

Winnipeg Metropolitan Region

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City of Winnipeg
Councillor Scott Gillingham

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Reeve Frances Smee

RM of Macdonald
Reeve Bradley Erb

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RM of Tache
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RM of Cartier
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Reeve Dwayne Clark

RM of Springfield
Reeve Bob Bodnaruk

Town of Niverville
Mayor Myron Dyck

Village of Dunnottar
Mayor Rick Gamble

New name, new outlook

Welcome to the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region



Winnipeg Metro Region News Desk

We are growing and evolving, based on our strengthened spirit of collaboration, so the Partnership of the Manitoba Capital Region (PMCR) has adopted a new name and a new look, the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region reflects the importance of our strong centre city – Winnipeg – and the unique character of the surrounding communities that make us a more exciting, productive and a desirable place to be.

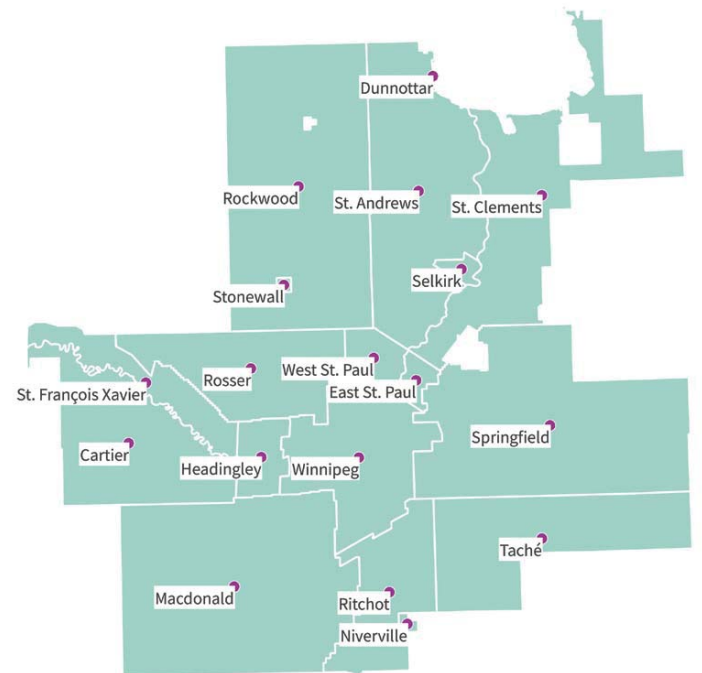
Since 1998 The Partnership of the Manitoba Capital Region (PMCR) has brought the regions leaders together to tackle the many challenges of municipal governments. In step with the region's long history of enterprise and innovation, the Mayors and Reeves have broadened their collective vision and are announcing a new name to reflect this perspective.

The communities across this region are strongly interconnected and we are learning how to benefit from collaborative action. Colleen Sklar, Executive Director of the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region commented that the "new name reflects this evolution and aligns us with other metro regions in Canada and the rest of the world. These places are finding ways to effectively work together to solve a wide array of challenges allowing them to be more resilient and adapt to fast-changing landscapes. We will do that too."

From its inception in 1998 by Winnipeg Mayor Susan Thompson and a group of pioneering Capital Region leaders the PMCR has continued to evolve while staying focused on the job at hand, creating the conditions for good growth, good stewardship and good governance.

The Winnipeg Metropolitan Region represents 18 municipalities including and surrounding the City of Winnipeg. "The current leaders around the table see more opportunities than ever before to collaborate, this allows us to not only meet the needs of our communities but to maximize the full potential of this growing metropolitan region and the Province of Manitoba" said Frances Smee, Reeve of Rosser and Co-Chair of the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region.

We are embracing a renewed spirit of partnership, allowing us to join the roster of other competitive regions such as the



The Winnipeg Metropolitan Region.

Edmonton Metropolitan Region, Denver Region and Calgary Metropolitan Region. We are joining a movement that reflects the values of our historical roots and ensures that our future will remain true to them.

Moving in step with regions across Canada and the globe requires that we build better relationships, adopt sound frameworks and pursue opportunities that encourage partnerships. This will allow us to realize our full potential, to be competitive, and a place where local businesses expand; where new businesses come and set-up shop and where the environment is protected for future generations. This is the mission of the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region.

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A Beverage Container Recycling Leader

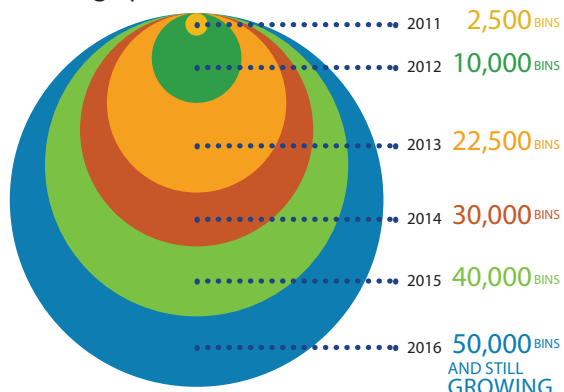


The Canadian Beverage Container Recycling Association (CBCRA), whose membership consists of beverage brand owners and distributors, is committed to reaching the government-mandated target of recovering 75% of beverage containers sold in Manitoba. In 2016, CBCRA announced that it had achieved a 70% recovery rate of empty beverage containers with the results from 2017 to be revealed later this year.

Recycle Everywhere

To achieve these targets, CBCRA implemented and operates the Recycle Everywhere Program. Recycle Everywhere strives to educate Manitobans on beverage container recycling, and ensure that it is convenient to recycle empty beverage containers no matter where citizens live, work, or play.

How easy does CBCRA make it for Manitobans to recycle? Well, to date, over 55,000 public space Recycle Everywhere bins can be found at more than 3,000 community partner sites from schools to businesses, streetscapes and parks. No matter where they go, Manitobans are given the opportunity to do the right thing – and they keep demonstrating their desire to. With every additional recycling bin placed in Manitoba we are ensuring empty beverage containers are recycled, meaning we are able to divert millions of beverage containers from ending up in our landfills.



From its launch in 2010, CBCRA was largely focused on away-from-home recovery and as the program approaches its saturation point with away-from-home recycling infrastructure, focuses have shifted to two key areas; increasing beverage container recycling inside the home and checking-in with partners on the state of their Recycle Everywhere infrastructure.

CBCRA is ensuring Manitobans have the opportunity to recycle at home through programs such as the Mini Bin, Single Family Dwelling Bin, and at the cottage with the portable and collapsible Bin Bag. Within the multi-family dwelling (MFD) sector, space and convenience are barriers as people have less room to store their recyclables and need to transport them to a different location to recycle them.

To overcome this, Recycle Everywhere introduced the Mini Bin, a space saving recycling bin. Following the pilot, a full roll-out was undertaken which consisted of 100,000 Mini Bins distributed to MFDs across the province.



The next step was to explore ways to make beverage container recycling more convenient for residents in Single-Family Dwellings (SFD). After research, testing, and a pilot project, CBCRA demonstrated an overall increase in beverage container recovery, and in recovery rates of all recyclables. In addition, there was a reduction in the contamination rate of waste ending up in the recycling. This led to the distribution of 10,000 Recycle Everywhere bins to neighbourhoods in Winnipeg in the fall of 2017 with expansion to additional municipalities across Manitoba in 2018.

DECREASE IN LITTER

Recycle Everywhere bins can be found in public spaces in each of the cities listed below. In every instance, beverage container litter in city streets has decreased since the baseline audits began, with no other new litter abatement programs being in place.

WINNIPEG	41% DECREASE
BRANDON	75% DECREASE
STEINBACH	54% DECREASE
FLIN FLON	21% DECREASE
THOMPSON	29% DECREASE

*Baseline audit years are different for each location.

The Bin Bag, first launched in the summer of 2017 has been expanded for 2018 as a result of the positive feedback received from Manitobans.

The bin bag is a light-weight, structured yet collapsible recycling bag, with fabric handles making it easy to carry and transport to the lake, on a camping trip, or picnic at the park.



Follow-Up

CBCRA is now checking in with all partners to ensure the Recycle Everywhere program is working optimally for them and help with any improvements necessary with beverage container recovery at their locations. The Recycle Everywhere Bin Follow-up and Maintenance program will be surveying partners through direct communications on best practices, to assess additional bin needs, supplementary signage, and ensure replacement bins or parts are requested as needed. Through extensive follow up, communications, and infrastructure CBCRA will continue to push Manitoba as a beverage container recycling leader.



Learn more today. RecycleEverywhere.ca

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Flat Out Brilliant.

Unit 1 - 1749 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba R3J 0E6
Phone: 1-204-989-2048
Web: winnipegmetroregion.ca
Email: info@wmregion.ca

FOLLOW US ONLINE



Strategic Initiative Concept

Dorothy Dobbie
dorothy@pegasuspublications.net

Consulting Editor

Bill Burfoot
bill@pegasuspublications.net

Art Direction and Layout

Karl Thomsen
karl@pegasuspublications.net

President

Ian Leatt
ian.leatt@pegasuspublications.net

Contributors

Bill Burfoot, City of Selkirk, Dorothy Dobbie, Vanessa Everett, Dave Jopling, Kelly McCarthy, Emeka Nadi, Payne Transportation Ltd., Marshall Posner, Colleen Sklar, Peter Squire, Lorraine Stevenson, Courtlyn Suszko, Richard Tebinka, Warren Thompson, Jay Whetter, Winnipeg Metro Region News Desk, Steve Polock

Advertising & Sponsorships

Contact Winnipeg Metropolitan Region
204-989-2048
info@wmregion.ca

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Spring 2018

Are we really open for business?

Colleen Sklar

The recent Amazon HQ2 proposal has sparked conversations across the Metro Region. From the boardroom to the dinner table, Manitobans are debating the strengths and weaknesses of our position when it comes to enticing major businesses to move here and set up shop.

As someone who loves this province, the metro region and our city, our strengths are evident and the benefits of locating here come without saying. But if you don't know and love this place like someone who was born and raised here, is our value proposition really that clear?

The exercise of taking inventory of our collective strengths and documenting our shortcomings is a real opportunity. For decades, municipalities have been operating in a system that drives competition and provides no adequate mechanisms for collaboration, therefore leaving us at a disadvantage.

Since 1998, local leaders have been chipping away at the edges of status quo, trying to follow successful examples that have moved other jurisdictions from merely coping to creating regional systems that allow them to act together and leverage their shared strengths to increase competitiveness.

What we have learned from others who have been successful at working together across municipal boundaries is that regional coordination is not another level of government. Regional coordination does not add a whack of permits or more forms to fill out and it has not yielded the dire predictions of those who have us sliding down the slippery slope to contentious annexations or forced amalgamations. In fact, in many jurisdictions cooperative and flexible inter-municipal coordination is the way around this. Regional coordination has also proven to be very effective in ensuring that social, economic and environmental resources are harnessed for the well-being of all.

Regional coordination allows us to be good stewards of tax payers' dollars. It allows us to plan better, design and build better infrastructure, to maximize stretched budgets by avoiding duplication of efforts, provide higher quality services, streamline processes and attract good jobs and investments.

This common sense approach can also help us build better partnerships between Federal, Provincial and Indigenous governments, as well as with business and industry, who work each day in our communities to provide services, products and jobs. A coordinated approach for the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region is an opportunity to package our collective strengths and flip the "Open for Business" sign on - together.

Our region has no shortage of strengths. Located in the centre of North America we



have extensive trade corridors connecting us across Canada and to the United States and Mexico. We also have CentrePort Canada, the largest inland port in North America. Along with our transportation and logistics opportunities, we have some of the world's best agricultural lands and productive capacity, abundant freshwater resources, low-cost renewable hydropower and a diverse and highly skilled workforce.

Although we have a lot to offer potential investors, like Amazon and investors who have been here for generations and are contemplating expansion, local leaders understand that we have more work to do. We must clearly define, package and build on our strengths to increase our competitiveness if we want to get in the game like our neighbours to the west.

Edmonton's Capital Region Board (CRB) recently initiated a new approach to solidify and strengthen intermunicipal collaboration with the creation of Edmonton Global. This new entity championed by Edmonton's Mayor Don Iveson is a partnership between fifteen Metro Region municipalities to create a shared regional economic development strategy increasing investment and good jobs for the Edmonton Metropolitan Region. The organizing principal of shared investment/shared reward leaves competition behind and sets a clear example of what can be achieved when local leaders act together and shift from a zero-sum game strategy.

Across North America there are 350 Metro Regions working together to build their value proposition. Those similar to the scale of our Metro Region have focused collaborative efforts to economic development, roads and transportation infrastructure, public transportation and land-use planning. As one of

the 350 regions working to shore up our value proposition, we will need to work together if we are to advance our position and improve our competitive advantage.

Often investors are looking for qualities that may only be answered by the breadth of what the region has to offer. Which means, working at a regional scale is no longer something we can just pay lip service to; it is imperative if we are to keep the social, economic and environmental security we have become accustomed to. Otherwise we will fall behind.

Leaders from the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region have been working hard on the important and challenging work of regional planning and action. Leaders view the creation of a system as an environment that promotes regional cooperation, not as one that will deliver every aspect of municipal operations together, but one that strategically aligns efforts where it makes sense to do so - and investment in economic development like Amazon HQ2, which has inspired us to put our best foot forward, is an opportunity that makes sense.

Although this work is in progress, leaders could use a little help from Provincial and Federal governments, business and industry, NGOs and associations in incenting and supporting the development of a regional framework. Perhaps with a bit more attention and an all hands on deck approach to designing and delivering a regional framework, we can move forward faster while building on our collective strengths and highlighting all we have to offer.

We have become very good at competing, but we may be even better at collaborating. And who knows, maybe "Winnipeg Global" is not too far off.

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It's time for collaborative leadership towards reconciliation

Winnipeg Metro Region News Desk

On March 15 and 16, 2018, twenty-three Indigenous and Municipal leaders embarked on a historic process of reconciliation. Chiefs, Mayors and Reeves from southern and central Manitoba gathered to forge new relationships, creating the conditions to resolve issues that have been barriers to collaborative action for over a hundred years.

Brought together by a partnership between the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region and the Southern Chiefs' Organization, Indigenous and Municipal elected leaders undertook a facilitated process aimed at building better understanding, establishing relationships and identifying actions towards reconciliation. Grand Chief Jerry Daniels commented that "the time had come for leaders to put their heads together and find better, more productive ways of working together to ensure we do what we set out to; make our communities better for all."

Reeve Brad Erb and Reeve Frances Smee, Co-Chairs of the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, are optimistic about the role of local governments and what can be achieved through collaborative action and real partnerships. Reeve Smee of the RM of Rosser believes, "It is time to begin to establish new relationships with Indigenous leaders and communities; relationships built on respect and trust." The two-day meeting demonstrated a real commitment to tackle tough and often uncomfortable issues.

Reeve of the RM of Macdonald, Brad Erb said that "this was a genuine first step in finding ways that move us from just talk to real progress toward increasing our economic competitiveness, protecting our precious freshwater and natural re-



sources, as well as improving the quality of life for all of our communities."

The Mayors, Reeves, and Chiefs were put to work at the first meeting in a three-part series by facilitators Merrell-Ann Phare, the Executive Director of the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources and Michael Miltenberger, former Northwest Territories Cabinet Minister, who are the architects of world-class co-drafted transboundary agreements developed with Indigenous governments, Territorial and Provincial governments and focused on protecting freshwater in the Mackenzie River Basin.

This first meeting focused on building the foundation to move elected leaders to a second meeting that will address major information gaps on regional demographics, treaty land entitlement, economic development, and protection of our fresh water. The final meeting will use scenario planning, allowing leaders to work through possible outcomes and paths to action.

The leaders who took part in the first meeting of the Collaborative Leadership Initiative believe the time has come to take action and all agree that by working together they have the power to move

forward in leaps and bounds. They also agree this process could provide a path for jurisdictions across Canada to follow.

Forging new relationships based on Collaborative Leadership allows Indigenous and Municipal leaders to embark on a pathway to reconciliation and to implement the broader political and legal commitments of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Truth and Reconciliation Commissions Calls to Action - both calling for direct and ongoing collaboration with Indigenous peoples at all levels of government.

The goods behind the green – what does marijuana legalization really mean?

Winnipeg Metro Region News Desk

On or before July of 2018, the Trudeau Government of Canada will legalize the use of marijuana. But what does that mean exactly? It means that marijuana will be decriminalized and become a legal drug in Canada for recreational purposes as of July 1, 2018, according to the new cannabis legislation.

With guidance from the Task Force on Cannabis Legalization and Regulation, the rules of possession have been decided as follows:

- Consumers, over the age of 18 years old, will be allowed to carry up to 30 grams of marijuana on their person at any time, and;
- For those wishing to grow and harvest their own cannabis, they will be permitted to harvest four small plants at home.

Provinces have the authority to raise that age limit and Manitoba as well as several other provinces have changed the minimum age to 19. According to the federal government the protection of youth and children is a top priority, and they have established penalties as high as 5 million dollars and 14 years of jail time for those who supply minors. Packaging has also been considered with restrictions on labeling, and display in order to reduce the appeal to youth.

While the federal government has laid out a list of regulations that govern the sale and use of marijuana, each province has the task of determining specific aspects such as production, sales and distribution including the location of retail vendors. Manitoba has taken a hybrid model that combines provincial control with private retail outlets. This allows private business an opportunity to own and operate stores throughout the province.

Although the federal legislation allows users to grow up to four plants on their



own property for personal use, Manitoba has decided that they will not permit the growing of plants without a license to sell and distribute. As part of the lead up to legalization, the federal government launched a public awareness campaign on the dangers of being under the influence of any substance while operating a motorized vehicle. Don't Drive High (#dontdrivehigh) has made its way across all social media platforms, radio and television.

Along with public safety, questions have also been raised about the safety and quality of the product, as some growers in the past have been found using harmful pesticides. In light of these concerns Health Canada will be taking a zero-tolerance approach to dangerous pesticides, and will be randomly testing marijuana growers to ensure safety standards are enforced.

In terms of costs, a report from the Parliamentary Budget Office discovered that

current Black-Market marijuana prices are running between \$8 and \$10 per gram, and the current average price of medical marijuana runs just over \$9 per gram. Predictions have been made that come legalization, prices will stay roughly the same between \$8 and \$9 per gram. Pricing marijuana to reduce or eliminate the black market will be a careful balancing act.

In terms of economy, the legalization of marijuana could have a significant impact. A study from the business services firm Deloitte reported that the total impact of legalizing marijuana on Canada's economy would amount to somewhere between \$12.7 billion to \$22.6 billion per year. This includes the growth and distribution of marijuana, associated paraphernalia sales, business taxes and licensing fees, as well as revenue from increased tourism.

According to the CBC, Prime Minister

Justin Trudeau has already suggested that any government revenues from marijuana sales won't go toward balancing the federal budget. Trudeau suggested revenue will go toward addiction treatment, mental health support, and education programs.

Private investors, businesses and industry aren't the only ones looking to cash in on the economic opportunities that legalization could provide. As marijuana is estimated to become a multi-billion dollar industry, several First Nations communities across Canada are looking to invest in cannabis production companies. In September of 2017, Manitoba's Opaskwayak Cree Nation purchased \$3 million dollars' worth of shares in National Access Cannabis, which currently operates 10 medical marijuana clinics in Canada.

Support for marijuana legalization varies across the country and according to Deloitte, just over 40% of the public support legalization. Not surprisingly this division in support is largely due to market unknowns and questions relating to policy. However, Deloitte believes these divisions will shrink as legislation becomes more defined and markets respond. As far as our neighbours to the South go, after the 2016 election 29 states in the USA have laws legalizing marijuana in some form. The legalization of marijuana impacts many areas of policy and governance across a number of areas including health, and justice. With this there will be many important decisions that fall to local government and local communities.

There are still many unknowns regarding how this will roll out across Canada, Manitoba and in our own communities. Across our Metro Region this is just one more area where collaboration will provide an opportunity for leaders to work regionally sharing ideas and resources and ultimately achieving consistent solutions for business owners and residents alike.



Selkirk takes a shine to TV's Burden of Truth

The City of Selkirk

When film crews and actors converged upon Selkirk to shoot the drama *Burden of Truth* last summer and fall, it was anything but a burden on the community. In fact, it became the talk of the town.

The joy over transforming Selkirk into the fictional town of Millwood was never more evident than on Jan. 10 at the premiere held at the local Boston Pizza.

The lounge was packed with invited guests – who arrived via red carpet, no less – and the chatter and hubbub that filled the air stopped only when the first scenes of the CBC show appeared on the screen. And then the first image of Selkirk brought a roar that would have rivalled the decibel metre at a Jets or Bomber game.

"It was a fantastic night. And every time Manitoba Avenue, or the high school, or Riverside Grill appeared on the screens people would cheer," said Mayor Larry Johannson.

"You could feel the pride in the room and it was such a special night. It really showed how much Selkirk welcomed everyone involved with the film to their town. It gave you chills, really."

Ten episodes of *Burden of Truth* were filmed, and Selkirk has been featured prominently in every episode that has aired so far.

Johannson is thrilled with not only the final product, but the entire experience he, and others in the city, had during the lead up to shooting, shooting itself and then the fun that's been had since. Plus, it turns out making movie magic fulfills two of the city's strategic priorities – it helps revitalize Selkirk's image and it has the potential to attract tourism to the city.

Selkirk doubles as the fictional town of Millwood in the legal drama, that stars Kristin Kreuk as a big city lawyer who returns to her hometown to represent local girls who are unexpectedly falling ill. In January, the City of Selkirk, along with Manitoba Film & Music and Eagle Vision Inc. celebrated the series with a Millwood flag raising at the Waterfront.

A billboard promoting *Burden of Truth* was erected outside the civic offices, and anticipation of the series premiere was evident in the schools, businesses and on the streets.

Selkirk Biz executive director Sheri Skalesky said the TV series, which airs Wednesday nights at 8 p.m. and can be

streamed online, invigorated all of Selkirk.

"I can't say enough about how this production has engaged the whole community," Skalesky said.

"Everybody has just pulled together, we're all on the same page about this and it's fantastic. It means so much to our community."

Series producer Kyle Irving, a partner at Manitoba production company Eagle Vision Inc., said there were many things about Selkirk that made it a great fit for playing the role of Millwood.

"I think that Selkirk is a very interesting place for making film and television content because it's just far enough outside of Winnipeg to qualify as a rural location but it also has a level of sophistication with the services that are available there, and infrastructure, and it also offers a really interesting variety of practical locations for us to work in," Irving said.

"It kind of fits the bill for a lot of our needs very well."

The excitement of having a TV show shot in your town certainly provides a thrill that returns weekly when the next episode airs, but it also infuses an unbelievable amount of cash into the community.

Burden of Truth left behind almost \$1 million in Selkirk, money that was spent on everything from burgers to gasoline and hammers and nails. Irving said that's the nature of the fast-paced business of filming, where cast and crew number in excess of 100, and time is of the essence.

"We have a habit of spending a lot of money very quickly. It's the nature of production... the work that we're doing demands speed and efficiency, and the speed and efficiency comes at a price," Irving said.

"You've got a lot of cash flow happening at a quick rate and a lot of that is going to end up in these communities, it's gonna stay behind."

Riverside Grill is a perfect example. Irving said they try not to inconvenience anyone too much, but the Eveline Street restaurant plays a pivotal role in the show, with countless scenes taking place there. The retro interior was too good to be true, with Irving calling it "a time capsule," that is essentially a "pre-built set".

Though interiors and exteriors can be shot at two different locations, and through TV magic the audience is none the wiser, Irving said they wanted to use Riverside Grill for both shots. So they put money into sprucing up the outside.

"Knowing how much time we were going to spend there and how important a location it was going to be in our stories, we wanted to commit to making it fit our needs but leave a legacy that would be something that the community could enjoy for a long time and be proud of," he said.

"It made a lot of sense to do it right for Riverside Grill and for everyone."

Johannson said it's those kinds of positive stories that made the shooting of *Burden of Truth* so popular with all of Selkirk. He said it had a huge impact on the city, and he's hoping there's more to come.

"We want the crew and all the actors to know just how much we appreciate what they've done for the community and we appreciate them coming here, we really do," Johannson said.

"It was an overwhelmingly positive experience for Selkirk. Bring on Season 2."

Selkirk continues to attract production and is confident 2018 will be as rewarding as last year. The city is streamlining its application and filming process to make Selkirk an even more appealing location.

"A review to our policy and application process was long overdue and the time for change is now," said Vanessa Figus, the city's Marketing and Communications Coordinator.

"We want to be top of mind when filming in rural Manitoba is a consideration and we want that to be as easy as possible for all parties involved."

Filming in Manitoba is booming. According to Manitoba Film & Music's CEO and Film Commissioner Carole Vivier, \$160 million will be spent in production by the end of their fiscal year, making it the best year on record. And they expect the numbers to keep going up. Rural Manitoba has a starring role in these productions, in part thanks to the province's film and video production tax credit, which includes a rural and northern bonus.

"The City of Selkirk and other Manitoba cities and towns outside the capital play a major role in our province's film and television industry," Vivier said.

"Last year 40 per cent of all production took place in 25 different rural communities in Manitoba, resulting in widespread economic impact."

Due to the success of season one, season two is set to start this June.

TappCar to the rescue: Catching a safe ride in the Metro Region

Winnipeg Metro Region News Desk

Competition and choice in Canada's transportation industry is surging. Ride-sharing options like Uber, Lyft and TappCar are utilizing modern day technology to serve customers efficiently and bring more options for transportation throughout Canada. Major cities like Toronto, Calgary and Ottawa are successfully operating with ride-sharing companies alongside their transit and taxicab services.

Ride-sharing companies have managed to successfully impact the transportation industry globally. Now Winnipeg and Manitoba are set to welcome TappCar, Cowboy Taxi and InstaRyde.

The Province of Manitoba passed Bill 30 – Local Vehicles for Hire Act, which will go into effect March 1. Bill 30 will give municipalities authority over vehicle-for-hire services, bringing Manitoba in line with every other jurisdiction in Canada where local governments are empowered to deal with this industry by setting the rules for both riders and drivers.

Here in the Winnipeg Metro Region, we could certainly use the extra rides. CBC has reported that Winnipeg has fewer taxicabs per capita than any other city in Canada. The ratio of taxicabs to people is currently one taxi to every 1,203 people and an additional 120 licences will be issued this year to try and ensure there are enough cabs on the road. Across the region it's often very hard to get a taxi, especially on busy nights during the holiday season or



TappCar

when large events are being held.

The city will not regulate the number of ride-share drivers but they have put some rules in place to govern how they operate. Unlike taxis, they will not be allowed to be flagged down or accept cash.

Some question the safety of ride-sharing services, but TappCar drivers must undergo the same criminal background checks and vehicle-safety certifications as the taxi industry, as well as display mandatory in-car photo ID with contact information. TappCar drivers will not have to install safety shields in their vehicles. Ride-sharing services will also closely collaborate with the City of Winnipeg Police Service.

To further ensure rider safety, ride-sharing operations include the ability for riders and others to track drivers via GPS, making it easy to share their location with a

friend as well as locating their ride at the pick-up location. One area that provides an additional level of safety and accountability is the ability for passengers and drivers to rate their experience. This driver-partner rating not only increases competition within the ride-sharing community, it gives the operators the ability to continually improve their operations.

Taxis and ride-sharing services like TappCar, once through the growing pains of becoming established and finding their place within the new legislative framework, will offer an important service providing safe transportation options for residents within Winnipeg and for those living in the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region.

Allowing residents in Manitoba more choice when it comes to safe rides, increases our connection and may even improve safety on the roads.

WSP innovating around the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region

Richard Tebinka and David Jopling

As a proud partner, WSP works with urban and rural municipalities in the Metro Region to meet their infrastructure and planning goals and needs. The firm is one of the world's leading professional services firms with a combined staff of over 40,000 (more than 8,000 across Canada) in 40 countries. Here in Winnipeg, we have over 170 employees consisting of engineers, planners, scientists, technicians, and support staff who provide seamless planning, design, and contract administration services for both public and private sector clients. Our local team has proudly been providing expert consulting services in Manitoba for over 50 years.

Our team has a wide range of experience providing services for rural and urban projects, particularly within Manitoba's Metro Region. In recent years, we have worked on over 100 projects in the Metro Region. We are highly knowledgeable in terms of the local context and conditions, working on projects spanning from multi-million dollar highway and interchange designs to small-scale subdivisions and secondary plans.

WSP is a collective of innovative thinkers who work collaboratively with our clients and communities to solve complex problems. Our expertise ranges from engineer-



ing iconic buildings to designing sustainable transportation networks, from urban planning to environmental remediation, and from developing the energy sources of the future to enabling new ways of extracting essential resources. With strong client relationships and solid industry knowledge, we help our clients capitalize on opportunities, understand and address challenges, identify and manage risks, and navigate relevant regulatory systems.

Big Plans for the South Perimeter Provincial Trunk Highway (PTH 100)

Recently, WSP was engaged by the Province of Manitoba to provide a functional design study for the reconstruction of the South Perimeter Highway (PTH 100), including a proposed future St. Norbert

bypass.

The PTH 100 redesign would create a modern freeway thoroughfare, where highway access is provided by service roads, ramps or loops, and interchanges with overpass structures. The functional design will also include plans for a future western bypass of the St. Norbert neighbourhood, starting at PTH 75 south of the area and running north to PTH 100 at Kenaston Boulevard.

The functional study is estimated to take two years to complete. The study will guide more detailed design work and reconstructions on PTH 100 in the future, preserve the necessary land for the proposed St. Norbert bypass, recommend closure of uncontrolled access points onto the South Perimeter Highway, and support local area development and land-use planning.

Throughout the project, there will be many opportunities for municipalities and interested individuals to learn more about the study and provide input towards the design recommendations. WSP will be visiting communities within the study area to share information, answer questions and gather important feedback from you. Event dates will be posted on the project website, which is currently being developed, and opportunities for productive public engagement sessions will be announced. We at WSP feel fortunate to play a role in

Some of our recent projects in the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region include:

- RM of Springfield Development Plan, Water and Wastewater Management Plans
- RM of St Clements Regional Wastewater Study
- RM of Taché Building By-Law and Servicing Standards Study
- Southern Red River Valley Crossing Study
- Capital Region Transportation Master Plan
- City of Selkirk Manitoba Avenue Detailed Design Plans
- PTH 59/101 Interchange - Owner's Engineer
- CentrePort Canada Way - Owner's Engineer
- CentrePort/Rosser Zoning By-law
- RM of Rosser CentrePort Secondary Plan
- Chief Peguis Trail Extension West Preliminary Design Study

supporting the growth and development of the Metro Region and we look forward to continuing our work together!
www.wsp.com

Back to the future

Warren Thompson

The expected growth of Manitoba's Metro Region to 1 million people by 2035 will have a tremendous impact on how we think and plan for the future. New challenges are arising rapidly, particularly with linking people to where they live, work, and play.

"Collectively, we need to face the mobility challenges in the Metro Region and put a renewed focus on connecting communities while efficiently moving people to work and goods to market," says Luis Escobar, Transportation Discipline Lead at Stantec Manitoba. "Planning for the future starts with bringing community stakeholders and decision-makers together to consider innovative mobility choices."

Back to the Future

In the streetcar era, mobility development focused on community and Main Street was a vibrant place before it transformed to a corridor for moving people through the City.

By the 1950s, the focus of transportation shifted from electric streetcars to personal automobiles. This had a profound impact on Winnipeg's development and growth patterns, and transportation experiences.

Cars provide great freedom, but when auto-mobility is the chief focus of transportation systems and development patterns they can impose negative consequences on cities. As cities deal with increased traffic



volumes, land values drop when used for parking purposes, public areas become less vibrant and those without access to cars can become more isolated.

Our electric streetcar era connected Winnipeg's downtown to vibrant neighborhoods such as St. James and the Rural Municipality of Headingley. Had we maintained that system, today we would likely be considered a leader in sustainable public transportation. Looking ahead, what options will serve us best as we re-connect people and places?

"The way to achieve positive change," says Stantec's Bob Kurylko, a Senior

Transportation Engineer and Planner "is through long-term vision and good planning, followed by a commitment to the plan. Currently, providing transit early in a community's life does not receive high priority. As a result, car ownership is a forced expenditure. To break that cycle, development parameters must create a balanced approach to mobility with strategic investment providing choice from the beginning."

"In planning for future mobility," says Kurylko, "we need to offer multiple transportation options and do so early in the urban planning stages. Good planning is not just making land available for residential or employment area development; it requires understanding mobility needs in relation to land use and associated services."

Looking Ahead

Doing what is right for our communities becomes more evident when we look at transportation within a broader context," says Escobar. Employment lands will continue to grow in areas like North Winnipeg, East St. Paul, Macdonald, Headingley, and Rosser/Winnipeg (CentrePort Land), drawing people towards and outside our City's perimeter. "We need to re-imagine how to get people to work throughout the Metro Region efficiently and with less dependence on cars." He notes that options to foster transit ridership could include ride-sharing services, micro-transit, park-and-ride, and creating meeting places at transit hubs with

desirable services (such as dry-cleaning, coffee shops, and convenience stores).

"As autonomous vehicles become more prevalent, Winnipeg is significantly poised to take advantage of this trend. We are the only major Canadian City that has full connectivity to all its traffic signals through its newly established Transportation Management Centre," says Escobar. This, together with the recent Provincial announcement related to autonomous vehicles, can fundamentally change mobility in Winnipeg and the Metro Region. Smart investments in repurposing and increasing efficiencies of existing infrastructure can help manage the cost of increasing capacity.

Good regional planning to improve mobility capacity is not always about adding new services, new lands, and new features, says Escobar. "While we can't keep widening our roads, what we can do is make better and more efficient use of our transportation spaces through technology. Good planning lets us identify sustainable solutions and choices that help us build for the future."

"We have a good window of opportunity for conversation," says Kurylko. "Our existing approach will be significantly challenged within five to ten years. By taking a 'better together' approach, the Metro Region can achieve a better future down the road - one that is fair to our tax payers and future-oriented for growth."

Warren Thompson, Stantec Principal, Programs & Business Solutions.



No beef, all bouquets

Every day across the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region there are many who go above and beyond to make our communities great. It's time to send a bouquet or a high five to a community member who went above and beyond to brighten your day or to make our communities a better place to live, work and play.

If you have someone you want to thank, submit it to The Winnipeg Metro Region News Desk at info@wmregion.ca

Bouquet for Shirley Muir for her Ingenuity, Perseverance and Determination in her roll in 'Homes for the Holidays' and 'Holiday Alley' - two (2) extremely huge successful events in the City of Selkirk - Thank you from Mayor Larry Johansson, Council, Staff and Citizens.

Great big congratulations to Jamie Anseeuw and Dennis Thiessen who are representing Canada on the men's curling team in the 2018 Para-Olympics in South Korea. - Reeve and council from RM of Macdonald.

The RM of Cartier would like to give a huge Thank You to Karen Timchuk for serving as our Emergency

Coordinator for 6 years. Karen has developed through her leadership and dedication an active and dedicated team of volunteers to assist the municipality in emergency situations and has created a robust emergency plan. Due to Karen's efforts we are in good shape to weather any emergencies that might befall us and as Karen moves on to other ventures we thank her and wish her well.

A hats off to the Red River North Heritage group who improved the geocache experience in St. Clements by adding a QR code that links to short videos at eight geocache locations. - Mayor and Council RM of St. Clements.

A community committed to cleaning up Lake Winnipeg



Rick Gamble, mayor of Dunnottar, has been a tireless advocate for the health of Lake Winnipeg. Photo: Audrey Boitson.

Lorraine Stevenson

Article originally published by the Manitoba Cooperator

Dunnottar has a tree-lined pathway, curbside recycling and makes the yard waste it composts available to local residents to use in this lakeside village's large number of community gardens. It does water conservation education too. Someday the local government hopes to heat its municipal office with solar panels.

But it's how this small village of about 700 in winter — and 4,000 during cottage season — treats its waste water that makes it really stand out as a place planning for long-term sustainability. Dunnottar has a system for sending cleaner water to Lake Winnipeg that's unique in Manitoba and possibly one of its kind anywhere in Canada.

They spent about 10 years researching and testing its passive filter system, now fully operational for two years, as a low-cost and low-maintenance slow-release method significantly reducing nutrients like nitrogen and phosphorus, heavy metals and fecal matter being released from their lagoon. Biweekly tests while it was still being piloted showed it reduced release of nitrogen by up to 60 per cent and phosphorus by 62 per cent.

That project is what Eastern Interlake Conservation District officials say impressed them most while deciding to present Dunnottar with an award for environmental stewardship this winter.

"If I had to pick one achievement that stands out by far to us it would be the unrelenting work that they put into this," said Armand Belanger, manager of the EICD. "They went well above and beyond any

other current system to reduce effluent and other contaminants."

"Rick tells me it's cheaper than putting in a third cell (of a lagoon system)."

Rick is Rick Gamble, mayor of Dunnottar. Long serving on organizations such as Lake Friendly Stewards Alliance as co-chair, the Lake Winnipeg Foundation Board and the South Basin Mayors and Reeves group, Gamble says when you live on the lake you see first-hand the problem you've contributed to — and want to contribute to the solution.

"We've always leaned this way," he said. "For close to 15 years we've been pushing the envelope to clean up our own backyard so to speak."

Dunnottar's care for the environment around it extends farther up the beach too.

It's also one of about 30 municipalities in Manitoba with a Climate Change Action Plan developed with support from Eco-West, a province-wide group helping local government calculate its greenhouse gas emissions and adopting new technologies to reduce them.

Someday they hope to have charging stations for electric vehicles too, Gamble said. He doesn't drive one himself right now. It's lack of infrastructure holding him back.

"There's very, very little of it outside of Winnipeg," he said.

Another initiative currently underway in Dunnottar is its sustainability committee that's working on a community-led and -inspired plan for more future sustainable living projects.

Gamble believes more communities in Manitoba could be moving in the same overall direction as Dunnottar. What it takes is community backing.

"I've always been a firm believer in the bottom-up, not top-down approach," he

said, adding that's been why Dunnottar is as far along as it is. He's also convinced more people than ever before are thinking about how a changing climate could affect future generations.

"I think municipalities are going to have to realize... and provincial government... that we're going to have to do things a little differently," he said. The ongoing challenge right now is finding resources for the infrastructure initiatives they want to pursue, he added.

"You can think progressive, but can you act?" he said, adding that Dunnottar paid its share of the cost of its waste water treatment innovation with gas tax refund revenues saved up for several years. New resources are becoming available, however.

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) just this month rolled out two new programs that will provide grants and training to help local governments pay for and implement various sustainability initiatives.

One is the Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program (MCIP), a five-year, \$75-million program starting up in spring of 2017 to help fund studies, plans and demonstration projects. The other is the Municipal Asset Management Program to help municipalities with limited budgets and competing priorities be able to invest in sustainable infrastructure that contributes to a clean growth economy. Both programs are federally funded and available to all municipalities and their partners.

Dunnottar was recognized for its outstanding effort to protect Lake Winnipeg and its watershed during the annual awards ceremony of the Manitoba Conservation District Association in December. Watch for more stories highlighting other initiatives recognized by the MCDA.

Made in Manitoba climate plan



Photo credit: The Winnipeg Sun

Winnipeg Metro Region News Desk

Over the last several years we've seen bigger storms, larger floods and more unpredictable weather, all patterns that have been attributed to climate change. Here in Manitoba and around the world we're increasingly realizing that this is having a financial impact on things like infrastructure, insurance, and economic development. We all know we have to do our part to reduce our climate impact, but how will our individual wallets be affected?

On December 9th, 2016 the Trudeau Government announced the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change. It mandated that provinces develop plans to address climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The goal of the Framework is to meet or exceed Canada's 2030 climate change target of a 30 percent reduction below 2005 greenhouse gas levels.

Across Canada, provinces have responded to the Federal Government's mandate in various ways. In August of 2016, British Columbia released a Climate Leadership Plan with six action areas: natural gas, transportation, forestry and agriculture, industry and utilities, communities and built environment and public sector leadership. Our neighbours to the east in Ontario responded with a Climate Change Action Plan with eight action areas: transportation, buildings and homes, land-use planning, industry and business, collaboration with Indigenous communities, research and development, government and agriculture, forests and lands.

The Province of Manitoba released its Made-in-Manitoba Climate and Green Plan, and is built on the pillars of climate, jobs, water and nature. Although there are some things to flesh out in the plan, here are the proposed ways Manitoba plans to reduce emissions. The plan sets out an array of new initiatives to protect wetlands and watersheds, water quality, and wild species and habitats. Low carbon economy jobs will be encouraged through green infrastructure, clean technology, innovation financing, and skills and training.

What we so far know is that the federal government has directed the provinces to establish a carbon tax that is to start at \$10/tonne this year and rise to \$50/tonne by 2022.

The Government of Manitoba's Made-in-Manitoba Climate and Green Plan, has set its Manitobans carbon tax at \$25/tonne, to start in the first year and remain consistent and not rise to the federal target of \$50/tonne in 2022. The Provincial Government believes that this approach is fairer to Manitobans as it accounts for the substantial investment the Province has made toward hydroelectric power and allows business and residents a consistency in planning and budgeting.

Although the carbon tax in Manitoba is starting off higher than in other Provinces, the Manitoba Government believes its strategy will achieve more than twice as many emissions reductions as the federal carbon tax.

So what does this mean for your pocket book? An average family of 4 would be paying of approximately 5 cents per litre more of gasoline, which adds up to about \$356 a year more in fuel costs. The provincial government has already indicated that the farming community will be excluded from the tax on fuel. Although there is still more detail to come, what we all hope to see is that the money received from this initiative will go back into projects that build our resilience to a changing climate and further reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.

A full review of the carbon pricing plan will take place in 2022.

First People's Development Inc. supporting First Nations communities

Vanessa Everett

The First People's Development Inc. (FPDI) is devoted to very important goals - training to employment for Indigenous clients in 39 First Nation communities. The not-for-profit organization steadfastly accomplishes their goals of supporting southern MB region First Nation communities with training in employment programs, youth/disability programs, and child care/daycare programming. The client population reached through the FPDI is more than 58,000, and of that, 60% youth are served.

As an administrative organization for Service Canada's Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy (ASETS), FPDI seeks to provide oversight, support, and guidance to the First Nation Communities to ensure utmost transparency and accountability. FPDI supports their member First Nations (Sub-Agreement Holders - SAHs) by achieving greater success in employment and training through:



1. Identifying Labour Market Opportunities
2. Building Capacity & Facilitating Development
3. Creating Partnerships with Industry & Educators
4. Ensuring Fiscal Accountability

It is with the support of the FPDI, the First Nations - at the local level - work to develop and deliver programs and services that meet their own specific labour market needs for continued client employment development. The organization's mission/vision is to enable First Nation groups to deliver a wide range of human resources programs; and enable First Nation organizations to assist cli-

ents to prepare for, obtain and maintain employment.

In facilitating industry linkages, FPDI has created an Industry Advisor Committee (IAC) that advises FPDI and SAHs on current and future employment and training needs. Advisory Committee members are key players in the future success of First Nation students, graduates and FPDI. In guiding the development of the FPDI programs, IAC members assist and ensure graduates are well-prepared experts to begin their careers and contribute to their sector. IAC members gain access to a large demographic labour pool for their companies and guide the development of potential employees in training.

FPDI is located at 105-1355 Mountain Ave. Everyone is welcome and invited to stop in and learn more about the organization. Please visit us at our website www.fpdinc.ca to learn more about our successes in programming.

Let's put those plants to work for you



Dorothy Dobbie

Back in the good old days we went to work in a plant to make things. Today, we are learning to let plants do the work for us. This was the essential message of a panel of experts about using natural assets to work with and even replace some of our engineered infrastructure to deal with waste and run off from urban environments.

What does all that mean? Simply that natural wetlands, sloughs and urban forests can do much more of the cleanup in our communities than we have allowed them to do over the past century.

Brought in by Winnipeg's Metropolitan Region (formerly PMCR) Executive Director, Colleen Sklar, the panel included Roy Brooke, Principal at Brooke & Associates; Michelle Molnar, Environmental Economist at the David Suzuki Foundation; Chris Weber, Senior Manager at Deloitte in Climate Change & Sustainability; Mark Anielski, President and CEO at Anielski Management Inc.; and Bob Sandford, EPCOR Chair for Water and Climate Security at the United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health who engaged in a two-day conference with local mayor, reeves and civic administrators called Keeping Manitoba Liquid.

In practical terms, the panel discussed the need to incorporate natural assets – urban forests, natural water features, natural drainage systems – into community balance sheets, and then to put these assets to work for us.

According to a report prepared for the Ministry of the Environment in Finland, 2008, "Growing recognition is now being given to "soft" or "ecological engineering" options, in which attention is given to sound environmental management as a form of structural defence, instead of steel fabrications, poured concrete or shifted rocks. Limited, but increasing, evidence now shows that good environmental management can play an important – and cost-effective – role in reducing many of the risks posed by natural hazards."

"There is a real value in these natural assets that needs to be recognized. Every day, decisions are being made on how to provide services to our communities without taking these assets into account. Keeping Manitoba Liquid was the beginning of a much larger conversation, one that will allow us to ensure we are measuring and managing our natural assets in tandem with our traditional asset management framework in order to realize our full return on investment," said Colleen Sklar.

The town of Gibsons, British Columbia (the town made famous by the TV show the Beachcombers) is leading the way in Canada, using natural features to handle rainwater, floods and water purification. For a look at how this works, visit <https://youtube/Sc5z197VOW0>.

Gibsons has obvious run off potentials with a visible network of creeks and aquifers, but so does Winnipeg and its surrounding communities. In the city, many of these natural creeks, tributaries and rivulets have been forced underground, hidden, drained or channelled into other former waterways as in the case of the former Colony Creek, which once ran through the centre of town near the Royal Alexandra Hotel (Main and Higgins) but was diverted to Omand's Creek that runs near Polo Park and empties into the Assiniboine.

Another creek, now nothing but a memory commemorated by a plaque, is Sinclair's Creek (once called Ross's or Brown's Creek), which ran east from Princess along William to the Red river, but which was filled in way back in the mid 1890s.

If you look at a close up map of Winnipeg, you can see vestiges of other water systems, now chopped into minor basins (we call them man-made lakes) to handle rainwater, but with much of their natural flow either sent underground or completely filled in.

The trees and natural plants that followed these waterways were destroyed to make way for development. Over the years, to replace the natural assets, we have built costly networks of sewers and drainage systems that often become overburdened when there is a big rainstorm or during a fast spring thaw. We also spend billions trying to clean up the water we foul in our everyday lives.

Municipalities are now beginning to see that restoring natural systems can reduce costs and even do a better job of drainage and clean up than we have been doing artificially.

One of the recommendations of the conference is to try a pilot project here in Manitoba to see how much using our natural assets can save us and where they can do a better job.

Band nitrogen to reduce losses

With a change in machinery, Red River Valley farmer Brad Erb had to give up his time-of-seeding nitrogen banding. So he opted for the next best thing to reduce losses for his soil type: Fall banding

Jay Whetter

When Brad Erb switched seeding tools, it forced a shift in his nitrogen application strategy. The farmer from Oak Bluff, Manitoba had been applying anhydrous ammonia at the time of seeding through the mid-row bander on his drill. Based on old and new research, he knows that spring banding applications are the best way to limit nitrogen losses. He also knows from experience that time-of-seeding is really the only spring banding option for his heavy Red River soils.

"With our clays, any spring field work done before seeding destroys the seed bed," he says.

But then Erb bought a new disc drill that did not have the mid-row banding option. And as a disc drill, he couldn't risk putting nitrogen down that narrow opening with the seed.

So he needed to add another pass for nitrogen.

At the same time Erb was making his decision, he was hosting nitrogen application trials for University of Manitoba researcher Mario Tenuta. The canola-grower-funded study was comparing canola yield results for surface application, shallow banding and deep banding of nitrogen at 100 per cent and 70 per cent of recommended rates.

The study, which was confined to east-central Manitoba, confirmed that losses are much higher with fall surface applications and that shallow- or deep-banding is better than surface applications in the spring.

With the amount farmers spend on nitrogen, this information provides a good payback.

"I rely on this research and a lot of my own on-farm testing to make the right economic decisions," Erb says.

Recent studies such as Tenuta's are also important to provide modern context for older studies that have been driving decisions for decades.

With every nitrogen decision Erb makes, he thinks about the "relative efficiencies" table created in 1975 based on Al Ridley's "Effect of nitrogen fertilizers, time and method of placement on yields of barley." If spring broadcast is 100 per cent efficient, Ridley concluded that other options had relative efficiencies as follows: Fall broadcast 80 per cent, Fall band 100 per cent, Spring band 120 per cent.

In short, to get the most return from nitrogen, spring banding is the best option. Tenuta's canola research from 40 years later confirms that this is still true.

So how does Erb apply nitrogen if he can't band it at the time of seeding or before seeding?

Fall banding is his best compromise for timing, logistics and reduced losses, he says. He bands when soil temperature drops below 10°C so that soil microbial activity and resulting nitrogen loss is minimized. He adds that for his



Brad Erb.

farm fall banding is better than spring broadcast – even if Ridley's relative efficiencies suggest they're about equal.

"Fall banding is way less risky in our soil type," Erb says. "We usually have lots of moisture and, importantly, lots of heat in the spring. That combination increases volatilization, which is why, for us, spring broadcast has huge potential for loss."

Given the amount canola farmers pay for their nitrogen input each year, the payback from research to quantify losses and to choose best practices for nitrogen use efficiency can be many thousands of dollars per farm per year.

Jay Whetter is communications manager with the Canola Council of Canada. This article first appeared in Canola Digest magazine's "Science Edition 2017". Read it online at canoladigest.ca.

Working together to create sustainable agriculture in Manitoba



Kelly McCarthy

Fertilizer is an important input for farmers, providing nutrients to plants that are not readily available in the soil, helping farmers foster plant growth and increase yields. Nutrient management planning helps optimize production at a reasonable cost and minimizes the risk of nutrient loss from agricultural lands.

That is why, together with industry stakeholders, Fertilizer Canada developed the 4R Nutrient Stewardship (Right Source @ Right Rate, Right Time, Right Place®) Best Management

Practices system. Implementing 4R Nutrient Stewardship in Manitoba is crucial to protecting farmland and waterways.

Fertilizer Canada works with the Manitoba government and producers to promote sustainable use of nutrients for the benefit of producers and society in the province. Producers in Manitoba also work closely with many other commodity groups to promote sustainable crop production that maximizes nutrient use efficiency and limits potential nutrient losses.

Working with the Manitoba government and producers is critical to

achieving Fertilizer Canada's goal of capturing 20 million acres under 4R Nutrient Stewardship by 2020. "We want to be a part of the sustainability solution," said Garth Whyte, President and CEO of Fertilizer Canada. "By using 4R Nutrient Stewardship BMPs we can help Canadian farmers meet the global Sustainable Development Goals and produce enough food to feed over 9.6 billion people."

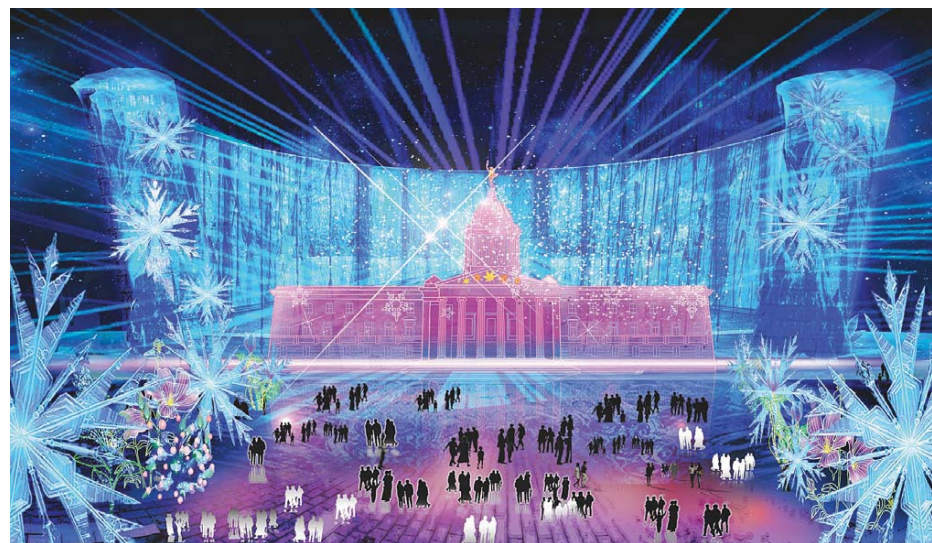
For more information on the 4R Nutrient Stewardship program visit: <https://fertilizercanada.ca/nutrient-stewardship/4rs-across-canada/manitoba/>

Lights of the North

The Year of Canada-China Tourism, and the 30th Anniversary of its twinning with the city of Chengdu will be celebrated by the Lights of the North, Chinese Lantern Light Festival, coming to Winnipeg this September-October



At the official launch of Lights of the North on April 4, 2018 (left to right): Kelly Bindle, MLA of Thompson; Hon. Anita Lee; Hon. Jim Carr, Canada's Minister of Natural Resources; Winnipeg Mayor Brian Bowman; Brian Wood, co-chair of Lights of the North; Dorothy Dobbie, co-chair of Lights of the North; Honourable Philip Lee, former Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba.



Covering 10 acres at Red River Exhibition Park this will be the largest spectacle of its kind ever mounted in Canada. The replica Manitoba Legislature, above, will be 45 feet high.

Dorothy Dobbie

Thirty years ago, in 1988, a delegation from the City of Winnipeg along with a group of Winnipeg business people from the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce travelled to China for the twinning of Winnipeg with Chengdu, China's fifth largest city and capital of Sichuan Province in Western China.

It was an important event, representing one of the early efforts by a Canadian city to reach out to the country which was still emerging from behind the Bamboo Curtain.

The twinning event opened the doors that allowed Winnipeg to become the very first city in Canada, second in North America only to the San Diego Zoo, to host a couple of giant pandas.

The Lights of the North committee is co-chaired by Dorothy Dobbie, first female chair of the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce and leader of the trade delegation that accompanied the civic group lead by then mayor Bill Norrie. The other co-chair is Brian Wood who managed the panda visit the following year.

The twinning and the panda visit were a very big deal at the time. In spite of all the excitement then, however, the relationship with our sister city has been allowed to decline on our side, although Chengdu has reached out many times to us. That will be remedied this year.

Not only does 2018 mark the 30th anniversary of the signing of our sister city relationship with Chengdu, 2018 is the year of Canada-China Tourism as agreed between

Winnipeg hosts first panda visit to Canada

In 1978, the World Wildlife Federation had signed a breakthrough agreement with China to co-operate in saving the giant pandas whose numbers at that time had dwindled to around 1,200. The plight of the pandas continued to be very big news in the 1980s – when two giant pandas were loaned to the San Diego Zoo in 1987, two million people came to see them.

The Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding was created in 1987, just the year before the Winnipeg twinning with Chengdu and this became very much a focal point of the trade mission.

When the bears were brought to Winnipeg a year after the twinning, their visit drew international attention. Cheng Cheng and Rong Rong, the two pandas, were quickly adopted by Winnipeg. Their visit helped save the Assiniboine Park zoo which was under great distress at the time.

Thirty years later, the panda numbers have rebounded, thanks to the worldwide efforts led by Beijing to protect their habitat. Today, there are said to be about 1,864 adult wild pandas.

After the panda visit, Winnipeg reciprocated by sending a pair of polar bears to Chengdu.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Premier Li Keqiang in September 2016. Seven new visa application centres have been opened to facilitate this, among them, one in Chengdu.

To celebrate both events, a group of local investors are bringing a spectacular Chinese light show to Winnipeg this September and October. Lights of the North, the Chinese Lantern Light Festival will be an outstanding event covering 10 acres at Red River Exhibition Park and offering the largest spectacle

Sister cities have much in common

Chengdu is situated on two major rivers which meet in the centre as do the Red and Assiniboine in Winnipeg. It is the primary railway hub for its part of China.

A quick scan of Chengdu primary industries brings Winnipeg to mind. Chengdu does business on a much larger scale but they too rely on such industry as

- agriculture (grains, edible oil seeds, vegetables)
- investment and financial
- logistics and transportation
- electronics and IT
- pharmaceuticals

While we build buses and farm machinery, they make automobiles.

They even have a small aerospace industry and already rely on Winnipeg's Standard Aero to repair their aircraft engines.

Sichuan is the site of ancient hydro power dams built in 256 BC and still providing irrigation to agriculture. Sichuan is also home to many modern hydro electric power dams.

Chengdu is China's fifth largest city with a population of over 10 million in a trading area of 16 million. The GDP of Chengdu is \$163.7 billion USD. Winnipeg's GDP is about \$29 billion USD.

of its kind ever mounted in Canada.

It will be more than a static display, encompassing Chinese artisans, acrobats, cuisine and opportunities for kids and adults to be engaged in activity. There will be "living" dinosaurs, augmented reality experiences, carnival rides, and interactive art displays (a giant "Lite Brite" screen will let you create your own dinosaur image), fantasy world displays and incredible replicas of Winnipeg landmarks and icons.

Construction of the displays will begin in July with the show opening in early September and running until mid-October. From 75 to 100 artisans will be in town to do the construction and to set up the intricate lanterns and other feature displays. One such display is a giant dragon made of thousands of china plates, cups and saucers. The "lanterns", steel construction covered with fabric, contain millions of LED lights. Other displays will have skins of unusual materials such as thousands of tiny medicine bottles, requiring great skill in the set up.

The Lights of the North Festival will be a chance to allow Winnipeggers and visitors to get a glimpse of the culture of China, while allowing Chengdu to pay its respects to its Canadian "little sister".

While the organizers are thrilled to present this entertainment opportunity to Manitoba, they are also acutely aware of the exciting possibilities such an exchange can present to business here. In the first instance, the show is expected to attract thousands of visitors to our city, but the longer term implication for reciprocal business is at the heart of the planning.

Manitoba is now open for business as demonstrated in the many recent very positive announcements of new investments such as the Simplot expansion and the pea processing initiative, together worth over \$1 billion, not to mention the burgeoning downtown Winnipeg construction.

Reconnecting with China's fifth largest city and a centre of enterprise can only spell opportunity to Manitoba business.

Microbial bioreactor technology

Virtually eliminate sludge in Sewage Lagoons, WWTP, and Collector Systems

Steve Polock

As we approach the 3rd decade of the 21st Century, some old problems continue to be a major concern for municipal and provincial officials. Amongst these is the continuing issue of how to affordably and effectively deal with wastewater infrastructure and wastewater treatment on a daily basis. Simply stated, small municipal governments cannot contemplate investments of \$40 to 100 million in wastewater plants. Lagoon systems are extremely challenged to keep up with expanding populations and the desire for municipal expansion. Canwest has developed creative solutions that can help not only the rate-payers and the politicians, but also, the environment. Their microbiologists have replicated Mother Nature's ability to effectively and efficiently deal with wastewater issues through microbial action for the treatment of waste water in commercial, agricultural, industrial and municipal applications.

How it works

The Technology promotes the continual reproduction of trillions of microbes for a decade. The basic life cycle of microbes results in the consumption of waste (sludge) on a 24/7 basis. Additionally, the bio-cleaner converts the water body to an aerobic state resulting in numerous benefits. The carbon footprint is dramatically reduced. Methane and hydrogen sulphide are no longer produced. Odours cease. COD and BOD levels drop dramatically. Ammonia and nitrates are dissipated in the form of atmospheric nitrogen. Fat, Oils and Greases (FOGS) as well as sludge, are consumed by the billions of constantly regenerating microbes. Dissolved oxygen levels are improved. A major benefit to municipal governments is the consumption of up to 30" of sludge a month. Sludge accounts for up to 85%



Bioreactor in action.

of the operational costs of a wastewater system. This can be returned to the budget.

The microbes are all-natural and have not been genetically modified, so they are safe from pathogens or from the risk of mutation. Utilizing some 7-9,000 microbes, the bioreactor packages are specifically designed for individual wastewater conditions. While the technology is designed to deal with organic waste issues, it is capable of dealing with some inorganic chemistry problems such as phosphorous. Wastewater becomes far more environmentally friendly easing the load on STP's, WWTP's and lagoon systems and Municipal operating costs can be significantly reduced while producing oxygen enriched, high quality effluent.

In northern climates, the Bio-Reactors life expectancy is ap-

The Targets are to:

- Reduce and virtually eliminate odours. Depending on onsite variables, this should occur within 10 days.
- Significantly reduce BOD & COD levels.
- Convert the lagoon(s) to an aerobic state & increase DO levels.
- Eliminate the production of hydrogen sulphide and methane gas.
- Convert ammonia, TN and nitrates to atmospheric nitrogen.
- Consume the sludge on an ongoing basis.
- Eliminate sludge handling, transportation and landfill costs.
- Reduce TSS and TDS by 50% or more.
- Convert the lagoon wastewater to acceptable MOE guidelines for discharge.
- Operational costs will reduce as aerators require far more electricity and maintenance than these bio-reactors.

proximately 15 years, with relatively minor maintenance along the way. During freeze up the bio-reactors must be removed and stored. However, the technology can be adapted to collector systems for year-round effectiveness. Sewers typically maintain temperatures of 50 F which works well with the microbes. The lagoons continue to have a full supply of microbes that will continue to work in water temperatures as low as -1C. The facultative microbes will continue to work under ice. Some additional remediation may be required in the spring after the ice has come off, but much of the treatment process will be completed. If the units are stored properly for the winter, they could last up to 15-20 years.

Steven Polock is President of Canwest Waste and Environmental Technologies. For more info call 877-943-1973.

Why developing complete communities is essential to helping us adapt to globalization

Nadi Design's principal weighs in on community development for the next millennium

Emeka Nadi

Globalization has made the world a smaller place. World events such as war, natural calamities and economic uncertainty have intensified globalization faster than anyone could have anticipated. As people consider where to live, they often think about issues relating to economic and social opportunity, quality of life, and the management of environmental resilience and natural resources. In emerging, marginalized or developing communities, these issues veer into darker territory (sometimes with basic survival at stake). The challenges that face these communities — limited educational opportunity, absence of social and economic advancement and severe environmental volatility — further exacerbates globalization as more people leave them to find opportunities elsewhere.

In response to globalization, the real estate development industry has the opportunity to become agents of positive change. The development industry must seek more efficient and compact community footprints that carefully manage fading resources as populations increase. Examples of this include the need for more inclusive, accessible and supportive physical and social infrastructure models for aging populations, more creative and renewable energy infrastructures for expanding energy demands and more community paradigms that celebrate diversity while supporting, or even inspiring, a heightened sense of global belonging.

The development industry can respond to these concerns through the planning and development of complete communities — designed to reduce economic and environmental costs and enhance community livability. Or as Alison Brooks, a prominent UK architect, defines it: “[the] ‘places where people can live, work, move, and thrive in a healthier, more equitable, and more economically competitive way.’”

Of course, complete communities has its own challenges, too. Developers and their projects exist in complicated and competitive social and economic environments. Local, national and international migration encourages investors, individuals and families to research multiple quality-of-life indexes and socioeconomic realities as they search out and eventually decide on where to live, invest and work. Cities, municipalities and even specific satellite communities are



more often speaking directly to a global audience about their unique qualities, the benefits they offer, and ultimately why they are the perfect choice. As such, developers and municipalities, who are typically adversaries with very different development agendas, must start working together to attract residents and commercial investment on an increasingly global stage. Developers must find more creative and efficient ways of combating growing costs of community development to meet today's lifestyle expectations. Large and small municipalities must crunch through complex economic algorithms as they seek sustainable fiscal formulas for present and future generations of civic operations. Municipalities need to understand what it takes to develop attractive, vibrant and complete communities in the short-term (the developer's perspective), while developers need to consider the legacy that their projects will leave behind from a long-term maintenance and operational (or municipal government) perspective.

The local context and the environment impact land and real estate development more than any other industry. In a world where standardized development and construction techniques create the opportunity for global sameness, the unique selling propositions and competitive advantage for

many developments often lie within each project's local context and environment. Urban designers and environmentalists have, for many years, sought the intrinsic value of the genius loci or the specific, true and unique attributes of each place. It's the invisible weave of culture (stories, art, memories, beliefs, histories, etc.) that artists, writers and locals celebrate, along with a place's unique physical aspects (monuments, boundaries, rivers, woods, natural resources, architectural style(s), rural crafts styles, pathways, views and multiple generations of human artifact) that form the genius loci. It's clear that in order to create unique and memorable places, everything (natural, cultural and architectural) that makes each place special, distinct and precious should be identified, preserved, celebrated and enhanced.

As we move further into the 21st century, the development industry, municipalities and communities and environmental design professionals will all need to work more closely and collaboratively together to produce better and more harmonious complete communities that highlight their uniqueness and solidify the value of each city, town (or place) within a globalized world.

Abbreviated for print, read the full article on nadidesign.com.

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Q and A with Susan Thompson

Winnipeg Metro Region News Desk

We caught up with Susan Thompson, former Mayor of Winnipeg and a founding partner of the Partnership of the Manitoba Capital Region (now the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region). Back in 1998, Thompson recognized the power of collaboration and the importance of creating effective partnerships. We asked her about her vision and her views and how they've evolved over time and what she is currently up to. Here's what she had to say.

Q. In 1998 when you and a small group of Mayors and Reeves came together and created The Mayors and Reeves of the Capital Region now the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, you recognized the need for collaboration, is it still important today and does it make us more competitive when we collaborate?

A. From the time that I first became Mayor of Winnipeg, in 1992, I understood the importance of collaboration...especially with our Capital Region. In the big picture of things, Winnipeg and Manitoba are pretty small fish with lots of competition...lots. So whatever I could do to help to contribute to us being a co-ordinated, productive, competitive entity was very important to me.

Historically there had been an unproductive relationship for a whole bunch of parochial and political reasons. Some factions just wanted to keep us divided. I saw no purpose in that position. From my perspective, there is no Winnipeg without Manitoba and there is no Manitoba without Winnipeg...so...Let's make it work!



A functional, progressive, visionary Capital Region is VERY important to the future of our Province, 68% of our province's population lives in the Capital Region and 70% of the GDP is generated here...need I say more? The Capital Region has huge opportunities in the Pulses industries, the electric vehicles industries, Hydro, fresh potable water, the space industries, northern defence and shipping industries, and eco-tourism...in my opinion...to name a few. The Winnipeg Metropolitan Region needs to be an entity of leadership, efficiency and productivity

if we are to be competitive in the future.

Q. Do you have some specific examples of where collaboration led to success during the early days of the Mayors and Reeves of the Capital Region?

A. During my two terms, I feel the relationship improved. It was a terrible relationship when I entered public office in 1992. At times it was, in fact, downright hostile and rude. I had no history or background with the municipalities and, as in all relationships, everybody contributed to the "troubles". It took time and persever-

ance to build new relationships, trust and respect. The reality was that I really thought that the municipalities were quite amazing. We accomplished much with our joint efforts, be it for: the International Winter Cities Conference; the Mid-Continent Trade Corridor; the World Junior Hockey Championship; the 1999 Pan American Games and of course the epic initiative, help and co-operation/co-ordination between the municipalities during the 1997 Flood of the Century.

The Mayors and Reeves of the Capital Region taught me so much. Their knowledge, experience, dedication and hard work are huge assets for our province. "One with the Strength of Many" is a good framework in which to build this relationship.

Q. Can you tell us a bit about what you are up to now that you are back in Winnipeg?

A. Currently, I am enjoying being in private life...writing a second book; helping raise money for the world-class Inuit Art Centre at the Winnipeg Art Gallery; doing speaking engagements on leadership; mentoring and coaching people. The Inuit Art Centre will be an architectural landmark with over 40,000 square feet dedicated to Indigenous art and culture connected to the WAG on all levels. It will contain the world's largest collection of contemporary Inuit art with over 13,000 carvings, prints, drawings, textiles, ceramics, film, and new media work displayed together for the first time. It will be a world-class attraction and will serve Winnipeg, Manitoba and Canada very well.

Catching up with Winnipeg's Chief of Police Danny Smyth

Winnipeg Metro Region News Desk

We can all agree that having a safe and secure City of Winnipeg is very important to the residents of Winnipeg as well as residents of the Metro Region. While there are many people in our region charged with the task of ensuring our safety, no one is more keenly aware of what is required to keep residents confident in our safety services, than the new Chief of Police, Danny Smyth.

We had the opportunity to catch up with Chief Smyth to talk with him about collaboration, partnerships and how the Winnipeg Police Service is connected to the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region.

Chief Danny Smyth is a 32-year police services veteran, born and raised in the City of Winnipeg. Chief Smyth has worked his way through the ranks from Uniform Operations, Intelligence, Organized Crime, and Organizational Development before heading back to the University of Winnipeg in 2006, where he obtained his Master's degree in Organizational Development, and then on to his new role as Chief of Police for the City of Winnipeg. Chief Smyth humbly downplays this amazing achievement and shared that "You never really start your career in policing saying, 'I'm going to be Chief one day' but opportunities presented themselves



and you choose to step in or not". Chief Smyth went on to say how proud and honoured he is to serve the community where he grew up and he has truly stepped in for the benefit of not just Winnipeg but the entire region!

The Winnipeg Police Service works in partnership through the Association of Manitoba Police Chiefs, where they share expertise, skills and training across Manitoba as well as with the RCMP, who outside of the City of Winnipeg, are responsible for providing service to most of the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region. According to Chief Smyth, "It's not uncommon for us to come together if we're dealing with a specific problem. At times, we've integrated our approaches to organized crime and other areas of policing; we share expertise and knowledge, an economy of scales approach that ensures better outcomes for everyone".

One example of this shared expertise across the region and between various departments, organizations, and sectors is evident in the opioid crisis that is seen across Manitoba. According to Chief

Smyth "the problem must be viewed from a variety of lenses and must include many in finding solutions. Opioids in particular must also be viewed as a health problem, not just a policing problem. Police have to partner with health care, schools and others when dealing with these issues if we're going to address them and find effective and balanced solutions." Collaboration can enhance our capacity as communities to deal with the tough issues. All of us in the Winnipeg Metro Region benefit from a strong, safe and secure City of Winnipeg because what happens in the City of Winnipeg matters to all of us.

Whether we look at the individual police departments or our individual municipalities within our region, we know that working together takes strong leadership. With Chief Danny Smyth's leadership, we can be sure that the Winnipeg Police Service will continue to build on its long history and tradition of collaborative efforts across jurisdictions, benefiting the entire region and ensuring we remain a great place to live, work and play long into the future.

Payne leads transportation in the Metro Region

Payne Transportation LTD

No Payne, No Gain is the slogan you may see on trucks rolling down the highway - a catchy slogan designed to describe a company leading in transportation excellence and a mantra we use to hold ourselves accountable to our stakeholders.

Payne Transportation provides customers with innovative transportation solutions designed to be a one-stop customer experience. Door to door service includes customs services and with 5 strategically located terminals and a diverse fleet of over 200 tractors and 300 trailers, Payne is well equipped to meet the diverse transportation demands customers face.

Today's customers require diversity and Payne offers a multi-facet of options to best suit your needs.

- General Freight (Dry Van)
- Flat Deck Services
- Specialized (RGN Double Drops)
- Scheduled Expedited LTL (Serving the Oil & Gas Industry)
- Logistics
- Distribution

For Payne, leading in transportation



excellence is about striving for excellence every day, this is reflective in their mission, vision and values, and has led the organization to be recognized with several awards, including the Grand Prize Safety Award and a "Top Fleet Employers 2017" for examples.

To keep pace in the globally connected world, Payne has embraced technology and is ahead of the curve with systems that are able to keep up with disruptive

challenges.

The team at Payne is not only focused on making a difference for the customers they serve, their commitment to making a difference in their community drives many initiatives. Employees plant and tend to a harvest garden to grow fresh root veggies for Winnipeg Harvest and provide support to the Salvation Army, Christmas Cheer Board, and Siloam Mission and corporately support many charities.

Our mission
Our life is the highway, it is our culture; we are the driving force in providing transportation excellence

Our Vision
To be THE leader in providing innovative transportation solutions as we grow our business, while maintaining our culture.

Our Values
"No Payne, No Gain" is used to hold ourselves accountable to our commitment to high standards and excellence in everything we do

Being green isn't just in their harvest garden, Payne is a SmartWay Approved Carrier and has been since 2008, with improvements in overall fuel consumption per unit (Fleet Average) every year.

So the next time you see a truck rolling down the highway with the catchy slogan, No Payne, No Gain, you'll know what's driving the slogan.

Visit www.gopayne.com for your transportation solution.

Winnipeg Metropolitan Region outlook 2018

Peter Squire

Looking forward to 2018 you realize when examining the housing market that the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, which WinnipegREALTORS® market region entirely encompasses, has considerable momentum and consistency in performance from previous years. It is a by-product of Manitoba's diverse economy where no one sector dominates as can be the case in other provincial economies.

In a chart presented at WinnipegREALTORS® annual forecast breakfast in early February it shows Manitoba's industrial base has 16 sectors with manufacturing being the largest at under 10 per cent of the industrial pie. This has created the most stable economy in Canada. Manitoba's range of GDP growth from 2002 to 2016 is far narrower in comparison to Canada's at only .6 per cent. The steady pace of growth not only mitigates wide swings in job creation and/or job losses but helps keep an even keel on employment. As a result, Manitoba has had one of the lowest unemployment rates in the country for many years. 2018 is no different with a forecast of 5.5 per cent.

People employed and feeling secure in their job commit to owning a home. While it may vary in what they choose based on pricing of the various property types available and location within the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, they proceed to build their future nest egg by investing in a home.

A key factor in maintaining a balanced market where the fundamentals of demand and supply are held in check without one overwhelming the other as evident recently in the greater Toronto housing market, has been the excellent response of developers and builders to meet the demand of a growing population base. No better example was in 2017 with very strong housing starts in both single-family detached and multi-family



units. It is important to note here that this new construction includes purpose-built apartments which helps address much needed rental demand for those not able or interested in owning their own property.

The rental vacancy rate sits around 3 per cent now when in the early years of the first millennium decade it was far lower and totally inadequate in meeting the demand from the influx of new immigrants to Manitoba as a result of the successful Provincial Nominee Program. The acute rental shortage at the time put severe strain on WinnipegREALTORS® MLS® which is primarily comprised of resale inventory and consequently led to six consecutive years of double-digit

average price increases.

Validation of a much healthier and balanced housing market in 2018 comes from CMHC's most recent quarterly Housing Market Assessment (HMA) report which was released in January. It shows there is a low degree of vulnerability on potential imbalances that can affect housing markets. These include factors such as overheating, price acceleration, overvaluation and overbuilding. For example, an overheated market will see very high percentages of sales-to-new listings conversion ratios and thereby exert upward pressure on house prices. The Winnipeg CMA, as CMHC tracks it, is at 61.6 per cent; far below the 85 per cent threshold for overheating.

The one factor where CMHC has shown concern has been overbuilding but this most recent HMA report shows the inventory of completed and unsold units remains below the threshold for overbuilding. It helps when condominium absorption levels were up 52.5 per cent in the third quarter of 2017 from the same quarter the year before.

So from a WinnipegREALTORS® perspective with an eye specifically on its MLS® performance in 2018, it expects to see sales in excess of its 13,000 threshold level mark which it has eclipsed the last two years. It expects to see dollar volume based on another year of very modest average price increases to quite likely surpass the \$4 billion level for the first time. You only have to go back to 2002 when WinnipegREALTORS® had its first \$1 billion worth of MLS® transactions.

With the new Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institution (OSFI) stress test applying to all mortgages this year - uninsured and insured - and higher mortgage rates, you can expect some pressure on single family home prices and sales activity. The average single family sales price in 2017 was \$315,719, one of the lowest by far in comparison to other major Canadian housing markets. The forecast is for a slight drop in sales compared to 2017 however still holding on an average price increase. 1989 was the last time WinnipegREALTORS® experienced a slight average sales price decrease from the previous year.

As what occurred in 2017, other more affordable property type classes than single family which include condominiums, single family attached and townhouses should benefit from buyers either being forced or choosing to opt for a more affordable housing option to purchase.

All in all, the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region housing market should overcome the challenges before it in 2018 and record another solid year of MLS® sales.



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Getting started with medical cannabis

Marshall Posner

Delta 9 Cannabis, a home-grown business based in Winnipeg, Manitoba, was founded by the father and son team of Bill and John Arbutnot.

It was John who first came up with the idea for Delta 9 Cannabis while researching a paper for his business degree at the University of Western Ontario. Soon after, John learned that Health Canada was going to legalize the production of cannabis under what was then called the Marijuana for Medical Purposes Regulations (MMPR), and after a short discussion with father Bill, the two decided to plunge forward with an application for a production license.

Amazingly, Health Canada was so impressed with their application that Delta 9 became the fourth Licensed Producer in Canada, and one of the first in the world.

Since then, Delta 9 has grown into one of Canada's premier producers of medical cannabis. The company began its operations in an 80,000 square foot building in the Transcona area of Winnipeg, but with legalization of recreational cannabis coming this summer the company



A row of pods in which cannabis is grown hydroponically.

is preparing for a much larger expansion into multiple buildings.

The current expansion scheduled for completion in 2019 will see Delta 9 building 600 of its proprietary cannabis 'Grow Pods', increasing production to roughly 17,500 kilograms of cannabis a year.

But that's only the first phase of Delta 9's growth plan. The company is currently going through the process to buy its current building, surrounding structures, and 65 acres of industrial land, and has already

planned out a much larger expansion.

As well, Delta 9 is working to acquire an interest in Westleaf, a second Licensed Producer in Alberta, and is developing an export market in Germany with an established cannabis company based in Berlin. Perhaps most importantly, Delta 9 and its partner Canopy Growth have been chosen by the Manitoba government as one of only four licensees for cannabis retail stores in the province.

Last year Delta 9 opened its first can-



Inside the pod.

nabis clinic in the Osborne Village area of Winnipeg, and plans to turn that property into its first retail outlet after full legalization occurs this summer.

Delta 9 began trading publicly on the TSX-V in November, 2017, and has raised \$32 million in equity financing over the past year. The company is now fully funded for its current expansion in both production and retail.

Marshall Posner is Vice President, Sales & Marketing for Delta 9 Cannabis Inc.

Seniors getting social

Winnipeg Metro Region News Desk

With 1.8 billion monthly users, we know social media has become a prevalent form of communication in the past 10+ years with the introduction of Facebook in 2004 and Twitter in 2006. It is often the first thing people check in with in the morning and the last thing before one falls asleep.

Why the major increase in commitment to these digital networking sites over the years? One word: connection. We all desire to feel connected to ourselves, each other and the world around us. With these platforms all containing evocative imagery, videos and timely world events, it's no wonder why people are actively engaging daily. As for the fastest growing demographic on Facebook? Senior citizens! Here are the top five reasons why seniors are getting social:

1) Share stories - people above the age of 65 are not only still vibrant and able to learn how to navigate the digital world, they are also a wealth of information! There are many different groups one can get involved with based on your interests.

2) Meet people - perhaps in that group of common interests, they might find a new friend to get to know or go for coffee with!

3) Find a job or new hobby - with plenty of energy to still contribute to society in some way, there are often many job opportunities for seniors to peruse in the classifieds section.

4) Keep in touch - with the ability to upload photos and share in seconds, these platforms allow family and relatives to stay up to speed with all of the happenings of their love ones lives.

5) Pure entertainment! Who doesn't like a cute puppy video or a new delicious recipe to try? There are plenty of ways to stay entertained online!

So this spring why not get online and get connected? To create a Facebook account:

1. Search for Facebook in your website browser and click Sign Up for Facebook.
2. Click Get Started.
3. Enter your mobile phone number, or click Use your email address.
4. Follow the on-screen instructions and enter your name, password, date of birth and gender.
5. To finish creating your account, you



need to confirm your email or mobile phone number.

Note: you must be at least 13 years old to create a Facebook account.

To create a Twitter account:

1. Go to <http://twitter.com> and find the sign up box, or go directly to <https://twitter.com/signup>.
2. Enter your full name, phone number or email address, date of birth, and a password.
3. Click Sign up for Twitter.
4. In order to verify your phone number, we will send you an SMS text message with a code. You may also request a voice call to verify your phone number. Enter the verification code in the box provided. Learn more about having a

phone number associated with your account.

5. Once you've clicked Sign up for Twitter, you can select a username (usernames are unique identifiers on Twitter) — type your own or choose one we've suggested. We'll tell you if the username you want is available.

6. Double-check your name, phone number, password, and username.

7. Click Create my account. You may be asked to complete a Captcha to let us know that you're human.

Remember that banks, Revenue Canada will ask you to confirm details regarding finances or personal information through the internet. Before you send any information or provide any personal details, call your financial institution to confirm.

As with anything online, those stepping into the digital world are encouraged to do so with caution. Anyone on social networking platforms are encouraged to exercise care and caution with the information they share. Never put personal information like telephone and address online as well as any health or banking information. As long as you're safely surfing the web, it has proven to be a great way for some seniors to spend their time.

Crossword

ACROSS

1. Prime time rating, often
5. Rashad of football
10. Fed
14. "Now ___ this!"
15. "Key ___" (Bogart classic)
16. Govern
17. Not confirmed
19. Me, myself ___
20. Foster or Crane
21. Plane, in Paris
22. Kick off
26. Looking pale
30. Protective gear
34. Price-earnings ___
35. Play charades
36. Fox competitor
37. Resembling Shrek
39. Korean carmaker bought by GM
42. "Cry ___ River"
43. Western star Richard
47. Apartment that's owned, not leased
48. Language invented in 1887
51. Miniature map
52. Made a successful stand
54. Book jacket writing
57. Snobbishness
62. Confiscated car, for short
63. Lingo
66. 1939 role for Bela
67. Be alive
68. Singer of "Mambo No. 5 (A Little Bit of...)"
69. French denials
70. Wigwam kin
71. Whole enchilada

DOWN

1. So
2. Central heating outlet
3. ___ the way (lead)
4. Unix search command
5. Extraterrestrial
6. Atomic number 72

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15					16				
17				18					19				
20								21					
			22			23	24	25					
26	27	28	29		30					31	32	33	
34					35					36			
37					38			39	40	41			
42					43	44	45	46		47			
48			49	50						51			
			52						53				
54	55	56					57			58	59	60	61
62					63	64	65						
66					67					68			
69					70					71			

7. Hosp. scan
8. Word with space or middle
9. Pentagon grp.
10. Rural road surface
11. Local bond, familiarly
12. Gucci of fashion
13. Opposite of ja

18. Horned herbivores
21. Scarfed down
23. Pa. news-maker of 1979
24. Compaq competitor
25. Wild deer?
26. Hippo attachment
27. Blows up

Sudoku

		3	2					7
2			5		4			
8			6				9	
		7				5		
	1	2		6		8	4	
		5	1		3		6	
5			6					8
4		2	8					3
6	7							5

28. "It's ___!"
29. Nintendo system
31. Croquet game sites
32. Residence
33. Dart
38. Mound
40. Tart-tasting
41. A billion years
44. Serengeti sight
45. Canaries locale (abbr.)
46. "That makes ___ at all!"
49. Mistakes
50. Johnny ___
53. Fill with glee
54. ___ Mawr, PA
55. Toy building block
56. Second word in many fairy tales
58. Hefty instrument
59. "Sorry if ___ you down"
60. Kind of palm
61. Jason of "Waiting for My Rocket to Come"
63. Animal doc
64. PC application suffix
65. ___ Van Winkle

Spring and small mouth bass

Courtlyn Suszko

One of my favorite species to target, especially in spring, is Small Mouth Bass. I find May-June to be the best time because the bass have moved into shallower warmer water which makes them easier to find. My favorite destination is Shoe Lake, it is a small enough lake that you could canoe if you do not have a boat. It is great for beginner boaters as well. Other popular destinations for small mouth bass are: Rocky Lake, Winnipeg River, Echo Lake, Rice Lake, Quesnel Lake, Booster Lake, Crowduck Lake, Shoal Lake and Deloraine Reservoir.



Bass are typically in the weedy, structural area (fallen trees are a great marker to seek). My number one tip when bass fishing is to seek structure, cast, pause, retrieve, bass! Bass are a predatory creature, they protect their nest. Typically they are not hitting your lure because they are hungry but because you are too close to their nest. In spring I use top water lures.

Top water lures are lures that float on top of the water. My first go to lure is a torpedo. It has two treble hooks

which assist in ensuring that when you set the hook you will likely catch a bass! I also use Live Targets rubber hollow body frogs. For both lures, you want to cast (at structure), PAUSE, retrieve (by retrieve I mean pop it while reeling), PAUSE, repeat. You want to give the bass enough time to see your lure, and make it look as though your lure is swimming on top of the water.

Courtlyn Suszko is an avid outdoors woman who grew up in rural Manitoba just a cast away from the Red River on Netley Creek in Petersfield which has provided her years of experience fishing the Red River, Lake Winnipeg and surrounding areas. Her affinity for the outdoors has sparked another passion: sharing her experiences with others through seminars and also teaching young girls to fish with the Hooked on Fishing program held every Wednesday at Chesleys Resort.



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Imagine the extraordinary
Create the enduring

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Ecological vandals...

Courtlyn Suszko

I have a love hate relationship with carp. They are an invasive species...and put up a fight like no other, which makes them so fun to target! However, before we discuss tips for targeting carp I would like to take a moment to stress that as anglers, we have a responsibility... We must give back to nature as much as it gives to us. One way you can do this is by leaving things better than you found them. Pick up after yourself once your done fishing your favorite spot. Another is to educate yourself on when species spawn so that they are released to reproduce. Another way is to understand how certain species effect the eco system, and luckily you can start right now by continuing to read this article.

The common carp was introduced to Manitoba in 1886, and they expanded rapidly! One single female can lay 300,000 eggs in a single spawn. Carp can spawn multiple times in a season. This is why they reproduce so quickly. They were introduced as a food source, but are now commonly known as a pest due to their effect on the eco systems and species native to Manitoba.

So why do they have such a bad reputation? Carp chew up the bottom of marshes, which destroys vegetation, reduces habitat, increases nutrient levels in lakes which promote algae blooms and increase phosphorus levels in water when they rip up the mud. Their feeding habits alone are killing other species habitats and insects which our native species feed on. Last year, I bow fished a ditch off a lake that carp were spawning in. My first time there the water was so clean I could see all the carp as clear as day. It was like looking through the glass at a fish store, it was so beautiful watching them swim and speed up as they saw my shadow grow closer! This ditch was a bit of a drive, so two weeks passed before I went back. The water had turned a cloudy muddy brown, and there was noticeably less weeds and marsh on each side of the ditch. This beautiful ditch had turned into an entirely different sight within two weeks, I experienced exactly what I had read about first hand. Even though I knew this is what carp do to eco systems it was incredible to see with my own eyes.

Carp are the first to move to shallows in spring to spawn. Typically found in ditches or creeks. Shore fishing is popular. Anglers will use rods in the 9 to 12 foot range. Spool with 20 to 30 pound test braid line with a leader (8 to 10 pound test fluorocarbon to maximize your presentation.) Be sure to spool your reel with a lot of line! Carp will run and run and... run, which is part of what makes catching them so fun. A bottom rig with a number 6 Octopus hook baited with corn or a night crawler are popular baits to use. Some chumming may be required, many people use corn for chum as well as bait. The trick is to not over chum as that will fill the carp and they will not eat your bait! These fish are smart! Which makes them so fun and a challenge at the same time, Keep your shadow low as they will swim away at first sight.

Bow fishing (the shooting of fish with archery equipment) is permitted for common carp. Angling seasons and license requirements apply. This is my favorite way to target carp. Equipment, SOLID equipment is key. You need a strong line and a few good arrows. My first time I only brought one arrow! Needless to say that expedition ended quickly. The reel type is more of a preference, my suggestion is to go to Heights Archery as their equipment was by far the best I found in Winnipeg.
GOOD LUCK!

Puzzle answers

T	V	P	G	A	H	M	A	D	G	M	A	N
H	E	A	R	L	A	R	G	O	R	U	L	E
U	N	V	E	R	I	F	I	E	A	N	D	I
S	T	E	P	H	E	N	A	V	I	O	N	
				I	N	I	T	I	A	T	E	
D	R	A	W	N	U	M	B	R	E	L	L	A
R	A	T	I	O	M	I	M	E	A	B	C	
O	G	R	I	S	H	D	A	E	W	O	O	
M	E	A	E	G	A	N	C	O	N	D	O	
E	S	P	E	R	A	N	T	O	I	N	S	E
				R	E	P	U	L	S	E	D	
B	L	U	R	B	E	L	I	T	I	S	M	
R	E	P	O	V	E	R	N	A	C	U	L	A
Y	G	O	R	E	X	I	S	T	B	E	G	A
N	O	N	S	T	E	P	E	E	A	T	O	Z

1	5	4	3	2	9	8	6	7
2	6	9	8	5	7	4	3	1
8	3	7	4	6	1	5	9	2
3	8	6	7	4	2	1	5	9
9	1	2	5	3	6	7	8	4
7	4	5	1	9	8	3	2	6
5	2	3	6	7	4	9	1	8
4	9	1	2	8	5	6	7	3
6	7	8	9	1	3	2	4	5

The ballot box question for fall municipal elections

Chris Lorenc

What's a mayor to do? The spring thaw is upon us; construction season is around the corner. And yet, Winnipeg does not know if it will have funding to invest in regional roads at the top of the list for repair.

And what is going to happen to the next leg of the southwest rapid transit route? We've constructed the first leg but the 'corridor' remains a stub of the bigger idea, which is to move commuters quickly to and from south Winnipeg.

So there was Mayor Brian Bowman at the steps of the legislature earlier this year, hat in hand, asking the province to flow the funds for the southwest transit corridor's Phase II, along with almost \$55 million to honour funding agreements made in 2017 for infrastructure shared-costs.

And he was in Ottawa in February, seeking federal help to get the province to approve the flow of dollars from the New Building Canada Fund for Winnipeg's regional road budget. Further, the federal budget, released a week later, confirmed protracted delays to the flow of Ottawa's infrastructure funds.

Such delays are not uncommon and they affect all municipalities, as many within the metropolitan region can attest.

So, what is a mayor or reeve in Manitoba, or Canada, to do?

No municipality can afford on its own large-scale capital projects. So municipalities are forced to await the nod from higher levels of government, which may decide to change direction based on fiscal realities they face.

It's no way to plan strategically for critical investment in transportation infrastructure - systems that move people

to jobs and goods to market. Trade moves regionally, which is why, in part, the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region (WMR) came together: to work collegially for the greatest return on mutual investments in areas of mutual interest and benefit.

Municipal governments, being the legislated creatures of provincial governments, are at the mercy of provincial and federal priorities. Unreliable funding relationships do not meet the demands upon today's cities and towns.

Municipalities rely too heavily on regressive property taxation to raise revenues, and the results are insufficient to the demands. Progressive taxation would see municipalities raising more revenues from consumption or income taxes.

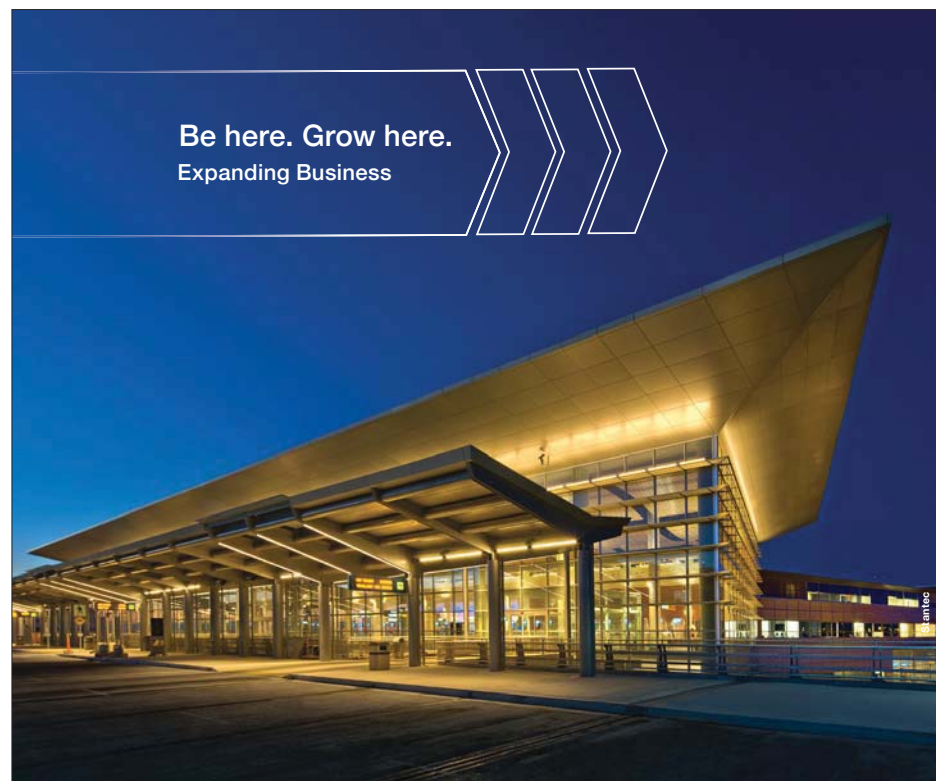
It's time we re-thought municipal taxation powers, so they can explore new sources of revenue, to alleviate their dependence on property taxation and the political agendas of other governments. Not a blank cheque, but an accountable series of revenue streams that rebalance roles, responsibilities and relationships among the government levels, mindful that there is only one taxpayer.

There's no better time than now to explore solutions.

As we move into municipal elections this fall, Manitobans need to hear what candidates would do to renegotiate and re-engineer the wonky relationship with higher levels of government.

Manitobans - mayoral and council candidates, too - should make this the ballot box question for the fall elections.

Chris Lorenc is the president of the Manitoba Heavy Construction Association and a member of the WMR transportation working group. A longer version of this article appeared March 12 in an MHCA supplement within the Winnipeg Free Press.



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EXPLORE

Manitoba

Day Trips from Winnipeg

It's easy to explore Winnipeg's metro region

Discover Something New

After an easy drive northwest of Winnipeg, make your first stop **Stonewall**. Take in the limestone kilns that mark the entrance to **Stonewall Quarry Park** before exploring the park's network of trails and learn about the area's history of limestone production from the interpretive signs.



Take a trip back in time by exploring Stonewall's antique shops. Continue your treasure hunt at **McLeod House Tea Room**, where a stop for lunch or high tea is a must.



Finish your day with a visit to **Oak Hammock Marsh**. This reclaimed wetland is a haven for wildlife and makes for a pleasant afternoon strolling the trails and boardwalks across the marsh.



For more easy day trip ideas, visit travelmanitoba.com

A Journey Through History

Follow the scenic **River Road Heritage Parkway** accessible from PTH 9 north from Winnipeg. Winding along the Red River, admire the view along with the historic stone buildings, including the **St. Andrews Rectory museum**, across from the iconic St. Andrews Church.



Stop for lunch in Lockport – perhaps the famed **Half Moon Drive In?** Enjoy the retro vibe and classic food, which has been pleasing happy customers since 1938.



Check out the **Lockport Heritage Park** with its scenic pathways that overlook the St. Andrews lock and dam, a national historic site. Watch the pelicans and anglers that gather here to catch big fish the Red River is known for.

Manitoba

CANADA'S HEART  BEATS

Photo: Oak Hammock Marsh