





Wednesday, February 18, 2009

**Minister of Environment
and
AUMA Executive Committee**



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. Environment Issues**
- 6. Upcoming AUMA Meetings and Events**
- 7. Update on Ministry Initiatives**




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 will 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



Protocol of Cooperation: Ensuring Alberta's Economic and Environmental Sustainability

- **Municipal Climate Change Action Plan**
 - Energy Efficiency saves money
 - Efficient Land Use and Green Transportation create healthy, active, affordable communities
 - Renewable energy enhances economic opportunities
- **Water Conservation**
 - Energy Savings
 - Increasing resilience of the communities to extreme weather events



Next Steps: Building Capacity

- **Municipal Climate Change Action Centre:**
 - Website with concise relevant information
 - Action Centre Coordinator to link municipalities with private sector climate change experts
 - Working with Department regarding set-up
- **AUMA Water Conservation Website**
 - Promising Practices
 - Program and bylaw templates
 - Forum to share issues and solutions
 - Links to existing programs and organizations



Upcoming AUMA Meetings and Events


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

- April 30 to May 1, 2009
Red Deer.

2009 Golf Tournament
June 24, 2009

2009 Annual Convention:

- November 4-6, 2009
Calgary.



Update on Ministry Initiatives

We would like to hear from you.

Thank you for your time