

# MANITOBA PROCLAIMS *First-Ever*

## MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT AWARENESS WEEK

The Honourable Derek Johnson, Minister of Municipal Relations

*November 22-26, 2021*, marked the first-ever Municipal Government Awareness Week in Manitoba. Municipal governments are often said to be the closest level of government to the people – a relationship amplified over the last 20 months of this pandemic as municipalities worked in partnership with others at the frontlines to ensure that the vital services that local citizens relied on continued, despite the uncertainty brought on by COVID-19.



The proclamation of Municipal Government Awareness Week recognizes the important role that local councils have in our lives. Local governments make decisions about programs, facilities, and infrastructure and provide essential amenities and services like drinking water, waste management, road maintenance, surface water management, fire and police services, land use planning, building permits and inspections, and emergency management in our communities. Municipalities have played and will continue to play an instrumental role during these unprecedented and challenging times. Whether it be by spreading accurate medical information regarding the pandemic, distributing Restart Manitoba and other funding, or simply being a voice for their citizenry, municipal governments have been essential organizations in navigating the past 20 months. You have earned our thanks and recognition.

I was very pleased that the proclamation of Municipal Government Awareness Week coincided with the Association of Manitoba Municipalities' Fall Convention, as well as the Association of Manitoba Bilingual Municipalities' Annual General Meeting.



Municipal governments have always been vital in fostering economic growth in our province's local communities and regions. Working closely with the province, our two levels of government mutually promote the common good of all people by building safe, sustainable, and prosperous communities. With our renewed provincial government led by Manitoba's first female Premier, the Honourable Heather Stefanson, we are committed to strengthening this partnership and collaborating to address your local priorities. 🇩🇪