

August 28, 2014

Environment Act Consultation Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship Box 38 - Saulteaux Crescent Winnipeg, MB R3J 3W3

AMM submission on the Environment Act Consultation: The Road to Enhancing Environmental Protection in Manitoba

On behalf of the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM), I would like to provide some comments regarding the provincial Environment Act Consultation. The AMM represents all Manitoba municipalities, and as an association we address the needs and concerns of our members in order to achieve strong and effective municipal government.

While the AMM agrees there are opportunities to modernize *The Environment Act* through this review, the impacts on municipally-owned facilities could be significant. Since municipalities represent and act on behalf of their ratepayers, they should not be required to cover additional costs for *Environment Act* licensing or enforcement as a result of this review.

As well, the AMM encourages the Province of Manitoba to look at standardizing license requirements for municipal facilities such as water, wastewater or sewage treatment plants, and waste disposal grounds, regardless of when the licenses are issued, in order to ensure consistent environmental protection. However, the Province must be willing to work with municipalities to take into account the capacity of their existing facilities, and be flexible to avoid overburdening municipalities with new costs.

The AMM appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments.

Sincerely,

Doug Dobrowolski

President

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