered tiered policing model within the Province of Manitoba and By-law Enforcement Officers form an important part of this layered policing/public safety model and should be included within the review of *The Police Services Act*;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM continue to lobby the Province of Manitoba to include By-law Enforcement Officers within the ongoing review of *The Police Services Act* and designate them as Peace Officers, within the regulations with the development of training standards; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM continue to lobby the Province of Manitoba to remove the requirement from *The Police Services Act*, that the CSO/FNSO be a direct employee of the city, municipality or community and provide the option of contracting out, as this would greatly assist smaller municipalities and communities with another option to address by-law enforcement and enhance public safety.

AMM Resolution #25-2023

By-Law Standardization

Sponsor(s):

Lac du Bonnet, RM (Eastern)
Beausejour, Town (Eastern)
Brokenhead, RM (Eastern)
Reynolds, RM (Eastern)
Whitemouth, RM (Eastern)
Springfield, RM (Eastern)
Pinawa, LGD (Eastern)
Alexander, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Justice

WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba and Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) recognizes that public safety is a primary concern for all communities, municipalities, its residents, and all Manitobans; and

WHEREAS by-law enforcement is an important component under the umbrella of public safety and there is a greater onus on all communities and municipalities to provide increased by-law enforcement, as well as public safety patrols; and

WHEREAS *The Manitoba Municipal Act* provides cities, communities and municipalities with the ability to develop and enforce by-laws with the appointment of a designated officer; and

WHEREAS the provincial government has also enacted *The Provincial Offences Act (POA)* to assist communities and municipalities with by-law enforcement; and

WHEREAS the POA provides authority for "By-Law Enforcement Officers", who can enforce municipal by-laws as designated officials under *The Municipal Act*; and

WHEREAS every community and municipality generally consults legal counsel when developing by-laws and it can become a costly repetitive venture; and

WHEREAS the costs of hiring a lawyer to prosecute a by-law offence is also significant for all communities and municipalities and in many instances these costs are higher than the allowable by-law fine; and

WHEREAS many municipalities and communities are utilizing the POA to develop enforceable by-laws, and then utilize the Provincial Offences Notice to prosecute the offences through the Provincial Courts; and

WHEREAS under the POA, the By-law wording and allowable fines are required to be vetted and reviewed by the appropriate provincial agencies, but once reviewed and authorized become enforceable, with the municipality or community receiving its allocated fine and the court costs being allocated to the province; and

WHEREAS to reduce costs and unnecessary duplication for all municipalities and communities it would be beneficial if the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) and the Manitoba Municipal Administrators (MMA) would work together to develop a By-law Standardization website or electronic portal; and

WHEREAS municipalities and communities that have gone through the required process of developing a by-law under the POA could submit the vetted by-law to AMM and MMA for the information of their membership to copy; and

WHEREAS with the standardization of by-laws, these offences would become more enforceable and accepted by the courts, versus being disallowed due to an improperly developed or worded by-law offence; and

WHEREAS the prosecution of by-laws is costly, some municipalities and communities are now cost sharing lawyer fees, by having court dates set for specific dates; and

WHEREAS in the Eastern Manitoba region, many municipalities and communities contract out by-law enforcement duties to private companies, who are authorized to utilize *The Provincial Offences Act* to ticket by-law offenders; and

WHEREAS under *The Provincial Offences Act* the court costs are recouped by the province, while the municipality or community is still required to cover their legal fees in a not guilty plea; and

WHEREAS it would be beneficial if the Province of Manitoba developed regional by-law courts, with a designated counsel to assist municipalities and communities with the prosecution of by-law offence;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM and MMA work together to develop a By-Law Standardization website or electronic portal, which could be accessed by all municipalities and communities and thereby assist them in developing and sharing streamlined enforceable standardized municipal by-laws, reducing duplication and legal costs; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to develop a regional By-law court process which would be specific to by-law enforcement offences, and this would greatly reduce legal costs for all cities, municipalities, and communities, while enhancing by-law enforcement and overall public safety.

AMM Resolution #26-2023

Trespassing

Sponsor(s)

Ste. Rose, Municipality (Parkland)

Department(s)

Manitoba Justice

WHEREAS concerns have been received by the Council for the Municipality of Ste. Rose regarding trespassing on private property; and

WHEREAS the administration and enforcement of the said offence falls under the jurisdiction of the provincial government;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to impose and enforce more stringent regulations pertaining to trespassing.

AMM Resolution #27-2023

Ending the Downloading of Emergency Medical Service Responsibilities

Sponsor(s)	Department(s)
Selkirk, City (Interlake) Morden, City (Central) Steinbach, City (Eastern)	Manitoba Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care

WHEREAS Manitoba municipalities have identified an increasing amount of “lift-assist” calls coming to municipal fire departments; and

WHEREAS a “lift-assist” call requires municipally funded fire response personnel and equipment to attend and provide services when emergency medical service (EMS) responders lack the available resources to lift a patient for transport; and

WHEREAS lifting and mobilizing a patient for transport is a core function and responsibility of emergency medical services; and

WHEREAS emergency medical services are a responsibility of the Province of Manitoba via Shared Health; and

WHEREAS municipalities are not responsible for the delivery of health care services, including EMS response; and

WHEREAS attendance at “lift-assist” calls is increasingly becoming a financial and human resource burden on municipalities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to end the practice of “lift-assist” calls, which is downloading EMS responsibilities on to municipal fire departments and transferring the costs of this health care service onto municipalities.

AMM Resolution #28-2023

Medical Assist Calls MPI Reimbursement

Sponsor(s)

Stonewall, Town (Interlake)

Department(s)

Manitoba Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care

WHEREAS the number of medical assist calls that are attended by local municipal fire departments continue, to grow each and every year; and

WHEREAS the nature of a medical assist call means that local municipal fire departments will never refuse to attend a request for help; and

WHEREAS the provision of assistance to help with bariatric patients or other requests for assistance with patients and stretchers is outside the spectrum of services traditionally provided by local municipal fire departments; and

WHEREAS the attendance to a medical assist call by local municipal fire departments can result in costs in the thousands of dollars to cover the "call out" charge for the fire fighters that respond;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba for the establishment of a cost reimbursement system, similar to the current setup with Manitoba Public Insurance for Motor Vehicle Accident calls, for local municipal fire departments that attend a medical assist call.

AMM Resolution #29-2023

DFAA Interest Charges

Sponsor(s)

Morris, RM (Central)
Morden, City (Central)
Pembina, Municipality (Central)
Rhineland, Municipality (Central)
Headingley, RM (Central)
Altona, Town (Central)
Cartier, RM (Central)
North Cypress-Langford, Municipality (Western)
Mountain, RM (Parkland)
Teulon, Town (Interlake)
Winnipeg Beach, Town (Interlake)
Grahamdale, RM (Interlake)
Gimli, RM (Interlake)
Dunnottar, Village (Interlake)
Woodlands, RM (Interlake)
Coldwell, RM (Interlake)
Fisher, RM (Interlake)
Montcalm, RM (Eastern)
Morris, Town (Eastern)
Ste. Anne, RM (Eastern)
Stuartburn, RM (Eastern)
Emerson-Franklin, Municipality (Eastern)
St. Clements, RM (Eastern)
Lac du Bonnet, RM (Eastern)
Brokenhead, RM (Eastern)
De Salaberry, RM (Eastern)
Springfield, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure
Public Safety Canada
FCM

WHEREAS the current federal DFAA system provides funding to municipalities for many natural disasters that occur; and

WHEREAS municipalities are thankful for this funding program; and

WHEREAS municipalities are required to work with the individual Provinces, such as the Province of Manitoba via the Disaster Financial Assistance Program; and

WHEREAS there is a time lag between the payments that municipalities must pay for restoration and the time they submit expense claims to the Province under these programs; and

WHEREAS the local municipalities are then required to carry these costs, thereby incurring Interest Charges; and

WHEREAS these interest charges can negatively affect the local municipalities and their ratepayers; and
WHEREAS local municipalities only have one way of raising funds, namely via taxation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to continue to lobby the Government of Canada to amend the Federal DFAA Program to include eligibility for 'Carrying Costs' (or Interest) as a part of the program; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM request the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to lobby the Government of Canada on behalf of all Canadian municipalities to have the Government of Canada amend the DFAA Program to include eligibility for 'Carrying Costs' (or Interest) as a part of the program; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to re-imburse municipalities for any carrying costs that they have incurred for disasters that have occurred over the past five years.

AMM Resolution #30-2023

Provincial Road Upgrades in Communities

Sponsor(s)

St. Clements, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure

WHEREAS communities and settlements centres in municipalities have “main streets” that are under the jurisdiction of the Province of Manitoba that are provincial roads and serve as secondary routes connecting various towns and regions in Manitoba; and

WHEREAS these roads require upgrades and extensive repairs; and

WHEREAS there are safety concerns that need to be addressed on these roads to promote active transportation; and

WHEREAS the degradation of these roads negatively affects the possibility of economic development in these communities and settlement centres; and

WHEREAS investment in these roads will create a return on the investment as these communities and settlement centres serve the region for commerce and recreation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to change the designation of these roads to ensure the required upgrades are completed.

AMM Resolution #31-2023

Provincial Roads through Towns and Villages

Sponsor(s)

Whitehead, RM (Western)
Oakland-Wawanesa, Municipality (Western)
Melita, Town (Western)
Killarney-Turtle Mountain, Municipality (Western)
Wallace-Woodworth, Municipality (Western)
Elton, RM (Western)
Sifton, RM (Western)
Boissevain-Morton, Municipality (Western)
Two-Borders, Municipality (Western)
Souris-Glenwood, Municipality (Western)

Department(s)

Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure

WHEREAS provincial roads, previously provincial highways travel through towns/villages within Manitoba; and

WHEREAS said PRs have been neglected and are not well maintained nor on Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation long term capital project plans for rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS the residents of the towns/villages are left to tolerate very large potholes, deteriorating asphalt and uneven surfaces; and

WHEREAS municipalities do not have the resources of financial capability to repair same or the responsibility;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to properly maintain the PRs to provincial standards.

AMM Resolution #32-2023

Approaches off Provincial Trunk Highways

Sponsor(s)

Elton, RM (Western)
Riverdale, Municipality (Western)
Oakland-Wawanesa, Municipality (Western)
Whitehead, RM (Western)
North Cypress-Langford, Municipality (Western)

Department(s)

Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure
Infrastructure and Communities Canada

WHEREAS the Department of Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure (MTI) issued a Guide for Permits - Development Adjacent to Provincial Highways (Guide) in January 2019; and

WHEREAS examples under 1.2 of the Guide states that “Unsafe highway accesses can result from inappropriately located and frequently placed accesses, as highway vehicles may have limited time to react to vehicles entering, exiting, or crossing a highway (especially at unexpected or confusing locations). High speed highways have a higher potential for more severe and fatal collisions”; and

WHEREAS Section 3.1 of the Guide states “The role of providing access to individual developments is best suited for internal roads (i.e., not provincial highways)”; and

WHEREAS Section 4 of the Guide states “The placement, design and illumination of signs is important to ensure vehicles can travel safely without obstruction, and to minimize distractions to motorists. This section applies to all signs within the controlled area”; and

WHEREAS Section 4.1 (2) states “The following should be avoided (2) A sign, any portion of which is capable of, or is intended to move”; and

WHEREAS Section 4.2 (2) states “The sign must not be erected or located closer than: a. three meters to the highway right-of-way b. a distance as directed by MI c. a distance which is sufficiently far from the travelled portion of any adjacent highway that, if the sign fell, it would not result in the sign falling on that portion of the highway d. whichever is the greater of the above”; and

WHEREAS after several discussions and meetings with Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure Ministers, local MLAs, local MPs and Developers requesting the elimination of temporary accesses due to public safety concerns in south-western Manitoba;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to ensure all entities, including the Province of Manitoba, follow the guidelines outlined in the Guide; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba and Government of Canada to jointly act to ensure that all existing temporary high traffic unsafe accesses that were approved through the development stage be removed immediately to ensure the safety of the travelling public; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba and Government of Canada to jointly act to ensure that all new temporary accesses adjacent to provincial highways be limited to a six-month period to ensure the safety of the travelling public.

AMM Resolution #33-2023

Transportation Barriers

Sponsor(s)

Lac du Bonnet, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure
Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations

WHEREAS the lack of public transportation options in many rural areas leaves residents without access to transportation; and

WHEREAS this impacts many rural residents, especially seniors, low-income families, and persons with disabilities, as they face significant transportation barriers which limit their access to essential services, education, employment, and social opportunities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to take the following actions to promote rural transportation:

1. Enable funding for rural transportation infrastructure and services to improve connectivity between rural communities and urban centers; and
2. Develop and implement a comprehensive rural transportation strategy that incorporates the unique needs and challenges of rural communities, including the use of innovative solutions such as ride-sharing, volunteer driver programs, and public-private partnerships; and
3. Provide financial support to local communities, non-profits, and other organizations to establish and operate transportation services that meet the needs of rural residents; and
4. Collaborate with the federal government, municipalities, and other stakeholders to identify and implement long-term sustainable solutions for rural transportation.

AMM Resolution #34-2023

Drainage Requirement Changes – Culverts

Sponsor(s)

Elton, RM (Western)
Riverdale, Municipality (Western)
Oakland-Wawanesa, Municipality (Western)
Cornwallis, RM (Western)

Department(s)

Manitoba Environment and Climate Change

WHEREAS Manitoba Environment and Climate through the Drainage & Water Control department regulate drainage within the Province of Manitoba through *The Water Rights Act*; and

WHEREAS in Section 2 of *The Water Rights Act* states: Property in water: 2 Except as otherwise provided in this Act, all property in, and all rights to the use, diversion or control of, all water in the province, insofar as the legislative jurisdiction of the Legislature extends thereto, are vested in the Crown in right of Manitoba; and

WHEREAS all persons including municipalities must obtain a valid and subsisting license as per Section (1) (a), (b) and (c) of the Act which states: Prohibition against use of water: 3(1) Except as otherwise provided in this Act or the regulations, no person shall:

- (a) in any manner whatsoever use or divert water, unless he or she holds a valid and subsisting licence to do so; or
- (b) construct, establish, operate or maintain any works, unless he or she holds a valid and subsisting licence to do so; or
- (c) control water or construct, establish, operate or maintain any water control works, unless he or she holds a valid and subsisting licence to do so; and

WHEREAS it has become cost prohibitive and time consuming for municipalities to control water within each respective boundary specifically for: Applying for a Water Control Works License to replace 12-16" (300-400 mm) culverts with 18" (450 mm) culverts in rural municipal roads and approaches when the 12-16" (300-400 mm) culverts are frequently blocked from freezing and animal obstructions due to the diameter;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to amend *The Water Rights Act* to allow municipalities the ability to replace 12-16" (300-400 mm) culverts in rural municipal roads and approaches with 18" (450 mm) culverts through a Registration Application License vs. the current Water Control Works License.

AMM Resolution #35-2023

Drainage Requirement Changes

Sponsor(s)

Elton, RM (Western)
Riverdale, Municipality (Western)
Oakland-Wawanesa, Municipality (Western)
Whitehead, RM (Western)
Cornwallis, RM (Western)
North Cypress-Langford, Municipality (Western)

Department(s)

Manitoba Environment and Climate Change

WHEREAS Manitoba Environment and Climate through the Drainage & Water Control department word missing regulate drainage within the Province of Manitoba through *The Water Rights Act*; and

WHEREAS in Section 2 of *The Water Rights Act* states: Property in water 2: Except as otherwise provided in this Act, all property in, and all rights to the use, diversion or control of, all water in the province, insofar as the legislative jurisdiction of the Legislature extends thereto, are vested in the Crown in right of Manitoba; and

WHEREAS all persons including municipalities must obtain a valid and subsisting license as per Section (1) (a), (b) and (c) of the Act which states: Prohibition against use of water 3(1) Except as otherwise provided in this Act or the regulations, no person shall (a) in any manner whatsoever use or divert water, unless he or she holds a valid and subsisting license to do so; or (b) construct, establish, operate or maintain any works, unless he or she holds a valid and subsisting license to do so; or (c) control water or construct, establish, operate or maintain any water control works, unless he or she holds a valid and subsisting license to do so; and

WHEREAS it has become cost prohibitive and time consuming for municipalities to control water within each respective boundary specifically for: Applying for a Water Control Works License (includes a survey) to remove recent sediment from rural municipal ditches when the sediment is creating a drainage issue, as the original intent of the site is being obstructed from the sediment;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to amend *The Water Rights Act* to allow municipalities the ability to remove recent sediment from municipal ditches within their boundaries without a Water Control Works License.

AMM Resolution #36-2023

Drainage Fees

Sponsor(s)

Riding Mountain West, RM (Midwestern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Environment and Climate Change
Manitoba Finance

WHEREAS municipalities are required to maintain/cleanout their municipal ditches to ensure appropriate drainage is provided; and

WHEREAS all drainage and water control works must obtain an application through the Water Licensing Portal; and

WHEREAS all water control works permits have an associated cost ranging up to \$500.00";

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to remove the associated fees from the Drainage and Water Control Works Application for municipalities.

AMM Resolution #37-2023

Provincial Water Management Strategy

Sponsor(s)

Lac du Bonnet, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Environment and Climate Change

WHEREAS each year failing provincial roads and drainage infrastructure negatively impact municipalities; and

WHEREAS municipalities often do not have the authority or financial resources to repair or maintain provincial roads and drainage infrastructure, but may have the capability to remedy the issue;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to improve provincial roads and drainage that impact municipalities as part of the Manitoba Provincial Water Strategy by doing the following:

- Develop and implement a plan to improve provincial roads and drainage infrastructure that negatively impact municipalities, including prioritizing infrastructure repairs and maintenance; and
- Provide an option of funding to municipalities for them to repair the problem areas with provincial drainage infrastructure that negatively impact their communities; and
- Work collaboratively with municipalities and other stakeholders to identify and address issues related to provincial roads and drainage infrastructure.

AMM Resolution #38-2023

Water Resources Branch Accountability and Timelines

Sponsor(s)

Riding Mountain West, RM (Midwestern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Environment and Climate Change

WHEREAS from the gov.mb.ca website, the role of Manitoba Water Resource Officers is: “Manitoba Water Resource Officers are responsible for issuing licenses and ensuring compliance of all water control works involving surface water pursuant to *The Water Rights Act*. Officers respond to complaints and reports of unauthorized water control works, as well as inspect or investigate alleged offences. Officers will determine if works are contrary to the law and assess what impacts have occurred to affect natural resources, real estate, infrastructure and other lands. If an offence has been committed, charges may be laid against the offending individual(s) and/or landowner(s). Depending on severity of the impacts and the history of the accused, he or she may be given an opportunity to pay a set fine OR be given a mandatory appearance date to attend Provincial Court where a judge will determine the penalty for the offence(s). Anyone convicted of an offence is responsible to ensure remedial work is conducted to bring the work into compliance with *The Water Rights Act*. Failing to do so may result in further charges and remedial work may be required by Manitoba through the issuance of an ‘Order’. The offender will be responsible to complete the required work. If they fail to comply by the deadline, Manitoba will complete the work on their behalf and the offender will be invoiced for the cost of the work and face possible additional charges; and

WHEREAS there appears to be no timelines for inspection of complaints by Water Resource Officers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to put timelines on inspections of reports of illegal or unlicensed drainage and communications to complainants about mitigation or remediation.

AMM Resolution #39-2023

Petroleum Tank Removal Compliance

Sponsor(s)

Yellowhead, RM (Midwestern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Environment and Climate Change

WHEREAS a storage tank system that has not been used for conveying petroleum products or allied petroleum products for a period of one year, the owner of the system shall remove the storage tank system in an approved manner; and

WHEREAS Manitoba Conservation and Climate issues notices of compliance to property owners; and

WHEREAS some property owners choose to abandon these properties; and

WHEREAS the municipality gains ownership of these properties through tax sale; and

WHEREAS Manitoba Conservation and Climate then pursues the Municipality as the new property owner for compliance; and

WHEREAS the costs for tank removal and soil remediation are borne by the taxpayers of the municipality; and

WHEREAS the municipality's means of recovering these costs include legal action;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to enforce their legislation on the owners of properties with abandoned petroleum tanks; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the owner who last operated the petroleum tank system be held responsible for the costs of tank removal and remediation regardless of the current property ownership, eliminating the administrative and financial burden on municipalities.

AMM Resolution #40-2023

Climate Action Incentive Payment (CAIP) Rebate

Sponsor(s)

Riding Mountain West, RM (Midwestern)

Department(s)

Environment and Climate Change Canada
Finance Canada
Manitoba Environment and Climate Change

WHEREAS the Climate Action Incentive Payment (CAIP) is administered by the Canadian Revenue Agency;
and

WHEREAS the CAIP is a tax-free amount paid to help individuals and families offset the cost of the federal pollution pricing. It is available to residents of Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Ontario. It consists of a basic amount and a supplement for residents of small and rural communities; and

WHEREAS municipalities manage buildings and utilize fuel for the purposes of good governance, service provision and maintenance in the interest of the public good;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba and Government of Canada to offer the CAIP rebate to municipalities.

AMM Resolution #41-2023

Red Tape Reduction Initiatives

Sponsor(s)	Department(s)
Portage la Prairie, RM (Central)	Manitoba Consumer Protection and Government Services AMM

WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba has a Red Tape Initiative legislated through *The Regulatory Accountability Act*; and

WHEREAS the principles of Regulatory Accountability include, but are not limited to, streamlining, reviewing, and monitoring regulatory requirements; and

WHEREAS municipalities rely on a number of processes subject to approval by the Province; and

WHEREAS the timeline from request to approval has become exceedingly long, impacting municipal operations, services to their citizens, and economic growth; and

WHEREAS these approvals include but are not limited to drainage permits, gravel permits, easements, land transfers, and bylaw enforcement on crown land; and

WHEREAS legislative processes may be outdated and no longer meet the original intended outcomes;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM compile a list from municipalities on areas where excessive delay from the Province is causing a negative impact on municipalities and lobby the Province of Manitoba to examine and improve the relative legislative processes.

AMM Resolution #42-2023

Railway Crossings Regulations

Sponsor(s)	Department(s)
Whitehead, RM (Western)	Transport Canada
Oakland-Wawanesa, Municipality (Western)	
Melita, Town (Western)	
Killarney-Turtle Mountain, Municipality (Western)	
Wallace-Woodworth, Municipality (Western)	
Elton, RM (Western)	
Sifton, RM (Western)	
Two-Borders, Municipality (Western)	
Boissevain-Morton, Municipality (Western)	
Souris-Glenwood, Municipality (Western)	

WHEREAS Transport Canada regularly investigate, monitor, and inspect railway crossings within municipalities in Manitoba; and

WHEREAS Transport Canada amended the *Railway Crossings Regulations* with no consultation with municipalities, emphasis on the rural municipalities where many of the regulations are set for urban crossings; and

WHEREAS Transport Canada could find deficiencies that are required and mandatory to be upgraded for safety measures as per regulations; and

WHEREAS the cost for same tend to be very expensive and are the responsibility of the municipality the railways crossing is located in; and

WHEREAS financial plans have been finalized and approved and railway crossing upgrades are not included in the approve financial plans; and

WHEREAS municipalities are not in a financial position to take on the costs of the upgrades;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to work with the federal government to cover all costs associated with the upgrades due to changing regulations.

AMM Resolution #43-2023

Veterinarian Funding

Sponsor(s)

Harrison Park, Municipality (Midwestern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Agriculture

WHEREAS veterinarian services districts rely on provincial funding for upgrades to buildings and diagnostic equipment; and

WHEREAS the currently funding is not adequate to undertake necessary improvements;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to review and increase the current funding to local Veterinarian Service Districts.

AMM Resolution #44-2023

Veterinarian Education

Sponsor(s)

Coldwell, RM (Interlake)
Harrison Park, Municipality (Midwestern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Agriculture

WHEREAS there is a province-wide shortage of veterinarians in Manitoba including but not limited to large animal service veterinarians; and

WHEREAS rural veterinary clinics are closing due to lack of available veterinarians to replace those retiring or leaving; and

WHEREAS the number of seats available to Manitoba students does not meet the current demand for veterinarians in Manitoba and is controlled by the Province; and

WHEREAS the majority of graduating students tend to go into small animal care as it is more lucrative;

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.

AMM Resolution #45-2023

Veterinarian Shortages

Sponsor(s)

Armstrong, RM (Interlake)

Department(s)

Manitoba Agriculture

WHEREAS there is shortage of veterinarians in Manitoba including but not limited to large animal service veterinarians; and

WHEREAS farmers are adversely affected by these shortages; and

WHEREAS there are immigration requirements for international trained vets that hold a degree from accredited colleges that the Canadian Veterinarian Association recognizes; and

WHEREAS Manitoba funds Western colleges for seats for veterinary classes; and

WHEREAS there is no requirement for the trained vets to return to practice in Manitoba;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to relax the immigration requirements enabling veterinarians to practice in Manitoba; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba implement a strategy to ensure veterinarians be required to return to provide services in Manitoba for a three-year period including large animal practices, thus providing a rotating stream of veterinarians in rural Manitoba.

AMM Resolution #46-2023

Endangered Species

Sponsor(s)

Stuartburn, RM (Eastern)
Brokenhead, RM (Eastern)
Ste. Anne, RM (Eastern)
Reynolds, RM (Eastern)
Beausejour, Town (Eastern)
Alexander, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Economic Development, Investment, Trade
and Natural Resources
Manitoba Agriculture

WHEREAS rural municipalities have endangered species and noxious weeds within their boundary lines; and

WHEREAS both *The Endangered Species and Ecosystems Act (ESEA)* and *The Noxious Weed Act (NWA)* control the municipalities on actions such as mowing/cleaning ditches and roadways, improvement to drainage, farming/use of land within the municipality; and

WHEREAS the restrictions and rules of the Acts cause major concerns and dangers within the municipalities; and

WHEREAS wildlife is endangered due to the restrictions and rules; and

WHEREAS the results of the restrictions and rules have great cost to both municipalities and the Province of Manitoba and MPI;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to review both Acts and implement amendments for a more harmonious relationship for all affected; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM be included in that review and amendments; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT that once a review and recommendations has been completed that it goes back to all municipalities for consideration.

AMM Resolution #47-2023

Accessibility to Fire Training – Standing Policy

Sponsor(s)

Taché, RM (Eastern)

Department(s)

Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations

WHEREAS fire training is critical for the safety and well-being of fire fighters and the public; and

WHEREAS the Office of the Fire Commission (OFC) is the only means of obtaining certain training for fire fighters; and

WHEREAS fire training through the OFC has been limited and inconsistent;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to ensure that the OFC maintains the required capacity to offer adequate and consistent training opportunities to Municipal Fire Fighters.

**** Standing Policy Note: This resolution is consistent with AMM policy and will not be brought forward to the Convention floor unless requested by delegates.***

Resolution #05-2022: Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Training

- *THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba and the Office of the Fire Commissioner to support the establishment of an annual ARFF training program in the Province open to all municipalities.*

AMM Resolution #48-2023

Mental Health Transfers – Standing Policy

Sponsor(s)	Department(s)
Russell-Binscarth, Municipality (Midwestern)	Manitoba Housing, Addictions and Homelessness Manitoba Justice

WHEREAS municipalities by virtue of Service Agreements share the cost of RCMP policing in certain municipalities in Manitoba; and

WHEREAS one of the responsibilities of the RCMP is to provide secure transfer and delivery of individuals who are detained under *The Mental Health Act* of Manitoba; and

WHEREAS such detention and transfer can only occur with and under the direction of a physician as outlined in *The Mental Health Act*; and

WHEREAS such detentions and transfers often take hours or days to complete in accordance with the current provisions of *The Mental Health Act*; and

WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba has on numerous occasions indicated their intention to create a system and qualified parties who will be able to perform these duties instead of peace officers or RCMP;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to put in place the required people with the appropriate training in all District Hospitals that are authorized to take and detain individuals under *The Mental Health Act* in order to free up peace officers and members of the RCMP so that they can provide more effective services to municipalities throughout Manitoba.

**** Standing Policy Note: This resolution is consistent with AMM policy and will not be brought forward to the Convention floor unless requested by delegates.***

Resolution #18-2019: The Mental Health Act

- ***THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to expedite the implementation of "qualified persons" at healthcare facilities; and provide a safe and secure area at a healthcare facility for persons in custody while awaiting examination and/or assessment.***

AMM Resolution #49-2023

Mental Health Amendment Act – Standing Policy

Sponsor(s)

St. Andrews, RM (Interlake)

Department(s)

Manitoba Housing, Addictions and Homelessness

WHEREAS Bill 3: *The Mental Health Amendment Act* was reintroduced into the Legislative Assembly in June of 2016 due to concerns raised by cities and in particular, small rural communities where RCMP and police officers incur substantial overtime costs and communities face reduce police service coverage, while officers are supervising person(s) detained under *The Mental Health Act*; and

WHEREAS Bill 3 would enable a qualified person other than a police officer to assume custody of and remain with an individual who is awaiting a mental health assessment and would allow officers to be available to respond to other public safety concerns;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to pursue changes to the *Mental Health Amendment Act*.

*** Standing Policy Note: This resolution is consistent with AMM policy and will not be brought forward to the Convention floor unless requested by delegates.**

Resolution #18-2019: The Mental Health Act

- *THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to expedite the implementation of "qualified persons" at healthcare facilities; and provide a safe and secure area at a healthcare facility for persons in custody while awaiting examination and/or assessment.*

AMM Resolution #50-2023

Medical First Responders – Standing Policy

Sponsor(s)	Department(s)
Pipestone, RM (Western)	Manitoba Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care
Elton, RM (Western)	
Grassland, Municipality (Western)	
Morris, RM (Central)	

WHEREAS the Medical First Response (MFR) program is an essential part of emergency medicine in rural Manitoba, fully funded by municipalities and operating successfully for more than 25 years; and

WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba established the College of Paramedics in legislation, providing the College with the ability to amend the training requirements for Emergency Medical Responders (EMR), including those volunteering in MFR programs; and

WHEREAS the College of Paramedics increased the required training time for an EMR from 120 hours to 312 hours without any consultation with municipalities or the existing MFR programs running successfully throughout the province; and

WHEREAS the increased training time has made it virtually impossible for MFR programs to attract new volunteers, thus ensuring that no EMR courses offered have enough students to proceed, so even willing volunteers cannot be trained; and

WHEREAS MFR volunteers play an important role in providing patient care while waiting up to 60 minutes or more for an ambulance to arrive, performing delegated acts including administration of specific medications, checking vital signs and blood sugar, providing oxygen and regular communication with the paramedic team through the Medical Transportation Coordination Centre (MTCC); and

WHEREAS Shared Health has proposed that Municipalities choose between a Fire First Response program dispatched through 9-1-1, with a greatly reduced scope of delegated tasks, and no support from an EMR trained dispatcher or a Medical First Response program dispatched through MTCC, requiring compliance with all regulations set by the College of Paramedics, including the increased training time and additional licensing and insurance costs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to amend the proposed model for Fire First Response and that it be amended to include dispatch by the Medical Transportation Coordination Centre, ensure municipally-funded First Response services do not require affiliation with the College of Paramedics and allow additional designated acts to be included in the scope of practice for these services.

*** Standing Policy Note: This resolution is consistent with AMM policy and will not be brought forward to the Convention floor unless requested by delegates.**

Resolution 15-2021: CPMB Fees

- *THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba and the College of Paramedics of Manitoba to establish a secondary membership classification system for voluntary Medical First Responders with a corresponding membership fee that recognizes that this category of paramedic as a voluntary or 'part-time' group; and*

- *FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba and the CPMB to accept the AMM Municipal Insurance program and its liability coverages as sufficient coverages for the voluntary Medical First Responders; and*
- *FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the CPMB to amend their invoicing practice to allow municipalities to pay memberships on behalf of their Medical First Responders.*
- *FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba and the CPMB to maintain training requirements for MFRs at 120 hours.*

Resolution 23-2022: Medical First Responders

- *THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM to lobby the Province of Manitoba to create a licensing level for Volunteer Emergency Medical Responders under the Department of Health to sustain the model that has been in place for many years and has been successful in allowing Emergency First Responder programs to remain viable and sustainable.*

AMM Resolution #51-2023

MTI Snow Removal Funding – Standing Policy

Sponsor(s)

Swan River, Town (Parkland)

Department(s)

Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure

WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba Department of Transportation and Infrastructure (MTI) has the responsibility to maintain the Provincial Trunk Highways within towns, cities, and municipal communities including snow removal; and

WHEREAS the provincial government has encouraged towns, cities, and municipal communities to perform the work of snow removal within their communities; and

WHEREAS MTI allows municipalities to enter into snow removal agreements for the complete or shared responsibility between the municipality and the Province to provide snow removal at a desired level of service to the municipalities ratepayers; and these agreements over time have been based on different models including basket funding, equivalent water precipitation, snowfall, etc.; and

WHEREAS from time-to-time MTI agrees to small percentage increases in the amount of funding provided through the agreements, it is evident that the cost to perform the work far exceeds the amounts provided by the service agreements;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to provide a steep increase in funding to rural, towns, cities and municipalities who maintain the Provincial Trunk Highways within their municipal limits through snow removal maintenance agreements; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to perform a study and/or act on providing a consistent, measurable formula in the disbursement of these funds, and further funds to municipalities performing the snow removal work on PTH highways within their municipal limits.

**** Standing Policy Note: This resolution is consistent with AMM policy and will not be brought forward to the Convention floor unless requested by delegates.***

Resolution #17-2020: Snow Removal Agreements

- *THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to review snow removal agreements with municipalities that maintain provincial highways and roads and negotiate fair and sufficient payment for municipal services.*

AMM Resolution #52-2023
Assessment and Tax Tools – Standing Policy

Sponsor(s)
Riding Mountain West, RM (Midwestern)

Department(s)
Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations

WHEREAS the Assessment Branch of Manitoba assesses properties within the Rural Municipality of Riding Mountain West with campgrounds assessed as residential 1, or as other property, or as farm property; and

WHEREAS the assessment value from a campground does not match possible market value of the business; and

WHEREAS tax tools for Manitoba municipalities are limited to frontages and special levies;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to develop more broad ranging tax classes to allow for assessment of properties based on income, use, and market value.

**** Standing Policy Note: This resolution is consistent with AMM policy and will not be brought forward to the Convention floor unless requested by delegates.***

Resolution #08-2019: Municipal Tax Autonomy

- *THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to allow municipalities autonomy to tax what is in the best interest of their constituents.*

Resolution #05-2021: Tax Reform Study

- *THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to conduct a complete property tax reform study and take into consideration how these types of tax tools available in the majority of other provinces across our country can benefit Manitoba municipalities and allow for flexibility at the local level and put the policy decision of determining the distribution of the municipal tax burden among the property classes in the hands of municipalities.*

NOTES: _____
