

Presentation Overview

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 - Recommendations
4. Beyond the Policy Paper
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Why a FOLG Initiative?

- January 2008: AUMA Board Special Assignment (review of capacity concerns in municipalities)
- November 2008: AUMA Convention Workshop and Klik-a-Pad Priorities
- 2007/08: Minister's Cross-Province tours
- Ongoing: Municipalities facing financial and other challenges




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Our Work To Date

- Background Research Paper
- Online Survey
- President's Summit Discussion Paper
- President's Summit
- President's Summit Proceeding Document
- Communications Material
- Convention Policy Paper (before the Convention in the Resolutions Session)
- Administrators' Meeting
- Mayors' Caucus Meetings (June and September)





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What is in the Paper?

Proposed Vision for Sustainable Municipal Government

Alberta municipal governments will foster sustainable communities that have a healthy democracy, environment, economy, social and cultural life.




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What is in the Paper?

Sustainable Local Governance Means...

...providing and delivering infrastructure and services to citizens in an Effective, and Efficient manner, while all the time recognizing the paramount position of local citizens, and while engaging them. Sustainability is dependent on the community's Confidence in its local government to accomplish its goals and the community's Support for accomplishing those goals.





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What is in the Paper?

Sustainable Local Governance Means (cont'd)...

...adhering to a consistent, strong and transparent Accountability System for all Municipal Governments, which is easily understood, trusted by citizens and recognized by the provincial government.

...developing strong inter-governmental coordination and cooperation (including partnerships with other governments) that enable responsiveness to citizen needs when those needs cannot be fulfilled by one government alone.


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What is in the Paper?

Core Values for Sustainable Municipal Governance

- Municipal governments are an autonomous order of government, and are responsible and accountable for governing their communities.
- In order to achieve sustainability, municipal governments must have, or be in the process of developing the capacity required for self-determination.






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What is in the Paper?

Core Values for Sustainable Municipal Governance
(cont'd)

- Sustainable and adequate revenue sources for municipal governments will allow municipal governments to achieve their vision for sustainability.
- When suggestions are made to change municipal governance structures in Alberta, the citizens must become educated about proposed changes and decide upon the changes.


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What is in the Paper?

Core Value for Sustainable Municipal Governance
(cont'd)

- Definitions of urban or rural types of government are not relevant to enhancing the sustainability of Alberta's municipal governance system.
- There is no single governance model that Alberta municipal governments should be forced to adopt. It is more important for municipal governments to evaluate their sustainability as a government.





What is in the Paper?

Recommendations to municipalities

- Endorse and promote the Paper's definition of municipal governance sustainability.



What is in the Paper?

Recommendations to AUMA

- Develop legislative, policy and program changes.
- Develop a Municipal Governance Toolkit.
- Support Alberta municipal governments in using the Municipal Governance Toolkit.
- Advance education on municipal governance.





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What is the Paper?

Recommendations to the Government of Alberta

- Support the vision, core values and governance sustainability statements in the Policy Paper.
- Support AUMA by contributing to the development of a toolkit.
- Work with AUMA to review incentive solutions.
- Enact a new Provincial-Municipal Partnership Agreement.





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Beyond the Policy Paper

Workshop with Municipal Administrators

- AUMA organized a meeting in early August to facilitate an exchange of information, risks and opportunities with regard to the future of local governance in Alberta, across a wide group of municipal stakeholders.
- Workshop participants expressed support for the Convention Policy Paper.
- Participants were from the following groups: LGAA, AAMDC, ARMAA, ASVA, Task Force, SLGM and City Managers.





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Beyond the Policy Paper

AUMA Board

- Discussion about:
 - the provincial economic reality, including municipal financial viability,
 - the need for a timely and more specific recommendation to the Government of Alberta,
 - municipal restructuring and impact on AUMA/AMSC, and
 - incentive-based solutions.




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Next Steps

Components of a Municipal Governance Toolkit

- Assessment tool of governance sustainability
- Citizen engagement tool
- Tools to work through governance change
- Tools to transition to a new governance model
- Performance measurement tools, and
- Linking long-term/sustainability planning to action and performance





THANK YOU!

Questions and Discussion

