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March 31, 2026

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

To Whom It May Concern,

The Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on Bill 9: *The Street Weapons Control Act* and supports its overall intent to enhance public safety across Manitoba communities.

Public safety remains one of the most pressing concerns consistently raised by municipalities. As such, the AMM welcomes new provincial measures aimed at strengthening safety and security for Manitobans.

The AMM also acknowledges and appreciates the department's proactive engagement with our association, the Provincial-Municipal Justice Advisory Committee (PMJAC), and AMM members through a dedicated webinar held prior to the formal introduction of this legislation. Early consultation is essential to ensuring municipal perspectives are meaningfully considered.

We further support the proposed escalating penalties for repeat offenders under this proposed legislation, as increasing fines for subsequent offences promote greater accountability and serve as an important deterrent.

With respect to enforcement, the AMM continues to emphasize that the Province must take a more active and consistent role in ensuring Community Safety Officers (CSOs) are equipped with the training required to safely and effectively carry out their duties. As CSO authorities evolve, particularly in situations that may require direct intervention, de-escalation, and the potential seizure of weapons in public spaces, it is essential that the Province provide and maintain comprehensive, standardized training that reflects the complexity and risks associated with these responsibilities. This includes not only initial basic training, but ongoing, scenario-based and refresher training to ensure CSOs are prepared to respond appropriately in high-risk and rapidly changing situations.



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At present, there is variability in CSO preparedness and response capacity across Manitoba. The AMM therefore continues to call on the provincial government to work in close consultation with AMM and municipalities to strengthen CSO provincial training frameworks, ensuring they are responsive to local realities while maintaining a high and consistent level of competency across the province. Furthermore, although the number of CSOs is growing, this enforcement option remains financially out of reach for many municipalities, underscoring the need for increased provincial support to ensure greater access to adequate training and the financial resources required to establish and sustain CSO programs.

The AMM looks forward to continued collaboration with the Province to ensure that municipalities are well-supported in implementing measures that enhance public safety.

Respectfully and sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark teal ink, appearing to read 'Denys Volkov', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Denys Volkov  
Executive Director

cc: Hon. Matt Wiebe, Minister of Justice and Attorney General  
Hon. Glen Simard, Minister of Municipal and Northern Relations  
Deputy Minister and Deputy Attorney General Jeremy Akerstream, Manitoba Justice  
Deputy Minister Maurice Bouvier, Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations