



Release

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For Immediate Release

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PREPARATIONS UNDERWAY TO BEGIN CONSTRUCTION OF THE FIFTH FLOODWAY BRIDGE

M.D. Steele Awarded Contract to Replace CPR Keewatin Railway Bridge

Today, the Manitoba Floodway Authority (MFA) announced that M.D. Steele Construction Ltd. has been awarded a contract to replace the CPR Keewatin Railway Bridge across the Red River Floodway.

“We congratulate M.D. Steele for submitting the lowest bid in response to the tender,” said Ernie Gilroy, CEO of the MFA. “We look forward to building on our relationship with the company in the upcoming months.” Gilroy noted that M.D. Steele has also already participated in the Red River Floodway Expansion Project with the construction of the Trans-Canada Highway (TCH) #1 East Bridges.

In September, 2007, the MFA issued a tender for the replacement of the CPR Keewatin Railway Bridge. M.D. Steele submitted the lowest of four bids in response to the tender estimated at approximately \$21 million. Under the contract, M.D. Steele will replace the existing railway bridge including replacement of existing piers and abutments, replacement of existing bridge girders and associated channel excavation. The contract also includes the establishment and removal of a temporary railway detour. This temporary bridge was previously used for the construction of the CN Sprague and CN Redditt Railway Bridges. Site preparation and mobilization by the contractor has already commenced.

M.D. Steele Construction Ltd. began operation in 1993 and has successfully completed several landmark structures and buildings in Manitoba including the Health Sciences Cancer Research Building, the Richardson Centre for Functional Foods and Nutraceuticals, the Provencher Bridge, Esplanade Riel, and most recently the Portage la Prairie Overpass.

To date, construction of three floodway bridges including the Trans-Canada Highway #1 East Bridge, the PTH 59 South Bridge and the CN Sprague Railway Bridge has been completed. Work is ongoing on the construction of the CN Redditt Railway Bridge and construction of the CPR Emerson Railway Bridge is scheduled for next year.

Last spring, the floodway expansion project reached a major milestone by increasing the level of flood protection for Winnipeg from 1-in-90 to 1-in-300, providing increased flood protection for an additional 150,000 Winnipeg residents. The project is scheduled to provide a 1-in-700 year level of flood protection in the spring of 2009 with associated bridge and related structure work being completed in 2010. To date, over 1000 workers and 50 companies have participated in the construction of the project.

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