



ALBERTA URBAN MUNICIPALITIES ASSOCIATION

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March 2, 2009

The Honourable Ed Stelmach
Premier of Alberta
307 Legislature Building
10800 – 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Fax: (780) 427-1349 Plus Hard Copy

Dear Premier Stelmach:

Re: Private Member's Bill 202: *Municipal Government (Municipal Auditor General) Amendment Act, 2009*

We note that the above legislation received First Reading on February 19, 2009.

AUMA has strong objections to this draft legislation, and urges your Government not to support its passage in any fashion.

There is already ample authority in the *Municipal Government Act* regarding the auditing of municipalities, including the ability of the Minister under Section 282.(1) to require an audit of a municipality whenever “the Minister considers the audit to be needed.”

This kind of new proposed activity is exactly what creates more unnecessary bureaucracy and increased costs, to both the Province and municipalities, which can be ill-afforded during these already difficult fiscal times. As well, the proposed legislation adds nothing of substance to already broad Ministerial authority and cures no identifiable ill.

Sincerely,

R. Lloyd Bertschi
AUMA President