

Fw: Accessibility News - March 2026

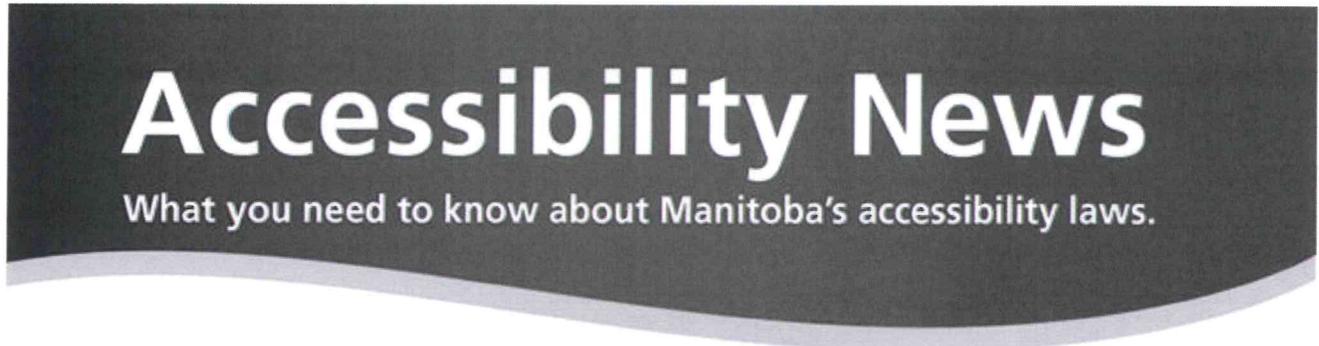
From Joni Swidnicki <cao@oakland-wawanesa.ca>
Date Mon 2026-03-09 11:29 AM
To Norma Will <adminassist@oakland-wawanesa.ca>

Me again,

Can you print this for the agenda, please.

Joni

From: Manitoba Accessibility Office <mao@gov.mb.ca>
Sent: March 9, 2026 11:14 AM
To: Joni Swidnicki <cao@oakland-wawanesa.ca>
Subject: Accessibility News - March 2026



Issue 65 | March 2026

This newsletter is available in alternate formats on request.

Creating Accessible Outdoor Spaces

The Manitoba government is developing a draft of the Accessible Outdoor Spaces Standard Regulation and wants your input. This

regulation aims to create accessible, barrier-free, and inclusive outdoor spaces across the province. Using the principles of universal accessibility, the standard will outline how to identify, prevent, and remove barriers in outdoor environments. It will set minimum technical requirements to guide the design and construction of new outdoor spaces, as well as modifications to existing ones.

The intention is not to limit creativity in planning, designing, or maintaining public infrastructure. Instead, the goal is to ensure that accessibility remains a central priority throughout these processes

The Accessible Outdoor Spaces Standard would address the following areas, but is not limited to:

- Paths of Travel, including Pedestrian Crossings and Recreational Trails
- Play Areas, Sports Facilities, Boat Launches, Docks and Beach Routes
- Outdoor Seating, Service Counters, Permanent Washrooms and Parking/Loading Areas

Take the Survey

Whether it's creating safer streetscapes, re-imagining bike lanes, or taking a wider approach to designing communities for people of all ages and abilities, let's collaborate to ensure our outdoor spaces are accessible for everyone. Take this survey to share your feedback on the current state of Accessible Outdoor Spaces.

Take the Survey

Participez à un sondage

Survey Closes: April 23, 2026

Additional Ways to Share Your Experiences

If you need assistance taking the survey or would prefer to provide your comments and feedback by speaking directly with someone, please contact the Manitoba Accessibility Office at (204) 945-7613 or by email at MAO@gov.mb.ca.

The 2026/27 Manitoba Accessibility Fund Intake Period is Now Closed



Thank you to all organizations that submitted applications to the Manitoba Accessibility Fund. The 2026/27 intake period is now closed, and all submissions are currently under review.

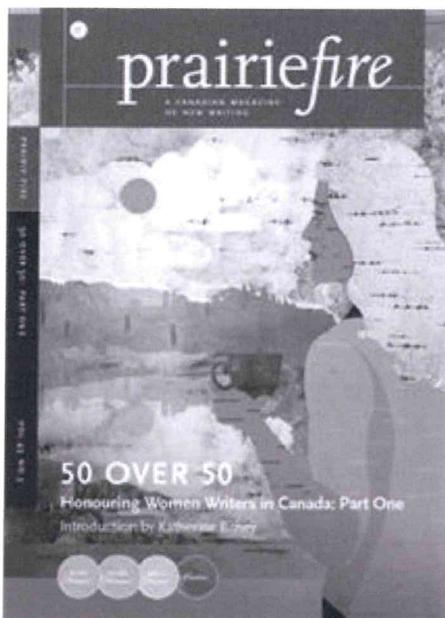
Over the coming weeks, the selection committee will conduct a thorough and impartial assessment of all eligible applications in accordance with the program's established criteria. Once this process is complete, all applicants will receive official written notification regarding the outcome of their submission, whether approved or not.

We sincerely appreciate your continued efforts and commitment to advancing accessibility and removing barriers in alignment with the objectives set out under The Accessibility for Manitobans Act.

For additional information about the Manitoba Accessibility Fund, please visit AccessibilityMB.ca or contact MAF@gov.mb.ca.

Spotlight on an Accessibility Project in our Community

Featured Project - Prairie Fire Press, Inc.



Prairie Fire is an award-winning Canadian journal of innovative writing, published quarterly by Prairie Fire Press, Inc. It has operated out of Winnipeg's Old Market Square for almost 50 years. One of Canada's longest-running literary magazines, Prairie Fire continues to remain committed to publishing a vibrant mix of fiction, poetry and creative non-fiction by established and emerging writers.

Prairie Fire's website is a central access point for readers, writers, educators and students. It features new writing, book reviews, news and highlights, information about submissions and contests, workshops, a student practicum program, a junior editor internship, and educational resources, as well as a substantial archive of past content. Ensuring that information is accessible is essential to the mandate of equitable participation in literary culture.

With support from the Manitoba Accessibility Fund, Prairie Fire completed a comprehensive accessibility-focused redevelopment of their website. While the previous website met WCAG Level A standards, it did not meet WCAG

2.1 Level AA requirements. Prairie Fire identified the need to address barriers in information and communication access.

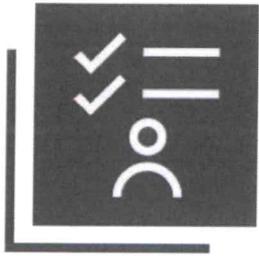
Prairie Fire worked closely with Tetro Design to identify, prevent and remove accessibility barriers. Because of their deep familiarity with the website's structure and back-end systems, Tetro Design was well positioned to implement meaningful, sustainable improvements.

Completed upgrades included fixes to font sizing and colour contrast, improved focus states and labeling, corrected alt text, and the resolution of additional accessibility errors and omissions. Changes reduced barriers for users with disabilities and improved usability for all visitors accessing information about opportunities, events, workshops, contests and Canadian literary writing.

Beyond the technical upgrades, Prairie Fire has shared what they learned about web accessibility and The Accessibility for Manitobans Act with other arts organizations housed in the Artspace building. We spoke directly with peer organizations and forwarded information about the Manitoba Accessibility Fund and upcoming standards to Artspace administration, who then amplified it through their weekly digital newsletter.

Prairie Fire is committed to fostering an environment that treats individuals with respect and dignity and encourages full participation. Providing barrier-free information and communication is a key part of that commitment, and this project represents an important step toward ongoing accessibility and inclusion.

~ Article provided by Prairie Fire Press, Inc.



Compliance Corner

Maintaining Existing Accessibility Features

Did you know Manitoba's [Accessible Customer Service Standard Regulation](#) requires organizations in the province to maintain their existing accessibility features?

This means aspects of the built environment that are designed to facilitate barrier free access must be available for use as intended. It includes the maintenance of existing features like elevators, escalators and power doors, as well as clearing snow and keeping aisles and entryways free of clutter so that persons with wheelchairs, scooters or walkers have access to the facility.

Notice of Disruption

Under [section 9](#) of the Accessible Customer Service Standard Regulation, a notice must be provided when an existing accessibility feature is temporarily unavailable.

This means if there is a disruption to an existing accessibility feature, notice must be provided on-site as well as on the organization's website, if they have one, or be given by other reasonable means. Notice must include:

1. The reasons why the accessibility feature is unavailable.
2. The anticipated time frame for repair or maintenance.
3. Details of alternate ways to access the organization's goods and services.

Remember: The Accessibility for Manitobans Act and the Accessible Customer Service Standard Regulation do not set requirements for the construction or addition of new accessibility features in the indoor built environment; these requirements fall under the Manitoba Building Code.

Funding Announcement

Federal government announces new support for women entrepreneurs with disabilities

The Government of Canada is investing nearly \$800,000 in a new program to support entrepreneurship for women with disabilities across Canada.

[Read the full news release](#)

Upcoming Learning Opportunities

The Manitoba Accessibility Office is planning a series of webinar learning opportunities. Attend and learn more about a wide variety of topics relating to accessibility, The Accessibility for Manitobans Act and standards.

Upcoming Webinars:

- March 24, 2026: **Navigating Accessible Employment: Responsibilities, Strategies and Tools**
 - [Register to Attend](#)
- May 19, 2026: **Creating Accessible Documents**
 - [Register to Attend](#)
- September 22, 2026: **Understanding Service Animals Accessibility in Manitoba**
 - [Register to Attend](#)
- November 17, 2026: **Driving Inclusion: Understanding Manitoba's Accessible Transportation Standard Regulation**
 - [Register to Attend](#)

Webinars will be hosted virtually on Zoom from 1 to 2 p.m. and will feature accessibility measures such as American Sign Language interpretation (ASL) and live closed captioning.

Visit [AccessibilityMB.ca](https://www.accessibilitymb.ca) to learn more about these webinars or to register to attend.

Upcoming Awareness Dates

- [International Wheelchair Day \(March 1\)](#)
- [World Downs Syndrome Day \(March 21\)](#)

This newsletter is available in alternate formats on request.

You subscribed to this newsletter on the AccessibilityMB.ca website.

Manitoba Accessibility Office

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Toll-free: 1-800-282-8069, ext. 7613

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CONNECTIONS

Working together for stronger, healthier communities.

ISSUE 6 - FEB 2026

COLLABORATION IS CENTRAL TO A HEALTHY COMMUNITY

Welcome to the latest issue of Age-Friendly Connections! Whether you're reading this with a warm drink in hand or squeezing in a few minutes between meetings, we're glad you're here. This time of year can feel like a long stretch of winter, so we're leaning into the good news, the practical ideas, and the people who are making community stronger every day. With Groundhog Day behind us, here's hoping we're heading toward warmer days ahead, starting with a heartwarming story! There are ripples of goodness happening in many of our communities!

RIPPLES OF GOODNESS

All across Manitoba, small moments of connection are making a big difference. When communities come together, especially across generations, everyone benefits. Here's a wonderful story submitted by Joie Van Dongen, Chairperson, Age Friendly, Stonewall / RM Rockwood...

On a very cold day in January, 40 retired seniors and high school seniors gathered at the South Interlake 55+ Community Centre for a Seniors Café.

This intergenerational event was organized and funded by the Enhanced Transportation Committee made available through the Age Friendly 2.0, MB grant - Enhancing Transportation for Isolated Seniors. This committee works in collaboration with the Stonewall and Area Mobility Service (SAMS), South Interlake 55+, South Interlake Seniors Resource Council, Nav-CARE and Age Friendly Stonewall/RM Rockwood.

Together, we encourage seniors and others who may be lonely or socially isolated to come together via reliable accessible transportation to participate in social, and educational activities and events.

After a brief welcome by the Committee, the participants gathered into groups of four to six older seniors together with Grade 12 students from the Stonewall Collegiate Foods Class.

Through conversation and card games we got to know each other, including learning about older persons' activities and the students' plans after graduating. It is interesting to note that this Foods Class was mostly boys learning nutrition and cooking skills—and some of them volunteer to serve at the 55+ luncheons. Refreshments included tea, coffee, soft drinks, cookies, and snacks chosen by the students. Popcorn and chips were delicious. The sour candies and hot Cheetos gave us older persons a jolt on our taste buds. The students loved the cookies baked by a 55+ senior volunteer.

Throughout the event, a member of the Stonewall Strummers serenaded us with guitar music.



The response was very positive for both young and older persons. We look forward to more 'Senior & Senior Student Cafes'.



This campaign invites individuals, community groups, organizations, governments, and NGOs to come together to embrace and promote intergenerational practice in all its forms.



Have a story you'd like to share? We'd love to hear it! [Click here to submit yours!!](#)



MARCH IS FRAUD PREVENTION MONTH - PREPARE TO SHARE!

Fraud and scams are increasingly sophisticated, targeted, and widespread, impacting Canadians of all ages, but particularly older adults. Fraudsters often exploit trust, urgency, fear, or loneliness to manipulate individuals into sending money, sharing personal information, or granting remote access to devices. While anyone can be a victim, older adults are frequently targeted because scammers assume they have savings, strong credit, and a tendency to be polite and responsive.

Common scams include impersonation fraud (pretending to be a government agency, bank, or police officer), grandparent scams (claiming a loved one is in trouble), tech support scams, romance scams, phishing emails or texts, and investment fraud. Many scams create a sense of urgency, “act now or face consequences” to prevent victims from verifying the information. Beyond financial loss, fraud can cause emotional distress, embarrassment, and a loss of confidence. It is important to remember that scams are crimes. Victims are not to blame: scammers are skilled manipulators who use psychology and technology to deceive.

Awareness and simple prevention strategies significantly reduce risk. Here are the top five things older adults can do to protect themselves:

- 1 Slow Down and Verify** - Never feel pressured to act immediately. Hang up, delete the message, or pause. Contact the organization directly using a phone number from an official website or statement—not the one provided in the message.
- 2 Guard Personal Information** - Do not share Social Insurance Numbers, banking details, passwords, or one-time security codes with anyone who contacts you unexpectedly. Legitimate organizations will not demand sensitive information by phone, text, or email.
- 3 Be Skeptical of Urgency and Secrecy** - Requests for secrecy (“Don’t tell anyone”) or urgent payment through gift cards, wire transfers, or cryptocurrency are major red flags.
- 4 Strengthen Digital Security** - Use strong, unique passwords and enable two-factor authentication when possible. Keep devices updated and install reputable antivirus software.
- 5 Talk About It** - Discuss suspicious calls or messages with family, friends, or a trusted professional. Reporting scams to local authorities or the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre helps protect others.



Fraud prevention is not about mistrust, it is about informed caution. Staying connected, asking questions, and taking time to verify information are powerful tools in protecting both finances and peace of mind.

For more information visit www.peam.ca, Prevent Elder Abuse Manitoba (PEAM), Lisa Tinley, Coordinator

PARTNER HIGHLIGHT...

BOSS: Businesses and Organizations Supporting Seniors

BOSS was established to bring together like-minded businesses and organizations dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for seniors while maintaining an exceptional level of service at a competitive price. Our goal is to enrich the lives of seniors in the Greater Winnipeg area.

BOSS members provide essential services that contribute to the well-being of seniors. These services encompass health and mobility support, financial planning, homecare assistance and legal services. By offering these services, BOSS members enable Manitoba families to care for their seniors.

Since its inception in 2019, BOSS and its members have actively participated in various fundraisers, advocacy initiatives and the creation of educational content for families. We live our mission through our daily work.

For more information on BOSS, please contact our office at 204.963.7250.



A SPOT LIGHT ON AGE FRIENDLY MANITOBA



Embracing Age Friendly Access: Pinawa Beach Welcomes All with New MobiMat

The warmth and community spirit of Pinawa were on full display as Mayor Blair Skinner and a dedicated group of representatives gathered to celebrate the receipt of the Age Friendly Community Collaboration Grant. Spearheaded by Recreation Coordinator Madison Backer, the grant will fund the installation of a MobiMat at Pinawa Beach, enhancing accessibility for all residents and visitors alike.



So, as summer approaches, make plans to experience the beauty and warmth of Pinawa Beach. Whether you're strolling along the trails, enjoying water sports, or simply relaxing by the water, rest assured that Pinawa is a place where everyone is welcomed and included. Come and experience the age-friendly charm of Pinawa Beach – you'll be glad you did.

The diverse group at the table, representing organizations such as the LGD of Pinawa, Two Rivers Senior Services, Pinawa Lions Club, the School District of Whiteshell with Pinawa's two schools, expressed their excitement for the positive impact the MobiMat will have on the community. This initiative aligns perfectly with Pinawa's commitment to being an Age Friendly Manitoba community, a dedication that has been upheld since the community's first Age Friendly Collaboration in 2008.



L-R: Sarah Jane Nesbitt, Pinawa Two Rivers Seniors Services; Sandra McGonigal, Whitemouth Two Rivers Senior Services; Scott Smith, Principal, F.W. Gilbert, Pinawa; Doug Murray, LGD Pinawa Resident Administrator; Doris Anderstalt, President, Pinawa Lions Club; Jillian Chambers, Student Services Coordinator, School District of Whiteshell; Blair Skinner, Mayor, LDG Pinawa; Pat Porth, Lac du Bonnet Two Rivers Senior Services; Rhonda Henschell, Deputy Mayor, Chair, Two Rivers Senior Services, Lions member; Louise Hutton, Age Friendly Consultant, Manitoba Assoc of Senior Communities; Tracy Abraham, Pinawa Acute Care Director, IERHA; Tricia Tyerman, Director, Homecare, IERHA; Kim Minnis, Executive Director, Community & Transitional Health, IERHA; Janine Harcus, Manager, Health Services, Pinawa Hospital; Cyril Indome, Principal, Pinawa Secondary School. Missing: Madison Backer, Recreation Coordinator, Pinawa.

As a destination that triples in population during the summer months, Pinawa has always been a hub of activity and inclusivity. Families flock to the area to enjoy the lakeside amenities, like Hoopla Island inflatable play structures, and now with the addition of the MobiMat, even more individuals will be able to enjoy the summer fun.

With accolades such as being named Manitoba's Most Active Community in 2025 and achieving the Age Friendly Milestone designation, Pinawa is setting a high standard for creating an environment that is welcoming and accessible to residents of all ages. This commitment to inclusivity is evident in the community's efforts to address all aspects of being age-friendly, ensuring that everyone can fully participate in the vibrant life of Pinawa.



OVER THE RAINBOW

A space for Two-Spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning (2SLGBTQ+) folks aged 55+

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Newsletter](#)

[Facebook Group](#)

SOCIAL PRESCRIBING IN ACTION



What does a 'person-centered' approach look like in social prescribing?



When a Senior Resource Coordinator (SRC) receives a referral from a healthcare provider, they need to identify the patient / client's needs and circumstances, so that the person can be connected to the appropriate community resources. When the SRC uses a person-centred approach, the client is more likely to actually start using these resources. A person-centred approach means:

- **Building a trusting relationship with the client**, which may take time. For clients with complex needs, it may take several phone calls to make the person comfortable enough to disclose their personal situation with the SRC and accept recommendations for community resources.
- **Actively listening to the client.** This allows the client to feel valued and respected, which encourages them to open up about their needs.
- **Developing a personalized plan of action.** Each person has unique interests and needs. SRCs are not therapists or counsellors, but it is important that they have a sufficient understanding of the client's needs and interests to connect the person with the appropriate resources.

- **Helping the client overcome barriers.** For example, some clients may lack the confidence to attend a program that the SRC suggests. In that case, it can help if the SRC meets the person at the program the first time they attend it. Having access to transportation is a major challenge for many people, and there may be no easy solutions, given the lack of accessible, affordable transportation in many communities in Manitoba. For some clients looking for social connections, an option may be programs offered over the phone, like a Friendly Hello program (provided by some Support Services for Seniors Councils and the Red Cross) or the Seniors Centres Without Walls program offered by A&O Support Services for Seniors.

A person-centred approach takes time, skill, and knowledge. Let's acknowledge and value the important work SRCs do to help older Manitobansage well!

Did You Know? WE HAVE A YOUTUBE CHANNEL!



http://www.youtube.com/@MASC_wpg

OUR VOICE FOR OLDER MANITOBANS



Welcoming Manitoba's New Seniors' Advocate

We're pleased to introduce Leigh Anne Caron, Manitoba's newly appointed Seniors' Advocate. This new role is just getting underway, and at MASC, we're excited about what it can mean for older Manitobans. We're also looking forward to building a strong, collaborative relationship with Leigh Anne as the position takes shape.

Leigh Anne's commitment to advocacy began early. Raised on a mixed grain and cattle farm in rural Alberta, she worked with seniors in long term care during her teen years and saw firsthand how accessibility gaps in small communities can isolate older adults. That experience helped shape her dedication to inclusion and improved supports.

Since relocating to Manitoba, Leigh Anne has built a career in community health and leadership, including roles with the Women's Health Clinic and SERC. Her post secondary education includes social work, an honours degree in Gender and Women's Studies and a Master of Public Administration (2024).

In her new role, Leigh Anne is focused on amplifying the voices of seniors and ensuring their needs are reflected in policy and service development. Her emphasis on partnership and collaboration aligns strongly with MASC's work across the province, and we look forward to working together to advance dignity, independence, and well being for older Manitobans.

Contact Information: seniorsadvocate@seniorsadvocatemb.ca and 204-583-0187

Sharing Exciting News: Social Prescribing Growth Across Manitoba

From Connie <info@manitobaseniorcommunities.ca>
via mailchimpapp.net

Date Tue 2026-02-24 8:12 AM

To Joni Swidnicki <cao@oakland-wawanesa.ca>



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!!

We are excited to share an important Manitoba government announcement about the continued growth of **Social Prescribing** across our province. The release also recognizes the vital role of community partners, including MASC, in helping connect older adults and other Manitobans to supports that reduce isolation and strengthen well-being. Please click the button below to read the full news release...

Manitoba Government News Release Feb. 23, 2026



The Manitoba Association of Senior Communities is dedicated to fostering healthier, more connected communities. Our work recognizes that age-friendly communities, member centres, social prescribing, and advocacy are not separate efforts—they are parts of one shared vision.

Our mailing address is:

Executive Director: Connie Newman
PO Box 54067 Silver Heights PO
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info@manitobaseniorcommunities.ca

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News Release - Manitoba

February 23, 2026

ALL MANITOBA HEALTH REGIONS NOW CONNECTING SENIORS AND OTHER MANITOBANS TO COMMUNITY SUPPORTS THAT REDUCE ISOLATION AND STRENGTHEN WELL-BEING

Community-Based Referrals Expanding Provincewide Through Social Prescribing: Asagwara

Social prescribing, a model that connects people to community-based supports such as social programs, peer groups and practical services, is now available in all five regional health authorities as referrals continue to increase across the province, Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care Minister Uzoma Asagwara announced today.

“When someone is experiencing isolation or has limited access to supports, those realities affect their health just as much as medical needs,” said Asagwara. “Connecting people to community programs helps address those challenges earlier, supporting well-being and helping people stay healthier where they live.”

The Manitoba government is collaborating with regional health authorities and community partners to help more patients learn about social prescribing and access community-based supports. Across Canada and internationally, health systems are increasingly recognizing the impact of loneliness and social isolation on health and well-being, particularly following the COVID-19 pandemic, the minister noted.

Clinicians across Manitoba can refer seniors, individuals managing chronic conditions and those experiencing social isolation or mental health challenges to more than 120 resource co-ordinators working across the province. These co-ordinators maintain local information hubs that track programs and services available in their communities. Once referred, co-ordinators work directly with clients to understand their interests, needs and goals, helping them access non-medical supports that strengthen overall health and well-being.

Supports may include weekly or monthly community lunch programs; social activities such as board game groups or bowling leagues; creative opportunities like knitting or painting classes; and physical activity programs such as walking groups or pickleball. Supports may also include assistance with food access, transportation or other practical services.

Depending on the program, supports may be free, fee-for-service or offered on a cost-recovery basis.

Statistics Canada data shows more than one in 10 Canadians report feeling lonely often or always, and nearly one in five older adults experience loneliness. These realities highlight the need to connect people with community supports in addition to traditional medical care, the minister noted.

“Loneliness is a major health concern for older Manitobans, with researching showing it can increase the risk of stroke, heart disease, depression and dementia,” said Dr. Nichelle Desilets, president, Doctors Manitoba. “Social prescribing allows doctors to help patients at risk of social isolation by referring them to personalized supports and resources. We deeply appreciate the expanded provincial resources to support social prescribing, and we encourage patients to connect with their local senior centre or talk to their doctor about loneliness and isolation as part of their routine check-up.”

Referrals have grown significantly, increasing by approximately 44 per cent over the past year as awareness expands among health-care providers and community connections become more integrated into care, the minister said.

Social prescribing initiatives in Manitoba are delivered through collaboration between regional health authorities, community agencies, senior-serving organizations and partners including the Manitoba Association of Senior Communities (MASC), ensuring individuals receive support that reflects both their medical and social needs.

“Social prescribing is about helping older adults stay connected, supported and engaged in their communities,” said Connie Newman, executive director, MASC. “When health-care providers and community organizations work together, people can access the right supports at the right time in ways that reflect their individual needs and experiences. It’s exciting to see health and community wellness systems collaborating to address the social factors that influence health. MASC is grateful for the Manitoba government’s commitment to supporting the well-being and quality of life of older adults.”

The Manitoba government will continue working with partners to expand access to community-based supports that help Manitobans stay connected, supported and healthy.

 Outlook

AF Connections: A March of Momentum Across Manitoba

From Connie Newman - MASC <info@manitobaseniorcommunities.ca>
via mailchimpapp.net

Date Mon 2026-03-09 4:05 PM

To Joni Swidnicki <cao@oakland-wawanesa.ca>



Hello there!

So, was March in like a lion or lamb for you? I think it all depends on where you are. Either way this month has definitely provided some encouraging momentum!

This issue of *AF Connections* highlights the power of connection, collaboration, and community leadership across Manitoba. From the growing awareness around social prescribing to local stories of age-friendly action and intergenerational engagement, this edition reflects the many ways communities are helping older Manitobans feel supported, included, and connected.

Enjoy!

Welcome Readers!



Momentum is building across Manitoba with the province's formal recognition of Social Prescribing. Read on to explore what this means and how local leadership can help strengthen the impact.

RIPPLES OF GOODNESS



The Manitoba Government recognizes Social Prescribing provincewide...

We are excited to share important news for healthy aging in Manitoba. The Manitoba government has formally recognized Social Prescribing as a province wide approach to connecting seniors and other Manitobans to community-based supports that reduce isolation and strengthen well-being.

That recognition is what makes this moment significant. Social Prescribing reinforces a powerful truth: connection is not optional in healthy aging, it is essential. Research continues to show that loneliness and isolation affect health outcomes as significantly as many medical conditions.

Across Manitoba, Senior Resource Coordinators, senior centres, and many community leaders have long understood this reality firsthand. Their daily work reflects the belief that belonging, participating, and accessing supportive programs matter.

At the same time, this announcement is also a reminder, and an invitation! As awareness grows, all municipalities/Age-Friendly communities, have an opportunity to further prioritize and invest in connection as a core component of community well-being.

Social Prescribing is now active across all five regional health authorities. Clinicians may refer individuals that would benefit from community connections to more than 120 senior resource coordinators working across Manitoba. Referrals have increased by approximately 44 percent over the past year as awareness grows.

When referrals are made, it is community that receives people through such things as walking groups, lunch programs, creative classes, transportation supports, volunteer opportunities, and a welcoming gathering spaces. These programs form the network that strengthens well-being across the province.

"Loneliness is a major health concern for older Manitobans, with research showing it can increase the risk of stroke, heart disease, depression and dementia. Social prescribing allows doctors to help patients at risk of social isolation by referring them to personalized supports and resources."

-Dr. Nichelle Desilets, President, Doctors Manitoba

This provincial recognition affirms the importance of partnership between health systems and community organizations. It highlights the interconnected nature of our work from policy to practice, from clinics to community halls.

Let's Build on This Momentum

The recognition of Social Prescribing at the provincial level creates an important opportunity for leadership at the local level.

Now is the time to:

- Share this announcement within municipal and community networks.
- Strengthen relationships with local health-care providers.
- Ensure community programs are visible, accessible, and well-promoted.
- Embed connection and belonging more intentionally within Age-Friendly planning and municipal priorities.
- Champion the message that loneliness is a health issue – and community is part of the solution.

The future of Social Prescribing depends on strong community partnerships. By leaning into this moment, communities across Manitoba can help ensure that connection becomes more than an initiative; it becomes a shared standard for healthy aging.

 [To read the full release click here!](#) 

Click the button below to read our March issue!

AF CONNECTIONS ISSUE #7



The Manitoba Association of Senior Communities is dedicated to fostering healthier, more connected communities. Our work recognizes that age-friendly communities, member centres, social prescribing, and advocacy are not separate efforts—they are parts of one shared vision.

Our mailing address is:

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Member Advisory: 2026 General Municipal Elections - Election Officials Training

From AMM Communications <amm-amm.mb.ca@shared1.ccsend.com>

Date Thu 2026-02-12 3:28 PM

To Norma Will <adminassist@oakland-wawanesa.ca>



Member Advisory

2026 General Municipal Elections - Election Officials Training

NOTE: This message is being sent on behalf of Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations

February 12, 2026 - Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations has prepared resources to support municipalities, election officials and candidates throughout the election process. These resources include the 2026 Election Official's Manual, the Chief Administrative Officer's Campaign Finance Manual, and the Candidates Guidebook. These resources, frequently asked questions, and more information, are now available [**HERE**](#).

Municipal Governance and Advisory Services will provide in-person and virtual training sessions for election officials.

Elections Officials Training – In-Person – From 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

- March 24, 2026 – New Bothwell Recreation Centre (50 Park Bay Road, New Bothwell)

- March 25, 2026 – Keystone Centre, MNP Hall A (1175 – 18th Street, Brandon)
- March 26, 2026 – Best Western Plus, meeting Room (50 Eric Irwin Way, Dauphin)

Elections Officials Training – Virtual Sessions

Please forward this meeting invitation to those that would benefit from this training.

Date: April 8, 2026

Time: 1:00p.m. to 4:00p.m.

Microsoft Teams

Join the meeting now

Meeting ID: 290 231 669 376 90

Passcode: 65K3Rj2L

Date: April 15, 2026

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Microsoft Teams

Join the meeting now

Meeting ID: 231 447 310 361 30

Passcode: km7bg3a6

Should you require additional assistance, please email mrmaas@gov.mb.ca, or phone 204-945-2572 to speak to a Municipal Services Officer.

Please also click [HERE](#) to view the AMM's Municipal Elections Resource Hub.

Sincerely,

Denys Volkov
Executive Director

Association of Manitoba Municipalities



Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) | 1910 Saskatchewan Ave. W | Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 0P1 CA

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Member Advisory: REMINDER - Upcoming Webinar (March 2, 2026) - The Resolutions Process: Practical Guide for Members

From AMM Communications <amm-amm.mb.ca@shared1.ccsend.com>

Date Fri 2026-02-20 9:15 AM

To Norma Will <adminassist@oakland-wawanesa.ca>



Member Advisory

REMINDER

Upcoming Webinar (March 2, 2026)

The Resolutions Process: A Practical Guide for Members

February 20, 2026 - As we prepare for the upcoming 2026 June District Meetings, the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) will be hosting a dedicated informational webinar to support members in developing strong and effective resolutions.

With the resolution submission deadline of **June 1, 2026**, this session is designed to ensure you have the tools and information needed to draft strong Category One resolutions that clearly demonstrate a municipal connection to operations, governance, finance, and administration.

During this webinar, we will cover:

- An overview of all three resolution categories
- June District Meeting (JDM) resolutions process
- How to write a clear and effective resolution
- Practical tips and best practices
- New policy changes, including:
 - The resolution “cooling-off” period, and
 - A requirement that word-for-word identical resolutions will not be accepted at JDMs if an identically worded resolution has already passed and is actively being advocated on.

We’ll also review key resolution criteria, including the need for resolutions to:

- Address new and emerging issues (avoiding duplication of past resolutions)
- Be relevant to local government
- Have significance beyond a single region
- Be clearly written and well-focused

In addition, the session will explore alternative ways to advance municipal priorities. We recognize that some important local issues may not meet AMM resolution guidelines, and we’ll discuss how to champion those priorities through local advocacy and other channels.

Webinar Details:

- Date: **Monday, March 2, 2026**
- Time: **11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**
- Format: **[Zoom Link](#)**

Sincerely,

Denys Volkov
Executive Director

Association of Manitoba Municipalities



Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) | 1910 Saskatchewan Ave. W | Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 0P1 CA

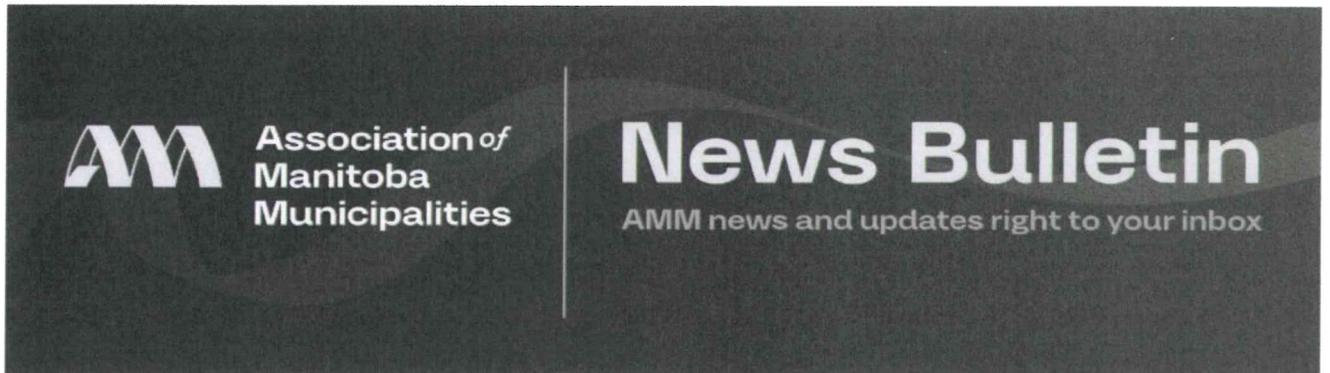
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AMM Bulletin - February 20, 2026

From Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) <amm-amm.mb.ca@shared1.ccsend.com>

Date Fri 2026-02-20 3:01 PM

To Norma Will <adminassist@oakland-wawanesa.ca>



Dear Subscriber,

We hope you enjoy this copy of the AMM News Bulletin. Click [HERE](#) to download a PDF version.

Latest Updates

REGISTRATION OPEN: 2026 Spring Convention & Trade Show



Registration is now open for the **2026 AMM Spring Convention & Trade Show**, taking place April 21-23, 2026 at the Keystone Centre in Brandon.

This April, AMM is exploring **Legacy That Lasts** at our annual Spring Convention. As we move toward a time of transition, AMM sets to inspire our provincial leaders to continue forward-thinking by taking action today that will make change for the future.

REGISTER NOW for the 2026 Spring Convention [HERE](#).

SECURE YOUR BOOTH for the 2026 Spring Trade Show [HERE](#).

AMM Executive and District Directors wrap up Municipal Visits



The AMM Executive and your District Directors wrapped up their municipal visits this month — connecting with more than 30 municipalities across Manitoba.

They finished in the Eastern and Parkland districts. Catch President Valentino's recap [HERE](#).

Funding for Energy Retrofits and New Builds: Green Municipal Fund

FUNDING

Up to \$10M for municipally-owned buildings: Energy retrofits and new builds



GREEN
MUNICIPAL
FUND

FONDS
MUNICIPAL
VERT

A program of /
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FCM

Funded by /
Financé par
Canada

When working on a building owned by a municipal government—whether it's a town hall, indoor arena, public library or other—you can access funding for energy retrofits or the construction of new, efficient facilities. Funding applications are now open: [Click Here](#)

Her Seat at the Table Panel Discussion

Her Seat at the Table (HSATT) is ready to inspire more women to run for office with their next event on **Tuesday, March 3, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Lorne Watson Music Hall at Brandon University.**

A panel of five women including **Sharilyn Knox - Mayor of Portage La Prairie, Judy Swanson - Reeve of Boissevain-Morton, Sandra Clark - Reeve of Two Borders, Val Caldwell - councillor of Wallace-Woodsworth and Jan Chaboyer - former city councillor of Brandon** will comprise the panel. The event will feature an interactive conversation for women who are interested in running for municipal office this year. Doors open at 4:45 p.m., with the opportunity to network, and the discussion beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Light refreshments will be provided. Children are welcome to attend, and age-appropriate activity packages will be available. HSATT is a grassroots-led initiative. For more information and links to resources, please visit our website: <https://ywcawestman.ca/her-seat-at-the-table/>; email: hsatt2026@gmail.com This event has been supported with funding from the Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation (BNRC) and the Canadian Home Economics Foundation (CHEF).

Save the Date: Climate West Forum - May 12-13, 2026

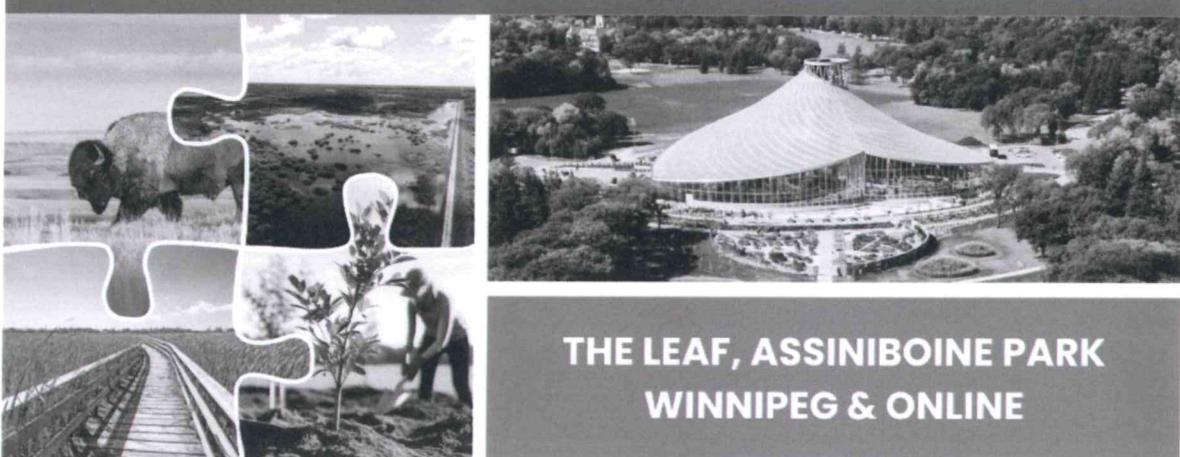
 ClimateWest 2026 Forum



MAINSTREAMING CLIMATE ADAPTATION
Action Today For a Resilient Tomorrow



SAVE THE DATE | MAY 12-13, 2026



Save the date! The annual ClimateWest Forum is set to take place on May 12 & 13, 2026 at **The Leaf** in Winnipeg and online.

Bringing together a wide range of sectors and communities, this free event will consider the collective actions we can take today to build a climate-resilient tomorrow. Sessions will delve into how climate considerations can be integrated across different sectors, ensuring a holistic approach to building resilience in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and beyond.

Attendees can expect interactive sessions, networking opportunities, an exhibitor space, and optional tours designed to deepen your understanding of climate adaptation and resilience.

For more information and to be notified when registrations open, visit our [website](#).

CPWA: 2026 Heavy Equipment Roadeo

CPWA MANITOBA CHAPTER In sponsorship with
ATS and BRANDT

ATS Traffic

Presents

Brandt

2026 HEAVY EQUIPMENT ROADEO



Location: Selkirk Recreation Complex
Dates: May 22nd & 23rd 2026

Click on link to register



May 22nd Tradeshow, Education Sessions, & Safety Walk Through

May 23rd Tradeshow, Touch-a-Truck, Rodeo Competition Events, & Awards Ceremony

The Canadian Public Works Association (CPWA) Manitoba Chapter is excited to invite you to participate in the **2026 Heavy Equipment Rodeo**! This highly anticipated event showcases the skills and expertise of public works professionals as they compete in a series of heavy equipment challenges.

The Rodeo is an excellent opportunity for operators to demonstrate their proficiency, engage in friendly competition, and network with industry peers. Whether you are a seasoned competitor or a first-time participant, we encourage you to join us for a day of competition, camaraderie, and professional growth.

Upcoming St. John Ambulance Live Simulation: Emergency Management in Action

INSIDE THE RESPONSE: EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT IN ACTION

Join St. John Ambulance for an inside look at our emergency management capabilities and community response services. Discover how our teams prepare for, support, and respond to emergencies across the region. This event will also highlight our recent support during the 2025 summer wildfire response.

We look forward to welcoming you and discussing opportunities to strengthen coordinated emergency and medical response efforts.

When: Wednesday March 11, 2026

Time: 10:00am to 1:00pm

Where: 1 St. John Ambulance Way



St. John Ambulance

A charitable organization



You're invited to *Inside the Response: Emergency Management in Action* a live simulation showcasing how **St. John Ambulance** supports community safety through our Emergency Response Unit.

Date: March 11, 2026

Time: Drop in anytime from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Please RSVP using the link provided.

**RRC Polytech - 2026 Co-op Partnership Opportunities
and Water and Wastewater Training**



RRC
POLYTECH

2026 Co-op Partnership Information

For Course Information, email or call:
civilco-op@rrc.ca / (204) 632-2585

[Download course information](#)

Water and Wastewater Operator
training

[Download course information](#)

AMM Trading Company / Canoe Procurement

Notice of Intent Requirement



canoe
procurement group of canada

Reminder to all AMM members to post your [Notice of Intent](#). This is an annual requirement to use Canoe Group Purchasing.

Members must follow the proper steps for [How to Make a Purchase with Canoe](#). Most importantly members should not sign off on any invoice unless the supplier/manufacture contract # (which can be found on Canoe website, under each supplier) and their member # appear on the invoice. If this essential information is not included on their final invoice, they are missing out on preferred membership Canoe pricing, and they are not covered by CFTA/NWPTA trade agreements.

Contact Ainsley at ainsley@canoeprocurement.ca for additional details, questions or to do a Canoe Refresher and program update.

AMM Programs

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HR SERVICES

A division of People Corporation

Discover Collage HR: Your all-in-one solution for seamless HR, Benefits, and Payroll management. Say goodbye to scattered platforms - streamline hiring, onboarding, sick leave requests, and more, all in a secure, integrated interface. Meet the future of HR.

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[From Conflict to Clarity: Transforming difficult conversations](#)

Get updates on upcoming workshops and the latest HR trends. Subscribe to HRsource. [**SUBSCRIBE**](#)

AMM is partnered with People First HR to provide Municipalities with a complimentary HR On Call Service for best advice regarding your HR questions as well as access to 100+ HR templates.

Phone: 1.866.899.1240

Email: [**hroncall@peoplefirsthr.com**](mailto:hroncall@peoplefirsthr.com)

For additional information about HR On Call services:

[**https://amm.mb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/PFHR-HR-On-Call_AMM.pdf**](https://amm.mb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/PFHR-HR-On-Call_AMM.pdf)

Municipal Leader - Winter 2026

Municipal

Winter 2026

Leader

PM40065075 - Return Undeliverable Items To: Association of Manitoba Municipalities, 910 Sasquatchewen Avenue West, Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 0P1

SPECIAL REPORT:

Artificial Intelligence

PLUS 2025 Fall Convention
Recap | Interview with Mayor
Judy Snitynsky

THE MAGAZINE OF



Association of
Manitoba Municipalities

Cold outside, cutting-edge inside. Our Winter issue of Municipal Leader magazine features a Special Report on Artificial Intelligence (AI), including insights from the Hon. Mike Moroz, real-world examples of how the City of Selkirk and City of Winnipeg are using AI today, an overview of Manitoba's AI Pathways, and a look at how local governments across Canada are beginning to lean into AI. Flip open the issue to explore this Special Report and discover more timely stories shaping municipalities across Manitoba and beyond.

[READ ONLINE](#)

Important Links

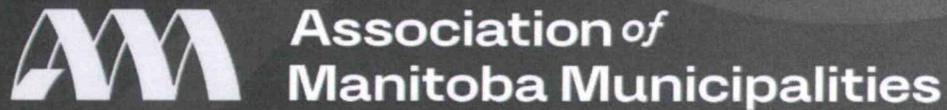
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Member Advisory: Manitoba AI Readiness Assessment Tool

From AMM Communications <amm-amm.mb.ca@shared1.ccsend.com>

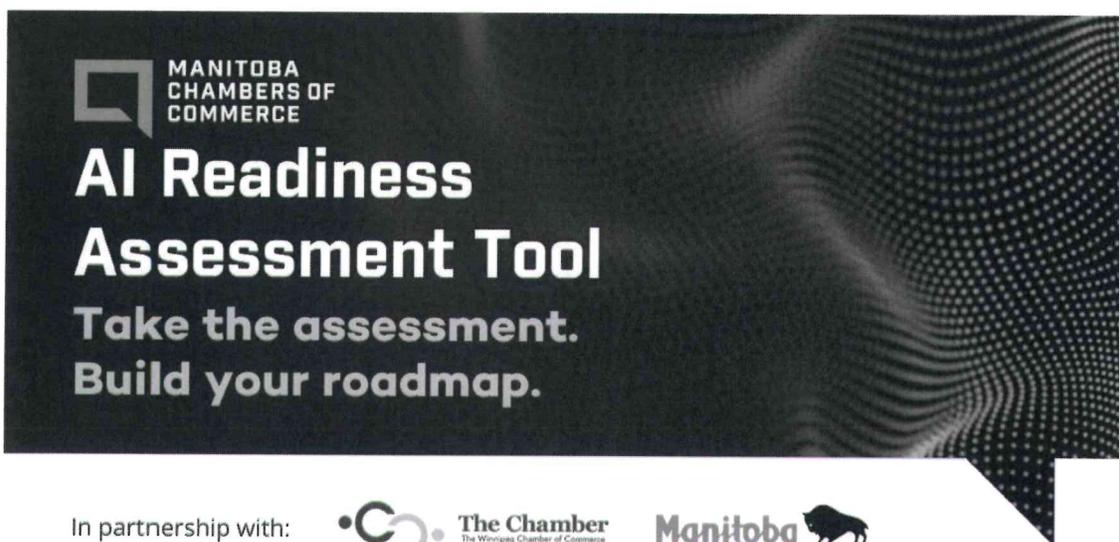
Date Mon 2026-02-23 10:35 AM

To Norma Will <adminassist@oakland-wawanesa.ca>



Member Advisory

Manitoba AI Readiness Assessment Tool



In partnership with:  The Chamber
The Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce  Manitoba

NOTE: This message is being sent on behalf of the Manitoba Chambers of Commerce.

February 23, 2026 - The Manitoba AI Pathways (MAP), program through the Manitoba Chambers of Commerce, partnered with Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce and supported by the Province of Manitoba, is excited to share the launch of the AI Readiness Assessment Tool.

The AI Readiness Assessment Tool is a short, voice-enabled survey designed to be interactive rather than a traditional form to be filled out by the user. This tool has been developed for MAP with the **Manitoba Association of AI Professionals**.

It is a free, practical online tool that gives the user a clear picture of where their organization stands today and what steps to take next regarding AI integration in their business. Following the survey, the tool will give you a breakdown of your pillar areas as well as a 30-day, 90-day and 12-month roadmap with suggested actions the user/organization can take regarding their AI adoption. The more detail the user gives, the better results the program is able to offer.

Municipalities can take the AI Readiness Assessment here - <https://ai-readiness.ca/>

As this new tool is geared toward businesses and organizations such as municipalities, CAOs/administrative staff are encouraged to complete this voluntary assessment on behalf of their municipality.

Sincerely,

Denys Volkov
Executive Director

Association of Manitoba Municipalities



Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) | 1910 Saskatchewan Ave. W | Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 0P1 CA

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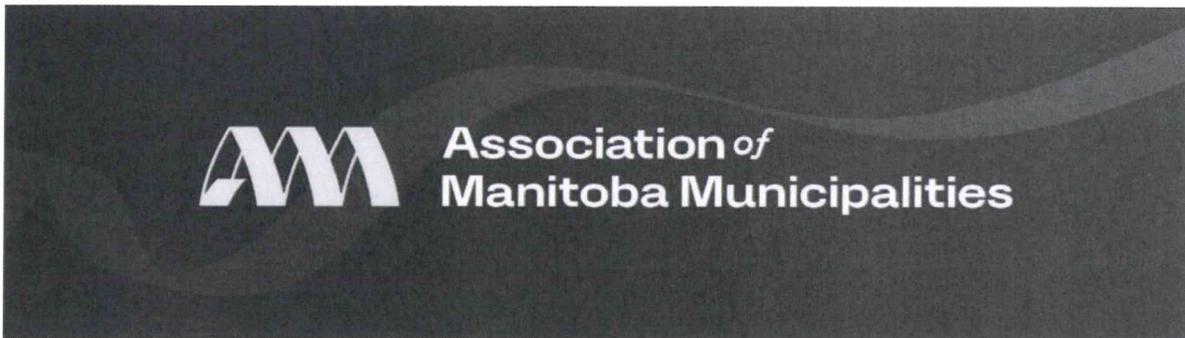
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Member Advisory: From Data Overload to Clear Communication: A Hands-On AI Workshop for Municipal Leaders (April 21, 2026)

From AMM Communications <amm-amm.mb.ca@shared1.ccsend.com>

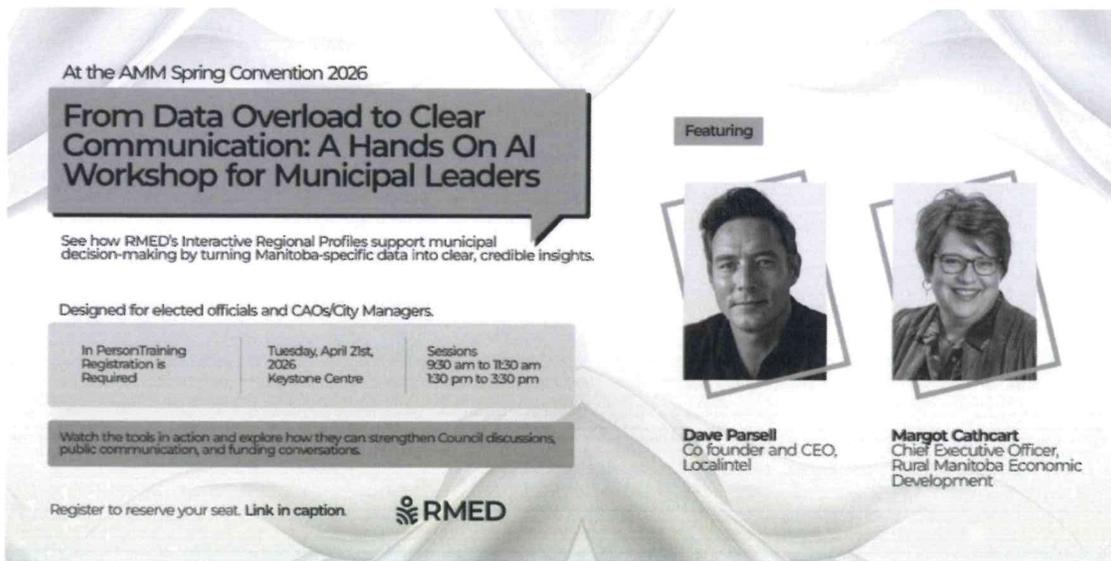
Date Wed 2026-02-25 9:51 AM

To Norma Will <adminassist@oakland-wawanesa.ca>



Member Advisory

From Data Overload to Clear Communication: A Hands-On AI Workshop for Municipal Leaders

A promotional graphic for the workshop. It features a light background with abstract wave patterns. A dark grey speech bubble contains the workshop title. Below it, text describes the workshop's focus on RMED's Interactive Regional Profiles. A 'Featuring' section shows portraits of Dave Parsell and Margot Cathcart. A table provides details on registration, date, and sessions. A bottom section encourages registration and includes the RMED logo.

At the AMM Spring Convention 2026

From Data Overload to Clear Communication: A Hands On AI Workshop for Municipal Leaders

See how RMED's Interactive Regional Profiles support municipal decision-making by turning Manitoba-specific data into clear, credible insights.

Designed for elected officials and CAOs/City Managers.

In Person Training Registration is Required	Tuesday, April 21st, 2026 Keystone Centre	Sessions 9:30 am to 11:30 am 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm
---	--	---

Watch the tools in action and explore how they can strengthen Council discussions, public communication, and funding conversations.

Register to reserve your seat. [Link in caption.](#)

 **RMED**

Featuring

 **Dave Parsell**
Co founder and CEO,
Localintel

 **Margot Cathcart**
Chief Executive Officer,
Rural Manitoba Economic
Development

NOTE: This message is being sent on behalf of the Rural Manitoba Economic Development Corporation (RMED)

February 24, 2026 - This session demonstrates how RMED's Interactive Regional Profiles support municipal decision-making by turning Manitoba-specific data into clear, credible insights. Participants will see the tools in action and explore how they can strengthen Council discussions, public communication, and funding conversations.

Tuesday April 21, 2026

Sessions: 9:30am to 11:30 am and 1:30pm to 3:30pm

Registration Link: **[From Data Overload to Clear Communication: A Hands-On AI Workshop for Municipal Leaders – Fill out form](#)**

This event is being held in conjunction with the AMM Spring Convention; however it is being organized separately by RMED. All questions/inquiries about these sessions should be directed to RMED.

Sincerely,

Denys Volkov
Executive Director

Association of Manitoba Municipalities



Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) | 1910 Saskatchewan Ave. W | Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 0P1 CA

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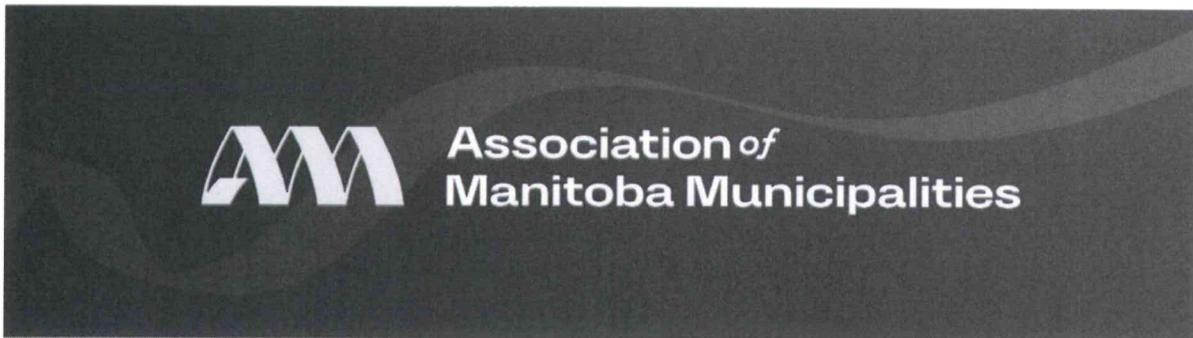
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Member Advisory - 2026 AMM June District Resolution Process

From AMM Communications <amm-amm.mb.ca@shared1.ccsend.com>

Date Tue 2026-03-03 8:32 AM

To Norma Will <adminassist@oakland-wawanesa.ca>



Member Advisory

2026 AMM June District Resolution Process

March 3, 2026 – The 2026 June District Meetings (JDMs) are scheduled for June 9-10, 15-18, and 24.

Call for JDM Resolutions (June 1, 2026 deadline):

Resolutions will be debated during the upcoming JDMs. The deadline for submitting resolutions to the AMM office is **June 1, 2026**.

Submission Requirements:

- Resolutions must be passed by your local Council.
- **NEW EMAIL: A signed, certified copy must be submitted to the Resolutions Team at resolutions@amm.mb.ca by June 1, 2026.**
- Submitting a PDF version via email is sufficient. Please also submit the plain text of the resolution in either an email or Microsoft Word.
- If a municipality wishes to co-sponsor a resolution originating from another municipality, Council must formally endorse the exact same wording as the original resolution and submit a signed, certified copy of that resolution to the Resolutions Team.

NEW: Resolutions Process Changes

Effective this year, please note that the AMM Board of Directors enacted the following process changes:

1. **No Duplicate Active Resolutions:** Identical resolutions will not be accepted at June District Meetings if the same resolution has already passed and is currently being advocated by the AMM.
2. **Cooling-Off Period:** Identically worded resolutions that were defeated cannot be re-submitted for **up to 2 years.** The cooling-off period may be waived if significant new developments change the context (e.g., government change, new legislation, major policy announcement).

Additional Information:

- All districts will be categorized by all seven (7) elected District Resolution Chairs on a virtual meeting in early June following the June 1st submission deadline and before the start of June District Meetings.
- The wording of **any proposed amendment must be provided in writing in advance** to the District Resolutions Chair/Convention Resolutions Chair before debating the resolution. Please click **HERE** for the form. AMM staff will also have copies available at each district meeting.

For more information on resolutions, please review the following resources:

- **2026 Resolutions Seminar Presentation**
- **2026 Resolutions Seminar Recording**
- **JDM Resolutions Process**
- **How to Write a Resolution**
- **Late and Emergent Resolutions**
- **Proposed Amendment Form**

Sincerely,

Denys Volkov
Executive Director

Association of Manitoba Municipalities



Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) | 1910 Saskatchewan Ave. W | Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 0P1 CA

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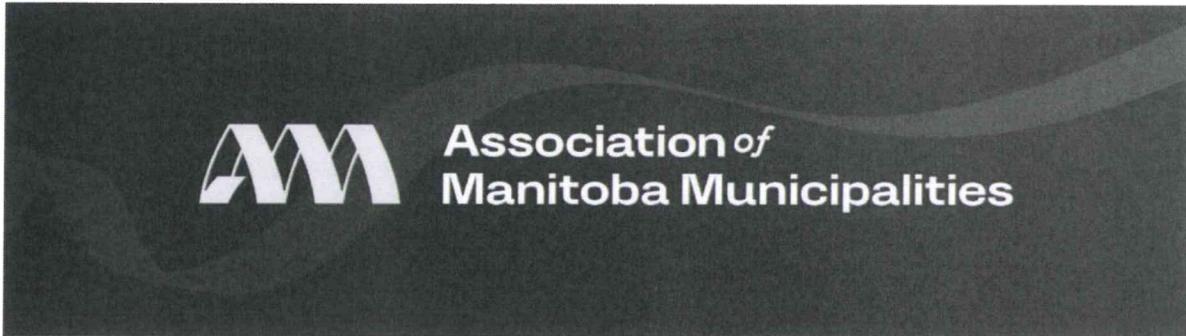
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Member Advisory: Provincial Update - 2025 Wildfire Season Provincial After-Action Review (AAR)

From AMM Communications <amm-amm.mb.ca@shared1.ccsend.com>

Date Wed 2026-03-04 8:03 AM

To Norma Will <adminassist@oakland-wawanesa.ca>



Member Advisory

Provincial Update: 2025 Wildfire Season Provincial After-Action Review (AAR)

Note: This message is being sent on behalf of the Manitoba Emergency Management Organization (EMO)

March 4, 2026 – Manitoba Emergency Management Organization (EMO) extends its sincere gratitude to Manitoba municipalities for their leadership and participation in Phase 1 of the Provincial After-Action Review (AAR) for the 2025 wildfire season.

The AARs submitted by municipalities provide essential, on-the-ground insight into what worked well, the challenges experienced, and opportunities for improvement. Manitoba EMO also gathered perspectives from provincial departments, First Nations, and emergency management partners, and these inputs will help ensure the broader provincial context is reflected and validated throughout the review process.

Phase 2 of the Provincial AAR has now kicked off. The Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) will be supporting the AAR process by reviewing submitted AARs and identifying key themes. Starting in mid-March the AEMA will be in Manitoba conducting targeted interviews with municipal leaders, First Nations, provincial departments, and emergency management partners that played a role in the 2025 wildfire season.

These interviews will be targeted to communities that were directly affected by wildfires or played a significant role in hosting evacuees, and are intended to clarify local experiences, validate themes emerging from the written AARs, and explore cross-jurisdictional or system-level issues identified in Phase 1. Officials from Alberta will be in Manitoba from March 16-20, and April 13-17 to conduct these interviews in person.

An **interim report** highlighting implemented improvements will be shared publicly in **April 2026**, ahead of this year's hazard season. A final report with recommendations is expected in Fall 2026.

Manitoba EMO is looking forward to continued municipal engagement as the AAR progresses. Manitoba EMO will be hosting **virtual regional wildfire seminars** on **April 14, 15, 16** and all municipalities will be invited to attend. While the focus of these seminars is preparation for the next wildfire season, we have allocated time on the agenda for an update on the provincial AAR, and for municipalities to provide feedback, ask questions and share their experiences from the 2025 wildfire season. Inputs will be documented to further support the ongoing AAR work.

The Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC) is also planning to host similar stand alone sessions targeted for Fire Chiefs and Chief Administrative Officers. Session dates are being planned to align with the regional wildfire seminars and will be communicated by the OFC once dates are finalized. If you have any questions regarding the next steps in the provincial AAR process, please contact Manitoba EMO at [**emo@gov.mb.ca**](mailto:emo@gov.mb.ca).

Sincerely,

Denys Volkov
Executive Director

AMM Bulletin - March 6, 2026

From Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) <amm-amm.mb.ca@shared1.ccsend.com>

Date Fri 2026-03-06 9:18 AM

To Norma Will <adminassist@oakland-wawanesa.ca>



Dear Subscriber,

We hope you enjoy this copy of the AMM News Bulletin. Click [HERE](#) to download a PDF version.

Latest Updates

REGISTRATION OPEN: 2026 Spring Convention & Trade Show



Registration is now open for the [2026 AMM Spring Convention & Trade Show](#), taking place **April 21-23, 2026** at the Keystone Centre in Brandon.

This April, AMM is exploring **Legacy That Lasts** at our annual Spring Convention. As we move toward a time of transition, AMM sets to inspire our provincial leaders to continue forward-thinking by taking action today that will make change for the future.

REGISTER NOW for the 2026 Spring Convention [HERE](#).

SECURE YOUR BOOTH for the 2026 Spring Trade Show [HERE](#).

You Make THE Difference: Strengthening the Future of Manitoba Fairs

The Manitoba Association of Agricultural Societies (MAAS) is proud to announce that our province has been awarded a grant to bring the You Make THE Difference National Initiative to Manitoba. This groundbreaking program will officially launch at the 2026 Manitoba Association of Agricultural Societies Annual Convention on March 28, 2026 in Brandon.

Equipping Ag Societies boards and volunteers across the province with powerful tools, training, and inspiration to meet the challenges facing fairs today.

What Makes You Make THE Difference?

At its heart, You Make THE Difference is about people. Created and led by award-winning humanitarian Ian Hill, the initiative exists because rural communities and fairs are facing real headwinds: aging leadership, fewer volunteers, and increasing demands with limited resources. Hill believes the future of fairs—and the communities they serve—rests not in distant institutions, but in everyday people who roll up their sleeves and say yes when their towns need them most.

The program provides practical strategies to recruit and inspire volunteers, strengthen leadership, and build long-term sustainability. It combines high-energy, face-to-face sessions with an innovative digital follow-up system that keeps support and resources flowing long after the workshop ends.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more.

For inquiries, please contact Dale Buhler at dbuhlered@gmail.com or 204-209-2333.

**REGISTRATION OPEN:
2026 Manitoba Planning Conference (May 6-8, 2026)**



M a n i t o b a P r o f e s s i o n a l P l a n n e r s I n s t i t u t e

The Manitoba Planning Conference is an annual event attended by over 225 municipal officials and planning and development professionals. It promotes effective land use and community planning, economic development, and environmental and natural resources management in Manitoba. To be held at the Delta Winnipeg Hotel in Winnipeg from May 6th to 8th. The conference theme is: **Momentum in Muddy Waters: Planning Through Turbulent Times**. Program information can be viewed [HERE](#)

Click [HERE](#) to register.

ESF Municipal Energy Dialogue

Planning on attending FCM 2026 in Edmonton?

As Canada expands energy exports, electricity production, and data centre development, community readiness is essential. Register now for the [**ESF Municipal Energy Dialogue 2026**](#) and join municipal leaders and key stakeholders to discuss how local decisions are shaping Canada's energy and economic future. The event, held on June 4th, right before the start of FCM's conference in Edmonton. It is hosted by [**Energy for a Secure Future**](#).

UPCOMING FCM WEBINAR

Women in Leadership: Breaking Barriers & Building Support

FREE WEBINAR

COLLECTIVE
AN FCM WEBINAR SERIES

Convening women leaders from Canada and abroad to explore how generosity, mentorship and shared experience strengthen women's leadership in local government.

**WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP:
BREAKING BARRIERS AND
BUILDING SUPPORT**

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP BY:

March 11 | 12 PM (ET)

FCM




NEW WEBINAR | As part of International Women's Week, join women leaders from Canada and abroad to explore how generosity, mentorship and shared experience strengthen women's leadership in local government.

Save your spot [HERE](#).

Housing Forward: 2026 Prairies Affordable Housing Summit



Housing Forward:
2026 Prairies Affordable Housing Summit

Newsletter Callout



May 11-14, 2026 | Edmonton, Alberta

Core Conference Programming: May 12-13, 2026

Join 500+ housing leaders from across Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba for two days focused on practical solutions and sector alignment. Convened by the City of Edmonton, this summit brings together municipalities, developers, planners, housing providers, and health and homelessness professionals working to advance affordable and non-market housing delivery.

What you'll gain:

- Proven tools and innovations from local and national leaders
- Site tours showcasing replicable projects in Edmonton
- Strategic partnerships across sectors and jurisdictions
- Applied strategies for delivery, sustainability, and reconciliation

Building on Edmonton's leadership in housing policy and investment, Housing Forward moves beyond conversation toward implementation - highlighting early wins, scalable models, and collaborative approaches that can be applied across the Prairies.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more and register.

Free Ride EV Municipal Electrification & Resilience Session

EV FORUM 2026



Free Ride Manitoba Education
Project

**JOIN THE PREMIER EV
EVENT IN MANITOBA!
REGISTER NOW!**



MARCH 24, 2026
10 AM - 4 PM

About Our Event!

EV Forum 3 emphasizes electric vehicle education and adoption, focusing on cost savings, infrastructure, and real-world deployment in First Nations communities. The event will feature live demonstrations of working EVs, charging systems, and mobile infrastructure solutions.

**REGISTER ON OUR
WEBSITE**



Contact us
204-898-3008



Event Highlights

Food & Water Security ◀

Experience thrilling demonstrations and captivating presentations from the innovative minds at Nibi Enviro Tech!

Emergency Preparedness ◀

using real examples of battery storage and solar backup systems

Explore EVs for rural communities ◀

People will convene in the north to explore the benefits of EVs, focusing on their environmental impact and cost-effectiveness.

Website
www.fnev.ca 

**RRC Polytech - 2026 Co-op Partnership Opportunities
and Water and Wastewater Training**



RRC
POLYTECH

Water and Wastewater Operator
training

[Download course information](#)

AMM Trading Company / Canoe Procurement

Upcoming Changes to Canoe Invoices & Payments



canoe
procurement group of canada

Canoe is pleased to announce our partnership with LBMX Inc., a leading B2B platform of technology solutions for buying groups.

The ability to exchange electronic business transactions efficiently is crucial to optimizing service for our Members.

Highlights of the system:

1. Members will have a portal to self-direct their experience
2. Members control when, where, and who accesses the invoices, with no limit to the number of logins
3. Members can review invoices and dispute any for reasons of warranty or error immediately
4. Members will be able to easily select invoices and create a payment file for their bank directly in the system if they desire (or by cheque), which means the application of payment is the same on both ends of the program
5. Enhanced real-time visibility into all purchases with analytics and reporting
6. Errors are caught or eliminated at the source, and delays in invoicing are reduced

7. Canoe staff will always be at the ready to assist with any issues or queries

The functional accounting processes are ready to go live **April 1st**, with webinars on March 11th and 19th at 9am MST to walk your accounting team through the steps that they need to sign in and download and pay invoices!

You can also look for a webinar invite in May or June that will walk you through the analytics that LBMX provides.

For any questions please contact :
Ainsley Murdock, *CMMA*
Territory Manager – MB/SK
Canoe Procurement Group of Canada

204.249.0203

canoeprocurement.ca

ainsley@canoeprocurement.ca

AMM Programs

PEOPLE FIRST HR SERVICES

A division of People Corporation

Discover Collage HR: Your all-in-one solution for seamless HR, Benefits, and Payroll management. Say goodbye to scattered platforms - streamline hiring, onboarding, sick leave requests, and more, all in a secure, integrated interface. Meet the future of HR.

Book your demo now <https://www.collage.co/request>
Collage is a subsidiary of People Corp.

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[Upcoming Workshops & Events](#)

[From Conflict to Clarity: Transforming difficult conversations](#)

Get updates on upcoming workshops and the latest HR trends. Subscribe to HResource. **[SUBSCRIBE](#)**

AMM is partnered with People First HR to provide Municipalities with a complimentary HR On Call Service for best advice regarding your HR questions as well as access to 100+ HR templates.

Phone: 1.866.899.1340

Email: hroncall@peoplefirsthr.com

For additional information about HR On Call services:

https://amm.mb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/PFHR-HR-On-Call_AMM.pdf

Municipal Leader - Winter 2026

Municipal

Winter 2026

Leader

AI
Artificial Intelligence Technology

SPECIAL REPORT:

Artificial Intelligence

PLUS 2025 Fall Convention Recap | Interview with Mayor Judy Snitynsky

THE MAGAZINE OF

AMM Association of Manitoba Municipalities

PM40065075 - Return Undeliverable Items To: Association of Manitoba Municipalities, 810 Sasjatchewen Avenue West, Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 0P1

Cold outside, cutting-edge inside. Our Winter issue of Municipal Leader magazine features a Special Report on Artificial Intelligence (AI), including insights from the Hon. Mike Moroz, real-world examples of how the City of Selkirk and City of Winnipeg are using AI today, an overview of Manitoba's AI Pathways, and a look at how local governments across Canada are beginning to lean into AI. Flip open the issue to explore this Special Report and discover more timely stories shaping municipalities across Manitoba and beyond.

[READ ONLINE](#)

Important Links

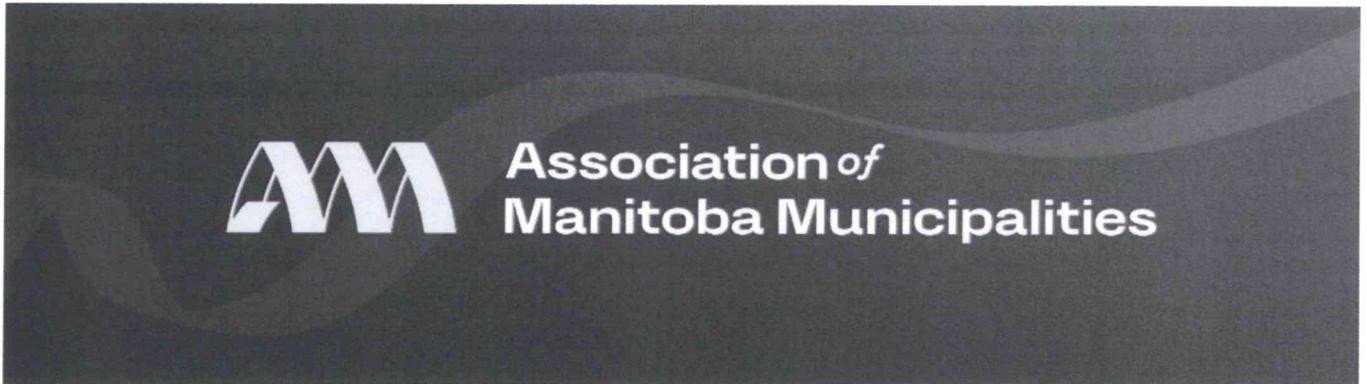
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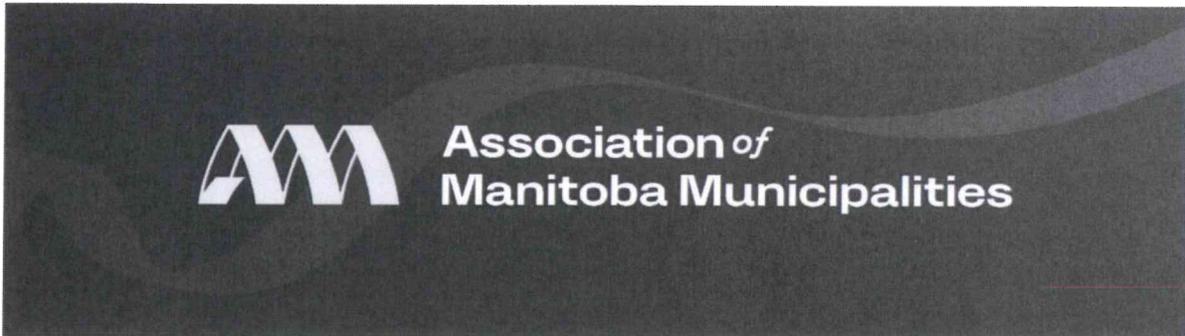
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Member Advisory: AMM Advocacy Update - Transition to Next Generation 911 (NG-911)

From AMM Communications <amm-amm.mb.ca@shared1.ccsend.com>

Date Fri 2026-03-06 2:18 PM

To Norma Will <adminassist@oakland-wawanesa.ca>



Member Advisory

AMM Advocacy Update: Transition to Next Generation 911 (NG-911)

March 6, 2026 – Given the complexity of the transition to Next Generation 911 (NG-911) and its direct impact on municipalities, the AMM has been actively engaged with Bell MTS on this matter since 2022.

While the AMM has urged Bell MTS to provide greater clarity before sending notifications to municipalities regarding NG-911 Authority Service Agreements, we remain concerned that municipalities continue to receive automated communications that may create the impression that they must sign these agreements or risk losing access to 911 services once the new system is implemented.

Previously, these automated communications from Bell MTS were sent to municipal offices every two weeks. As a result of AMM advocacy, the frequency has now been reduced to once every 90 days.

Although the AMM cannot advise municipalities to either sign or decline the NG-911 Authority Service Agreements, we want to clearly communicate our current position to members. At this time, we believe the wording of the Service Agreement contains several problematic provisions that could result in significant financial and administrative burdens for municipalities. The AMM's position has been shared with the Manitoba Municipal Administrators (MMA) and both organizations are collectively aligned.

As a result, the AMM is engaged in ongoing discussions with both Manitoba Justice (lead provincial department) and Bell MTS to address these concerns. We are hopeful that a positive update can be shared in the coming weeks that will provide municipalities with greater clarity and assurance.

The AMM Executive is also scheduled to meet with the Hon. Matt Wiebe, Minister of Justice, on March 19 to discuss a range of issues related to his portfolio, including NG-911. We will continue to keep members informed as more information becomes available.

In the meantime, for questions regarding the NG-911 service or contents of the NG-911 Agreement, please contact Bell's 911 Service Manager at chris.holigroski@bellmts.ca or 204-941-8189.

For questions pertaining to the NG-911 Agreement's signature process, please contact signatures911@bell.ca or 1-833-691-5277.

Sincerely,

Denys Volkov
Executive Director

Association of Manitoba Municipalities



Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) | 1910 Saskatchewan Ave. W | Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 0P1 CA

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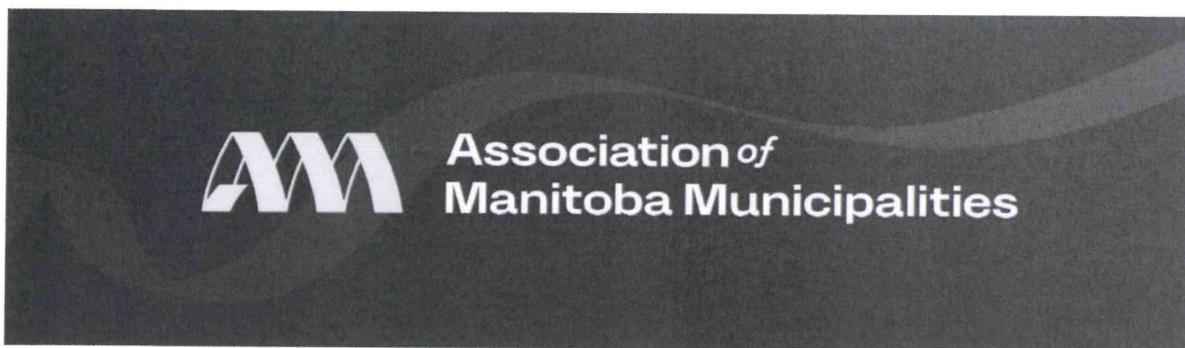
AMM Western Director's Update - February 2026

From Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) <amm-amm.mb.ca@shared1.ccsend.com>

Date Tue 2026-03-10 9:29 AM

To Norma Will <adminassist@oakland-wawanesa.ca>

FEBRUARY 2026 - AMM Western Director's Update



AMM Western Director's Update

Councillor Rhonda Coupland

Councillor Marc Savy

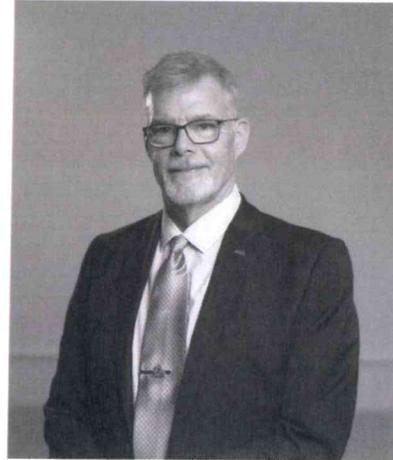
As your AMM Board Director's, we are pleased to provide an update on the issues we discussed at the last Board meeting that was held on **February 19, 2026**.

While the AMM Board maintains the policy of confidentiality regarding ongoing discussions with the provincial government and stakeholders, we are pleased to share some of the topics with you.

If you should have any questions about any of the following items, please contact Nick Krawetz, AMM Deputy



Executive Director and Director of Policy
and Communications.



2025 Wildfire Season - Provincial After-Action Review (AAR) Update

Phase 1 of the Provincial After-Action Review (AAR) for the 2025 wildfire season has now concluded. As part of this phase, the Manitoba Emergency Management Organization (EMO) asked municipalities to conduct their own reviews and submit them to the Province. These submissions provide valuable insight into the challenges experienced during the wildfire season, as well as opportunities for improvement. Municipal input will help ensure that the broader provincial review reflects and validates local experiences throughout the process.

Phase 2 of the review is now underway. The Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) has been engaged to support the AAR process by reviewing submitted reports and identifying key themes. Officials from Alberta will be in Manitoba from March 16–20 and April 13–17 to conduct in-person interviews as part of this work.

An **interim report** highlighting implemented improvements will be shared publicly in **April 2026**, ahead of this year's hazard season. A final report with recommendations is expected in Fall 2026.

For more information, click [HERE](#).

Public Engagement on Emergency Management

As part of the federal government's public engagement on strengthening emergency management, the AMM participated to ensure municipal perspectives and on-the-ground insights were reflected in our formal submission. Municipalities play a central role in Canada's emergency management system, yet their responsibilities and exposure to risk are growing faster than their fiscal and operational capacity.

Stronger federal leadership—focused on prevention, preparedness, coordination, and resilient recovery—is essential. The AMM also supported the recommendations put forward by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), which reflect local realities and offer a practical framework to help modernize Canada's emergency management system.

The AMM urged the Government of Canada to act decisively to modernize emergency management, close critical infrastructure gaps such as broadband and cellular service, and work in true partnership with municipalities to protect Canadians today and in the decades ahead.

Read our submission [HERE](#).

2026 Spring Convention & Trade Show

Registration for the AMM 2026 Spring Convention in Brandon is now open!

The 2026 AMM Spring Convention will be held at the Keystone Centre in Brandon and will include meetings for Mayors, Reeves and CAOs on the first day with all member sessions and the Trade Show commencing on the second and third day. The Convention will take place from **April 21 to April 23, 2026**.

Additionally, don't forget to register for the **Women in Municipal Government and Delegates Lunch**, taking place on **Wednesday, April 22, from 11:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Sign up for this special event when you register for the Convention online. Enjoy lunch while participating in interactive discussions focused on breaking barriers, fostering mentorship, and strengthening leadership in municipal government.

For more information, visit the [AMM Website](#).

Resolutions Update

The 2026 **June District Meetings (JDMs)** are scheduled for June 9-10, 15-18, and 24.

Resolutions will be debated during the upcoming JDMs. The deadline for submitting resolutions to the AMM office is **June 1, 2026**.

Submission Requirements:

- Resolutions must be passed by your local Council.
- NEW EMAIL: A signed, certified copy must be submitted to the Resolutions Team at resolutions@amm.mb.ca by **June 1, 2026**.
- Submitting a PDF version via email is sufficient. Please also submit the plain text of the resolution in either an email or Microsoft Word.
- If a municipality wishes to co-sponsor a resolution originating from another municipality, Council must formally endorse the exact same wording as the original resolution and submit a signed, certified copy of that resolution to the Resolutions Team.

For more information, please click [HERE](#).

AMM and MMA members are encouraged to contact AMM staff if they have questions or concerns regarding any municipal policy issue. Please contact Nick Krawetz, AMM Deputy Executive Director and Director of Policy and Communications, at **204-856-2371** or nkrawetz@amm.mb.ca.



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

DEVELOPMENT PLAN – DENNIS COUNTY PLANNING DISTRICT

Under authority of *The Planning Act*, the Planning District Board will hold a public hearing at the time and location listed below to hear from and receive representations from any persons who wish to make them in respect to the following:

BY-LAW NO. 24, TO ADOPT A DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE DENNIS COUNTY PLANNING DISTRICT (INCLUDING THE MUNICIPALITY OF PIPESTONE, RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF SIFTON, AND MUNICIPALITY OF GRASSLAND)

DATE, TIME, AND LOCATION:

Wednesday, March 18th, 2026 at 7:30pm
Municipality of Grassland
Council Chambers
209 Airdrie Street, Hartney, MB

FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE

CONTACT:

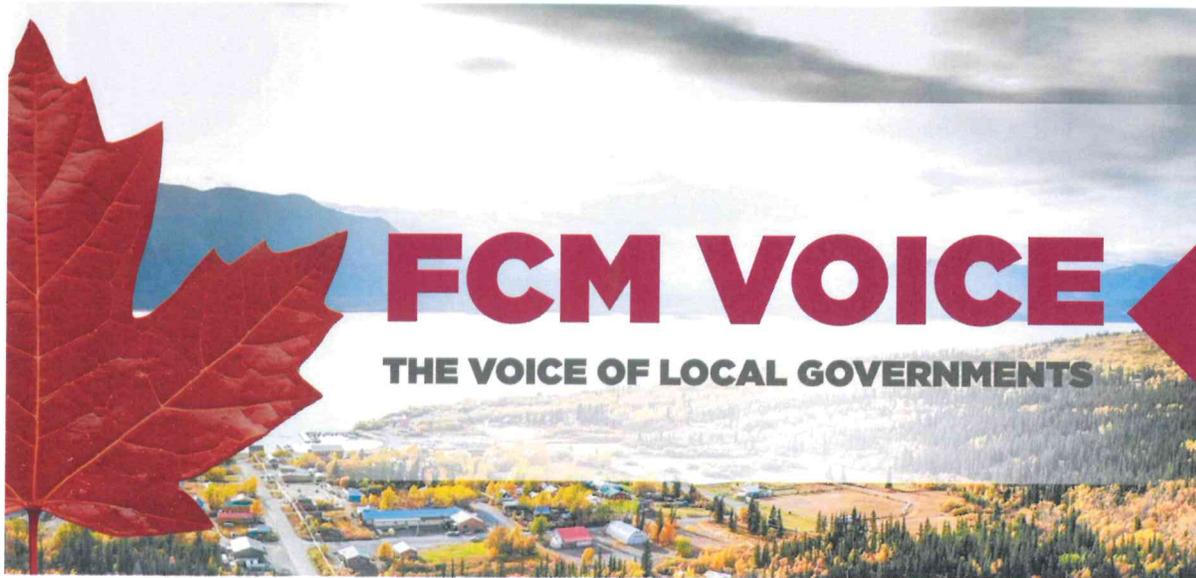
David Houston
Development Officer / Building Inspector
Dennis County Planning District
dcpd@rmofsifton.com
204-855-2423

A copy of the proposed materials may be arranged for review through the contact above.

[View email in browser](#)



February 17, 2026



Advocacy update: Reduced trade barriers would strengthen local economies

Last week, FCM President Rebecca Bligh was joined by Rural Forum Chair Amy Coady and Vice Chair Joe Masi for a meeting with Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Heath MacDonald. This engagement was focused on agriculture's role as a cornerstone of rural employment and economic stability, and the need for continued federal support as pressures on the sector grow as well as ways to improve domestic market access.

As Canada navigates economic uncertainty and looks to diversify our economy, local governments must be engaged in national efforts to boost domestic procurement and improve economic productivity.

[» LEARN MORE](#)

NEWS

Help shape Canada's Rural Development Action Plan – Deadline extended

A stronger Canadian economy begins with robust, empowered rural communities and as local leaders, you play a key role in making that happen. Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) is developing a Rural Development Action Plan and FCM is encouraging rural members to participate in this important federal consultation to ensure local priorities are reflected.

FCM has sent a submission to the federal government to inform this plan (to request a copy, please contact action@fcm.ca). The consultation is open until February 20. FCM's [rural report summary](#) may help guide your submission.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

EVENTS

Webinar: Methane Generation Assessment Report

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) is hosting a webinar on the Methane Generation Assessment Report, the first requirement under the federal [Landfill Methane Regulations](#).

The webinar will outline which landfills are required to submit a report, the Landfill Methane Modelling Tool, the contents of the Methane Generation Assessment Report and how to report using ECCC's [new reporting platform](#).

This session will be delivered in English on February 24 from 1:30-3 p.m. (ET) and in French on February 25 from 1:30-3 p.m. (ET).

» [REGISTER FOR ENGLISH SESSION](#)
» [REGISTER FOR FRENCH SESSION](#)

Webinar: Take the first steps on climate resilience

Small municipalities across Canada are facing growing climate risks, but knowing where and how to start can be challenging.

Join us on February 27 at 2 p.m. (ET) for the webinar *Moving Climate Adaptation Projects into Action*. This webinar is designed to help small municipalities identify a clear first action, plan next steps and move towards implementation. You'll discover new toolkits to support you and hear how communities like yours have successfully taken tangible steps to strengthen climate resilience.

» [REGISTER](#)

FCM IN THE NEWS

» Climate-proofing infrastructure could save taxpayers billions | CP24

A new report from the Canadian Climate Institute, conducted in collaboration with FCM and other partners, emphasizes that climate-proofing public infrastructure could save Canadians over \$10 billion annually. The analysis recommends increasing government spending by \$3 billion per year, which is 2.5 percent more than current levels.

» Housing market faces possible recession in 2026 amid 'subdued' demand: CMHC | National | Global News

In its latest housing market outlook, the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation states that the market is expected to remain quiet throughout the year amid ongoing economic uncertainty due to the trade war.

» Regina Mayor Chad Bachynski joins calls for acceleration of federal funding to Canadian cities | CTV News

Following the recent FCM Big City Mayors' Caucus meeting with Prime Minister Mark Carney, Regina Mayor Chad Bachynski said that large cities are negatively impacted by delayed federal funding, especially for infrastructure. According to FCM, there is a sense of urgency to get that funding into the hands of Canadian cities.

RESOURCES

Biodiversity strategies for resilient urban forests

If you want to learn about biodiversity-focused urban forestry practices, watch our webinar recording of *Biodiversity strategies for resilient urban forests*. From discovering the benefits of planting diverse native species to understanding the connections between urban forestry projects and broader biodiversity goals, this webinar will help you explore real-life examples and principles that you can integrate in your urban forestry plans and projects.

» WATCH THE WEBINAR RECORDING

Create a tree maintenance and monitoring plan

Maintaining a healthy urban forest takes consistent care and planning. Use our tree maintenance and monitoring template to better manage trees in your community. This template will help you outline a long-term maintenance schedule, monitor tree health, survival and site conditions, define roles responsible for managing your trees and more.

» DOWNLOAD THE TEMPLATE

SOCIAL MEDIA

Connect with us on social media

Follow FCM on social media to keep up to date with the latest municipal news, resources, and more! Find us on:



Over the past year, Canadian municipal leaders have been working with [@usmayors](#) to strengthen cross-border collaboration and help communities on both sides of the border navigate the impacts of this trade challenge.

Yesterday's bipartisan vote in the U.S. reflects what local leaders know well: tariffs hurt people, businesses and communities—whether in Canada, the United States or Mexico.

[LEARN MORE](#)



[READ MORE](#)



What happened yesterday in Tumbler Ridge is tragic and devastating. Municipal leaders from coast to coast to coast are sending their thoughts to the families affected, first responders, community leaders and the whole Tumbler Ridge community.

[SHARE THE POST](#)



FEDERATION OF CANADIAN MUNICIPALITIES
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February 23, 2026



FCM urges reversal of federal public transit cuts that will make life harder for Canadians



When we invest in public transit, we ensure that Canada's economy can grow, and that Canadians can rely on a vital public service—it's a win-win. That's why, in our submission last week to the federal government, FCM called for the reversal the 16% cut to the Canada Public Transit Fund (CPTF), as well as a federal commitment to streamline long-term transit funding.

FCM also clearly highlights how these cuts will undermine economic growth at a crucial time, impede homebuilding and make Canadians' lives harder in both our urban centres and rural regions. The federal government has recognized the need for the CPTF as a standalone fund—and it must remain as such. With every \$1 invested in public transit generating \$2.40 in economic activity, this transit investment will help Canada's domestic economy grow while reducing the amount of time Canadians spend in traffic and congestion.

» **SHARE WITH YOUR NETWORK**

NEWS

AC2026: Registration opens on Thursday!

Save the date: FCM's 2026 Annual Conference and Trade Show registration opens on February 26. Join us from June 4 to 7 in Edmonton as municipal leaders from across the country will explore innovative ideas, partnerships and solutions that strengthen Canadian local governments. As we celebrate 125 years of municipal leadership, we will gather under this year's theme, *Building the future together*, reflecting our shared commitment to strong communities.

Before registration opens, take a moment to browse the AC2026 webpages. Learn about our upcoming study and companion tours and start planning your travel and accommodation. Don't miss this opportunity to learn, connect and help shape Canada's future from the ground up.

» [START PLANNING YOUR TRIP NOW](#)

New federal actions targeting extortion

Last week, the federal government unveiled new measures to address serious criminal activity, including extortion. This announcement comes at an important time as extortion grows more visible, more violent and increasingly coordinated across jurisdictions and in our communities. A strong, coordinated response is needed.

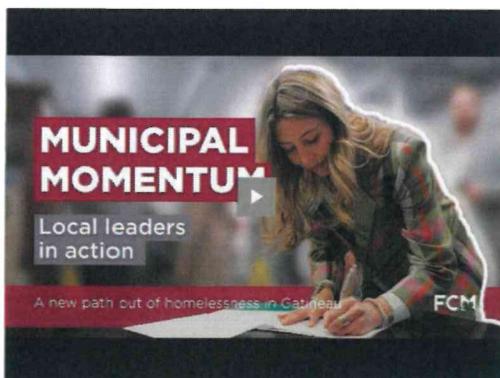
FCM will continue working with the federal government to strengthen community safety and well-being for Canadians, including on issues related to extortion and bail reform, and to ensure that municipal perspectives help shape practical and effective solutions.

» [SHARE THE POST](#)

Have you renewed your FCM membership yet?

FCM is the national voice of local governments, powered by over 2,000 members across the country. For 125 years, we've turned local priorities into national progress—delivering results like funding programs, housing initiatives and climate solutions. Renew your membership today to keep receiving practical tools, insights tailored to your local realities and exclusive resources to help your community thrive. Together, we can we amplify municipal voices in Ottawa and shape decisions that matter.

» [LEARN MORE](#)



Municipal momentum: A new path out of homelessness in Gatineau

Over the past four years, Gatineau has experienced the highest increase of homelessness in Quebec. So local leaders like Mayor Maude Marquis-Bissonnette have decided to think outside the box.

This episode of *Municipal momentum* explores Gatineau's Village Transition,

an innovative transitional housing solution the first of its kind in Quebec and made possible through partnerships across orders of government, a community organization and the private sector. This project is already inspiring other municipalities across the country in their homelessness response.

[» WATCH TO LEARN MORE](#)

EVENTS

Women in leadership: breaking barriers and building support

On March 11, join FCM and the Canadian Labour Congress for a Collective webinar exploring how generosity, mentorship, and shared experience strengthen women's leadership in local government. We'll be joined by elected officials who have taken part in FCM's Partnerships for Municipal Innovation – Women in Local Leadership (PMI-WILL) program to reflect on the realities of women's leadership in municipal governance.

[» REGISTER NOW](#)

FCM IN THE NEWS

» **Carney unveils 'Buy Canadian' defence plan, says security can't be a 'hostage' | National | Global News**

Prime Minister Mark Carney recently announced the federal government's new Buy Canadian plan to supply the military and grow Canada's domestic defence industry. The \$6.6-billion plan promises to prioritize domestic military equipment production, increase the share of defence contracts awarded to Canadian firms, and create up to 125,000 new jobs over the next decade.

» **Gordie Howe Bridge Delay | FCM's VP Tim Tierney | CTV Your Morning | YouTube**

FCM's First Vice President Tim Tierney appeared on *CTV Your Morning* to discuss U.S. President Donald Trump's latest threats regarding the imminent opening of the Gordie Howe Bridge, connecting Windsor to Detroit. Tierney discussed the importance of Canada-U.S. trade relations, particularly for the State of Michigan, and FCM's ongoing work with U.S. counterparts.

» **Territorial capitals look to form 'united front' to advocate for defence spending | CBC News**

The mayors of Iqaluit, Yellowknife and Whitehorse, are expected to sign a memorandum of understanding by the end of this month to ensure their cities benefit from military spending planned for the North, including through early engagement in Canadian Armed Forces activities and NORAD operations.

» **Saskatoon Mayor on attending Big City Mayors' Caucus | CTV News**

Saskatoon Mayor Cynthia Block appeared on CTV to discuss her recent trip to Ottawa for FCM's Big City Mayors' Caucus, including a meeting with Prime Minister Mark Carney, calling for more support for municipalities to tackle homelessness, the housing crisis and outdated infrastructure.

RESOURCES

Helping municipalities respond to extreme heat

Extreme heat creates risks for residents, services and public spaces. The Community Heat Resilience Toolkit helps municipal teams understand local heat risks, compare response options and decide how best to move forward. It supports choices ranging from heat safety outreach to investments in cooling centres or shade projects and provides tools to support implementation.

» [EXPLORE THE HEAT RESILIENCE TOOLKIT](#)

Create a tree maintenance and monitoring plan

The health and sustainability of your community's urban forests depend on a well-executed tree maintenance and monitoring plan. Use our *Create a tree maintenance and monitoring plan* template to ensure your community's trees survive and thrive in the long term.

This template will help you outline a long-term maintenance schedule, monitor tree health, survival and site conditions, define roles responsible for managing your trees and more.

» [DOWNLOAD THE TEMPLATE](#)

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Follow FCM on social media to keep up to date with the latest municipal news, resources, and more! Find us on:

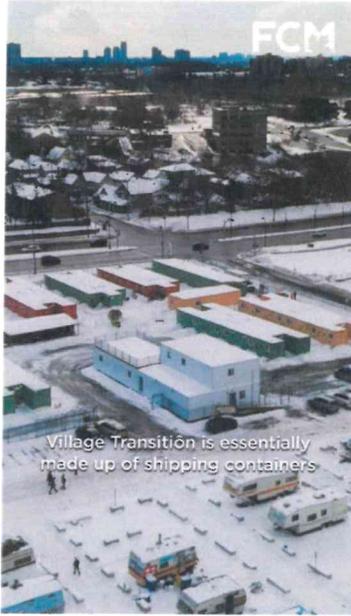




Communities feel the impact of tariffs first—it’s our residents, workers and industries who pay the price. FCM has been calling for the elimination of tariffs imposed by the U.S. Administration, and we have been actively engaging with American municipal leaders and national associations to defend local economies, supply chains and jobs on both sides of the border.

In this period of heightened uncertainty and geopolitical instability, FCM’s focus remains on ensuring the economic prosperity of all Canadian communities. We’ll keep working with the federal government to support local economies and ensure that municipal infrastructure can help Canada diversity global trade.

[LEARN MORE](#)



[SHARE THE VIDEO](#)



FCM CEO Carole Saab was in Montreal today for Mayor Soraya Martinez Ferrada’s inaugural address as President of the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal (CMM).

[READ MORE](#)



FEDERATION OF CANADIAN MUNICIPALITIES

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March 4, 2026

**AC2026: Registration now open!**

Registration is now open for FCM's 2026 Annual Conference and Trade Show! Join us in Edmonton from June 4 to 7 for this year's event. Centered under the theme of *Building the future together*, AC2026 will highlight the power of unity and the role local governments play in shaping resilient, thriving communities.

Expect our most comprehensive program yet, with content tailored to municipalities of every size and reality. This year's lineup features dedicated workshops for rural and northern communities, alongside signature events that bring our network together.

As you register, make sure to reserve your spot on one of our interactive study tours and check out our many family-friendly companion tour options.

Book now and take advantage of Early Bird pricing!

» **REGISTER NOW**

New Voices Initiative: Recipients announced

This year, the New Voices Initiative was created to bring fresh perspectives into Canada's largest gathering of municipal leaders by giving newly-elected officials the opportunity to receive a free registration to FCM's 2026 Annual Conference and Trade Show. We invited first-mandate elected officials to apply, with special consideration for those from remote regions and equity-deserving groups.

The response was strong from our members across Canada, underscoring municipal leaders' interest in participating in our signature event. After a thorough review and random draw, 22 winners from FCM member municipalities across every province and territory were selected. We look forward to welcoming this diverse group in Edmonton and extend our sincere thanks to every applicant.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

Advocacy update: Responding to extreme weather

Last week, Salmon Arm Councillor and Vice Chair of FCM's Environmental Issues and Sustainable Development Committee Louise Wallace Richmond presented to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development on municipal priorities in protecting Canadians from extreme weather events. In her remarks, Councillor Wallace Richmond noted that the most cost-effective path forward on climate adaptation is to invest in resilient infrastructure now, rather than shouldering the cost of repairs down the line. She reiterated FCM's call for an immediate \$2 billion investment, followed by an additional \$1 billion annually for the next ten years, to protect our communities.

» [WATCH HERE](#)

New national polling shows Canadians wants public transit funding protected

A new Nanos survey for the Canadian Urban Transit Association (CUTA) has shown that 77% of polled Canadians expressed concern after learning of the federal government's \$5 billion cut to the Canada Public Transit Fund (CPTF), and 72% supported restoring the dedicated funding announced in 2024.

FCM has called for the reversal of this cut to the CPTF in a direct submission to the federal government. With every \$1 invested in public transit generating \$2.40 in economic activity, the federal government must recognize the need to sufficiently fund the CPTF as a standalone fund to get cities moving, new homes connected and the economy growing.

» [READ THE CUTA SURVEY RESULTS](#)

Co-building local climate action in Tunisia

In Tunisia, we saw how international municipal cooperation can translate into concrete local action, as part of the Inclusive Climate Action for Tunisian Municipalities (ICATM) project, funded by Global Affairs Canada. Through co-creation workshops, Tunisian municipalities, Canadian municipal partners and civil society representatives worked together on inclusive climate action grounded in community priorities and local realities.

In Dar Chaâbane El Fehri, Chouachi and Djerba Midoun, these exchanges helped advance the implementation of pilot municipal projects. These exchanges highlighted

practical lessons on how sustained engagement, mutual learning and locally-led approaches can help inform efforts toward more resilient and sustainable communities.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

EVENTS

Women in leadership: Breaking barriers and building support

On March 11 at 12 p.m. ET, join FCM and the Canadian Labour Congress for a Collective webinar exploring how generosity, mentorship, and shared experience strengthen women's leadership in local government. We'll be joined by elected officials who have taken part in FCM's Partnerships for Municipal Innovation—Women in Local Leadership (PMI-WILL) program to reflect on the realities of women's leadership in municipal governance.

» [REGISTER](#)

Advancing flood resilience with municipal insights

Join us on March 12 at 2 p.m. ET for the webinar *From Assessing Flood Risks to Taking Action*. This session will explore how municipalities can move from understanding flood risk to taking climate adaptation action. Through applied tools and real-world examples from the City of Kitchener, you'll learn how flood resilience can be integrated into municipal plans and projects.

This session is relevant for both urban and rural municipalities and is not coastal-specific.

» [REGISTER](#)

FCM IN THE NEWS

» **Canada's big city mayors see opportunity in Carney meeting | Municipal World**

FCM's Big City Mayors' Caucus Chair and London Mayor, Josh Morgan, told Municipal World in a one-on-one interview that the recent meeting between Prime Minister Mark Carney and BCMA members was productive and set a collaborative tone for federal-municipal relations. Morgan made clear that infrastructure is the foundation of every other national priority, and discussed other FCM priorities, such as housing and public safety.

» **Finance minister unveiled Ottawa's 'follow the money' plan to tackle extortion | CityNews**

Finance Minister François Philippe-Champagne announced a series of new federal initiatives he said will make it easier for police across the country to "follow the money" and dismantle criminal networks. The federal government said that Canada's Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada will allocate new resources to combat extortion.

» **Edmonton Mayor Andrew Knack warns of 'significant infrastructure deficit' | Edmonton Journal**

Edmonton city council learned that without a significant increase in infrastructure funding, assets could fall into disrepair and jeopardise essential services. Mayor Andrew Knack has said that the city's infrastructure renewal shortfall is approximately \$1.5 billion.

RESOURCES

Planning climate-resilient community facilities

Community facilities are essential gathering locations during climate disruptions. The Resilient Community Facilities Toolkit helps municipalities assess climate risks, work through key planning questions and identify adaptation options. It supports informed decision-making by clarifying vulnerabilities, priorities and next steps. It also helps councils prepare for future planning, budgeting and investment discussions with greater confidence.

» **EXPLORE THE TOOLKIT**

GMF's impact in small and rural communities

Since 2000, GMF has invested over \$346 million in rural, northern and remote communities across Canada—funding innovative projects that reduce energy costs, strengthen local economies, increase affordable housing and more. Explore quick stories of lasting change in small communities and resources to help your work.

» **FIND IDEAS FOR YOUR NEXT PROJECT**

CORPORATE PARTNER

2025 PARTICIPACTION REPORT CARD ON PHYSICAL ACTIVITY FOR ADULTS

HOW CAN MUNICIPALITIES HELP ELEVATE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IN CANADA?

We have the tools, resources and recommendations for municipalities to improve adult physical activity levels.

[Access Tools & Resources](#)



Municipalities can improve Canada's physical activity levels

The ParticipACTION Report Card on Physical Activity for Adults is the most comprehensive assessment of adult physical activity in Canada. Getting more Canadians moving can create a stronger, healthier nation, but doing so requires collective action. Municipalities can help drive the change. Want to help inform the next Report Card? Answer [this five-question survey](#) for the chance to win a \$50 [Everything Card](#) gift card!

- » [DOWNLOAD THE REPORT CARD](#)
- » [EXPLORE MUNICIPAL RESOURCES](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA

Connect with us on social media

Follow FCM on social media to keep up to date with the latest municipal news, resources, and more! Find us on:

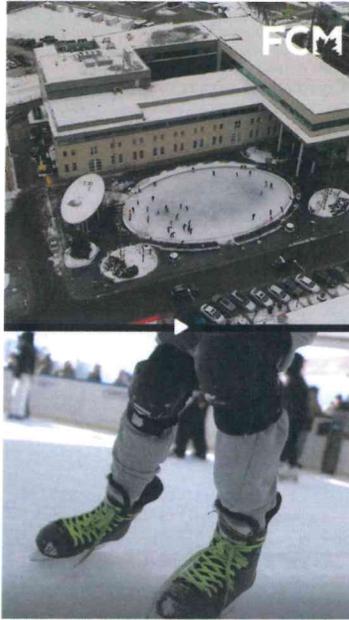




Yesterday, #Budget2025 passed in the House of Commons. Our focus remains on delivering key infrastructure projects this construction season. Looking ahead to the Spring Economic Statement and next Budget, municipalities must receive federal infrastructure funding at the pace and scale necessary to achieve the federal government's objectives on trade diversification, economic growth, housing affordability and national defense.

Municipalities are essential delivery partners on these priorities, and we hope to see further progress on these critical files.

[READ MORE](#)



Before the medals and the heart stopping showdowns, there's a community rink and early morning ice time in local arenas.

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)



Local governments and infrastructure are essential to Canada's security and sovereignty.

<https://t.co/mhSvPU1DxM>

Mayors Solomon Awa, Kirk Cameron and Ben Hendriksen understand what their communities need to thrive and they deliver the infrastructure and services that their residents need. Yet, northern municipalities are being called to respond to challenges that Canada's outdated municipal fiscal model can't fully support—from aging infrastructure and housing shortages to climate disasters and emerging foreign threats.

All orders of government must work together for a stronger North—and a stronger Canada.

[SHARE THE POST](#)



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FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE DES MUNICIPALITÉS



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FCM Voice: FCM Board of Directors March meeting recap | Board nominations now open | FCM Award nominations | and more

From FCM Communique <communique@fcm.ca>

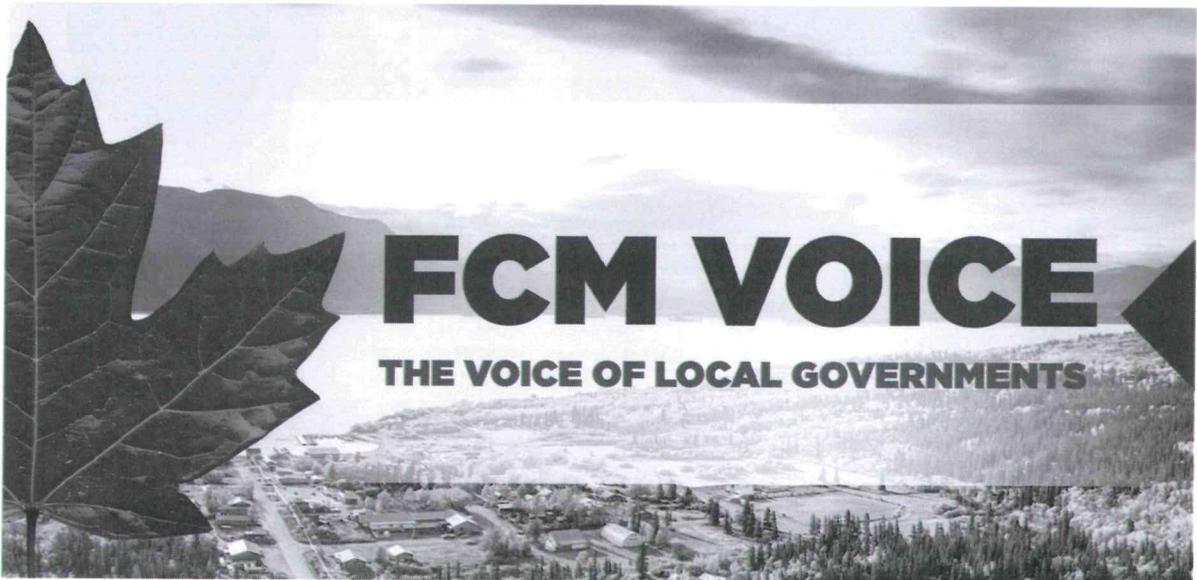
Date Mon 2026-03-09 2:18 PM

To Norma Will <adminassist@oakland-wawanesa.ca>

[View email in browser](#)



March 9, 2026



FCM Board of Directors advance local solutions at March meeting



Last week, FCM's Board of Directors gathered in St. John's, NL, for the annual March Board meeting, where they examined local solutions to the geopolitical forces reshaping trade, security and economic stability, and advanced actions that help communities reinforce the infrastructure and services that keep Canada competitive. The Board emphasized the essential role local governments play in supporting the systems that move goods, protect economic activity and maintain daily life for Canadians.

As the federal government prepares its Spring Economic Update, FCM will continue bringing forward practical guidance from communities on the front lines of economic change.

» [READ MORE](#)

NEWS

FCM's Board of Directors nominations are now open

Are you motivated by influencing and driving change on a national scale? Are you interested in defining municipal priorities? If so, submit your nomination to join FCM's Board of Directors today!

Our member-elected body sets the organization's policy priorities, ensuring that municipalities have the tools they need to do what's best for Canadians. Board directors meet in person and/or virtually at least three times per year, with some committee meetings in between.

This year, elections for FCM's Board of Directors will take place alongside our Annual Conference and Trade Show from June 4-7, 2026, in Edmonton. For more details on the nomination process, [election changes taking effect this year](#) and all required submissions, please visit our website.

» [SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATION TODAY](#)

Trade Diversification Corridors Fund and Arctic Infrastructure Fund calls for proposals open

Last week, the Minister of Transport announced the launch of the calls for proposals for both the \$5 billion Trade Diversification Corridors Fund and the \$1 billion Arctic Infrastructure Fund. These funds respond to FCM advocacy for investment in municipal infrastructure in the North and across Canada to enhance trade diversification. FCM will continue to examine the details of these funds and to advocate for the prioritization of municipal infrastructure projects. See Transport Canada's website for the announcement and program eligibility details.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

FCM Awards nominations are now open

Help us celebrate outstanding leadership and innovation in local governments across Canada. The FCM Awards include five categories, each recognizing excellence: municipal leadership, emerging talent, equity and international cooperation. Eligibility varies by category, so take a moment to explore each award's criteria and consider nominating someone whose work is making a difference in the municipal sector.

Award recipients will be celebrated during the Host City Closing Gala and Awards Show at our 2026 Annual Conference and Trade Show in Edmonton, taking place June 4-7. Recipients will receive free admittance to AC2026 but will be responsible for their own travel costs. Nomination deadline is April 7.

» [SUBMIT A NOMINATION NOW](#)

Renew your FCM membership for 2026–2027

Have you renewed your FCM membership for the 2026-2027 year? FCM is the national voice of local governments, ensuring your priorities are heard where decisions are made. Whether it's strengthening rural connectivity or supporting northern infrastructure, we're advancing priorities that matter most to your communities.

For 125 years, we've turned local solutions into national progress—delivering tangible wins and practical tools to help communities thrive. Renew your membership today and keep driving change across Canada.

EVENTS

Women in leadership: Breaking barriers and building support

When municipalities remove barriers and create safe, supportive conditions for women in all their diversity, including women of colour, Indigenous women, and 2SLGBTQI+ women, to participate in public life, communities gain stronger leadership, better decision making and more resilient democratic institutions.

To mark International Women's Week, join FCM and the Canadian Labour Congress on March 11 at 12 p.m. (ET) for a Collective webinar exploring how generosity, mentorship, and shared experience strengthen women's leadership in local government.

» [REGISTER](#)

Prepare or repair: How climate proofing local infrastructure pays off

The Canadian Climate Institute's newly released report on adaptation shows that by investing upfront in adapting public infrastructure, governments could limit climate impacts and save between \$5 and \$10 billion each year.

Join us on March 25 at 12 p.m. (ET) for a Collective webinar to explore the report and the importance of this research, what it means for FCM's advocacy going forward and how we can better support Canadian communities in becoming more resilient to climate change.

» [REGISTER](#)

FCM IN THE NEWS

» **FCM President Rebecca Bligh talks infrastructure deficit | Taking Stock | YouTube**

FCM President Rebecca Bligh discussed Canada's infrastructure gap and its effect on municipalities across the country on the show *Taking Stock*. She explained FCM's call for stable, long-term funding on the issue and said that property taxes do not provide municipalities with enough revenue to properly maintain infrastructure.

» **The Federation of Canadian Municipalities met in St. John's | St. John's Morning Show | On Demand | CBC Listen**

FCM President Rebecca Bligh spoke to CBC Radio while in St. John's, N.L., attending FCM's Board Week. She highlighted the main concerns facing Canadian municipalities. Bligh also discussed how tariffs are affecting municipalities, infrastructure and the housing crisis.

» **Tariff war: Canadian municipalities need support, says the FCM | OHdio | Radio-Canada**

FCM Vice-President and Mayor of Dorval, Marc Doret, spoke with Radio-Canada about FCM's Board of Directors week. Doret highlighted the organization's work with American counterparts and the impact of tariffs on Canadian municipalities. He also discussed the infrastructure deficit across the country.

» **Despite big infrastructure needs, Alberta municipalities to receive less funding | CBC**

Alberta's new budget cuts funding for Municipal Affairs by \$18 million, a one percent decrease compared to last year. Alberta Municipalities' President, Dylan Bressey, expressed concern about this funding reduction, especially considering the need for increased infrastructure investment.

RESOURCES

Planning wildfire adaptation projects at the local level

Wildfire exposure affects municipal infrastructure, land use and service delivery. Our Community Wildfire Resilience Toolkit helps municipalities plan wildfire adaptation projects by providing project examples and templates for budgeting, RFPs and next steps. It also helps improve project readiness and strengthens the foundation for future planning, procurement and investment discussions related to wildfire adaptation.

» [EXPLORE THE TOOLKIT](#)

Door-to-door public transport in Winkler, Manitoba

With GMF support, the City of Winkler, Manitoba, launched a pilot carpooling program that lets residents book rides in an eight-passenger vehicle through an app. This on-demand transit system aims to reduce GHG emissions by 30.8 tonnes annually, better understand residents' transit needs and improve access to jobs and services for people without cars or with mobility challenges.

From the smallest townships to the largest cities, local governments are using GMF funding to improve the day-to-day lives of residents in the Prairies.

» [FIND INSPIRATION IN PRAIRIE SUCCESS STORIES](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA

Connect with us on social media

Follow FCM on social media to keep up to date with the latest municipal news, resources, and more! Find us on:





In the face of global uncertainty, worrying impacts of climate change, the urgent need to renew vital infrastructure and more, strong local leadership matters now more than ever.

And that's exactly what you see around the FCM Board of Directors table—leaders who are ready to continue working hard to deliver for all Canadians and meet the moment.

Municipalities are united, and they have the solutions to Canada's most pressing challenges. The work ahead is vital.

[READ MORE](#)



St. John's has a long history of supporting affordable housing and some inspiring recent examples of how the city works together with partners to create new homes and community spaces.

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)



In St. John's this week, the FCM Board of Directors examined local solutions to the geopolitical forces reshaping trade, security, and economic stability, and advanced actions that help communities reinforce the infrastructure and services that keep Canada competitive.

Read more:
<https://t.co/13bc5VQc0d>

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Fw: Reminder: 2025 Farmland School Tax Rebate Deadline is March 31.

From Norma Will <adminassist@oakland-wawanesa.ca>
Date Mon 2026-03-09 8:39 AM
To Tara Wilkinson <adminassist1@oakland-wawanesa.ca>
Cc Melissa Sturgeon <finance@oakland-wawanesa.ca>

Can you please post on our website. Thank you!

Norma Will

Administrative Assistant
Municipality of Oakland-Wawanesa
106 Fourth St. Box 278
Wawanesa, MB R0K 2G0
Phone: (204) 824-2666
Email: adminassist@oakland-wawanesa.ca
Web: www.oakland-wawanesa.ca



From: Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation <no-reply@masc.mb.ca>
Sent: March 6, 2026 10:14 AM
To: Norma Will <adminassist@oakland-wawanesa.ca>
Subject: Reminder: 2025 Farmland School Tax Rebate Deadline is March 31.



2025 Farmland School Tax Rebate Program Deadline is March 31

The 2025 **Farmland School Tax Rebate (FSTR)** application deadline is fast approaching! Applications must be received by MASC **on or before March 31, 2026** to be considered eligible for payment. This includes faxed and dropped off applications.



The 2025 property taxes including any interest or penalties must be paid in full by March 31, 2026 or earlier.

Should any of our mutual clients come into your office with an application, please advise them of the deadline and direct them to one of our service centres for any assistance they may require.

Please note that applicants are still eligible to apply for the 2025 Farmland School Tax Rebate even if they have received a Homeowners Affordability Tax Credit on your property tax statement.

For further information or assistance, please contact your nearest MASC Service Centre or visit our website at www.masc.mb.ca/FSTR.

Need More Information?



For further information or assistance regarding the Farmland School Tax Rebate, please contact your nearest MASC Service Centre.

[Contact a Service Centre](#)



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MANITOBA GIANT GROWERS ASSOCIATION (MGGA) PRESENTS

GIANT PUMPKIN GROWERS SEMINAR



Learn the intricacies of growing 1,000+ lb. pumpkins and competing in weigh-offs

Blair Sharpe Active Living Centre
450 Norton Avenue, Miami, MB

Sat., March 28, 2026
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM



Art Cameron
Chairperson, Manitoba Giant
Growers Association (MGGA)

- **Presentations**
- **Question period**



Milan Lukes
2x Winner, Roland Pumpkin Fair

- **Free seeds**
Including seeds from
2,000+ lb. pumpkins!



Laverne Wojciechowski
Western Canada Representative,
Great Pumpkin Commonwealth (GPC)

- **Free refreshments**
- **Free snacks**

MGGA Memberships

\$10.00 / individual
\$15.00 / family

ADMISSION

Growers: Membership Fee Required
Others: Donation Optional

Contact

Art Cameron
artccam@gmail.com
204-343-2314
431-771-0707

Cash only

MGRA Banquet invitation and ticket order form - April 21, 2026

From Manitoba Good Roads Association <info@mgra.ca>

Date Fri 2026-02-20 1:35 PM

To RM of Ellice-Archie <mcauley@rmofellicearchie.ca>; RM of Lac du Bonnet <cao@lacdubonnet.com>; RM of Sifton <cao@rmofsifton.com>; RM of Prairie Lakes <admin@rmofprairielakes.ca>; Municipality of Mossey River <assistantcao.mrm@outlook.com>; Municipality of Grassland <cao@mglgov.ca>; RM of Dauphin <info@rmofdauphin.ca>; Municipality of North Norfolk <office@northnorfolk.ca>; RM of Whitemouth <cao@rmwhitemouth.com>; Municipality of Louise <fina@louisemb.com>; RM of Reynolds <cao@rmofreynolds.com>; RM of Cartier <CAO@rm-cartier.mb.ca>; RM of Rockwood <info@rockwood.ca>; Grandview Municipality <grandviewcao@mymts.net>; RM of Wallace-Woodworth <info@wallace-woodworth.com>; RM of Kelsey <rmkelsey@mts.net>; RM of Rosedale <admin@rmrosedale.com>; Municipality of Minitonas-Bowsman <cao@minitonas-bowsman.ca>; RM of Montcalm <cao@rmofmontcalm.com>; RM of Dufferin <info@rmofdufferin.com>

 1 attachment (53 KB)

Invitation to Banq with order form.doc;

Good afternoon,

Please find attached your invitation to MGRA's 2026 Annual Awards Banquet that will take place on April 21, 2026 at the Clarion Hotel & Suites in Brandon. Please use the attached form to order tickets. I will invoice after the banquet because there are usually last minute changes to orders. Tickets will all be mailed one week prior to the banquet to also allow for changes.

The AGM will take place on the same day at 3:30 at the Clarion Hotel & Suites in Brandon. An agenda will be emailed closer to the date.

If you entered someone who won a category in the 2025 judging competition, it is customary that the Municipality purchase tickets for the winner. If you are purchasing winner's tickets, please include them in your banquet ticket order and make a note on the the form that you are ordering tickets for them. I will be sending the family winners invitations in the next week.

If you have a plaque to return, I will be emailing you the specifics in the next week or so and I will also be notifying the previous family winners to return their plaque.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email the office.

Terra

--

Terra Van Deynze
Executive Director
Manitoba Good Roads Association
Box 1354

Portage la Prairie, MB
R1N 3N9

Website: www.manitobagoodroads.ca

Ph:(204)239-1035

Fax: (204) 239-1054

email: info@mgra.ca

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YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND
THE 114th ANNUAL BANQUET AND AWARDS PRESENTATION

of the
MANITOBA GOOD ROADS ASSOCIATION

on
TUESDAY, April 21, 2026

at the
THE CLARION HOTEL & SUITES
3130 VICTORIA AVE W
BRANDON, MANITOBA

COCKTAILS 5:30 P.M.

DINNER 6:00 P.M.

PLEASE ORDER YOUR TICKETS BY APRIL 17, 2026

TICKETS \$65.00

*****TICKETS MUST BE ORDERED USING THE ORDER FORM*****



114th Annual Banquet and Awards Program
Tuesday, April 21, 2026
Regency Ballroom, The Clarion Hotel & Suites
Brandon, Manitoba
Cocktails 5:30 p.m.
Banquet 6:00 p.m.

BANQUET TICKET ORDER FORM

NAME OF RM/COMPANY _____

NUMBER OF TICKETS _____

SIGNATURE _____

All tickets must be ordered using this form. Please order your tickets by April 17, 2026. If you do not require the tickets you ordered, please contact Terra at 239-1035 by April 17, 2026. MGRA pays for the number of plates ordered, NOT by how many plates are served at the banquet.

Unused tickets must be cancelled by April 17, 2026 by PHONE or you will be charged for them. **Before you submit your order, please make sure you are accurate to avoid any confusion with numerous changes. There is plenty of time to get your order in before the banquet. Thank you for your cooperation! I will invoice after the banquet.**

****Please email this banquet ticket order form to info@mgra.ca or fax to 239-1054****

MMSM Program Updates

From Multi-Material Stewardship Manitoba <christarust@stewardshipmanitoba.org>

Date Wed 2026-02-25 3:53 PM

To Joni Swidnicki <cao@oakland-wawanesa.ca>



A Message from Christa Rust, Executive Director

I was pleased to officially begin my role as Executive Director of Multi-Material Stewardship Manitoba on January 12. I would like to sincerely thank our partners and stakeholders for the warm welcome and thoughtful outreach during my first weeks in this role.

My initial focus has been on listening, learning, and ensuring we are well positioned as we move toward full Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) implementation in Manitoba.



I met with the MMSM team to review our organizational priorities, transition planning activities, and the key operational initiatives currently underway to support full EPR. Their dedication and expertise provide a strong foundation for the important work ahead.

I have also engaged with the Executive of the Board to discuss governance priorities and strategic oversight as we advance toward full EPR. Strong governance and clear accountability will be essential as we navigate this transition.

Supporting open dialogue with our partners has been a priority. I participated in the Manitoba Association for Resource Recovery Corp. (MARR) Q&A session regarding MMSM's transition to full EPR, helping to address questions from municipal partners in advance of the February 6 close of the EngageMB public consultations.

In addition, I met with representatives from the newspaper sector, the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM), the City of Winnipeg, and the Province of Manitoba to discuss the in-kind agreement and next steps. These conversations are critical to ensuring alignment and clarity as responsibilities evolve under full EPR.

I have also begun broader outreach to partners and stakeholders across the province to strengthen relationships and support a coordinated, transparent transition process. Clear communication and collaboration will remain central to our approach.

Finally, we have advanced the development of materials designed to provide greater clarity on full EPR and what the transition will mean for First Nations and municipalities. Ensuring that communities have the information they need to plan effectively is a key priority.

I look forward to continuing our work together and to building on the strong partnerships that support Manitoba's recycling system.



Christa Rust
Executive Director

Program Updates

Cost-Monitoring Survey - Reminder Notice

2025 Municipal Recycling Program - Cost Monitoring Survey

The Cost Monitoring Survey (CMS) has been distributed to communities. This is a friendly reminder that the final deadline to submit your CMS to Multi-Material Stewardship Manitoba (MMSM) is **Thursday, April 16, 2026**. The survey period covers January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, and participation is mandatory for communities that receive Municipal Recycling Funding Payments.

If you require another copy or have any questions regarding the process or survey, please contact Kalin McDonald at kmcdonald@stewardshipmanitoba.org or at [1-204-953-2018](tel:1-204-953-2018). Thank you in advance for your careful participation.

Indigenous Community Engagement

MMSM's Field Services team is working with Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and Municipal and Northern Affairs to inform First Nations and northern communities of full EPR and

Three New Communities Complete 2025 Reporting

In 2025, MMSM welcomed three new communities to the program: Roseau

opportunities to advance waste diversion with MMSM. ISC will send an information package to provide communities with an overview of MMSM's program, full EPR, and details on how to inquire about establishing or expanding a residential recycling program.

River Anishinaabe First Nation, the RM of Alonso, and Skownan First Nation. These new partnerships would not be possible without support and assistance from the Green Action Centre Pathfinders team, who helped us connect and share information.

News

MMSM Receives APR Recycling Leadership Award

Five Canadian producer responsibility organizations – [Circular Materials](#), [Éco Entreprises Québec](#), [Multi-Material Stewardship Manitoba](#), [SK Recycles](#) and [Recycle BC](#) – have received the Outstanding Leadership Award from the Association of Plastic Recyclers (APR). The award is for individuals or organizations who are going above and beyond to adopt recyclable packaging within their field.



Last fall, the organizations began collaborating to develop ecodesign guidelines to support greater recyclability of packaging and paper products building on the packaging ecodesign and recyclability guidelines originally developed by Éco Entreprises Québec in 2024. This initiative marked a major step towards a harmonized national framework that will provide clear guidance to thousands of producers who market their goods in more than one province or territory across Canada. The development of the guideline is underway and the anticipated completion date is December 2026.

Christa Rust, Executive Director with MMSM, accepted the award on February 25, 2026, at the Plastics Recycling Conference in Chula Vista, California.

[Read the full media release here](#)

Visit our booth at the AMM Spring Conference

MMSM will once again attend the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) Conference this April in Brandon!

Stop by our trade show booth and connect with our expert Field Services team. Whether you have questions about your residential recycling program, are looking for guidance, or simply want to explore opportunities for optimization and support, our team will be there and ready to help. We look forward to seeing you in Brandon!

Multi-Material Stewardship Manitoba | 7th Floor, 259 Portage Ave | Winnipeg, MB R3B 2A9 CA

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Bulletin #2026-05

MUNICIPAL AND NORTHERN RELATIONS

**Important Notice to
All Elected Officials and Chief Administrative Officers**

**Manitoba Government Launches \$10 Million
Business Security Rebate Program**

The Province of Manitoba has launched a new Business Security Rebate Program to support business owners for the purchase and installation of security equipment and repair property damage. The program aims to reduce security crime and promote safer neighbourhoods throughout the province.

The Business Security Rebate Program has \$10 million available to provide rebates on a first-come, first-served basis to Manitoba businesses with 75 or fewer employees per location. Eligible businesses can apply for up to \$2,500 per location to offset the cost of purchasing security equipment or repairing property damage on or after August 23, 2024.

Municipalities are encouraged to share this information with local businesses to help ensure they can take advantage of the program while funding remains available.

Businesses can find full program details, eligibility criteria, and the online application form at: www.manitoba.ca/justice/securityrebate.html

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

Bulletin #2026-07

MUNICIPAL AND NORTHERN RELATIONS

**Important Notice to
All Elected Officials and Chief Administrative Officers**

**2026 Aggregate Mining and Transportation: Update
to Fees**

The Aggregate Mining and Transportation Fees and Agreements Regulation (M.R. 48/97) under The Municipal Act enables municipalities to pass by-laws to collect fees up to a set level from aggregate operators to offset municipal costs associated with aggregate mining.

The Regulation prescribes a maximum aggregate mining fee based on the tonnage of materials produced by operations, as well as an aggregate transportation levy based on tonnage per kilometer of municipal road used. There is an update to these fees for 2026 to reflect inflationary increases, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for Manitoba in 2025.

Rates effective for 2026, beginning January 1, are:

Mining Aggregate

Rate per tonne	Rate per cubic metre
\$0.303	\$0.539

Transporting Aggregate

Time Period in each year	Rate per tonne	Rate per cubic metre
March to November	\$0.069	\$0.120
January, February and December	\$0.034	\$0.060

Municipalities must amend their existing aggregate by-law to charge the increased fees or pass a new by-law to begin collecting fees within these levels.

This information can also be found at: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/mr/mfas/> by clicking the link titled "2026 Aggregate Mining and Transportation Fees". The Regulation can be viewed at <https://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/regs/annual/2022/112.pdf>.

If you have any questions, please contact a Municipal Services Officer at 204-945-2572 or by email at mrmaas@gov.mb.ca.

This information is available in other accessible formats upon request. Please contact the Department Accessibility Coordinator at MRMAAS@gov.mb.ca.

Bulletin #2026-08 - MNR - HATC 2026 Communication

From +WPG139 - MGAS, Municipal Governance and Advisory Services <MRMAAS@gov.mb.ca>

Date Wed 2026-02-25 3:33 PM

Cc +WPG139 - MGAS, Municipal Governance and Advisory Services <MRMAAS@gov.mb.ca>

 2 attachments (345 KB)

Bulletin #2026-08 - MNR - HATC 2026 Communication.pdf; Bulletin #2026-08 - MNR - Crédit d'impôt pour l'abordabilité visant les propriétaires de 2026.pdf;

Bulletin #2026-08

MUNICIPAL AND NORTHERN RELATIONS

Important Notice to All Elected Officials, Chief Administrative Officers and Municipal Financial Staff

Homeowners Affordability Tax Credit 2026

Manitoba reminds all municipalities that the Homeowners Affordability Tax Credit (HATC) will increase to a maximum of \$1,600 for the 2026 tax year. Eligible homeowners will receive up to \$1,600 toward the school portion of their property taxes. The HATC will be applied directly on municipal property tax statements.

The HATC applies only to residential properties that are designated as principal residences.

Farm properties will continue to receive the Manitoba School Tax Rebate, which is maintained at 50 per cent. There are no provincial property tax credits or rebates to be applied to commercial properties.

New property owners will have to declare their principal residence with their municipality before tax statement production has begun in order to have the HATC as an advance applied directly to the property tax statement.

Eligible homeowners who do not receive the HATC on their 2026 property tax bill can claim their credit on their 2026 income tax return. HATC extended declarations were offered once in 2025 and are not available in 2026.

Municipalities are encouraged to notify the new owners to designate their principal residence to have the HATC applied to their property tax statement. Current owners would automatically be rolled over to the 2026 program and need not be re-designated if there is no ownership change.

Les nouveaux propriétaires fonciers devront déclarer leur résidence principale à leur municipalité avant que la production du relevé de taxes ne commence. Ainsi, le paiement anticipé du crédit d'impôt pour l'abordabilité visant les propriétaires s'appliquera directement sur le relevé de taxes foncières.

Les propriétaires admissibles qui ne reçoivent pas le crédit d'impôt pour l'abordabilité visant les propriétaires sur leur facture d'impôts fonciers de 2026 peuvent demander leur crédit sur leur déclaration de revenus de 2026. Le report de la date limite de déclaration de la résidence principale a été offert une fois en 2025, mais il n'est pas offert en 2026.

Les municipalités sont invitées à aviser les nouveaux propriétaires qu'ils doivent désigner leur résidence principale afin que le crédit d'impôt pour l'abordabilité visant les propriétaires soit appliqué sur leur relevé de taxes foncières. Les propriétaires actuels seront automatiquement transférés au programme de 2026. Il n'y aura pas de nouvelle désignation si le propriétaire reste le même.

Si un propriétaire d'une résidence principale admissible est assujéti à un régime de paiements échelonnés des taxes ou à un autre programme de paiements anticipés, les municipalités peuvent ajuster les montants de paiement pour 2026 en fonction de la nouvelle valeur du crédit d'impôt pour l'abordabilité visant les propriétaires.

Comme par les années précédentes, les municipalités devront verser les taxes scolaires aux divisions scolaires et au Manitoba, à compter du mois suivant la date d'échéance du paiement des taxes, le versement final devant être effectué au plus tard le 31 janvier 2027.

Ressources

- **Guide pour les municipalités – Paiement anticipé du crédit d'impôt pour l'abordabilité :**
https://www.gov.mb.ca/mr/mfas/pubs/mmo/bulletins_2025/hatca_help_guide-revised-jun2025_fr.pdf
- **Formulaire de déclaration de résidence principale :** offert en format PDF (https://www.gov.mb.ca/mr/mfas/pubs/mmo/bulletins_2025/principal_residence_declaration_form_fr.pdf) et Word (https://www.gov.mb.ca/mr/mfas/pubs/principal_residence_declaration_form-word.docx, en anglais seulement)
- **Le relevé des taxes perçues et des taxes scolaires remises** est disponible à l'adresse <https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/m12/stat-fin/formulaire/municipal.html>.
- **Foire aux questions sur le crédit d'impôt pour l'abordabilité visant les propriétaires :** <https://www.gov.mb.ca/finance/tao/hatc.fr.html>

Pour toute question relative au programme de crédit d'impôt pour l'abordabilité visant les propriétaires, veuillez écrire au Bureau d'aide fiscale du Manitoba à TAO@gov.mb.ca.

Si vous avez d'autres questions, veuillez communiquer avec une agente ou un agent des services aux municipalités, par courriel à mrmaas@gov.mb.ca, ou par téléphone au 204 945-2572.

*Ministère des Relations avec les municipalités et le Nord
800, avenue Portage, bur. 508, Winnipeg (Manitoba) R3G 0N4*

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Bulletin #2026-09 - CPD - MNR - 2026 Manitoba Planning Conference

From +WPG139 - MGAS, Municipal Governance and Advisory Services <MRMAAS@gov.mb.ca>

Date Tue 2026-03-10 9:12 AM

Cc +WPG139 - MGAS, Municipal Governance and Advisory Services <MRMAAS@gov.mb.ca>

 1 attachment (138 KB)

Bulletin #2026-09 - CPD - MNR - 2026 Manitoba Planning Conference.pdf;

French translation to follow.

Bulletin #2026-09

MUNICIPAL AND NORTHERN RELATIONS

Important Notice to All Elected Officials and Chief Administrative Officers

2026 MANITOBA PLANNING CONFERENCE

The Manitoba Professional Planners Institute (MPPI), in partnership with the Manitoba Government, is hosting the 2026 Manitoba Planning Conference from May 6 to 8, 2026, at the Delta Hotel in Winnipeg.

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

Register now for the 2026 Manitoba Planning Conference to build knowledge needed to help shape our shared future. The conference theme is *Momentum in Muddy Waters: Planning through Turbulent Times*. This year's theme reflects the importance of maintaining momentum in planning through times of uncertainty and disruption. Our momentum depends on shared vision, collective action, and partnerships across governments, communities, and stakeholders. Momentum is not only about advancing plans and policies, but also about finding the strength to foster resilience, adaptability, and hope for our shared future in muddy waters.

Keynote speakers include:

Dr. Enid Slack, Ph.D., Director, Institute on Municipal Finance and Governance, School of Cities, University of Toronto

Topic: Rethinking Municipal Finance in a Changing World

Dr. Mark Seasons, PhD, FCIP, RPP, Professor and Director, School of Planning, University of Waterloo

Topic: Planning for and managing "wicked problems"

Michael Redhead Champagne, Ininew speaker, host, author, on-screen personality and advocate

Topic: Beyond Land Acknowledgments

Dr. Brent Roussin, MD JD MPH FRCPC, Chief Provincial Public Health Officer, Manitoba Health,
Seniors and Long-Term Care

Topic: Maintaining Momentum: Building Healthier Communities Through Collective Action

The early bird registration deadline is **March 31, 2026**.

For registration and more information, visit the [MPPI Conference Website](#). If you have questions, please contact [Vanessa Akerstream](#).

A French Language version of this memo will be posted to follow.

*Department of Municipal and Northern Relations
600 – 800 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg MB R3G 0N4*

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Your Municipal World Daily+ for March 4, 2026

From Municipal World Daily <mwdaily@municipalworld.com>

Date Wed 2026-03-04 10:04 AM

To Norma Will <adminassist@oakland-wawanesa.ca>

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Wednesday, March 4, 2026



MW Daily+

Curated for you each morning by Municipal World.



Today's Top Story

Mayor Joe Preston: Strong governance, not strong mayors, key to city success

St. Thomas Mayor Joe Preston says he's stepping away after years of public service, adding that the city's real success has come from working together and staying focused on good governance – not from any “strong mayor” powers.



More Stories



Kamloops Mayor Reid Hamer-Jackson is appealing a B.C. Supreme Court ruling that dismissed his defamation suit against Coun. Katie Neustaeter. The court threw out the case back on Jan. 30. [Read more...](#)



The days of Toronto's much-derided street litter bins could be numbered. Mayor Olivia Chow is proposing the city take back control of its sidewalk trash receptacles after two decades of privatization. [Read more...](#)



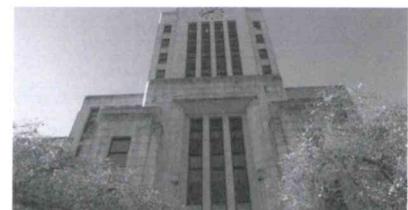
Moose Jaw will continue overseeing residential curbside recycling through a community-led partnership with Sask Recycles, a move administration says protects local control and delivers a financial surplus. [Read more...](#)



Winnipeg crews have cleared people out of 17 encampments since new restrictions on where camps can be set up took effect last November, according to a new update from officials. [Read more...](#)



A three-year-old ban of the TikTok app on City of Sault Ste. Marie computers and devices is preventing librarians from connecting to readers on what's described as "the biggest book club on the planet." [Read more...](#)



The City of Vancouver has made changes to two of its financial teams, resulting in job losses. The city said its Long-Term Financial Strategy team has been combined with the Financial Planning and Analysis team. [Read more...](#)



The new provincial budget contains less direct money for municipalities across Nova Scotia, as grant cuts have community groups turning to their local governments for help. [Read more...](#)



Whitby Mayor Elizabeth Roy wants the town to create a reporting mechanism that would require council members to publicly disclose any paid advisors when they're in office. [Read more...](#)



A week before the return of outdoor water restrictions in Calgary, city officials issued a reminder of the need to conserve water during work on the Bearsaw South Feeder Main. [Read more...](#)

Featured Job Listings

Communications Assistant – Town of East Gwillimbury

Application Deadline: March 22, 2026



[Load more jobs](#)

Waste Program Monitor – Town of Newmarket

Application Deadline: March 23, 2026

Director of People, Talent and Culture – Town of Penetanguishene

Application Deadline: April 1, 2026

Chief People Officer – City of Toronto

Application Deadline: April 2, 2026

Director, Municipal Law Enforcement – Town of Caledon

Application Deadline: April 2, 2026

Daily+



Procurement and group purchasing made easy

Municipal World members can take advantage of new resources from Kinetic GPO. By leveraging Kinetic GPO's national buying power, compliant competitions, and knowledge of industry best practices, the team does all the heavy lifting when it comes to procurement.

[Read more](#)



Sustainable rural transit: Lessons in good governance from North Grenville

Rural municipalities need trust to keep transit services viable, so transparency is essential. Learn how transparency is not merely good governance, it is the foundation for making rural transit sustainable.

[Read more](#)

Canada's high-speed train is coming

Join Alto's public consultation on the Toronto–Québec City High-Speed Rail Network. From January to March 2026, share your input, ask questions, and help shape

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the project to meet the needs of local communities. [Read more...](#)

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Are you looking to hire a planner?

OPPI's Employer Readiness course reduces turnover, improves onboarding, and boosts retention – building inclusive, high-performing teams. Register now at no cost to you. Limited seats available. Handbook also included. [Read more...](#)

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The 2025 statistical reporting period is open

The statistical reporting service on the IPC's new online portal makes it easier to report your annual statistics. Register your account and start your report today. [Read more...](#)

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2026 NOMA Conference and AGM: Register now

Register today for the 2026 Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association Conference and AGM: Resilience; set for April 22-24, at the Valhalla Hotel & Conference Centre, in Thunder Bay. [Read more...](#)

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Legal Notices

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Proposed class action settlement

A settlement has been reached in City of Grand Prairie et al v Mylan Pharmaceuticals ULC et al., a proposed class action proceeding. Your rights may be affected.

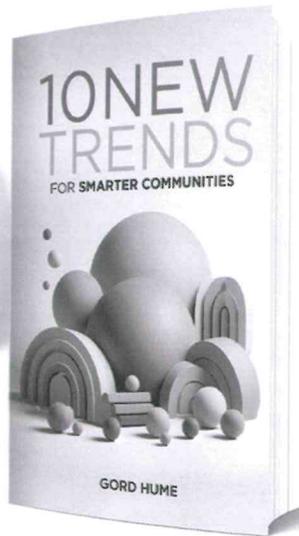
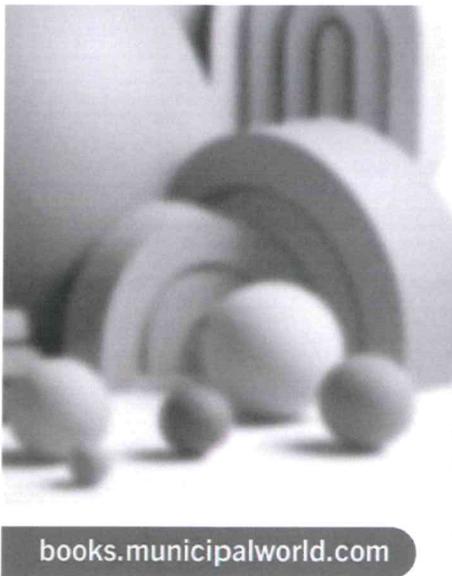
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Entente de règlement City of Grand Prairie

Une entente de règlement a été conclue dans l'affaire City of Grand Prairie et al v Mylan Pharmaceuticals ULC et al, un recours collectif envisagé. Vos droits peuvent être affectés. [Read more...](#)



10 NEW TRENDS FOR SMARTER COMMUNITIES

Municipalities grow or decline; a storied past is no guarantee of a prosperous future. That is the tough reality for municipal leaders today. *10 New Trends for Smarter Communities* is a must-read for people who aspire to build great local communities.

books.municipalworld.com



[Purchase now](#)

Coming Events

Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) 2026 Annual Convention and Tradeshow

Start Date: March 10, 2026

End Date: March 12, 2026

Frameworks for Success Employer Readiness Course

Start Date: March 12, 2026

End Date: March 12, 2026

Good Roads 2026 Conference

Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) 2026 Spring Convention

Start Date: March 16, 2026

End Date: March 18, 2026

Start Date: March 29, 2026

End Date: April 1, 2026

Civility Summit 2026: Leading Through Uncivil Times

Start Date: April 16, 2026

End Date: April 16, 2026

2026 Evergreen Conference

Start Date: May 6, 2026

End Date: May 7, 2026

Load more events



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