



Release

For Immediate Release
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FLOODWAY AUTHORITY UNVEILS 2009 WEST DIKE TENDER SCHEDULE

As part of the Red River Floodway Expansion Project, the Manitoba Floodway Authority (MFA) has unveiled the 2009 West Dike Tender Schedule under the floodway's Aboriginal Set-Aside Initiative.

"We are very pleased with the progress that is being made on the West Dike project," said Ernie Gilroy, CEO of the MFA. "To date, twenty-five construction tenders, worth approximately \$43 million, have been awarded on the Aboriginal Set-Aside Initiative. We look forward to working with Aboriginal contractors as we move forward with this season's construction."

As part of the tender schedule, three West Dike construction contracts were advertised today:

- 1. Tender W21** – A contract to construct a dike including 270,000 cubic metres of earthwork plus installation of one gated concrete control structure, and steel culvert installations on a 3.0 km section of the West Dike;
- 2. Tender W28** – A contract to construct a dike including 253,000 cubic metres of earthwork on a 2.8 km section of the West Dike; and
- 3. Tender W29** – A contract to construct a dike including 190,000 cubic metres of earthwork on a 2.2 km section of the West Dike.

Three other tenders will be tentatively advertised on the following dates:

- 4. Tender W19** – A contract to extend the Glenlea Drain, including steel culvert installations, installation of a gated concrete control structure, and rip/rap of the outlet control structure, as well as 120,000 cubic metres of earthwork on 3.8 km of the Glenlea Drain Extension – May 20, 2009;
- 5. Tender ED1** – A contract to reconstruct 1 km of dike/road on Courchaine Road east of the Red River, involving earthwork, pavement demolition and re-paving – June 3, 2009;
- 6. Tender W20** – A contract to supply, deliver and place 18,000 tonnes of traffic gravel on a 4.3 km section of the West Dike/PR 305 – August 5, 2009.

To qualify as an Aboriginal firm to bid for work on the Aboriginal Set-Aside, a contractor is required to be at least:

- 51% Aboriginal-owned; and
- 1/3 of its employees must be Aboriginal persons

The West Dike is located southwest of Winnipeg is being raised in height in varying amounts to 1.5 metres (6 feet) to provide increased protection against wind and wave action during major flood events. The westerly 8 km, currently on PR 305 is to be re-aligned in a northwest direction until it reaches PTH 3. To date, approximately 37 km of the 51 km long West Dike has been reconstructed.

The tenders will be posted on Merx electronic tendering system www.merx.com . For more information on all of the tenders, contractors are encouraged to attend a Bidders' Conference which will be held on Thursday, May 14, 2009 from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm at the Holiday Inn Winnipeg South, 1330 Pembina Highway.

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