



August 21, 2014

## AMM welcomes special guests from Nicaragua

The AMM welcomed some special guests during the week of August 11, when *Julia de la Cruz Mena Rivera*, *María Elena Guerra Gallardo* and *Jonathan Gonzalez Rosales* from the Association of Municipalities of Nicaragua ([AMUNIC](#)) visited Canada.

The visit was a continuation of a relationship that began back in 2010, when AMM Executive Director Joe Masi, as part of a larger delegation, visited Nicaragua at the invitation of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). The purpose of the trip was to work with AMUNIC on various issues.

AMUNIC is very interested in growing its lobbying efforts but lacks the necessary resources. Since AMM had already done work in the region with El Salvador's municipal association, [COMURES](#), the opportunity seemed to be a good fit for the AMM.

A follow-up visit in late 2013 focused on the functions of the Municipalities Trading Company of Manitoba Ltd. (MTCML), and this year, finding ways to generate revenue opportunities for AMUNIC continued to be a priority for the group.

The exchange not only gives the AMM's Nicaraguan counterparts the chance to see how the AMM operates, but also gives the AMM the opportunity to showcase its work to an international audience

Ms. de la Cruz Mena Rivera is the mayor of Granada, Nicaragua, as well as the former vice-president of Nicaragua. Riviera told the *Steinbach Carillon* the experience in Manitoba was wonderful. "We are learning a lot and obviously it's always very important to see the experience of those that are ahead of us and especially to help us as a developing country."

During their time with the AMM, the group met with various elected officials, including Mayor *Chris Goertzen*, City of Steinbach, Councillor *Devi Sharma*, City of Winnipeg and The Honourable *Dave Chomiak*, Minister of Mineral Resources.

"Something we have learned from our experience with both El Salvador and Nicaragua is despite the obvious differences between our municipal challenges, there are nearly as many similarities," said President *Doug Dobrowolski*.

"Those elected to leadership positions are there because they care about their communities and want to make a difference in the lives of their citizens, just the same as here."

The exchange is part of FCM International and is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

For more information, visit [www.fcm.ca/home/programs/international.htm](http://www.fcm.ca/home/programs/international.htm).

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*President Doug Dobrowolski*

*Pictured l to r: AMUNIC staff member Jonathan Gonzales Rosales, Mayor Julia de la Cruz Mena Rivera, and translator Professor Jesús Ángel Miguel García during a tour of WS Steel in Steinbach.*

*Photo credit: The Steinbach Carillon*



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## Notices



### Calling all CAOs!

Election Day is just around the corner! This year, the [Manitobavotes.ca](http://Manitobavotes.ca) website will give Manitobans the ability to *instantly* access the results from each municipality's election as soon as they are posted.

**Watch for emails in the coming days with instructions for entering your municipality's candidates (after nominations close September 16, 2014) and results (on Election Day - October 22, 2014).**

For more information, please contact:

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Phone: 204-856-2366

*www.manitobavotes.ca is a partnership between the AMM and [all-net.ca](http://all-net.ca).*

## MTCML



### Welcome back!

Bob Omeniuk has rejoined Canada Culvert for the remainder of the 2014 construction season.

If you have any questions or inquiries on your drainage and/or related products, please do not hesitate to call 204-941-9379.

## Coming Events

### The 2014 Manitoba Excellence in Sustainability Awards *Celebrating Success in Sustainability*

The Manitoba Excellence in Sustainability Awards recognize and honour our people, projects and ideas that successfully turn the principles and guidelines of sustainable development into lasting achievements. Sustainable development is an approach to daily decision-making that integrates probable consequences to our environment, our economy and the health and well-being of all Manitobans - making decisions that balance today's needs without sacrificing the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Any individual, business, institution, organization, community group and youth in Manitoba is eligible to apply or be nominated for one award in the following categories:

- Sustainability in Water and Natural Area Stewardship
- Action on Climate Change, Air Quality and Energy Efficiency
- Sustainability in Pollution Prevention and Product Stewardship
- Education for Sustainability
- Innovation and Research for Sustainability
- Champion for Sustainability
- Sustainable Community
- Outstanding Achievement in Sustainability

The deadline for submitting an application or nomination is **12:00 noon, Friday, September 26, 2014.**

For more information, please visit: [www.manitoba.ca/conservation/susresmb/mrtsd/mesa/index.html](http://www.manitoba.ca/conservation/susresmb/mrtsd/mesa/index.html)

Or contact:

**2014 Manitoba Excellence in Sustainability Awards  
Manitoba Round Table for Sustainable Development  
Telephone: 204-945-4391  
Toll-Free: 1-800-282-8069  
E-mail: [mrtsd@gov.mb.ca](mailto:mrtsd@gov.mb.ca)**

## Coming Events

### 2014 Manitoba Connections Access, Privacy, Security and Information Management October 6-7, 2014 Delta Winnipeg

Manitoba Ombudsman, together with an advisory committee of representatives from public bodies and trustees under The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) and The Personal Health Information Act (PHIA), has designed this conference with the goal of providing you with the best possible professional development experience.

- Learn about the latest issues and trends in access, privacy, security and information management.
- Find practical solutions to help you meet the information challenges back at the office.
- Network and make connections with colleagues in other fields or organizations.

Five plenary presentations and 16 breakout sessions will allow you to customize your own learning path. Three optional half-day pre-conference workshops are also being held the morning of October 6. Sessions include:

- Access and Privacy Coordinator/Officer Boot Camp
- Meeting Big Access Challenges in Small Organizations
- Whose Records are They? Practical Guidance for School Boards, Local Governments and Others on Custody and Control
- Opening a Portal into Government: The City of Brandon's Open Government Initiative
- Tools and Tips for Tracking and Processing Access Requests
- It Won't Happen to Me...Mitigating Records Risks
- Navigating through the Privacy Maze
- Dear Access to Information Applicant...
- Privacy Breach Management and Beyond: from breach to benefit

[www.manitobaconnections.ca](http://www.manitobaconnections.ca)