



2008/2009

Mayor's Caucus – Over 10,000 Population

Friday, June 12th, 2009 – 9:00 AM

Delta Bow Valley – Calgary, Alberta

MINUTES

Registered/Present

Mayor	Municipality
Shawn Howard	City of Airdrie
Ina Nielsen	City of Camrose
Greg Krischke	City of Leduc
Robert Tarleck	City of Lethbridge
Normand Boucher	City of Medicine Hat
Patrick Bergen	City of Medicine Hat
Morris Flewwelling	City of Red Deer
Stuart Houston	City of Spruce Grove
Len Bracko	City of St. Albert
Ken Lemke	City of Stony Plain
Don Montgomery	City of Wetaskiwin
Jacquie Fenske	Strathcona County
Camille Berube	Town of Beaumont
Garry DeVloo	Town of Castor
Patricia Matthews	Town of Chestermere
Les Rempel	Town of High River
Stephen Clark	Town of Okotoks
George Bohne	Town of Raymond
George Lattery	Town of Strathmore
Richard Coleman	Town of Vegreville

CAO's
Brian Hamblin
Douglas Lagore
Dwight Stanford
Greg Scerbak
Harry Harker
Marc Landry
Paul Benedetto

Rick Quail
Robert Coon
Robyn Singleton
Roger Brekko
Terry Hurlbut
Wanda Mortensen



AUMA Mayors Caucus Meeting – Municipalities Over 10,000 Population – Friday, June 12th, 2009
@Delta Bow Valley – Calgary, AB

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AUMA Board of Directors (President, then alpha order)

Mayor Lloyd Bertschi, AUMA President – Morinville – (for selected discussions)
Alderman Ric McIver, V.P. & Director, Cities, Over 500,000 - Calgary [2007/2009] *Arrive at*
Alderman Helen Rice, V.P. & Director, Cities Up To 500,000 - Grande Prairie [2007/2009]
Mayor Martin Shields, Director, Cities Up To 500,000 - Brooks [2007/2009]
Alderman Jim Stevenson, Director, Cities, Over 500,000 - Calgary [2008/2010]
Councillor Dave Thiele, V.P. & Director, Cities, Over 500,000, Edmonton [2008/2009]

Board Regrets:

Councillor Linda Osinchuk, Director, Cities Up To 500,000 - Strathcona [2008/2010]
Councillor Linda Sloan, Director, Cities, Over 500,000 - Edmonton [2007/2009]

Staff:

John McGowan – AUMA Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Wendy Graden – AUMA Executive Officer - HR Shared Services & Corporate
Gary Williams – AUMA IT Manager
Rachel Bocock – AUMA Senior Policy Analyst (Advocacy)
Sandy Bugeja – AUMA Senior Priorities Coordinator
Zohreh Saher – AUMA Research Analyst
David Johnson – AUMA Director, Client Development
Cheri Gooz - AUMA Administrative Assistant - Shared Services
Danielle Ferguson - AUMA Executive Assistant to Senior Director, Corporate Services
Lorrie Law – AUMA Executive Assistant – Recording

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- 1. Call to Order the Mayors Caucus Meeting for Municipalities Over 10,000 Population in Calgary, Alberta**
By AUMA President and Chairman, Mayor Lloyd Bertschi at 9:00 AM
 - 2. Welcome and Opening Remarks for Mayor's Caucus**
By AUMA President and Chairman, Mayor Lloyd Bertschi

Overview Items:

- ❖ Economic Stimulus Status
- ❖ Building Canada Fund
- ❖ Treasury Update
- ❖ AUMA New Building Update
- ❖ Land Use Planning
- ❖ First Impressions Community Exchange (FICE) / Agriculture and Rural Development (AARD)
- ❖ Welcoming Inclusive Communities (WIC)
- ❖ Municipal Green Building Toolkit
- ❖ Three-year Strategic Communications Plan
- ❖ MSI Communications
- ❖ MLA Synergies
- ❖ June 24th, 2009 – AUMA/AMSC “Swing Into Summer” Golf Tournament - Wetaskiwin
- ❖ Sept '09 Mayors Caucus Meetings - Edmonton
- ❖ November 3-6 AUMA Annual Convention and AMSC Trade Show - Calgary



3. CAO Breakout Session at 11:30 AM with John McGowan, AUMA CEO
Garden Patio Room, Delta Bow Valley

4. Adoption of Agenda
0906 – LMC001 – STEVENSON

THAT the Thursday, June 11th, 2009 Agenda for Mayors Caucus - Municipalities 2,500-10,000, and additions, be received and adopted.

CARRIED

5. Adoption of Minutes

Mayors Caucus Minutes – Over 10,000 Population - February 5th, 2009
0906 – LMC002 – TARLECK, Bob – Mayor of Lethbridge

THAT the Mayors Caucus adopts the Minutes of the February 5th, 2009 Meeting for Municipalities Over 10,000 Population, as presented.

CARRIED

AUMA Action Items

Four-Year Elected Terms of Office – Media Release and Communication Strategy
0906 – LMC003 – TARLECK, Bob – Mayor of Lethbridge

THAT the Mayors Caucus direct Administration to issue a Media Release and Communication Strategy to heighten the issue of Four-Year Elected Terms of Office and to engage the Public and Separate School Boards.

CARRIED

Discussion: Provincial Collection of School Taxes

- Suggest submitting a RFD for next Mayors Caucus Agenda

Future of Local Governance

Presentation - By AUMA Director, Mayor Martin Shields – 9:29 AM – 11:50 AM

Clikapad Questions Mayors Caucuses – Future of Local Governance – June '09

1. Do you agree with the following Vision for the Future of Local Governance in Alberta?
Alberta Municipal Governments will integrate, deliver, and advance: democratic governance, environmental stewardship, cultural vibrancy, economic and financial security, and social inclusiveness to ensure sustainable Alberta communities.
 1. Yes – 22%
 2. No – 6%
 3. Almost, but could use a bit of re-tooling – 72%
2. We will be placing each of the proposed “core values” for the Future of Local Governance on the screen. Please vote yes if you agree with it as a core value, and no if you do not agree.



- Alberta Municipal Governments are an autonomous order of Government responsible and accountable for governing their communities.
Yes - 89% / No - 11%
 - In order to achieve sustainability, Alberta Municipal Governments must have or be in the process of developing the capacity required for self-determination.
Yes - 100% / No - 0%
 - Sustainable and adequate revenue sources for Municipal Governments will allow Municipal Governments to achieve their vision for sustainability.
Yes - 89% / No - 11%
 - When suggestions are made to change Municipal governance structures in Alberta, it is the citizens who must become educated about proposed changes, and decide upon the changes.
Yes - 59% / No - 41%
 - Definitions of Urban or Rural types of Government are not relevant to enhancing the sustainability of Alberta's Municipal governance system.
Yes - 63% / No - 38%
Re-vote: taking out the word NOT
Yes - 60% / No - 40%
 - 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. If change is required, the Municipal Government and its citizens can choose to bolster their capacity and become sustainable, or move towards a different model.
Yes - 94% / No - 6%
3. We will be placing each of the proposed "recommendations to AUMA" that are contained in the Future of Local Governance Draft Policy Paper on the screen. Please vote yes if you agree with the recommendation, and no if you disagree.
- Develop a Future of Local Governance "package of legislative amendments" to be used to advocate legislative change to the Government of Alberta.
Yes - 100% / No - 0%
 - Develop a Municipal Governance Toolkit that would assist Municipal Governments as follows:
 1. assessing their sustainability,
 2. measuring their performance,
 3. linking Municipal Sustainability Planning to action and performance, and
 4. transitioning to a new governance model if the Municipal Government and citizens choose to do so(*with a note, that one-size, does not fit all*)**Yes - 94% / No - 6%**
 - Support Alberta Municipal Governments in using the Municipal Governance Toolkit and other Municipal capacity-building Toolkits.
Yes - 100% / No - 0%
 - Support the development of an Elected Officials Education Program (EOEP) one-day course for elected officials on the Municipal Governance Toolkit.
Yes - 94% / No - 6%



- Invite AAMDC to participate in the participation of the Municipal Governance Toolkit.

Yes - 100% / No - 0%

4. We will be placing each of the proposed “recommendations to the Government of Alberta” that are contained in the Future of Local Governance Draft Policy Paper on the screen. Please vote yes if you agree with the recommendation, and no if you disagree.

- Support the vision, core values, and governance sustainability statements outlined in the AUMA Policy Paper on the Future of Local Governance, with amendments.

Yes - 94% / No - 6%

- Immediately set up a series of meetings that provide an opportunity for Municipal Governments to have input into the Province’s definition/framework of sustainable Municipal Governments.

Yes - 100% / No - 0%

- Support AUMA by working with the Association on a Municipal Governance Toolkit that would assist Municipal Governments as follows:

- assessing their sustainability,
- measuring their performance, and
- transitioning to a new governance model if the Municipal Government and citizens choose to do so.

Yes - 100% / No - 0%

Re-vote: adding “linking Municipal Sustainability Planning to action and performance”

Yes - 100% / No - 0%

- Work with the Associations to review incentive programs, and build a “made-in-Alberta” incentive solution that would encourage Municipal Governments to change if their sustainability assessment showed that they should restructure/change.

Yes - 80% / No - 20%

- Provide incentives for restructuring Municipalities through a program that is permanent and announced in the Provincial Budget.

Yes - 88% / No - 12%

- Enact a new Provincial-Municipal Partnership Agreement that is outcome-based and provides annual and adequate transfers to Municipalities (as per AUMA’s Convention-adopted 2008 Policy Paper: Provincial/Municipal Sustainability Partnership Agreement).

Yes - 88% / No - 12%

- Amend the MGA to remove the distinction between Rural and Urban Municipalities.

Yes - 59% / No - 41%

RFD – Future of Local Governance – Draft Convention 2009 Policy Paper

0906 – LMC004 – SHIELDS

THAT the Mayors Caucus receive the draft Convention Policy Paper on the Future of Local Governance; and



The feedback be filed and reviewed by the AUMA Board.

CARRIED

Refreshment Break – 10:53 AM – 11:05 AM

Alderman Jim Stevenson – Acting Chair – 11:05 AM – 11:35 AM

Water Conservation, Efficiency and Productivity Planning

Presentation – By AUMA Director, Alderman Jim Stevenson – 11:05 AM – 11:52 AM

CAO Session starting with John McGowan in the Garden Patio Room – 11:30 PM

Clikapad Questions Mayors Caucuses – Water Conservation & Efficiency – June '09

Do you agree or disagree:

1. That short-term target one is a reasonable target for AUMA Members?
Short-term target one: All Urban Municipalities with water systems in place will report water use data through Alberta Environment's electronic Water Use Reporting System (WURS) by 2010.
Agree - 89% / Disagree - 11 %
2. That your community will work towards achieving short-term target one:
All Urban Municipalities with water systems in place will report water use data through Alberta Environment's electronic Water Use Reporting System (WURS) by 2010.
Agree - 83% / Disagree - 17%
3. That short-term target two is a reasonable target for AUMA Members?
Short-term target two: Urban Municipalities will develop Conservation, Efficiency, and Productivity Plans by Dec 31, 2011, according to the following participation rates:
 - 100% of Municipalities with populations greater than 10,000
 - 75% of Municipalities with populations between 2500 and 10,000
 - 50% of Municipalities with populations under 2500**Agree - 79% / Disagree - 21%**
4. That your community will work towards achieving short-term target two:
Urban Municipalities will develop Conservation, Efficiency, and Productivity Plans by Dec 31, 2011, according to the following participation rates:
 - 100% of Municipalities with populations greater than 10,000
 - 75% of Municipalities with populations between 2500 and 10,000
 - 50% of Municipalities with populations under 2500**Agree - 78% / Disagree - 22%**
5. That short-term target three is a reasonable target for AUMA Members?
Short-term target three: Urban Municipalities will estimate their Infrastructure Leakage Index (ILI) and identify ways to reduce leaks by Dec 31, 2011 according to the following distribution
 - 100% of Municipalities with populations greater than 10,000
 - 75% of Municipalities with populations between 2500 and 10,000
 - 50% of Municipalities with populations under 2500**Agree - 61% / Disagree - 39%**



6. That your community will work towards achieving short-term target three Urban Municipalities will estimate their Infrastructure Leakage Index (ILI) and identify ways to reduce leaks by Dec 31, 2011 according to the following distribution
 - 100% of Municipalities with populations greater than 10,00
 - 75% of Municipalities with populations between 2500 and 10,000
 - 50% of Municipalities with populations under 2500

Agree - 94% / Disagree - 6%

7. That short-term target four is a reasonable target for AUMA Members?
Short-term target four: Urban Municipalities will implement incentives and/or disincentives of their own choosing to increase the uptake of water efficient fixtures and technologies by December 2011. Different programs may apply to new and existing developments.
 - 100% of Municipalities with populations greater than 10,00
 - 75% of Municipalities with populations between 2500 and 10,000
 - 50% of Municipalities with populations under 2500

Agree - 95% / Disagree - 5 %

8. That your community will work towards achieving short-term target four Urban Municipalities will implement incentives and/or disincentives of their own choosing to increase the uptake of water efficient fixtures and technologies by December 2011. Different programs may apply to new and existing developments.
 - 100% of Municipalities with populations greater than 10,00
 - 75% of Municipalities with populations between 2500 and 10,000
 - 50% of Municipalities with populations under 2500

Agree - 95% / Disagree 5%

RFD – Draft Water Conservation, Efficiency, and Productivity Plan

0906 – LMC005 – STEVENSON

THAT the Mayors Caucus receive the draft Water Conservation, Efficiency and Productivity Plan; and

The feedback be filed and reviewed by the AUMA Board.

CARRIED

Lunch 11:52 AM – 12:35 PM

Assessment Overview

Presented by Alderman Ric McIver – 12:35 PM – 1:20 PM

RFD – Assessment Review-Issues Identification

0906 – LMC006 – MCIVER

THAT the Mayors Caucus receive the AUMA draft paper on Assessment Review-Issues Identification (with review by the Mayors Councils and their assessment professionals); and



The feedback be filed and reviewed by the AUMA Board.

CARRIED

Clikapad Questions Mayors Caucuses – Assessment – June '09

1. Both assessment exemptions/incentives and tax exemptions/incentives should be transparent to all taxpayers so that the amount of the benefits to whom they are given can be seen?
Agree - 94% / Disagree - 6%
2. Farm assessment practices should be updated, even if it means potentially higher assessments?
Agree - 95% / Disagree - 5%
3. Linear property assessment and machinery and equipment assessment should be based on current formulas and definitions? – up to date 2009.
Agree - 58% / Disagree - 42%
Re-vote: adding "up to date 2009 assessments"
Agree - 84% / Disagree- 16%
4. Any tax and/or assessment exemptions and incentives should be examined to ensure they are effective, equitable to all taxpayers, and still necessary?
Agree - 95% / Disagree - 5%
5. The number of assessment classes should be broadened to allow Municipalities more flexibility?
Agree - 76% / Disagree - 24%
6. AUMA should examine possible alternate assessment services delivery mechanisms?
Agree - 94% / Disagree - 6%

Regular Membership Definition – Objects/Bylaw Changes

Presentation – By AUMA President, Mayor Lloyd Bertschi – 1:20 PM – 1:45 PM

RFD – Regular Membership Definition – Amended Objects of Association
0906 – LMC007 – RICE

THAT the Mayors Caucus receive Special Resolution #1 - Revising the Objects of the Association; and

The feedback be filed and reviewed by the AUMA Board.

CARRIED

RFD – Regular Membership Definition – Amended Bylaws of Association
0906 – LMC008 – RICE

THAT the Mayors Caucus receive Special Resolution #2 – Revising the Bylaws of the Association; and

The feedback be filed and reviewed by the AUMA Board.

CARRIED

NO Clikapad Questions Mayors Caucuses – Regular Membership – June '09



Ambulance Transition

Presentation – By AUMA Director, Councillor Helen Rice – 1:46 PM – 2:35 PM

RFD - Ambulance Transition

0906 – LMC009 – RICE

THAT the Mayors Caucus receive the Ambulance presentation; and

The feedback be filed and reviewed by the AUMA Board.

CARRIED

Clikapad Questions Mayors Caucuses – Ambulance - June '09

1. What is your main concern with the EMS transition to the Province on April 1, 2009?
 1. **Patient care was not the main priority in the transition**
Vote Percentage – 29%
 2. **Citizens were not effectively made aware of the transition**
Vote Percentage – 0%
 3. **The Government of Alberta and AHS have not allocated enough money to delivering EMS**
Vote Percentage – 24%
 4. **Dispatch Centre consolidation will cause confusion**
Vote Percentage – 18%
 5. **The process for choosing Dispatch Centres was not carried out in a transparent and clear manner**
Vote Percentage – 12%
 6. **Contract negotiations were difficult**
Vote Percentage – 0%
 7. **Other**
Vote Percentage – 0%
 8. **No concerns, all is well**
Vote Percentage – 0%

2. What is your 2nd most important concern with the EMS transition to the Province on April 1, 2009?
 1. **Patient care was not the main priority in the transition**
Vote Percentage – 10%
 2. **Citizens were not effectively made aware of the transition**
Vote Percentage – 0%
 3. **The Government of Alberta and AHS have not allocated enough money to delivering EMS**
Vote Percentage – 24%
 4. **Dispatch Centre consolidation will cause confusion**
Vote Percentage – 12%



5. **The process for choosing Dispatch Centres was not carried out in a transparent and clear manner**

Vote Percentage – 0%

6. **Contract negotiations were difficult**

Vote Percentage – 18%

7. **Other**

Vote Percentage – 0%

8. **No concerns, all is well**

Vote Percentage – 18%

3. **How satisfied are you with the EMS transition in your area?**

1. **Completely dissatisfied**

Vote Percentage – 17%

2. **Somewhat satisfied**

Vote Percentage – 33%

3. **Fully satisfied**

Vote Percentage – 11%

4. **Too soon to tell**

Vote Percentage – 39%

6. **Presentations:**

Deferred to September '09 Mayors Caucus Agenda
Welcome and Inclusive Communities (WIC)

Deferred to September '09 Mayors Caucus Agenda
Infrastructure

7. **Action Status of Previous Municipal Mayor RFD's**

Deferred to September '09 Mayors Caucus Agenda
RFD - Previous Motions of Mayors Caucuses

THAT the Mayors Caucus receives the report on the RFD passed at the February Mayors Caucus meetings:

- a) **RFD - Municipal Viability – Summer Village Itaska Beach**

AUMA has contacted the Association of Summer Villages of Alberta, but the meeting has not yet occurred.

- b) **RFD-Changes in Building Codes - Affect on Small Communities - Town of Sexsmith**

The 2006 Alberta Building Code has been amended to include recent changes recommended by the High Intensity Residential Fire task group. AUMA was a participant in that review process.

One Code issue in particular dealt with a fire response time of 10 minutes. While the issue of fire response within 10 minutes is not new to the Building Code, how to identify what makes up the 10 minute response needed clarification.



The provision is as follows:

2006 Alberta Building Code 9.10.14.3. Limiting Distance where Firefighting Facilities are Inadequate

9.10.14.3. (1) Except for the purpose of applying Sentences 9.10.14.4.(2), (8) and (9) and Sentence 9.10.14.5.(8), a limiting distance equal to half the actual limiting distance shall be used as input to the requirements of this Subsection, where

- a) the time from the receipt of notification of a fire by the fire department until the first fire department vehicle capable of beginning suppression activities arrives at the building is greater than 10 minutes in not less than 10% of all calls to the building, and
- b) any storey in the building is not sprinklered.

This excerpt from the Building Code is stating that where there is not a 10 minute response time from the fire department, then the building inspector reviewing the plans prior to permit issuance must use 1/2 the actual limiting distance for calculation purposes. For example, take a house being built in a small village with a volunteer fire department. The contractor shows a house with 4 foot side yards to the property line. The building inspector in viewing the plans would use say the building must have non-combustible cladding and no unprotected window openings allowed on the sidewalls.

The contractor could avoid the requirement for non-combustible cladding by increasing the limiting distance from 4 to 8 feet. But no one is requiring that the contractor must have the house further from the property line. The requirement only deals with fire rated construction and the amount of window openings allowed. While there is a slight increase in construction protection, that is due to the extra time it takes to getting fire fighting services on site.

c) RFD- Municipal Incentives for Attracting Doctors - Town of Sexsmith

At its 2006 Convention, AUMA passed the following Resolution:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association advocate that the Province must accept recruitment, attraction, incentives and retention of Rural health professionals in Rural Alberta into their order of government and policy and eliminate that burden from Rural Municipalities and their tax revenue so that it can be better utilized towards sustainability and local government policy and that the Province be encouraged to be creative and think out of the box to develop ways and means to reward and compensate Rural health professionals so that they desire to practice and stay in Rural Alberta.

The Province's lengthy response outlining its efforts in this regard was accepted by AUMA.

d) RFD - AMSC/Nexen Service Fee for Streetlights – Town of Drumheller

AUMA brought the concern to the Settlement System Code Working Group facilitated by the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC). The AUC subsequently formed a subcommittee consisting of representation from the AUMA and Industry to review the concern in more detail. As a result, the AUC has decided that this streetlight matter will be corrected



following an approach similar to what other distribution companies' use. The AUC has engaged PWC to manage the implementation of this initiative which will be handled in the form of a "project", as it will impact all industry participants.

CARRIED

8. Mayor's Action Items – New RFD's

RFD – Future of Municipal Government in Alberta (submitted by Lethbridge)
0906 – LMC010 – TARLECK, Bob – Mayor of Lethbridge

THAT the Mayors Caucus receive the report; and

Recommend the AUMA Board proceed with presented, options:

1. The AUMA MAYOR'S CAUCUS proposes that the first principle of any discussions respecting the future role of Municipal governance should be that such discussions take place within the framework of a partnership of respect between the Government of Alberta and Alberta municipalities.
2. The AUMA MAYOR'S CAUCUS believes that the goal of any review of Municipal governance should be to foster the development of municipalities that are vibrant, sustainable, and service-driven.
3. The AUMA MAYOR'S CAUCUS proposes that the preferred or default governance option for Alberta municipalities be *Status Quo* with functional change, also known as "Regional Cooperation." (Option 3 in the AUMA paper on governance)
4. The AUMA MAYOR'S CAUCUS proposes the following principles for any municipal amalgamation discussions:
 - a. Affected municipalities would enter into any such discussions willingly;
 - b. Exploration of amalgamation would be undertaken on the basis of careful analysis;
 - c. Any consideration of amalgamation should be undertaken with community consultation.

And finally, the AUMA MAYOR'S CAUCUS recommends that the imposition of provincial solutions on communities that fail the test of financial sustainability be undertaken only when all other solutions have proven.

CARRIED

Bill 203- Local Authorities Election (Finance and Contribution Disclosure) Amendment Act, 2009 (submitted by Red Deer)

0906 – LMC011 – FLEWWELLING, Morris – Mayor of Red Deer

THAT the Mayors Caucus request the AUMA Board to support the position of the City of Red Deer on Bill 203-Local Authorities Election (Finance and Contribution Disclosure) Amendment Act, 2009.

CARRIED



Deferred to September '09 Mayors Caucus Agenda
Municipal Revenue Sources Presentation

Wrap up and Closing Comments

By AUMA President and Chairman, Mayor Lloyd Bertschi

Closing Questions

Did you find today's Mayors Caucus Session, of value?

Yes - 100% / No - 0%

Is the AUMA Board providing the right leadership in the initiatives in today's Agenda?

Yes - 93% / No - 7%

Do you wish to proceed with the September 2009 Mayors Caucus Sessions (Sept 2/3/4).

Yes - 94% / No - 6%

9. **Adjournment at 3:20 PM.**
Thank you for attending today.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John McGowan', written over a horizontal line.

Secretariat Coordinator
John McGowan, CEO
June 12th, 2009