



## Provincial Budget Fails Winnipeggers: No Money for Streets

Premier Greg Selinger's budget is failing Winnipeggers and creating a crisis for municipalities said Mayor Sam Katz at a news conference Wednesday afternoon.

"This budget is not about infrastructure, despite Premier Selinger's assurances that it is," said Mayor Katz. "Unfortunately for residents and businesses in the City of Winnipeg, the new tax hike won't make any difference to Winnipeg's pothole-filled streets."

Of the \$277 million in new revenue collected from the one per cent Provincial Sales Tax (PST) increase, Winnipeg will receive only \$7 million for roads, and even that money comes with conditions attached.

"More than 60 per cent of the PST collected in this province comes from within the City of Winnipeg," said Mayor Katz. "Yet, this provincial budget completely abandons Winnipeggers. With this budget, we've lost any hope of receiving new, long-term funding for our streets."

Winnipeg City Council first passed a resolution asking that the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) lobby the Province for a municipal infrastructure sales tax back in 2008.

Since then, the City and the AMM have put forward numerous proposals to address the municipal infrastructure crisis, including a 2011 request that the Province dedicate

one per cent of existing PST, over and above what municipalities already receive, to municipal infrastructure. Shared among municipalities on a per capita basis, the City of Winnipeg would receive \$152 million annually. To raise this revenue on its own, the City of Winnipeg would have to implement a 34 per cent property tax increase.

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‘Every time we put forward funding solutions for the City of Winnipeg’s infrastructure crisis, the Province has attacked them, only later to adopt these very ideas and keep the cash to subsidize their debt-ridden budgets,’ said Deputy Mayor Russ Wyatt.



The new Manitoba Building and Renewal Plan announced in Budget 2013 last week will make investments in provincial highways and bridges, and will provide the City of Winnipeg and municipalities across the province with new revenue to improve municipal streets and roads, according to Premier Greg Selinger.

Manitoba's network of roads and highways is not only a vital link between families and communities, it is relied on by business to move goods and keep our economy growing stated a government news release.

The Manitoba Building and Renewal Plan also includes investment in provincial bridges and highways including those damaged by flooding in 2011.

Over the next 10 years, the province will provide more than \$3.5 billion in funding for municipal infrastructure including roads and bridges, through the Building Manitoba Fund.

For more on the Budget and infrastructure investment:

**Budget Fast Facts:** <http://tinyurl.com/brt9elw>

**Highway Projects List:** <http://tinyurl.com/bmujrzg>



## MHCA Media Monitor



**"The Power of Mo" BDC Canada - Peter G. Hall - (April 18, 2013)**

"She’s a silent but influential force in the forecasting world. Momentum routinely governs views of the world..."

Read the full article: <http://www.edc.ca/EN/Knowledge-Centre/Subscriptions/Weekly-Commentary/Pages/power-of-mo.aspx>



**"Call referendum on 'municipal' levy" - Winnipeg Free Press (April 20, 2013)**

"The Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce is challenging Premier Greg Selinger to call a referendum following his plan to increasethe provincial sales tax to eight per cent..."

Read the full article:

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/opinion/westview/call-referendum-on-municipal-levy-203887771.html>



**"Not enough in Manitoba budget for infrastructure, some say" - CBC Manitoba (April 17, 2013)**

"Winnipeg Mayor Sam Katz says he is very disappointed with (last)Tuesday’s provincial budget, which he says does not provide enough money for city infrastructure....."

Read the full article:

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/opinion/westview/call-referendum-on-municipal-levy-203887771.html>

## MHCA Milestone for Wendy Freund Summerfield



Wendy Freund Summerfield

Wendy Freund Summerfield, MHCA's affable Manager of Finance, celebrated a major milestone with the Association this week – celebrating 20 years of employment! "I'm quite comfortable here," she smiles. "I have really good people to work with and I work closely with our President, management staff, board and executive. It's really been a pleasure."

Wendy started at MHCA in 1993. At that time, MHCA had just three staff and 150 members.

Now, twenty years later, while MHCA's growth has changed, nearing 400 members, one thing has remained the same, Wendy's commitment to MHCA members. "I was the one who interviewed and then hired Wendy some 20 years ago," remembers MHCA President, Chris Lorenc.

Only on the job himself for just over a year, Chris says hiring Wendy has been one of his best decisions, "I have never in the intervening years regretted that decision. Wendy is thorough, competent, devoted, loyal, a prudent and logical sounding board, a person who I trust."

When asked what Wendy has enjoyed most about MHCA over the years, her answer is immediate. "I like the MHCA and what they stand for and their vision and mission statement. I really like the members and have gotten to know many nice people. I've been lucky here."

Wendy oversees a number of MHCA financial portfolios. She also manages the finances for both the WORKSAFELY™ and WORKFORCE™ programs and deals directly with many departments, agencies and individuals. She coordinates board and executive meetings and supports human resources and legal matters among other ongoing duties. As a nonprofit organization, she says that it's a different approach to accounting.

Wendy says her role at MHCA suits her personality well, even though she did not originally study finance at university. In fact, she was working towards an education degree at the University of Manitoba when she was offered a managerial position for an oil company—an opportunity too good to refuse. From there, her career path led her to the MHCA.

In her spare time away from her MHCA duties, Freund Summerfield is an avid quilt maker and proud grandmother to her two grandsons.

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## Welcome NEW MHCA Members !

### Kyle Construction Ltd.

Carl Zylema  
Email: [kylecon@mymts.net](mailto:kylecon@mymts.net)  
Box 53069, RPO S. St. Vital  
Winnipeg, MB R2N 3X2  
Ph: (204) 256-6368

Services:

Sewer and water contractor.

# So many political promises, so little money coming in

Republished from the *Globe and Mail* - April 19, 2013 - By Jeffrey Simpson

B.C. Premier Christy Clark opens her re-election campaign by promising to freeze personal income taxes and the carbon tax for five years. New Liberal Party Leader Justin Trudeau pledges not to raise personal income taxes, business taxes or the GST. Alberta Premier Alison Redford rules out a sales tax the province so evidently needs. Nova Scotia Premier Darrell Dexter, facing an uphill re-election fight, cuts the HST his NDP government once raised.

The only government that has sharply increased taxes is Quebec. The Jean Charest Liberals had upped the sales tax by two points. Now the secessionist Parti Québécois has raised capital gains taxes and personal income taxes on the better off – knowing, as all Quebec governments do, that francophones aren't very mobile and so must sit and take it.

Manitoba's NDP government just raised the sales tax by one point (a defensible policy), but then bragged in its budget speech about how much it had lowered taxes, how it was going to eliminate school taxes for seniors and how it would keep refusing to harmonize the provincial sales tax with the federal GST – very bad tax policy.

The NDP will still run a \$500-million deficit, despite Manitoba's receiving 13 per cent (\$1.7-billion) of its total revenues from equalization payments – in a province with a much lower unemployment rate than Ontario and British Columbia.

Generally speaking, however, it's hard to find an intelligent debate anywhere about taxes, even when a good case can be made that they should either be restructured – shifting to consumption taxes from business and personal taxes – or increased to meet serious social needs.

A critical debate that should be watched is occurring in the Greater Toronto Area. Anyone who lives there or visits frequently knows that the entire region desperately needs more mass transit. People have known it for years and years, yet no government has done enough about it.

Now, finally, the Ontario Liberal government of Kathleen Wynne appears ready to get more money from drivers – who use the roads, after all – to help pay for the billions of dollars needed to ease gridlock. It's a multi-decade requirement and it can't be dealt with by the 'no new taxes' mantra of the Progressive Conservatives or the NDP's ducking of the issue.

Can tolls or taxes, or both, be sold when forceful voices such as Toronto's mayor (with whatever credibility he still has) and the province's Official Opposition and the federal Conservatives beat the drum that all additional revenues for the government are wrong, a burden on 'hard-working taxpayers,' to quote their favourite cliché? The country should watch.

The Harper Conservatives have a schizophrenic attitude toward taxes and spending. We know that the party's attack machine cares nothing for truthfulness, as in the consistent claim that the NDP is planning a '\$20-billion carbon tax.' We know, too, that whereas the party brags about lowering taxes and cutting spending, ministers and MPs spend every week that Parliament is not in session fanning out across Canada to participate in announcements of new spending initiatives.

The only politicians apparently prepared to contest this 'no new tax' nostrum are certain New Democrats, but by no means all of them. Their favourite target for additional taxes is business, especially of the large variety. But even there, the NDP sometimes uses weasel words, as when Ontario NDP Leader Andrea Horwath declared that 'Ontario will lose more than a billion dollars as corporations have ways to avoid paying HST.'

She offered no details, analysis or explanation. It's just cheap populism: an imputation about a 'free ride,' the end of which would enable the government to spend more money. This kind of avoidance of straight talk gives the NDP – and all politicians who slide around reality – a bad name.

As the population ages, infrastructure wears out and the demand for public services continues unabated, citizens are going to have to pay more, through user fees (as for transit improvement), social insurance (the best way to finance drugs for seniors and better pensions) or higher consumption taxes. It's a reality not many citizens and their governments want to face.

*Groundbreaking*



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[www.mhca.mb.ca](http://www.mhca.mb.ca)

# Training Schedule

## Winnipeg Schedule:

*Construction Safety Excellence™*

COR Leadership in Safety Excellence	April.15-16
COR Principles of Health & Safety Management	April.17
COR Auditor	April.18-19
First Aid 1- CPR	April.26
COR Leadership in Safety Excellence	April.29-30
COR Principles of Health & Safety Management	May.1
COR Auditor	May.2-3
Excavation & Trenching (1/2 day AM)	May.17
Flagperson (1/2 day PM)	May.17
Train the Trainer	May.21-22
WHMIS (1/2 day AM)	May.23
TDG (1/2 day PM)	May.23
COR Auditor Refresher (1/2 day AM)	May.24
COR Leadership in Safety Excellence	May.27-28
COR Principles of Health & Safety Management	May.29
COR Auditor	May.30-31
First Aid 1- CPR	May.31



**FOR THE FULL CALENDAR**  
[www.mhca.mb.ca/worksafely](http://www.mhca.mb.ca/worksafely)

To Register:  
 Email: [sarah@mhca.mb.ca](mailto:sarah@mhca.mb.ca)  
 OR Fax: 204-943-2279

For the most up to date training schedule for the coming months visit [www.mhca.mb.ca/worksafely](http://www.mhca.mb.ca/worksafely)

## TRAFFIC CONTROL COORDINATOR TRAINING

Open to all COR™ Companies

**WORKSAFELY**  **MHCA™**

invites you to attend a two day  
 Traffic Control Coordinator course on  
**May 8th and 9th, 2013**

at the Manitoba Construction Sector Council at  
 1000 Waverly Street in Winnipeg MB

**PLEASE BE SURE TO REGISTER EARLY AS SPACE IS LIMITED**



**Manitoba**   
 Infrastructure and Transportation

June 1, 2013  
 Traffic Control Coordinator Training  
 is a mandatory requirement  
 on a level 4 & 5 Road Projects

To register please contact: Sarah Higgins at [sarah@mhca.mb.ca](mailto:sarah@mhca.mb.ca) or by phone at 204-594-9060  
 (COURSE FEE \$385 + GST)

*Construction Safety Excellence™*



ph: 204.947.1379 fx: 204.943.2279  
[www.mhca.mb.ca](http://www.mhca.mb.ca)



MANITOBA HEAVY  
 CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION

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## Have a story for us? We'd love to hear about it!

The MHCA is only successful thanks to our strong membership roster that continues to grow, and now we want to hear from you!

We want to hear about a success story and anything you want to share with us and the rest of the MHCA membership!

We'd like to hear from our members on things such as:

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- A New Exciting Construction Project your company is involved with
- A Recent Successful Completion of a Construction Project
- A success story or achievement for your company or staff member(s)

Feel free to submit your idea or story to [media@mhca.mb.ca](mailto:media@mhca.mb.ca).

We will contact you for more information or details on your story, and then have it ready for a future issue of the Heavy News Weekly!

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**LAST CALL FOR SENIOR PRACTITIONERS**  
Apply for Your Gold Seal Certified (GSC) Credential NOW

Until the end of 2013, construction management professionals who have over 15 years of experience as estimators, owner's project managers, project managers or superintendents and who meet the educational requirements can apply for a GSC as a Senior Practitioner without challenging the Gold Seal Certification exam.

Visit [goldsealcertification.com/certification-gsc](http://goldsealcertification.com/certification-gsc) for details and to apply.



# SPRING MIXER

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Wednesday June 12, 2013 | Assiniboia Downs

Reception – 5:30pm ~ Dinner – 6:00pm ~ Live Racing – 7:00pm

**WANT TO BE AN EVENT SPONSOR AT THIS YEAR'S MHCA'S SPRING MIXER?  
FOR \$450.00 + GST – HERE'S WHAT YOU GET:**

- A race that evening named in your company's honour
- Recognition in the MHCA Dinner Program
- After the race, go down to the winner's circle and get your picture taken with the winning race horse
- One 8 x 10 keep sake picture and engraved trophy
- A great opportunity to take friends or customers with you to the winner's circle (maximum 6 pp)
- Signage with your company logo at the event that night for over 530 people from the heavy construction industry to see
- Recognition in the Assiniboia Downs Event Program
- A 'Thank You' recognition in the MHCA Heavy News Weekly and on the MHCA website

**THERE ARE ONLY 8 RACES THAT EVENING, SO THIS SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY IS LIMITED!  
DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO GET NOTICED!**

**YES! OUR COMPANY WOULD LIKE TO BE AN EVENT SPONSOR FOR THE MHCA SPRING MIXER:**

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Invoice: \_\_\_\_\_ Visa / MC / AMX#: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (204) 947-1379

Fax: (204) 943-2279

# SPRING MIXER

Wednesday June 12, 2013 | Assiniboia Downs

Reception – 5:30pm ~ Dinner – 6:00pm ~ Live Racing – 7:00pm

TO ORDER TICKETS, FAX COMPLETED FORM BACK TO 204-943-2279. TICKETS: \$80.00 (gst incl.) / person

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of tickets (tables of 8): \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

Invoice: \_\_\_\_\_ Visa/MC/AMX#: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

For more information please contact Christine at the MHCA office by phone: 204-947-1379, fax: 204-943-2279 or by email at [christine@mhca.mb.ca](mailto:christine@mhca.mb.ca)

*As per MHCA Board Policy, only registrations cancelled 72 business hours prior to the commencement of this event will be refunded.*

