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Monday, March 16, 2020 4:22 PM

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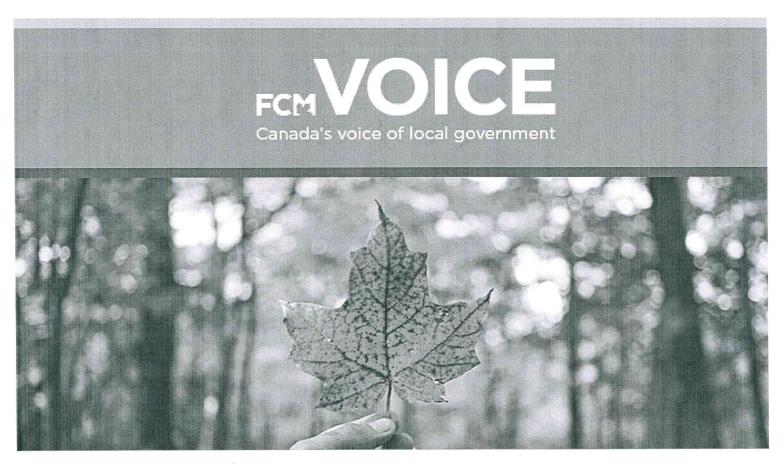
FCM Voice: Responding to COVID-19 | Making reliable Internet for all a reality |

Promoting active transportation | more

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FCM NEWS | March 16, 2020





Responding to COVID-19

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to hit communities across the country, local leaders are working hard to keep Canadians safe. FCM will continue to monitor developments, to engage with federal officials, and to provide updates and tools for members.

We urge all local governments to follow the advice of their provincial/territorial and local public health authorities. We have also created an **online COVID-19 resource page** for municipalities, and we will update this as new information becomes available. View resources

FCM is taking proactive organizational steps to help slow the spread of COVID-19 and ease burdens on our health care system. These include suspending all international and domestic business travel for staff and adopting a work-at-home protocol until April 15. Learn more

As of now, FCM's June 4-7 Annual Conference and Trade Show remains scheduled as planned, though we are working hard to implement extra precautions. Should the situation change, we will let participants know immediately. Frequently Asked Questions

► LEARN MORE

NEWS

Making reliable Internet for all a reality

Ensuring reliable Internet for people in rural and remote communities remains a key concern for FCM members. Our recommendations to the federal government for Budget 2020 urge the government to prioritize rural high-speed Internet access by engaging communities in the launch of the Universal Broadband Fund—ensuring clear standards and timelines for meeting CRTC speed targets. Communities across Canada are also gearing up for when 5G small cell technology will roll out. We published a guide to help municipalities get ready.

Visit our website for more information on the telecommunications issues that municipalities are facing.

► LEARN MORE

Promoting active transportation

Last week the federal government listened to FCM's call, announcing the development of a National Active Transportation Strategy. FCM looks forward to working with the government on this important initiative, recognizing that municipalities are at the forefront of active transportation in Canada. Supporting Canadians in choosing active mobility will contribute to greener, healthier, safer and more efficient transportation systems across the country.

► READ FCM'S RESOLUTION ON ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

Nominations to the 2020 FCM Roll of Honour

Do you know a municipal champion who deserves national recognition? FCM's Roll of Honour is a great way to thank individuals for their dedication to local government. See the Terms of Reference for criteria and other information. The Roll of Honour will be awarded at FCM's Annual Conference in June. Please submit your nominations to honour@fcm.ca by Friday, April 3, 2019.

▶ LEARN MORE
Nominations now open for the Ann MacLean Award
The Ann MacLean Award for Outstanding Service celebrates retired women municipal politicians who are leaders in their communities and who have mentored other women to run for office. The winner be will recognized at FCM's Annual Conference in June. Let's celebrate the accomplishments of women local politicians! Nominations close April 6, 2020.
NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN

Learning journey: Climate resilience and asset management

Are you interested in ways to better manage the risks climate change poses to infrastructure and services in your municipality? Take this learning journey through four resources created specifically to help you integrate climate considerations into your municipality's asset management policies, plans and practices:

- Watch a short video to learn about the risks, opportunities and how to get started.
- Explore two factsheets on factoring climate change into asset management.
- Dive deeper into our guide and tailor its framework to meet your community's needs.

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Celebrating the launch of the Network of Locally Elected Women of Tunisia

Last weekend, the Inclusive Municipal Leadership Program (PLMI) celebrated the launch of the Tunisian Women Mayor's Network. This network will support women mayors and elected officials to lead their communities and navigate city hall with confidence. To celebrate the launch, PLMI brought together women elected officials, Tunisian government officials, the Canadian Embassy in Tunisia, and Gatineau's Isabelle Miron, to host a series of capacity-building workshops for the Network.

► LEARN MORE	

Report: Water management trends in Canadian municipalities

If you want to know where Canada's water sector is going, we have the report for you. We asked senior water managers from urban, suburban and rural settings across Canada about the emerging trends, primary issues and best practices for municipalities. From asset management to climate resilience, the report provides an important snapshot of where the sector is and where it's headed.

► READ THE REPORT

FCM TWEETS

Mar 12: We're taking steps in response to #COVID19 outbreak and to help #FlattenTheCurve Effective immediately, we're suspending all int'l & domestic business travel & participation in conf/large gatherings. As of March 16, all FCM staff will follow a 30day work-from-home directive.

Mar 16: FCM is committed to supporting our member municipalities with updated #COVID19 resources and info. Keeping safe is our priority. See the latest here:

http://bit.ly/COVIDinfoFCM #CDNmuni

Mar 13: Introducing FCM's first learning journey. Check out our video, factsheets and guide designed to help municipalities address #ClimateChange through #AssetManagement: https://fcm.ca/node/49011 #CDNmuni

MORE



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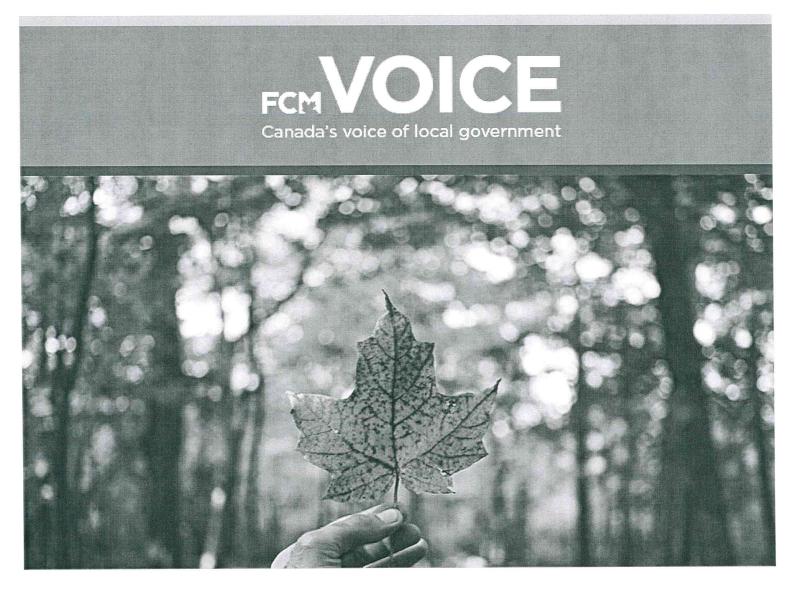
FCM Voice: Keeping you updated on COVID-19 | First Nations-municipal partnerships

video | Email series: Fostering brownfield redevelopment | more

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FCM NEWS | March 23, 2020





Keeping you updated on COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic is an unprecedented public health and economic challenge, and local leaders are on the front lines. To support your local responses, FCM is working on many fronts—from convening local expertise to coordinating with the most senior federal decision-makers. Over the coming weeks, we'll use FCM Voice to keep you up to date.

Here are the latest updates:

- Last Wednesday the Prime Minister announced a comprehensive COVID-19 aid package—direct support for workers and families, as well as for small and medium-sized businesses. It includes \$157.5 million through the Reaching Home program to support vulnerable Canadians facing special risks in our communities right now. We are actively engaging the federal government on additional interventions that will bring critical support to our cities and communities.
- On Friday, the federal government announced key exemptions to COVID-19 travel restrictions
 to permit some seasonal foreign workers to enter Canada (with strict quarantine protocols). This
 provides a critical lifeline to many farmers and food producers. This came a day after FCM's Rural
 Forum convened a virtual meeting to bring a rural lens to this pandemic, informing ongoing
 engagement with Rural Economic Development Minister Maryam Monsef.
- BREAKING: Hours ago, the federal government announced an additional \$5 billion aid package for farmers and food producers who are facing hardship due to the pandemic.
- FCM has opened lines of communication with the Prime Minister's Office, Deputy Prime Minister's Office, and several key federal departments and agencies. Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland is now connecting directly with FCM leadership through weekly calls about support that municipalities urgently need to keep Canadians safe and services running. Dialogue is ranging from replenishing supplies for frontline workers serving at-risk residents, to meeting challenges among municipalities exploring property tax deferral programs.
- FCM is convening a wide range of municipal actors for a coordinated nationwide response. Last
 week included key touchpoints with FCM's Executive Committee and with representatives of our
 provincial-territorial municipal associations. We also convened FCM's Big City Mayors' Caucus
 with the Deputy Prime Minister to discuss federal interventions and flag urgent medical supply
 needs.
- We've assembled a list of COVID-19 tools and resources for municipalities—in consultation with FCM members, the Public Health Agency of Canada, and other federal agencies and departments. We'll update this list as new information becomes available, so be sure to check it regularly.

We're in this together. We'll continue to keep you updated, And as always, we urge everyone to follow the guidance of their provincial/territorial and local public health authorities.

Watch: First	: Nations-munici	pal partnerships
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The Community Economic Development Initiative (CEDI) helps First Nations and neighbouring municipalities create a shared vision for joint economic development. In this video, learn how two First Nations, two local townships, and one regional economic development corporation used CEDI's #StrongerTogether approach to create a shared vision for joint economic development.

▶ WATCH THE VIDEO
Email series: Fostering brownfield redevelopment
Sign up for FCM's microlearning email series, Fostering brownfield redevelopment. Designed to support municipal staff and elected officials when considering brownfield redevelopment opportunities, the series will deliver short weekly emails outlining key actions over eight weeks, from how to streamline your municipality's approval process, to building partnerships with brownfield stakeholders.
► SIGN UP TODAY
Celebrating women elected officials
The Ann MacLean Award for Outstanding Service celebrates retired women municipal politicians who are leaders in their communities, and who have mentored other women to run for office. Can you think of someone who matches that description? Nominate them today and they could be recognized at FCM's Annual Conference.
▶ LEARN MORE
Report: Sustainable land use practices in Canadian municipalities
Land use decisions profoundly influence the environmental social and economic health of communities

Land use decisions profoundly influence the environmental, social and economic health of communities. Thi Green Municipal Fund report focuses on the main issues, strategic directions and best practices in the Canadian land use sector. From "complete streets" strategies to carbon-neutral mixed-use redevelopment, i identifies replicable "high impact" practices with major potential to increase land use sustainability, lower GHG emissions and provide triple bottom line benefits.

► READ THE REPORT

Deadline extended: Sustainable Communities Awards

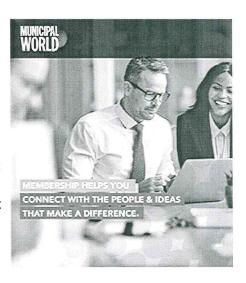
There's still time to nominate your municipality for FCM's 2020 Sustainable Communities Awards. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact communities across the country, we are extending the deadline by one month to **Thursday**, **April 30**, **2020** at 11:59 p.m. EDT. Individuals who intend to apply for the awards, but who will not be able to do so by the original deadline of March 31, should contact us to confirm their intent to apply.

► APPLY TODAY

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Canada's Most Complete Toolkit for Municipal Teams

Upgrading to Municipal World's Executive Membership is a smart investment that can quickly pay for itself. You get the most complete suite of print and online content plus high-impact communication services and exclusive member-only reports — information to help you build your community's success stories. Members tell us they are saving an average of \$1,287/year on job postings alone. Developed by the trusted team at Municipal World, this membership offers Canada's most complete toolkit for municipal teams.



▶ LEARN MORE

FCM TWEETS

Mar 18: We welcome today's announcement on the federal #EconomicResponse Plan to Canada's COVID19 pandemic. FCM continues to work together with the federal gov't to ensure CDNs get the support they need in the weeks & months ahead. #CDNmuni #CDNpoli

Mar 20: Stay safe. Stay informed. Our COVID-19 resource page houses the latest provincial/territorial, federal and sector updates for #CDNmuni and residents.

http://bit.ly/COVIDinfoFCM

Mar 21: Spring's arrival means Canada's ag supply chain now depends on the arrival of seasonal foreign workers. Opening that door, with strict quarantine protocols, is welcome news for rural #cdnmuni & farmers—& a whole country relying on them. Thank you for hearing us. cc:@marcomendicino

► MORE



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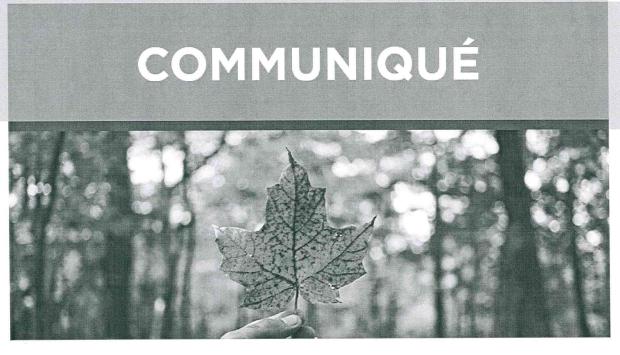
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FCM Communiqué: COVID-19 - Key announcements for rural communities

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FCM March 23, 2020





COVID-19 - Key announcements for rural communities

FCM members,

Your FCM team is working hard to keep rural needs front-and-centre as we engage the federal government on its COVID-19 response. Our conversations are constructive and continuing, ranging from public health responses to challenges in key sectors like energy, agriculture and tourism. And over the last three days, our federal partners have delivered two announcements with welcome implications for rural communities.

Today, we learned new support is coming for farmers and food producers who are facing financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This follows Friday's news that farmers will retain carefully-controlled access to seasonal foreign workers at this critical time. And together, they are encouraging examples of this government applying a rural lens to its pandemic response—and validation of the advocacy of FCM and our Rural Forum.

New aid package for farmers

The heart of today's announcement is an additional \$5 billion in federal lending capacity. This is designed to boost flexibility for farmers facing cashflow challenges and for food processors impacted by lost sales during this pandemic—keeping that money available.

Also, eligible farmers with an outstanding Advance Payments Program loan due on or before April 30 will have six extra months to repay it. Those with interest-free loans outstanding will be able to apply for an additional \$100,000 interest-free portion for 2020-21 (under a \$1 million total cap).

▶ Read the full announcement here

Access to seasonal foreign workers

On Friday, the Government of Canada announced new exemptions to travel restrictions imposed in response to COVID-19. These include exemptions that will permit the entry into Canada of certain seasonal/temporary foreign workers, with strict quarantine protocols.

This is welcome news for farmers and other food producers whose spring operations depend on these foreign arrivals. Barring the entry of all foreign workers would have serious impacts on rural communities and this entire country's agricultural supply chain.

We expect these exemptions to be implemented this week.

▶ Read the full announcement here

Through intensive engagement with the federal government, we will continue working to ensure that rural interests are fully represented in its response to this nationwide crisis.

-Your FCM team



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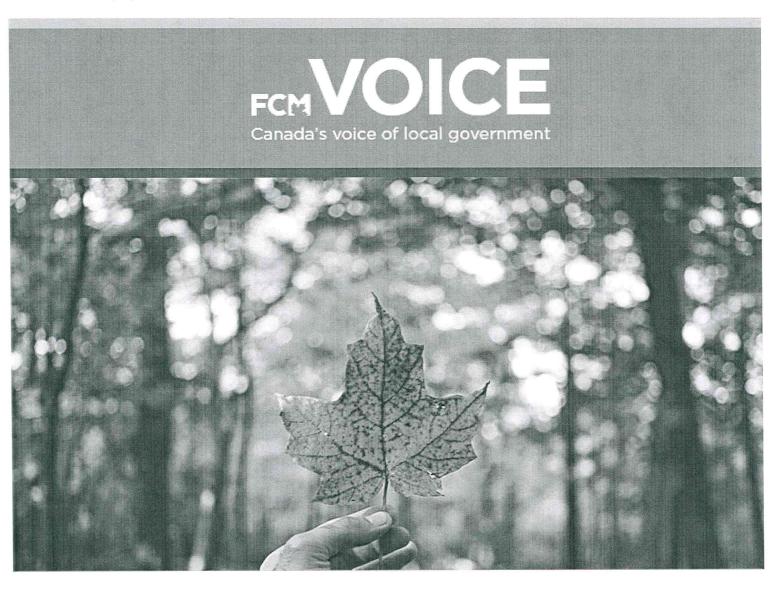
FCM Voice: COVID-19: Keeping essential services going strong | The next chapter FCM's

Green Municipal Fund | Celebrating women elected officials

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FCM NEWS | April 6, 2020





COVID-19: Keeping essential services going strong

As this pandemic unfolds, millions of Canadians are depending on municipalities to keep essential services running. And many of you are taking extraordinary measures for residents—including our most vulnerable—from turning arenas into shelters, to supporting food programs, to deferring property taxes.

Many of you are also facing an unprecedented financial crunch. To keep vital services going strong, you're telling us you will need financial support from other governments. That's why FCM continues to advocate daily for solutions, engaging with Canada's most senior federal decision-makers.

Our municipal story is Canada's story, and it's becoming a major news story. Over the weekend, we saw important coverage in Postmedia outlets like the *National Post*—with more to come.

In the immediate, we urge you to explore new supports that may be available to laid-off workers, including municipal employees. Those include the Canada Emergency Response Benefit and provincial income supports (see FCM's COVID-19 resource page).

FCM is working flat-out to take your priorities to the federal level. We're also continuing to convene key groups within our municipal family to map the way forward. Last week, that included sessions with FCM's Rural Forum, our Big-City Mayors' Caucus, and representatives of our Provincial-Territorial Municipal Associations. Because we're all in this together.

► COVID-19 RESOURCES FOR MUNICIPALITIES

NEWS

The next chapter begins for FCM's Green Municipal Fund

For two decades, FCM's Green Municipal Fund (GMF) has helped you and your partners bring more than 1,300 projects to life. Last week we announced a new \$300 million initiative: Community Efficiency Financing – funding that will help municipalities and their partners implement innovative financing programs that directly support homeowners to reduce their energy bills and cut their greenhouse gas emissions. GMF's Community Efficiency Financing initiative has opened the first of two calls for applications to help municipalities deliver energy efficient financing programs for low-rise residential properties.

► LEARN MORE

FCM's Community Efficiency Financing initiative is delivered through our Green Municipal Fund and funded b the Government of Canada.

Celebrating women elected officials

The Ann MacLean Award for Outstanding Service celebrates retired women municipal politicians who are leaders in their communities and have mentored other women to run for office. Nominations for the Ann MacLean Award have been extended until May 1, so don't miss your chance to nominate a municipal leader from your community!

▶ SUBMIT A NOMINATION

Strengthening local governments in Haiti

For over 10 years, Haiti's local governments have been developing their taxation systems with the help of Canadian expertise, so they can provide better services to their citizens. Funded by Global Affairs Canada an implemented in partnership with the Union des Municipalités du Québec and the City of Montreal, the Municipal Cooperation Program worked with municipalities, citizens, federal government and national federations to increase transparency, efficiency and cooperation.

► LEARN MORE

RESOURCES

New resource: how to defer property taxes

Canadian municipalities are responsible for a wide range of services, including hiring first responders, providing waste disposal and maintaining infrastructure. In an effort to provide financial relief to citizens and local businesses during the COVID-19 crisis, some municipalities are introducing or expanding property tax deferral programs. Our new resource answers key questions that municipalities should consider when designing property tax deferral programs.

▶ READ THE REPORT

CORPORATE SPONSOR

MW Shares: Municipal Pandemic Response

In light of the extraordinary challenges facing our communities right now, Municipal World has launched a new podcast series to support municipalities with credible sources of information related to COVID-19 and the response across the country. Guests include experts, leaders, and practitioners as they discuss the challenges for communities as they deal with the coronavirus outbreak.





FCM TWEETS

April 3: NEW #CDNmuni resource on key questions municipalities should consider when designing property tax deferral programs. https://bit.ly/345QMZE Mar 31: Looking to recapitalize, expand or launch a home energy-efficiency financing program? Today, with #GoC support, we launch a new funding initiative to help #CDNmuni do just that. More: https://bit.ly/2UJtl5s

Mar 30: As warmer weather approaches, don't make cottage plans. Mayors from #CDNmuni rural areas are urging Canadians to #StayHome. Food supply and medical equipment are limited and small hospital capacity is critical. Just. Stay. Home. #covid19Canada

▶ MORE



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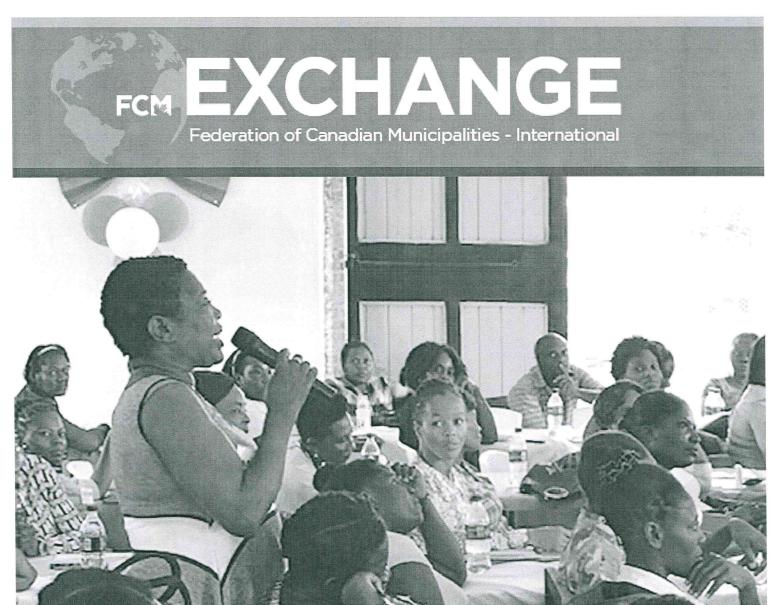
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Special issue - The Municipal Cooperation Program

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FCM NEWS | April 2020





Taxation, cooperation and training: Strengthening local governments in Haiti

Since 2014, the Haiti-Canada Municipal Cooperation Program – Phase 2 (PCM2) has been helping local governments in Haiti continue to develop their taxation systems and inter-governmental cooperation. Funded by Global Affairs Canada (GAC), PCM2 is run by a consortium made up of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the *Union des municipalités du Québec* (UMQ) and the City of Montreal. The program seeks to create more transparent, efficient and sustainable administrations within Haiti's territorial communities and proposes management models to improve the delivery of local services. PCM2 focused on tax mobilization for communes, strengthening of federations of elected officials, citizen engagement, effective delivery of municipal services, and implementation of projects for the well-being of communities. The main beneficiaries are the city of Port-au-Prince, four communes of the Les Palmes region, four federations of elected officials and the *Ministère de l'Intérieur et des Collectivités Territoriales* (MICT, Haiti's department of the interior and territorial communities) and the *Ministère de l'Économie et des Finances* (MEF, the country's department of the economy and finance).

► LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR WORK IN HAITI

Tax mobilization in Port-au-Prince and the Les Palmes region

Tax mobilization has been key to providing local governments with the means to fund the delivery of service to citizens. In Port-au-Prince, 52,761 properties were registered, while 35,400 were registered in the Les Palmes region. This process involved creating a database of buildings and taxpayers to calculate and generate the tax accounts. House numbering and street identification also increased the effectiveness of the tax collection system. As a result, revenues in Port-au-Prince increased from 109 million HTG (Haitian gourdes) at the beginning of the project to 284 million HTG by the end, and from 4 million HTG to nearly 10 million HTG for the Les Palmes region. Haiti's department of the economy and finances has been actively involved in this initiative, thus ensuring ongoing results.

Learn more about property taxes in Haiti

Learn more about our work in Petit-Goâve, Haiti

Municipal cooperation as a model for development

In Haiti, local governments' resources are largely insufficient to provide a minimum of services or to fund their own operations. To help solve this problem, PCM2 set up an intercommunal structure to share and optimize resources in the Les Palmes region. This has made it possible to pool a range of services under one

roof: tax mobilization, cartography, watershed management and expertise in public works management. PCM2 is proud to note that despite the withdrawal of its support almost a year and a half ago, the partnership continues to operate.

Learn more

Training for women local elected officials

In 2019, the PCM2 organized training sessions for nearly 800 elected women. The four-day trainings covered the roles and responsibilities of women politicians, issues of gender equity, and violence against women in power and women in society in general. These ground-breaking trainings have given these women a better understanding of their roles and responsibilities and helped legitimize them as people with power within their communities. The events, widely supported by Haiti's Department of the Interior and Territorial Communities and the Federations, created buzz across the country and received significant media coverage. There were some unexpected results, such as the creation of a WhatsApp platform for continuously monitoring trainings and the development of an alert platform for cases of violence against women politicians. The project is proud to have contributed to building the capacities and confidence of women elected officials and to encourage them to remain involved in Haitian politics.

Learn more

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FCM's international programs are funded by Global Affairs Canada.



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COVID-19: Driving rural priorities in Ottawa

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FCM April 9, 2020



COMMUNIQUÉ

Dear members,

I have so much respect for your tireless efforts throughout the COVID-19 crisis, right across this country. While some rural communities may be hit later than cities, they could be hit harder—with older populations, thinner health care resources, and fewer facilities for isolation. *FCM is here for you*. That includes taking your priorities to the federal government, and I wanted to update you on this work.

Seven days a week, our FCM team is engaging key departments, agencies and senior decision-makers. I am personally joining weekly direct FCM check-ins with key federal ministers—often including Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland. To keep this work grounded in your realities, we are convening FCM's Rural Forum every week by teleconference. On those calls, local leaders are sharing their frontline experiences from across the country and identifying key priorities to push up to the federal level.

Our advocacy is helping to shape the national pandemic response. We just saw

Ottawa commit to bringing more flexibility to the new <u>Canada Emergency Response</u> <u>Benefit</u>—to include more people in our communities, from volunteer firefighters to contract workers. Days earlier, Canada's border re-opened to <u>temporary foreign</u> <u>workers</u>—with strict quarantine protocols—so farmers and producers would not be left hanging this spring.

FCM is working flat-out to secure firm commitments from the federal government to support municipalities with operating losses incurred as a result of COVID-19. Municipal revenues are falling, even as we take exceptional new local measures to protect residents and businesses. Tackling this financial crunch is an absolute necessity if we're going to keep delivering vital services that people count on—more than ever right now.

Looking ahead, when the time is right, municipalities will have an opportunity to help lead Canada's recovery. We're the order of government closest to people's lives. We're exceptionally well-placed to deliver the economic stimulus Canadians will need. And we're already engaging our federal partners on how to get the job done—from growing the proven Gas Tax Fund transfer to immediately launching the Universal Broadband Fund to help close the rural Internet gap.

Our efforts to bring a rural lens to Ottawa have never mattered more. Rural communities are at the heart of this country's economy and well-being. Our communities also need to be at the heart of Canada's pandemic response. And when the time comes to set Canada on a path to recovery and growth, FCM will be there to ensure you're at the heart of that too.

Bill Karsten FCM President



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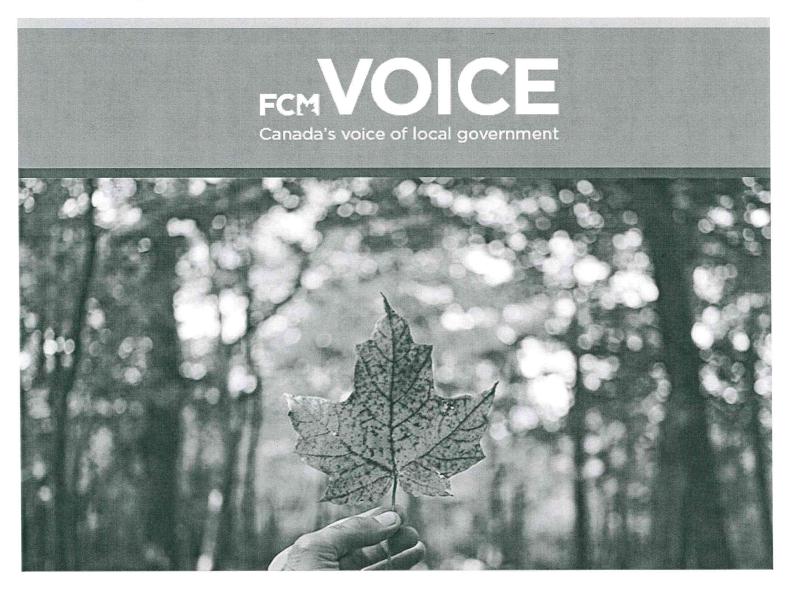
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Canada Summer Jobs | Brownfield redevelopment email series | more

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FCM NEWS | April 14, 2020





COVID-19: Big push on financial support for municipalities

It's been another week of unprecedented challenges—and remarkable municipal leadership. You are working hard to keep vital services running and residents supported. FCM is pressing hard for the financial assistance many of you will need to continue your vital week.

Last week, FCM continued intensive conversations with senior federal decision-makers. And we kept grounded in local realities through continual member engagement. That included teleconferences with FCM's Rural Forum, our Big City Mayors' Caucus, our Provincial-Territorial Associations, and a group of local Chief Financial Officers.

Our municipal challenges are Canada's challenges. Our progress is Canada's progress. And our story is increasingly being told by the country's national press. That includes a major feature in Monday's *Globe and Mail* (following earlier coverage in Postmedia outlets across Canada).

Other highlights from Ottawa:

- On Saturday, Parliament adopted the \$73 billion COVID-19 wage subsidy package, which will subsidize up to 75 percent of salaries for qualifying employers.
- In Saturday's emergency sitting of the House, the federal government committed to adapt the Canada Emergency Response Benefit to include more more people in our communities.
- Yesterday, the federal government announced that farmers and food processors will receive \$1,500 per temporary foreign worker to assist in their 14-day quarantines.

As local leaders, you are absolutely central to carrying Canadians through this pandemic onto better roads ahead. And FCM will be here for you every step of the way.

NEWS

Support for Canada Summer Jobs will help communities

As Canada faces economic uncertainty during the pandemic, the federal government has updated the Canada Summer Jobs program to help support the ongoing needs of communities. The temporary changes include a wage subsidy to cover up to 100 percent of the minimum hourly wage for each employee and the ability to modify projects to support essential services. These developments will help keep youth active in the labour market and protect community services.

► LEARN MORE

Sign up for FCM's microlearning email series, Fostering brownfield redevelopment. Designed to support municipal staff and elected officials when considering brownfield redevelopment opportunities, the series will deliver short weekly emails outlining key actions over eight weeks, from how to streamline your municipality's approval process, to building partnerships with brownfield stakeholders.

► SIGN UP TODAY

Helping Jordan municipalities respond to COVID-19

FCM's Jordan Municipal Support Project (JMSP) has been actively supporting their partner municipalities in Jordan to respond to COVID-19. In addition to crisis management guidance materials, JMSP has helped procure crucial protective equipment that will help keep municipal employees safe as they deliver key public services. Learn more about FCM's work in Jordan.

FIND OUT MORE

RESOURCES

Updated COVID-19 resources for municipalities

Faced with new and unprecedented challenges, communities are innovating to find solutions to continue to serve residents during COVID19 shutdowns. Libraries are using 3D printers to make medical shields, municipalities are ensuring that residents can still use public Wi-Fi and communities are deploying staff to help drive meals to seniors. Check out FCM's updated COVID19 resource page, featuring case studies from municipalities across Canada.

► LEARN MORE

FCM TWEETS

Apr 13: Municipalities are working hard to keep people safe and services running. But revenues are bottoming out and they can't run deficits. So #CDNmuni need urgent help to keep our water running, garbage collected, vulnerable people safely sheltered, and so much more. https://tgam.ca/3evCJ4C

Apr 12: "Broadband is a vital lifeline right now."FCM Rural Forum Chair @orb_ray shares how #COVID19 pandemic has highlighted the gaps that exist btw different #CDNmuni across Canada. #RuralMatters #UniversalBroaband https://bit.ly/2VrcKma

Apr 9: In just 8 weeks you can gain knowledge, practical experience and best practices on redeveloping brownfields. Sign up for FCM's weekly email series today: http://bit.ly/2TlWUsY #CDNmuni

▶ MORE



24 Clarence Street Ottawa, Ontario K1N 5P3 T. 613-241-5221 F. 613-241-7440

fcm.ca



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From:

CAO

Sent:

Tuesday, March 31, 2020 2:35 PM

To:

RM Oakland 2

Subject:

FW: The 2020 MB CIB program has been cancelled

Attachments:

image001.jpg; image002.jpg; image003.jpg; Press Release 2020.docx

Norma, can you print this for the agenda folder, please.

Joni

From: MB Communities in Bloom < coordinator@mbcommunitiesinbloom.ca>

Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2020 9:45 AM **To:** coordinator@mbcommunitiesinbloom.ca

Subject: FW: The 2020 MB CIB program has been cancelled

Greetings everyone,

Due the Covid-19 Pandemic, the difficult decision was made by the Manitoba Communities in Bloom board of directors to cancel the 2020 Provincial Program in Manitoba.

Our thoughts are with you and your community during this difficult time. We will continue to provide updates on our future programming and other opportunities over the upcoming months.

We look forward to working with you and your community in 2021!

Best regards,

Cathy

Cathy Shaluk

Program Coordinator
Manitoba Communities in Bloom
227 Belmont Ave. Wpg, MB R2V 0Y2
204.299-3124
coordinator@mbcommunitiesinbloom.ca



Selkirk, MB – The Manitoba Communities in Bloom program provides a comprehensive evaluation beneficial to community development. It encourages all sectors of the community to work together to develop best practices to achieve clean, green sustainable communities that celebrate their heritage and unique potential. Because of the Covid-19 Pandemic, our communities are not currently able to gather and move forward with their different initiatives. The program heavily involves residents working with schools, community gardens, playgrounds and rec centres, libraries and public health facilities.

On Tuesday, March 24, the difficult decision was made by the Manitoba Communities in Bloom board of directors to cancel the 2020 Provincial Program in Manitoba. At this current time, the National Program is continuing until further notice.

Provincial President Michelle Balharry – on behalf of Manitoba Communities in Bloom board of directors, judges and sponsors – sincerely thanks all participating communities for their efforts to be clean, green sustainable places that people are proud to call home.

"We have seen remarkable community involvement making each and every participating community a better place to live, work and play. Our wish is to come back in 2021 as a stronger program, to see what your community has done to rebuild and celebrate once again," said Balharry.

Contact:

Web site: www.mbcommunitiesinbloom.ca Michelle Balharry, MB CiB President

Work: 204-485-1419

Email: cibmanitoba@gmail.com

Cathy Shaluk, MB CiB Program Coordinator

Work: 204-299-3124

Email: coordinator@mbcommunitiesinbloom.ca





Manitoba Emergency Coordination Centre Manitoba Emergency Measures Organization 1525-405 Broadway, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 3L6

	Municipal Update 006
Incident/Event:	2020 COVID-19 and Spring Flood
Date of Issue:	April 14, 2020
Time of Issue:	1600 hrs
MECC Status:	Level 3
MECC Contact:	mecc@gov.mb.ca; (204) 945-5555
After-Hours: Manitoba EMO Duty Officer; emodutyofficer@gov.mb.ca; (204) 945-5555	
Appendix A Map – Not Issued	
Appendix B	Acronyms

- 1. The Manitoba Emergency Coordination Centre (MECC) was activated on Monday March 16 and is currently operating at Level 3 for a continued coordinated provincial response to COVID-19 and 2020 Spring Flood response activities.
 - a. The current priorities and objectives are:
 - Provincial COVID-19 response coordination and support to the health sector pandemic response (save lives, protect public health)
 - **Spring Flood response coordination** (save lives, protect public health, critical and government infrastructure, property, the environment)
 - Situational awareness to support a coordinated provincial response (save lives, protect public health, protect critical infrastructure, protect government infrastructure and services, minimize disruption to the economy)
 - Support continuity of GOM essential services (protect government infrastructure and services)
 - b. MECC contact information:
 - Duty Officer 204 945-5555 emodutyofficer@gov.mb.ca
 - MECC mecc@gov.mb.ca
 - MECC Operations mecc.operations@gov.mb.ca
- 2. Please ensure you are notifying the MECC if and when the changes to the following information occurs:
 - The MECC is currently tracking SoLEs, any evacuations and significant activities or impacts currently being undertaken or felt.
 - In addition the MECC is also tracking the status of municipal EOC activations and the status of municipal services (water, waste, fire, etc.).





• Also notify the MECC when you have established any form of Business Continuity and/or Pandemic plan.

3. COVID-19

- a. Current COVID-19 Manitoba statistical information:
 - 0 additional case has been identified today, brining the total to 246 lab-confirmed positive and probable cases in Manitoba.
 - 9 individuals are currently being hospitalized, 4 are in intensive care.
 - 99 individuals have recovered from COVID-19, with 4 deaths reported.
 - To date 17,709 tests have been preformed in Manitoba.
- b. Current municipal impact information is:

Municipal Impacts	YES	NO	COVID-19	FLOOD
SoLE	2	135	1	1
Pandemic Plan	75	62	75	0
Business Continuity Plan	61	76	61	0
EOC Activation	4	133	4	0
Evacuation	1	136	0	1
Municipal Service	110	27	110	0
Police	21	116	21	0
Fire	10	127	10	0
EMS	4	133	4	0
Public Works	10	127	10	0
Water Treatment	4	133	4	0
Waste Management	9	128	9	0
Landline	2	135	2	0
Cellphone	11	126	11	0
Internet	22	115	22	0





- c. Provincial Health Orders:
 - Orders under section 67 of The Public Health Act March 20,2020
 - Orders under section 67 of The Public Health Act March 27, 2020
 - Orders under section 67 of The Public Health Act March 30, 2020
 - Orders under section 67 of The Public Health Act April 1, 2020.
- d. Neighbouring jurisdictions COVID-19 information:
 - Saskatchewan 300 confirmed cases, 4 deaths.
 - Ontario 7,953 confirmed cases, 334 deaths.
 - Nunavut 0 confirmed cases.
 - Minnesota 1,695 confirmed cases, 79 deaths.
 - North Dakota 341 confirmed cases, 9 deaths.
- e. Global and Canadian COVID-19 information
 - Global 1,844,863 confirmed cases, 117,021deaths.
 - Canada 26,163 confirmed cases, 823 deaths.
- f. Links to guidance or program information:
 - Daily Epidemiology Report- https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/phac-aspc/documents/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/surv-covid19-epi-update-2020-04-13-eng.pdf
 - Current Situation https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html#a1
 - Business Continuity https://www.gov.mb.ca/emo/prepare/community/bcp-local.html
- 4. 2020 Spring Flood
 - a. Current Weather Conditions:
 - Temperatures in most of southern Manitoba are expected to remain cooler until later in the week.
 - There are no significant storms forecasted for southern Manitoba for the rest of the week.
 - b. Highlights from HFC:
 - General Flood Information: https://www.gov.mb.ca/mit/floodinfo/index.html
 - Flood Report for April 11, 2020:
 https://www.gov.mb.ca/mit/floodinfo/floodoutlook/forecast centre/daily reports/2020/2020-04-14%20-%20Flood%20Report.pdf
 - The Red River Floodway continues to be operated under Rule 1, reducing water levels in Winnipeg while maintaining water levels upstream of the inlet control structure at or just below natural.





- A Flood Warning has been issued for the Red River from Emerson to the Red River Floodway Inlet Control Structure.
- A Flood Warning has been issued for the Red River from PTH 4 to Netley Creek
- A Flood Watch has been issued for the Red River from Lockport to PTH due ice movement.
- A Flood Watch has been issued for Roseau River, between Gardenton and PR 218
- The Portage Diversion is being operated to limit flows on the lower Assiniboine River to less than 5,000 cfs (142 cms) to minimize the risk of ice jamming.





APPENDIX B: ACRONYMS

AMC	Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs
AMM	Association of Manitoba Municipalities
ASD	Accommodation Services Division
BCP	Business Continuity Plan
CC	Manitoba Conservation and Climate
CBSA	Canadian Border Services Agency
CFS	Child and Family Services
COS	Conservation Officer Service
CSC	Manitoba Civil Service Commission
CSM	Communications Services Manitoba
CSP	Critical Service Provider
DND	Department of National Defence
EIA	Employment and Income Assistance
ELCC	Early Learning Child Care
EMO	Manitoba Emergency Measures Organization
EOC	Emergency Operations Centre
ESS	Emergency Social Services
FAC	Foreign Affairs Canada
FAM	Manitoba Families
FN	First Nation
FNIHB	First Nations and Inuit Health Branch
GSAR	Ground Search and Rescue
GOC	Government of Canada Operations Centre
GOM	Government of Manitoba
ICS	Incident Command System
IMT	Incident Management Team
INR	Manitoba Indigenous Northern Relations
ISC	Indigenous Services Canada
MARD	Manitoba Agriculture and Resource Development
MECC	Manitoba Emergency Coordination Centre
MESC	Manitoba Emergency Services College
NAMO	Northern Airports and Marine Operations
PGT	Public Guardian Trustee
PPE	Personal Protection Equipment
PSC	Public Safety Canada
SoE	State of Emergency
SoLE	State of Local Emergency
VPN	Virtual Private Network
WRHA	Winnipeg Regional Health Authority





From: +WPG139 - MR, Municipal Capacity and Assessment (MR) <mrmca@gov.mb.ca>

Sent: Monday, March 16, 2020 10:37 AM

Subject: Bulletin# 2020-04 - COVID 19 - Social Distancing Measures

Bulletin # 2020-04

MUNICIPAL RELATIONS

Important Notice to All Elected Officials and Chief Administrative Officers

COVID-19 – Social Distancing Measures

All municipalities are asked to contribute to slowing the spread of the virus and ensuring the health and safety of Manitobans who are at the highest risk by considering the following measures:

- Limiting access to all municipally occupied spaces for essential business purposes only, and/or promoting and providing alternate forms of access to information
- Following public health advice related to self-monitoring and self-isolation if you have travelled
 or have been exposed to someone ill with the virus; health information can be found at
 https://manitoba.ca/covid19/
- Encouraging alternate options to reduce prolonged contact between individuals, including council deliberations, related hearings and public information sessions
- Postponing all non-essential gatherings and events
- Limiting or postponing interactions such as conferences, training, meetings and related travel
- Minimizing prolonged (more than 10 minutes) close, (less than two metres) contact between individuals
- Avoiding greetings that involve touching such as handshakes
- Disinfecting frequently used surfaces, instructing contracted cleaning staff to do the same and posting information on proper personal hygiene
- Communicating with relevant stakeholders if program decisions impact others in your facilities

· Avoiding travel, crowded places and events, especially if you are at higher risk

Recognizing that municipalities are actively preparing to file their 2020 Financial Plans, the Province is reviewing options that may be available to provide some flexibility in timelines and will provide an update as soon as possible.

Municipalities should also be reviewing their business continuity plans and identifying essential services or projects that may require delay if they are not required at this time.

Consideration should also be given to reviewing staff working arrangements and alternative work opportunities, where appropriate.

Manitoba Emergency Measures will be reaching out and engaging municipalities through the Manitoba Emergency Coordination Centre (MECC) as the situation evolves.

The Province of Manitoba appreciates your continued support and coordination in this critical time.

Should you require further information or advice on related municipal governance issues, please contact a Municipal Services Officer or connect through reception at mrmca@gov.mb.ca or 204-945-2572.

Department of Municipal Relations 508 – 800 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg MB R3G 0N4

Bulletin #2020-08

MUNICIPAL RELATIONS

Important Notice to All Elected Officials and Chief Administrative Officers

COVID-19 – Municipal Governance – FAQs – Update

State of Emergency

 How does the provincially declared state of emergency impact municipal operations? *Updated

On March 20, 2020, the Manitoba government declared a province-wide state of emergency to ensure government is able and ready to address the effects of COVID-19 (https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/index.html?item=47137&posted=2020-03-20). The declaration reinforces the importance of any guidelines provided and orders issued by the Chief Provincial Public Health Officer. The declaration also allows government to take steps in the future to protect the health and well-being of Manitobans as COVID-19 develops.

The declaration of a provincial state of emergency does not provide, by itself, municipalities with any extra powers or requirements. Declaring a state of emergency is independent of any type of financial assistance. The declaration of a provincial state of emergency and the orders issued by the Chief Provincial Public Health Officer are intended for the general public, do not impact the operations or the delivery of services by the Government of Manitoba or the Government of Canada, and should not affect the ongoing collaboration between municipal officials and the province. Municipalities can continue operations and the delivery of their services.

The following link provides additional information on the state of emergency: https://manitoba.ca/covid19/soe.html

Should you have additional questions related to public health orders, please contact healthprotection@gov.mb.ca.

2. What measures are available to support municipalities that are facing challenges related to enforcing public health orders and their own local measures on social distancing? *Updated

The Province is aware of the concerns that municipalities and law enforcement have raised regarding the ability to carry out the Chief Provincial Public Health Officer's advice and public health orders, and these new challenges in communities. The Province is actively preparing a cross-departmental response to these concerns involving Justice, Municipal Relations, Indigenous and Northern Relations, and Crown Services. More information will be provided as soon as possible. If you observe an infraction that creates an urgent threat to public health, contact the Health Protection Unit by email at healthprotection@gov.mb.ca.

Page 1 of 7 Last Updated: 03/31/2020

3. How can municipalities receive information on issues related to critical services during the response to COVID-19? *New

The Association of Manitoba Municipalities is participating in an enhanced information session on Thursday April 2nd and is in a position to coordinate any questions you may have.

Also, *Critical Service Provider Issue Management Unit* has been created to respond to ongoing questions and issues on essential or critical services related to the state of emergency and public health orders. The unit is aligned with the Chief Provincial Public Health Officer to ensure the exemption of critical services under public health or potential emergency orders is being communicated clearly to all stakeholders.

The unit will be responsible for compiling and coordinating the list of essential or critical services, reviewing requests and making recommendations for tine inclusion or exclusion of sectors. Questions related to essential or critical services can be directed to the *Critical Service Provider Management Unit* at mecc.csp@gov.mb.ca. All emails will receive an immediate acknowledgement, with a more detailed response to follow.

Required Services

4. What services are municipalities required to provide?

The Municipal Act prescribes that every municipality must provide the following services:

- Fire protection
- Police services
- Road maintenance
- Waste management
- Emergency management
- Land use planning
- Weed control
- Building inspection

In addition, once a municipality establishes a water and wastewater service, the municipality must continue to provide this service.

The State of Emergency link noted under question #1 above should be referred to for continual updates related to any ongoing service determinations.

5. How do critical, essential and required services differ? *New

A critical service is a service that is provided by a business (includes a for-profit, non-profit or other entity providing goods and services) designated by government to keep Manitobans safe or to ensure the economic well-being of the province. Businesses providing critical services are permitted to continue to operate (are exempted from public health orders); however, they must implement measures to ensure that people attending the business are reasonably able to maintain a separate of at least two metres from each other.

Critical services are not always the same as essential services. Essential services is a term primarily used in labour relations settings for services that must be maintained continuously, even in the event of labour disputes.

For the purposes of this document, required services are defined as services that municipalities must, under *The Municipal Act*, provide to residents.

Council Meetings

6. With social distancing considerations, how do we ensure that council meetings still comply with legislative requirements if we need to close off access to the public?

The Municipal Act framework establishes two formats for council to meet – council meetings and public hearings. The Act requires council meetings to be open to the public to ensure a transparent decision-making process and allow the public to observe council's deliberations. To achieve this while preventing the spread of the virus, several methods of providing public access to council deliberations in an alternate format are available to municipalities. Some examples may include, but are not limited to, livestreaming, teleconferences, and/or providing recordings of council meetings.

Any method employed should provide a comparable level of access to the public as attendance at a council meeting. Closing a meeting to the physical presence of the general public and providing alternate means to engage should not be confused with closing a meeting to the public under subsection 152(3) of *The Municipal Act*, where the public is not permitted to observe council deliberations in any form.

Public Hearings

7. With social distancing considerations, how do we ensure that public hearings comply with legislative requirements?

The public hearing process is designed to encourage public participation and ensure that citizens have an opportunity to provide information and feedback to council for their consideration when making specific decisions. Municipalities may choose to use an alternate format for public hearings, provided that the public can exercise an equivalent level of involvement as if they physically attended the hearing. Particularly, public hearings must allow any person who wishes to make a presentation, ask questions or register an objection to do so as provided for in subsection 160(3) of *The Municipal Act*. If council cannot meet the legislative requirements for public hearings, they should be postponed.

Public Utilities Board

8. How can municipalities contact the Public Utilities Board (PUB) and will applications be processed?

In response to COVID-19 related considerations, PUB staff and Board members will be working remotely. Applications will still be processed and Board Orders will continue to be issued. The Board recognizes that response times and due dates may be affected, and will work with the municipalities that require extensions or other accommodations as needed.

Municipalities may continue to send documents to the Board electronically or by mail. Canada Post continues to deliver mail, which will be received and processed at the Board office. PUB staff will continue to contact utilities about applications for current files. If contacts or circumstances change, please provide an update to the staff member at the PUB working on the file. For general inquiries or to reach PUB staff, please contact publicutilities@gov.mb.ca.

Local Access and Closures

9. Should municipalities be closing off access to local facilities and spaces?

Councils have been deciding on whether to close off access to municipally owned properties. This authority does not include closing private facilities. If the municipally owned property is operated by boards, consultation is recommended prior to making any decisions.

The Manitoba School Boards Association has requested that all school divisions proceed to close play structures (not the adjoining green spaces, but the actual play structures themselves). Related signage has not been placed on play structures that are located on municipal properties; this decision and request applies only to play structures that are uniquely located on school properties.

A council resolution is required in order to close any municipal facilities or spaces, including play structures located on municipal properties.

For closure considerations, you are advised to check https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/index.html daily for up-to-date information as well as information from your insurance providers.

10. How can municipalities promote public health and safety awareness for facilities and spaces that continue to be open to the public?

The Province has developed signage in both official languages, and has shared these as samples with municipalities to support them in developing local signage, as needed. On a related note, some municipalities have also expressed interest in using visitor screening or admittance tools, which may require visitors to provide personal and/or health related information. Municipalities are reminded to ensure compliance with legislative requirements concerning privacy and personal health information, and consult with their legal counsel, as appropriate. The related links are as follows:

https://www.gov.mb.ca/fippa/ https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/phia/index.html

Water and Waste Related Operations

11. What do I need to know about water system operations?

COVID-19 is not a waterborne disease and there has been no evidence to date that the virus can be transmitted through drinking water. Operators going into water plants should continue to keep the water plant clean and tidy and follow hygienic practices (i.e. handwashing and cough etiquette). Water plants should remain closed to public entry.

If an operator is sick or self-isolating, please employ a backup operator. Owners are encouraged to connect with neighbouring communities for sharing of operators as needed. Operators are not required to be certified to take chlorine residual testing or bacteriological samples. Standard operating procedures must be in place, updated and reviewed by all operators.

There is no change to routine monitoring and reporting requirements at this time. Routine bacteriological samples, disinfection, turbidity monitoring and reporting must be consistent with your operating licence. Should your normal shipping routes be disrupted during this time, you as a water supplier are required to get water samples to the laboratory in the frequency specified in your operating licence; even if that means driving the samples to the laboratory. Owners are encouraged to connect with neighbouring communities for sample submissions. If your sample dates do not coincide with your neighbour's, contact your regional Drinking Water Officer.

You are advised to check https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/index.html daily for up-to-date information and update your emergency response or business continuity plans accordingly.

12. Can municipalities keep waste disposal sites open without a certified operator?

In the event that landfill owners do not have a certified operator due to illness, there is an allowance for collection of wastes and recyclables if using transfer bins or a tipping pad. The public cannot have access to the active area (i.e. the actual disposal area, the pit, the waste cell). This only applies to Class 2 and 3 waste disposal grounds.

Supply Shortages and Procurement Challenges

13. Municipalities may be experiencing supply shortages. Is there any assistance that the Province can provide regarding these procurement challenges?

The Province is actively exploring how municipalities may be able to access government procurement for non-health related items to supplement their local procurement process.

Manitoba Municipal Relations is coordinating a bulk order of cleaning and sanitary supplies with the Department of Central Services for municipalities unable to purchase these products through their regular supplier due to supply shortages. Municipalities have been provided with a 'Required Resources Spreadsheet', which is to be completed and returned by March 31, 2020 to Stephanie Choy by email at Stephanie.Choy@gov.mb.ca.

Financial Reporting

14. Is there flexibility on the May 15 deadline to submit 2020 Financial Plans?

The Province will be extending the deadline to June 15. Municipalities will still have the option of filing before then or requesting an extension under the existing legislative provisions should one need to be sought.

The department is also reviewing options that may be available to provide flexibility in timelines on other regulatory requirements and will provide an update as soon as possible.

Shared Approaches and Practices

15. What information and supports are available to municipalities with respect to COVID-19 related human resource (HR) matters and employer-employee responsibilities during this challenging time? In particular, how should municipalities address situations where municipal employees have self-isolated and are reviewing their options for leave should they not be able to work from home?

The Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) has partnered with People First HR Services to provide access for all AMM member municipalities to the 'On Call HR @ Your Service' program. The following link provides additional information: http://www.amm.mb.ca/human-resources/

For this particular question, People First HR has recommended the following: When an employee has to self-isolate and they cannot work from home, best practice would be for the employer to grant the employee company paid sick leave (if there is a company sick leave policy and if the employee has sick time available). If there is no sick time available, People First HR recommends asking the employee if they would like to use their vacation time (the employee does not have to take their vacation, so you want to make sure they are in agreement if vacation time is used). If sick leave and vacation leave is not available, then the employee would go on an unpaid sick leave and then apply for Employment Insurance benefits through Service Canada.

16. Are municipalities making any adjustments to handi-transit services?

Some municipalities have noted that they have enhanced their sanitation processes for vehicles and have restricted the use of handi-transit services to medical equipment only.

17. Are there ideas for improving business continuity planning for water treatment plants?

Some municipalities have indicated that they are examining practical and creative approaches to having business continuity planning backup on drinking water treatment. For example, some municipalities having shared service agreements in the event that backup is needed and one is video recording their processes on a walkthrough with their staff in case another qualified operator has to come in and learn their technical processes.

18. Are there any plans for signage or checkpoints at interprovincial borders regarding self-isolation for vehicular travel? *Updated

The Province is establishing five highway checkpoints at the following interprovincial crossings.

- Ontario border: Trans-Canada Highway East (West Hawk/Falcon Lake)
- Saskatchewan border:
 - Trans-Canada Highway West (west of Kirkella/Elkhorn/Virden)
 - o PTH 16 (west of Russell)
 - o PTH 5W (west of Roblin)
 - PTH 2 (west of Sinclair/Reston/Souris)

These checkpoints will be staffed by provincial employees, who will inform travellers about public health measures in place to slow the spread of COVID-19. No one will be denied entry into Manitoba at these locations.

Plans are also in place for signage at the following additional crossings:

- Saskatchewan border PTH 3 and 10, Provincial Road 257
- PTH 75 To supplement the message being conveyed by the Canada Border Services Agency

These interprovincial crossings were prioritized due to the higher volume of vehicular travel. Observed traffic volumes along other routes may lead to additional or relocated sign deployments being considered and prioritized based on the resources available for installation

19. Are there ideas to help with anticipated spring fire department requirements?

It is anticipated that heavier than usual spring crop residue may take place. If that occurs, fire departments may be running to a higher than normal volume of spring fire calls. As part of minimizing the number of calls the fire departments need to respond to, burning bans that lay out conditions on when a person can burn, reduce the risk of the fire getting away and requiring the fire department. In preparation, municipalities may want to ensure that their burning by-laws are up-to-date, so they can implement immediately, if needed.

The following link provides information on Manitoba's Controlled Crop Residue Burning Program:

https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/crops/crop-residue-burning-program/index.html

The following link is to Office of the Fire Commissioner by-law templates: http://www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca/support_bylaws.html

Manitoba Municipal Relations 508 – 800 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg MB R3G 0N4

RM Oakland 2

From:

Manitoba Water & Wastewater Association <admin@mwwa.net>

Sent:

Monday, March 30, 2020 9:48 AM

To: Cc: RM Oakland 2 Drew Wilton

Subject:

2020 MWWA - Message to Members



Manitoba Water & Wastewater Association

March 27, 2020

2020 MWWA - Message to Members

In these unsettling times, as we continue to monitor the COVID-19 (coronavirus) situation closely, we find it important to maintain a clear line of communication with you, our members.

We are grateful for all essential workers, including Water and Wastewater Operators, truckers, healthcare and grocery workers, local communities and governments in Canada & around the world who are working to contain COVID-19.

If you find that you are experiencing a shortage of Operators, please let us know and we can send an email out to the members, and ask them to contact you if they are able to help you out. We have set up a database, and if you are short-staffed and requiring assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We will provide any updates as the situation develops. For more on COVID-19, we encourage you to seek information from reliable sources, such as the Province of Manitoba site for COVID-19 at: https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/about/index.html or your local government.

Our hearts go out to those who have been impacted by this global pandemic. Thank you for your continued hard work and commitment to public health as we move through these challenging times together!

<u>Please note</u>: For the time being the MWWA Office is closed and will be operated from Iva's home office. If you have any questions please call the Toll Free number: 1-866-396-2549. Regular office hours are Monday to Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm (Closed over the Lunch Hour from 12 to 1 pm).

Regards,

MWWA Board of Directors

RM Oakland 2

From:

Manitoba Water & Wastewater Association <admin@mwwa.net>

Sent:

Monday, April 6, 2020 5:12 PM

To: Cc: RM Oakland 2 Drew Wilton

Subject:

COVID 19 message from ADM



Manitoba Water & Wastewater Association

April 6, 2020

Message from Assistant Deputy Minister Cordella
Friesen, Environmental Stewardship, Manitoba
Conservation & Climate

Message from ADM in Response to COVID-19 Apr 2020.pdf

Regards,

Iva Last

Executive Director

Manitoba Water & Wastewater Association Inc.

Box 1600

Rm 215 - 9 Saskatchewan Ave. W. Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 3P1

Toll Free: 1-866-396-2549 Local: 1-204-239-6868



Memorandum

DATE: April 6, 2020

TO: Water and Wastewater System Owners and

Operators

FROM: Cordella Friesen

Assistant Deputy Minister Environmental Stewardship Manitoba Conservation and Climate

SUBJECT: Support for Manitoba's Water and Wastewater Facility Operators in Response to COVID-19

Manitoba's water and wastewater facility operators are providing a critical service to Manitobans in the provision of water treatment and distribution and wastewater collection and treatment. The Government of Manitoba supports you in your efforts to ensure that your facilities continue to operate.

At this time we are asking all water and wastewater facilities to review their situation and make plans to ensure that facilities will be able to operate in the event of operator shortages due to illness:

- Identify backup operators;
- Review and update emergency response plans;
- Review and update standard operating procedures; and
- Consider making reciprocal arrangements with neighbouring facilities to share operators if needed and provide training before it is needed. Our website provides a draft template of a Memorandum of Understanding to be used to share operators between jurisdictions during an emergency.

In accordance with the Water and Wastewater Facility Operators Regulation, all operators at water and wastewater facilities must be certified. The following information is intended to assist owners of facilities identify persons who are available to operate in case of a temporary operator shortage due to COVID-19:

- The regulation permits an operator who is (a) a professional engineer, a Bachelor of Science graduate or a certified engineering technologist; and (b) who has taken relevant academic courses, to work at the facility for up to six months in a twelve-month period without certification.
- The department can accept and process applications from facility owners for conditional certification under Section 19 of the regulation due to these exceptional circumstances. These certifications will be issued to those who the employer believes are capable of operating the facility but who do not currently meet all of the certification criteria. Situations where a conditional certificate will be issued include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - o Operators who did not meet the renewal requirements for continuing education;
 - o Operators who are experienced but are short of the required experience for full certification;
 - Operators who have not yet passed the certification examination;
 - Operators who are recently retired or have moved to other careers that did not require maintenance of their certification.

Owners who intend to apply for conditional certification or have questions about their specific situation should email www.mb.ca for expedited approval.

- The department can also accept and process operator certification applications without an original signature from the operator between April 1 and July 31. A statement on the application should identify that the operator has given verbal approval for the submission.
- The Manitoba Water and Wastewater Association has offered to match operators able to volunteer with facilities that are experiencing a shortage: mwwaoffice@shaw.ca.

The department is available to support you during this difficult time. If you have any questions regarding your team of operators please contact the certification program or your local Drinking Water Officer or Environment Officer. As the situation evolves, the department may roll out other changes to assist operators; please continue to check our website for the latest announcements: https://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/index.html.

Original Signed By

Cordella Friesen, Assistant Deputy Minister Environmental Stewardship Conservation and Climate

 Shannon Kohler, Director, Environmental Approvals Branch Kim Philip, Director, Office of Drinking Water



MINISTER OF MUNICIPAL RELATIONS

Room 317 Legislative Building Winnipeg, Manitoba CANADA R3C 0V8

March 25, 2020

Dear Mayors and Reeves:

I am writing today to share details about two important disaster preparedness and recovery initiatives.

First, I am pleased to advise that your Municipality has been approved for the procurement of eligible items under the 2020 Flood Preparedness Program based upon review by a panel made up of representatives from the Association of Manitoba Municipalities, Winnipeg Metropolitan Region and the province. The attached table provides a summary of the value of approved funding, along with the items that are considered eligible. Approved funding is being deposited directly into your account. Funding under this program is unconditional – your municipality can use the funding to immediately begin procuring the equipment and services in your proposal at your discretion, with the exception of any items that have been deemed ineligible for this program.

In many of the proposals we received for funding under this program, Municipalities described close working relationships with their neighbours, including Mutual Aid agreements and a long history of working together. Floodwaters and other natural disasters do not respect borders and I encourage you to exchange news of your purchases under this program with your neighbours, so that equipment can be shared to address regional needs.

Municipal Relations staff will be in immediate contact with more details on eligible expenses and details on how to report back on the outcomes of this program. If you have questions, you may contact Jason Greenall at Jason.greenall@gov.mb.ca, or by phone at 204-619-4283.

Second, my colleague, Infrastructure Minister Ron Schuler and I want to make you aware of a new, optional program that the province has created for municipalities to set aside funding for disaster mitigation projects in their communities, as part of a modernization of the Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) cost-sharing formula. If approved, municipalities would be able to redirect their municipal cost-sharing portion under the provincial/municipal DFA cost-sharing formula to disaster mitigation and preparedness measures.

This optional program would only apply when a DFA program qualifies for federal cost sharing under Canada's Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements. In this case, the province would reimburse municipalities for 100 per cent of their eligible DFA costs, and in turn, municipalities would be able to invest the equivalent amount of the municipal DFA cost-share into mitigation and preparedness projects. Other proposed changes to the Disaster Financial Assistance program will result in municipalities covering the first \$3.25 per capita, up from \$1 per capita, before the DFA formula applies. Further details on the DFA program are available at www.manitobaemo.ca. If you have any questions, please contact Grant Buchberger, Supervisor of DFA at dfa@gov.mb.ca or by phone at 204-945-3050.

Together, these two programs demonstrate this government's commitment to support municipalities during times of need.

I wish your municipality and its residents the best of luck preparing for the serious issues we all face in the coming weeks and months.

Warmest Regards,

Honourable Rochelle Squires Minister of Municipal Relations

c. Honourable Ron Schuler, Minister of Infrastructure
 Jason Greenall
 Grant Buchberger
 Prachi Dey

ATTACHMENT

2020 Flood Preparedness Program – Notice of Eligible Funding

Municipality	Eligible Funding
RM of Oakland-Wawanesa	
- Generator and transfer switch, pumps, culvert steaming equipment, signs, chain saw/pole saw and Emergency Operations Centre	
equipment	\$98,150.00

A direct deposit will be made to the Municipality's account in this amount; final reporting on outcomes will be due no later than June 30, 2020.



Steve Geletchuk

Manager - DEPP & Security Services
Dauphin, MB

Office: 204-622-2992 | Fax: 204-759-3127

Email: sgeletchuk@pmh-mb.ca

April 8, 2020

Municipal Leadership / Municipal Emergency Coordinators

Pandemic Information Update

By working together, we can help to flatten the curve in the fight to try to keep COVID-19 contained in Manitoba and Prairie Mountain Health. We are keenly aware that many jurisdictions are doing everything they can to help promote key messaging with regards to; social distancing, the provincial state of emergency and the other resources that can be found on the MB COVID-19 website. This website is updated daily following the daily news conferences with the pandemic updates on impact, measures, tools and information from the province. This resource will help your communities stay current with COVID-19 information.

- For persons concerned about symptoms, a new COVID-19 Self-assessment tool that will help to identify if persons should call Health links or seek further care.
- Community Screening Locations, who can get screened, where they are located in the province and region

In addition, we would like to remind you about the <u>Prairie Mountain Health Website</u>, where you can find important regional information about COVID-19 and impacts or changes within our health region.

- A reminder to the public: Our emergency departments are still available for NON COVID-19
 emergencies. Please do not ignore other injuries, illness or symptoms. We are here to help. For
 emergent situations, call 911. See our Emergency Department Patient Guide on our web page.
- Take the time, Care for Your Mental Health
 - Follow the link for more information on caring for your mental health. Recognize the signs; manage your stress; helping others; and Frequently Asked Questions.
- New Regional Well Wishes for all patients and residents in PMH, please see the PMH website to send a greeting to persons in care. It's a small gesture with big reward, especially with the visitation restrictions in place.

In response to some frequently asked questions, we would like to share the information for everyone:

Prairie Mountain Health, as part of the provincial health system and in collaboration with our provincial counterparts, are leading the health system response to this pandemic – there may be times where we will require assistance from our community partners – when that is required we will reach out to you.

Prairie Mountain Health thanks all regional residents for their assistance in flattening the curve of this pandemic – for staying home; practicing social distancing at all times; using cough etiquette; cooperating with visiting restrictions to our acute and long term care facilities. All of these efforts will

help us get through this together and help protect the health and safety of our front line staff and our patients, clients, residents.

We express our utmost gratitude to all of our front line staff and all health care workers who are working very hard to ensure the health system is prepared and able to respond to this unprecedented public health event.

For all questions or concerns relating to COVID-19 in Manitoba, please contact Manitoba Government Inquiry toll free at: 1-866-626-4862 or email: mgi@gov.mb.ca

NOTE: There is also an interactive website at www.engagemb.ca. Click on the COVID-19 link. The public can ask a question and someone will email them back with an appropriate response.

Please direct your Pandemic planning inquiries or requests for information to depp@pmh-mb.ca

Thank you,

Steve Geletchuk, Manager, DEPP & Security Services



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Need More Info?

Public information, contact Manitoba Government Inquiry: 1-866-626-4862 or 204-945-3744.

Media requests for general information, contact Communications Services Manitoba: 204-945-3765.

Media requests for ministerial comment, contact Communications and Stakeholder Relations: 204-945-4916.

Twitter Feed

Tweets by @MBGovNews **Quick Links**

Manitoba Ombudsman Manitoba Auditor General Office of the Children's Advocate

Manitoba Public Insurance

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Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries

News Release - Manitoba

April 3, 2020

PROVINCE PROVIDES RECOMMENDED METHODS FOR SAFE SANDBAG PREPARATION

Part of Provincial Response to Challenges of COVID-19: Schuler

The province is introducing new safe work procedures that municipalities can implement to ensure the safety of high water response workers during the COVID-19 pandemic, Infrastructure Minister Ron Schuler announced today.

"This spring, we are potentially facing the unique challenge of fighting a high water event while at the same time slowing the spread of COVID-19," said Schuler. "We are rising to that challenge and have developed a creative and innovative solution to ensure sandbagging will be undertaken while keeping Manitobans safe."

A high water response activity document has been created, which provides a clear and concise process on sandbag production, the construction of two types of sandbag dikes, as well as the installation of water-filled barriers.

The following precautions can be incorporated into sandbag and water-filled barrier procedures:

- social distancing with a minimum of six feet or two metres,
- · availability of adequate hand-washing and washroom facilities,
- · regular disinfecting of surfaces,
- · alteration to work methods,
- · use of appropriate personal protective equipment,
- · assurance sick workers self-isolate for 14 days, and
- preparation for a number of workers to be sick at the same time.

At provincial worksites, the province may assign specific duties for regular cleaning of common surfaces, tools and facilities. A co-ordinated approach with the construction industry, suppliers and consultants is underway to ensure the safety of everyone involved in response efforts.

"As the COVID-19 pandemic evolves, all Manitobans have a role to play in slowing its spread and minimizing its impact on the health-care system as well as in communities across the province," said Schuler. "We will work together to ensure everyone involved stays safe."

To view the province's safe sandbagging procedures, visit www.gov.mb.ca/emo/.

- 30 -

For more information:

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Elections Manitoba

- Public information, contact Manitoba Government Inquiry: 1-866-626-4862 or 204-945-3744.
- Media requests for general information, contact Communications Services Manitoba: 204-945-3765.
- Media requests for ministerial comment, contact Communications and Stakeholder Relations: 204-945-

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Office of the Fire Commissioner



Bulletin for Fire Fighters: Pandemic Response Precautions When Engaged in Fire-Rescue Operations

Date Issued: April 07, 2020

OFC 20-001

SUPPLEMENT TO:

GUIDE FOR CORONAVIRUS PLANNING &

RESPONSE

IAFC Coronavirus Task Force MARCH 2020 – *updated 3/23/2020*

REFERENCES:

- Preparing for Pandemic Influenza in Manitoba
 Guide for the Public from the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of
 Health. March 2006, Public Health Emergency Preparedness and
 Response
- Guide to Service Levels: Fire Fighting. Organization and Deployment.
 First edition 2019. Manitoba Office of the Fire Commissioner

PURPOSE: To provide working points when conducting Fire-Rescue-Hazardous Materials Response Operations to assist firefighters with the application of International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) "GUIDE FOR CORONAVIRUS PLANNING & RESPONSE".

SCOPE: Written for firefighters working with victims from fire, rescue (motor vehicle collisions, water/ice, farm accident, etc.), hazardous materials exposure, or other. Medical First Responder firefighters responding to medical calls and working for extended time with patients will have protocols in place from Manitoba Shared Health and their Medical Director.

SCALE: These precautions are listed at the request of municipalities to reduce firefighter vulnerability and increase responder safety. It does not replace formal training in airborne and bloodborne pathogen protection, or hazardous materials inhalation hazards found in advanced first aid & CPR courses, medical first responder courses, hazardous materials courses, technical rescue courses, etc.

Consequences involved with firefighters performing their duties places them at risk from physical, environmental and health hazards. Victims in need of critical life-saving measures (removal from smoke-involved buildings, vehicle entrapment, water or other entrapment, hazardous materials exposure, trauma, cardiac arrest, etc.) will require firefighters to make decisions that pose a high risk to their own lives and safety. This risk-

benefit life-saving decision will have to account for, and be measured against, any possible exposure to the Coronavirus.

APPLICATION: Precautions are updated daily and approved by the Fire Chief, Health & Safety Officer, and CAO. Information is communicated to fire department members, Council and the RM Emergency Coordinator regularly and formally

All members are responsible for identification, inspection and reporting of hazards; this includes options to increase precautions. All Officers and the CAO are responsible for enforcement per the municipality's workplace safety and health responsibilities under *The Workplace Safety & Health Act*.

EFFECTS: Coronavirus is easily passed person-to-person by droplets and small particles released into the air when infected people cough or sneeze, or through manipulation of an unresponsive individual's airway through the performance of Aerosol Generating Medical Procedures (AGMPs). https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/aerosol-generating-medical-procedures-AGMPs.pdf

The virus can travel about one metre (3 ft) in the air and has been shown to survive:

- on hard, non-porous surfaces (ex: telephones and doorknobs) for 24 to 48 hours;
- on cloth, paper and tissue for 8 to 12 hours
- on hands for 5 minutes.

The virus survives better at low humidity, like we experience during winter.

The Coronavirus enters the body through the eyes, nose or throat. This can happen when:

- someone inhales droplets produced by the coughing or sneezing of others, or during the performance of an AGMP
- after hand-to-hand contact with infected individuals
- after handling objects contaminated by infected individuals, then touching their mouth, eyes or nose.

Once infected with the Coronavirus, it usually takes from one to three days to develop symptoms. However, someone with Coronavirus can be contagious from the day before they develop symptoms up to seven days afterwards.

Not everyone who is infected with Coronavirus gets sick, but it is still possible for them to spread it to others.

SAFETY STATEMENT: A fire department ensures all safety procedures and operating guidelines for responding, working at incidents, during recovery and return-to-hall are in place and enforced. A local government RM ensures the fire department is operating safely.

Fire Chief and Officers designate a Health & Safety Officer for the firehall and an Incident Safety Officer while working at scenes. Officers focus on the safety of incident operations and escalate their health oversight to focus on airborne pathogen precautions.

Risk-Benefit decision making.

- Vulnerability Fire department members are at low risk when conducting structural firefighting, wildland fighting, driving/ responding, rescue, hazardous materials, vehicle extrication, and post-incident salvage and overhaul for instance; they do not spend time within physical distance (six feet or two meters for longer than 10 minutes) of persons exhibiting signs and symptoms. They work with victims for limited times, conducting limited interactions, and patient care limited to critical life-saving intervention. Lower call volumes also reduce vulnerability.
- Consequence RM's and fire departments enforcing precautions will maintain members in service.
- Every municipality must provide fire protection services within its boundaries to reduce the danger of fire, which may include education programs, inspections of property, the installation of alarms, instructions on fighting fires, the provision of fire fighting equipment and a fire protection force.

POINTS re: GUIDE FOR CORONAVIRUS PLANNING & RESPONSE

Self-Monitoring Before and During ShiftsIAFC Guide Page 4 Points:

- Fire Department members should self-screen with the following questions prior to attending to work:
 - Fever (greater than 38 degrees Celsius)
 - o "New" onset of (or worsening) of chronic cough
 - Shortness of breath
 - Difficulty breathing
 - Sore throat
 - Runny nose
 - Headaches
 - Feeling tired and unwell
- Fire Department members should continuously self-monitor for symptoms.

- Fire Department members are employees of the municipality and should report if they are exhibiting signs and symptoms or have tested positive for the virus
- If tested positive or have signs and symptoms, members remove themselves from service and self-isolate
- Firehalls should be closed to non-fire department personnel and when not responding. No social activities of any kind.
- o Group training suspended. On-line, theory reading or individual skills practice remain.

Dispatch Screening and ProtocolsIAFC GUIDE Page 5 Points:

- E911, MTCC and RCMP Dispatch are screening all calls for patients at high-risk of exposure or exhibiting signs and symptoms.
- Responders are getting updates from the dispatch centers in relations to these questions:
 - Are you experiencing any of the following symptoms: fever, new or worsening cough, new or worsening shortness of breath?
 - 2. Have you travelled anywhere in the last 14 days? If yes, where?
 - 3. Have you had close contact with a confirmed or probably case of COVID-19?
 - 4. Is anyone else in the building/home affected or showing signs, experiencing symptoms?
- Responders will be responding to calls with this information.
 First members on scene should maintain social distancing (2 meters/6 feet) while they conduct their own screening.

Personal Protective EquipmentIAFC Guide Page 6 Points:

- Current fire department precautions for airborne and bloodborne pathogen protection remain in place.
 - Training from first aid and CPR courses
 - Provide the patient with a procedural mask as soon as possible
 - Safety glasses, helmet shields, work gloves, medical gloves, and a procedural mask for the fire fighter conducting victim care
 - Washing of coveralls, turn-out gear
 - Disinfection of medical equipment
 - Proper disposal of used medical equipment
- Limit number of members having direct interaction with public and victims.
 - One, max two members for interior

- One member for vehicle or rescue size-up
- One member for interviews
- o Ensure physical distancing where possible
 - Ask people to leave a home when checking for false alarms, carbon monoxide and other hazards.
 - Expand hot, cold and warm zones at calls and enforce them.
- Should everyone where masks? The WHO advises: https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public/when-and-how-to-use-masks
 - Shared Health is currently recommending the following PPE when dealing with the public: Procedural mask, eye protection, and medical gloves
 - Masks are effective when used in combination with frequent hand-cleaning with alcohol-based hand rub or anti-bacterial soap and water.
 - If you wear a mask, then you must know how to use it and dispose of it properly.
 - https://www.canada.ca/en/publichealth/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirusinfection/health-professionals/public-health-measuresmitigate-covid-19.html
- Hand hygiene following Shared Health recommended practices
 - English: https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/hand-hygiene.pdf
 - French: https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/hand-hygiene-fr.pdf
- PPE Doffing Process: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lly8DjGcvDM&feature=youtu.be

Patient Assessment and CareIAFC Guide Page 6 Points:

- Limit number of firefighters working with victims.
- Ensure initial physical distancing when asking screening questions
- For all patient contacts the PPE should include eye protection, hand protection and surgical/procedural mask for the patient i.e. source control, and the firefighter assigned to victim.
- Work from best distance possible. Avoid face-to-face contact when stabilizing or immobilizing i.e. work from side or from behind
- Limit patient talking.
- Do NOT provide any airway suctioning
- Do NOT provide oxygen higher than 6 litres via nasal cannula, unless using a BVM with two handed seal (as below)

- Do NOT conduct positive pressure Bag Valve Mask (BVM) ventilations. If the patient is unresponsive, turn on high flow oxygen to a BVM, hold the BVM over the patients face with a two hand seal, but do not squeeze the bag. This will provide passive oxygenation for the patient
- Prior to the performance of CPR, ensure the BVM is secured to the patients face using a two hand seal, and provide passive oxygenation as outlined above. Do NOT squeeze the bag.
- Notify incoming EMS, police, and other agencies of any possible high-risk exposures.

Decontamination and DisinfectionIAFC GUIDE Page 8 Points:

- Good hand hygiene provides significant protection from viral respiratory illnesses, such as COVID-19.
- Fire hall equipped with anti-bacterial hand soap and wash locations.
- o Fire hall touch points regularly disinfected.
- o Equipment, SCBA's, apparatus regularly disinfected.
- Individual responders are equipped with anti-bacterial soap and hand wash. Officers ensure hand washing occurs at the scene, post-incident.
- o Apparatus are equipped with anti-bacterial soap and hand wash.

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Quarantine GuidanceIAFC Guide Page 10 Points:

- If precautions are followed, firefighters returning from fire-rescuehazmat calls do not require quarantine or self-isolation.
- Firefighters in self-isolation because of testing positive and/or developing signs and symptoms shall be prevented from attending calls.
- Follow Manitoba COVID-19 screening tool from Shared Health https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/screening-tool/
- Regularly check Manitoba COVID-19 website for updates, precautions and other information https://manitoba.ca/covid19/

DESIGNATED POSITIONS:

The **Health & Safety Officer** is a safety advocate in each department. The Health & Safety Officer is the catalyst in a fire department's mission to identify, analyze and mitigate risk and champion safety.

The individual who fulfills this role ensures the department has procedures and processes in place that ensure safe and effective operations. The term Health & Safety Officer identifies the individual, usually a senior officer, who

oversees the employment of processes to ensure safe fire hall operations, training records, and workplace safety & health requirements. This includes the inspection, testing and repair of personal protective clothing, selfcontained breathing apparatus, equipment and vehicles.

This role and the attendant responsibilities bear no relationship to the operational roles of either the Incident Commander (IC) or the Incident Safety Officer (ISO) at an emergency incident. Although it may be possible that an individual who fulfills the Health & Safety Officer role may also be qualified to act as an IC or ISO at an incident.

The Health & Safety Officer may be the Fire Chief, or another member of the department, depending on the composition and structure of the department. The individual needs to have sufficient experience and/or appropriate training to ensure that he or she understands the administrative structures and processes that are in place to guide a department's safety.

SUMMARY:

Fire departments should take extra precautions when interacting with the public and victims. This includes reducing interaction time, reducing face-toface work (direct talking), and reducing number of firefighters engaged in working with victims and the public. They should also reduce the number of staff engaged in size-up, interviewing, and investigation in a building or at a scene.

Fire fighters should increase their level of precautions. This includes using personal protective equipment in a proper manner and efficiently to protect supply and logistics. Continually clean and disinfect hands and face, and disinfect surfaces of equipment, apparatus and the firehall.

If a firefighter shows any of the signs and symptoms or tests positive they should report to the employer and self-isolate.

All other fire fighter safety protocols for ICS, Health & Safety, Incident Safety, communications, bloodborne pathogen protocols, and firefighter PPE for fire, rescue and hazardous materials response remain in place.

508 - 401 York Avenue Winnipeg Manitoba R3C 0P8 T: 204 945-3322

F: 204 948-2089

Toll Free: 1-866-282-8069 (in Manitoba only)

Website: www.firecomm.gov.mb.ca



RM Oakland 2

From:

Simpson, Jeff <Jeff.Simpson@hdrinc.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, October 9, 2019 11:52 AM

Subject:

Rail Crossing Safety Regulations - What You Need To Know

Attachments:

HDR_Rail_Grade_Crossing_Safety_Quals_FINAL.PDF

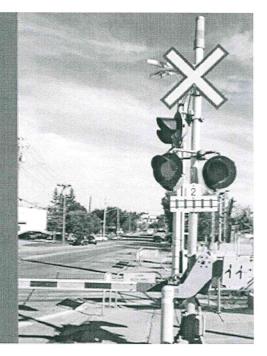
Public and private at-grade rail crossing regulation update. Contact HDR today.

FDS

Transport Canada New Regulations and Requireme

Railway Grade Crossing Safety Assessments and Supporting Services

New Regulations and Requirements for Canadian Public and Private Crossings



What You Need To Know

Transport Canada has released **new regulations and requirements** for public and private at-grade rail crossings. All new and existing grade crossings **must be compliant by November 27, 2021.**



New Legislation

Requires all municipalities to review and assess the current state of their existing grade crossings to be compliant.



Compliance

Municipalities and rail agencies are required to improve deficient crossings and bring them in line with the new safety regulations.



Funding

The Rail Safety Improvement Program (RSIP) offers funding assistance, which can cover up to 80% of the total improvement cost.

Contact our team of rail engineers to help you navigate the new regulations for grade crossings in your jurisdiction.

Jeff Simpson Senior Railway Planner 403.727.0073 Jeff.Simpson@hdrinc.com



Grade crossings safety assessments and prioritization



Rail experience throughout Canada and the United States



Design, construction and grant application support available

Helping you achieve compliance and improve the safety of your crossings.



Frequently Asked Questions

Why has Transport Canada introduced new

New regulations have been introduced to provide consistent grade crossing safety standards and to ensure that existing crossings are brought up to that standard.

Which grade crossings need assessments?
All new or existing grade crossings must meet the new regulations, and it is the responsibility of rail agencies and municipalities to ensure that their crossings meet these standards. The easiest way to do this is through a grade crossing safety assessment.

How long does the process take?
Agrade crossing safety assessment can typically be completed within a month or two, and we can assess multiple crossings in parallel. When upgrading is required, the entire upgrading process can take between 6 to 18 months, dependent on the location and applicable railway agencies, as they may complete all detailed design and construction for the improvements.

Are there funding sources available to help us upgrade our crossings? Improvements costs will vary by crossing. Significant to set provided following the grade crossing safety assessment. The good works it that there are various funding sources available to municipalities including the Rail Safety improvement Program (RSIP). The fund is intended to address all line safety issues, and recipients may be eligible for up to 80% of total project expenditures.

What does a grade crossing safety assessment entail?
The assessment starts with an initial desktop review, and then a field inspection that includes a reviae worthe existing conditions, including signs, markings and sightlines, following the field inspection, additional desktop research and analysis is completed, and a report and recommendations are developed.

Grade crossings must meet the standards, with requirements varying depending on the type of crossing. Upgrades that could be required include signage, crossing surface improvements, warning systems, or grade separation. What is required by November 27, 2021?

Grade Crossing Canada Federal **New Transport** Regulations

What You Need to Know

What are the Goals of the New Regulations?

- Provide a consistent set of standards
 Define the roles and responsibilities of respective parties in implementing crossing improvements





Knowledgeable, Dedicated, Full-Service Rail Teams

Select HDR Grade Crossing Assessment Experience



Grade Crossing Assessment Rush Lake, Saskatchewan

salety assessments for a number of locations that were intersected by ralload tracks worded by CN and CP. We identified potential means to reduce the level of risk through mitigation measures and long term treatments. and identified required improvements for this CP grade crossing using the latest Grade Crossing Regulations and Standards. HDR conducted an assessment



Grade Crossing Assessment Grade Crossing Assessments Brighton, Ontario HDR used a data-driven multi-criteria screening and selection process to analyze and prioritize more than appraised crossings across the state of Montana.



Crossing Safety Study North Dakota, US Regional Railway

Prioritization Project Texas, US **Grade Crossing**

and Prioritization Montana, US

HDR conducted grade crossing

HDR utilized a custom app developed specifically for this project to efficiently assess 60 al-grade crossings. rail projects within Texas. Working collaboratively with the TXDOT, a prioritized list of grade

HDR undertook a prioritization of over 700 identified unfunded

crossing improvements were developed based on benefit-cost analysis and available funding.



Matthew Goulet 13 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE Senior Rail Advisor and Quality Control Jeff Simpson 17 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

Jeff has more than 17 years

Senior Railway Planner

track, grading, drainage and yards. Has led and participated in numerous freight rail projects involving grade crossing assessments, many involving comparative analysis to Transport Canada's Grade Crossing Regulations and Standards. Matthew has 13 years of varied railway infrastructure project experience including T 289.695,4690 Matthew.Goulet@hdrinc.com of experience working in the influence working in the influence working in the and Short Line Railways and brings a broad, yet defailed workings a broad, yet defailed workings a broad, yet defailed workings and selety, Jeff has been rinewled in grade crossing and whistle cessalton reviews during his tenure with Canadian and whistle cessalton reviews during his tenure with Canadian Sandhilis Railway (CP) Great Sandhilis Railway (CSR), and rine with HDR.

T 403,727,0073 Jeff.Simpson@hdrinc.com



experience with responsibilities Coty has more than 11 years of



Coty Hollinger

and geometry and clainage design. Coly has extensive experience with the Transport Coasting Safety Assessment program in southern Assessment program is osouthern crossing assessments for more than 25 different municipalities. ranging from railway grade crossing assessments and railwa profiles to easement layouts r 403.727.0068

RM Oakland 2

From:

Travel Manitoba <contactus@travelmanitoba.com>

Sent:

Friday, March 20, 2020 9:14 AM

To:

oakwawa@outlook.com

Subject:

Updates from Travel Manitoba regarding information and activities during COVID-19

An update from Travel Manitoba for our tourism partners.

Email not displaying correctly? View it in your browser.



Dear Industry Partners,

This is a difficult time and the situation is continuing to change at a rapid pace. There is much uncertainty as to how the tourism industry will be affected. Travel Manitoba is committed to ensuring tourism is a vital contributor to Manitoba's economy, and this will be more important than ever when things return to normal. But until that happens, Travel Manitoba is here to support our tourism industry through this unprecedented situation.

Stay up to date

 We will be sharing relevant information and updates for industry and tourism businesses owners in our daily Tourism Industry News (TI News) e-newsletter. If you're not already subscribed, sign up here.

Stay informed

• Travel Manitoba is participating in regular calls with Destination Canada several times a week and we will be relying on their assembled team of experts to look at recovery signals by market. We will share this information with you when available. Destination Canada is enhancing the **information on COVID-19 on its corporate website** regularly, including links to where small and medium-sized businesses can go for support or information. You can also sign up for **Destination Canada News**.

- Look to your local chamber of commerce for additional support. The Manitoba Chambers of Commerce is providing links to practical resources on their website for their members and the business community.
- For up-to-date information on the situation in Manitoba, visit the Government of Manitoba's COVID-19 information page.

Stay connected

- Travel Manitoba staff are working from home and **are available by phone and email**. This includes our Visitor Services team who is continuing to provide personalized travel counselling over the phone and by email. Shipments of guides, brochures and information kits have been put on hold; we will let you know when these activities resume. We do have staff available to accept deliveries if needed, please call Aaron at 204-296-7122.
- The situation is changing daily and we are committed to making the
 best decisions we can with the information we currently have. Based
 on this, we are reviewing our 2020/21 marketing plan, which
 we will share with you once finalized.
- We are in the process of reviewing all partnership opportunities to
 determine how to best respond to the current global presence of
 COVID-19. Our Partnership team will be reaching out to you
 with current and/or upcoming partnership opportunities to
 discuss possible options. This may include delaying campaigns,
 shifting target markets or offering alternate opportunities.

- Our paid marketing campaigns are still paused for the time being,
 but we will be resuming social media activity. All our messaging will acknowledge the situation we're facing together; we will be sharing content that allows our audience to discover Manitoba from their homes and that encourages engagement while we all follow social distancing recommendations.
- We are looking to support our tourism partners through our resumed social media activities. If you have a virtual tour of your attraction or can provide a "behind-the-scenes" look at your operation, please tag us @travelmanitoba, or connect directly with Nisha Tuli, Senior Manager, Content Marketing at ntuli@travelmanitoba.com.

Stay well

Please continue to take care of yourselves and the important people in your lives. Your friends at Travel Manitoba are looking forward and we know you'll be there alongside us when this has passed. We'll work together to show the world that Manitoba is where Canada's heart beats.

Sincerely,

Colin Ferguson

Travel Manitoba President & CEO



You are receiving this email because you are a member of Manitoba's tourism industry and have indicated email as an acceptable form of communication from Travel Manitoba.

Travel Manitoba 21 Forks Market Road Winnipeg, MB R3C 4T7 Canada Travel Manitoba

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COMMITTEE REPORT FOR _	Ward 3	(name of committee)
COUNCIL MEETING DATE	April 21, 2020	
SUBMITTED BY	Councillor Shaun Cory	

I would like to report the following:

COMMITTEE DEDORT EOD

Attended the March 17 regular council meeting

Received and replied to correspondence from office staff and Public Works

Reported to Public Works about water topping a road

Explained rationale of burning permit to concerned rate payer.

Discussed pending cover crop program with Watershed District staff.

Councillor Cory - Ward 3

COMMITTEE REPORT FOR WARD 3

COUNCIL MEETING DATE Tuesday, April 21, 2020

SUBMITTED BY Councillor Sowiak

I would like to report the following:

Reviewed various financial documents, statements, emails and grader reports.

Reviewed dozens of emails regarding Covid-19 Updates and procedures.

Reviewed several emails from Municipal Capacity and Assessment regarding conference calls with several municipalities in our province regarding Covid-19 procedures, such as:

Council meetings and public hearings

Financial plans

Financial information returns (unaudited statements)

Other facility and service closures

Manitoba Emergency Measures communications with municipalities and information request

Reviewed Municipality of Oakland Wawanesa Pandemic Plan 2020

There has been a tremendous amount of email correspondence regarding Covid-19 procedures and several updates on a daily and weekly basis as updates change and evolve.

Time spent reviewing monthly meeting minutes for the previous and current month.

COMMITTEE REPORT FOR	Ward 2	(name of committee)
COUNCIL MEETING DATE	April 21, 2020	
SUBMITTED BY Counc	illor Hargreaves	

I would like to report the following:

Took part in Finance Committee meeting

Have read the updates from the staff everyday of ongoing work from home or office.

Read daily emails from CAO on updates from the province

In contact with PWM on Carroll drainage, culvert plugs, snow plowing and grading.

Drove around RM looking for backed up water and looking at roads.

Had Conversations with Fire Chief Gullett about burn ban.

Councillor Brett Hargreaves

COMMITTEE REPORT FOR _	Ward 2	(name of committee)
COUNCIL MEETING DATE	April 21, 2020	
SUBMITTED BY	Councillor Craig Hatch	

I would like to report the following:

March 11 Attended Budget Meeting and Tender Discussions

March 17 Attended Council Meeting

March 30 Acquired Server Housing from RB Auction for municipal office

Councillor Hatch - Ward 2

COMMITTEE REPORT FOR	Ward 1	(name of committee)
COUNCIL MEETING DATE	April 21, 2020	
SUBMITTED BY	Councillor McDonald	

I would like to report as follows:

- I have spent time reviewing corespondents and emails.

- I attended Glenboro Municipal office to sign papers/cheque's/audit for the Handi Van.
- I attended a meeting regarding the installation of Westman Cable in Village.

Anything else I will bring up at meeting.

Councillor Bob McDonald

COMMITTEE REPORT FOR:

WARD 1

COUNCIL MEETING DATE:

April 21, 2020

SUBMITTED BY:

BRETT MCGREGOR

I would like to report the following:

- Responded to emails and text messages and phone calls from ratepayers on municipal questions.
- Corresponded with ratepayer on development process.
- Reviewed material for and attended regular council meeting.
- Attended Budget meeting March 17th.
- Recreation Commission has discontinued all programming and closed all facilities until further notice due to COVID-19. Starting to explore the option of programming with proper distancing, put contingency plans in place for summer operation of the pool, ball diamonds and campground depending on how COVID progresses.

COMMITTEE REPORT FOR HEAD OF COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETII	NG DATE <u>April 21, 2020</u>		
SUBMITTED BY	Dave Kreklewich	course.	
I would like to re	eport the following:		

- Attended the Municipal office on various occasions to review matters with the CAO as well as reviewing invoices and signing cheques.
- Received and reviewed emails from ratepayers and Councillors.
- Participated in ongoing teleconferences relating to the Covid 19 Pandemic updates, from the various groups including the Provincial Government Ministers.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT - April 21, 2020

Covid 19 Protocols

While the office is closed to the public, normal work continues utilizing social distancing, flex hours and work from home options to ensure the safety of staff. For me, this includes two to three hours a day on conference calls with the Province, staff and preparing updates to Council.

Property Matters

Completed development agreement requirements for one subdivision and signed off on development permits for two properties in the municipalities. This is slightly more time consuming to do remotely, as there is the additional need to scan and send documents back and forth between home and office, however it seems to be working well.

Special Levies

Still awaiting information from The Municipal Board on two special levies. The Board is required to continue hearings on essential matters, but a determination has not yet been made as to the platform that will be used.

Preliminary Budget

Continued work on the 2020 preliminary budget.

Meetings with Members of Council

Discussions continue with members of Council utilizing email, texts or telephone calls.

IT Risk Management

Kelty Management is not currently conducting any in-person work, however they were able to remotely install the necessary application to ensure server updates are taking place.

J. Swidnicki Chief Administrative Officer

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT – April 2020

- It has been interesting working primarily from home. There were some initial challenges getting the remote connection to my computer to work but that has been resolved and with the use of emails, texts and our daily conference call we are managing quite well.
- We received three donations to the MOW Fire Department for a total of \$1,100. Charitable receipts were issued for the donations.
- We received Waste Reduction and Recycling Support (WRARS) program payments for 2019 totalling \$6,195.89.
- We received notification that our grant application to the Province for Spring Flood Preparedness funding was successful. The \$98,150 will be direct deposited into our account on April 13, 2020.
- WTS Decommissioning Reserve has been set up at the bank and in our General Ledger.
- Sensus auditors are working on our year end audit from their office in Brandon. I continue to work with them investigating and following up on any questions that they have. They are also starting the Souris River Rec audit from their office.

Elaine McGregor Finance Officer



Public Works Report Oakland-Wawanesa Council Meeting April 21, 2020 Submitted by Darcy Ketsman

Public Works

- Unplugged culverts that were causing water issues on roads
- Installed hazard markers on roads with frost heaves
- Removed snow fence
- Awarded Provincial Flood Funding

Ongoing

- Working with vendors to acquire flood equipment that was requested through Provincial Flood Funding grant we were awarded
- Working on Drainage applications
- Working with Westman Communications regarding the proposed fiber optic route
- Reviewing 2020 road construction projects in relation to anticipated federal funding
- Investigating options for ongoing drainage issues within the municipality
- Data collection for asset management is ongoing

Municipal Water Wells

No issues to report

Transfer Stations

New Waste and Recycling containers were delivered to all sites

Nesbitt Municipal Office/Maintenance Shed

 Cistern has a leak and we are having to haul water every 4-5 days to fill the cistern at the Nesbitt office.

Equipment

Culvert cleaning skid and bulk water skid builds are completed

Wawanesa Public Works Report

April 13 2020

- 41,000 gallon daily average
- · water plant has no issues
- filter plant is working well
- sewage lift station has no issues
- some of the drainage ditches have been cleared
- we are having a few street issues with the frost
- · we also need to look at purchasing a couple manhole extensions
- I will start filling potholes as soon as the weather warms up a little
- I think we should be considering putting in the water main loop from the rink down to the school while we have the directional boring guys here. It would mean putting in a 4 inch main and three valves at the school with a few other valves around town needing repaired to be able to control sections that are leaking. I would like to see this work done, as it is important to me to be able to control areas where we have a leak especially with essential services such as the school and hospital involved. This Westman Cable project has seemed to have been fast tracked without significant discussion on the impacts of our ability to repair/replace older infrastructure in town. Repairs will be significantly impacted by wait times for locates and vac trucks to expose the fiber optic lines.

Sheet1

Municipality of Oakland-Wawanesa Fire Department

Call#	Date	Time	Function/Event/Practice	Location	Personel	Equipment
1	2020-01-11	16:36:00	Chimney Fire	Oakland	13	5 units
	2020-01-13	19:00:00	Equipment Checks	Fire hall	8	
	2020-01-24	19:00:00	CPR Recert	Fire hall	21	
	2020-01-28	08:00:00	Enbridge training	BDN	1	
FEB					•	
	2020-02-03	19:00:00	Level 1	Souris		
	2020-01-04	19:00:00	First Aid	Firehall	21	
	2020-02-10	19:00:00	Level 1	Souris	5	
	2020-02-13	19:00:00	Equipment Checks	Firehall	7	
	2020-02-15	09:00:00	Level 1		5	
	2020-02-17	19:00:00	Level 1		5	
	2020-02-28	09:00:00	Ice rescue training		1	
March			4			
2	2020-03-01	17:00:00	MVC		18	4 Units
	2020-03-02	09:00:00	Ice rescue Mutual aid	Souris	6	1
	2020-03-02	19:00:00	Level 1	Souris	5	1
	2020-03-09	19:00:00	Level 1	MESC	5	1
	2020-03-10	19:00:00	Fire training		18	
	2020-03-14	09:00:00	Level 1	Oakland	5	1
	2020-03-17	19:00:00	Fire training	Ninette	14	
April						
	2020-04-04	09:00:00	Equipment Checks	Fire hall	2	
	2020-04-09		Burn Permits x 4		1	
	2020-04-11	11:00:00	Birthday drives	Oak/Wawa	5	4 Units

OWFD Fundraising for New Jaws of Life Raffle is under way and Grant applications are being completed.

Municipality of Oakland-Wawanesa Volunteer Fire Dept GENERAL OPERATING GUIDELINE

#122 Pandemic emergencies

<u>PURPOSE:</u> To provide safe and effective response of personnel to the fire hall and or emergency scene and or Training events.

REFERENCE:

Shared Health MB policy and procedures

MB Office of the fire Commissioner Pandemic response

Precautions

<u>POLICY:</u> All member of the Municipality of Oakland -Wawanesa Volunteer Fire Dept shall respond to an emergency call as per the References as well all members' vehicles while responding to an emergency are classified as an emergency vehicle.

GUIDELINES:

Members Health

- All available members upon receipt of a page shall respond to the fire hall providing they are not experiencing flue like symptoms, and or a cough. This should be followed during non-pandemic times as well. **The following self monitoring shall be adhered to.**
- Fever (greater than 38 degrees Celsius
- New Onset of or worsening Chronic cough
- Shortness of Breath
- Sore Throat
- Runny nose
- headaches
- Feeling tired and unwell
- Fire department members should continuously self monitor for symptoms
- Members are to report if they are exhibiting symptoms to the Fire Chief or if they have tested positive for a virus so evaluation of contacts can be established with other members or patients.
- Member shall not respond if required to self isolate as per MB or Canada health regulations
- If a member has tested positive or is in contact with a family member that has they will be asked self isolate from the fire hall for 14 days or the MB health recommendations
- Fire Hall will be closed to Non-Fire department personnel until Pandemic has passed
- Group training shall be suspended on-line training only

Responses

- 911,MTTC and RCMP will screen call for information pertaining to the Pandemic as required responders shall ask for updates to the call during the pandemic
- First Members on scene shall maintain social distancing until appropriate PPE has been established. Minimum PPE during a pandemic should be gloves, goggles, surgical mask helmet with visor Coveralls or turnout gear. For Max PPE a gown and N95 mask should be added.
- MB Shared health should have updated PPE requirements during a pandemic
- 1 member should do initial interior size up and interview with a Max of 2 social distancing where possible
- Ask people to leave homes or buildings when checking false alarms
- Expand Hot, Warm and Cold Zones during a Pandemic and enforce them

Decontamination

- Hand hygiene shall be done on a require bases
- PPE Doffing Process www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lly8DjGcvDM&feature=youtu.be
- Good hand Hygiene wash with soap and hot water as well as antibacterial hand wash
- disinfect all touch point in hall and on equipment with bleach water
- Officers shall ensure all personnel were appropriate PPE during decontamination
- Further decontamination as per MB Shared health recommendations

Approved by:	
	Dennis Gullett
	Fire Chief
	1 Jan 1

RM Oakland 2

From:

CAO

Sent:

Thursday, April 9, 2020 11:14 AM

To:

RM Oakland 2

Subject:

FW: Wawanesa Fiber Placement

Norma, can you print this for the agenda file, please.

Joni

From: Public Works <pw@oakland-wawanesa.ca>

Sent: Thursday, April 9, 2020 11:01 AM **To:** CAO <cao@oakland-wawanesa.ca>

Cc: Greg Gulas <GulasG@westmancom.com>; rrwilton@mts.net; Councillor.McDonald <Councillor.McDonald@oakland-

wawanesa.ca>; Dave Kreklewich < HofCKreklewich@oakland-wawanesa.ca>; Councillor.McGregor

<Councillor.McGregor@oakland-wawanesa.ca>

Subject: Wawanesa Fiber Placement

Joni,

This morning Drew, Councillor McDonald and myself met with Greg from Westman and their contractor to review the proposed fiber route. It was determined that the initial engineered drawings for most locations should not be an issue however there will need to be some deviation so they can maintain adequate separation from any of our underground utilities. Once they have surveyed property lines and have locates completed Drew can work with their contractor to make sure the fiber placement will have the least amount of impact on our water and sewer infrastructure.

We will need a resolution from council that:

- Westman Communications and their contractors are to confirm final fiber placement with Drew once they have surveyed property lines and locates and prior to installation.
- Westman Communications will provide the municipality with a digital and paper copy of the final engineered as built drawings for our files.
- Westman Communications will undertake any remediation work required for up to 12 months in their work areas to address any ground settling issues.

Regards,

Darcy Ketsman

Public Works Manager Municipality of Oakland-Wawanesa

Tel: 204-824-2666 Cell: 204-526-0569 Fax: 204-824-2374







April 16, 2020

All Municipally Owned Water and/or Wastewater Utilities

Re: An Order Respecting Water and/or Wastewater Utilities COVID-19 Pandemic Response

I am pleased to enclose a certified copy of the Public Utilities Board Order No. 56/20. Please review the Board Order for full details.

Please note the all municipally owned water and/or wastewater utilities are required to follow the below directives:

- 1. This Board Order is to remain in effect while the Province of Manitoba is under the state of emergency declared March 20, 2020.
- 2. Any municipality making temporary changes to its utility processes or by-laws under the authority of this Board Order, must notify the Board in writing of those changes immediately upon adoption.
- 3. The waiving of late fees by municipally owned water and/or wastewater utilities BE AND IS HEREBY APPROVED, during the state of emergency.
- 4. The extension of due dates and approval of temporary extended payment terms by municipally owned water and/or wastewater utilities BE AND ARE HEREBY APPROVED.

Should you have any questions regarding the attached Order or any of the processes/procedures outlined in the Order, please contact our office by emailing publicutilities@gov.mb.ca.

Yours truly,

Jennifer Dubois, CPA, CMA Assistant Associate Secretary

JD/dv

400 – 330 Portage Avenue Winnipeg, MB R3C 0C4 T 204-945-2638 / 1-866-854-3698 F 204-945-2643

Email: <u>publicutilities@gov.mb.ca</u> **Website:** <u>www.pubmanitoba.ca</u>

330, avenue Portage, pièce 400 Winnipeg (Manitoba) Canada R3C 0C4 **Tél.** 945-2638 / 1-866-854-3698

Téléc. 945-2643

Courriel: publicutilities@gov.mb.ca
Site Web: www.pubmanitoba.ca

Public les Public les Board

Rédie vices des vices publics

Order No. 56/20

AN ORDER RESPECTING WATER AND/OR WASTEWATER UTILITIES COVID-19 PANDEMIC RESPONSE

April 16, 2020

BEFORE:

Shawn McCutcheon, Panel Chair

Robert Gabor, Q.C., Board Chair

Marilyn Kapitany, BSc. (Hon), M.Sc., Member

Public ies Doard



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4.0	IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:	8

Public 185 Plant



1.0 Executive Summary

By this Order, the Public Utilities Board (Board) grants approval to waive late fees and extend due dates and payment terms for municipally owned water and/or wastewater utilities.

This Board Order is to remain in effect while the Province of Manitoba is under the state of emergency declared March 20, 2020.

The Board directs any municipality making changes to its policies under the authority of this Board Order to submit those changes to the Board in writing. Those changes must be made only with Council approval.

This Board Order also provides direction to utilities with regard to offering financial support to ratepayers and ongoing applications to the Board.

Further details are under Board Findings.





2.0 Background

The Manitoba government declared a province-wide state of emergency under *The Emergency Measures Act* on March 20, 2020, to protect the health and safety of all Manitobans and reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Both the Provincial and Federal governments have introduced a number of programs to provide immediate relief to Manitobans facing financial challenges due to the pandemic. On April 3, 2020 the Manitoba government announced new measures in the Manitoba Protection Plan to support these efforts, including working with municipal partners.

The Board was contacted by a number of municipalities investigating the options available to municipally owned utilities in providing financial relief to ratepayers.

3.0 Board Findings

The Board's intent with this General Board Order is to provide municipalities the flexibility required to be responsive to the needs of ratepayers during this unprecedented time, without delegating Board authority in regulating the utilities.

The Board will require municipalities to provide any modifications to regular policy in writing to the Board. This can be done by way of email, and should include confirmation that Council has been consulted and agreed to this policy change.

The Board is not a source of funding and as of the date of this Order, is not aware of any financial support available to utilities to replace collecting revenues directly from utility ratepayers.

It is important to note that by law, Manitoba utilities are not allowed to incur deficits. In the event that a deficit does occur, the utility is required by *The Municipal Act* to obtain Board approval for both the deficit and recovery methodology. Should any action taken by a





utility pursuant to this Order result in a deficit, the utility must notify the Board as soon as it becomes aware of the deficit.

The Board has identified the following items of concern to utilities in attempting to accommodate ratepayers through the exceptional circumstances brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. This list is not exhaustive, and any utility with further questions should contact the Board by phone or email. The Board office is currently closed to the public; however, staff remain available by telephone and email during regular business hours.

Extending utility bill due dates

The Board recommends this approach for providing financial support to ratepayers. The municipality has complete flexibility over the collection process for its utility bills, and can offer ratepayers alternative payment schedules without Board intervention.

The Board also recognizes this accommodation does not prevent the municipality from adding outstanding amounts to property taxes in the future, should the agreed upon repayment terms be defaulted upon. For this reason, the Board recommends any agreements be made in writing, to avoid disputes in future about expectations and obligations.

Late fees

On August 5, 2004 the Board issued Board Order No. 105/04 which directed municipalities to replace any late payment charge clause in the utility by-law with a clause stating, "A late payment charge of 1 1/4% shall be charged on the dollar amount owing after the billing due date. The due date will be at least fourteen days after the mailing of the bills." As a result, most municipally owned utilities have this clause in the utility rates by-law.

Because the clause states the late payment charge "shall" be charged, the municipality is obligated to apply the late payment charge.

Public ies Poard



The Board grants approval to all municipally owned utilities to waive utility bill late fees.

The Board directs any municipality making changes to its policies or by-law under the authority of this Board Order to submit those changes to the Board in writing, via letter or email. Those changes must be made only with Council approval.

Utility rates approved by the Board

The Board does not recommend revising utility rates, due to the likelihood of the utility incurring an operating deficit as a result.

Utility rates, including deficit recovery rate riders or interim rates, having already received Board approval, whether the effective date has passed or not, must be charged as approved. Upcoming rate changes approved by the Board must be implemented in accordance with the Board Order.

If a municipality wishes to revise any utility rates being charged, it must first obtain Board approval. This can be done by requesting the Board Review and Vary the previous Board Order, in accordance with Section 36 of the Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure. The application should demonstrate the financial implications of the requested rate revision, and the municipality's plan to address any resulting deficit.

The Board's Rules may be viewed on the Board's website at www.pubmanitoba.ca. This process requires the application to be filed and served on the parties within 30 days of the decision. The Board will use its discretion to allow water and wastewater utilities to submit applications outside of this period, relating to COVID-19 accommodations.

Charging customers only the minimum payment

The Board does not recommend charging only the minimum payment, or deferring billing in any way. This reduces the revenues of the utility and will result in an operating deficit.

Rather than deferring billing, the utility should consider deferring payments and making alternative payment schedules with ratepayers who require it.





Utility rates applied for, not yet approved by the Board

These applications remain in queue and are being processed in turn. If the municipality would like to make any type of amendment or request a delayed implementation date, please contact the Board as soon as possible.

Utilities applying for revised rates

The Board continues to operate, and is for the most part working remotely but available by phone and email. Utilities are encouraged to continue to submit applications for revised rates, and may request a desired effective date.

Should an extension be required for rate studies or directive due dates, the municipality is directed to contact the Board in writing. The municipality is to provide rationale and proposed new due date for Board consideration.

Utilities experiencing operating deficits

As stated above, Board operations continue and utilities must apply for approval of operating deficits and method of recovery. The Board is sensitive to the financial pressures many communities are experiencing during the COVID-19 pandemic; however, the utility must be self-sustaining and the legislation requires the deficits have Board approval. The Board must consider the impact on ratepayers and the financial health of the utility to ensure it can be sustained to service the ratepayers.

If a utility is seeking a rate rider, but wishes to defer the implementation, this request should be included with the application, with supporting explanation.





4.0 IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

- 1. This Board Order is to remain in effect while the Province of Manitoba is under the state of emergency declared March 20, 2020.
- 2. Any municipality making temporary changes to its utility processes or by-laws under the authority of this Board Order, must notify the Board in writing of those changes immediately upon adoption.
- 3. The waiving of late fees by municipally owned water and/or wastewater utilities BE AND IS HEREBY APPROVED, during the state of emergency.
- The extension of due dates and approval of temporary extended payment terms by municipally owned water and/or wastewater utilities BE AND ARE HEREBY APPROVED.

Fees payable upon this Order – waived





Board decisions may be appealed in accordance with the provisions of Section 58 of *The Public Utilities Board Act*, or reviewed in accordance with Section 36 of the Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure. The Board's Rules may be viewed on the Board's website at www.pubmanitoba.ca.

"Jennifer Dubois, CPA, CMA"
Assistant Associate Secretary

Certified a true copy of Order No. 56/20 issued by The Public Utilities Board

Assistant Associate Secretary

RM Oakland 2

From:

Public Works

Sent:

Wednesday, April 15, 2020 4:19 PM

To: ____

CAO; RM Oakland 2

Subject:

FW: SE 10-8-18w

I will reach out to Bolton's in regards to the culvert once I get a closer look on Friday. I will also get some photos for council on Friday so they can see the current condition of the roadway for those that aren't familiar with it.

Darcy Ketsman

Public Works Manager Municipality of Oakland-Wawanesa

Tel: 204-824-2666 Cell: 204-526-0569 Fax: 204-824-2374



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From: Jean Boulton <methvengrangeltd@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2020 4:08 PM **To:** Public Works pw@oakland-wawanesa.ca>

Subject: SE 10-8-18w

Hello, Darcy

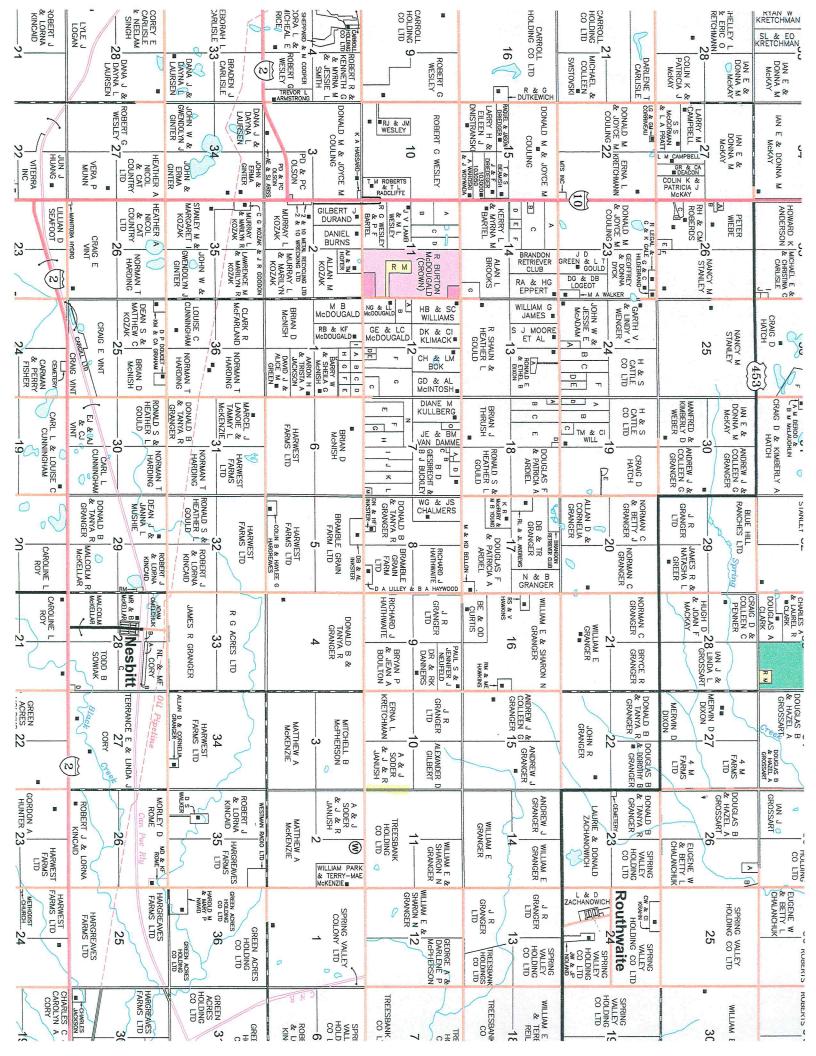
Further to our conversation this morning.

Having recently purchased this quarter. I write to enquire whether the Municipality would install a culvert under the eastern roadway. Also would the Municipality re-instate the roadway, as we intend using the yardsite and I understand this roadway is a municipal road.

Should you require a more formal letter, please let me know.

Regards, Peter Boulton.





MUNICIPALITY OF OAKLAND-WAWANESA

BY-LAW NO. 03-2020

BEING a By-law of the Municipality of Oakland-Wawanesa to amend Wawanesa Sewer and Water Rates By-law No. 519.

WHEREAS Section 232 of The Municipal Act provides as follows:

- 232 (1) "A council may pass by-laws for municipal purposes respecting the following matters:
 - (l) public utilities"; and
- 232 (2) Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), a council may in a bylaw passed under this Division
 - (d) establish fees or other charges for services, activities or things provided or done by the municipality or for the use of property under the ownership, direction, management or control of the municipality;"

AND WHEREAS By-law No. 519 of the Village of Wawanesa established such a by-law;

AND WHEREAS due to the current Covid-19 Pandemic, cancellation of penalties for 2020 billing cycles with due dates commencing April 2020 and continuing until October 1, 2020, is desired;

NOW THEREFORE the council of the Municipality of Oakland-Wawanesa enacts as follows:

 That Wawanesa Water and Sewer Rates By-law No. 519 be amended by adding thereto at the end of Clause 5 in Schedule "A", the following words:

"with the exception of those bills for current charges having a due date between April 1, 2020 and October 1, 2020, which shall have no late payment charges assessed."

DONE AND PASSED by Council in meeting duly assembled this $$\operatorname{\textsc{day}}$$ day of 2020.

	Dave Kreklewich, Head of Coun
Ioni S	widnicki, Chief Administrative Offic

Read a first time this day of , 2020

Read a second time this day of , 2020

Read a third time this day of , 2020

Village of Wawanesa

By-Law No. 519 Water and Sewer Rates By-Law

BEING a by-law of the Village of Wawanesa to establish sewer and water rates within the said Village of Wawanesa;

WHEREAS the Village of Wawanesa owns and operates a sewer and water facility within the limits of the said Village of Wawanesa,

AND WHEREAS The Municipal Act, S.M. 1996, c.58, states in part:

- "232 (1) A council may pass by-laws for municipal purposes respecting the following matters:
 - (l) public utilities;
- 232 (2) Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), a council may in a bylaw passed under this Division
 - (d) establish fees or other charges for services, activities or things provided or done by the municipality or for the use of property under the ownership, direction, management or control of the municipality;"

NOW THEREFORE be it and it is hereby passed and enacted as a by-law of the Village of Wawanesa in council duly assembled as follows:

THAT By-Law No. 509 enacted by the Council of the Village of Wawanesa the thirteenth day of April 2009, is hereby repealed.

THAT all accounts for minimum quarterly charges for metered services as set forth in the Schedule of Quarterly Rates shall be billed quarterly in advance together with any excess charges for metered water and sewer services for the preceding quarter. Consumers shall pay for sewer and water services supplied to them by the Village of Wawanesa at the rates and terms set out in Schedule "A" attached hereto and forming part of this by-law.

THAT the Village of Wawanesa reserves the right to discontinue the supply of water for fountains, jets, hoses and sprinklers, or to limit the hours for the use of the same, whenever, at the discretion of council, it is in the best interest of the public.

THAT the sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) be appropriated to the Utility Reserve Fund annually starting in the year 2012.

THAT this By-Law shall come into force and become effective on, from and after both approval by The Public Utilities Board and receipt of third and final reading thereof.

PASSED AND ENACTED day of	by the Village of	Wawanesa, in council duly assembled this
		Mayor
		Administrator
Read a first time this	day of	
Read a second time this	day of	
Read a third time this	day of	,

SCHEDULE "A" The Village of Wawanesa Water and Sewer Rates By-Law No. 519

Schedule of Quarterly Rates:

1. Commodity rates per M.G.

	Water	<u>Sewer</u>	Water and Sewer
All water consumption	\$8.30	\$7.25	\$15.55

2. Minimum Charges, Quarterly

Notwithstanding the Commodity rates set forth in paragraph 1 hereof all customers will pay the applicable minimum charges set out below, which will include water allowances indicated:

(a) Water and Sewer Customers

Meter Size	Group	Water	Customer	Commodity	Charges	Total
SIZE	Capacity	Included	Service			Quarterly
	Ratio	<u>Gallons</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Water</u>	Sewer	<u>Minimum</u>
5/8"	1	3,000	\$15.65	\$24.90	\$21.75	\$62.30
3/4"	2	6,000	\$15.65	\$49.80	\$43.50	\$108.95
1"	4	12,000	\$15.65	\$99.60	\$87.00	\$202.25
1 1/2"	10	30,000	\$15.65	\$249.00	\$217.50	\$482.15
2"	25	75,000	\$15.65	\$622.50	\$543.75	\$1,181.90

(b) Water Only Customers

Minimum charges will be the same for each meter size shown above, but the Sewer Charges will be excluded.

(b) Sewer Only Customers

The Village of Wawanesa do charge the owners or occupants of land serviced with sewer but no water the sum of \$73.65 per quarter. Customer Service Charge 15.65 + Commodity Charges 8. M.G. @ 7.25.

3. Bulk Water Sales Rate

All water sold in bulk by the Village of Wawanesa shall be charged for at a rate of \$17.50 per 1,000 gallons on a pro-rated basis for all quantities greater than 500 gallons. For quantities of 500 gallons or less, the minimum charge will be \$9.65.

4. Service to Customers outside Municipality, Town or L.U.D. limits

The Council of the Village of Wawanesa may sign agreements with customers for the provision of water and sewer services to properties located outside the legal boundaries of the Village of Wawanesa. Such agreements shall provide for payment of the appropriate rates set out in the schedule, as well as a surcharge, set by resolution of Council, which shall be equivalent to the frontage levy, general taxes and special taxes for utility purposes in effect at the time, or may be in effect from time to time, and which would be levied on the property concerned if it were within these boundaries. In addition, all cost of connecting to the utility's mains and installing and maintaining service connections will be paid by the customer.

5. Billing and Penalties

Accounts shall be billed quarterly. The due date will be at least fourteen days after the mailing of the bills. A late payment charge of 1½% compounded monthly shall be charged on the dollar amount owing after the billing due date.

6. Disconnection

The Public Utilities Board has approved the Conditions Precedent to be followed by the municipality with respect to the disconnection of service for non-payment including, such matters, as notice and the right to appeal such action to the Public Utilities Board. A copy of the Conditions Precedent is available for inspection at the Municipality's office.

7. Reconnection

Any service disconnected due to non-payment of account shall not be reconnected until all arrears, penalties and a reconnection fee of \$27.50 have been paid.

8. Outstanding Bills

Pursuant To Section 252 (2) of The Municipal Act, the amount of all outstanding charges for water and sewer service are a lien and charge upon the land serviced, and shall be collected in the same manner in which ordinary taxes upon land are collectible, and with like remedies.

9. Hydrant Rentals

The Village of Wawanesa will pay to the utility an annual rental of \$125.00 for each hydrant connected to the system.

10. Water Allowance Due to Line Freezing

That in any case where, at the request of the Council, a customer allows water to run continuously for any period of time to prevent the water lines in the water system from freezing, the charge to that customer for the current quarter shall be the average of the billings for the last two previous quarters to the same customer, or to the same premises if the occupant has changed. No reduction in minimum rates will be made because of the stoppage of water supply due to frozen lines or frozen pipes inside the premises of the owner of the property without just cause.

11. Non-working meters

When a meter ceases to function and a correct reading cannot be recorded, the charge to that customer for the current quarter shall be the average of the billings for the last four quarters to the same customer or to the same premises if the occupant has changed.

12. Replacement of meters

The Village of Wawanesa reserves the right to replace water meters with a newer remotely read technology whenever, at the discretion of council, it is in the best interest of the public.