

# Notes to Council



April 2010

## AUMA

### Approved RFDs

- Advocacy Plan for Communicating with Opposition Leaders in Alberta.
- Provincial-Municipal Relations Advocacy Strategy approved. Messages, including, Mayors, MLAs, Media and External Organizations (Protocols) will be distributed.
- Federal Advocacy Strategy will be developed for cultivating a stronger relationship with clear asks and outcomes.
- Key messages will be prepared about differences in financial statements report Tangible Capital Assets; and that messages be distributed to AUMA members and added to June Mayors' Caucus agendas.
- Alberta Housing and Urban Affairs provide a written submission on the impact of housing capital grants on municipalities be invited to make a presentation to the Committee.
- Protocol Agreement with the Alberta Association of Police Governance (AAPG).
- Support AEDA's recommendations in the Accelerating Broadband Enablement in Rural Alberta Report. AUMA supports a stronger federal government investment in Broadband Enablement. AUMA will create a Communications Plan with the goal of encouraging members to increase their own digital literacy, and demonstrate leadership in their communities in the area of digital literacy. AUMA to seek a joint partnership with Alberta Economic Development Authority to approach the Government of Alberta for technical and financial support to accelerate and enable broadband networks through a process of engaging pilot communities.
- Adopting the proposed Municipal Governance Committee agenda for the 2010 Convention, a panel of Bob Hawkesworth, Ron Casey and Craig Copeland, outlining the history and current state of assessment and taxation in Alberta, followed by a presentation of the 2010 policy paper and a presentation on the Future of Local Government.
- Approved the research plan on Inter-municipal agreements. Questions regarding whether or not the agreements are satisfactory and whether or not they provide appropriate cost sharing be added.
- The Women in Municipal Government Committee Convention theme is She Shoots She Scores, and a letter of invitation to be sent to Mayor Hazel McCallion of Mississauga to speak at the WIMG Committee Report.

### Appointments

- 2010 Convention Chair appointments
  - ✓ Chair - Councillor Linda Sloan
  - ✓ Resolution Chair - Mayor Glenn Taylor
  - ✓ Tailgate celebration Chair - Alderman Helen Rice

### Other

- Preparing an updated position briefing paper on the Automated Metering Initiative.
- Distributing the MSI Chart out to member municipalities in addition to the distribution to MLAs.
- Writing to the Premier to clarify the functioning of FPC (Field Policy Committee) including: attendees, scheduling of meetings, terms of reference and confirmation of whether or not there will be Hansard available
- Bring forward agenda items for the next joint AAMDC/AUMA Operational Committee Meeting include; review of RFD bank charges when citizens pay property taxes online, bill 203, field committees, and lack of communication between presidents.
- Approved the request from Sustainable Resource Development representation on an administrative committee for the reviewing land sales.
- Accepted the City of Edmonton's withdrawal of the following 2009 Resolutions:
  - ✓ C.ii.5: Multi-Year Provincial Block Funding for Affordable Housing [referred part of the resolution]
  - ✓ C.iii.2: Amending the Police Officer Collective Bargaining Act
  - ✓ C.iv.3: Strengthening Restraint Devices/Seatbelt Legislation
- Accept, with respect to the Assessment Report that:
  - ✓ The references to abatement and exemption be uniformly changed to exemption
  - ✓ Change paragraph regarding "no one knows why they were implemented..." to "the intended benefits have been lost over time"
  - ✓ Change recommendation 2 to "...establish a property tax abatement policy which ensures among other things..."; and
  - ✓ Change "ensure" to "demonstrate" in recommendations 3 and 4
  - ✓ Change recommendation 17 to add what is in, but leave farmland exclusion showing
  - ✓ Change recommendation 26 to add "market value assessment" into how Provincial institutions etc. are valued
  - ✓ Add new 4.7.1, and use broader definition of Provincial buildings/assets and have them all valued on market value; and
  - ✓ Add statement in introduction about AUMA principle regarding consultation (but do not flag it as ours) and strengthen the need for effective engagement.

- Approved Bill 203 as a topic for discussion at the Mayors Caucus in June 2010.
  - Writing to congratulate and recognize FCM receiving grant funding; and will offer to work with them to set up a partnership regarding the two-year grant on the Status of Women Canada.
  - Reviewing scholarship programs for young women wanting to be involved in governing.
  - Administration to include an article in the Weekly Digest on Peanut Butter, Pearls Part II – Campaigns and Election to promote education event May 19 in Red Deer.
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