


March 11, 2010

Solicitor General and AUMA Executive

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Outline

- AUMA's Provincial Budget Submission
- AUMA's Supplementary Budget Recommendation on Policing
- AUMA's Concerns with the 2010 Budget
- AUMA's Policy Paper on Policing
- RCMP Negotiations
- Request for information on Ministry's Initiatives
- Thank-you

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AUMA's Provincial Budget

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AUMA's Core Recommendation:

1. Transition from the current municipal grant system to a permanent system of annual transfers with outcomes-based reporting on provincial, local and joint priorities.
2. Cap Education Property Tax Dollars at \$1.2 Billion as previously promised.
3. Stimulate the economy by continued investments in municipal infrastructure, through transfers and partnerships.

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Policing Recommendation

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AUMA recommends that the Government of Alberta reviews with the AUMA the following 3 options for police funding with a view to finding a new equitable formula:

1. fund policing costs equivalent to the costs of the first 5000 population, plus \$50/capita beyond
2. fund policing at a rate of \$50/capita to all municipalities responsible for their own policing.
3. fund policing at a rate of \$50/capita, as under (2) above, plus an additional \$20/capita for urban populations above 50,000

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AUMA's Response to Budget 2010

Concerns:

1. The education portion of the property tax was increased by \$69M this year.
2. The transition of AMIP funds to MSI means that the majority of transfers to municipalities will occur through the MSI allocation formula thus funding for urban municipalities will be reduced.
3. The Municipal Water Wastewater Program has decreased by 57.2%.
4. The Municipal Sponsorship Program (MSP) has been eliminated.
5. The Community Initiatives Program (CIP) was cut by 6.4%. This is significant given the elimination of the Wild Rose Foundation and the re-direction of community groups to the CIP for funds.
6. The formula and total amount for the Municipal Police Assistance Grant remains the same, despite AUMA's vigorous efforts to make change in this area.
7. The Affordable Housing Program has been cut by 53.6 per cent.

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AUMA's Policy Paper on Policing

- AUMA's policy paper "Policing in Alberta" was adopted at the 2009 Convention.
- The paper makes recommendations on the following topics: Policing Commissions, Policing Committees, Continuum of Policing, and Police Funding.

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RCMP Negotiations

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- The ongoing RCMP negotiations are critical to the well being of Alberta's municipalities and communities.
- AUMA appreciates being invited to observe these negotiations.
- Currently, there are a number of funding, language, and calculation issues which must be resolved.
- The parties hope to have the bulk of an agreement in principle done by summer.

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Thank you

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AUMA appreciates all opportunities to collaborate with the Government of Alberta in working towards innovative, safe, healthy, environmentally sustainable and efficient province.

We would like to hear about your Ministry's upcoming initiatives.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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