



FOUR NEWEST CONSTRUCTION TENDERS ANNOUNCED ON THE FLOODWAY'S ABORIGINAL SET-ASIDE INITIATIVE

Approximately \$35 Million Already Invested To Strengthen the West Dike

Winnipeg, MB – The Manitoba Floodway Authority (MFA) has recently unveiled the newest construction tenders for work on the West Dike as part of the Red River Floodway Expansion Project's Aboriginal Set-Aside Initiative.

The tenders consist of the three tenders for the supply and installation of rock rip rap on the West Dike as well as the recent addition to this year's program of a new tender for the supply and installation of rock rip rap along the west bank of the Red River across from the Outlet Control Structure in Lockport, MB. Specifically, the tenders are as follows:

1. **Tender W25** – A contract to supply and installation of 73,000 tonnes of processed limestone rock rip rap on a 2 km section of the West Dike;
2. **Tender W26** – A contract to supply and install 50,000 tonnes of processed limestone rock rip rap on a 2.3 km section of the West Dike;
3. **Tender W27** – A contract to supply and install 45,000 tonnes of processed limestone rock rip on a 3 km section of the West Dike; and
4. **Tender CE2** – Supply and installation of 81,000 tonnes of processed limestone rock rip rap on a 1.8 km section of the west bank of the Red River across from the Outlet Structure in Lockport, MB..

To date, 21 construction tenders, worth approximately \$35 million, have been awarded on the Aboriginal Set-Aside Initiative. As construction proceeds, the MFA will advertise additional tenders on the set-aside initiative.

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, which is currently approximately 45 km (28 miles) in length and located southwest of Winnipeg, will be extended between 10 km (6 miles) and 15 km (9 miles) and raised in height in varying amounts to 1.5 metres (6 feet) to increase the flood protection safety factor. To date, approximately 30 km of the 45 km long West Dike has been reconstructed. These improvements will provide increased protection against wind and wave action during major flood events.

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