



# Council Updates

Week Ending  
December 23, 2011

# Mayor's Office

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*Mayor Shari Decter Hirst - 729-2202*

*Phyllis Miller, Executive Assistant - 729-2202*

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Like a lot of folks at the City, this week has been jammed with meetings that needed to happen before year end, along with ongoing seasonal festivities. Monday's Council meeting was a long one but there were lots of exciting initiatives coming out of it including refinements to the solid waste management system, and an expansion of the organics collection. Brandon is leaps and bounds ahead of other communities as a "Green City".

On Wednesday, I had the delightful experience of sharing a Christmas Luncheon with Betty Gibson School students and staff. We all know what it's like to see the holiday season through the eyes of a child; imagine through the eyes of hundreds of children. It was magical. Celestial voices were raised in carolling Wednesday afternoon in the Main Foyer at City Hall. Thanks Heather Ewasiuk, it was lovely.

City Manager Scott Hildebrand and I have been tootling around to the various departments to wish everyone a Merry Christmas. It's great to be able to pop into all the various nooks and crannies where our hard working staff hang their hats - which is a great way to segue in a holiday greeting as I won't be sending out a Council Update next week. It's been a heck of a year folks. But we have stood together and got through it. 2012 will be another year of changes and growth, but there isn't anything we can't do as a city when your talent, experience, and commitment are focused on the project.

I'd also like to give a special shout out to those who are working through the holidays so that our city keeps running.

On behalf of Phyllis Miller and myself, have a very Merry Christmas (or Happy Holidays). Eat lots of turkey, put your feet up when you can, and know that because of your efforts we live in a really great city.

# City Manager's Office

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*Scott Hildebrand, City Manager - 729-2204*

*Kathy Vandale, Executive Assistant - 729-2204*

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To all of the employees the Mayor and I missed while touring the various departments, I wish you all the very best of the season and hope you have an opportunity for some rest and relaxation with family and friends. Thank you all for your support and assistance as I transitioned into my new role with the City of Brandon. 2011 has been an extremely busy year filled with both challenges and successes. We have pulled together as a team and have accomplished a great deal. I'm excited to continue working with the Mayor, Councillors and employees toward achieving the goals we've established for the coming year.

On behalf of Kathy and I, have a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year!!

# City Clerk's Department

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**CONTACTS:**

*Con Arvisais, City Clerk - 729-2206*

*Heather Ewasiuk, Deputy City Clerk - 729-2280*

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**MERRY CHRISTMAS  
&  
HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**Donna, Heather, Hedy, Deb, Marina, Sheila, Ian, Nathan & Con**

# Economic Development Brandon

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## CONTACTS:

Sandy Trudel, Economic Development Officer - 729-2131

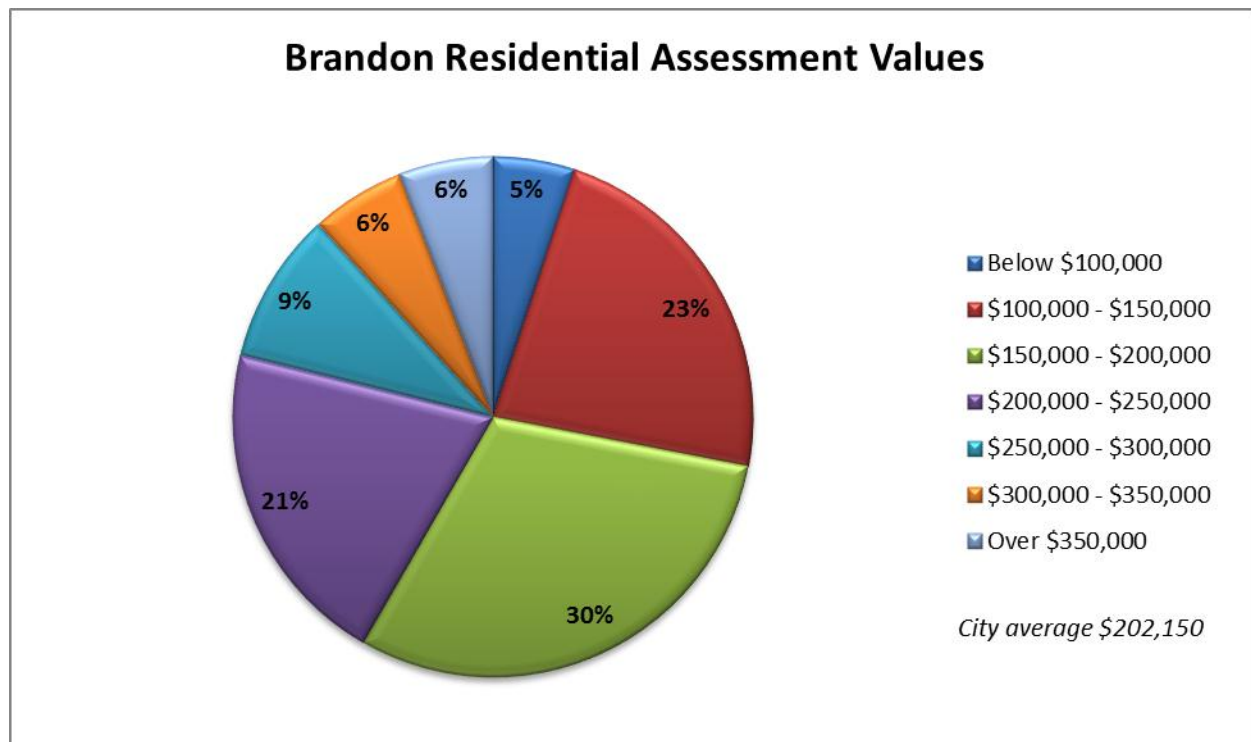
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### Excess Moisture Economic Stimulus Program

The Province of Manitoba established an Excess Moisture Economic Stimulus Program (EMESP) in order to provide immediate economic stimulus in areas adversely affected by excess moisture levels in rural Manitoba. The Brandon Chamber of Commerce and the City of Brandon applied separately and were approved funding under the EMESP program. The City of Brandon's application provides funding to engage the services of a business continuity expert to work one on one in a confidential manner with impacted businesses to create business continuity plans. The Brandon Chamber of Commerce's application provides funding for delivering a marketing campaign to support flood impacted business as well as providing educational seminars around the topic of emergency preparedness. The Brandon Chamber of Commerce and the City of Brandon are working together to ensure a coordinated delivery of the two EMESP programs. Letters advising the impacted businesses of the two initiatives were distributed this week.

### 2012 Brandon Residential Assessment Values

In response to a request for information on Brandon's 2012 residential assessment values, the following information was provided by the Provincial Assessment branch. Brandon's average residential assessment value in 2012 is \$202,150. 74% of the residential assessments are between \$100,000 and \$250,000.



# Fire & Emergency Services

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## CONTACTS:

*Fire Chief Brent Dane - 729-2404*

*Deputy Fire Chief Garry Bell - 729-2401*

*Deputy Fire Chief Steve Romanik - 729-2452*

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BRANDON FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES EXTENDS HAPPY HOLIDAY WISHES TO COUNCIL, STAFF, AND ALL YOUR FAMILIES. MAY 2012 BE A PROSPEROUS YEAR FOR ALL.

# Operational Services

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## CONTACTS:

*Rod Sage, General Manager – 729-2247*

*Ian Broome, Director of Public Works – 729-2292*

*Perry Roque, Director Community Services – 729-2170*

*Tim Sanderson, Director of Transportation – 729-2130*

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## **Fleet**

The Fleet Section will have a temporary Engineering Technician for 3 months while the permanent position is on a leave. Please be patient during our transition period.

Preparations have begun for spring vehicle replacement.

## **Garage**

The Garage has received our new wireless vehicle lifts. This piece of equipment will greatly assist with wait times on large vehicles needing the use of a lift. Preventative Maintenance (PM) scheduling continues.

The first order of high visibility jackets have arrived. These are to replace the old black jackets that the mechanics wear while working in the yard.

## **Stores**

Staff will be completing a review of who has access to the stores area. In order to maintain a positive control on all stores items, staff are looking at reducing the access list.

Stores is still running at reduced levels as 1 of our 2 stores positions is on vacation. Stores will continue to be closed from 12:00 to 12:30 pm for lunch and it is greatly appreciated if all City employees refrain from coming to stores during this time period.

### **SPORTSPLEX**

The Sportsplex will be closed on December 24, 25 & 26 and will be on reduced hours from 11am-7pm on December 31<sup>st</sup> & January 1<sup>st</sup>. Check out our holiday schedule on-line at [www.thesportsplex.ca](http://www.thesportsplex.ca)

Mark your calendars for the annual Ride, Glide 'N Slide event on January 1<sup>st</sup>. The event will include: lap swimming, public swimming, sticks n' pucks, sleigh rides and the Bubble Man.

On behalf of all the Sportsplex Staff, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Happy New Year.

# **Police Service**

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### **CONTACTS:**

*Chief of Police Keith Atkinson - 729-2305*

*Inspector Shane Corley – 729-2302*

*A/Inspector Doug Thompson - 729-2304*

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### **Christmas Greetings**

On behalf of Chief Atkinson, the Executive, Members and Staff of the Brandon Police Service we wish you a joyous holiday season and a New Year filled with peace and happiness !

Merry Christmas !



# Treasury

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**CONTACTS:**

*Dean Hammond, General Manager of Corporate Services & City Treasurer – 729-2244*

*Val Rochelle, Director of Finance - 729-2223*

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**Season's Greetings**

Treasury would like to extend our best wishes for the season to City Council and staff! After what has been a very busy and memorable year, we hope that all of you get to take some time with friends and family to reflect upon and celebrate all that has been accomplished this past year.