
AMM Bulletin - January 23, 2026

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

Date Fri 2026-01-23 9:05 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

AMM Executive Tours Interlake and Central Districts





Over the past couple of the weeks, the AMM Executive continued its municipal visits with meetings with individual councils throughout the Interlake and Central Districts.

Click [HERE](#) for the recap video!

GRANT PROGRAM DEADLINE APPROACHING: Manitoba Government Invites Applications for Two Community Development Grant Programs

The Manitoba government is inviting organizations to apply to the **From the Ground Up** and **Urban/Hometown Green Team programs**, two community development grant programs that support youth employment, local capacity building and economic development.

The application deadline for both programs is **Monday, Jan. 26, 2026**. For more information about the programs and how to apply, visit: <https://gov.mb.ca/grants>.

View the Manitoba government news release, [HERE](#).

Apply for the Manitoba Accessibility Fund



**Apply by
February 20**



AccessibilityMB.ca

Manitoba 

The Manitoba Accessibility Fund opens on **January 12, 2026**, for the 2026/27 intake. Start preparing your application today.

Eligible applicants include registered charities, non-profit organizations, local businesses, on-reserve entities, and municipalities based in Manitoba. Approved projects can receive up to 100 per cent of eligible costs, to a maximum of \$50,000 per application.

Projects must align with accessibility standards under The Accessibility for Manitobans Act, focusing on customer service, employment or information and communication. Each project must also meet at least one of the following objectives:

- raise awareness about preventing and removing barriers
- develop tools, resources, and training to support compliance with The Accessibility for Manitobans Act standards
- remove barriers to information and communication in electronically, in print and in-person

The application deadline is February 20, 2026.

For more information about the Manitoba Accessibility Fund grant program for 2026/27, visit AccessibilityMB.ca.

**211 Manitoba - Connect to Community-Based Government,
Health & Social Services 24/7**



211 Manitoba is a province-wide, trusted information and referral service that helps residents quickly connect to community-based government, health, and social services 24/7, in multiple languages, by phone and online.

For municipalities, 211 Manitoba is a valuable partner in strengthening local service delivery, supporting residents during times of change and uncertainty, and reducing pressure on municipal offices by providing a single, reliable point of access to accurate, up-to-date information on local programs and resources. Through collaboration with municipalities, 211 Manitoba helps ensure community services are visible, accessible, and responsive to local needs, while also providing population-level data and insights that can inform planning and decision-making across the province.

Discover how 211 Manitoba can support your municipality and community members by visiting us at mb.211.ca.

Upcoming Panel Discussion Hosted by Her Seat at the Table

Her Seat at the Table (HSATT) is excited to host a panel discussion on **Tuesday, March 3, 2026** from **5:00-7:00 pm** at the **Lorne Watson Music Hall at Brandon University**. A panel of experts will lead an educational and eye-opening conversation for women who are interested in running for political office.

The event will feature an interactive conversation, led by a skilled facilitator who will guide the discussion and lead a Q-and-A session. Doors open at 5 p.m., with the opportunity to network, and the discussion beginning at 5:30 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. Our mission is to support and empower women to run for seats on Brandon City Council by providing the training, mentorship, tools and community needed to lead with confidence and purpose. We aim to break down barriers, amplify women's voices and build a stronger, more representative Brandon for all.

For more information and links to resources, please visit <https://ywcawestman.ca/her-seat-at-the-table/> or email: hsatt2026@gmail.com

CPWA: 2026 Heavy Equipment Rodeo



Presents

In sponsorship with
ATS and 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.

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

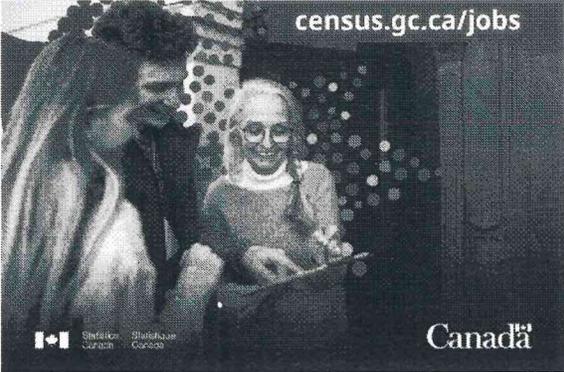
[Download course information](#)

Statistics Canada is now hiring in your community!

Looking for a job that counts?

Statistics Canada is hiring enumerators and crew leaders across Canada to support the **2026 Census of Population!**

census.gc.ca/jobs



 **Canada**

Approximately 32,000 census jobs are available across Canada

Help collect information that shapes services like education, public transit, health care and more.

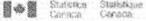
census.gc.ca/jobs

 **From March to July 2026**
(depending on position and location)

 **Must be available to work flexible hours,**
including days, evenings and weekends

 **Roles available:**

- Enumerators (\$25.87/hour)
- Crew leaders (\$31.32/hour)

 **Canada**

The next Census of Population will take place in May 2026. To support this important project, Statistics Canada is hiring for supervisory and non-supervisory positions. Approximately 32,000 jobs are available across Canada!

Statistics Canada is looking for local people to help collect accurate data in your community. These data are vital for planning and evaluating programs and services such as education, health care, child care, housing, emergency services, roads, public transportation and job training.

Learn more at census.gc.ca/jobs.

Invitation to Participate: Public Service Motivation Study

Canadian public servants are invited to take part in a 15-20 minute anonymous survey examining workplace experiences, motivation, and wellbeing during times of change. This study is being conducted by Dr. Dominika Wranik, Professor and Associate Dean (Research) in the Faculty of Management at Dalhousie University.

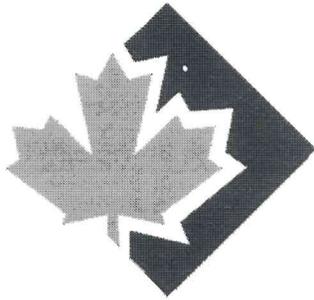
Participants will receive instant feedback on their Public Service Motivation profile and may enter a \$300 prize draw.

Your input will help inform policies aimed at creating or enhancing supportive workplaces.

Take the survey [HERE](#)

AMM Trading Company / Canoe Procurement

Canoe Invoices - Big Changes Coming Your Way



canoe

procurement group of canada

Canoe and AMM are 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 for all invoices that you receive from Canoe:

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 log-ins
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

Watch for the next step, an email from LBMX inviting you to a webinar that will walk you through how to log in and use the site!

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.

AMM is partnered with People First HR to provide Municipalities with 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

For additional information about HR On Call services:

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

[View the Collage HR Overview](#)

[Upcoming Workshops & Events](#)

[Starting 2026 with what matters most](#)

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Municipal Leader - Winter 2026

Municipal

Winter 2025

Leader

[AI]
Artificial Intelligence Technology

P1443065075 - Return Undeliverable Items To: Association of Manitoba Municipalities, 1910 Saskatchewan 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.

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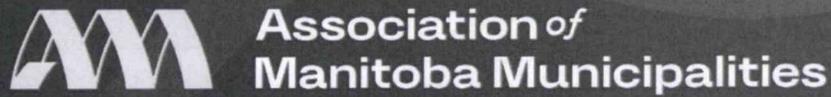
 Outlook

Member Advisory - AMM President Kathy Valentino presents to Parliamentary Standing Committee on Bail Reform in Ottawa

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

Date Mon 2026-02-02 3:31 PM

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



Member Advisory

AMM President Kathy Valentino presents to Parliamentary Standing Committee on Bail Reform in Ottawa

- *Support for first responders to focus on core duties;*
- *Court system capacity, including hiring sufficient Crown prosecutors to prevent backlogs and delays; and*
- *Investments in mental health, addictions, and social supports to address root causes of crime.*

The proposed legislative changes represent a positive step forward. AMM supports advancing Bill C-14 to help ensure the justice system protects communities and instills public confidence. AMM will continue to monitor Bill C-14 as it moves through the legislative process.

Watch the proceedings [HERE](#).

Sincerely,
Denys Volkov
Executive Director

Association of Manitoba Municipalities



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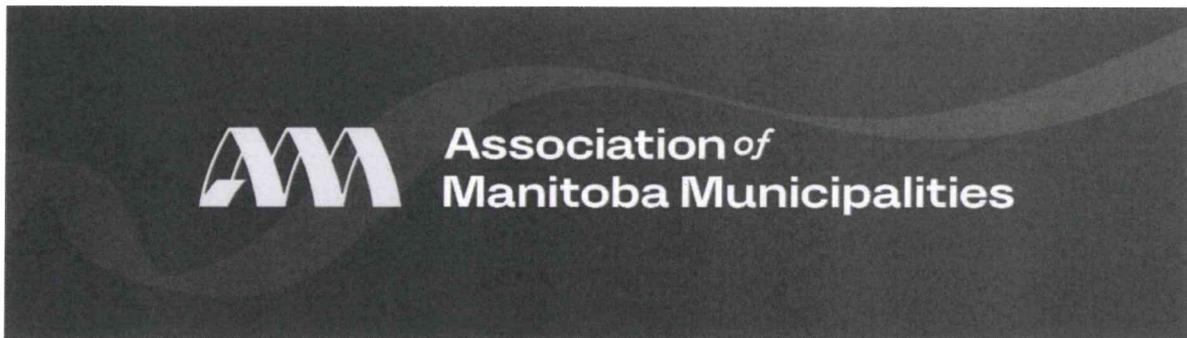
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Member Advisory: Upcoming Webinar (March 2, 2026) - The Resolutions Process: Practical Guide for Members

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

Date Mon 2026-02-02 9:34 AM

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



Member Advisory

Upcoming Webinar (March 2, 2026)

The Resolutions Process: A Practical Guide for Members

February 2, 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



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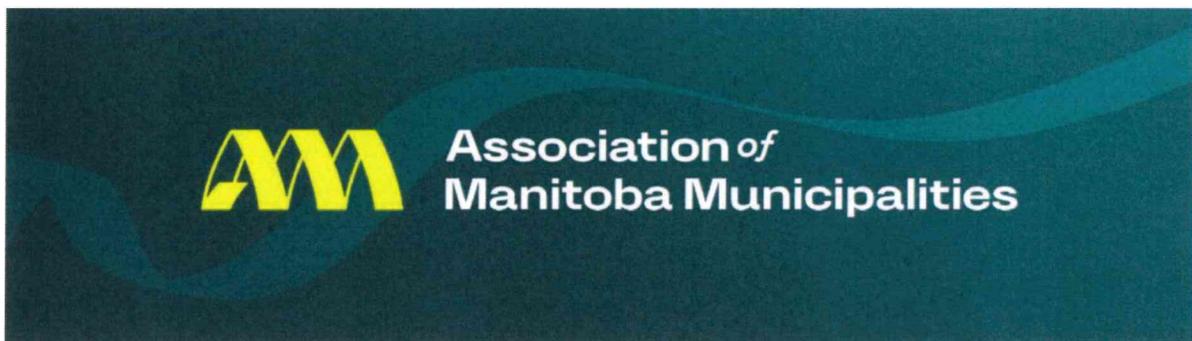
AMM Western Director's Update - January 2026

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

Date Fri 2026-02-06 3:31 PM

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

JANUARY 2026 - AMM Western Director's Update



AMM Western Director's Update

Councillor Rhonda Coupland

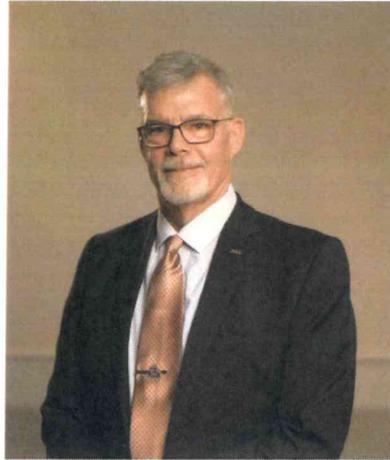
Councillor Marc Savy

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 **January 29, 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.





Accessibility Regulations Update

In December, the Province of Manitoba released draft regulations respecting orders and administrative penalties under [The Accessibility for Manitobans Act](#) on the provincial government's "proposed regulation" [website](#). Public consultations were open until February 2, and the AMM participated in the consultation process by submitting a formal response.

In our submission, the AMM reaffirmed its long-standing support for a barrier-free Manitoba that is accessible and inclusive for all. At the same time, the AMM emphasized that education and capacity-building should be prioritized to support compliance with accessibility standards, rather than a primary reliance on punitive enforcement measures.

The AMM remains committed to working collaboratively with the Province on accessibility initiatives, while noting that the use of administrative penalties could hinder municipalities' ability to effectively implement accessibility improvements.

The Province has also opened [the Manitoba Accessibility Fund intake](#), which closes on **February 20, 2026**. Municipalities may apply for grants of up to **\$50,000** to support accessibility-related projects. The AMM encourages municipalities to apply for this funding to help advance accessibility across Manitoba.

Read our submission [HERE](#).

Transition to Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

As part of the proposed [MMSM transition of Manitoba's residential blue bin recycling system](#), the AMM submitted a formal response through the provincial engagement process. In our submission, we reaffirmed our long-standing support for waste reduction and diversion efforts, as well as the expansion of recycling initiatives, including ongoing discussions regarding a transition to a full Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) system in Manitoba.

The AMM supports a transition plan aimed at reducing the financial and administrative burdens currently borne by municipalities and shifting responsibility for the blue bin recycling system from government to industry. However, the success of this transition will depend on sustained collaboration, transparent communication,

adequate resourcing, and robust public education for local communities and residents throughout the transition period.

The AMM appreciates being engaged throughout this process and welcomes the Department's establishment of the MMSM Transition Plan Advisory Committee to ensure stakeholders are informed and included. We look forward to continuing to work with the Province and MMSM to ensure the transition to full EPR is smooth and responsive to the realities face by Manitoba's municipalities.

Manitoba Jobs Agreement Update

Announced in Budget 2025, the MJA standardizes terms of employment on large government infrastructure projects, applying to both unionized and non-unionized workers.

The AMM understands the Province's objective of prioritizing Manitobans in major infrastructure projects and strengthening workforce development across the construction sector. Municipalities also recognize the importance of creating good jobs and building local capacity. However, we remain concerned about the extension of the MJA framework to municipal capital projects that receive provincial funding commitments of \$50 million or more. This will likely result in increased projects costs over-and-above current construction inflation, posing a significant challenge in a municipal context where infrastructure affordability is already under severe pressure.

Many municipal water and wastewater projects rely heavily on provincial and federal funding partnerships to proceed. Introducing additional requirements that may further escalate costs risks jeopardizing project viability, delaying critical upgrades, or forcing municipalities to scale back project scope. For these reasons, the AMM has formally called on the Province to fully exempt municipal water and wastewater infrastructure projects from the MJA framework.

The AMM remains committed to working collaboratively with the Province to support the delivery of essential infrastructure in a manner that is financially viable for Manitoba's municipalities and will continue to provide updates as discussions progress.

Federal Rural Development Strategy

As part of the public consultation to develop a **Rural Canada Action Plan led by Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED)**, the AMM submitted a formal response.

The AMM's submission highlighted the critical importance of flexible and responsive federal programming; sustained investment in municipal water and wastewater infrastructure; accelerated expansion of broadband connectivity and essential cellular service in rural communities; public safety, bail reform and rural policing capacity; and enhanced support for rail safety and grade crossings.

The AMM welcomes the federal government's efforts to advance an actionable Rural Canada Action Plan and looks forward to continued collaboration with ISED and other federal departments. The AMM would also welcome further engagement as the Action Plan is developed and implemented.

Read our submission [HERE](#).

Spring Convention Update

Registration for the AMM 2026 Spring Convention in Brandon will open on **February 11, 2026!**

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.

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

STAY CONNECTED

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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Member Advisory: Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Fund (Apply by Feb. 18)

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

Date Fri 2026-02-06 2:32 PM

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



Member Advisory

Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Fund (Apply by Feb. 18)

February 6, 2026 - Organizations and community groups in Manitoba are invited to apply for the Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Fund to help support AIS prevention, response and monitoring initiatives.

Priorities of the Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Fund

- *Contribute to the prevention of AIS introductions into uninvaded waterbodies.*
- *Contribute to the containment of existing AIS invasions.*
- *Promote AIS education through local initiatives.*
- *Mitigate the social and economic impacts of AIS invasions.*

Who can apply?

- *Indigenous communities, organizations, or governments*
- *Municipal governments*
- *Research and academic organizations*
- *Non-government organizations*

- *Community and resource-user groups*

The application deadline has been extended to February 18, 2026.

Learn more [HERE](#).

Sincerely,

Denys Volkov
Executive Director

Association of Manitoba Municipalities



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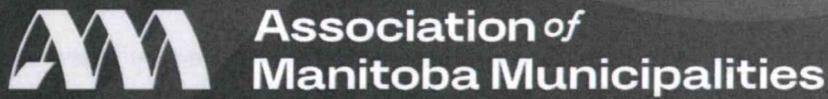
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Member Advisory - Annual MPI Reimbursement Rates for Firefighting Costs

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

Date Tue 2026-02-10 2:11 PM

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



Member Advisory

Annual MPI Reimbursement Rates for Firefighting Costs

ATTENTION: AMM Members

February 10, 2026 – Since 2009, the rates for basic and complex firefighting payments made by Manitoba Public Insurance (MPI) have increased each year on March 1. The increase is based on the prior year's C.P.I. plus 1%.

Effective March 1, 2026, the basic call rate will increase from \$1085 to \$1125. The complex call rate will increase from \$1450 to \$1503, and securing the scene hourly rate will increase from \$81.26 to \$84.27 to a max of \$252.79, based on the 2025 Manitoba CPI rate of 2.7%, plus the 1% equals 3.7% increase.

The rates for 2026 are outlined in the **attached letter**.

As a reminder, the **Claim for Firefighting/Rescue Costs Form** is saved to MPI's **Partners Website** and will be updated annually on March 1st as the rates continue to increase.

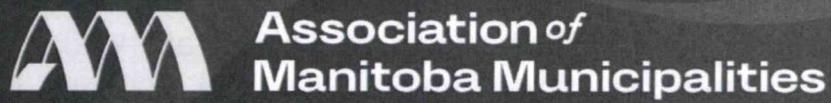
Sincerely,

Member Advisory - REGISTRATION NOW OPEN: 2026 Spring Convention & Trade Show

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

Date Wed 2026-02-11 10:12 AM

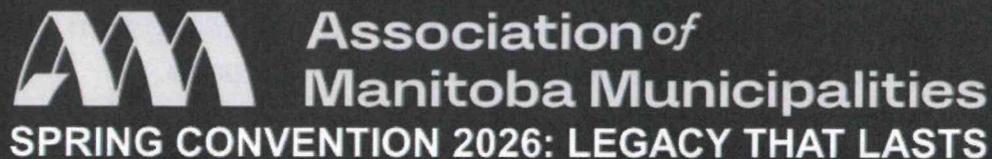
To Norma Will <adminassist@oakland-wawanesa.ca>



Member Advisory

LEGACY THAT LASTS

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN:
2026 Spring Convention & Trade Show**



If you should have any questions or inquiries about the 2026 Spring Convention, please email conventions@amm.mb.ca or contact the AMM office.

Sincerely,

Denys Volkov
Executive Director

Association of Manitoba Municipalities



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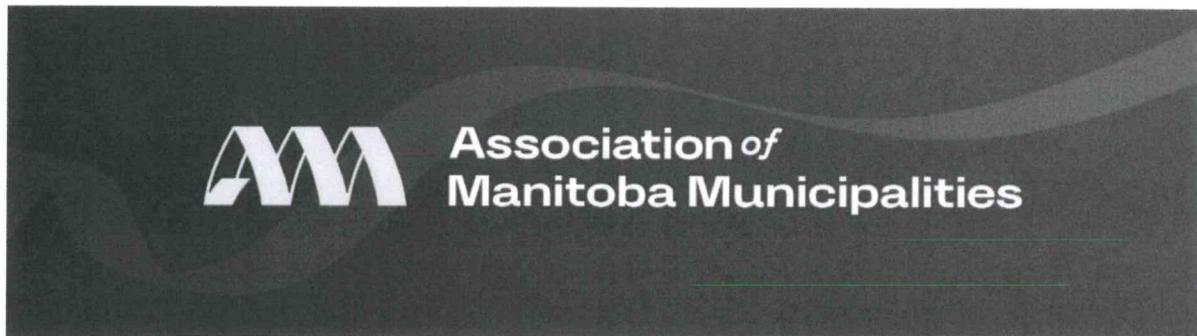
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Member Advisory: Flags at Manitoba Legislative Building at half mast

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

Date Wed 2026-02-11 4:36 PM

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



Member Advisory

Flags at the Manitoba Legislative Building are at half mast

This message is being sent on behalf of the Protocol Office at the Province of Manitoba

February 11, 2026 - Flags at the Manitoba Legislative Building are at half mast until February 17 to reflect the provinces sorrow. This is in addition to the lowering of the flag at the Peace Tower in Ottawa.

As always, municipalities are welcome to lower their flags at their own discretion.

Sincerely,

Denys Volkov
Executive Director

Association of Manitoba Municipalities



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February 10, 2026

Joni Swidnicki, CAO
Municipality of Oakland-Wawanesa
106 Fourth Street, Box 278
Wawanesa, MB R0K 2G0
Via email: cao@oakland-wawanesa.ca

Dear Ms. Swidnicki,

In 2018, the Municipality of Oakland-Wawanesa sponsored Resolution #07-2018, which resolved that AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to standardize approval periods within the various planning processes.

On January 29, 2026, the AMM Board of Directors approved the removal of Resolution #07-2018 from the list of active resolutions. Due to our ongoing advocacy, the Province of Manitoba expedited its review of *The Planning Act* and *City of Winnipeg Charter* in 2024, formally adopting all recommendations from the process in October 2025. AMM has been actively engaged throughout this process and continues to work with the Province through the stakeholder working group. As the Province implements these recommendations via its [Action Plan](#), AMM will continue advocating for a modernized and streamlined planning framework.

If this issue remains a concern for your municipality, we encourage you to contact the AMM office. This enables AMM to raise the matter directly with the Province as part of stakeholder discussions through the working group.

If your municipality has any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the AMM office. The AMM Board would like to thank you for bringing this matter forward through the resolution process

Sincerely,

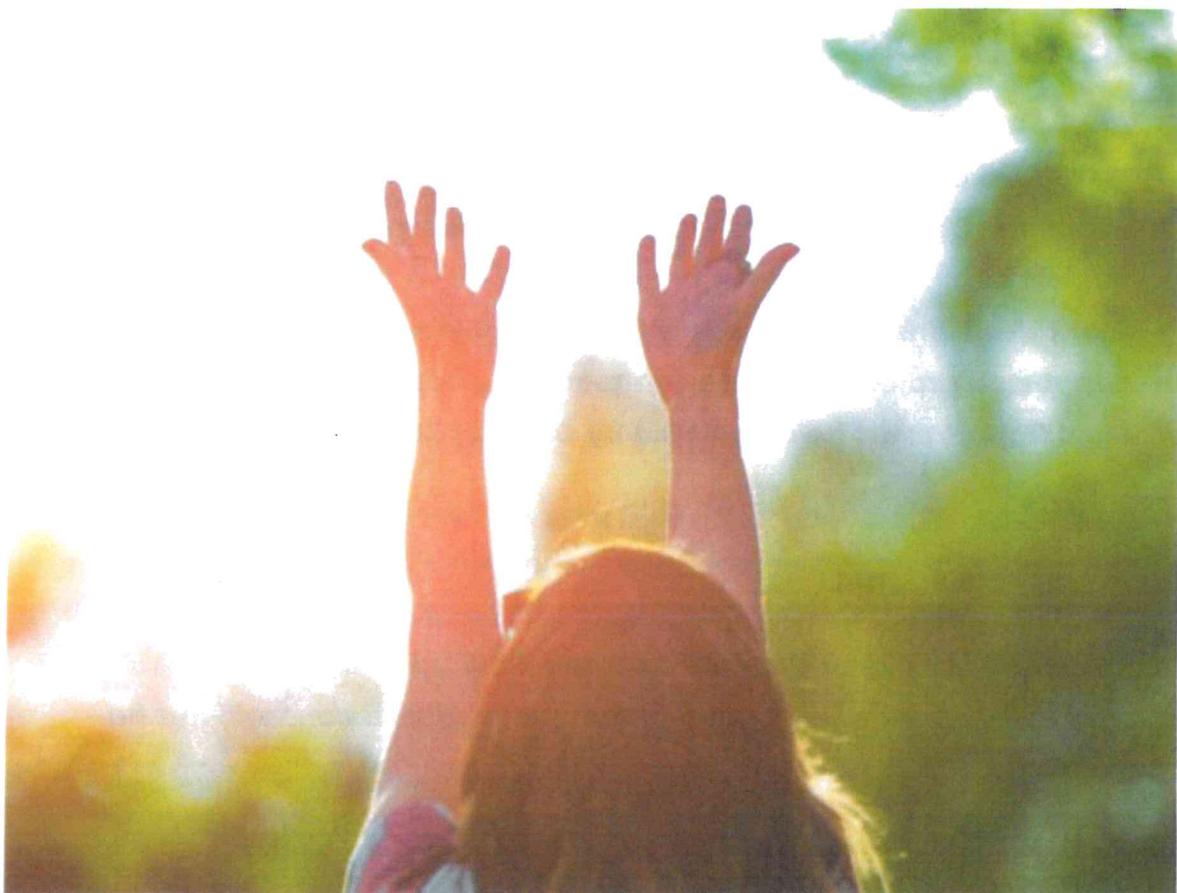
Denys Volkov
Executive Director

cc: Councillor Marc Savy – AMM Western District Director
Councillor Rhonda Coupland – AMM Western District Director

[Donate today to support your community](#) | [Details](#)



2026 Thomas Sill Manitoba Grants Program



Thomas Sill Manitoba Grant Intake Opens February 2, 2026

Application Guide

We encourage you to review the Applicant Guide.

[Application Guide](#)

Deadlines

- **Application Portal:** Open February 2–23, 2026 (closes at 4 PM)
- **Maximum Grant Amount:** \$5,000
- **Eligibility:** Open to all registered charities following BACF's standard guidelines.
- **Grant decisions will be made by the end of March 2026.**
- **Supported projects must be completed by October 15, 2026.**
- **Final Report must be completed by October 31, 2026**

Applications are accepted until 4:00 p.m. on September 22nd for the fall Community Grants. **Expect to receive a confirmation email after submitting your application. If the applicant does not receive a confirmation email, it is the responsibility of the applicant to follow up with Brandon Area Community Foundation. *Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered.***

Fields of Interest

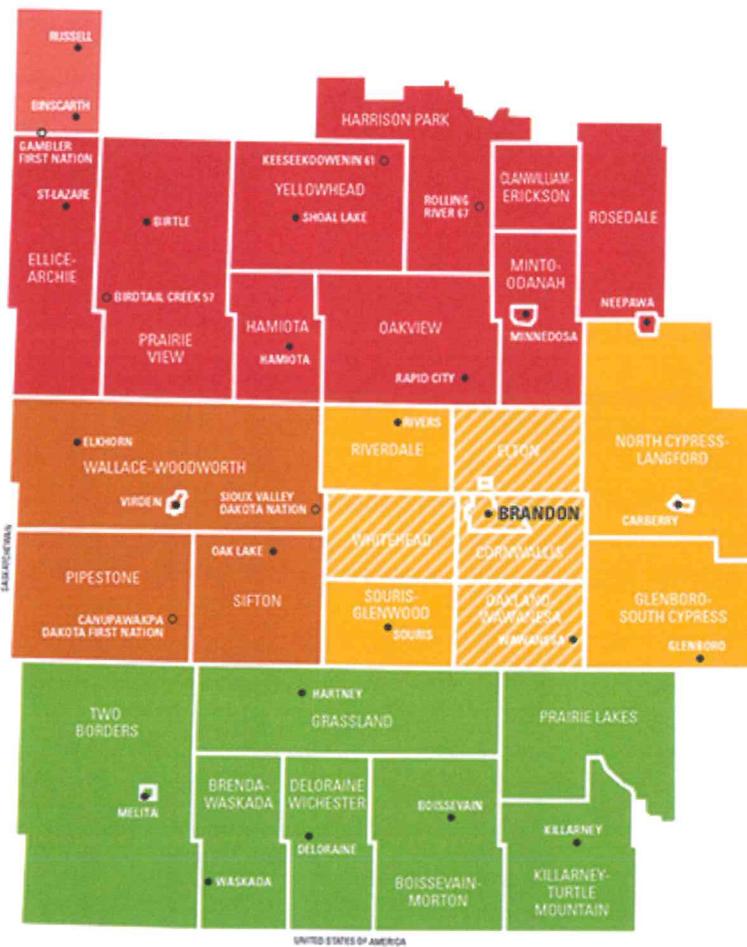
This program provides funding for projects in BACF's six Fields of Interest: Arts & Culture, Community, Education, Environment, Health & Wellness, and Recreation. Projects must be located in or provide direct benefit to the

citizens of Brandon and the surrounding communities of southwestern Manitoba.

BACF Granting Areas

All projects must support communities defined by BACF's geographical catchment area.

[View Map](#)



Christmas Cheer Committees and Food Banks

From Brandon Christmas <bwccr1955@gmail.com>

Date Thu 2026-01-15 1:23 AM

To office@rmofargyle.ca <office@rmofargyle.ca>; office@brendawaskada.ca <office@brendawaskada.ca>; info@gov.cornwallis.mb.ca <info@gov.cornwallis.mb.ca>; glenbororec@gmail.com <glenbororec@gmail.com>; info@melitamb.ca <info@melitamb.ca>; accounts@rmofpipestone.com <accounts@rmofpipestone.com>; reception_sifton@mymts.net <reception_sifton@mymts.net>; info@viriden.ca <info@viriden.ca>; info@boissevain.ca <info@boissevain.ca>; town@townofcarberry.ca <town@townofcarberry.ca>; admin@delowin.ca <admin@delowin.ca>; info@mglgov.ca <info@mglgov.ca>; admin@rmofprairielakes.ca <admin@rmofprairielakes.ca>; sg.info@sourismanitoba.com <sg.info@sourismanitoba.com>; info@wallace-woodworth.com <info@wallace-woodworth.com>; info@cartwrightroblin.com <info@cartwrightroblin.com>; info@elton.ca <info@elton.ca>; info@killarney.ca <info@killarney.ca>; Norma Will <adminassist@oakland-wawanesa.ca>; admin@riverdalemb.ca <admin@riverdalemb.ca>

Cc Synthia Shannon Wright <syndy@wgcwave.ca>

The provincial government has declared that it will be distributing revenue raised from the sale of United States alcoholic beverages to charities within Manitoba. To assist in the distribution of the revenue, the provincial government will be giving the Brandon-Westman Christmas Cheer Registry Inc. \$500,000 to distribute within Westman. Furthermore, they provided guidance regarding the target charities and the amount that they will receive.

One of the targets is Westman Christmas Cheer boards (other than Brandon) and food banks. The provincial recommendation is for this group to share in 20% of the total or \$100,000. The Brandon-Westman Christmas Cheer Registry has decided to increase that percentage by 5% (or \$25,000) into this group's share by reducing our share. The new total to be distributed is \$125,000 or 25%.

Our first step is to identify the rural Christmas Cheer groups and the food banks currently operating within Westman. This is where you can hopefully help us. Please reply to this email with the name of the organization (i.e., Christmas Cheer or food bank) and a contact person (both email & phone if possible). We will contact these entities to gather more information. I would appreciate receiving the information by the end of the month or sooner. If you don't have the information, perhaps you can refer me to someone that does.

I want to emphasize that the Brandon-Westman Christmas Cheer Registry Inc has not received the \$500,000 grant to date, and we don't know when the money will arrive. Any questions can be directed to me at this email address. I will do my best to provide an answer.

R. (Bob) Walberg
Treasurer
bwccr1955@gmail.com



click on the logo to visit our website

Confidentiality Warning: This email and any attachments may be privileged and/or confidential. Any distribution, use or copying of this email or the information it contains by other than an intended recipient is unauthorized. If you received this email in error, please advise the sender (by return email or otherwise) immediately.

Business and Community Newsletter

January 2026

2026 Census of Population

Canada's next census begins February 2, 2026 in [select northern and remote communities](#).

Census invitation letters will be delivered to dwellings in these communities in early February 2026, providing residents with the information they need to complete their census questionnaire.

In select northern and remote communities, collection begins early to ensure access to areas that are easier to reach in winter and to count populations that typically migrate out of their communities in the spring. For the rest of Canada, collection will begin in May 2026.

How can you help us spread the word?

- Share the resources in our [Community Supporter Toolkit](#), including posters, web images, social media content, and articles with your network.
- Engage on social media and share posts using the hashtag #2026Census.

For more information

More information about the 2026 Census can be found at www.census.gc.ca/en/north.



Features

[Population projections for Census divisions and subdivisions, 2024 to 2049](#)

Statistics Canada released new population projections by census divisions and census subdivisions. Commissioned by the Canadian Infrastructure Council to inform Canada's National Infrastructure Assessment Report 1, these projections provide impartial, evidence-based insights to all orders of government, infrastructure owners, operators and investors to improve infrastructure planning and decision-making across Canada.

[Canadian Survey on Business Conditions, fourth quarter 2025](#)

Businesses continue to anticipate a variety of obstacles over the next three months. While pressures of both cost- and labour-related obstacles continued into the fourth quarter of 2025, the proportion of businesses with a positive outlook remained comparable with previous quarters.

[Study: Portrait of the South Asian populations in Canada](#)

This is the third in a series of portraits on racialized groups in Canada, developed by Statistics Canada in support of [Canada's Anti-Racism Strategy](#). The previous portraits are [The Diversity of the Black Populations in Canada, 2021: A Sociodemographic Portrait](#) and [Portrait of the Arab Populations in Canada: Diversity and Socioeconomic Outcomes](#).

[Census of Environment: Urban greenness, 2025](#)

Many Canadian cities and towns were not as green in the summer of 2025 compared with one year earlier, mostly due to drought conditions across the country.

[Quarterly rent statistics, second and third quarters 2025](#)

In the third quarter of 2025, the average asking rent for a two-bedroom apartment fell year over year in 24 of the 40 census metropolitan areas in the country with available data, including Montréal (-1.0%), Toronto (-3.9%) and Vancouver (-5.9%).

Labour Force Survey, December 2025



Highlights

In December, employment was little changed (+8,200; 0.0%) and the employment rate held steady at 60.9%.

The unemployment rate rose 0.3 percentage points to 6.8%, as more people searched for work.

Employment rose among people aged 55 and older (+33,000; +0.8%), while it fell among youth aged 15 to 24 (-27,000; -1.0%).

There were more people working in health care and social assistance (+21,000; +0.7%) as well as in 'other services' such as personal and repair

services (+15,000; +2.0%). At the same time, fewer people were employed in professional, scientific and technical services (-18,000; -0.9%), accommodation and food services (-12,000; -1.0%), and utilities (-5,300; -3.0%).

Every month, Statistics Canada conducts the Labour Force Survey to gather vital information about employment, unemployment, and labour market trends across the country. If you are selected, your voice matters because your response represents hundreds of Canadians. Your answers are confidential and combined with others so no one can be identified. Whether you are employed, looking for work, retired, or a student, your participation helps paint an accurate picture of Canada's economy. It helps inform decisions on job creation, education, pensions, and income support, and is used by governments, businesses, and researchers to improve the lives of Canadians. Completing the questionnaire is mandatory, but it's also simple, secure, and a meaningful way to contribute to your community and country. [Here are a few examples](#) of how your participation in the Labour Force Survey contributes to vital insights that benefit us all.

Resources		
Labour	Labour Force Survey in brief: Interactive app	Labour Statistics

Did you know... [Fighting misinformation](#)

Statistics Canada is launching a new suite of tools to help users identify and prevent the spread of misinformation when working with data. The package includes "[Assessing Data in a Time of Misinformation: A Step-by-Step Guide](#)" to help policymakers and other decision makers verify the quality, credibility and relevance of any statistic or information source. A short companion video titled "[Fighting Misinformation](#)" also demonstrates how to apply these checks in practice, from questioning suspect figures to confirming that data truly meet reliability standards. Both resources are available through the [Data literacy training learning catalogue](#). We encourage you to explore these new materials, add them to your learning plans and share the links with your networks.



Visit [StatsCAN Plus](#) for the most recent data stories:

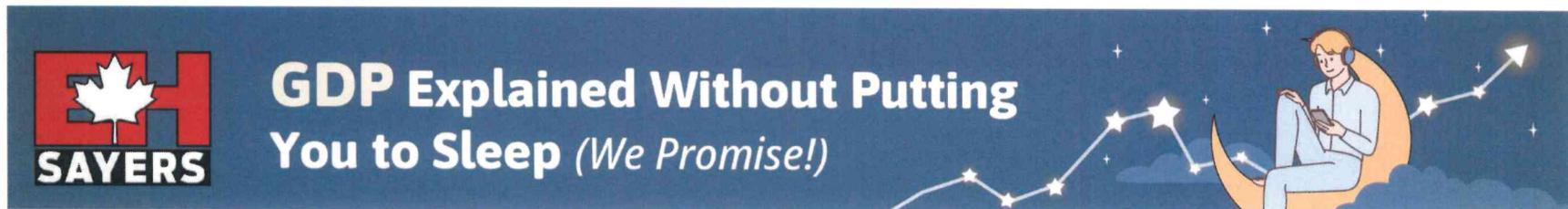
- [Back to everything! \(for most of us\)](#)
- [Canadians are spending more on visits within Canada—here's the breakdown](#)
- [New Year's resolution: Cleaner diet. But it might be easier said than done](#)

Podcasts



[Eh Sayers Episode 28 - Screens Replaced Play, and Our Bodies Noticed](#)

Has Canada become a sedentary nation? Health data have never been more accessible. We have smart watches to count our steps, notifications about our screen times and apps to track our daily diets. Despite the futuristic tech, researchers are growing concerned. And they're especially concerned about young Canadians.



[Eh Sayers Episode 29 - GDP Explained Without Putting You to Sleep \(We Promise!\)](#)

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) tells us about the health and size of Canada's economy. But for those of us who don't own or operate multi-million-dollar companies, why does it matter at all? In this episode, Amanda Sinclair, Assistant director for the National Economic Accounts at Statistics Canada, explains some surprising ways GDP can be useful and why, for certain Canadian households, the numbers don't always seem to add up.

WEBINARS

Statistics Canada's webinar series offers insightful, hour-long sessions on a wide range of topics—from the Census program and methodological tools for robust statistical analysis to rich data explorations in areas such as the economy, trade, health, and more. These webinars are designed to help participants discover, interpret, and apply our data with greater confidence and efficiency.

Upcoming webinars

- **[Health Data Webinar Series – Session 2](#)** – Discover the Canadian Health Measures Survey (CHMS) — your gateway to unique health insights, essential data access tools, and upcoming trends shaping research and policy.
- **[A portrait of quality of employment in Canada: Recent results from Canadian Survey on Working Conditions](#)** – Dive into the key findings of the 2024–2025 Canadian Survey on Working Conditions, deepen your understanding of employment quality in Canada, and discover how working conditions influence workers' well-being.



Analysis 101: Steps of the analytical process

Registration Information: English workshop dates are available in February 2026. For more information and to register for a session, please go to this link: [Workshop – Analysis 101: Steps of the analytical process](#)

Cost: \$500 per participant

Introduction to Basic Statistics

Registration Information: French and English workshop dates will be available in spring 2026. For more information, please go to this link: [Workshop – Introduction to Basic Statistics](#)

Cost: \$325 per participant

Early Registration (At least 3 weeks before): \$300 per participant

Surveys from Start to Finish

Registration Information: French and English workshop dates are available in April 2026. For more information and to register for a session, please go to this link: [Workshop – Surveys from Start to Finish](#)

Cost: \$325 per module or \$975 for all 3 modules

Early Registration (At least 3 weeks before): \$300 per module or \$900 for all 3 modules

Turning Statistics into Stories

Registration Information: English and French workshop dates are available between March and May 2026. For more information and to register for a session, please go to this link: [Workshop – Turning Statistics into Stories](#)

Cost: \$325 per participant

Early Registration (At least 3 weeks before): \$300 per participant

INFOGRAPHICS

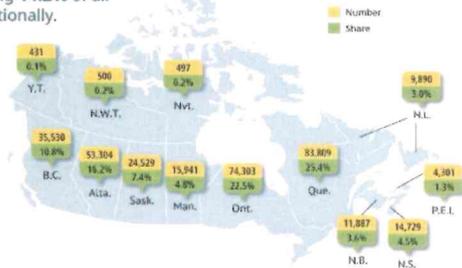


Small businesses in rural and small town Canada, 2023

In 2023, **329,651** small businesses¹ operated in **rural and small town Canada**, representing **14.2%** of all small businesses nationally.

Number and share of small businesses in rural and small town Canada, 2023

Almost half of all small businesses in rural and small towns were in Ontario and Quebec



\$163.1 billion
total revenue of small businesses in rural and small towns

In 2023, small businesses in rural and small towns generated **\$163.1 billion** in revenue, accounting for **16.9%** of the total revenue (\$965.6 billion) of all small businesses across Canada

In rural and small town Canada, small businesses in **agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting** and in **construction** generated the most revenue in 2023



Rural and small towns: **\$494,800**
Urban areas: **\$403,000**
Small businesses in rural and small towns had a **higher average annual revenue** than small businesses in urban areas



¹ Businesses with total annual revenues from \$30,000 to \$5,000,000.
Note: In this infographic, rural and small towns refer to anywhere outside a census metropolitan area or census agglomeration, and urban means areas inside them, based on Statistics Canada's 2021 Standard Geographical Classification.

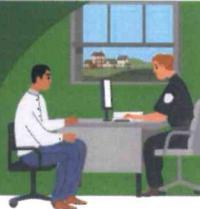
Source: Statistics Canada, Rural Canada Business Profiles, 2023.

Small businesses in rural and small town Canada, 2023

This infographic from the Rural Data Lab of Statistics Canada presents a visual overview of key highlights and statistical findings from the 2023 Rural Canada Business Profiles database. The database provides financial profiles for small and medium-sized businesses in Canada with total annual revenues of \$30,000 to \$5,000,000 and \$5,000,001 to \$20,000,000, respectively. The infographic provides observations focused on small businesses in rural and small-town Canada.

Accused persons living in rural areas and their subsequent contacts with police

2014 to 2023



Accused persons living in rural areas and their subsequent contacts with police, 2014 to 2023

Using police-reported data from the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey, this infographic presents data on subsequent contacts with police over a nine-year period for individuals living in rural areas of the Canadian provinces who were accused of a crime in 2014.



In 2014, 436,915 individuals living in the Canadian provinces were accused of a crime by police

25% were living in a rural area at the time of their first contact with police, while 75% were living in an urban area.¹

From 2014 to 2023, 67% of accused persons living in a rural area had at least 1 subsequent contact² with police for a violent, property or other *Criminal Code* (excluding traffic) offence, compared with 57% living in urban areas.



Rural areas

41%
of accused persons

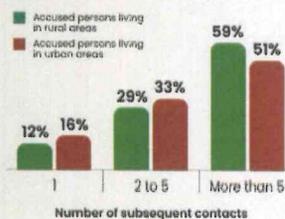
37% of accused persons had subsequent contact with police within a year of their first contact

Urban areas

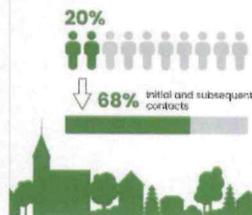
35%
of accused persons



Proportion of accused persons who had subsequent contact with police within a year of their first contact



In rural areas, 20% of accused persons were responsible for 68% of initial and subsequent contacts with police.



1. Data are police-reported and taken from the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey. They include all individuals who, at the time of their first contact with police in 2014, were living in the Canadian provinces and were accused of committing a violent, property or other *Criminal Code* (excluding traffic) offence.
2. A subsequent contact refers to any new contact with police for violent, property or other *Criminal Code* (excluding traffic) offences following an initial contact. This includes incidents resulting in a new charge being laid or recommenced as well as incidents closed by other means.
Source: Savage, L., 2025. "Patterns of re-offending among accused persons living in rural areas of the Canadian provinces, 2014 to 2023." *Arrests*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 89-602-X.



What is Manitoba Communities in Bloom?

The Program

The *Manitoba Communities in Bloom* program provides a comprehensive evaluation beneficial to community development.

It encourages all sectors of the community to work together to develop best practices to achieve clean, green sustainable communities that celebrate their heritage and unique potential.

CiB judges tour participating communities providing an evaluation which focuses on beautification, environmental and heritage conservation efforts.

Communities are divided into categories according to population and evaluated on the accomplishments of their whole team (municipal, private, corporate and institutional).

Evaluated communities are provided with a bloom rating (1 to 5), a special mention (community high-light), and an Evaluation Report. This report provides specific feedback on community successes and constructive suggestions for challenges. The Evaluation assess the following six categories:

- ⊗ **COMMUNITY APPEARANCE:** Maintenance of buildings and structures, removal of litter, weeds and graffiti
- ⊗ **ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION:** Waste reduction, sewage disposal, recycling, composting, integrated pest management (IPM) and water conservation
- ⊗ **HERITAGE CONSERVATION:** Efforts to preserve built heritage; natural and cultural heritage
- ⊗ **TREE MANAGEMENT:** Existence of long and short term planning, by-laws and standards for planting suitable trees, appropriate care practices
- ⊗ **LANDSCAPED AREAS:** Community efforts to make plants an element of surroundings; colour, texture, regional suitability, native species and maintenance
- ⊗ **PLANT AND FLORAL DISPLAYS:** General beautification with beds, containers and ornamental displays

Inspiring communities to be their best!

Board of Directors

The MB CIB Board of Directors is made up of volunteers who have several years experience involved in the Communities in Bloom program and contributing to the successful administration of the program.

Judges

MB CiB qualified volunteer judges have experience ranging from horticulture professionals and Parks administrators to personal CIB involvement in their hometowns.

Participants

Since 1995 over 60 Manitoba communities have experienced the benefits of Communities in Bloom. By participating, they have made a commitment to work toward a sustainable future for their communities.

It is due to our many volunteers and the financial and in-kind support of our sponsors and partners that MB CIB can offer this valuable and worthwhile community development program.



**For more information on
Manitoba Communities in Bloom**

coordinator@mbcommunitiesinbloom.ca

www.mbcommunitiesinbloom.ca

Manitoba Communities in Bloom

PROGRAM BENEFITS

- Receive a 16 page Evaluation Grid, completed by qualified volunteer judges, which provides valuable information and suggestions on their community in six judging criteria: Community Appearance; Environmental Action; Heritage Conservation; Tree Management; Landscaped Areas; and Plant and Floral Displays
- Experience increased community involvement and civic pride through program participation
- Network with other Manitoba communities and affiliated associations through the Annual Provincial Conference and Awards, quarterly newsletter, web site and Facebook
- Informed on grants, funding and MB CiB sponsor discounts
- Opportunity for provincial and national visibility through CiB media, tradeshow and marketing campaigns

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION RESPONSIBILITIES

- Pay a program registration fee based on population size
- Organize a one day judges tour which highlights community accomplishments in the six judging criteria; to take place on a predetermined date between mid July to mid August.
- Provide lodging for two judges for one or two nights and all meals (bed & breakfasts and billets are acceptable)
- Plan to attend the Annual Provincial Conference and Awards Ceremony in September to receive bloom rating, certificate and evaluation grid

Manitoba Communities in Bloom is made possible by:

The commitment of local or provincial volunteers
The support of elected officials and municipal staff
The dedication of board members, judges and staff
The contribution of sponsors and partners





Manitoba

Manitoba Communities in Bloom

2026 PROVINCIAL EDITION REGISTRATION FORM

Early Registration deadline **March 31** / Final deadline **April 30th**

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Community Name		Population	
Mailing Address		Postal Code	
Contact #1 Name		Home Phone	
E-mail		Cell	
Mailing Address		Postal	
Contact #2 Name		Home Phone	
E-mail		Cell	
Mailing Address		Postal	

How to Register
 Select a category
 Complete the registration process on the other side

<p>1. Provincial – Evaluated <input type="checkbox"/></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Community is evaluated by 2 judges using an evaluation grid * Community is provided with a written report & a bloom rating * Communities from this category scoring 5 plus blooms may be invited to participate in the National CIB Competition in future years (although not obligated) 	<p>Registration fee is based on population</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Population up to 500 = \$250.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Population 501-1000 = \$250.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Population 1001—3000 = \$300.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Population 3001—5,000 = \$400.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Population Over 5,000 = \$500.00
<p>2. Provincial – Non - Evaluated <input type="checkbox"/></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Available to communities who have participated and have been evaluated in the last three years * Community is not judged by MB CiB judges * Communities are included in all networking opportunities (i.e. CiB quarterly newsletter, sponsor information, grants/funding information, participate in the Annual Conference and Awards) 	<p>Registration fee is 1/2 of the evaluated fee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Population up to 500 = \$125.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Population 501-1000 = \$125.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Population 1001—3000 = \$150.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Population 3001—5,000 = \$200.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Population Over 5,000 = \$250.00
<p>3. Special Attraction <input type="checkbox"/></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Available to Manitoba green attractions such as parks, living history museums and public gardens. * Criteria focuses on management, planning, maintenance, improvement and innovation in 6 criteria (2 judges, written report & bloom rating provided) 	<p>Registration Fee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> \$300.00



Manitoba Communities in Bloom 2026 PROVINCIAL EDITION REGISTRATION FORM

Manitoba

PROGRAM BENEFITS

Communities will:

- Receive a Community Participation Guide that provides helpful tips and suggestions
- Receive a 16 page Evaluation Grid, completed by qualified volunteer judges, which provides valuable information and suggestions on their community in six judging criteria: Tidiness; Environmental Action; Heritage Conservation; Urban Forestry; Landscaped Areas; and Floral Displays.
- Receive a Bloom Rating certificate (2 to 5 blooms)
- Experience increased community involvement and civic pride through program participation
- Have the opportunity to network with other Manitoba communities and affiliated associations through the Annual Provincial Conference and Awards, quarterly newsletter, web site and Facebook
- Be the first to be informed of grants, funding and MB CiB sponsor discounts
- Experience provincial and national visibility through CiB media, tradeshow and marketing campaigns

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION RESPONSIBILITIES

- Pay a program registration fee
- Organize a one day judges tour which highlights community accomplishments in the six judging criteria; to take place on a predetermined date between mid July to mid August.
- Provide lodging for two judges for one or two nights and all meals (bed & breakfasts and billets are acceptable)
- Plan to attend the Annual Provincial Conference and Awards Ceremony in September to receive

Registration Information

Early Registration Deadline March 31— entered to win a gift basket

Final Registration Deadline April 30th

Please send completed registration form *and* cheque made out to “*Manitoba Communities in Bloom*” to:

Mail: 494 Stalker Bay, Winnipeg, MB R2G 0C8

Email: Scan registration form and email to coordinator@mbcommunitiesinbloom.ca
Mail registration fee to 494 Stalker Bay, Winnipeg, MB R2G 0C8

For more information: Contact the program coordinator at coordinator@mbcommunitiesinbloom.ca

Local Intuitive Program - 2026 Grant Intake

From Wendy Petersen <petersenw@cfwestman.ca>

Date Mon 2026-01-26 4:16 PM

To Bill Hogan <hoganb@cfwestman.ca>; Kola Oloko <olokok@cfwestman.ca>; Richard Adu <adur@cfwestman.ca>

Cc Sarah Fast <sfast@taylorlawpatersons.ca>; Kit Harrison <kith44510@gmail.com>; Shep Kaastra <kaastras@outlook.com>; Real Garlic Real Greens <realgarlicmb@gmail.com>

 2 attachments (193 KB)

CFW Local Initiatives Program Information 2026.docx; CFW Application Local Initiatives Program 2026.docx;

Purpose of the Local Initiatives Program

The purpose of the Local Initiatives Program is to strengthen our communities by supporting small scale-projects led by non-profit organizations and municipalities, that strive to enhance community economic development efforts. Criteria for this intake are programs or projects that have a social, environmental, and/or cultural mandate.

Funding Available:

- Non repayable contributions of up to \$3,000.00 of eligible costs
- Applications will be received between **January 26, 2026, and March 2, 2026, at 4:00 pm.**

Link can be found in attachments.

Wendy Petersen

Community Development Analyst

Community Futures Westman

D-217 10th Street, Brandon, Manitoba, R7A 4E9

W: www.cfmanitoba.ca/westman

E: petersenw@cfwestman.ca

P: 204.726.1513

F: 204.725.5832



Local Initiatives Program (LIP)

Community Futures Westman is a not-for-profit organization, funded through PrairiesCan, to provide programs and services to support enterprise, community-based development, tourism incentives that lead to economic growth and employment in our region.

Purpose of the Local Initiatives Program

The purpose of the Local Initiatives Program is to strengthen our communities by supporting small scale-projects led by non-profit organizations and municipalities, that strive to enhance community economic development efforts. Criteria for this intake are programs or projects that have a social, environmental, and/or cultural mandate.

Community Economic Development (CED) means an inclusive, strategic, long-term, integrated, and community-driven approach to local economic development whereby a community takes responsibility for planning and implementing measures to improve their economic future, well-being, and quality of life. These projects would vary considerably from one community to another and could include a wide range of local initiatives in areas such as tourism, entrepreneurship, and economic opportunities for specific client groups such as women, youth, Indigenous people, and members of official language minorities.

Funding Available:

- Non repayable contributions of up to \$3,000.00 of eligible costs
- Applications will be received between **January 26, 2026, and March 2, 2026, at 4:00 pm.**

Eligible Projects:

- Contribute to the economic development of the region and target community priorities for social, environmental and /or cultural mandate. Partnerships are encouraged. *(Please note that only one project per applicant per funding period will be accepted. Funding period is from April 1, 2026 -March 31, 2027)*
- Are Incremental (cannot have already been undertaken or relate to core operations of organization)
- Cannot extend past March 31, 2027
- One project per year per organization.

Eligible Costs:

- Must relate directly to the project activities
- Can be capital and non-capital costs

Ineligible Costs

- Wages for current staff



- Operating costs of ongoing operations (including basic websites)
- Yearly Festivals
- Leasehold improvements, construction, repairs

Note: Funding is limited , not all eligible projects will be approved.

Funding Approval Process:

The CF Westman CEDC Committee will review all completed applications and award funding based on the following criteria:

1. New innovative projects that strive to enhance community economic development efforts through social, environmental and/or cultural means.
2. Projects that have other partners involved
3. Impact of organization's activities on the community and region

Applications not accompanied by the required financial information and documentation will not be considered. The committee may recommend approvals up to a maximum of \$3,000.00 for any single application.

Reporting Requirements: Any organization approved for funding must sign a written acknowledgement that the funds will be used for the purpose as they stated in their application and agreeing to provide a year end operational and financial updated on the organization by **March 31, 2025. Failure to meet reporting requirements will disqualify applicants from future grant funding from Community Futures Westman.**

Deadline for Applications: Completed applications and required documentation must be received by CF Westman by **4:00 p.m., March 2, 2026**. Incomplete applications or applications received after the deadline will not be considered. Applications may be submitted to:

COMMUNITY FUTURES WESTMAN:

Unit D – 217 10th Street Brandon, Manitoba R7A 4E9 Phone: 204-726-1513 Fax: 204-727-5832

Email: petersenw@cfwestman.ca

Application can be found on our website <https://cfmanitoba.ca/westman>



Application - Local Initiatives Program 2026

1. Community, Organization or Group Requesting Assistance

Organization Name:	
Address:	
City/Town:	Postal Code:

Brief description of organization:

Contact Person:	Position/Title:
Telephone / Contact Information	
Work:	Home (if applicable):
Fax:	E-mail:

2. Project Information:

Project Title/Name:	
Start Date:	Completion Date:
Location:	

3. Project Finances

Amount requested from Community Futures	\$3000.00
Amount of Organization's Contribution must be 10% of total project cost	
Funds from other Sources (including in kind)	
Total Estimated Cost of Project	

4. Partner information:

Partner	Contribution

5. Project Summary

Provide a brief description of the project, how the project promotes community economic development through social, environmental and/or cultural programs or projects, how the project is incremental (a new initiative), expected outcomes and project timeline. (if you require more space you may attach materials)

6. Budget and Budget description:

Please attach a copy of your detailed project budget with cashflow and timeline.

AUTHORIZATION AND CERTIFICATION

As the lead contact and as an authorized signing officer of the Applicant, I certify to **Community Futures Westman** (hereafter referred to as the CFW) that:

- (a) *The principals of the Applicant have been notified and consented to the funder collecting, using, retaining and disclosing the information contained in this application for the limited purpose of determining eligibility for funding as is required by law and by the CFW. I understand that the CFW will handle personal information in strict confidence in accordance with Federal privacy law. This information may be provided to Western Economic Diversification Fund for the purposes of assessing project eligibility.*
- (b) *The information contained in this application is true and complete in all respects. If CFW discovers that this application contains a material misrepresentation, this application shall be deemed to be withdrawn immediately by the Applicant.*
- (c) *The Applicant agrees to provide any additional information that CFW may reasonably require for purposes of assessing this application.*
- (d) *The Applicant certifies that financial assistance from CFW is a significant factor in the decision to proceed with this project.*
- (e) *As part of its project assessment process, CFW requires that all projects conform with the*

Government of Canada's Impact Assessment Act (I.A.A.) This Act outlines a process for how the Government of Canada goes about assessing the impacts of designated projects and projects carried out on federal lands or outside of Canada.

- (f) The Applicant acknowledges that he/she is not aware of any violation with respect to conflict of interest with this application. The applicant further confirms that he/she has not engaged the services of a lobbyist for the advancement of this application.
- (g) The Applicant certifies that any former public office holder or former public servant that derives benefit from this agreement will be in compliance with the Conflict of Interest Act and the Values and Ethics Code for the Public Sector.
- (h) The applicant warrants that they are in good standing with Revenue Canada, Municipalities other Government Ministries/Agencies and Community Futures.
- (i) The Applicant acknowledges that any approved Project will be the subject of public announcements.

I have read and understand this application and guidelines and will submit the required information with this proposal. I understand incomplete applications cannot be assessed and will be deemed ineligible.

7. Authorization:

The undersigned certifies that all information provided to Community Futures Westman in support of this request for funding is true and complete and undertakes to provide any further information that may be required for Community Futures Westman to render a decision, in a timely manner. The undersigned also herewith provides consent for Community Futures Westman to make sufficient enquiries that may be necessary in the evaluation of this request for funding.

Authorized by:

Signature

Name and Title

Date

For CFW Use Only

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Date:	Name:	Signature:
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**UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PLANNING ACT
NOTICE
OF PUBLIC HEARING**

On the date and at the time and location shown below, a PUBLIC HEARING will be held to receive representations from any persons who wish to make them in respect to the following matter:

**THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GLENBORO SOUTH CYPRESS
BY-LAW NO. 117
being an amendment to the Municipality OF GLENBORO-SOUTH CYPRESS
ZONING BY-LAW NO. 88-2022, as amended**

**HEARING
LOCATION:**

Glenboro South Cypress Fire Hall, No. 425 South Railway Avenue, Glenboro MB.

DATE & TIME:

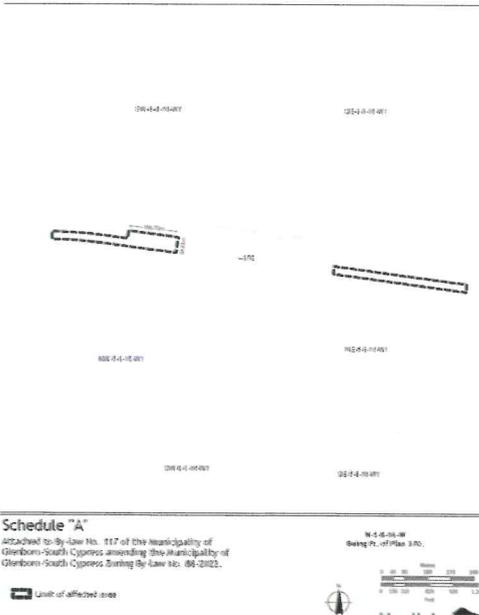
Thursday March 11th, 2026 at 11.00 a.m.

**GENERAL
INTENT OF:**

To rezone lands within the Rural Municipality of Glenboro South Cypress from “AR” Agricultural Rural Zone to “GD” General Development Zone

AREA AFFECTED:

Lands located within N 5-8-16, shown on the below map outlined in lined black.



**For more information, contact Joel Penner,
Development Officer, Cypress Planning
District (204) 834-6618 or Darren Myers,
CAO, Municipality of Glenboro South
Cypress, (204) 827-2252**

A copy of the above proposal and supporting material may be inspected at the location noted above during normal office hours, Monday to Friday. Copies may be made and extracts taken therefrom, upon request.

New regulatory changes impacting firefighting foams/Nouveaux changements réglementaires affectant les mousses extinctrices

From PromCon PN / ComPro PN (ECCC) <promconrpn-compropnr@ec.gc.ca>

Date Fri 2026-01-16 1:52 PM

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

[Accédez à la version française](#)



Environment and
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Hello,

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has identified your organization as a potential user, importer, manufacturer or seller of firefighting foams, specifically **aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF)**, because of your work in the firefighting sector, aviation, or the chemical and oil industries. We want to inform you that changes were made to regulations that apply to toxic substances found in AFFF. The resources below will help you determine if these regulations apply to you and understand what you can do to comply with them.

AFFF are known to contain [per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances](#) (PFAS). The Government of Canada has already acted on certain [harmful](#) subgroups of PFAS that were declared toxic under the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999* (CEPA). Three subgroups are already prohibited with certain exemptions under the *Prohibition of Certain Toxic Substances Regulations, 2012* (the 2012 Regulations):

- perfluorooctanoic acid, its salts and its precursors (PFOA),
- long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and their precursors (LC-PFCAs); and
- perfluorooctane sulfonate, its salts and its precursors (PFOS).

AFFF containing PFOS are typically referred to as **PFOS-based AFFF** and AFFF containing PFOA and/or LC-PFCAs are typically referred to as **C8 AFFF**. AFFF containing other PFAS that are *not* currently restricted are commonly referred to as **C6 AFFF**.

The [Prohibition of Certain Toxic Substances Regulations, 2025](#) (the 2025 Regulations) were published in *Canada Gazette*, Part II on December 31, 2025. The 2025 Regulations will repeal and replace the 2012 Regulations when they come into force on June 30, 2026. The 2025 Regulations **further restrict** the manufacture use, sale and import of C8 AFFF.



On June 30, 2026, it will be prohibited to import, sell and use C8 AFFF, and their export is expected to be controlled.

A few time-limited exemptions will allow the transition to alternatives.

Make sure to transition away from C8 AFFF by the timelines outlined below.

The following timeline outlines when key activities with C8 AFFF will become prohibited in Canada.

Since December 23, 2016, it has been prohibited to:

- manufacture C8 AFFF
- use C8 AFFF for any other purposes than for firefighting

From June 30, 2026, it will be prohibited to:

- import C8 AFFF
- use C8 AFFF (including for training; see best practices with AFFF below), **except** to:
 - extinguish Class B fires during emergencies or
 - test installed firefighting systems under certain conditions (see best practices with AFFF below)
- sell C8 AFFF, except for the cost recovery between mutual aid partners following an authorized emergency use
- In addition, the export of C8 AFFF is expected to be controlled under the [Export of Substances on the Export Control List Regulations](#)

From January 1, 2028, it will be prohibited to:

- use C8 AFFF, except for critical uses in specific military applications, which have exemptions that expire later

From July 1, 2028, it will be prohibited to:

- sell C8 AFFF, including the sale of C8 AFFF as part of the cost recovery between mutual aid partners



Best Practices with AFFF

AFFF should only be used in emergency situations where a significant Class B fire hazard exists. You should follow proper procedures to prevent any environmental release, even during emergencies. Appropriate safe handling and storage practices should also be used to reduce occupational exposure to PFAS used in AFFF.

Avoid using AFFF for training; instead, use training foams designed to mimic AFFF but without PFAS. Starting on June 30, 2026, it is prohibited to use AFFF containing PFOA and/or LC-PFCAs, such as C8 AFFF, for training purposes.

When testing your firefighting systems containing AFFF, make sure to contain and dispose of all releases produced in an environmentally sound manner. Starting on June 30, 2026, you must do so when testing your firefighting systems containing PFOA and/or LC-PFCAs, such as C8 AFFF.

You can visit the webpage [Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances and aqueous film-forming foam used in firefighting](#) for more helpful information, including:

- How to tell if your firefighting foam contains PFAS
- Regulations and the phase-out of PFAS in AFFF
- Alternatives to AFFF
- Decontamination of equipment

- Additional best practices with AFFF, such as disposal

In addition, note that Canada is proposing to place restrictions on C6 AFFF. You can find out more about these activities by consulting the [Risk management approach for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances \(PFAS\), excluding fluoropolymers](#).



For more information

For more information on the 2025 Regulations, visit the [Prohibition of Certain Toxic Substances Regulations, 2025: overview webpage](#), contact me, or email the Chemicals Management Division at interdiction-prohibition@ec.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

Andrew Heshka
Compliance Promotion Officer, Environmental Protection Branch
Environment and Climate Change Canada / Government of Canada
promconrpn-compropnr@ec.gc.ca

Environment and Climate Change Canada enforces the Regulations and takes actions to deal with alleged violations in accordance with the [Canadian Environmental Protection Act: compliance and enforcement policy](#). For the purpose of interpreting and applying the Regulations, consult the Regulations on the *Canada Gazette*, Part II: <https://gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2025/2025-12-31/html/sor-dors270-eng.html>



Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada

Environment and
Climate Change Canada

Canada

Bonjour,

Environnement et Changement Climatique Canada (ECCC) a désigné votre organisation comme étant potentiellement un utilisateur, importateur, fabricant ou vendeur de mousses extinctrices, plus précisément de ***mousses à formation de pellicule aqueuse (mousse AFFF)***, en raison de votre travail dans le secteur de la sécurité incendie, le secteur de l'aviation ou des industries chimiques et pétrolières. Nous tenons à vous informer que des changements ont été apportés au règlement qui s'applique aux substances toxiques présentes dans les mousses AFFF. Les ressources ci-dessous vous aideront à déterminer si ce règlement s'applique à vous et à comprendre ce que vous pouvez faire pour vous y conformer.

Il est connu que les mousses AFFF contiennent des [substances perfluoroalkyliques et polyfluoroalkyliques](#) (SPFA). Le gouvernement du Canada a déjà pris des mesures à l'égard de certains sous-groupes nocifs de SPFA qui ont été déclarés toxiques aux termes de la *Loi canadienne sur la protection de l'environnement (1999)* (LCPE). Trois sous-groupes sont déjà interdits, avec certaines exemptions, en vertu du *Règlement sur certaines substances toxiques interdites (2012)* (Règlement de 2012) :

- l'acide pentadécafluorooctanoïque, ses sels et ses précurseurs (APFO);
- les acides perfluorocarboxyliques à longue chaîne, leurs sels et leurs précurseurs (APFC-LC);
- le sulfonate de perfluorooctane, ses sels et ses précurseurs (SPFO).

Les mousses AFFF contenant du SPFO sont généralement appelées des **mousses AFFF à base de SPFO** et les mousses AFFF contenant de l'APFO ou des APFC-LC sont habituellement

appelées des **mousses AFFF C8**. Les mousses AFFF contenant d'autres SPFA qui ne sont pas actuellement restreintes sont communément appelées **mousses AFFF C6**.

Le [Règlement sur certaines substances toxiques interdites \(2025\)](#) (Règlement de 2025) a été publié dans la partie II de la *Gazette du Canada* le 31 décembre 2025. Le Règlement de 2025 abrogera et remplacera le Règlement de 2012 lorsqu'il entrera en vigueur le 30 juin 2026. Le Règlement de 2025 **restreint davantage** la fabrication, l'utilisation, la vente et l'importation des mousses AFFF C8.



Le 30 juin 2026, il sera interdit d'importer, de vendre et d'utiliser des mousses AFFF C8, et leur exportation devrait être contrôlée.

Quelques exemptions temporaires permettront de faire la transition vers des solutions de rechange.

Assurez-vous de délaisser les mousses AFFF C8 dans les délais indiqués ci-dessous.

Le calendrier suivant indique à quel moment les principales activités avec des mousses AFFF C8 seront interdites au Canada.

Depuis le 23 décembre 2016, il est interdit :

- de fabriquer des mousses AFFF C8;
- d'utiliser des mousses AFFF C8 à des fins autres que la lutte contre les incendies.

À compter du 30 juin 2026, il sera interdit :

- d'importer des mousses AFFF C8;
- d'utiliser des mousses AFFF C8 (y compris pour la formation; voir les pratiques exemplaires associées aux mousses AFFF ci-dessous), **sauf** pour :
 - éteindre des incendies de classe B en cas d'urgence, ou
 - vérifier les systèmes anti-feu installés dans certaines conditions (voir ci-dessous les pratiques exemplaires associées aux mousses AFFF);
- de vendre des mousses AFFF C8, sauf pour le recouvrement des coûts entre partenaires d'aide mutuelle à la suite d'une utilisation d'urgence autorisée;
- par ailleurs, l'exportation de mousses AFFF C8 devrait être contrôlée en vertu du [Règlement sur l'exportation des substances figurant à la Liste des substances d'exportation contrôlée](#).

À compter du 1^{er} janvier 2028, il sera interdit :

- d'utiliser des mousses AFFF C8, sauf pour les utilisations essentielles dans des applications militaires précises, qui comportent des exemptions qui expirent plus tard.

À compter du 1^{er} juillet 2028, il sera interdit :

- de vendre des mousses AFFF C8, y compris la vente de mousses AFFF C8 dans le cadre du recouvrement des coûts entre partenaires d'aide mutuelle.

Pratiques exemplaires associées aux mousses AFFF

Les mousses AFFF ne devraient être utilisées que dans des situations d'urgence où il existe un important risque



d'incendie de classe B. Vous devriez suivre les procédures appropriées pour éviter tout rejet dans l'environnement, même en cas d'urgence. Des pratiques appropriées de manipulation et d'entreposage sécuritaires devraient également être utilisées pour réduire l'exposition professionnelle aux SPFA utilisés dans les mousses AFFF.

Évitez d'utiliser des mousses AFFF à des fins de formation; utilisez plutôt des mousses conçues pour imiter les mousses AFFF, mais sans SPFA. À compter du 30 juin 2026, il sera interdit d'utiliser des mousses AFFF contenant de l'APFO et/ou des APFC-LC, comme les mousses AFFF C8, à des fins de formation.

Lorsque vous vérifiez vos systèmes anti-feu contenant des mousses AFFF, assurez-vous de confiner et d'éliminer tous les rejets produits de façon écologiquement rationnelle. À compter du 30 juin 2026, vous devez le faire lorsque vous vérifiez vos systèmes anti-feu contenant de l'APFO et/ou des APFC-LC, comme les mousses AFFF C8.

Vous pouvez consulter notre page Web sur les substances [perfluoroalkyliques et polyfluoroalkyliques ainsi que la mousse à formation de pellicule aqueuse utilisée dans la lutte contre les incendies](#) pour obtenir des renseignements utiles, notamment :

- Comment savoir si vos mousses extinctrices contiennent des SPFA?
- Réglementation et élimination progressive des SPFA dans les mousses AFFF
- Solutions de rechange aux mousses AFFF
- Décontamination de l'équipement
- Pratiques exemplaires supplémentaires associées aux mousses AFFF, comme l'élimination

De plus, veuillez noter que le Canada propose d'imposer des restrictions liées aux mousses AFFF C6. Vous pouvez en apprendre davantage sur ces activités en consultant [l'approche de gestion des risques pour les substances perfluoroalkyliques et polyfluoroalkyliques \(SPFA\), excluant les fluoropolymères](#).



Pour de plus amples renseignements

Pour obtenir de plus amples renseignements sur le Règlement de 2025, consultez la page Web sur l'aperçu du [Règlement sur certaines substances toxiques interdites \(2025\)](#), communiquez avec moi ou envoyez un courriel à la Division de la gestion des substances chimiques à l'adresse interdiction-prohibition@ec.gc.ca

Cordialement,

Andrew Heshka

Agent de promotion de la conformité, Direction générale de la protection de l'environnement
Environnement et Changement climatique Canada / Gouvernement du Canada
promconrpn-compropnr@ec.gc.ca

Environnement et Changement climatique Canada veille à l'application du Règlement et prend des mesures en cas d'infraction présumée, conformément à la [politique d'observation et d'application de la Loi canadienne sur la protection de l'environnement](#). Pour l'interprétation et l'application du Règlement, consultez celui-ci sur la Gazette du Canada, Partie II : <https://gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2025/2025-12-31/html/sor-dors270-fra.html>



Epilepsy and Seizure Association of Manitoba

Dave Kreklewich
Head of Council, Oakland-Wawanesa Municipality
HofC.Kreklewich@oakland-wawanesa.ca

Dear Councillor Kreklewich,

In 2012, the Government of Canada passed a law identifying March 26th as the officially recognized date for Epilepsy Awareness, Bill C-278, the Purple Day Act. Purple Day began in 2008, in Nova Scotia by Cassidy Megan, who wanted a way to let people living with epilepsy that they are not alone. Purple Day has grown and became an internationally recognized day for epilepsy awareness.

As part of recognizing Purple Day, landmarks around the world have lit up purple in support. In Canada, landmarks such as Niagara Falls, the CN Tower, the BC Legislature, SaskTel Centre and many more light up purple for Purple Day.

1 in 10 people will experience a seizure in their lifetime, with over 23,000 people living with epilepsy/seizure disorder in Manitoba, a number which does not reflect the true impact of epilepsy on people, their lives and the lives of their loved ones. Epilepsy/seizure disorder is so much more than the physical seizure(s), there are physical, emotional, psychological, social as well as financial impacts with the diagnosis.

In 2025, we were privileged to receive support from Cities, Towns, and Rural Municipalities and Municipalities across Manitoba, through purple lighting, Purple Day Proclamations, as well as social media posts acknowledging Purple Day. We are hoping to continue the momentum in 2026 and build on the Purple Day support network in Manitoba!

We are writing today to ask for support from the Municipality of Oakland-Wawanesa in acknowledging Purple Day 2026. There are numerous ways to engage in Purple Day; a Proclamation recognizing March 26th as Purple Day, through the illumination of a building purple, or putting up strings of purple lights, a message on a digital sign promoting Purple Day, decorating a door or wall purple, staff wearing purple or the promotion of Purple Day on social media.

We welcome all efforts to help promote awareness of epilepsy/seizure disorder. We have developed a media tool kit which is available on our website, with posters, social media banners and information on Purple Day, all made easily accessible with a click!

We would very much appreciate your support in helping Epilepsy and Seizure Association of Manitoba to promote awareness of epilepsy/seizure disorder while showing people in Manitoba

"A cure may be found tomorrow, but someone needs your help today"

4 - 1805 Main Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R2V 2A2
1-866-374-5377 - (204) 783-0466 - F: (204) 784-9689
esam@manitobaepilepsy.org
www.manitobaepilepsy.org



Epilepsy and Seizure Association of Manitoba

living with epilepsy that they are not alone. We proudly acknowledge all support on our social media, website and in our newsletter.

If there are any questions, or further information is required, I would welcome the opportunity to speak with someone about engaging in Purple Day 2026.

Sincerely,

Sara Bettess, BA, BSW, RSW
Executive Director

"A cure may be found tomorrow, but someone needs your help today"

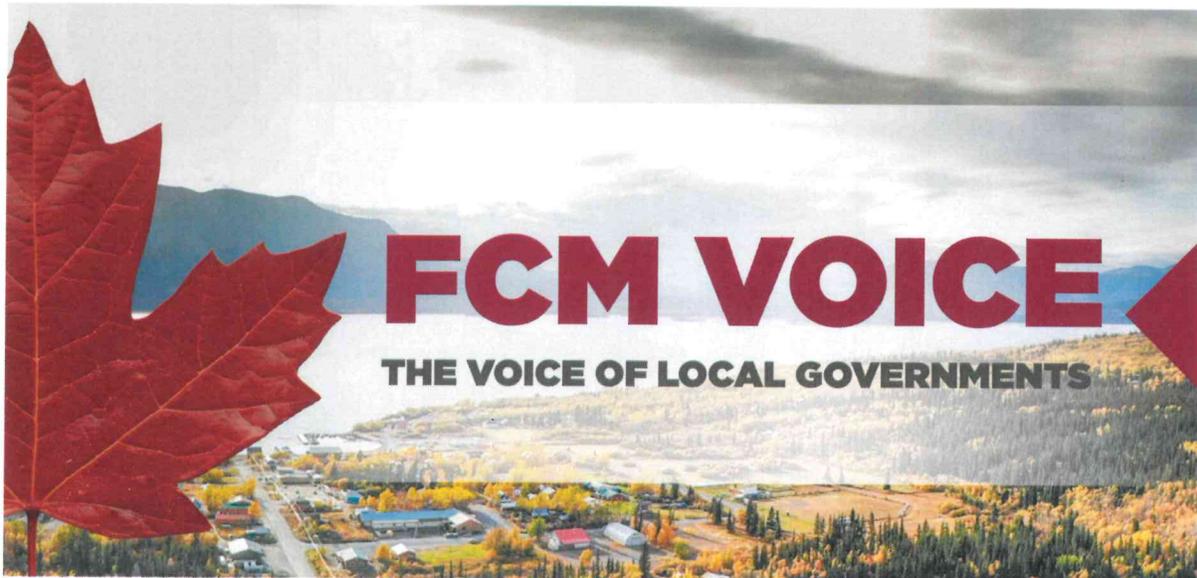
4 - 1805 Main Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R2V 2A2
1- 866-374-5377 - (204) 783-0466 - F: (204) 784-9689
esam@manitobaepilepsy.org
www.manitobaepilepsy.org

Charitable Registration Number: 10808782600001

[View email in browser](#)



January 19, 2026



Collective webinar: Partnering for impact with YMCA Canada

Our first Collective webinar of the year is fast approaching! On January 28, we're partnering with YMCA Canada to explore practical insights into partnership models, lessons learned and strategies for aligning municipal priorities like affordable housing or expanding recreation options with YMCA programs to achieve shared goals.

This session will highlight the breadth of YMCA services and demonstrate how partnerships with municipalities amplify impact. By working together, municipalities and YMCAs can strengthen communities across the country.

[» REGISTER](#)

NEWS

Help shape Canada's Rural Development Action Plan

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. The consultation is open until February 6.

Please refer to [ISED's consultation guide](#) for additional information and use the [rural report summary](#) to guide your submission.

FCM's GMF Council is recruiting a new elected municipal official

FCM is seeking an elected municipal official from Alberta, Manitoba or the Canadian Territories to join the Green Municipal Fund (GMF) Council. We're looking for a recognized community champion with the knowledge and skills to review technical and financial information in municipal sustainability project applications.

Since inception, we're proud to have supported homegrown projects in clean energy, cost-saving transportation, cost-saving home energy upgrades and climate resilience. Join the council to help guide strategic investments in innovative municipal initiatives that strengthen communities and build a more sustainable, prosperous Canada. Application deadline has been extended to February 9.

» [APPLY NOW](#)

EVENTS

Lessons in emergency shelter transformation

Ending homelessness is possible. The Alliance to End Homelessness Ottawa is hosting an event to learn from two community leaders from Calgary and Niagara that have seen dramatic decreases in shelter use through diversion, prevention and shelter transformation. Join the event in person in Ottawa by registering online or host a viewing party in your community with local leaders in homelessness and housing. To host a viewing party in your community, contact the Alliance at info@endhomelessnessottawa.ca.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

FCM IN THE NEWS

» **FCM VP reflects on tumultuous 2025, rising municipal influence | Municipal World**

FCM's First Vice-President Tim Tierney discussed FCM's advocacy efforts over the past year, including recent missions to the U.S. during the trade war, as well as the municipalities' ongoing priorities, such as outdated infrastructure, affordability and the housing crisis. Tierney also outlined FCM's priorities for 2026, highlighting FCM's Annual Conference and Trade Show in Edmonton in June.

» **Property taxation: an outdated system for Canadian cities? | OHdio | Radio-Canada**

FCM's Third Vice-President and Mayor of Dorval, Marc Doret, spoke with Radio-Canada about the municipal property tax system and the need for increased federal financial support to address the most pressing and growing challenges municipalities face.

» **Canada reaches tariff-quota deal with China on EVs, canola | CBC News**

Canada and China struck an agreement that will allow up to 49,000 Chinese electric vehicles into the Canadian market each year, at a 6.1 per cent tariff. In turn, China will drop canola seed duties to 15 per cent by March, and waive tariffs on Canadian canola meal, lobsters, crabs and peas from March to at least the end of the year.

» **AMM outlines 2026 advocacy, tours, and municipal priorities | Discover Westman**

The Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) is starting the new year by reconnecting directly with local governments through its regular municipal tour schedule. "We had strong momentum with our national advocacy in Ottawa, particularly through advocacy days held in October," said AMM President Kathy Valentino.

RESOURCES

Funding and resources to help you manage the trees in your community

Urban forest management plans help municipalities grow healthier, more connected and climate-resilient communities. If your municipality is updating a tree planting strategy, developing a new urban forestry policy, or analyzing canopy cover, you can now apply for up to \$175,000 through GMF's new *Urban forestry plans and studies funding*. No matter the size of your community, you can access resources and coaching services to help you succeed and ensure the plan or study you create provides maximum benefits to your community.

» [START YOUR APPLICATION](#)

Settlement notice: Opioid class action lawsuit

A proposed settlement has been reached with Mylan Pharmaceuticals in a class action lawsuit related to opioid dependency and addiction brought on behalf of municipalities in Canada. FCM has been asked by Napoli Shkolnik Canada to share the attached [settlement notice](#) to ensure that any potentially affected municipalities are informed. FCM is not directly involved in the litigation. For more information, please visit [Napoli Shkolnik Canada Mylan Settlement](#) or contact the law firm directly at 1-888-531-0675.

CORPORATE PARTNER



DESTINATION CANADA

Win AC2026 registration and help shape tourism's future

Tourism fuels local economies and strengthens communities— and your insights matter. Complete this short, five-minute survey for a chance to win a complimentary registration to the FCM Annual Conference and Trade Show. Destination Canada wants to hear from municipal leaders shaping the future of sustainable economic tourism development and help to ensure communities like yours play a leading role in Canada's visitor economy.

» [TAKE THE SURVEY](#)

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:



Local governments thrive when they have strong foundations.

Today, FCM and the Government of Canada are proud to announce a \$7.1 million investment through Green Municipal Fund's Local Leadership for Climate Adaptation (LLCA) initiative to help 80 communities strengthen their local infrastructure, safeguard public services, and prepare for the impacts of climate change.

[LEARN MORE](#)



[SHARE THE VIDEO](#)



"The longer we delay, the more costly the replacement — and the more catastrophic the failures."
[@lainejohnson.bsky.social](#)

<https://ottawacitizen.com/opinion/financial-tidal-wave>

[READ MORE](#)



FEDERATION OF CANADIAN MUNICIPALITIES

FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE DES MUNICIPALITÉS



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Ottawa, Ontario K1N 5P3
fcm.ca

info@fcm.ca
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24 Clarence Street | Ottawa, ON K1N 5P3 CA

[View email in browser](#)



January 26, 2026



Parliament returns: What 2026 means for municipalities



As Parliament resumes today, the federal government continues advancing priorities in economic resilience and trade diversification, building the country, affordability for Canadians and defending Canadian sovereignty. However, these initiatives rely heavily on strong local infrastructure and robust municipal services. Across the Prairies and Territories, communities are focused on strengthening trade and energy corridors, addressing infrastructure gaps and supporting rural and northern service delivery needs. FCM continues to position municipalities as essential partners in delivering on these national goals, highlighting the need to make faster, more predictable investments in municipalities. This year, FCM will continue ensuring municipal priorities are reflected in federal decision-making—and together, we're ready to roll up our sleeves and get to work.

NEWS

Unlock your FCM member benefits today

Did you know an FCM membership brings you the following benefits? As an FCM member, you gain:

- Access to practical tools, tips, programs and analyses.
- Curated policy insights, social media content and news to help your community thrive.
- Opportunities to connect with federal officials, stakeholders and FCM's corporate partners.
- Exclusive discounts with Canada Post and preferred rates for FCM's Annual Conference and Trade Show.

All this through one membership.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

Deadline extended: Apply now for a seat on FCM's GMF Council

FCM is seeking an elected municipal official in Alberta, Manitoba or one of the Canadian Territories to join the Green Municipal Fund (GMF) Council. GMF Council plays a key role in national sustainability, combining funding and capacity-building to help municipalities implement projects with the highest potential for economic, community and environmental impact.

If you're passionate about sustainability, governance and supporting municipalities, this is your chance to help shape decisions that have already delivered strong economic outcomes and national impact, contributing \$1.53 billion to Canada's GDP and \$853 million in wages and salaries for Canadians from coast to coast to coast. Apply by February 9.

» [APPLY NOW](#)

EVENTS

NEW Collective webinar: What a national Buy Canadian policy means for local procurement

Municipalities collectively represent one of the largest public procurement vehicles in the country—purchasing even more goods and services than the federal government annually. Local governments across Canada have been introducing procurement policies to support Canadian suppliers, but challenges in fully embracing a Buy Canadian approach remain.

In collaboration with Canoe Procurement, this Collective webinar will uncover the economic and legal implications for municipalities with the adoption of a new federal Buy Canadian policy. Join us on February 11 at 12 p.m. ET to assess how to best move forward with this approach and harness the tools to leverage it for your local economy.

» [REGISTER](#)

Last chance to register: Partnering for impact with YMCA Canada

This Wednesday, we're partnering with YMCA Canada to explore practical insights into partnership models, lessons learned and strategies for aligning municipal priorities like affordable housing or expanding recreation options with YMCA programs to achieve shared goals.

Join us to hear from YMCA leaders in Calgary and across Canada to highlight the breadth of YMCA services and demonstrate how partnerships with municipalities amplify impact. By working together, municipalities and YMCAs can strengthen communities across the country.

» [REGISTER](#)

Workshop: Rooting Reconciliation in urban forestry efforts

For municipalities, engaging in Reconciliation is essential to moving from broad commitments to real, on-the-ground actions. Join us for Rooting Reconciliation in urban forestry efforts, an in-person workshop in Smoky Lake, AB, from March 11–12. Gather practical information and nurture connections that will help you incorporate traditional ecological knowledge, advance Reconciliation and sustainably manage your urban forests. Register before February 13.

» [REGISTER](#)

Strengthen climate adaptation projects with inclusive engagement

Climate adaptation projects are more successful when communities are meaningfully involved. Our upcoming virtual workshops on equitable and inclusive engagement support municipal teams in building trust, applying equity-informed approaches and working respectfully with Indigenous communities. By strengthening how engagement is designed and delivered, municipalities can support clearer decisions, reduce future barriers and advance climate adaptation projects that reflect community needs and priorities.

» [REGISTER](#)

FCM IN THE NEWS

» **Would municipal bonds be a fix for aging infrastructure? | Ottawa Sun**

Ottawa Councillor Tim Tierney, FCM's First Vice-President, and Brampton Councillor Rowena Santos, the chair of FCM's Standing Committee on Municipal Finance, Infrastructure and Transportation, spoke to the Ottawa Sun about municipalities using tax-free municipal bonds to help address Canada's large infrastructure deficit. "It would help us get shovels in the ground faster," Santos said.

» **Small and remote towns across Canada are struggling with a surge in homelessness | The Globe and Mail**

Rural municipality mayors across Canada discussed the homelessness crisis and the rise of homelessness in their communities with *The Globe and Mail*. At the national level, the most recent count in 2024 revealed nearly 60,000 people in 74 communities across Canada experiencing homelessness on a given day—a 79 percent increase since the previous count, which was conducted between 2020 and 2022.

» **More than water: Calgary infrastructure woes putting pressure on city hall | CBC News**

The recent water main break in Calgary underscores the city's infrastructure needs, with a funding gap that was estimated at over \$7.7 billion in 2020. FCM President Rebecca Bligh told CBC that Canadian cities are currently struggling to find the funds to update or replace aging infrastructure. Municipalities own about 60 percent of the country's infrastructure, but their revenue is mainly limited to property taxes, which Bligh said are "archaic."

RESOURCES

Understanding climate budgeting: A guide for Canadian communities

Has your municipality adopted a climate plan? Let us help you put it into action. For local governments, it's crucial to understand what actions are needed every year to stay on track with climate targets—and how much that will cost. That's where climate budgeting comes in.

The Municipal Net-Zero Action Research Partnership has created a guide to support Canadian municipalities as they incorporate climate commitments into decision making on policies, actions and budget allocation. The guide is designed to help municipal leaders and staff at a range of knowledge levels, as well as organizations and advocates in the community.

» [DOWNLOAD THE GUIDE](#)

Funding for clean energy systems: Keep the lights on and costs down

Use GMF funding to explore and implement clean energy solutions that work best for your community. Eligible projects include:

- Renewable energy systems—such as solar, wind and geothermal—that help stabilize energy prices and manage peak demand hours when combined with energy storage solutions.
- District energy systems that offer local control over heating and cooling, with the added benefit of being able to recover quickly after natural disasters.

Funding is open to municipalities and their partners.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

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DESTINATION CANADA

Win AC2026 registration and help shape tourism's future

Tourism fuels local economies and strengthens communities—and your insights matter. Complete this short, five-minute survey for a chance to win a complimentary registration to the FCM Annual Conference and Trade Show. Destination Canada wants to hear from municipal leaders shaping the future of sustainable economic tourism development and help to ensure communities like yours play a leading role in Canada's visitor economy.

» [TAKE THE SURVEY](#)

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 Ontario and across the country, rural municipalities face unique challenges in strengthening infrastructure and economic opportunities—but local leaders know that a stronger Canada starts with robust, empowered rural communities.

1st VP [@TimTierney](#) is representing FCM at [@ROMA_Ont](#) this week where these important discussions, and more, are on the table. Learn more [#CDNMuni](#)

[LEARN MORE](#)



[SHARE THE VIDEO](#)



On January 28, join this panel of experts for our first Collective webinar of 2026, exploring how municipalities can work with their local YMCAs to strengthen their communities and create lasting impact.

[REGISTER](#)



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Ottawa, Ontario K1N 5P3
[fcm.ca](#)

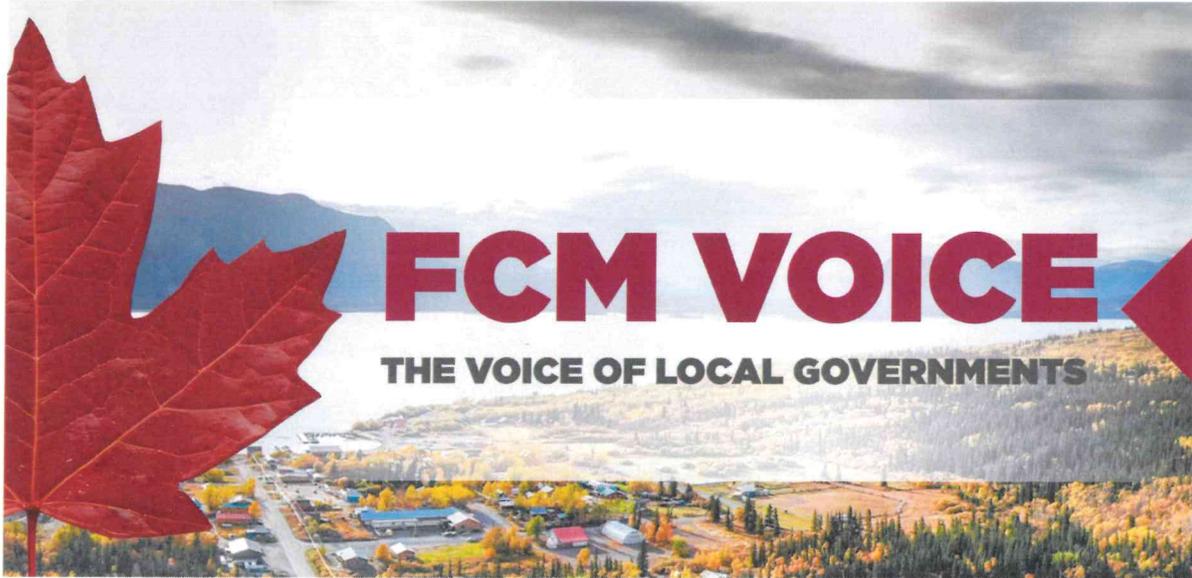
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February 9, 2026



FCM calls for faster flow of infrastructure funds



Last week, FCM's Big City Mayors' Caucus met in Ottawa on issues affecting Canada's largest urban centres. The agenda included engagements with Prime Minister Mark Carney, Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Gregor Robertson, Minister of Finance and National Revenue François-Philippe Champagne and Minister of Transport Steven MacKinnon.

During these meetings, FCM reaffirmed a shared ambition with the federal government to move quickly on key infrastructure projects, ensuring that all municipalities can proceed in time for the upcoming construction season.

[» READ MORE](#)

NEWS

Climate-proofing public infrastructure pays off

A new report from the Canadian Climate Institute confirms what municipal leaders already know: Canada can't afford to delay climate adaptation.

With aging local infrastructure facing rising climate risks, it costs far less to prepare now than it would to repair later. In fact, proactive and early investment in adapting public infrastructure will immediately begin to produce between \$5 and \$10 billion in savings per year, compared to adapting infrastructure when it's due for replacement or no adaptation at all.

» [READ MORE](#)

This report was supported by funding from FCM, the Insurance Bureau of Canada and Climate Proof Canada.

Unlock exclusive benefits with an FCM membership

Looking for a partner that champions your priorities? An FCM membership gives you insights to funding programs like the Green Municipal Fund, region-specific insights and policy analyses straight to your inbox and networking opportunities at our Annual Conference and Trade Show. Plus, enjoy exclusive discounts, preferred rates and a multitude of resources designed to empower you to succeed. Together, let's turn local solutions into national progress.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

Canada–Benin municipal cooperation in action through PMI-WILL

During International Development Week, Beninese and Canadian partners came together to celebrate the progress in strengthening women's representation in local governance, including efforts to train and mentor women candidates during the recent local elections, in line with Global Affairs Canada's focus on inclusive governance.

The Beninese Ministry of Decentralization and Local Governance representative underscored the value of building municipal knowledge and skills on gender equality and inclusion, now integrated across local planning processes. Partner municipalities also shared lessons learned from peer-to-peer exchanges with Canadian municipalities, from expanding economic opportunities for vulnerable groups to improving the accessibility of municipal infrastructure.

This gathering shows how municipal partnerships across borders can turn shared knowledge into real impact for communities, reinforcing the importance of peer-to-peer collaboration in advancing inclusive and responsive local governance.

» [LEARN MORE](#)

Secretary of State Randeep Sarai in conversation with municipal leaders on the Indo-Pacific

We were pleased to welcome the Honourable Randeep Sarai, Secretary of State for International Development, to FCM for a timely discussion with municipal leaders and representatives on Canada's Indo-Pacific strategy, Vietnam and the essential role municipalities play in an increasingly complex global landscape. The exchange reinforced the importance of aligning trade and development objectives within FCM's international programming, including the new Viet Nam Climate Resilient Municipalities project, funded by Global Affairs Canada. It also underscored the

» **Josh Morgan, Big City Mayors meet with Carney over infrastructure funding | CTV News**

London Mayor Josh Morgan was in Ottawa this week, leading a delegation of FCM's Big City Mayors' Caucus in a meeting with Prime Minister Mark Carney. The mayors aligned on shared ambitions and agreed with the federal government funding needs to reach municipalities before the start of this construction season, so key housing and infrastructure projects are not delayed.

» **Mayors of major cities are in Ottawa to discuss the most pressing issues | Radio-Canada Ohdio | Les matins d'ici [00:00-03:05]**

With the construction season approaching, FCM's Big City Mayors' Caucus met in Ottawa for a series of meetings—including one with Prime Minister Mark Carney—to address shared challenges such as the housing crisis, the state of infrastructure, and the municipal taxation system.

» **Government tables bill giving Build Canada Homes land acquisition power | CBC News**

The federal government introduced legislation to establish *Build Canada Homes* as a Crown corporation. If approved, the new agency would have authority over land acquisition and could partner with private developers. *Canada Lands Company* would also be incorporated into *Build Canada Homes*.

» **AMM president pushes MPs to pass bail reform bill, make streets safer | Winnipeg Free Press**

The Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) and its president, Kathy Valentino, are urging the federal government and MPs to expedite the passage of Bill C-14, which aims to reform bail and sentencing. Valentino recently appeared before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights in Ottawa to discuss this matter and keep violent repeat offenders off the streets.

RESOURCES

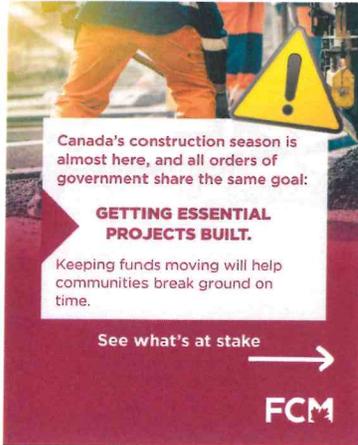
Applications now open: GMF's Sustainable Municipal Buildings funding

The Sustainable Municipal Buildings offer will help you achieve energy savings and improve service delivery in your community's most popular and critical buildings. 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.

As the Community Buildings Retrofit initiative comes to an end, GMF continues to support energy upgrades to municipally owned community buildings through the SMB offer. GMF staff are available to guide municipalities through this transition.

» **LEARN MORE**

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READ MORE



WATCH THE VIDEO



Everyone deserves to live in a safe, secure and thriving community. This vision is shared across orders of government, and we'll continue working together to deliver for Canadians.

Thank you for the positive conversation, PM [@MarkJCarney](#) and Min. [@gregorbertson](#).

SHARE THE POST



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FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE DES MUNICIPALITÉS



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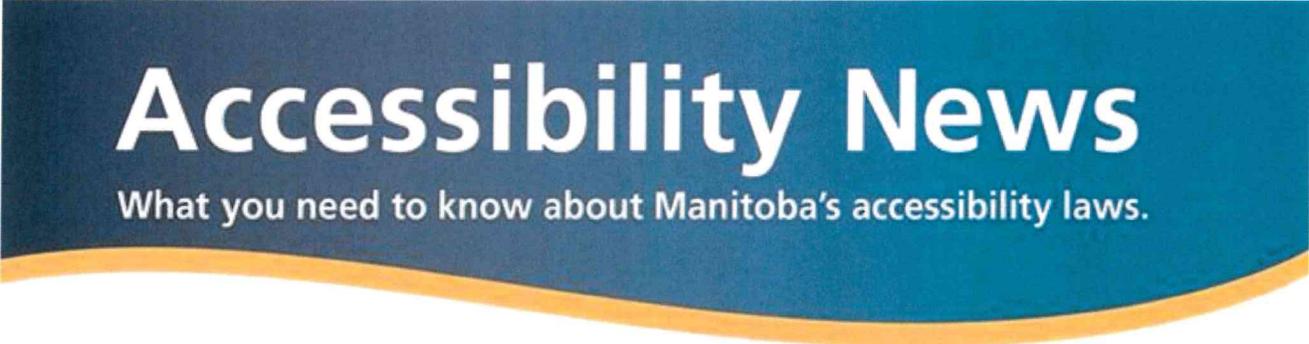
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Accessibility News - February 2026

From Manitoba Accessibility Office <mao@gov.mb.ca>

Date Tue 2026-02-10 10:15 AM

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



Accessibility News
What you need to know about Manitoba's accessibility laws.

Issue 64 | February 2026

This newsletter is available in alternate formats on request.

Educational Webinar Series on The Accessibility for Manitobans Act and Accessibility Standards

The Manitoba Accessibility Office is excited to offer a series of specialized accessibility training sessions throughout 2026. These virtual sessions will be presented by members of the Manitoba Accessibility Office and feature accessibility experts.

Upcoming Training Sessions:

Navigating Accessible Employment: Responsibilities, Strategies and Tools

Discover the roles and responsibilities outlined in the Accessible Employment Standard as we explore key tactics for employers, barrier-free recruitment and workplace accommodation best practices.

- **Date and Time:** March 24, 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

[Register to Attend](#)

Creating Accessible Documents

Creating accessible Word documents doesn't have to be complicated. This session is ideal for anyone who creates or edits Word documents and wants a practical starting point for making their content more inclusive. You'll learn why accessibility in Word matters and how small changes can make a meaningful difference for people using assistive technologies. No advanced Word skills required.

- **Date and Time:** May 19, 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

[Register to Attend](#)

Understanding Service Animal Accessibility in Manitoba

Join the Manitoba Accessibility Office and the Human Rights Commission as they outline what qualifies as a service animal, the rights of people who rely on them and the responsibilities of businesses and service providers.

- **Date and Time:** September 22, 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

[Register to Attend](#)

Driving Inclusion: Understanding Manitoba's Accessible Transportation Standard Regulation

Explore how the new Accessible Transportation Standard Regulation removes barriers to transportation and promotes equal access for work,

education and daily life.

- **Date and Time:** November 17, 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Register to Attend

All webinar sessions will be hosted virtually on Zoom and will have 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 training opportunities or to register to attend.

Intake for 2026-27 Manitoba Accessibility Fund Now Open



The Manitoba government is inviting eligible organizations to apply for one-time project funding of up to \$50,000 through the Manitoba Accessibility Fund, Families Minister Nahanni Fontaine, minister responsible for accessibility, announced on January 30, 2026.

“The Manitoba Accessibility Fund empowers organizations across Manitoba to better serve everyone in their communities,” said Fontaine. “We know organizations want to make their services more accessible, they just need a bit of extra support to make it happen. We’re working together to remove barriers across the province.”

Manitoba-based registered charities, non-profit organizations, local businesses, on-reserve entities and municipalities can all apply to the Manitoba Accessibility Fund. Selected projects can receive up to 100 per cent of eligible costs, to a maximum of \$50,000 per application.

Projects must align with the accessibility standards under The Accessibility for Manitobans Act and focus on customer service, employment, or information and communication. Each project must also meet at least one of the following objectives:

- raise awareness about preventing and removing barriers
- improve access to information and communication electronically, in print or in person
- develop tools, resources and training to support compliance with accessibility standards

The Manitoba Accessibility Fund is managed by The Winnipeg Foundation and uses investment returns to provide annual grants to support accessibility initiatives across the province. Since 2021, the fund has supported 143 projects, and has invested more than \$3.3 million in accessibility improvements across Manitoba.

The application deadline is February 20, 2026. For full eligibility details and to apply, visit [AccessibilityMB.ca](https://www.accessibilitymb.ca).

Open the Door: Celebrating Indigenous Disability Leadership and Creative Expression



Staff from the Manitoba Accessibility Office were honoured to attend the premiere of *Open the Door*, a powerful new music video by Elder Frances Sinclair Kaspick. The January 16, 2026 event took place at Sergeant Tommy Prince Place in Winnipeg on Treaty One Territory. The gathering reflected the strength of Indigenous storytelling, the power of collective community, and the importance of ensuring all people can participate fully, a value aligned with the goals of The Accessibility for Manitobans Act.

Elder Frances, a member of Peguis First Nation, shared the long journey behind *Open the Door*. She explained that the project began in 2013, when she chose the title and wrote the lyrics. She spoke about her lived experience and her hope to open pathways for Indigenous people living with disabilities.

After more than a decade of development, she also spoke about how meaningful it was to finally share the work in person with those who supported her vision along the way.

The event was emceed by Tina Keeper, actress and media producer from Norway House Cree Nation. In addition to guiding the evening, Tina played a key collaborative role in shaping the music video. She shared that early in the process, she knew Juno Award–nominated artist Kimberley Dawn needed to be involved, noting that her voice and presence aligned naturally with the spirit and intent of the song.

Following the screening, Elder Frances received a standing ovation. Several speakers shared remarks, expressing gratitude for being part of a project that centres Indigenous disability perspectives. Families whose children appeared in the video also spoke about how meaningful it was to participate, highlighting the importance of representation for future generations. Accessibility Advisory Council member Shawna Joynt was also in attendance as she and her son were also in the video.

The creation of the music video was supported by the Manitoba Arts Council, with contributions from Chris Burke Gaffney (music producer and co writer), Kimberley Dawn (vocals) and Jesse Green of Strongfront TV (director and cinematographer). Southern Chiefs' Organization also supported the event through their [First Nations Disability Program](#).

The music video has been submitted to the [imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival](#), the world's largest Indigenous film and media arts festival. Its submission marks an exciting next step in sharing *Open the Door* with broader audiences.

Events like this remind us that accessibility is strengthened when communities lead solutions. The Manitoba Accessibility Office staff were struck by the deep sense of pride and collective care in the room. The gathering reflected the importance of access, belonging, and visibility for Indigenous Peoples living with disabilities. Our accessibility laws envision a Manitoba where everyone belongs, can participate and is recognized. *Open the Door* stands as a powerful example of how art can spark conversations, build understanding and create change. Inclusive spaces for all are

possible, especially when culture, identity, and lived and living experience guide the work.

[Watch *Open the Door* \(video\) on YouTube.](#)

Spotlight on a Manitoba Accessibility Fund Project

The Canadian Mental Health Association Manitoba and Winnipeg (CMHA MW) is one of three CMHA agencies in the province, operating more than 24 sites and working toward a shared provincial vision and strategic direction. CMHA-MW provides free, recovery-oriented mental health supports across rehabilitation and recovery services, housing, employment and youth services and community wellness and outreach.

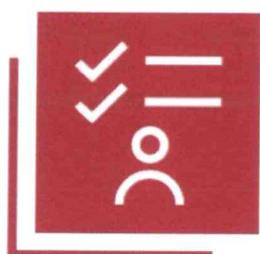
CMHA-MW received a Manitoba Accessibility Fund grant to support the implementation of the DREAM Project (Developing Resources for Equitable Access to Mental Health Services) to reduce barriers to mental health information, enhance accessible communication and support compliance with The Accessibility for Manitobans Act. With the grant funds, CMHA was able to:

- develop the CMHA Across Manitoba Accessibility Plan, which is published on cmhaacrossmb.ca
- translate multilingual mental health resources into English, French and Swahili, for African, Caribbean and Black (ACB) Canadian communities
- produce six ASL mental health videos informed by Deaf community feedback
- publish the CMHA Across Manitoba site map showcasing accessible features at the 24 sites
- install inclusive signage and a Phonak Sound Field assistive hearing system at the CMHA MW office
- launch a public accessibility feedback channel on the website cmhaacrossmb.ca

This work strengthened accessibility across digital platforms, print materials, in-person learning spaces and public communication.

The DREAM Project resulted in significant improvements to accessibility within CMHA MW and across Manitoba.

CMHA Manitoba and Winnipeg is continuing to advance accessibility through DREAM 2.0 to strengthen inclusive mental health services. This work includes new accessibility training, developed with disability partners and Indigenous Elders, along with on-demand ASL mental health resources co-created with Deaf community members. CMHA remains grounded in our guiding belief: Accessibility is a commitment to ensuring every person can access mental health support with dignity, respect and belonging.



Compliance Corner

Accessible Employment Policy Template – New Resource Available

Did you know, if your organization is a [large employer](#) in Manitoba, you are required to have a **written** accessible employment policy? [The Accessible Employment Standard Regulation](#) came into force for organizations in all sectors on May 1, 2022. Its numbered sections identify the written policy requirements that will help your organization to provide reasonable accommodations for applicants and employees with disabilities.

A new instructional page, [Creating an Accessible Employment Policy](#), and accessible employment policy template is now available for

organizations to follow and adopt. The template meets all regulated requirements for accommodating employees and prospective employees who are temporarily, permanently or episodically disabled by barriers.

[View the Creating an Accessible Employment Policy document](#)

If you are a person disabled by barriers, the regulation states that you may request a large employer's accessible employment policy information in an alternate format.

Remember: Although small employers in the province are not required to write down their accessible employment policies, those with at least one employee in Manitoba are still required to follow the regulation's requirements.

To learn more about the Accessible Employment Standard Regulation, please visit AccessibilityMB.ca.

If you have questions or concerns regarding compliance under the Accessible Employment Standard Regulation, please call 204-792-0263 or email accessibilitycompliance@gov.mb.ca.

In the News

[“Manitoba Museum expands accessibility through technology” featured on Frequency News](#)

Experiencing and learning about history should be available to everyone. That is a guiding belief at the Manitoba Museum, which will now offer a new way for visitors with visual impairments to experience its exhibits.

[Read the full article](#)

[“Manitoba deaf community hosts town hall to raise awareness about language deprivation”](#) featured on CTV News Winnipeg

On Sunday February 1, the Manitoba Deaf Community hosted the Language Deprivation Awareness Town Hall at 285 Pembina Hwy. The town hall focused on language deprivation — which occurs when no first-language foundation is built due to a lack of language development during the period between birth and five years old.

[Read the full article](#)

Upcoming Awareness Dates

- [White Cane Week](#) (Feb 1-7)
- [Pink Shirt Day](#) (Feb 25)
- [Rare Disease Day](#) (Feb 28)

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Manitoba 

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Manitoba Accessibility Office

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2026 02 04

To whom it may concern,

RE: Application Form & Guidelines for Attachments to Manitoba Hydro
Infrastructure - Important Notice of Deadline for Removal of Non-compliant
Installations

Manitoba Hydro is committed to *Energy for Life* and supporting municipalities, towns and cities across the province. Further to the advisory note you may have received in June 2025, we are pleased to share important updates and guidance now available on hydro.mb.ca regarding the safe installation of accessory attachments on Manitoba Hydro infrastructure.

Communities and organizations that currently have non-compliant banner holders, banners or planters installed will have until December 31, 2026 to update or remove them. We will begin removing non-compliant installations, workload permitting, starting January 2027.

Public safety and the safety of our infrastructure is our top priority. Accessory attachments such as flowerpots, banners, banner holders and holiday lighting on utility infrastructure can create additional wind loading that can exceed design limits. This kind of added stress may lead to premature infrastructure wear and potential failures, posing risks to public safety and service reliability.

Please review the up-to-date guidance and specifications for all installations, along with application information, on our website at this link: hydro.mb.ca/service/permits/utility-pole-decoration/. This webpage outlines the application process and details the requirements in place to protect Manitoba Hydro infrastructure and the communities we serve.

We thank you for your cooperation and your commitment to keeping our communities safe. Together, we can ensure that Manitoba Hydro's infrastructure remains strong and dependable for years to come.

To request accessible formats visit hydro.mb.ca/accessibility.



360 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3C 0G8
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TTY toll-free 1-855-287-6809
hydro.mb.ca

If you have questions or would like to discuss further, please reach out to [your local Customer Service Centre](#).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Quinn Menec'.

Quinn Menec, VP Operations

Attch: Brochure



A guide for decorations on Manitoba Hydro infrastructure

We support community initiatives in municipalities, towns and cities across the province. Custom banners are a great way to add personality to our communities, recognize special events and occasions, and honour our history. Hanging flowerpots can also dress up neighbourhoods and main thoroughfares in any community. However, it's important to follow the correct guidelines when installing banners and flowerpots on Manitoba Hydro infrastructure, to avoid damage to street lights and poles, ensuring they remain safe.

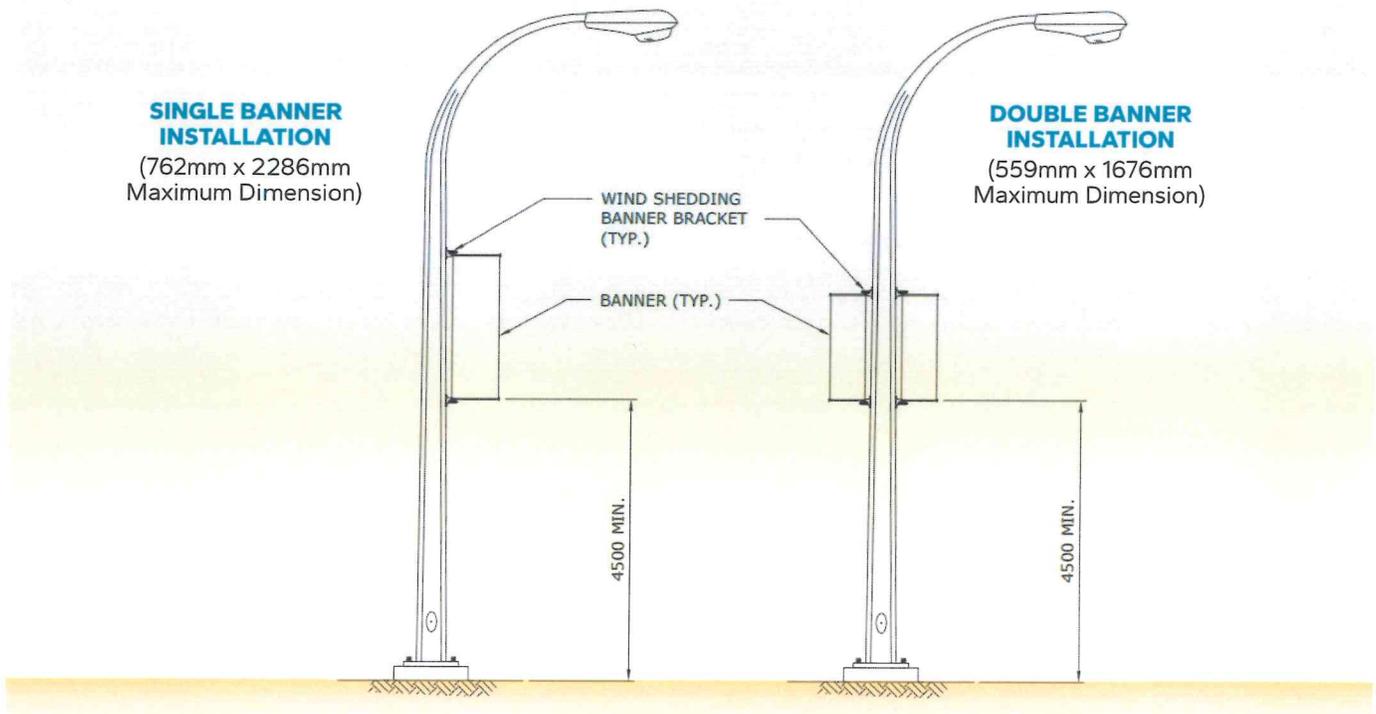
Wind shedding brackets must be used for banners. These ensure that poles and other Manitoba Hydro infrastructure aren't subject to unnecessary strain.

Height, weight and distance requirements must be met for hanging flowerpots. These ensure safety for pedestrians and drivers using nearby sidewalks and roadways.

In all cases, you must apply to Manitoba Hydro for permission to install any item on our infrastructure.

Visit hydro.mb.ca/service/permits/utility-pole-decoration to download and fill out the application form before taking it to your local customer service centre.



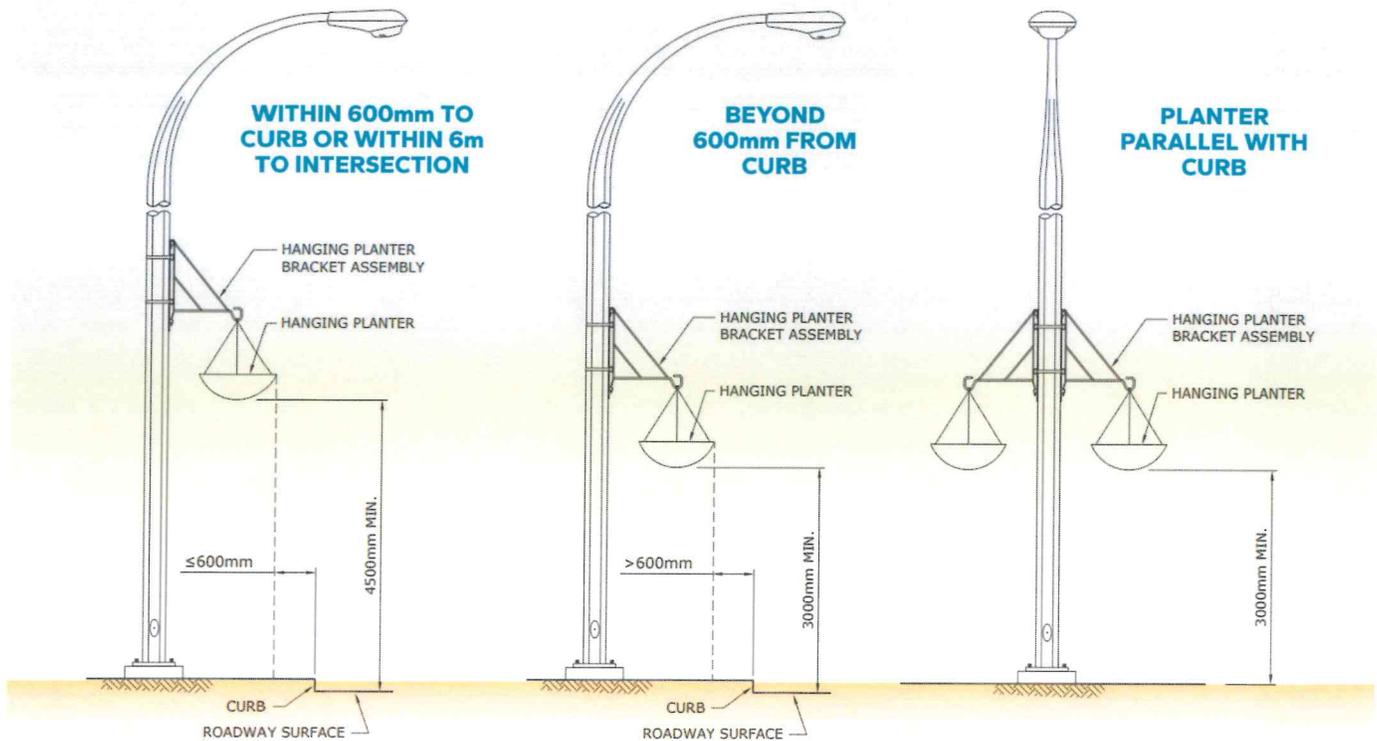


Banner installations must meet the following criteria:

- **Banners must be installed using brackets with wind-shedding capability**
Approved wind shedding brackets include:
 - BannerSaver brackets by BannerSaver, and
 - D3 banner brackets with Airow rod by BannerFlex.
- Up to two banners can be installed per pole.
- Single banners must not exceed the maximum size of 762 mm x 2286 mm (30" x 90") and double banners must not exceed 559 mm x 1676 mm (22" x 66") each.
- Double banners can be oriented either 90° or 180° around the circumference of a street light standard.
- A minimum elevation of 4500 mm (14'-9") is required over all roadways. Check with local authority for minimum elevations over sidewalks.



For full engineering specifications and to download our application form, please visit hydro.mb.ca/service/permits/utility-pole-decoration.



Hanging planter installations must meet the following criteria:

- No more than two planters may be installed on one pole.
- Planters must not weigh more than 20 kg. (44 lbs).
- Planters must be mounted at minimum heights from the roadway surface to not obstruct vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
- Bracket assemblies must not contain red, amber or green colours if they are within 6 m (19'-8') of traffic signals.



For full engineering specifications and to download our application form, please visit hydro.mb.ca/service/permits/utility-pole-decoration.

Decorative lighting receptacles must meet the following criteria:

- **Measurement guidelines**

Minimum height of receptacle to be 3810 mm (12'-6") for 4.6 m post top light standards and 5 m for taller light standards. Receptacle to face road.

- **Connection guidelines**

Connections by Manitoba Hydro, contact your local Energy Services Coordinator to arrange for connection.



For full engineering specifications and to download our application form, please visit hydro.mb.ca/service/permits/utility-pole-decoration.

Communities and organisations with non-compliant banner holders or flowerpot installations will have until December 31st, 2026, to update or remove them. Manitoba Hydro will begin removing non-compliant banner holders and flowerpot installations starting January 2, 2027.



To request accessible formats visit hydro.mb.ca/accessibility.

Bulletin #2026-01

MUNICIPAL AND NORTHERN RELATIONS

Important Notice to All Elected Officials and Chief Administrative Officers

Property Assessment Services Levy Increase

Under The Municipal Assessment Act, a statutory Assessment Levy (the Levy) is collected from municipalities every year to recover provincial costs for delivering property assessment services on behalf of municipalities. As initiated in 2025 (refer to Bulletin #2024-28), the Levy is expected to increase gradually, and for 2026 the projected increase is 2.00% to support the department's investment in IT system infrastructure and modernization. The Municipal Trust will also continue to be leveraged to support the strategic IT investments while mitigating more significant increases in the levy.

These investments are essential in maintaining reliable and efficient property assessment and taxation systems that enable property assessment and support the generation of nearly \$700 million of municipal taxes. Current projects include:

- **Mobile Assessment Interface (MAI):** A tablet-based system that allows assessors in the field to update property records when inspections are conducted, creating significant efficiencies in the inspection process. The interface is scheduled to go live in the first half of 2027.
- **Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal (CAMA):** A long-term system upgrade to replace the department's current assessment software, Manitoba Assessment Valuation and Administration System (MAVAS), modernizing the assessment software to streamline and improve data accuracy.

These IT system upgrades further the department's dedication to investment in innovative practices, maintaining a modern IT infrastructure, and replacing outdated systems to ensure efficient and reliable property assessment services to support municipal taxation.

For more information and support, please contact assessment@gov.mb.ca.

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

CENSUS JOBS

Your census. Your community. Our future.

EMPLOIS AU RECENSEMENT

Votre recensement. Votre collectivité. Notre avenir.

Statistics Canada is hiring in your community!

- Census information is important for you and your community and is used to plan services that support employment, education, public transportation and healthcare.
- Join the 2026 Census team for meaningful work and community impact.
- There are approximately 32,000 census jobs available across Canada.

Important to know:

- Pay is **\$25.87 per hour** for non-supervisory positions and **\$31.32 per hour** for supervisory positions, plus authorized expenses.
- The time frame for census jobs is between **March and July 2026**, depending on the position and location.
- You must be available to work flexible hours, including days, evenings, and weekends.



Statistique Canada embauche dans votre collectivité!

- Les données du recensement sont importantes pour vous et votre collectivité et sont utilisées pour planifier les services qui soutiennent l'emploi, l'éducation, le transport en commun et les soins de santé.
- Joignez-vous à l'équipe du Recensement de 2026 pour effectuer un travail utile qui a une incidence sur votre collectivité.
- Environ 32 000 emplois au recensement sont offerts partout au Canada.

Renseignements importants :

- Le taux de rémunération est de **25,87 \$ l'heure** pour les postes sans fonctions de supervision et de **31,32 \$ l'heure** pour les postes de supervision, en plus des dépenses admissibles.
- La période d'emploi pour les postes du recensement est de **mars à juillet 2026**, selon le poste et le lieu de travail.
- Vous devez être disponible pour travailler selon un horaire flexible, ce qui comprend le jour, le soir et la fin de semaine.

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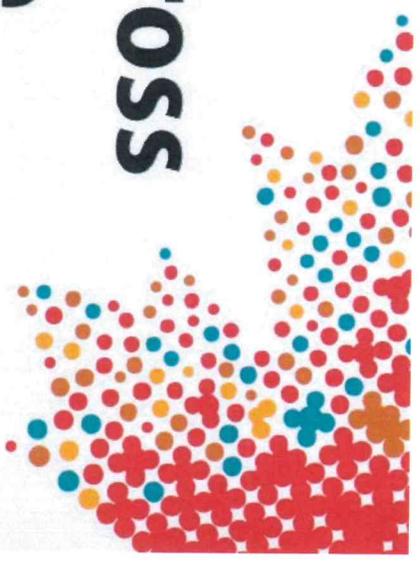
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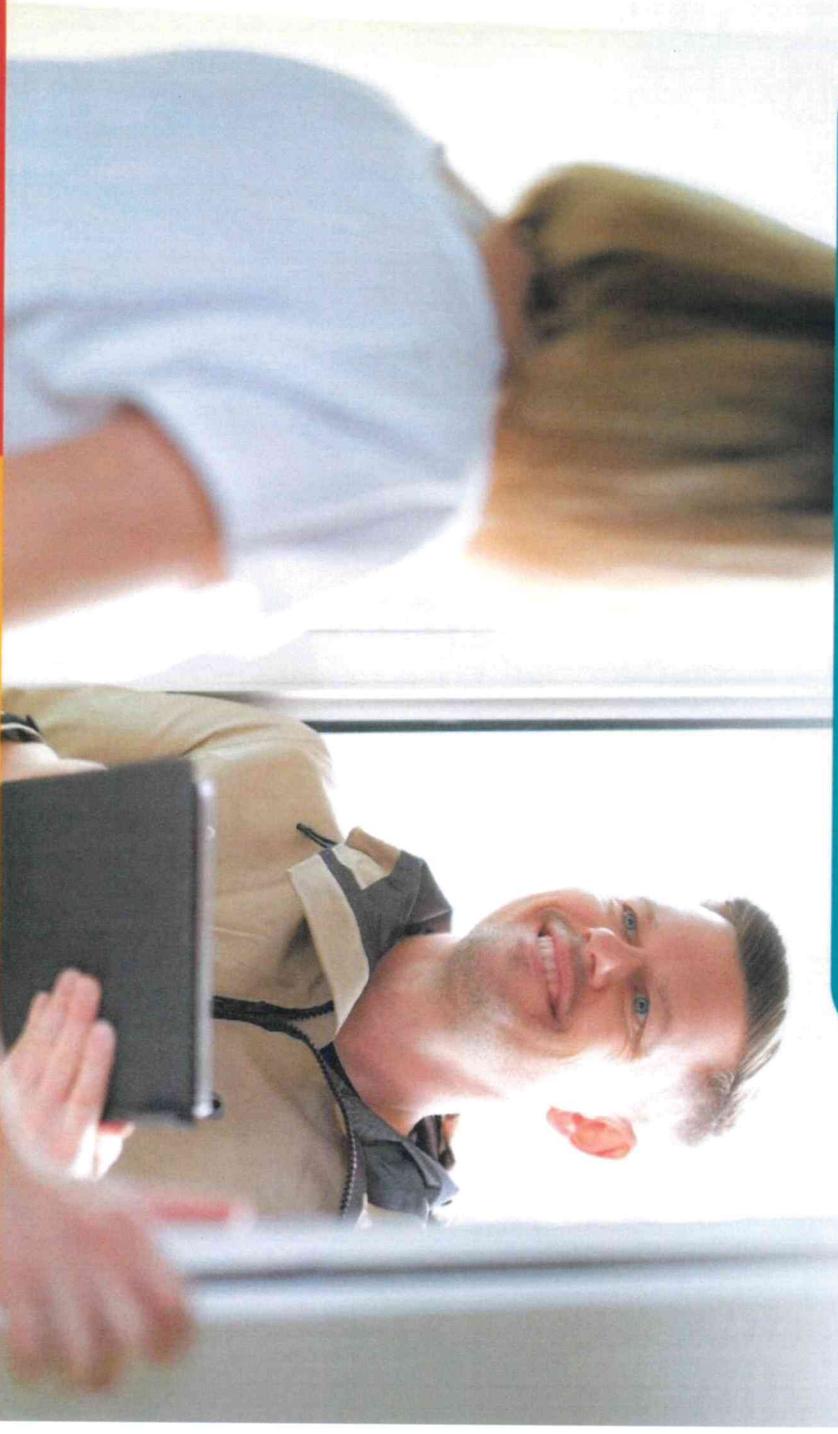
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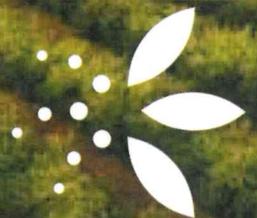
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This project has been reviewed by the Research Ethics Board for compliance with federal guidelines for research involving human participants (REB#2221)