



The Heavy News Weekly



Pallister Administration Sworn In - Forward by Chris Lorenc

A plan for Lower Taxes, Better Services, and a Stronger Economy.

Winnipeg - Premier Brian Pallister announced his new twelve member Cabinet on May 3, 2016, putting his unique imprint on its shape, make up and policy focus. (Detailed information follows in the HNW)

Pallister has been consistent with his messaging during the recent provincial election; its focus is on lower taxes, better services and a stronger economy. These three focus pillars should be a welcomed direction for Manitobans.

It is no secret that Manitoba's taxes are not competitive with other Canadian jurisdictions. For example lower income earners face paying provincial taxes at \$9000.00 whereas those in Saskatchewan get a reprieve up until \$16,000.00 in earned income. Focusing only on raising the hourly minimum wage rates is false economic promise, as most gains would be taxed away. The key to a competitive tax regime is one which allows more disposable income after taxes.

Problems with Healthcare and related crown services are areas for attention as well. There should be no arguing the point that efficiencies in systems, processes, costs and outcomes are a review that is long overdue. Disciplined, cost effective and accountable commitment to efficient service delivery is an important objective.

As for a stronger economy, who can argue the point? Just as in our individual income aspirations, the number one priority (for all levels of government) should be to position Manitoba's economy to grow, enabling investment, careers, jobs and revenues to governments with which to fund our quality-of-life programming. A *Manitoba Advantage* should spell out a clear reason to destine investment capital to Manitoba.

The MHCA, its Board and the industries its represents, congratulate the Premier on his cabinet's organization and its areas of focus. We look forward to supporting successful achievement of each objective.

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

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Pallister Administration Sworn In

Manitoba News Release. May 03, 2016

Premier Brian Pallister and 12 Progressive Conservative MLAs were sworn-in today (May 3) as members of Manitoba's new executive council in a ceremony conducted by Lt.-Gov. Janice Filmon.

During the swearing-in ceremony, held at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights, Pallister spoke of his new government's commitment to governing for all Manitobans based on the values of Manitobans.

"I am humbled and honoured by the opportunity to serve Manitoba," Pallister said. "Our team's plan for a better Manitoba with lower taxes, better services and a stronger economy was overwhelmingly endorsed by Manitobans. We look forward to the opportunity to turn those commitments into reality. We know the job ahead of us will not be easy, but this is the right team to get Manitoba back on track."

The new executive council represents a one-third reduction in the size of Manitoba's cabinet, setting a new tone at the top in conducting government business for Manitobans, Pallister said.

The new Manitoba government cabinet, in order of precedence, is as follows:

- **Brian Pallister** (MLA for Fort Whyte) – Premier and President of the Executive Council; Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and International Relations;
- **Heather Stefanson** (MLA for Tuxedo) – Minister of Justice and Attorney General, Keeper of the Great Seal of the Province of Manitoba, Deputy Premier;
- **Cameron Friesen** (MLA for Morden-Winkler) – Minister of Finance;
- **Kelvin Goertzen** (MLA for Steinbach) – Minister of Health, Seniors and Active Living;
- **Ian Wishart** (MLA for Portage la Prairie) – Minister of Education and Training;
- **Scott Fielding** (MLA for Kirkfield Park) – Minister of Families;
- **Blaine Pedersen** (MLA for Midland) – Minister of Infrastructure;
- **Eileen Clarke** (MLA for Agassiz) – Minister of Indigenous and Municipal Relations;
- **Cathy Cox** (MLA for River East) – Minister of Sustainable Development;
- **Cliff Cullen** (MLA for Spruce Woods) – Minister of Growth, Enterprise and Trade;
- **Ralph Eichler** (MLA for Lakeside) – Minister of Agriculture;
- **Rochelle Squires** (MLA for Riel) – Minister of Sport, Culture and Heritage and Minister Responsible for Francophone Affairs and Status of Women; and
- **Ron Schuler** (MLA for St. Paul) – Minister of Crown Services.

Pallister also announced Goertzen will be the Government House Leader and Jon Reyes has been appointed the Military Envoy.

MINISTERS' BIOGRAPHIES

Brian Pallister was elected as the MLA for Fort Whyte in 2012 and re-elected in 2016. He was previously elected as the MLA for Portage la Prairie in 1992 and 1995, and served as the Minister of Government Services. In 2000, Pallister was elected as the member of Parliament for Portage-Lisgar and served eight years including as chair of the Finance Committee. A graduate of Brandon University, he holds degrees in arts and education, and taught social studies at William Morton Collegiate in Gladstone before starting a financial services company in 1980 that grew into Pallister Financial. He and his wife Esther have two daughters.

Heather Stefanson was elected as the MLA for Tuxedo in 2000 and re-elected in 2003, 2007, 2011 and 2016. An investment advisor, Stefanson earned her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Western Ontario before completing her financial education at the Canadian Securities Institute. She also worked as an advisor in the offices of the Prime Minister, the Federal Minister of Agriculture, and the Provincial Minister of Education. She and her husband Jason have two children.

Cameron Friesen was elected as the MLA for Morden-Winkler in 2011 and re-elected in 2016. Born and raised in Morden, Friesen earned degrees in music and education, and spent 12 years teaching in the Winnipeg, Hanover and Western school divisions. He and his wife Shelley have three children.

Kelvin Goertzen was elected as the MLA for Steinbach in 2003 and re-elected in 2007, 2011 and 2016. Goertzen has degrees from the University of Manitoba in economics, commerce and law, and has worked for a major financial institution and a property development company. He is extremely active in his local community, having served as Vice-President of both the Steinbach Arts Council and the Steinbach Food Bank. He has received the H.O.P.E. Medal of Honour from the Lions Club of Manitoba and the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal. He and his wife Kim have one son.

Ian Wishart was elected as the MLA for Portage la Prairie in 2011 and re-elected in 2016. A graduate of the University of Manitoba, Wishart has served as President and Vice-President of Keystone Agricultural Producers, as the Executive of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, and as a board member of the Manitoba Crop Insurance Board and the Manitoba Water Council. He and his wife Leslie have two children and live on a fourth-generation family farm north of Portage la Prairie.

Scott Fielding was elected as the MLA for Kirkfield Park in 2016. Fielding graduated from the University of Manitoba with an Advanced Bachelor of Arts in economics and political studies, and has served as a Winnipeg City Councillor, where he was chair of the Finance Committee and chair of the Winnipeg Police Board. A business owner, he has served on the boards of organizations including the Winnipeg Convention Centre, the Assiniboine Park Conservancy and the St. James Village Business Improvement Zone. He and his wife Michelle have three children.

Blaine Pedersen was elected as the MLA for Midland in 2007 and re-elected in 2011 and 2016. With more than 30 years farming experience in cattle and grain operations, Pedersen is an active member of his community, serving in many livestock organizations and groups such as Kinsmen, Toastmasters, 4-H program and a local housing corporation. He and his wife Dianne have three children and five grandchildren.

Eileen Clarke was elected as the MLA for Agassiz in 2016. An entrepreneur and municipal politician, Clarke was an active member of the local Chamber of Commerce for more than 35 years before serving for eight years as the Mayor of Gladstone and as the Association of Manitoba Municipalities' Vice-President in 2010. She and her husband Bob have two children and are proud grandparents.

Cliff Cullen was elected as the MLA for Turtle Mountain in 2004 and re-elected in 2007. In 2011 and 2016, he was re-elected in the new constituency of Spruce Woods. Cullen earned a diploma in agriculture from the University of Manitoba and worked in the agricultural and environmental sectors, serving as President of the Manitoba Weed Supervisors Association and as Provincial Manager of the Association for a Clean Rural Environment. He and his wife Marilyn have three sons.

Cathy Cox was elected as the MLA for River East in 2016. Born and raised in north Winnipeg, Cox has spent many years volunteering for various initiatives in her community including the Sun Valley Parent Association, Heart and Stroke Foundation of Manitoba and the Canadian Cancer Society, Manitoba Division. She was the recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for her outstanding contributions to her community. She and her husband Herb have three sons and two grandchildren.

Ralph Eichler was elected as the MLA for Lakeside in 2003 and re-elected in 2007, 2011 and 2016. A business owner and former administrator for the Interlake School Division, Eichler is an active volunteer in his community, serving various organizations including the Teulon and Area Lions Club, the Stonewall Royal Canadian Legion, the Interlake Community Foundation Board, and the Teulon Golf and Country Club. He and his wife Gail have three children and three grandchildren.

Rochelle Squires was elected as the MLA for Riel in 2016. A journalist, Squires holds a Bachelor of Arts in communications from the University of Winnipeg, a Master of Fine Arts from the University of British Columbia and a journalism diploma from Red River College. She and her husband Daniel have a combined family of five children and one grandson.

Ron Schuler was elected as the MLA for St. Paul in 1999 and re-elected in 2003, 2007, 2011 and 2016. Schuler is a graduate of the University of Manitoba with a degree in international relations and has served as a trustee with the River East School Division. An entrepreneur, former small-business owner and community volunteer, he has devoted his time to organizations like Big Brothers, Citizens on Patrol, Max Reinhardt Theatre Canada and the Manitoba Inter-cultural Council. He has three children and lives in St. Paul.

Manitoba



Upcoming MHCA Committee and Board Meetings

May 9

Aggregate Producers: Quarry Permits & Leases -
MHCA Boardroom, Winnipeg 12 noon to 2 PM

May 10

COR™ Advisory Committee Meeting -
Meseyton Construction Ltd., Portage La Prairie
8:30 AM to 10:30 AM

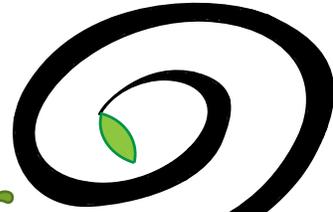
June 13

Education Training & Gold Seal Committee Meeting
- MHCA Board Room, Winnipeg 11:00 AM

COR™ Industry Meeting - Meseyton Construction
Ltd., Portage La Prairie 10:30 AM



2016 Spring Mixer



Wednesday, June 1, 2016

Assiniboia Downs - 3975 Portage Ave.

Reception: 5 p.m. | Dinner: 6 p.m. | Live Racing: 7 p.m.

TICKETS: \$87.50 +^{GST} PER PERSON | TABLES OF EIGHT OR TEN

Company: _____

Number of Tickets: _____ Contact Person: _____

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Invoice: _____ Visa/MC/AMEX #: _____ Exp. _____

Signature: _____

**To order tickets or for more information, please contact Christine Miller at christine@mhca.mb.ca
ph: 204-947-1379 or fax: 204-943-2279 .**

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

Premier Appoints Deputy Ministers To Support New Government's Organizational Changes

Manitoba News Release, May 4, 2016

Premier Brian Pallister today announced the appointment of Deputy Ministers to support the recent change in the structure of the provincial government.

"I'm confident these senior managers will offer a wide variety of experience and knowledge to our new team as we move forward on our commitments to Manitobans," said the Premier. "Their guidance will be incredibly important and I am joined by our entire cabinet in my sincere thanks for their service."

The following new appointments have been made:

- **Bramwell (Bram) Strain** - Deputy Minister of Education and Training, effective May 9;
- **Fredrick (Rick) Mantey** - Deputy Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and International Relations, effective May 3; and
- **James (Jamie) Wilson** - Deputy Minister of Growth, Enterprise and Trade, effective May 3.

The assignments of existing deputy minister are:

- **Fred Meier** - Deputy Minister of Municipal Relations within Indigenous and Municipal Relations, and Associate Clerk of Executive Council;
- **Dorynne (Dori) Gingera-Beauchemin** - Deputy Minister of Agriculture;
- **Joy Cramer** - Deputy Minister of Families;
- **Jim Hrichishen** - Deputy Minister of Finance, Deputy Minister of Crown Services;
- **Karen Herd** - Deputy Minister of Health, Seniors and Active living;
- **Robert Wavey** - Deputy Minister of Indigenous Relations within the Department of Indigenous and Municipal Relations;
- **Lance Vigfusson** - Deputy Minister of Infrastructure;
- **Julie Frederickson** - Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Attorney General;
- **Mala Sachdeva** - Deputy Minister of Sport, Culture and Heritage;
- **Grant Doak** - Deputy Minister of Sustainable Development;
- **Lynn Romeo** - Civil Service Commissioner; and
- **Lynn Zapshala-Kelln** - Secretary to Treasury Board.

The Premier added that Jim Eldridge has been appointed Senior Advisor to the Executive Council Office to provide support during the transition period, and thanked Dave Dyson, Gerald Farthing, Terry Goertzen and Jan Sanderson for their service to Manitobans and their contributions over the years.

Brian Bowman Hopes For New Infrastructure Funding Model Under Pallister

Winnipeg mayor talks funding changes for municipalities on day of provincial swearing-in ceremony

Published on the CBC News website on May 3, 2016.

The Progressive Conservative government will be sworn into government Tuesday, and Winnipeg Mayor Brian Bowman says he hopes to see new infrastructure funding privileges extended to municipalities under premier-designate Brian Pallister's watch.

"I know that today is a really big day and so they should be celebrating," Bowman said. "It's an opportunity for renewal."

Bowman said he's eager to work with the new government. One thing he'll be keeping his eyes on in the coming weeks and months is whether Pallister heeds calls from the province's 137 mayors and reeves regarding the allocation of infrastructure money to municipalities.

"We were united in calling for a fair share and a fair say in how infrastructure dollars are spent in our jurisdictions," Bowman said.

"We want to make sure that governments are working together to ensure that the priorities of municipalities — the level of government that's closest to the people we both collectively serve — is being met."

Bowman said he was encouraged by Pallister's campaign promise to restructure the current funding model and ensure municipalities have more control of money set aside by the province for infrastructure projects.

In February, Bowman called the current model "antiquated." He and mayors and reeves from several communities called on the provincial government to share a larger chunk of infrastructure funds with cities and rural municipalities.

"The Progressive Conservatives had a significant announcement on fair say: a single basket for funding, an easier process, which will help us get more value for dollars," Bowman said.

"We're expecting as a result of that, we'll be able to really stretch the hard-earned tax dollars that are being sent to the provincial government a lot better in terms of being able to spend it on priorities of our citizens in our city."

The new government was sworn in at 10 a.m. CT at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights in Winnipeg on May 03, 2016.

Alberta addresses prompt payment with contracts

Written by Russell Hixson for the *Journal of Commerce* website on April 28, 2016
and featured in the CCA weekly newsletter



Alberta Infrastructure (AI) has made four key changes to its contracts to address concerns over prompt payment in the province's construction industry, the Alberta Construction Association (ACA) announced earlier this month.

First, the contract now specifies a maximum of 30 days after the initial receipt of the application for payment, provided the contractor has properly completed their claim.

AI will verify the invoice and adjust if necessary, advising the general contractor within 14 days of the amount to be paid.

AI has also modified the statutory declaration so that the general contractor must confirm they paid their subcontractors within 10 days of receiving payment from the government.

Second, AI contracts now state that amounts which are not in dispute will be paid and disputed amounts will be resolved during the next invoice period.

Third, AI has committed to publicizing the date of payment so that subcontractors and suppliers will be aware of when the prime contractor was paid.

And fourth, upon appropriate application, holdback funds will be released once the portion of the work is complete.

The contractor will submit their certificate of substantial performance for their portion of the work performed and follow normal procedures of posting the certificate at the job site.

After the 45-day period, the contractor then applies for release as part of the next progress claim.

The ACA, which pushed for the changes, applauded the news, writing that "prompt pay supports jobs for Albertans and their families through increased cash flow (and) allows companies to increase staff."

The association added prompt payment also supports small business as it will allow companies to pursue more work with timely payments and saves money for taxpayers with lower bid prices by reducing the cost of financing receivables. It will also increase the number of competitive bids.

"While delayed payment is an issue across industry, Alberta Infrastructure has shown great leadership to step up and offer a solution that we hope is adopted by other owners," said Ken Gibson, ACA executive director.

Those in the subcontracting community call it a step in the right direction, but feel legislation is needed to really enforce change.

Russ Evans, executive director of the Mechanical Contractors Association of Alberta, said he is glad AI is finally recognizing that payment has become a huge issue in construction. He also praised the ACA for raising the issue with the province.

"It's a good example and it's a good starting point. We have been pounding on this for a lot of years," he said.

Evans explained that many of the association's members have continual cash flow demands and delayed payment increases the cost of doing business.

"Over time this increases the construction costs and reduces the efficiencies of doing construction," Evans said.

"It's hard to be competitive in a global market when you are doing this. It puts more strain on the little guys. I think that's the core of it."

However, Evans said it remains to be seen if those further down the ladder of payment will benefit.

"Our concern is that their protocol only applies to them, it doesn't apply to generals," he said.

"It's only a voluntary code. There's no guarantee the general contractors will trickle that down or adopt that protocol themselves." Tim Padfield, president at Pad-Car Mechanical Ltd., agreed the changes are very positive in terms of transparency, but expressed concern over how to enforce them.

"When conditions aren't being met, what teeth are there?" he said.

Padfield pointed to Bill S-224 which has reached second reading in the Senate as part of the solution.

The private member's bill would only cover contracts and the subcontracts of those contracts with the federal government. According a release from supporters, it "ensures that the government institution must make progress payments to a contractor on a monthly basis, or at shorter intervals provided for in the respective contract. This payment requirement is consistent down the contractual chain."

It also accounts for milestone payments and stated contractors have the right to suspend work, terminate a contract and collect interest on late payment.

That right to terminate work when not paid without fear of reprisal is the key, said Padfield.

"We can hold up the entire job for non-payment," he said.

"AI has gone a long ways in visibility and transparency, but should there be a break down in the process, what rights still exist?"

He believes legislation needs to be passed that would say one can't have a contractor that forces a subcontractor to continue work even if they haven't been paid.

"What's happening is we are financing the project," he said of delayed payment.

"If we always have a large cash flow out there we are incurring financing charges on that...we could be putting that back into working capital to grow or back in to the economy."

Dave Smith, head of the Calgary Construction Association, commented that "in these volatile economic times in the province of Alberta prompt payment is essential to all those in the contractual time.

"The Calgary Construction Association is currently addressing this issue in the Calgary region with various owners who purchase construction services."

THE MANITOBA CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

Annual Deputy Ministers' Dinner June 2nd, 2016 The Fairmont Winnipeg Presented by:



And Supported by:



Report: Canada's Municipal Infrastructure at Risk of Rapid Deterioration

Written to accompany the Canadian Infrastructure Report Card 2016

Ottawa – One-third of Canada's municipal infrastructure is at risk of rapid deterioration: that is the key finding of the 2016 Canadian Infrastructure Report Card (CIRC).

Informing the Future: The 2016 Canadian Infrastructure Report Card assessed the state of municipal roads and bridges, public transit, buildings, sport and recreation facilities, stormwater, wastewater and potable water infrastructure. The results indicate that much of Canada's municipal infrastructure is at a critical juncture.

Investments in repair and upkeep are needed in the short term to prevent a rapid decline in the condition of municipal assets, according to survey findings. Furthermore, the report uncovered that reinvestment rates in Canada's municipal infrastructure are not meeting target rates, despite continued efforts on the part of municipal governments. If this trend continues, the overall cost for infrastructure repair will increase substantially from where they stand today.

The CIRC project is the continuation of a collaboration struck in 2012 between the Canadian Construction Association, the Canadian Public Works Association, the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. The 2016 edition also received support from the Canadian Urban Transit Association, as well as the Federal-Provincial/Territorial Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation Committee. Technical support and advice was provided by the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association.

The 2016 CIRC survey gathered more detail on inventory, condition and replacement value than the survey developed for the 2012 edition. There was a marked increase in the number of questions answered by participants. There was therefore an improvement in the availability and quality of data that informed the findings of this new report. As a result, the 2012 and 2016 CIRC report should be viewed as separate snapshots in time.

Quotes

“The report shows that we have an opportunity to improve quality of life for Canadians, strengthen the economy and save money over the long term. That should be all the motivation we need to act now.” Nick Larson, Chair of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers Infrastructure Renewal Committee

“What this survey shows is that we need to repair our existing infrastructure. Our infrastructure is aging and we need to accelerate the rate of renewal. As any homeowner knows, repair costs skyrocket once you let things go past a certain point. We don't want to get to that point.” Kealy Dedman, President, Canadian Public Works Association

“This isn't complicated. Homeowners know you need to stay on top of repairs if you want to avoid larger bills down the road. If you see a small crack in your foundation, you fix it now. You don't wait until water is pouring into your basement.” Michael Atkinson, President, Canadian Construction Association

“In the end, it is not a question of investing or not investing, it's a question of cost and good infrastructure management. The bottom line is that the longer we wait to act on these repairs, the more expensive it will get. Canada needs to start planning for the future by reinvesting in our existing assets now.” Raymond Louie, President of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities

“While governments have increased investments in transit over the last decade, the report shows that over 40% of transit infrastructure is in need of rehabilitation. We look forward to working with all orders of government and stakeholders to renew our infrastructure, maintaining our solid foundation for current needs and preserving a sound footing for future growth.” Patrick Leclerc, President and CEO, Canadian Urban Transit Association

“Almost one in two sport and recreation facilities across the country are in immediate need of attention. This infrastructure is at the heart of Canadian communities. The 2016 Canadian Infrastructure Report Card is a call to action.” Dean Gibson, President, Canadian Parks and Recreation Association

To read the full report card, visit <http://tinyurl.com/gme9rdo>

To read the key message, visit <http://tinyurl.com/hkcaaow>



Is Growth its Own Worst Enemy?

By Peter G Hall, Vice President and Chief Economist



Januaries are jinxed. Look at the data: in the past five years, there has been some big unpredictable event in the opening weeks of the year that has nixed first-quarter global economic performance. This year was no exception. In fact, the jinx jumped the gun. On day one back at our desks, China's stock market tumbled so fast it closed itself down. What hurt more was the almost instant ricochet into other markets. Equities, bonds, commodities and currencies were all caught up in the fast-spreading mayhem. It fed into a marketplace desperate to leave the turbulence of 2015 behind it. Instead, things got worse.

Chaos continued for about six weeks, and then, a turnaround – of sorts. Without warning, equity markets stopped sliding, and then started to rise. Commodity prices came off their lows, and the abject pessimists got less air time. Currencies followed suit, and bonds were better behaved. It was a relief, but the sense of unease continued. Although confidence held up, jitters seemed to influence actual economic activity. Data for the period are still coming in, and they are mixed. Forecasts are being downgraded – again – stoking that sense that we are in a protracted growth funk that's becoming harder to get out of.

Are we re-weakening? Generally speaking, no. What seems to have been almost missed by the media and profiled expert analysts is that the resulting market chaos is not about neo-weakness or deprivation. It's actually the strongest signal in recent years of the global economy's return to growth. It is growth that caused the Fed to inaugurate the rate-tightening cycle on December 16, sparking the latest round of turmoil.

Where is the growth? The US economy is soldiering on. Pent-up demand is driving consumer spending and housing activity, spurring business investment, and creating jobs by the boatload. As a result, US consumers are in great shape: new jobs mean new incomes, tighter labour markets mean real wage gains, deleveraging has reduced interest costs, confidence is up, and lower gasoline prices have generated a \$110 billion bonus, much of which still has to be spent. They, together with an industrial complex that is pushing the limits of capacity are driving the acceleration in US GDP that we expect through 2017.

Spillover growth from the US and pent-up pressures at home are expected to add momentum to the European economies. The Euro Area has actually experienced growth above its long-term average for the past 6 quarters. This is forecast to continue over the next two years as Europe stages a measured comeback.

Market mayhem's venom has had more effect on emerging markets. Commodity-dependent economies and their currencies are reeling. Yet even they seem to be benefiting from the return to global growth: lower pricing is boosting commodity demand, and cash-rich multinationals are hunting for investment bargains. While insufficient to offset negative effects, it's unexpected relief.

The BRICS aren't helping much. Russia, saddled by sanctions, plunging oil prices and costly military campaigns, is in deep recession. Brazil is worse off, falling by almost 4 per cent last year, and a further 3.2 per cent this year. Commodity-dependent South Africa will have a challenging year. But the news isn't all bad: amid its bubble-troubles, China's 6-per-cent-plus pace will still help to drive overall demand. And India has now vaulted ahead of China, boasting near-term growth ahead of 7 per cent.

Early-2016 challenges will keep global growth at 3.1 per cent this year, according to EDC's Spring 2016 Global Export Forecast. However, strong fundamentals will lift growth to 3.5 per cent in 2017. Canada will capitalize on this: while energy exports will see another tough year, strong US performance and a weak loonie will spur double-digit growth in exports of autos and auto parts, consumer goods, and aerospace products. Total export growth will rise from 2 per cent in 2016 to 6 per cent next year.

The bottom line? Growth is back, but many don't see it. Turbulence, the fallout of lower commodity prices and pre-existing risks all loom large, and are eclipsing the growth story. It has turned into a psycho-cycle, with both stories vying for attention. It's a rare juxtaposition, and there are few precedents for what's at stake. But growth is expected to prevail. It has thus far, and usually does when fundamentals are as they are today.

Education Training & Gold Seal Committee Meeting Highlights

On May 2 the Education Training and Gold Seal (ET&GS) Committee held its meeting in the MHCA Board Room in Winnipeg. The committee discussed EXPO South 2016

Company participation

Christine Miller from Manitoba Heavy Construction Association (MHCA) noted that while overall attendance was up, industry representation was slightly down while non-industry representation was higher due to MIT and RM representation.

Tradeshow

Suggestions for next years tradeshow included extend coffee breaks/allow for coffee throughout day; starting lunch later; creating a Safety Passport encouraging students to access the tradeshow, and; tradeshow vendors creating a brief summary of their marketing and products and distribute to industry purchasing agents to encourage further attendance to tradeshow from purchasing decision makers.

Course Evaluations

Jackie Jones from MHCA reviewed the course evaluations noting that the overall feedback was very positive.

Further suggestions regarding training included collecting student's email address during training to allow for greater feedback; smaller classrooms; prerequisites for training/greater definition of who should attend training to ensure correct audience, and; add a Locates training course that MB Hydro would train.



Above: ET&GS Committee meet in MHCA Boardroom on May 2, 2016



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Hand Protection

Our hands are exposed to many different hazards on the worksite; from cuts to chemicals, pinching to crushing, and blisters to burns. Failing to protect your hands at work can lead to serious injuries including hand-arm vibration syndrome.

Work-related hand injuries are very common. Serious cases can lead to hospitalization and missed work. Damage to the nerves in your fingers and hands, loss of a finger, skin irritations and burns can negatively affect the quality of your work, productivity - or worse - end your career. Protecting our fingers and hands is important for work and quality of life.

Causes of Hand Injuries:

- Punctures, cuts or lacerations are caused by unprotected contact with sharp, spiked or jagged edges on equipment, tools or materials.
- Crushed, fractures or amputations are caused by unprotected contact with gears, belts, wheels and rollers, falling objects and jewellery, gloves and clothing getting caught and putting your hand in harms way.
- Strains, sprains and musculoskeletal injuries are caused by using the wrong tool for the job, or one that is the wrong size or too heavy for your hand.
- Burns are caused by direct contact with a hot surface or chemicals.
- Dermatitis and other skin disorders are pre-existing conditions that can be irritated or flair up when hands come in contact with certain ingredients in products and materials.

Controls and Preventative Measures:

- Leather gloves provide better protection against sharp edges, splinters, and heat than cotton or other materials.
- Anti-vibration gloves should be worn when using power tools and equipment as they can help prevent hand-arm vibration syndrome (HAVS)
- When working with chemicals, check the label to see if the product must be handled with gloves or not and what type of glove material is required. This information can also be found on the material safety data sheet (MSDS). MSDS must be available on site for any controlled products that are being used.
- Make sure you are using the correct gloves for the job. Some chemicals, like solvents and degreasers, can dissolve rubber gloves and burn the skin.
- Keep guards in place on machinery and power tools.
- Check tools and equipment to make sure they are in proper working order before beginning a task.
- Never cut towards the palm of your hand and always keep hands and fingers away from sharp edges (blades, protruding nails, etc.)

Training Schedule

May		
COR™ Leadership in Safety Excellence	May 11-12	Parkland Crossing - Dauphin
COR™ Principles of Health & Safety Management	May 13	Parkland Crossing - Dauphin
COR™ Leadership in Safety Excellence	May 16 -17	MHCA Office
COR™ Principles of Health & Safety Management	May 18	MHCA Office
COR™ Auditor	May 19 - 20	MHCA Office
Flagperson (1/2 Day AM)	May 24	MHCA Office
Committee/Representative Training (1/2 Day PM)	May 24	MHCA Office
Traffic Control Coordinator	May 25 - 26	MHCA Office
Excavation & Trenching (1/2 Day AM)	May 27	MHCA Office
Train the Trainer	May 30	MHCA Office
June		
COR™ Leadership in Safety Excellence	June 13-14	MHCA Office
COR™ Principles of Health & Safety Management	June 15	MHCA Office
COR™ Auditor	June 16-17	MHCA Office
Flagperson (1/2 Day AM)	June 27	MHCA Office
Committee/Representative Training (1/2 Day PM)	June 27	MHCA Office
Traffic Control Coordinator	June 28-29	MHCA Office
Excavation & Trenching (1/2 Day AM)	June 30	MHCA Office

For the full calendar of upcoming training schedules, visit www.mhca.mb.ca/worksafely



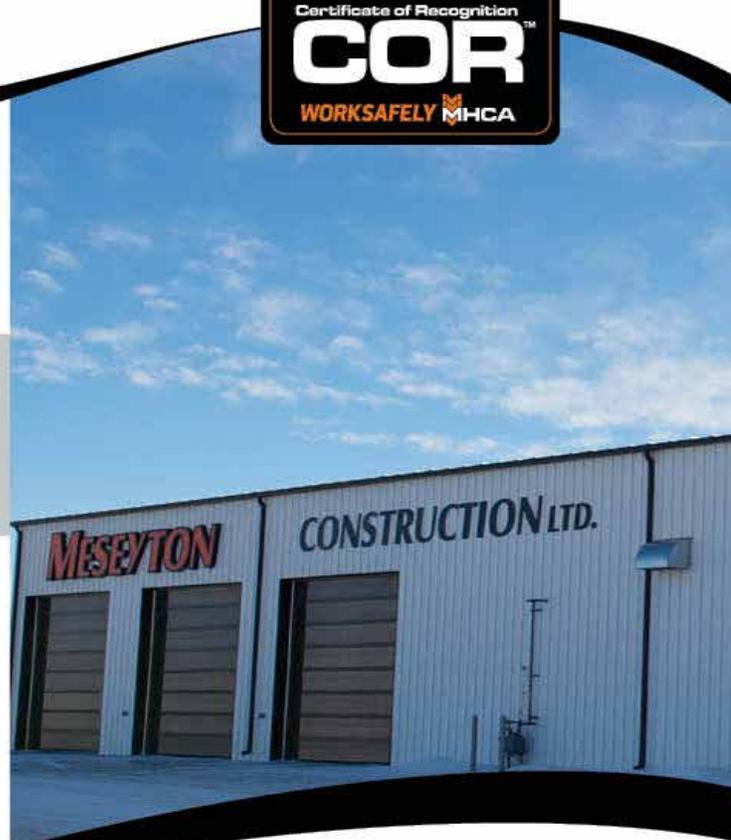
**You're invited to attend
our next COR™ meeting!**

Agenda:

1. WHMIS 2015
2. SAFE Work
 - How COR™ fits with the proposed SAFE Work certification
3. 2016 Workplace Safety & Health Priorities

DATE: May 10, 2016
WHEN: 10:30 a.m. - noon
WHERE: Meseyton Construction Ltd
 Highway #1
 West of Portage la Prairie, MB
 South Service Road

**Please RSVP on or before May 3, 2016 to
 Kristen Ranson; kristen@mhca.mb.ca**



**2016 SPRING ROAD RESTRICTIONS (SRR)
ORDER FOR THE START AND END DATES
(May 02, 2016)**

**RESPECTING THE OPERATION OF VEHICLES ON HIGHWAYS
IN THE PROVINCE OF MANITOBA**

Pursuant to *subsections 86(1), 86(2) and 86(3), The Highway Traffic Act (C.C.S.M. c. H60)*, I order that **2016** spring weight restrictions will be implemented as follows:

IMPLEMENTATION DATES

- A.** For the province of Manitoba, south of the virtual line that includes PTH 77, going easterly to include PR 513 (Gypsumville) and the northern tip of Black Island, following the eastern shore of Lake Winnipeg to the north shore of the Winnipeg River, easterly along the north shore of the Winnipeg River to PR 304 and easterly to the Ontario border.

Start Date: 6:00 A.M., Friday, March 11, 2016.

End Date: 11:59 P.M., Monday, May 09, 2016.

- B.** For the province of Manitoba, north of the virtual line specified in A (above).

Start Date: 6:00 A.M., Monday, March 14, 2016.

End Date: 11:59 P.M., Wednesday, May 11, 2016.

Please refer to website www.gov.mb.ca/mit/srr for details and updates.

Information is also available by calling the Road Information Line at 511 in Manitoba or at 1- 877- 627- 6237 outside Manitoba, and by calling Motor Carrier Permits and Development at 204- 945-3961 or toll free at 1- 877- 812-0009.

BY ORDER

Original signed by

Ron Weatherburn
ASSISTANT DEPUTY MINISTER
ENGINEERING & OPERATIONS

May 02, 2016

NOTICE

ROAD CLOSURE PTH 59/PTH 101

As part of the construction of the new interchange at PTH 59 and PTH 101, the existing structure must be removed. Removal of the existing structure is scheduled to occur starting at 10:00 p.m. May 13, 2016 until 10:00 p.m. Sunday, May 15, 2016.

During this time, PTH 59 and PTH 101 will be closed to traffic in all directions.

Detour signs will be in place to route legal vehicles around the closure.

“Local traffic only” will be allowed on PTH 101 from PTH 1 east to PTH 59.

Permitted oversized/overweight vehicles will be required to use alternate routes that have been approved by Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation (see attached map).

Permitted Long Combination Vehicles will be required to use PTH 100 during the closure.

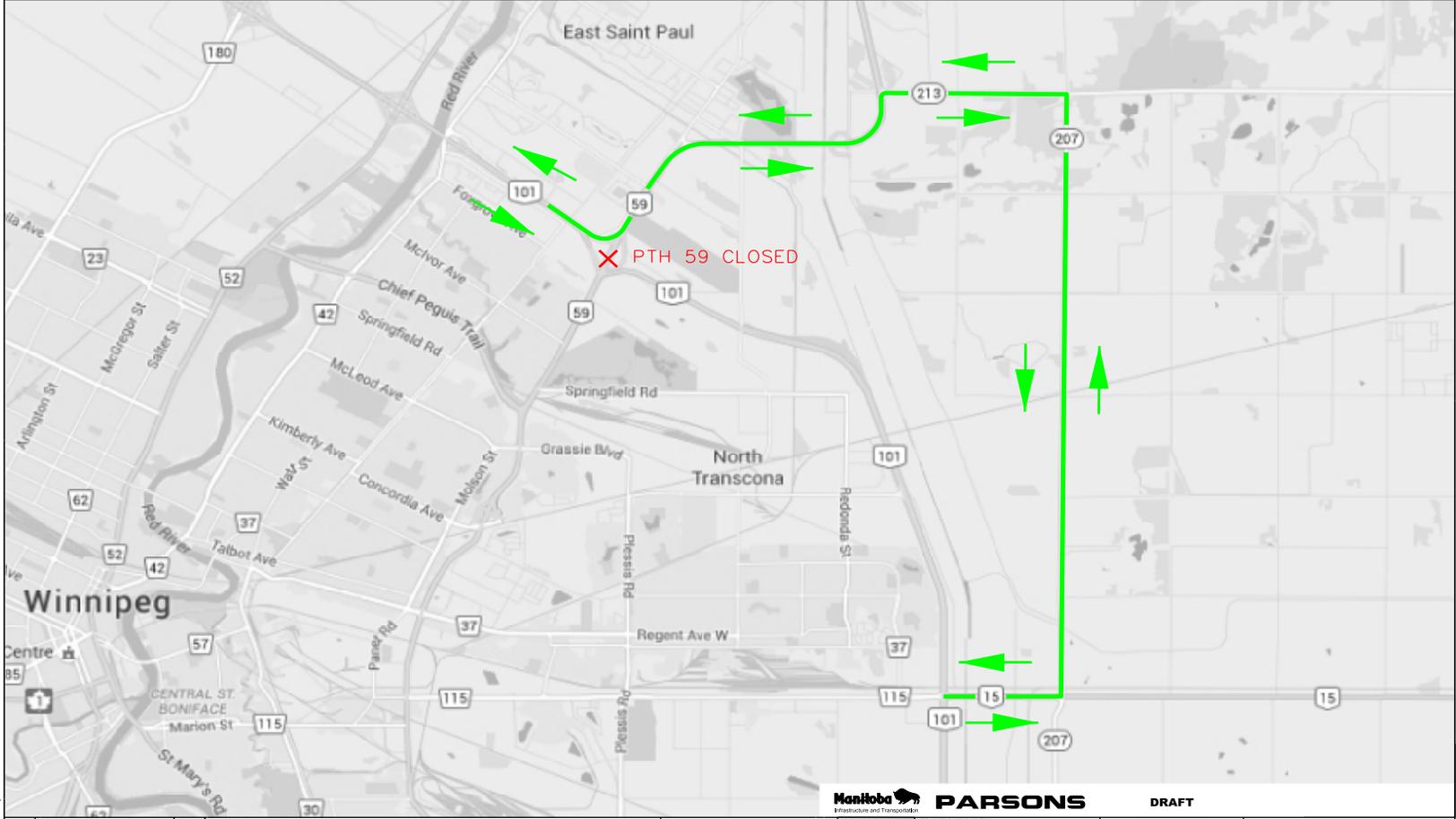
Information and updates regarding the road closure will be available on the Highway Information (Manitoba 511 – Road and Traveller Information) website at www.manitoba511.ca/en/ or by calling 204-945-3704 or toll free at 1-877-627-6237.

Your cooperation during the required road closure is greatly appreciated. If you should have any questions or require additional information regarding permit requirements please contact Permit Services at (204) 945-3961 or toll free at 1-877-812-0009.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

You can contact Permit Services at:

Phone: (204) 945-3961 (local)
(877) 812-0009 (toll free)
Fax: (204) 945-6499
Email: permitservices@gov.mb.ca



Manitoba **PARSONS**
Infrastructure and Transportation

DRAFT

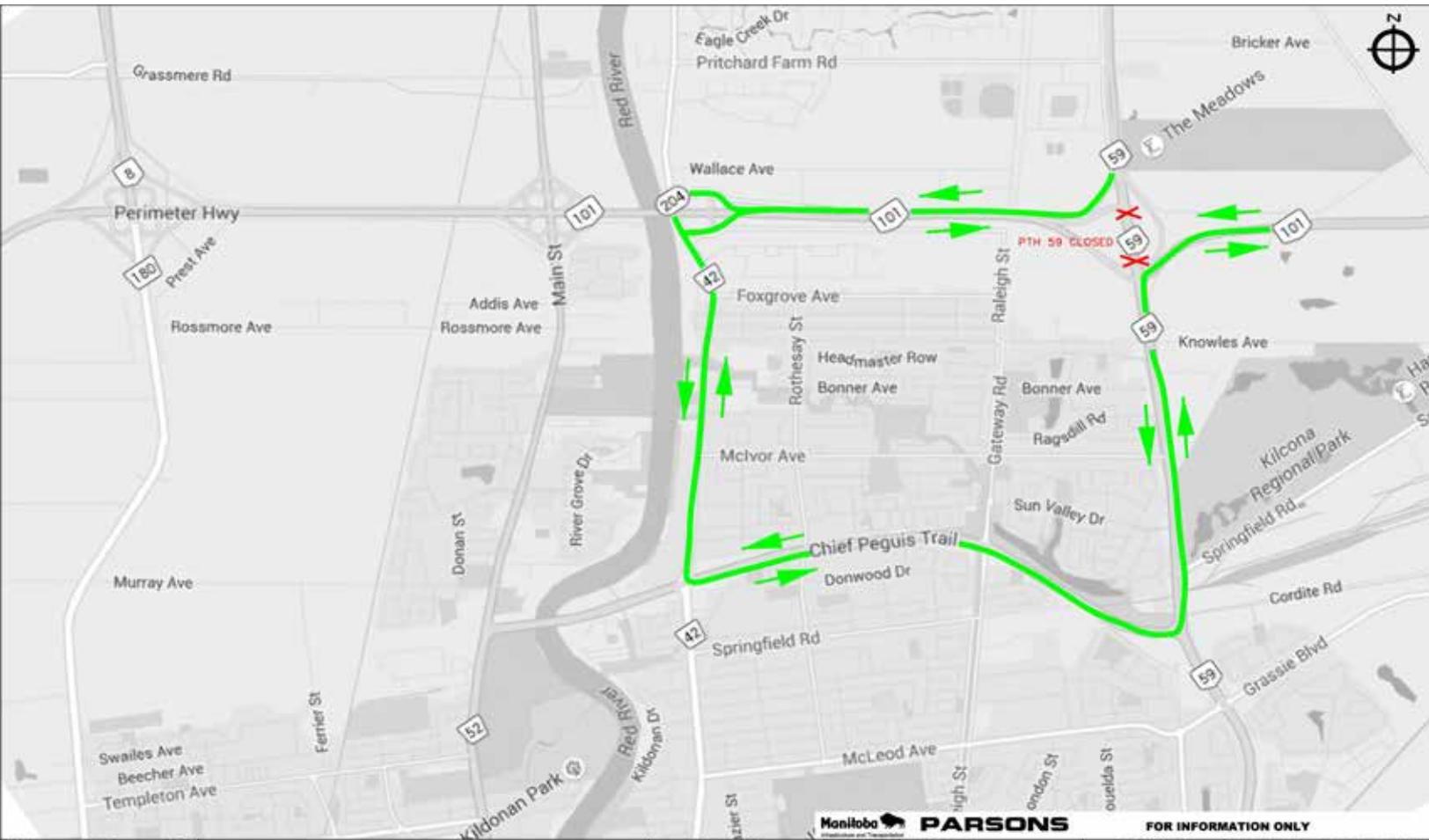
DATE	REVISION	APPROVAL

ENVIRONMENTAL APPROVALS CHECK ONE BELOW	DATE	DESIGNATED INTERSECTION
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<input type="checkbox"/> EXISTING/NEW/ALTERED SUBJECT TO		
<input type="checkbox"/> NO ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE REQUIRED		

APPROVALS	REVISION APPROVAL

SHEET DESCRIPTION	

MANITOBA INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION	
DESIGN BUILD AGREEMENT NUMBER 0586	EARLY MOT PACKAGE
OR	
INTERCHANGE AT PTH. 59 / PTH 101	
AND INTERSECTION UPGRADES AT PTH 59 W / PTH 207	
PREPARED BY	DATE CHECKED



Manitoba **PARSONS**
Infrastructure and Transportation

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

DATE	REVISION	APPROVAL

ENVIRONMENTAL APPROVALS CHECK ONE BELOW	DATE	DESIGNATED INTERSECTION
<input type="checkbox"/> USING EXISTING		
<input type="checkbox"/> EXISTING/NEW/ALTERED SUBJECT TO		
<input type="checkbox"/> NO ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE REQUIRED		

APPROVALS	REVISION APPROVAL

SHEET DESCRIPTION	

MANITOBA INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION	
DESIGN BUILD AGREEMENT NUMBER 0586	EARLY MOT PACKAGE
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INTERCHANGE AT PTH. 59 / PTH 101	
AND INTERSECTION UPGRADES AT PTH 59 W / PTH 207	
PREPARED BY	DATE CHECKED



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