



May 5, 2020

To all Municipalities and Manitoba Heavy Construction Association members,

On behalf of the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) and Manitoba Heavy Construction Association (MHCA), thank you for your ongoing engagement during these challenging times. The extraordinary effort to contain this pandemic has nonetheless come at definable cost to Manitoba's economy. Together, we encourage our members to work collaboratively to ensure a strong provincial economy and vibrant local communities as we respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Over the years, the AMM and MHCA have formed a strong working relationship that has allowed us to collaborate on infrastructure priorities such as roads, highways, water and wastewater control structures, and aggregate resource development including the rehabilitation of depleted quarries. These actions have helped benefit our local communities and foster economic growth across Manitoba.

However, COVID-19 has exacerbated financial pressures on all municipalities as they continue to deliver essential services to protect Manitobans and local communities. Municipalities are uniquely positioned to lead the economic recovery of our province and deliver economic stimulus via shovel-ready infrastructure projects. Reviving our economy will require smart and strategic investment. Together, our organizations will continue to lobby on behalf of municipalities to:

- Help identify shovel-ready and other major infrastructure projects in municipalities across the province to stimulate the recovery of the Canadian economy.
- Call on the Province of Manitoba to restart the Quarry Rehabilitation Program and encourage the use of local contractors to rehabilitate pits and quarries to create spaces that align with local community needs.
- Expedite *Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program* (ICIP) applications at the provincial and federal levels to ensure Manitoba's ICIP allocations are fully utilized by implementing flexible funding streams.
- Appeal to the federal government to provide greater financial support by increasing direct funding programs, such as the Gas Tax Fund allotment top-up.

We believe it will be vital for us to continue working together to maximize the recovery opportunities for Manitoba's local governments and construction sector. Our organizations are committed to protecting and supporting our local communities and construction industry through a coordinated response. Our collaboration is key to Manitoba's economic recovery.

Sincerely,

Denys Volkov  
Executive Director, AMM

Chris Lorenc, B.A., LL.B.,  
President, MHCA

