

COR/2023/03188

**CIRCULAR**

**To:** All Municipalities, Local Service Districts, Consultants, Inuit Community Governments, Professional Municipal Administrators of NL, Municipalities Newfoundland Labrador, Heavy Civil Association NL, Newfoundland and Labrador Construction Association

**Re:** Changes to Master Specification and other Updates from MI

**Date:** April 12, 2023

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This circular is to serve as notice of changes to the Municipal Water, Sewer and Roads Master Construction Specifications (the “Master Specifications”) and outline other updates and changes to standard documents and procedures from the Municipal Infrastructure Division (MI).

**1. Use of the revised Master Specifications is effective April 10, 2023.**

Projects funded by MI must use the Master Specifications as of the date of this circular. Projects currently ready for posting to MERX may continue to use the previous version of the Master Specifications, but those published for solicitation on MERX after April 24, 2023, must use the revised Master Specifications including the Front End. The revised Master Spec is available on MI’s website. Specific Master Specification changes of note are:

**a. Revised Equipment Rental Rate Schedule**

Based on consultation with industry in regards to cost increases, MI has developed an Equipment Rental Rate Schedule for use on its projects. This Equipment Rental Schedule is available on MI’s website.

<https://www.gov.nl.ca/ti/mi/mwsr/#spec>

**b. Revised Section 02650 Sewage Pumping Station**

Section 02650 Sewage Pumping Station will remain the March 2022 version. A newer version will be made available soon and the Master Specification updated.

**c. User Guide Removed from Core Master Specification**

The Master Specification User Guide was removed from the Master Specification, to be a stand alone document. This is meant to allow the Guide to be more easily updated, without changing the full Master Specification. Additionally, direction and guidance wording was moved from the Master Specification to the User Guide to clarify the intent of the wording.

**d. Track Changes**

Other revisions to the individual specification sections will be noted in a track changes version of the Master Specification available on the website. It will be replaced shortly with a List of Revisions typical with other Master Specification updates.

**e. Highway Design and Construction Specification Book Updated**

Various sections of the Highway Design and Construction Specification Book have been recently updated. The MI Master Specification references some of the sections that were updated. A summary of the HDC updates can be found here: <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ti/hdc/highway-specification-book/>

**2. Revisions to MI Standard Drawings**

MI has revised the full set of Standard Drawings used in conjunction with the Master Specification. These drawings will soon be available on MI's website.

**3. Front End Updates**

For clarity, these include:

- Instructions to Bidders
- General Conditions (Stipulated Price Contract, and Unit Price Contract)
- Supplementary General Conditions
- Agreement Between Owner and Contractor
- Certificate of Insurance Form

Updates were made to the Front End documents (for both Unit Price and Stipulated Price Contracts). A specific change to note is:

**a. Fuel Adjustment for Armour Stone**

SGC 3.0 - PETROLEUM PRODUCTS COST ADJUSTMENT has been revised to include Armour Stone in the fuel cost adjustment. This will be handled in a similar manner to the other Fuel Adjustments under the Contract. An updated Worksheet is available on the website for use with the

MI's Front End, Master Specification, Standard Forms, and Standard Drawings are available online at <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ti/mi/mwsr/>

Feel free to reach out to your local Regional Office should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Kim Kieley, P. Eng., FEC  
Director – Municipal Infrastructure  
Transportation and Infrastructure

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