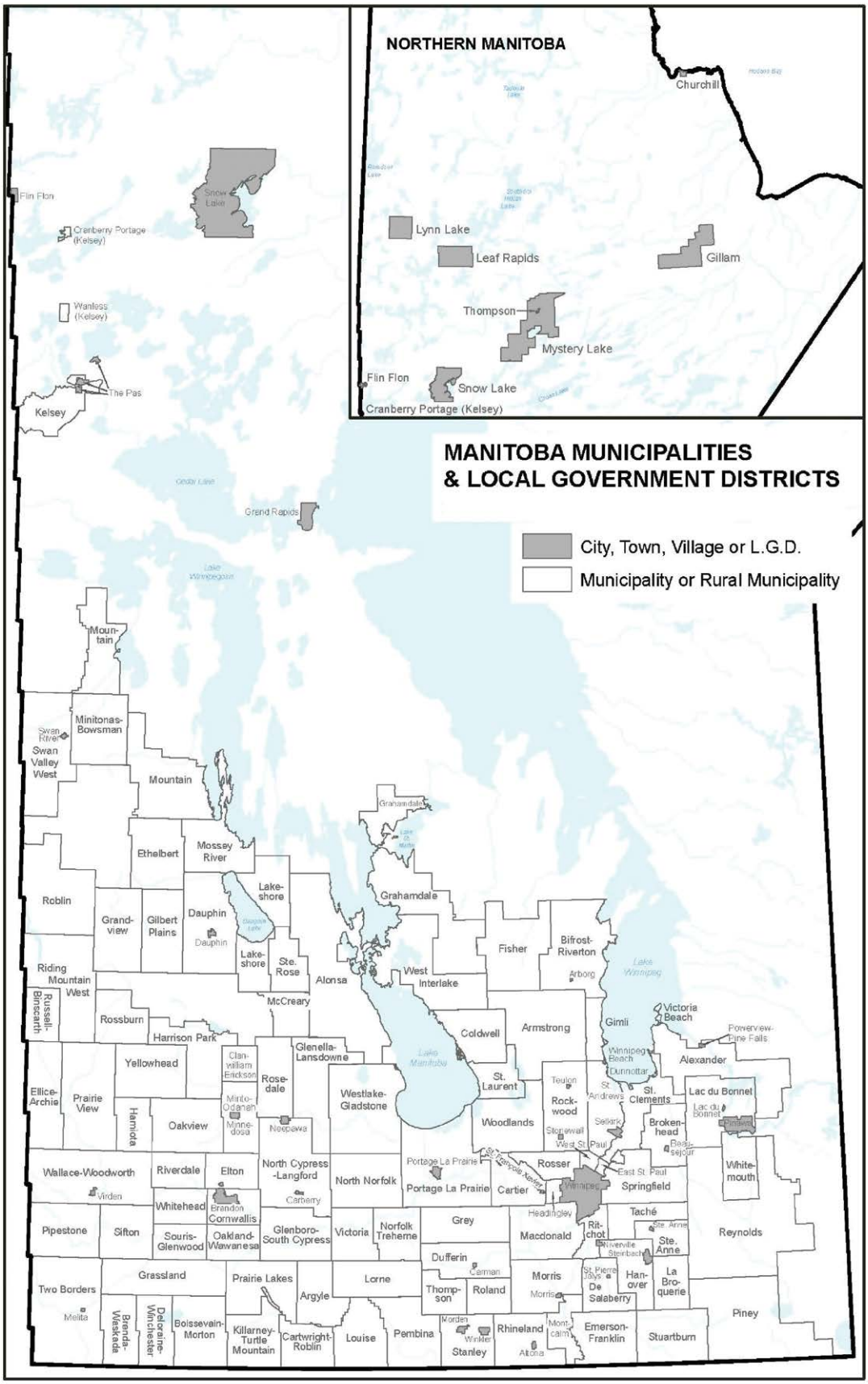


We're *Ready*

2026 ANNUAL REPORT

Association of Manitoba Municipalities

MUNICIPAL MAP



2026 ANNUAL REPORT

Association of Manitoba Municipalities

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Stronger Municipalities, Stronger Manitoba



KATHY VALENTINO, President

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM), I am proud to present the 2025/26 Annual Report. This was another strong year for our association, marking our second-highest year of policy successes since the NDP formed government. This progress reflects our collective efforts to advance municipal priorities and see them through to completion, as well as the strength of the partnerships we have built with government. For a closer look at these successes, I encourage you to read our 2026 Cabinet Brief, which highlights the priorities we have worked with government to advance over the past year.

A key milestone this year was the passage of Bill C-14, *The Bail and Sentencing Reform Act*, which received Royal Assent in June 2026. For the AMM, this marks an important milestone after nearly four years of sustained advocacy for bail reform. As a leading municipal voice on this issue, we consistently raised concerns about repeat and prolific offenders and legislative gaps that could allow individuals to return to communities shortly after being arrested and released on bail.



Perhaps the most important message I would share as we reflect on our successes is that advocacy takes time. In many cases, it takes years of sustained engagement, relationship-building, and keeping municipal priorities at the table. Bill C-14 is a strong example of what can be achieved when municipalities remain persistent and continue working with partners toward meaningful change.

Another example is the proclamation of Bill 33, *The Planning Amendment and The City of Winnipeg Charter Amendment Act*. Following AMM advocacy, the Province committed to an expedited review of the planning legislation. The resulting review incorporated 19 recommendations from the Braid Report, all accepted by the Province. The legislation introduced changes to planning processes while addressing longstanding AMM concerns about local autonomy and decision-making.

Municipalities also saw a **2%** increase in both the Municipal Operating Basket and the Public Safety Basket, along with **$12.6 million** from the One Manitoba Growth Revenue Fund, distributed on a per-capita basis. While we welcomed these investments, we continued to express disappointment that the Strategic Infrastructure Basket remained unchanged for a second consecutive year. With municipalities facing rising inflation and construction costs, communities need sustainable infrastructure funding that keeps pace with growth and the realities they face. The AMM will continue to advocate for a modernized and sustainable funding model that supports strong, growing communities and a stronger Manitoba.

There is much to be proud of throughout this report. Although I have highlighted only a few examples, these successes demonstrate what can be accomplished through collaboration and a united municipal voice.

Finally, it has been a tremendous honour to serve as AMM President over the past two years. I want to thank the AMM Executive, Board of Directors, and staff for their dedication, hard work, and support. This collective effort keeps the AMM focused on advancing municipal priorities and finding practical solutions that strengthen our communities. When municipalities are strong, Manitoba is stronger. In a time of economic uncertainty, that has never been more important.

Building on Momentum, Welcoming a New Municipal Term



DENYS VOLKOV,
Executive Director

Well, that's a wrap on another year at the AMM, and what a busy, productive year it has been. This year feels particularly significant as we welcome new and returning elected officials following the October municipal elections. To everyone who put their name forward to serve your communities, thank you for stepping up. Whether you are returning to municipal office or beginning your first term, welcome to your association. We look forward to working with you over the next four years.

I'd like to highlight some of the events and opportunities that brought us together throughout the year. If you're new to municipal government, I encourage you to participate in these events as you begin your four-year term. From our Annual Convention and Mayors, Reeves, and CAOs meetings to our June District Meetings, these gatherings offer valuable opportunities to connect with colleagues, share ideas, and advance the priorities that matter to municipalities across Manitoba.

This year brought exciting changes to AMM's events, as our new events team, Fête Jockey, brought fresh energy, innovation, and new sponsorship opportunities to our Fall and Spring Conventions. We thank the team for their partnership and look forward to building on this momentum. I'd also like to recognize Carolyn Caldwell, whose leadership in Trade Show registration and logistics has helped grow our Trade Show footprint by 25% in square footage.

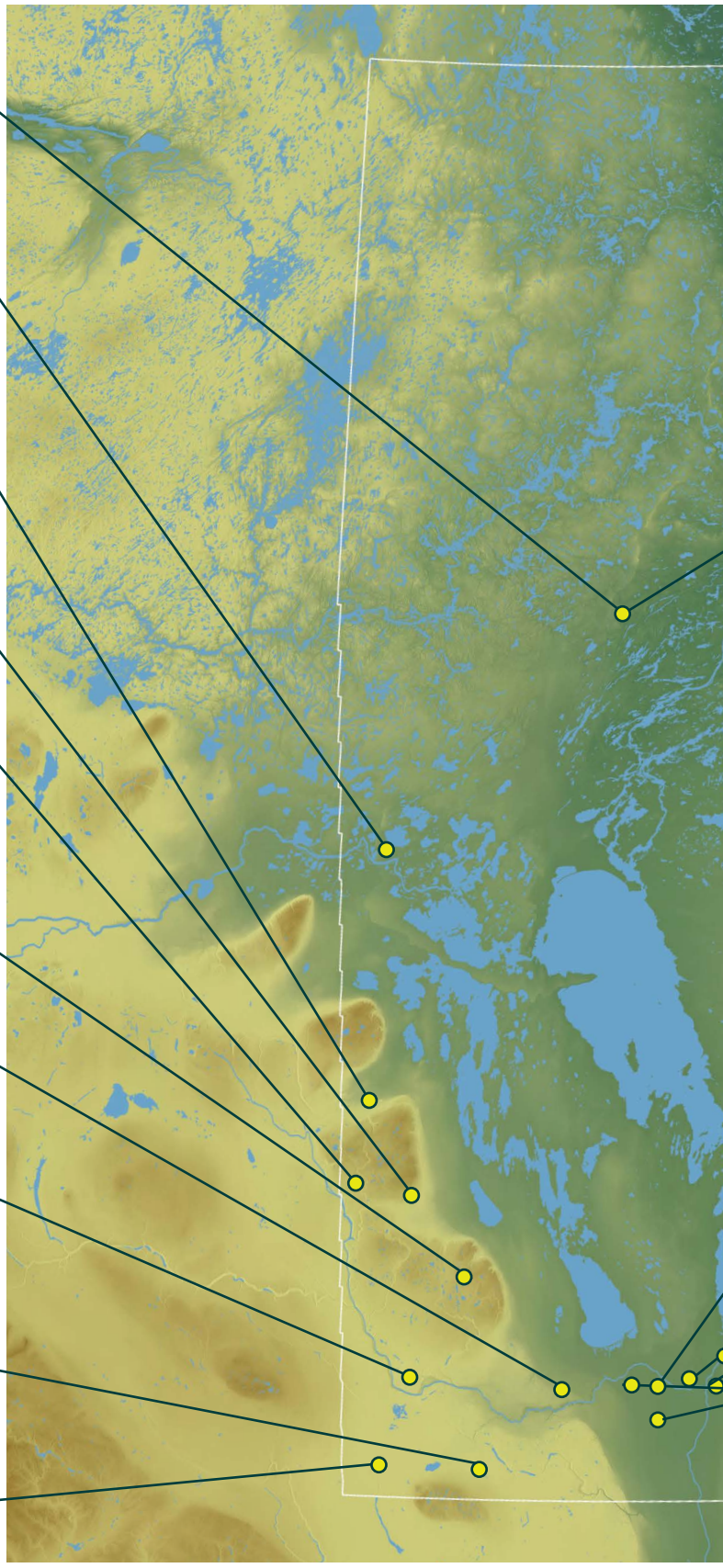
Our programs continue to deliver significant value to members. Since 2010, the AMM's Group Insurance Program has returned nearly **$37.6 million** in premiums directly to municipalities, providing councils with additional resources to invest in local priorities. At the same time, our Trading Company, the Canoe Procurement Group of Canada program, has continued to grow, averaging 15% annual growth from 2022 to 2026. This strong performance enabled the AMM to **return $1 million in rebates** to members this year.

These results underscore the strength of our association and the value of municipalities working together. Whether through our events, programs, shared services, or advocacy, the AMM remains focused on delivering practical value to our members and on supporting the important work they do in their communities.

As we begin a new municipal term, there is much to look forward to. Thank you to our members, Board of Directors, and staff for your continued commitment to the AMM and to municipalities across Manitoba. We look forward to building on this year's successes and further strengthening our association and the municipalities we proudly serve.



Meet Your District Directors



Louis Fitzpatrick, Northern District
Councillor, City of Thompson

Andre Murphy, Northern District
Mayor, Town of The Pas

Lance Jacobson, Parkland District
Mayor, Town of Swan River

Jim Manchur, Parkland District
Reeve, Gilbert Plains Municipality

Adam Grabowski, Midwestern District
Councillor, Rossburn Municipality

Merv Starzyk, Midwestern District
Mayor, Yellowhead Municipality

Colin Doyle, Central District
Councillor, City of Portage la Prairie

Marc Savy, Western District
Councillor, Town of Virden

Rhonda Coupland, Western District
Councillor, Municipality
of Boissevain-Morton

Scott Phillips,Vice-President
Councillor, RM of Sifton

BOARD OF DIRECTORS





Kathy Valentino, President
City of Thompson



Christa Vann Mitchell, Central District
Reeve, RM of Cartier



Loren Schinkel, Eastern District
Reeve, RM of Lac du Bonnet



Ray Schirle, Eastern District
Mayor, Town of Beausejour



Angela Emms, Interlake District
Councillor, RM of Rosser



Jeff Browaty, City of Winnipeg
Councillor, City of Winnipeg



Brad Saluk, Vice-President
Reeve, RM of Brokenhead



Nicole Chychota, MMA President
City Manager, City of Portage la Prairie



Delmer Nott, Interlake District
Reeve, RM of St. François Xavier



Executive Director
Denys Volkov



Deputy Executive Director
Director of Policy & Communications
Nick Krawetz



Manager of Finance
Patti De Baets



Senior Policy Analyst & Communications Specialist
Stefanie Vieira



Executive Coordinator
Nanette Eserio



Finance & Administration Officer
Erin Thompson



Territory Manager – MB/SK, Canoe Procurement Group of Canada
Ainsley Murdock



MEMBERS

Alexander, RM
Alonsa, RM
Altona, Town
Arborg, Town
Argyle, RM
Armstrong, RM
Beausejour, Town
Bifrost-Riverton, Municipality
Boissevain-Morton, Municipality
Brandon, City
Brenda-Waskada, Municipality
Brokenhead, RM
Carberry, Town
Carman, Town
Cartier, RM
Cartwright-Roblin, Municipality
Churchill. Town
Clanwilliam-Erickson, Municipality
Coldwell, RM
Cornwallis, RM Dauphin, City
Dauphin, RM
De Salaberry, RM
Deloraine-Winchester, Municipality
Dufferin, RM
Dunnottar, Village
East St. Paul, RM
Ellice-Archie, RM
Elton, RM
Emerson-Franklin, Municipality
Ethelbert, Municipality
Fisher, RM
Flin Flon, City
Gilbert Plains, Municipality
Gillam, Town
Gimli, RM
Glenboro-South Cypress, Municipality
Glenella-Lansdowne, Municipality
Grahamdale, RM
Grand Rapids, Town
Grandview, Municipality
Grassland, Municipality
Grey, RM
Hamiota, Municipality
Hanover, RM
Harrison Park, Municipality
Headingley, RM
Kelsey, RM
Killarney-Turtle Mountain, Municipality
La Broquerie, RM
Lac du Bonnet, RM
Lac du Bonnet, Town
Lakeshore, RM
Leaf Rapids, Town
Lorne, Municipality
Louise, Municipality
Lynn Lake, Town
Macdonald, RM
McCreary, Municipality
Melita, Town
Minitonas-Bowsman, Municipality
Minnedosa, Town
Minto-Odanah, RM
Montcalm, RM
Morden, City
Morris, RM
Morris, Town
Mossey River, Municipality
Mountain, RM
Mystery Lake, LGD
Neepawa, Town
Niverville, Town
Norfolk Treherne, Municipality
North Cypress-Langford, Municipality
North Norfolk, Municipality
Oakland-Wawanesa, Municipality
Oakview, RM
Pembina, Municipality
Pinawa, LGD
Piney, RM
Pipestone, RM
Portage la Prairie, City
Portage la Prairie, RM
Powerview-Pine Falls, Town
Prairie Lakes, RM
Prairie View, Municipality
Reynolds, RM
Rhineland, Municipality
Riding Mountain West, RM Ritchot, RM
Riverdale, Municipality
Roblin, Municipality
Rockwood, RM
Roland, RM
Rosedale, RM
Rossburn, Municipality
Rosser, RM
Russell-Binscarth, Municipality
Selkirk, City
Sitton, RM
Snow Lake, Town
Souris-Glenwood, Municipality
Springfield, RM
St-Pierre-Jolys, Village
St. Andrews, RM
St. Clements, RM
St. François Xavier, RM
St. Laurent, RM Stanley, RM
Ste. Anne, RM
Ste. Anne, Town
Ste. Rose, Municipality
Steinbach, City
Stonewall, Town
Stuartburn, RM
Swan River, Town
Swan Valley West, Municipality
Tache, RM
Teulon, Town
The Pas, Town
Thompson, City
Thompson, RM
Two Borders, Municipality
Victoria Beach, RM
Victoria, RM
Virden, Town
Wallace-Woodworth, RM
West Interlake, RM
West St. Paul, RM
Westlake-Gladstone, Municipality
Whitehead, RM
Whitemouth, RM
Winkler, City
Winnipeg Beach, Town
Woodlands, RM
Yellowhead, Municipality



2025 MEETING WITH THE PROVINCIAL CABINET

Stefanie Vieira, Senior Policy Analyst



On November 26, 2025, the AMM Executive and Board of Directors met with the provincial cabinet at the 27th Annual Fall Convention. Co-chaired by **Minister Glen Simard** and **AMM President Kathy Valentino**, the meeting served as a key forum to discuss shared priorities, celebrate accomplishments, and outline pathways for ongoing collaboration between Manitoba's municipalities and the provincial government.

OPENING REMARKS AND FUNDING PRIORITIES

President Valentino opened by thanking all Ministers for participating in the Ministerial Forum, co-chaired by **Premier Wab Kinew**. She highlighted progress over the past year, commending the Province's collaborative approach and investments supporting municipalities in 2024–2025.

President Valentino welcomed increases to the Municipal Operating Basket, the Public Safety Basket, and the $62 million One Manitoba Growth Revenue Fund. She emphasized the need for a modernized, growth-oriented funding model with an annual escalator to ensure long-term municipal sustainability and stressed the importance of exempting municipalities from PST on cost-shared infrastructure projects.

She also encouraged establishing a fair cannabis revenue-sharing framework to offset local enforcement costs and called for a multi-year budgeting process that goes beyond the 2% annual increase to help municipalities manage inflation, tariffs, and other economic pressures.

In response, **Minister Simard** reiterated the Province's commitment to the ongoing 2% annual increase and to the $62 million One Manitoba Growth Fund. He acknowledged the need to continue working closely with the AMM to review and modernize the funding model so it more accurately reflects municipal realities.

The **Honourable Adrien Sala**, Minister of Finance, said his department remains open to meeting with the AMM to explore what

a revised funding framework could look like. However, he noted that current fiscal constraints – including the provincial deficit, tariff uncertainties, and the impact of the unprecedented wildfire season – pose significant challenges. Minister Sala also suggested that municipalities currently have some multi-year predictability through the 2% annual commitment. President Valentino thanked the Province but stressed the need for a more comprehensive long-term framework.

WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

Vice-President Brad Saluk raised concerns about the Manitoba Water Services Board's (MWSB) Budget, which is massively oversubscribed. He noted that the modest $4 million increase since 2023 falls short of addressing the province-wide $1.6 billion deficit in water and wastewater projects. Saluk emphasized that delaying or pausing projects because municipalities cannot secure the required funding ultimately drives costs higher and places additional pressure on local governments. He underscored the urgent need to expedite the rollout of the Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund (CHIF) agreement in partnership with the AMM and to ensure adequate provincial matching funds so municipalities can fully benefit from CHIF and other new federal infrastructure programs.

Minister Sala responded by reaffirming the Province's commitment to advocating for stronger federal participation in Manitoba's infrastructure funding, particularly for water and wastewater projects. He noted that the government is actively pushing to keep this issue at the forefront federally and continues to call for an ICIP 2.0 program to help leverage the funding required to address Manitoba's significant infrastructure deficit.

Minister Simard added that the Province is seeking clarity from the federal government on CHIF implementation – specifically, whether municipalities will need to reapply for various program streams or whether existing applications can be automatically transitioned. He reiterated that the Province remains committed to working closely with the AMM to ensure municipalities can access available funding as efficiently as possible.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Western District Director **Marc Savy** highlighted that Manitoba has the highest RCMP provincial vacancy rate, with some detachments experiencing 90-100% vacancies – particularly 'soft' vacancies – that compound local safety challenges. He urged the Province to address the rising crime rate by strengthening support for law enforcement and enhancing advocacy to reduce RCMP vacancies, ensuring officers can focus on frontline community safety.

President Valentino added that this issue is further compounded by increasing mental health calls, which strain municipal resources and pull first responders away from core law enforcement responsibilities. She also noted that the resulting overtime is exhausting officers, leading to leave due to burnout.

In response, the **Honourable Matt Wiebe**, Minister of Justice and Attorney General, acknowledged the RCMP staffing challenges in Manitoba. He thanked President Valentino and the AMM for their ongoing efforts on contract policing and for advocating for clarity from the federal government. Minister Wiebe noted that Manitoba faces unique challenges but that discussions have already led to more RCMP recruits at depot. He highlighted changes that now prevent officers from choosing their postings. He emphasized his department's commitment to working closely with municipalities to enhance public safety across Manitoba.

ADDRESSING PROVINCIAL MAINTENANCE SERVICE DELIVERY ISSUES

Vice-President Scott Phillips highlighted ongoing municipal concerns about the lack of maintenance on provincial drains and roads, particularly at municipal boundaries. He noted that insufficient routine maintenance has caused flooding and infrastructure damage, often due to clogged provincial drains. Phillips emphasized that the AMM-MTI Service Delivery Working Group is an ideal forum to explore potential municipal service agreements to maintain provincial drains, ditches, and culverts, with adequate compensatory funding.

In response, the **Honourable Lisa Naylor**, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, thanked the AMM for the Cabinet Brief highlighting the 21% increase in Gravel Road Agreements and acknowledged the AMM-MTI Working Group's collaborative efforts to align service agreements with municipal costs. She also expressed openness to discussing municipalities' interest in assuming additional service agreements for drains, ditches, and culverts.

Vice-President Saluk noted that drainage discussions can be complicated by their interdepartmental nature, involving three departments depending on the issue. The **Honourable Mike Moyes**, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, acknowledged these concerns and committed to breaking down silos, encouraging the AMM to raise specific cases promptly. The **Honourable Ron Kostyshyn**, Minister of Agriculture, highlighted the need for a modernized surface drainage system from an agricultural perspective, noting that while templates exist, greater collaboration is needed for clarity. President Valentino emphasized that drainage issues are a frequent concern during municipal visits and encouraged continued discussions through the current working group.

CELL SERVICE AND BROADBAND EXPANSION

Northern Director **Louis Fitzpatrick** highlighted slow progress and high costs in expanding cell service and broadband, while Central Director **Christa Vann Mitchell** noted that delays hinder critical services, especially during emergencies such as the recent wildfires. She emphasized the need for a comprehensive strategy for broadband and cellular connectivity to ensure all communities have reliable, efficient communications infrastructure.

In response, the **Honourable Mike Moroz**, Minister of Innovation and New Technology, reaffirmed the government's commitment to leveraging federal funding and partnering with private providers to support specific cases before the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC). Minister Sala acknowledged the challenges and confirmed plans to pursue new partnerships to accelerate improvements now that previous contract limitations have ended.

CLOSING REMARKS

The meeting concluded with President Valentino and Minister Simard emphasizing their shared commitment to fostering a productive relationship between AMM and the Province. President Valentino thanked the Province for its leadership and responsiveness during the wildfire season and for its commitment to conducting a comprehensive Provincial After Action Review.

The meeting underscored ongoing alignment between AMM and the provincial government, laying a foundation for strengthened collaboration, sustainable municipal growth, improved infrastructure, and a better quality of life for Manitobans.

MEETING WITH MINISTERS



President Kathy Valentino with Premier Wab Kinew advocating for all municipalities.



January 14, 2026: Finance meeting with Minister Adrien Sala.



March 19, 2026: Environment and Climate Change meeting with Minister Mike Moyes



March 19, 2026: Justice meeting with Minister Matt Wiebe.



May 4, 2026: Transportation and Infrastructure meeting with Minister Lisa Naylor.



May 4, 2026: Housing, Addictions, and Homelessness meeting with Minister Bernadette Smith.



May 4, 2026: Agriculture meeting with Minister Ron Kostyshyn.



May 4, 2026: Advanced Education and Training meeting with Minister Renée Cable.





June 9-19, 2026: Minister Glen Simard and Minister Lisa Naylor joined the AMM's seven district meetings across Manitoba, meeting with municipal leaders and discussing local priorities and challenges.

****The AMM meets regularly throughout the year with the Minister of Municipal and Northern Relations, the Honourable Glen Simard.*

BUILDING MOMENTUM – AMM IN ACTION

Stefanie Vieira, Senior Policy Analyst and Communications Specialist

These are just a few highlights of the successes we've achieved over the past year. To explore all our accomplishments, please visit the Cabinet Brief on the AMM website. We remain committed to keeping you informed and to advocating for solutions that benefit all municipalities.

A MAJOR ADVOCACY MILESTONE: BILL C-14 (BAIL REFORM) RECEIVES ROYAL ASSENT

Addressing public safety and the rise of repeat and prolific offenders has remained a top priority for the AMM. Since 2022, the AMM has consistently advocated for stronger bail reforms through federal lobbying, Provincial Lobby Days, election campaigns, budget submissions, and ongoing discussions with ministers and senior officials. The AMM has also worked with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the Western Canadian Municipal Associations (WCMA), and municipalities across Manitoba to keep this issue at the forefront of provincial and federal discussions.





The AMM welcomed the passage of Bill C-14 as an important milestone after years of municipal advocacy. Throughout the legislative process, the AMM brought the municipal perspective directly to Parliament and the Senate. In January, **AMM President Kathy Valentino** appeared before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights to support the legislation and to encourage its timely passage. In April, she appeared virtually before the Senate, continuing to highlight municipal concerns and the need for stronger bail and sentencing provisions and for effective implementation.

The AMM also recognizes the important role of the **Honourable Matt Wiebe**, Manitoba's Minister of Justice and Attorney General, in advancing this issue. Minister Wiebe has stood alongside municipal representatives at AMM media events to raise awareness of the challenges communities continue to face and to support the call for bail reform. He also joined the AMM in sending a letter to the federal government calling for urgent action on bail reform.

While the passage of Bill C-14 marks an important step forward, the AMM has emphasized that legislation alone will not address the complex public safety challenges facing communities. Effective implementation will require sustained coordination and resources across the justice and public safety system, including adequate police visibility, support for first responders, sufficient court and Crown capacity, and investments in mental health, addictions, and social supports.

With Bill C-14 now in force, the focus shifts to implementation. The AMM will continue working with federal and provincial governments to ensure the necessary tools, resources, and coordination are in place to address repeat offending and to strengthen community safety across Manitoba.



TAKING MANITOBA'S MUNICIPAL PRIORITIES TO OTTAWA

For the second consecutive year, the AMM, alongside Manitoba's Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) representatives, travelled to Ottawa in October 2025 for AMM Federal Lobby Days, bringing Manitoba's municipal priorities directly to federal decision-makers as the federal government prepared Budget 2026.

The delegation focused on four key areas:

- Housing: Supporting housing policies that work for communities of all sizes, preserving local decision-making on zoning and development, and investing in water and wastewater infrastructure to enable new housing.
- Core Infrastructure: Increasing federal investment in essential water and wastewater infrastructure, providing greater clarity on housing-enabling infrastructure funding, permanently doubling the Canada Community-Building Fund, and advancing the Port of Churchill Plus initiative.
- Contract Policing: Increasing federal support for policing, maintaining a strong RCMP role in local policing, addressing RCMP staffing shortages, and ensuring municipalities are meaningfully consulted on contract policing and collective bargaining.
- Bail and Sentencing Reform: Advancing criminal code and bail reforms to address repeat and violent offending, strengthening protections for first responders, and ensuring that community safety concerns are reflected in federal justice policy.

Federal Lobby Days continue to offer an important opportunity for Manitoba's municipal leaders to engage directly with federal decision-makers and to bring the priorities of communities across the province to Ottawa.





BILL 33: PLANNING LEGISLATION REVIEW UPDATE

The AMM continued to play an active role in strengthening Manitoba's planning framework and in ensuring municipalities had a clear voice in changes affecting local planning decisions.

In October, the **Honourable Glen Simard**, Minister of Municipal and Northern Relations, announced that the Manitoba government had accepted all recommendations from the independent review of *The Planning Amendment Act and The City of Winnipeg Charter Amendment Act* (Bill 37). In November, the Province released its Land Use Planning Action Plan, which outlines current, upcoming, and future actions to strengthen and improve Manitoba's land use planning framework.

As of June 1, Bill 33 received Royal Assent, marking the next stage in amendments to planning legislation following Bills 3 and 4, which were enacted in 2025 with AMM support. Bill 33 modernizes Manitoba's planning framework and includes several proposed provisions to restore, respect, and increase the autonomy of local governments.

These measures are important for reaffirming the role of municipalities as primary decision-makers in local planning matters. In addition, the AMM notes that Bill 33 proposes to refine the scope of the Municipal Board's workload, particularly through changes to the public objection referral process. These changes have strong potential to reduce administrative burdens and associated costs for municipalities.

Key changes include:

1. Clarifying and refining the role of the Municipal Board as an appeals body, including changes intended to reduce unnecessary administrative and financial burdens associated with planning appeals;
2. Addressing priority concerns with the regional planning board model and providing greater clarity about its role and structure;
3. Streamlining housing approvals outside Winnipeg; and
4. Extending livestock operation expansion rights to supply-managed industries.

A significant change for municipalities was the elimination of the requirement for **de novo hearings** on certain planning appeals, a long-standing priority for the AMM. The AMM appreciates the Province listening to municipal concerns and moving forward with this change, which will help reduce the time and costs associated with Municipal Board processes.

Throughout the process, the AMM encouraged the Province to provide municipalities with clear information and meaningful opportunities to understand and prepare for the changes. In response, the Province hosted a technical briefing for municipalities, provided information through the *Municipal Leader* magazine, and developed an informational guide on Bill 33.

The AMM also continues to participate in the Province's Planning and Development Working Group alongside other municipal and stakeholder representatives. This provides an ongoing forum to work through implementation issues, identify areas needing further clarity, and ensure municipal perspectives remain part of the conversation as the new framework takes effect.

As the Action Plan advances, the AMM will remain engaged with the Province to support effective planning processes, address emerging issues, and ensure municipalities have the clarity and flexibility needed to make decisions that reflect their communities' needs.

STRENGTHENING RCMP CAPACITY ACROSS MANITOBA

The AMM has long raised concerns about high RCMP vacancy rates in Manitoba and the impact persistent vacancies can have on emergency services and frontline policing. Staffing shortages can contribute to burnout, reduced police visibility, and greater reliance on temporary deployments from other provinces. The AMM has consistently urged both the provincial and federal governments to act, including through its call to strengthen support for law enforcement and reduce RCMP vacancies so officers can focus on frontline community safety.

There has been significant progress. The Province announced that RCMP vacancies under the Provincial Police Service Agreement (PPSA) have declined by more than 50%, from **21.99% in October 2023 to 9.69% in 2026**. This improvement follows the addition of 110 new officers to the Manitoba RCMP in 2025-26, marking the largest one-time reduction in vacancies in recent years.

In addition, Budget 2026 includes an additional **$8 million** in PPSA funding. The PPSA supports most RCMP positions in Manitoba, including front-line policing and integrated enforcement units focused on serious and organized crime.

The AMM welcomes the addition of new RCMP recruits to Manitoba, which helps reduce vacancies across the province. Through our ongoing partnership with the Manitoba RCMP and the Manitoba government, we have worked to raise awareness of the many benefits of living and working in Manitoba as part of broader efforts to support recruitment and retention. The progress on RCMP staffing is an important step toward strengthening policing capacity and ensuring that communities across Manitoba have access to the frontline services they need.



NEXT GENERATION 911 TRANSITION PLAN UPDATE

Since 2022, the AMM has been actively engaged in Manitoba's transition to Next Generation 911 (NG-911), calling for ongoing collaboration and clear communication to ensure municipalities are informed and supported throughout the process. The AMM has also raised concerns about potential costs for municipalities, including the resources and requirements for GIS data collection needed to support the new system.

With the transition scheduled for March 2027, the AMM has held regular discussions with Manitoba Justice and Bell MTS to address municipal questions and improve communication. This work contributed to the development of a Manitoba-specific NG-911 FAQ, providing municipalities with greater clarity on implementation requirements and on Authority Service Agreements with Bell MTS.

The Department finalized and released the FAQ in June, and the AMM distributed it to members. At the AMM's request for ongoing municipal communication, Manitoba Justice and the Brandon Public-Safety Communication Centre (BPCC) presented at the monthly MNR-CAO virtual meeting, while Municipal and Northern Relations and Manitoba Justice issued correspondence to all municipalities outlining the latest information and next steps.

The GIS data component is a separate part of the transition that will require additional time to address and remains a priority for the AMM. The Province has engaged a third-party consultant to conduct a GIS data gap analysis, which is underway. The AMM will continue to monitor this work and advocate for a coordinated approach that provides municipalities with greater clarity on requirements and costs.

Ultimately, the AMM's goal is to support equal access to emergency services for Manitobans, regardless of where they live, while ensuring municipalities are not burdened with cost-shifting during the transition. The AMM is encouraged by the progress to date and will remain engaged and keep members informed as additional information becomes available.

BILL 43: *THE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC AMENDMENT AND DRIVERS AND VEHICLES AMENDMENT ACT*

In response to AMM concerns about micromobility and the lack of clarity around this growing infrastructure, we welcomed the introduction of Bill 43. The proposed Bill establishes a provincial definition for personal electric vehicles and helps address regulatory gaps that municipalities have been managing independently. Its development was also informed by feedback from the Department's breakout session at the 2025 AMM Fall Convention.

The AMM supports the Bill's enabling approach to sidewalk use and has encouraged Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure (MTI) and Municipal and Northern Relations to collaborate on template municipal by-laws to ensure consistent implementation. The AMM has also emphasized the need for a coordinated public education approach to ensure Manitobans receive clear, consistent information about the new rules.

Bill 43 received Royal Assent on June 1, and the Province is now developing the regulatory framework to implement the legislation. The AMM appreciates the Province's response to municipal concerns and its efforts to establish a clearer provincial framework for personal electric vehicles.

As implementation progresses, the AMM will continue to work with the Province to ensure the legislation does not result in new enforcement responsibilities being imposed on municipalities. The AMM will also encourage a coordinated public education campaign to ensure Manitobans understand the new requirements before they take effect.

LEADING THE WAY: CANADA'S FIRST MUNICIPAL TOOLKIT ON ANTI-GOVERNMENT HATE AND HARASSMENT

As the AMM prepared for the 2026 municipal elections, it took a proactive approach to a growing challenge facing local government: creating a safe, supportive environment for those who choose to serve. In December, the AMM partnered with the Strong Cities Network (SCN) to launch *A Toolkit for Manitoba Municipalities: Addressing Anti-Government Hate and Harassment*, offering practical resources to support elected officials and municipal staff across Manitoba.

The toolkit was officially launched by AMM President Kathy Valentino during a keynote at the Strong Cities Network Sixth Global Summit, which brought together more than 400 local government leaders, practitioners and partners from more than 130 cities worldwide.

In June, the AMM, SCN, and the Association of Manitoba Bilingual Municipalities (AMBM) unveiled the toolkit in both of Canada's

official languages. The French-language version was made possible through collaboration between the AMM and AMBM, reinforcing their shared commitment to accessible, inclusive, and locally grounded democratic participation.

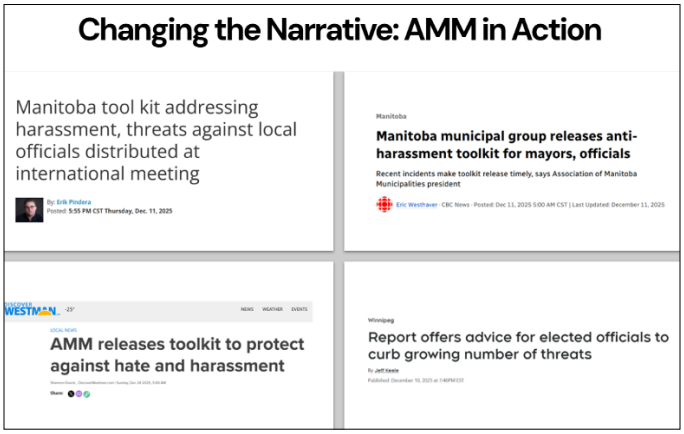


The toolkit provides **130 practical recommendations** on issues such as protecting candidates, responding to online harassment, preventing meeting disruptions, addressing misinformation, and responding to identity-based hate. Importantly, the work goes beyond election preparedness, helping municipalities create environments where people feel safe, informed, and supported throughout their time in public service.

The toolkit was informed by input from Manitoba municipalities, subject-matter experts, the Strong Cities Network and municipal partners across Canada and internationally, as well as original research from the Institute for Strategic Dialogue. It was endorsed by the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, Manitoba Municipal Administrators and AMBM.

The 130 recommendations are not intended to be a checklist or one-size-fits-all solution. Instead, the toolkit provides a starting point for municipalities to identify and adapt strategies that work for their communities. Through this work, the AMM is helping municipalities strengthen the safety and resilience of those who serve and support healthy local democracy across Manitoba.





SUPPORTING 2026 MUNICIPAL ELECTION READINESS

Alongside the launch of our toolkit, the AMM focused on the upcoming municipal general elections. As Manitoba prepared for the 2026 municipal elections, the AMM continued to provide municipalities, candidates, elected officials, and residents with the tools and information needed to navigate the election cycle.

The Municipal Elections Resource Hub was refreshed with updated election resources, including the Election Officials Manual, the CAO Campaign Finance Manual, and the Municipal Candidates Guidebook. The AMM also continued working with the Province to update election materials and share information with municipalities.

The MB Votes platform was refreshed ahead of the 2026 elections, offering a centralized, bilingual source for municipal election information and results.

Over the summer months, the AMM also prepared a public awareness campaign for launch in October, featuring radio advertising and digital banners on news platforms to encourage Manitobans to learn about their local elections and get out to vote.

Together, these initiatives supported municipalities, candidates, and residents in preparing for the 2026 municipal elections and encouraged informed participation in local democracy.

KEEPING MEMBERS INFORMED AND ENGAGED

This year, the AMM continued to strengthen its communication processes and give members more opportunities to stay informed about the organization's advocacy work and better understand how to advance local priorities.



Throughout the year, AMM staff delivered a series of presentations and updates highlighting the work of the Executive, the Board of Directors, and staff, as well as key developments affecting municipalities.

In September, AMM staff presented *'Championing a Council Priority: Turning Ideas into Action'* at the Manitoba Municipal Administrators (MMA) Conference. The session outlined why municipal advocacy matters, provided a step-by-step approach to advancing local priorities, clarified the roles of the CAO and AMM, and explored when an issue may benefit from being advanced collectively through AMM.





In March, the AMM hosted a comprehensive virtual Resolutions Seminar to help members better understand the resolutions process and how to develop effective resolutions. The session covered how resolutions move through the AMM, how to champion a local priority, and key considerations for developing a strong resolution.

At the April Mayors, Reeves, and CAOs meetings, the AMM provided an advocacy update covering the first six months of the year, including meetings with provincial and federal ministers and senior officials, legislation on the horizon, and updates on bills advancing that were important to municipalities.



This work continued at the June District Meetings, where AMM staff provided an advocacy update at each meeting. Members received updates on developments since the Spring Convention, key policy files and resolutions, and had an opportunity to connect provincial and federal advocacy efforts with local priorities.

Together, these initiatives strengthened communication with members and provided municipalities with practical tools to identify, champion, and advance their own priorities, as well as to recognize when a broader municipal voice can help move an issue forward.



President Valentino meets with Konrad Narth, Interim Leader of the PC Party of Manitoba and Official Opposition, and MLA Trevor King to discuss municipal priorities related to funding, infrastructure, and growing Manitoba.

AMM CITIES CAUCUS

The AMM Cities Caucus is made up of Manitoba's ten cities. Modeled after the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Big City Mayors' Caucus, the AMM Cities Caucus provides opportunities for representatives from each city in Manitoba to share ideas on how to address common concerns and key priorities that benefit all municipalities.

The Cities Caucus meets at least three times a year. In 2025/26, discussions focused on critical municipal priorities, including water and wastewater infrastructure, transportation infrastructure, bail reform, and Next Generation 911. The Caucus supported stronger bail reforms to address repeat prolific offenders and echoed AMM's calls for federal and provincial action, which advanced in June 2026. Members also emphasized the need for stronger provincial support as municipalities face growing pressures, including ensuring that the transition to Next Generation 911 is adequately supported and does not impose additional costs or administrative burdens on municipalities. The discussions also addressed the need for a clear regulatory framework for personal electric vehicles that provides consistency across Manitoba without adding pressure to already stretched municipal and policing enforcement resources.

The traditional fall meeting was hosted by the **City of Winkler** on September 24, 2026.



Cities Caucus delegates met in Winkler, MB, at the Winkler Arts and Culture Centre.

AMM EVENTS

LEADERSHIP IN MOTION – 2025 ANNUAL FALL CONVENTION

November 25-27, 2025

The AMM's 27th Annual Convention brought together 688 delegates at Winnipeg's RBC Convention Centre under the theme *Leadership in Motion*. Members connected, shared ideas, and celebrated municipal leadership across Manitoba. A highlight of the event was the presentation of the Honorary Life Member Award to **Karen MacKinnon**, recognizing her dedication and years of service to local government.

MUNICIPAL VISITS

The AMM's Municipal Visits once again brought the Executive and District Directors together with councils across Manitoba to discuss local issues, priorities, and community accomplishments. Each municipality is visited once per election term, and in 2026 the AMM met with 33 municipalities.

MAYORS REEVES & CAOS MEETING

April 21, 2026

More than 400 elected officials and senior administrators participated in an interactive session with the **Honourable Glen Simard**, Minister of Municipal and Northern Relations, followed by an advocacy update from the AMM. The session also featured a presentation and Q&A with the **Honourable Adrien Sala**, Minister of Finance, and **Hal Turner**, Interim President and Chief Executive Officer of Manitoba Hydro. The discussions provided an opportunity to address key concerns raised by municipalities during visits throughout the year, particularly delays affecting growth and Manitoba Hydro.

2026 SPRING CONVENTION

April 22-23, 2026

The program featured a diverse mix of professional development and policy-focused presentations, offering delegates practical insights into municipal leadership, governance, public safety, emergency response, cybersecurity, infrastructure, and the 2026 municipal election. It also included keynote presentations from **Michael Landsberg** and **Dr. Shawna Pandya**, along with a range of breakout sessions addressing the opportunities and challenges facing Manitoba's municipalities. 573 delegates registered.

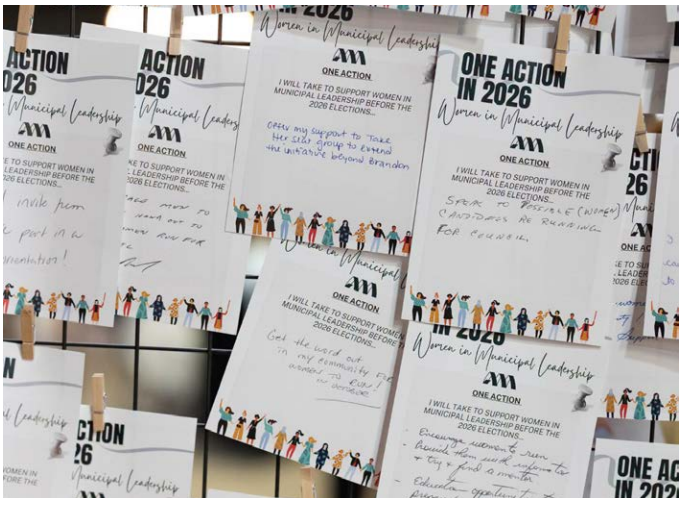
- Shared Health – Working Together in Crisis: Health and Municipal Emergency Response: *Jeff Martin*
- Municipal Voices and the Future of RCMP Contract Policing: *Bobby Baker, National Police Federation*
- Code of Conduct: *Kevin McPike, Municipal and Northern Relations*
- Navigating Incivility: Addressing Threats, Intimidation and Online Harassment of Public Officials: *Jeniffer Hanson and Maggie Spezzano, Thompson Dorfman Sweatman (TDS)*
- Strong Teams in Changing Times: Building Trust and Alignment in Municipal Leadership: *Lisa Anderson, People First HR Services*
- Preparing for the Energy Future: *Quinn Menec, Manitoba Hydro*
- Winning is the Easy Part: Building a Campaign – and a Legacy – That Lasts: *Tyler MacAfee, The MacAfee Group*
- Compliant, Now What? A Cyber Security Roadmap for Municipal Leaders: A Practical Take on the Auditor General's Findings: *Curt Duek, SolutionsIT*
- Urban Reserve Development Manitoba: *Dennis Meeches, USKE*

WOMEN IN MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT NETWORKING RECEPTION

April 22, 2026

Building on the success of previous years, we were pleased to host our 5th Women in Municipal Government event. With the 2026 municipal elections in October, this year's event highlighted the importance of women's participation in municipal leadership. The networking event featured remarks from **President Valentino**, greetings from Her Seat at the Table representatives, and interactive discussions on practical strategies municipalities can use to support women in municipal leadership. Delegates left with a renewed focus on action, identifying one step they could take before the 2026 election to support women in municipal leadership on their AMM Action Card.





2026 DISTRICT MEETINGS

The AMM visited all seven districts and enjoyed the warm hospitality of our host municipalities. In total, more than 620 delegates attended the meetings.

June 9 – Eastern District: RM of St. Clements
June 10 – Interlake District: Town of Winnipeg Beach
June 15 – Central District: RM of Victoria
June 16 – Western District: Town of Melita
June 17 – Midwestern District: Town of Minnedosa
June 18 – Parkland District: RM of Dauphin
June 19 – Northern District: Town of the Pas

CANOE – YOUR TRADING COMPANY

CANOE PROCUREMENT GROUP OF CANADA

AMM Group Buying Program, together with Canoe Procurement Group of Canada, YOUR trading company, enables AMM members to purchase products and services at preferential rates by leveraging the collective buying power of more than 6,000 public-sector organizations. The AMM-Canoe collaboration continued to grow throughout the year, with municipalities across Manitoba using Canoe and the Canoe/Sourcewell contracts for a wide range of products and services, from office supplies to heavy equipment. Organizations have continued to use group procurement contracts to support both operational and capital purchasing needs. Participation by a broader range of public sector organizations strengthens collective buying power, resulting in greater value for all members.

During the year, Canoe launched a secure web-based invoicing platform in partnership with LBMX. The platform improves invoice visibility, transparency, and control while helping reduce administrative errors. Members, Canoe, and participating suppliers now work from the same information in a centralized system, making invoice management, payment tracking, remittance submissions, and issue resolution more efficient. The platform also supports secure invoice storage, flexible user permissions, and enhanced reporting capabilities. Canoe also introduced its Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Program. ERP procurements often involve software selection, implementation planning, system integration, organizational change management, and deployment over multiple years. The program simplifies this process by bringing approved ERP software providers and implementation partners together under a single procurement solution, helping public sector organizations procure complex technology solutions more efficiently.

Supporting procurement education and professional development remained a priority throughout the year. Through a new partnership with the Ontario Public Buyers Association (OPBA), Canoe launched the OPBA-Canoe Scholarship, a national initiative that awards $20,000 annually to support the professional development and education of public procurement professionals across Canada. The scholarship helps professionals in municipalities, school divisions, post-secondary institutions, and other public sector organizations strengthen their procurement knowledge and competencies.

Canoe's commitment to procurement excellence was also recognized nationally in 2026, when it received the Achievement of Excellence in Procurement® Award from the National Procurement Institute. Canoe is the first Canadian group procurement organization to receive this distinction. The award recognizes innovation, professionalism, productivity, leadership, and e-procurement practices across public- and non-profit-sector procurement.

Throughout the year, Canoe continued to support AMM members through education, outreach, contract development, and procurement resources, while promoting procurement best practices across the public sector. For more information or to schedule an online demonstration and program overview, please contact Ainsley Murdock at *ainsley@canoeprocurement.ca*.



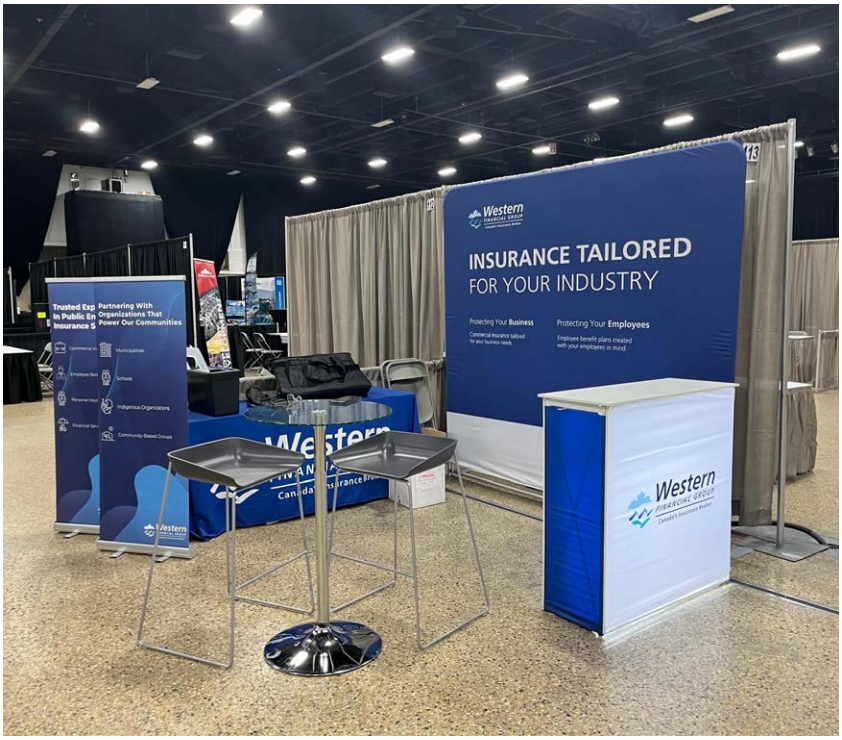




INSURANCE – PROPERTY/CASUALTY – 45+ YEARS OF EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE

AMM member municipalities outside Winnipeg participate in the AMM's property/casualty 'protected self-insurance' program, administered by Western Financial Group. This industry-leading program allows members to gain partial ownership of their program through a $10,625,000 annual self-insurance loss pool, which pays a portion of property and equipment breakdown claims, and a further $4 million Self-Insured Retention fund for Public Entity General Liability Losses.

Insurance is then purchased from excess insurers to provide coverage in excess of the loss pool amount, giving municipalities complete insurance protection. This keeps member premiums much lower than if individual municipalities purchased their own coverage and provides the opportunity for significant refunds in low-claiming years. With over $33 million in returns-of-premium to municipalities since 2010, this protected self-insurance structure provides municipalities with funds that otherwise would be insurer profit, and it is only made possible through the participation of municipalities as a whole, in partnership with the AMM and Western Financial Group.



AMM EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAM

The AMM Employee Benefits Program continues to provide stable, competitive benefits coverage to participating municipalities and affiliated organizations across Manitoba. The program's pooled structure supports long-term sustainability by helping participants manage the financial impact of fluctuating claims experience while maintaining a fair and equitable premium model.

Since becoming self-insured in 2005, the program has grown to include thousands of members and now pools more than $12.1 million in annual premiums. More than 160 municipalities and affiliated entities participate in the program, receiving customized coverage, online administration, and dedicated client service.

While premium increases in the group benefits market are often driven by claims experience and rising health and dental costs, the AMM Employee Benefits Program has maintained a strong record of rate stability. Over the past six years, annual renewal rates have averaged 5%, remaining below prevailing health and dental trend rates.

A significant share of premiums is allocated to a member-owned self-insurance fund, which reduces reliance on traditional insurance structures and provides additional financial flexibility. This approach enables the program to absorb larger claims across a broader participant base and creates opportunities for premium returns when claims experience is favourable.

Since 2015, the program has returned more than $5.1 million to participating organizations in premium refunds, demonstrating the ongoing value and strength of the program's self-insured model.

PEOPLE FIRST HR SERVICES
A division of People Corporation

HUMAN RESOURCE PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION

People First HR Services maintains a partnership with the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) to provide HR On Call support for all AMM member municipalities. The following report outlines the support provided for the fiscal year 2026.

ON CALL INQUIRIES

Between September 1, 2025, and August 31, 2026, HR On Call received 127 unique inquiries from 45 towns/RMs that directly accessed the service. The top three support categories were Policies & Procedures, Employee & Labour Relations, and Employment Standards/Legislation. Service use also expanded across additional categories.

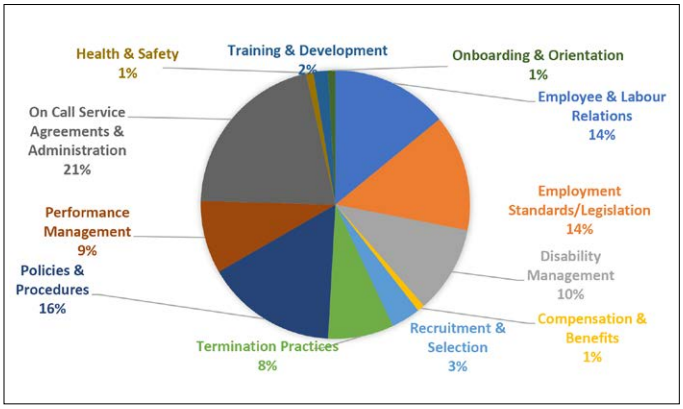
Some common themes included managing leaves of absence and accommodations, requests for templates (both policy and HR documents), and guidance on managing employee terminations, resignations, and offboarding. Together, these trends indicate that demand for service is focused on practical HR tools, leave management, and employment transition decisions.

PROJECTS/ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

In addition to HR On Call support, 14 member communities engaged People First HR for additional support during the year, with needs ranging from short-term projects to ongoing monthly outsourced HR support. Of these, four communities accessed more than one service. Additional services included workplace assessments, investigations, compensation work, and training and development. Three member communities are currently engaged in ongoing work with us, outside of their HR On Call access.

Members of the PFHR team attended the trade shows for both the fall 2025 and spring 2026 conferences. Looking ahead to the next fiscal year, in addition to attending the spring and fall trade shows, we will offer two additional complimentary webinar sessions, with topics to be confirmed.

TICKETS BY CATEGORY



CLOSING COMMENTS

The continued use of HR On Call demonstrates the value AMM members place on timely, practical HR guidance when issues arise. For many communities, this support helps strengthen confidence in day-to-day people decisions and provides access to expertise that may not otherwise be readily available internally.

The partnership also adds value beyond HR On Call by connecting members with a broader HR firm that can support more complex, sensitive, or ongoing needs. Whether a community requires advice, project support, training, investigations, compensation expertise, or outsourced HR capacity, People First HR can provide responsive support across the full range of HR services.

People First HR Services appreciates our ongoing partnership with AMM and the opportunity to support member communities in ways that are both accessible and scalable. We look forward to continuing to provide trusted HR expertise that meets members where they are and evolves with their needs.

SAFETYCARE

SAFETYCARE PROGRAM

SIMPLE and EFFICIENT and FREE training for all your staff that you shouldn't miss out on!

At Safetycare, we aim to create the most engaging and concise video training possible.
We continue to create content designed to help you create a safety-conscious working environment.

To learn more, contact 800-323-6638 or *safety@safetycare.ca*.

We're excited to continue supporting the Association of Manitoba Municipalities and create more safety-conscious work environments.



2026 ANNUAL REPORT

CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE AMM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2026

CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE AMM TRADING COMPANY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2026

Association of Manitoba Municipalities