

September 26, 9 – 11:00am Legislative Building

Meeting: Linda McFadyen (EMO/Local Government)

Don Norquay (Water Stewardship)

Steve Topping “ “

Doug McNeil (Infrastructure & Transportation)

Barry Todd (Agriculture)

Jack King (President – Twin Lakes Beach Association)

Dennis Turek – Co-chair ALMS, Chair Flood Action Committee

Gary Grubert – Flood Action Committee/member Lake Manitoba Regulation  
Review Advisory Committee (LMRRAC)

Lori Fenn – Executive Twin Lakes Beach Association/Communications

Rudy Kitsch – member at large Twin Lakes Beach Association

Fred Hartman – president Pioneer Resort Association

1. Topic: Lake Level

- Immediate goal is to lower lake level to 813 by April 2012
- Expect channel to be completed at Lake St. Martin by November 1
- The proposed bypass channel north of the Fairford River Water Control Structure is still on the table for potential construction this winter upon completion of the Lake St. Martin channel for the initial design flow to allow the Fairford structure to flow unrestricted all winter but also that the Lake St. Martin channel can be further expanded to handle the Fairford bypass flow.
- Government agrees that FWCS will have to be dredged to maximize flows
- Longer range goals for further reducing lake level must be reviewed by LMRRAC over the winter to advise government on the lake level
- Government is providing photo evidence of channel progress shortly
- Shoal lake drainage is not a priority at this time but government had looked at the Grassmere drain into the Red River and the Wagon Creek drain into Lake Manitoba

2, Pre-flood Preparation and Warning

- Generally government will try to build the capacity for local systems to withstand these disasters.
- When the Municipalities are overwhelmed the Province steps in and then the Federal Government. There was an acknowledgement that both the Municipal and Provincial EMOs have been very challenged with this flood event

3. Primary Residence vs Seasonal

- Expect no change though the message is being communicated and heard.

- The Disaster Fund Assistance is not intended to be compensation. It is a funding arrangement with the Federal Government to cost share the provision of assistance in times of disaster to ensure that people are not left homeless.. Money is made available to encourage re-building and protecting property from future floods. The Lake Manitoba Recovery Program builds on DFA, but also provides provincial funds for assistance for cottage owners because the government sees the situation on Lake Manitoba as being somewhat unique
4. Assistance Programs
- Part D liability clause was added to protect the Province from future claims arising from flood mitigation efforts by individuals. It does not prohibit litigation, but does clarify that the recipient of the Part D funds is responsible should any litigation arise as a result of their flood mitigation efforts.
  - Government is looking into creating a satellite office for MASC in Winnipeg
  - The Province wants to encourage communication like that designed with Dennis and Mike (MASC) to clarify program assistance possibilities.
  - The Appeals Commissioner will hear and rule on appeals through MASC
  - Associations are encouraged to use the services of front-line managers of MASC to clarify and in some cases may receive adjustments where additional information is provided about the appraisal.
  - The Province made the point several times that they are attempting to listen to the residents and adjust time-lines to make them fair and accessible.
5. Businesses Affected by Flood Event
- The MASC programs primarily support business that has literally been touched by water – whether access issues or direct building damages.
  - The Flood Economic Recovery Program is designed to assist business in a community to overcome secondary problems such as a loss of clientele. Agencies and organizations such as local chambers of commerce or CDCs may initiate projects on behalf of business or the RM. An example of such an initiative is the temporary housing project in St. Laurent funded outside this fund that encourages people to return to live which in turn revitalizes the community.

**Please note that this summary is not intended to be an endorsement of answers received but a fair report of answers from the Province on a variety of issues raised during the meeting.**

**We acknowledge with thanks the time given our group especially by Linda McFadyen to coordinate with government Deputy Ministers to make the meeting possible.**

