



1910 Saskatchewan Avenue W.  
Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 0P1  
Ph: 204-857-8666  
Fax: 204-856-2370  
Email: [amm@amm.mb.ca](mailto:amm@amm.mb.ca)  
[www.amm.mb.ca](http://www.amm.mb.ca)

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Committees Branch  
Legislative Assembly of Manitoba  
Room 251, 450 Broadway  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8  
Via email: [committees@leg.gov.mb.ca](mailto:committees@leg.gov.mb.ca)

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM), which represents Manitoba's 137 municipalities, I am writing to provide some comments regarding Bill 12: *The Red Tape Reduction and Government Efficiency Act*.

As the AMM is committed to identifying red tape barriers and sharing practical ideas to streamline provincial government processes to benefit Manitoba municipalities, we support the amendment to Section 186 of *The Municipal Act* to no longer require audits of small community grants to municipally supported organizations and not-for-profit groups. Current financial audit requirements are extremely burdensome and audit costs often represent a significant percentage of committee budgets, thereby reducing the benefit of the original municipal grant. In fact, it is quite common for municipally supported groups to incur audit costs of a few thousand dollars while operating on a grant of an equal or slightly higher amount. This issue has been consistently raised through the AMM Resolutions process and with the Minister of Municipal Relations since 2013.

Municipalities are mature, responsible governments, accountable first and foremost to their citizens and electorate. In the spirit of 'fair say' and greater autonomy, local Councils are fully capable of determining when audits are required to ensure reasonable and adequate financial oversight. Municipalities are also capable of determining when a municipal road should be closed and the AMM appreciates the repealing of Section 290(1)(b) of *The Municipal Act*. Moreover, the AMM supports the proposed amendment that no longer requires approval of the Municipal Board for municipal borrowing that is less than the threshold established in regulation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these brief comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joe Masi". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joe Masi  
Executive Director

