Manitoba

Floodway Authority

Room 200, 155 Carlton Street Winnipeg, MB R3C 3H8 Phone: (204) 945-4900 Fax: (204) 948-2462

Release

March 2, 2006 For immediate Release

FLOODWAY AUTHORITY INVITES MANITOBANS TO EXPRESS INTEREST IN EXCAVATED EARTH

<u>Priorities Include Flood Protection,</u> <u>Highway Construction, Municipal Projects and Recreation</u>

Winnipeg, MB – Today, the Manitoba Floodway Authority (MFA) announced that Manitobans will have an opportunity to formally express their interest in accessing excavated earth from the floodway expansion project.

"Last year we invited Manitobans to give us their ideas regarding potential value-added opportunities associated with the floodway project," said Ernie Gilroy, CEO of the MFA. "The single largest area of public response regarded access to excavated earth from the project. Today's announcement will help the floodway authority identify the need and establish a process to allow for the safe and orderly public access to the earth as the project proceeds."

The MFA is inviting interested individuals, organizations, and municipal governments wanting to access the earth to submit a formal expression of interest to MFA by April 18, 2006. Copies of the form are available at www.floodwayauthority.mb.ca, or by contacting the MFA at (204) 945-4900 or toll free 1-866-356-6355. Forms will also be mailed to individuals who have expressed an informal interest in obtaining excavated earth during MFA's ongoing public consultation process.

Based on the number of expressions of interest received and amount of earth identified, the MFA will develop a process that will allow the public safe and orderly access to the earth. The earth will be made available for free while individuals will be responsible for all loading and hauling costs. A complete plan for access will be developed once all of the expressions of interest have been reviewed and evaluated.

The MFA will also make earth available to support three other priority areas including provincial highway construction, local municipal priorities, and potential recreation opportunities. In particular, the MFA will give priority to flood protection projects.

The Red River Floodway Expansion is a national strategic infrastructure priority and one of the largest construction projects in Manitoba history. As it proceeds over the next five years, approximately 21 million cubic metres (27 million cubic yards) of earth will be excavated from the floodway channel to complete the expansion.

In January 2005, MFA released a "Recreation and Economic Development Opportunities Report". The Report reflected the results of a public call for expressions of interest last year and MFA's ongoing public involvement program. It recommended that the MFA initiate a formal process that will allow Manitobans to access the excavated earth from the floodway channel.

By more than doubling the capacity of the existing floodway, the floodway expansion project is designed to provide a 1-in-700 year level of flood protection and protect more than 450,000 Manitobans, more than 140,000 homes, more than 8,000 businesses, and prevent more than \$12 billion in damages to the provincial economy. In the aftermath of the 1997 "Flood of the Century", the Governments of Canada and Manitoba invested \$130 million in flood protection measures including \$110 million for rural Manitoba communities.

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Attachment: Expression of Interest Form

Contact: Ronuk Modha,

Manitoba Floodway Authority

(204) 945-4178, (204) 945-4900 or 1-866-356-6355

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Re-Use of Excavated Earth – Expression of Interest

The Manitoba Floodway Authority (MFA) is considering a plan to make some of the excavated earth from the expanded floodway available for individuals who have expressed an interest.

If you would like to be put on a list for individual access to the excavated earth from the expanded floodway, please fill out this form and return it to the Manitoba Floodway Authority via mail or fax (204- 948-2462) by Tuesday, April 18, 2006.

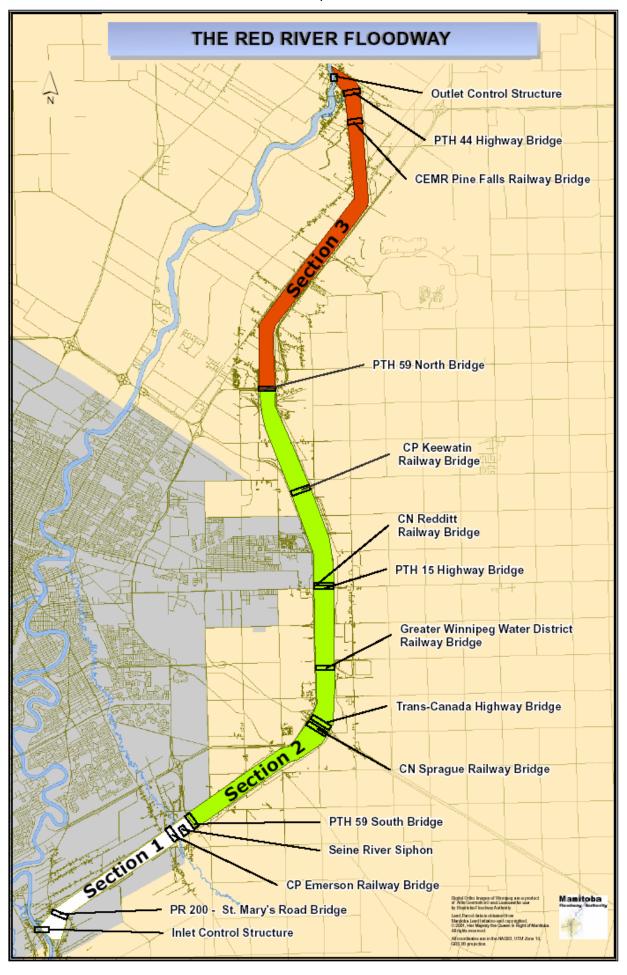
Based on the feedback received, MFA will develop a process that will allow the public safe and orderly access to the earth. MFA will provide the earth free of charge while individuals will be responsible for costs associated with loading and hauling the excavated earth. Priority will be given to requests related to flood protection.

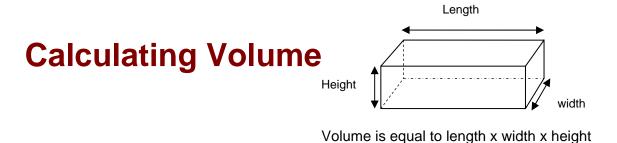
Name:	
Mailing Address, Phone number and email address:	
Approximately how much earth do you need (cubic meters)?	
Where along the Floodway would you want to access the earth (please identify section on the attached map)	
What year would you like to access the earth?	
Would you prefer to have more than one opportunity to access the earth?	
What do you plan to use the earth for?	

Do you have the ability to load and haul earth yourself? Yes or No

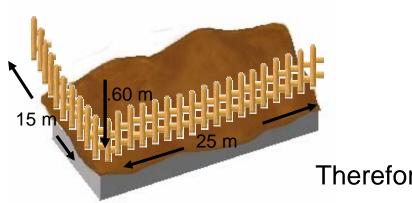
After the plan for accessing excavating earth from the project is completed, the MFA will be in contact with you. If you have any questions, please contact us at (204) 945-4900; toll free at 1-866-356-6355 or www.floodwayauthority.mb.ca.

Thank you for your interest in the Red River Floodway Expansion Project.





In the example below the length of proposed area is 25m, the width is 15m and the height of the soil needed is 0.60 m.



Example:

V = LxWxH

 $= 25m \times 15m \times 0.6m$ = 225 m^3

- 220 111

Therefore the volume required is 225m³