

## Photo Enforcement Warning Signs Deliberately Removed by City of Winnipeg

*WiseUpWinnipeg uncovers definitive evidence of a “Calculated Campaign to Maximize Violations”*

*New “ground-breaking” research reveals ALL median warning signs preceding camera intersections have been intentionally removed.  
WiseUpWinnipeg demands a credible explanation from the City of Winnipeg.*

**April 1, 2011 - Winnipeg, Mb.** After observing a disturbing trend of what appears to be intentionally inadequate speed-reduction signs preceding camera intersections in Winnipeg (i.e. Main at Logan and Grant at Wilton) compared to signage throughout the rest of the city, WiseUpWinnipeg has discovered even more physical evidence to verify that the City of Winnipeg is willfully engaged in a “*Calculated Campaign to Maximize Violations*”. WiseUpWinnipeg.com technical affairs director, Mr. Chris Sweryda, set out to painstakingly chart signage patterns at all camera-intersections in Winnipeg. What he discovered was staggering – prior to 2009, all 32 camera-intersections that involved a median to divide traffic had two “photo-enforcement ahead” warning signs posted, one on the median and another parallel on the curb-side, to optimize visibility for driver awareness and compliance. However, subsequent to the summer of 2009, each and every one of those locations had their median warning sign removed. A complete photo gallery of all 32 median locations can be found at: <http://photos.wiseupwinnipeg.com/> (all “before” photos courtesy of Google Maps Street View)

Regardless of whether dual warning signs are required by law or not, their removal raises some very serious ethical and regulatory questions about the rationale to remove anything that would enhance motoring safety. “If the City had already invested the time and cost to install the dual warning signs, what reason could possibly justify the removal of any of them, let alone ALL of them?” asks Todd Dube, co-founder of WiseUpWinnipeg.com. “This is irrefutable evidence of an ulterior agenda by the City to entrap motorists through reduced awareness tactics as part of a desperate strategy to raise revenue. This abuse of public trust must stop immediately – it’s as though the photo-enforcement program is being operated by a gaming corporation rather than the Winnipeg Police Service,” Dube concludes.

In each set of “before and after” photos it can be clearly seen that the median signs have been extracted from the ground or detached from the pole, leaving only a single and often inadequate curbside sign - even on roads with multiple lanes. Dwindling net profits per camera over the last few years are forcing city traffic engineers to “pull out all the stops” to wring-out more dollars from the pockets of Winnipeg vehicle owners. “This is yet another devious tactic in a long line of tricks by the City to rake in profits,” explains Larry Stefanuik, co-founder of WiseUpWinnipeg.com. “First it was the short and dangerous amber-times, then came the 250% increase per fine and the lowering of speed tolerances to net more “speeders”, then mobile enforcement of construction zones with no construction workers and school zones not adjacent to schools, then improperly erected reduced-speed signs and now the coupe de grace: deliberately reducing warning signage.”

“The City of Winnipeg’s addiction to photo-enforcement revenue is out of control and requires an immediate intervention by the provincial government in the name of true safety and justice,” concludes Larry Stefanuik, retired WPS Traffic Division officer.

As a courtesy, WiseUpWinnipeg representatives will be pleased to attend the location of the warning

sign in advance of the Bishop Grandin at River Rd. location at 2:00 PM on April 1, 2011 for further comments.

**Media Contacts:**

Todd Dube

Ph. 204-795-5120

e-mail: [mediascene@mymts.net](mailto:mediascene@mymts.net)

website: [www.wiseupwinnipeg.com](http://www.wiseupwinnipeg.com)

Larry Stefanuik

Ph. 204-481-1746

e-mail: [larry@wiseupwinnipeg.com](mailto:larry@wiseupwinnipeg.com)