



February 2011



Alberta's Political Landscape

The Facts:

- ▶ Premier Ed Stelmach announced his intention to step down as leader of the PC party and not to run in the next election.
- ▶ Former Ministers Ted Morton and Doug Horner have announced their intention to vie for the leadership of the PC party.
- ▶ David Swann has resigned as leader of the Alberta Liberal Party.
- ▶ New political parties, such as the Wildrose and Alberta Party, have an increased opportunity for gaining political traction with voters.

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- ▶ Alberta's urban municipalities have their own concerns and priorities
- ▶ Provincial Budget with priorities focused on Health, Education, and Infrastructure will be announced on Feb 24th 2011
- ▶ Alberta's political landscape has become dynamic yet unstable
- ▶ There is a clear appetite for change, **BUT...**

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...what does this mean for municipalities?

- ▶ With leadership races and a provincial election on the horizon, municipalities have an unprecedented opportunity:
- ▶ **Time** to take action, to do it better;
- ▶ **Time** to put municipal issues on the forefront of all political parties; and
- ▶ **Time** to demand that municipal governments are respected and empowered.

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AUMA's Role

- ▶ AUMA wants to work with its members to communicate and advocate municipal interests to all political parties.
- ▶ In order to do this effectively, AUMA will work with its members by facilitating discussion and building consensus on the key municipal issues.
- ▶ The work is ongoing, but this Mayors' Caucus is a critical opportunity for our Association to continue a discussion with you about the future of municipal government in Alberta.

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Member Municipalities' Roles

- ▶ AUMA can't do this alone!
- ▶ AUMA needs you as members to disseminate our shared political concerns in your communities, to your MLAs, and to local media.

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What We Can Do Today

- ▶ AUMA has been working on developing a short term political strategy to take advantage of this time of political change.
- ▶ We need to determine the best way of advancing the municipal agenda.
- ▶ To that end your participation today is critical.

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