

# Manitoba PC Caucus



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## NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

### **Martin reintroduces bill to benefit economy and municipalities**

*Amendment to Planning Act would reduce delays in applications for development permits*

Shannon Martin, MLA for Morris, today reintroduced a private member's bill that would address Manitoba's short construction season and allow a more efficient and effective use of development capital. Bill 206, the Planning Amendment Act, would equalize the periods in which development permit applications could be delayed in all Manitoba municipalities.

"This legislation would reduce red tape and greatly assist businesses and municipalities, and it has received strong support from the development community," said Martin. "Our Progressive Conservative caucus and government are committed to reducing unnecessary regulations for businesses, local governments and all Manitobans."

Under the existing Planning Act, when changes to a development plan bylaw, zoning bylaw or secondary plan are initiated in all municipalities in Manitoba other than Winnipeg, an application for a development permit can be held for up to 125 days if the proposed development plan does not conform with the pending changes. In Winnipeg, however, the delay period is only 90 days. This legislation would bring the rest of the province in line with the City of Winnipeg Charter.

Red tape costs Manitobans at least \$360 million a year. The PC government is committed to reducing red tape in Manitoba, where the construction season is short. The Planning Amendment Act would address these issues, foster job creation and energize Manitoba's economy by decreasing the delay period from 125 days to 90 days in municipalities outside Winnipeg.

As they did after Martin introduced the Planning Amendment Act as a private member's bill last year, the NDP opposition members chose to run out the clock on debate and prevent Bill 206 from coming to a vote.

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