



## Release

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For Immediate Release

### RECREATIONAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING FOR THE EXPANDED FLOODWAY MOVES FORWARD

#### Consortium of Local Firms Chosen to Develop Opportunities Concept Plan

Today, the Manitoba Floodway Authority (MFA) announced that the landscape architect and planning firm of Hilderman Thomas Frank Cram, leading a consortium of local firms specializing in planning, design, architecture, natural habitats, tourism and economic development, and environment assessment, has been selected to develop the Opportunities Concept Plan that will provide an integrated vision for recreation, tourism, and economic development to accompany the landscaping of the floodway channel.

“Over the last number of years, there has been significant consultation with recreational users and others regarding the future of the expanded floodway,” said Ernie Gilroy, CEO of the Manitoba Floodway Authority. “The development of the Opportunities Concept Plan is the next step in the process that will see development along the expanded floodway channel.”

The consultant will be required to undertake the following activities:

- Develop and design a four-season, greenway including the final re-vegetation and landscaping along the expanded floodway;
- Identify potential recreation, tourism and economic development opportunities associated with the expanded floodway; and
- Conduct an environmental assessment of potential opportunities that might require a separate environmental license.

Hilderman Thomas Frank Cram, Landscape Architecture and Planning of Winnipeg, has been providing landscape architecture services since 1969 and has been involved with a number of unique initiatives including The Forks National Historical Site, Fort Whyte Alive, Oak Hammock Marsh, and the Winnipeg Folk Festival site. Other firms in the consortium include McKay Finnigan and Associates, MMM Group, Prairie Habitats Inc., Fort Whyte Alive, Number Ten Architectural Group and various tourism and economic development specialists.

In March, the MFA issued a Request for Proposals for a consultant to undertake the planning and design of an Opportunities Concept Plan along with the landscaping plan of the expanded floodway. Hilderman Thomas Frank Cram submitted the lowest qualified bid at approximately \$335,000.

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