



# Release

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For Immediate Release

## **FLOODWAY AUTHORITY ISSUES TENDER FOR MAIN FLOODWAY CHANNEL EXCAVATION**

### **Erosion and Sedimentation Control, Revegetation and Low-Flow Channel Stabilization Measures Outlined**

The Manitoba Floodway Authority (MFA) has advertised the first tender for excavation work within the main floodway channel from the Inlet to the PTH 59 South Bridge including requirements for erosion and sedimentation control, revegetation and low flow channel stabilization.

“The excavation work will increase the capacity of the floodway and will ensure that Winnipeg is protected from future flooding,” said Reg Alcock, President of Treasury Board and minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board.

“Ensuring that the excavation work on the floodway expansion project is undertaken in an environmentally responsible way is a priority,” said Steve Ashton, Minister of Water Stewardship. “This work will improve fish habitat and help to facilitate the movement of fish through the low flow channel. At the same time, comprehensive erosion and sediment control measures will be employed to protect the Red River and Lake Winnipeg during construction.”

The major components of the work in this contract include:

- Approximately 4 kilometres of floodway channel excavation involving approximately 833,000 cubic meters of excavation and disposal
- Approximately 7 kilometres of east dyke construction involving approximately 168,500 cubic metres of fill placement and compaction
- Approximately 8 kilometers of low flow channel upgrading including supply and placement of approximately 125,000 tonnes of rockfill riprap
- Removal and replacement of approximately 4 culverts
- Approximately 16 kilometres of ditch re-grading
- Erosion and Sediment control measures
- Re-vegetation

The work is scheduled to begin this fall and the main components of the work are to be completed in the fall of 2006.

For more information on tender requirements, please visit the MERX electronic tendering service at [www.merx.com](http://www.merx.com). For all floodway expansion tenders, digital bid documents are being distributed **only** through MERX. Contractors are advised to monitor MERX on an ongoing basis as the floodway project proceeds. The deadline for bids in response to this tender is 12:00 noon on Thursday, October 6, 2005.

“The floodway authority is committed to “best practices” as we proceed with the excavation of the floodway channel,” said Ernie Gilroy, CEO of the MFA. “Sustainability and environmental protection have been and continue to be key principles in the development of this project.”

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 of protection, 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.

Construction on the floodway expansion project began last week on an initial excavation contract in the Grande Pointe area.

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