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President



Federal Budget 2015

- New Public Transit Fund
 - \$750 million over two years, starting in 2017–18, and \$1 billion annually thereafter starting in 2019-20
- No new funding to upgrade wastewater treatment systems
- Public Safety Broadband Network
 - \$3 million over two years, starting in 2016-17
- Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program
 - \$43.2 million will be available for Western Canada
 - Application deadline: **June 17, 2015**



New Building Canada Fund

- \$14 billion Building Canada Fund is a component of the overall federal government's \$53 billion New Building Canada Plan
- \$1 billion Small Communities Fund (SCF)
- In total, Manitoba will be receiving \$467 million over 10 years, and 10% of this amount - or \$4.67 million per year - will be set aside for small communities
- The AMM is the only association across Canada working together with its respective provincial government on selecting SCF projects



DFAA Changes

- In effect since February 1, 2015
- Changes to the cost-sharing threshold for Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements (DFAA) will potentially affect **ALL** municipalities
- Could result in major downloading of financial costs onto municipalities
- Potential election issue?



Provincial Budget 2015 & PST

- Funding to municipalities outside of Winnipeg will increase by \$4.2 million (3.2% ↑) for a total of \$135.4 million in 2015-16
- No alternate revenue streams identified for municipalities to help tackle Manitoba's growing \$11 billion municipal infrastructure deficit
- The AMM will be renewing its appeal for the Province to exempt municipalities from paying PST
 - Please submit your PST figures!



Provincial Infrastructure Funding

- Throne Speech (Nov. 2014) – The Province of Manitoba indicated provincial funding was provided to support the renewal of over 400 kilometers of municipal roads and 13 bridges outside of Winnipeg
- Highlights in Budget 2015:
 - Bridges – \$1 million to \$2 million (100% ↑)
 - Road Improvement – \$11.5 to \$14 million (21.7% ↑)
 - Combined with Grant-in-Aid Program



Amalgamation Costs

- As of January 1, 2015, newly amalgamated municipalities are now officially legal entities
- Total amalgamation costs reported to the AMM: **\$1.65 million+**
 - Approximately **\$55,000** per municipality (figures reflect the responses from only **31** out of **47** newly amalgamated municipalities)
- Ministerial commitment to review hard costs requires provision of current and accurate figures



Rail Safety

- The AMM continues to participate in the National Municipal Rail Safety Working Group facilitated by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
- New regulations and standards are intended to ensure public safety and clarify responsibilities of the railways and road authorities
- Protective Direction No. 32



MB Hydro Recreation Centre Pilot Program

- Energy Efficient Guide for Municipal Recreation Facilities
- Program was specifically designed for AMM members based on municipal survey responses
- By participating in this Power Smart program, you can receive incentives and financing to upgrade your recreation facilities and lower your energy usage, which will, in turn, lower your energy bills
- Download a brochure from the AMM's website!



2016 Provincial Election

- The time to start pushing our issues is now!
- How best to get municipal issues incorporated into provincial party platforms?
- AMM targeted campaign
 - **69%** feel that the money raised from the PST increase should flow directly to municipalities
- Next issue of The Municipal Leader – party responses to Lobby Day questions!

