



Tuesday, February 17, 2009

**Minister of Education
and
AUMA Executive**

The background of this slide features a blue-tinted image of a modern glass skyscraper with a grid pattern, viewed from a low angle. In the foreground, the dark silhouettes of residential rooftops with chimneys are visible against the building's reflection.



Outline

- 1. The Economy in 2009: Working Together for Alberta**
- 2. Throne Speech and Municipalities**
- 3. AUMA's 2009 Provincial Budget Submission: *Ahead.Together.***
- 4. Future of Local Governance**
- 5. Education and Municipalities**
- 6. Upcoming AUMA Meetings and Events**
- 7. Update on Ministry Initiatives**

This slide shares the same background as the first slide, featuring a blue-tinted glass skyscraper and dark residential rooftops in the foreground.




The Economy in 2009

- AUMA is prepared to strongly support the Government of Alberta as it responds to an economic downturn.
- We believe that both orders of government can partner in the good times , as well as the bad times, through a new, more mature relationship.



The Throne Speech

- Municipalities appreciate the focus on future to maintain confidence in Alberta.
- We are ready with programs to leverage public infrastructure investments.
- It is imperative that the integration of ambulance and emergency medical services be an immediate priority.



2009 Provincial Budget Submission

- AUMA's Core Recommendation:
using the *Framework for a Provincial-Municipal Sustainability Partnership Agreement*, discuss with Alberta municipalities a new permanent relationship with objective-based, annual transfers.

AHEAD. TOGETHER.
municipal sustainability in action



How will this help going forward?

- Allows for better planning, permanence and predictability for both orders of government
- Streamlines and simplifies complex government programs and processes
- Builds-in accountability measures to ensure key objectives are being met.


AHEAD. TOGETHER.
municipal sustainability in action



How would this help right now?

- In an environment of economic instability:
 - *Increases accountability*
 - *Improves reporting of results for dollars invested in municipalities*


AHEAD. TOGETHER.
municipal sustainability in action



Future of Local Governance

In 2009, AUMA will:

- Review the current state of local governance;
- Develop clear options for more effective local governance;
- Consider the risks, benefits and incentives required for change; and
- Review examples of local government restructuring outside of Alberta.



Education and Municipalities

- Elected Officials Education Program (EOEP) was established last year with a goal of helping to ensure that Alberta municipalities are well-governed.
- Assessment – revenue from property tax is substantial – AUMA is doing a review to ensure all taxpayers are treated fairly



Upcoming AUMA Meetings and Events

President's Summit on the Future Role of Municipal Governance:

- April 30 to May 1, 2009
Red Deer

2009 Annual Convention:

- November 4-6, 2009
Calgary

