WINNIPEG CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION
Together We Build Manitoba

WCA Comments to EPC regarding Red Tape Reduction

February 11, 2020

- Thank you for the opportunity to speak with the Executive Policy Committee regarding the Red Tape reduction Report
- I would also like to thank the committee for allowing the public service additional time to provide the addendum we see in today's agenda compared to the first time this report was presented to the Committee
- I would first like to raise items in the updated report which I think are a positive first step
    - The updates include timelines regarding online permit payments
    - Commitment to consistent email signatures. I have not seen the brand standards, but we would like for signatures to include qualifications and professional designations
    - The commitment for continued red tape process improvement and associated timelines
- There are several items I would have like to have seen included in the report:
    - Action plan on how the department will be ensuring greater consistency between inspectors
    - A commitment to develop a simple dispute resolution process between builders and city officials
- I understand that these issues may be addressed in the report due in March for **Investigation into Allegations of Improper Conduct within Property, Planning and WCA looks forward to that report**, however it is not clear to me where the red tape process ends and the investigation report begins.
- All these issues go back to the value for dollar building owners get for permit fees
- This graph shows the budgeted permit revenue vs the budgeted cost of service.
- Since 2009, in the past ten years, Permit revenue has increased by 115%, when amount spent on services has increased by 40%

- Finally, when I was here last Mayor Bowman asked about specific bylaws seen as a problem and I wanted to let the committee know that WCA and CFIB have provided the Office of Public Engagement a submission with a list of 8 by-laws where we identify areas where improvements can be made

