



## Release

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For Immediate Release

### **PUBLIC INVITED TO APPLY FOR WORK ON FLOODWAY EXPANSION PROJECT**

#### **Project Expected to Create More than 1000 Jobs Over Five Years**

**Winnipeg, MB** – The Manitoba Floodway Authority (MFA) today invited individuals interested in working on the Red River Floodway Expansion Project to contact any of Manitoba's 17 Employment and Training Services (ETS) Centres to apply for job opportunities on the project.

"The floodway expansion project will be a five-year project that will result in significant economic development opportunities for individuals, businesses and Manitoba communities," said Steve Ashton, Minister of Water Stewardship. "With construction on the floodway expansion project scheduled to begin very shortly, there is a lot of public interest in the jobs that will result from the project. We encourage individuals to submit their applications to the Job Referral Service for the possibility of working on this historic project."

"Employment and Training Services of Advanced Education and Training is pleased to partner with the Floodway Authority on the Job Referral Service," said Diane McGifford, Minister of Advanced Education and Training. "As the project proceeds, contractors will need a variety of qualified skilled workers, including labourers, equipment operators, and truck drivers, to meet their needs. The Job Referral Service will assist the industry in meeting its need while providing an opportunity for the public to apply for job opportunities on the project."

The Manitoba Floodway Authority (MFA) has partnered with Employment and Training Services (ETS) of Manitoba Advanced Education and Training on a Job Referral Service that is designed to match qualified individuals interested in working on the floodway project with contractors looking for additional workers.

McGifford noted that the service will help to facilitate and streamline the hiring process for the floodway project, while encouraging the public, and in particular, Aboriginal people, women, visible minorities and people with disabilities, to apply for work on the project.

To apply for work on the project, all interested individuals are required to register with the Job Referral Service through any of the 17 ETS Centres located throughout the province. For more information, please contact ETS at 945-0575 (in Winnipeg) or toll-free at 1(866)332-5077 or visit the Floodway Job Referral Service at [www.gov.mb.ca/jobreferral](http://www.gov.mb.ca/jobreferral).

“As the project manager for this project, the floodway authority is very sensitive to the challenge of skills shortages in the construction industry,” said Ernie Gilroy, CEO of the MFA. “For this reason, we are committed to ensuring workforce representation in the project.”

Gilroy said that it is estimated that over 1000 jobs will be created during floodway expansion. He noted successful contractors awarded work on the project will have the flexibility of bringing their current workforce to the job and will also be required to fulfill equity employment requirements.

Construction on the project is scheduled to begin later this month and is expected to occur over five years. The project will provide a 1-in-700 year level of flood protection for the spring of 2009 with associated bridge and related work being completed in 2010.

The Red River Floodway Expansion Project will divert more water around Winnipeg during major floods by more than doubling the capacity of the floodway channel. By improving flood protection to 1 in 700 year level, floodway expansion will protect more than 450,000 Manitobans, over 140,000 homes, over 8,000 businesses and prevent more than \$12 billion in damages to the provincial economy.

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Contact: Ronuk Modha  
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## **EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICE CENTRES**

### ***Winnipeg Region***

Northeast Centre  
1122 Henderson Highway  
Winnipeg MB R2G 1L1

Southwest Centre  
3338 Portage Avenue  
Winnipeg MB R3K 0Z1

St. Boniface Centre\*  
1031 Autumnwood Drive  
Winnipeg MB R2J 1C8

Downtown Centre  
391 York Avenue  
Winnipeg MB R3C 0P4

Murdo Scribe Centre  
510 Selkirk Avenue  
Winnipeg MB R2W 2M7

### ***Eastern Region***

**Steinbach Centre\***  
321 Main Street  
Steinbach MB R5G 1Z2

**Beausejour Centre**  
20 First Street S  
Beausejour MB R0E 0C0

### ***Interlake Region***

Selkirk Centre  
237 Manitoba Avenue  
Selkirk MB R1A 0Y4

Gimli Centre  
62 Second Avenue  
Gimli MB R0C 1B0

### ***Northern Region***

Thompson Centre  
North Centre Mall  
118-3 Station Road  
Thompson MB R8N 0N3

### ***Northwestern Region***

**The Pas Centre**  
305 – 4<sup>th</sup> Street W  
P.O. Box 2550  
The Pas MB R9A 1M4

**Flin Flon Centre**  
111 Main Street  
Flin Flon MB R8A 1J9

### ***Parkland Region***

**Dauphin Centre**  
135A Second Avenue NE  
Dauphin MB R7N 0Z6

**Swan River Centre**  
201 Fourth Avenue S  
Swan River MB R0L 1Z0

### ***Western Region***

**Brandon Centre**  
127-340 Ninth Street  
Brandon MB R7A 6C2

### ***Central Region***

**Portage la Prairie Centre**  
1016 Saskatchewan Avenue E  
Portage la Prairie MB R1N 3N9

**Morden Centre\***  
158 Stephen Street  
Morden MB R6M 1T3

***If you live in Winnipeg call  
945-0575***

***If you live outside of  
Winnipeg call 1-866-332-  
5077\****

***Floodway Job Referral  
Service Website***  
[www.gov.mb.ca/jobreferral](http://www.gov.mb.ca/jobreferral)

\*Bilingual service available