

Bulletin #2024-28

MUNICIPAL AND NORTHERN RELATIONS

Important Notice to All Elected Officials and Chief Administrative Officers

Property Assessment Services Levy Increase

Under The Municipal Assessment Act, a statutory Assessment Levy (the Levy) is collected from municipalities every year to recover provincial costs for delivering property assessment services on behalf of municipalities. Starting in 2025, the department will apply a moderate annual increase of 2.175% to the Levy to support the department's innovation plan to finance required IT system replacements and efficiency upgrades to modernize the property assessment and taxation framework.

The goal of the incremental Levy plan is to fund two major IT initiatives - the first is the Mobile Assessment Interface (MAI), which is in the implementation phase and scheduled to go live in 2025/26. The second and more extensive project is the Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal (CAMA) system, which will require several years to build and will be capitalized over a 15-year period.

The MAI software will allow assessors to input inspection data into the department's computer database, using tablets while in the field. The MAI will reduce duplication, create efficiencies during inspections and improve accuracy of data. The CAMA system will replace the department's current assessment software, Manitoba Assessment Valuation and Administration System (MAVAS). MAVAS enables property assessment and supports the generation of over \$644M of municipal taxes. The CAMA project will take several years to build and will be capitalized over a 15-year period.

Implementation of enhanced IT system upgrades is expected to deliver significant benefits, including increased revenue potential for municipalities, streamlined data entry processes, advanced image-based automation, higher inspection capacities, reduced staff pressures, and overall improvements in quality assurance.

The department remains dedicated to ongoing investment in innovative practices, maintaining state-of-the-art IT infrastructure, and replacing outdated systems to ensure efficient and reliable property assessment services to municipalities.

The enclosed Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document provides further information.

For more information and support, please contact assessment@gov.mb.ca.

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French version to follow on MMO

