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# Business, Mining, Trade and Job Creation

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Meeting with Minister Jamie Moses

July 21, 2025



Association of  
Manitoba Municipalities

## Summary of Municipal Priorities

The AMM appreciates the opportunity to meet with Minister Jamie Moses and representatives of Manitoba Business, Mining, Trade and Job Creation. The AMM encourages the provincial government to consider municipal concerns as well as the effects of funding decisions on local communities throughout the budget process. This document outlines the AMM's position and recommendations on a number of important municipal issues relevant to Minister Moses's portfolio. The AMM looks forward to working with the Province to strengthen provincial-municipal growth and partnership opportunities.

### 1. Economic Development Strategy

#### **Recommendation:**

- ✓ *Collaborate with the AMM and municipalities in developing the new economic development strategy to ensure job creation aligns with community needs and helps address staffing shortages.*

### 2. Crown Land Acquisition for Economic Development

#### **Recommendation:**

- ✓ *Expedite the development of a comprehensive toolkit that offers clear guidance, simplifies processes, and functions as a centralized resource for municipalities.*

## Economic Development Strategy

### Recommendation:

- ✓ ***Collaborate with the AMM and municipalities in developing the new economic development strategy to ensure job creation aligns with community needs and helps address staffing shortages.***

The AMM has long advocated for the development of a comprehensive, province-wide economic development strategy that is created in partnership with local communities. As such, the AMM welcomed both the commitment outlined in Budget 2025 and the recent launch of public consultations on Manitoba's first provincial economic development strategy.

The AMM understands that the consultation process concluded at the end of May and would therefore appreciate an update on the findings and the Province's plan for next steps. As Manitoba moves forward in stimulating economic growth and creating new job opportunities, it is essential that municipalities are actively involved in shaping the strategy. Local governments have a deep understanding of their communities and are well-positioned to identify labour market gaps. Their involvement is key to ensuring that new jobs align with municipal needs and reflect Manitoba's evolving demographic, economic, and workforce realities.

A strong economic development strategy must also prioritize the attraction and retention of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), particularly in municipalities. As municipalities are on the front lines of economic activity, they must be equipped with the tools and supports needed to attract FDI. Foreign investment can help address local infrastructure deficits, as many projects require improved roads and utilities. This not only enhances local infrastructure but also attracts further investment, stimulates job creation, and boosts the overall Manitoba economy.

This connection between infrastructure and economic development is critical. Municipalities own 60 per cent of public infrastructure supporting the economy, yet the shortfall in infrastructure investments remains a significant barrier to economic development. For example, in one municipality alone, there are 678 shovel-ready homes waiting to be constructed, representing a substantial opportunity for economic growth. However, progress is stalled due to shortages in local and regional water capacity. An estimated investment of \$107,000 in associated infrastructure is required to adequately facilitate the construction of a single house. Investing in core infrastructure will not only enhance the competitiveness of municipalities but will also contribute to the economic growth of the entire province.

Lastly, the AMM has long advocated for strong partnerships in northern Manitoba, emphasizing that northern economic development should be led by northern communities and stakeholders. Collaboration between all relevant provincial government departments and northern municipalities is crucial for developing Churchill and Centreport as transportation and supply chain hubs. This collaboration is key to unlocking the economic potential of the north and positioning it as a critical hub with a strong supply chain.

## Crown Land Acquisition for Economic Development

### **Recommendation:**

- ✓ ***Expedite the development of a comprehensive toolkit that offers clear guidance, simplifies processes, and functions as a centralized resource for municipalities.***

As the AMM prioritizes travelling across the province and meeting one-on-one with municipalities, provincial red tape related to Crown Land acquisition is a recurring theme. Many municipalities have provincial Crown Lands within their boundaries, with some municipalities having a significant portion of their borders comprised of Crown Land, while others have Crown Land situated within the heart of their municipality.

Municipalities often face challenges in securing Crown Land within their boundaries for essential purposes like community development projects and infrastructure expansion. Moreover, some municipalities have identified undeveloped Crown Land areas presenting wildfire and public safety risks as well as drainage issues to communities. Rather than leaving this land unmaintained, municipalities would like the opportunity to develop parcels to enhance their communities and mitigate these abovementioned risks.

However, municipalities must navigate through cumbersome application procedures and requirements, involving multiple government departments in order to acquire Crown Land. This administrative burden not only delays local planning efforts but also undermines the potential for Crown Land to contribute meaningfully to economic development – both at the municipal and provincial level.

The AMM welcomes the ongoing inter-departmental collaboration between your Department, the Department of Municipal and Northern Relations, and the Department of Natural Resources and Indigenous Futures. We continue to support the development of a cross-departmental Crown Land Acquisition toolkit aimed at streamlining processes and offering municipalities a clear, consistent path forward.

While we appreciated receiving an update in May, it addressed only part of the information our organization had anticipated. The AMM continues to encourage coordination across all relevant departments to ensure this toolkit is practical, accessible, and functions as a one-stop shop for municipal inquiries. We remain hopeful this important tool will be finalized in a timely manner to help municipalities access Crown Land more efficiently and advance local development goals.

## **Active AMM 2024 Resolutions**

### **AMM Resolution #15-2024: Crown Lands**

#### **Sponsor(s)**

Ste. Anne, RM (Eastern)  
Reynolds, RM (Eastern)  
Brokenhead, RM (Eastern)  
St. Clements, RM (Eastern)  
Alexander, RM (Eastern)  
East St. Paul, RM (Eastern)  
Stuartburn, RM (Eastern)  
Springfield, RM (Eastern)  
Lac du Bonnet, RM (Eastern)  
Beausejour, Town (Eastern)

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba, in coordination with the Manitoba Association of Watersheds, to address the ongoing, uncontrolled, improper use of Crown Lands, including the removal and enforcement of littering under provincial legislation, at the expense of the Province of Manitoba, rather than the municipal taxpayers.

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### **AMM Resolution #24-2024: Cellular Service**

#### **Sponsor(s)**

Taché, RM (Eastern)

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the AMM lobby the provincial and federal governments to consider the development of initiatives and incentives to improve these services.

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### **AMM Resolution #27-2024: Public Road Maintenance in Mineral Extraction Areas**

#### **Sponsor(s)**

Riding Mountain West, RM (Midwestern)

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to:

- Recognize the significant costs of dust control and potential safety hazards for residents and motorists if not applied;
- Urge the provincial government to utilize a portion of the royalties and taxes collected from mineral extraction activities to establish a dedicated fund or grant program specifically aimed at assisting municipalities in covering the costs of dust control on PR roads impacted by mining-related transportation activities; and
- Encourage the provincial government to engage in meaningful dialogue and consultation with municipalities, industry stakeholders, and affected communities to develop fair and transparent mechanisms for allocating funds and resources.