



**Manitoba Home
Builders' Association**



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DEVELOPMENT INDUSTRY TO SEEK CLARIFICATION FROM COURTS ON IMPACT FEE BY-LAW

WINNIPEG – Members of the Urban Development Institute and the Manitoba Home Builders' Association are directing their legal counsel to clarify with the Manitoba Courts the City of Winnipeg's legal authority to impose a regulatory fee on new development. After a motion to implement the Impact Fee By-law passed City Council by a vote of 10-6 on Wednesday, the development community feels they have no other option.

"The fact is, we remain a city without a plan," says Eric Vogan, President of the Urban Development Institute's Manitoba Division. "This fee is not based on any measurable calculation of impacts from new residential development and is a tax. One that we believe the City does not have the authority to impose."

As per the by-law, the fee will be imposed on May 1, 2017 – six months from now. Time that would be better spent putting together a plan, according to Mike Moore of the Manitoba Home Builders' Association.

"We would much prefer to be working with the City administration through a plan-based process to development charges, one that appropriately attributes costs to new development and provide accountability for where the money collected will be spent."

"Instead of putting taxpayers at risk, the City should spend this time to develop the plans required to support a responsible and legal cost-sharing structure for new development,' says Vogan. "We are still willing to sit down and work through a plan with the City within a reasonable time frame, for the benefit of Winnipeg as a whole."

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