



2008/2009

Mayor's Caucus – 2,500-10,000 Population

Thursday, June 11th, 2009 – 9:00 AM

Delta Bow Valley – Calgary, Alberta

MINUTES

Registered/Present

Mayor	Municipality
Trevor Thain	Town of Whitecourt
Peter Smyl	Town of Whitecourt
Richard Lavoie	Town of Vermilion
Richard Coleman	Town of Vegreville
Jody Quickstad	Town of Vegreville
Kevin Edwards	Town of Three Hills
Susan Samson	Town of Sylvan Lake
Sheila Mizera	Town of Rocky Mountain House
Ray Bott	Town of Rocky Mountain House
Ernie Murias	Town of Rocky Mountain House
Donald Verhesen	Town of Rocky Mountain House
Bill Symko	Town of Rocky Mountain House
Dale Barr	Town of Rimbey
George Bohne	Town of Raymond
Larry Henkelman	Town of Ponoka
Judy Dahl	Town of Olds
Arvin Bull	Town of Olds
Glenn Taylor	Town of Hinton
Bill Bulger	Town of Hinton
Peter Ernst	Town of High Level
Mary Collins	Town of Hanna
Louise Krewusik	Town of Grande cache
Shawn Patience	Town of Fort Macleod
Greg Pasychny	Town of Edson
Bryce Nimmo	Town of Drumheller
Moe Hamdon	Town of Drayton Valley
Phil McCracken	Town of Crossfield
Cheryl Skelly	Town of Crossfield
Kim Craig	Town of Coaldale
Melodie Stol	Town of Blackfalds
John Stutz	Town of Banff



AUMA Mayors Caucus Meeting – Municipalities 2,500-10,000 Population - Thursday, June 11th, 2009
@Delta Bow Valley – Calgary, AB

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Brian D. Schulz	Town of Barrhead	
Christine Nelson	Town of Athabasca	
John Irwin	Town of Coleman / Municipality of Crowsnest Pass	
CAO's		Greg Scerbak
Alan Hyland		Gwenda Poyser
Barry Elliott		Karina Pillay Kinnee
Betty Osmond		Kim Swanson
Bill Burrell		Lance Colby
Brad Watson		Lois Mountjoy
Camille Berube		Lois Mountjoy
Carl McDonnell		Marian Carlson
Carolyn Erb		Ray Hook
Cheryl Skelly		Rob Stoutenberg
Corinne Newman		Roger Brekko
Dean Krause		Roy Brown
Dwight Stanford		Russ Wardrope
Garry Pollock		Scott Barton
Geraldine Gervais		Wanda Watson-Neufeld

AUMA Board of Directors (President, then alpha order)

- Mayor Lloyd Bertschi, AUMA President – Morinville
- Mayor Darren Aldous V.P. & Director, Villages West - Breton [2008/2010]
- Mayor Bob Clark, Director, Villages East - Boyle [2008/2010]
- Mayor Reg Pointe, Director, Summer Villages - S.V. Yellowstone [2007/2009]
- Mayor Bruce Rowe, Director Villages South - Beiseker [2007/2009]
- Mayor Glenn Taylor, V.P. & Director, Towns West - Hinton [2008/2010]
- Councillor John Trefanenko, Director, Towns East – St. Paul [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

1. **Call to Order the Mayors Caucus Meeting for Municipalities 2,500-10,000 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 1:00 PM with John McGowan, AUMA CEO
Garden Patio Room, Delta Bow Valley

4. Adoption of Agenda
0906 – MMC001 – STOL, Melodie – Mayor, Town of Blackfalds

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 – 2,500-10,000 Population – February 5th, 2009
0906 – MMC002 – THANE, Trevor - Mayor, Town of Whitecourt

THAT the Mayors Caucus adopts the Minutes of the February 5th, 2009 Meeting for Municipalities 2,500-10,000, as presented.

CARRIED

6. AUMA Action Items

Future of Local Governance

Presentation - By AUMA Director, Mayor Glenn Taylor – 9:25 AM – 10:20 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 – **69%**
 2. No – **0%**
 3. Almost, but could use a bit of re-tooling – **31%**

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, and are 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 96% / No – 4%
 - Sustainable and adequate revenue sources for Municipal governments will allow Municipal governments to achieve their vision for sustainability.
Yes 96% / No – 4%
 - 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 69% / No – 31%
 - Definitions of urban or rural types of government are not relevant to enhancing the sustainability of Alberta’s Municipal governance system.
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 81% / No – 19%

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 88% / No – 12%



- Support Alberta Municipal governments in using the Municipal Governance Toolkit and other Municipal capacity-building Toolkits.
Yes 89% / No – 11%
 - Support the development of an Elected Officials Education Program (EOEP) one-day course for elected officials on the Municipal Governance Toolkit.
Yes 88% / No – 12%
 - Invite AAMDC to participate in the participation of the Municipal Governance Toolkit.
Yes 81% / No – 19%
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.
Yes 96% / No – 4%
 - 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 93% / No – 7%**
 - 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 96% / No – 4%
 - Provide incentives for restructuring Municipalities through a program that is permanent and announced in the Provincial Budget.
Yes 92% / No – 8%
 - 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 100% / No – 0%
 - Amend the MGA to remove the distinction between rural and urban Municipalities.
Yes 56% / No – 44%



RFD – Future of Local Governance – Draft Convention 2009 Policy Paper
0906 – MMC003 - TAYLOR

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 – 10:20 AM – 10:30 AM

Water Conservation, Efficiency and Productivity Planning

Presentation – By AUMA Director, Councillor John Trefanenko – 10:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Clickpad 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 - 96% / Disagree – 4%
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 - 100% / Disagree – 0%
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 10,00
 - 75% of Municipalities with populations between 2500 and 10,000
 - 50% of Municipalities with populations under 2500**Agree - 80% / Disagree –20%**
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 10,00
 - 75% of Municipalities with populations between 2500 and 10,000
 - 50% of Municipalities with populations under 2500**Agree - 80% / Disagree – 20%**
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 10,00
- 75% of Municipalities with populations between 2500 and 10,000
- 50% of Municipalities with populations under 2500

Agree - 91% / Disagree –9%

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 - 88% / Disagree – 13%

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 - 71% / Disagree – 29%

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 - 77% / Disagree –23%

RFD – Draft Water Conservation, Efficiency, and Productivity Plan

0906 – MMC004 - TREFANENKO

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

Regular Membership Definition – Objects/Bylaw Changes

Presentation – By AUMA President, Mayor Lloyd Bertschi – 11:00 AM – 11:15 AM

Clikapad Questions Mayors Caucuses – Regular Membership – June ‘09

Yes or No:

Support amendments to the Objects of the Association.

Yes 93% / No –7%



Support amendments to the Bylaws of the Association.

Yes 96% / No – 4%

RFD – Regular Membership Definition – Amended Objects of Association
0906 – MMC005 - POINTE

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 – MMC006 – SAMSON, Susan – Mayor, Town of Sylvan Lake

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

Ambulance Transition

Presentation – By AUMA Director, Mayor Karen Bertamini – 11:15 AM – 11:50 AM

Clikapad Questions Mayors Caucuses – Ambulance – June '09

Percentage Vote:

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 – 23%
 2. **Citizens were not effectively made aware of the transition**
Vote Percentage – 5%
 3. **The Government of Alberta and AHS have not allocated enough money to delivering EMS**
Vote Percentage – 9%
 4. **Dispatch Centre consolidation will cause confusion**
Vote Percentage – 41%
 5. **The process for choosing Dispatch Centres was not carried out in a transparent and clear manner**
Vote Percentage – 9%
 6. **Contract negotiations were difficult**
Vote Percentage – 0%
 7. **Other**
Vote Percentage – 0%



8. No concerns, all is well
Vote Percentage – 14%

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 – 4%

2. **Citizens were not effectively made aware of the transition**
Vote Percentage – 4%

3. **The Government of Alberta and AHS have not allocated enough money to delivering EMS**
Vote Percentage – 21%

4. **Dispatch Centre consolidation will cause confusion**
Vote Percentage – 50%

5. **The process for choosing Dispatch Centres was not carried out in a transparent and clear manner**
Vote Percentage – 8%

6. **Contract negotiations were difficult**
Vote Percentage – 0%

7. **Other**
Vote Percentage – 0%

8. **No concerns, all is well**
Vote Percentage – 12%

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

1. **Completely dissatisfied**
Vote Percentage – 4%

2. **Somewhat satisfied**
Vote Percentage – 38%

3. **Fully satisfied**
Vote Percentage – 25%

4. **Too soon to tell**
Vote Percentage – 33%

RFD – Ambulance Transition

0906 – MMC007 - WITTAL, Brian – Mayor, Town of Didsbury

THAT the Mayors Caucus receive the Ambulance presentation; and

The feedback be filed and reviewed by the AUMA Board.

CARRIED

Lunch 11:50 AM – 12:40 PM



CAO Session starting with John McGowan in the Garden Patio Room – 1:00 PM

7. Presentations:

First Impressions Community Exchange (FICE)

Presented by Councillor John Trefanenko – 12:40 PM – 12:45 PM

Infrastructure

Presented by Mayor Bob Clark – 12:45 PM – 1:30 PM

8. Action Status of Previous Municipal Mayor RFD's

Presented by AUMA President Bertschi

RFD - Previous Motions of Mayors Caucuses

Presentation – By AUMA President, Mayor Lloyd Bertschi

0906 – MMC008 - BERTAMINI

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

9. Mayor's Action Items – New RFD's

Bill 203 – Local Authorities Election (Finance and Contribution Disclosure) Amendment Act, 2009

0906 – MMC009 – IRWIN, John – Mayor, Town of Coleman, Municipality of Crowsnest Pass

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



Assessment Overview

Presented by Mayor Glenn Taylor – 1:30 PM – 2:21 PM

Clikapad Questions Mayors Caucuses – Assessment – June '09

Do you agree or disagree:

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 - 100% / Disagree – 0%
2. Farm assessment practices should be updated, even if it means potentially higher assessments?
Agree - 96% / Disagree – 4%
3. Linear property assessment and machinery and equipment assessment should be based on current formulas and definitions?
Agree - 78% / Disagree – 22%
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 - 100% / Disagree – 0%
5. The number of assessment classes should be broadened to allow Municipalities more flexibility?
Agree - 71% / Disagree –29%
6. AUMA should examine possible alternate assessment services delivery mechanisms?
Agree - 78% / Disagree –22%

RFD – Assessment Review-Issues Identification

0906 – MMC010 - TAYLOR

THAT the Mayors Caucus receive the AUMA draft paper on Assessment Review-Issues Identification; and

The feedback be filed and reviewed by the AUMA Board.

CARRIED

Municipal Revenue Sources Presentation

Presented by Mayor Reg Pointe – 2:23 PM – 2:35 PM

Clikapad Questions Mayors Caucuses – Municipal Revenue Sources – June '09

Do you agree or disagree:

1. Municipalities need new revenue sources in order to remain sustainable?
Agree – 95% / Disagree 5%
2. The use of any new revenue sources should be a mix of sharing provincial revenues and development of new revenue sources within the Municipality?
Agree – 91% / Disagree 9%
3. Where provincial revenues are shared, Municipalities should also be prepared to share less when the provincial revenues drop?
Agree – 86% / Disagree 14%



4. New revenue authority should come with the introduction of Municipal performance measures?

Agree – 70% / Disagree 30%

RFD – New Municipal Revenue Sources

0906 – MMC011 - POINTE

THAT the Mayors Caucus receives the AUMA presentation on New Municipal Revenue Sources; and

The feedback be filed and reviewed by the AUMA Board.

CARRIED

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 95% / No –5%

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

Yes 100% / No –0%

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

Yes 82% / No –18%

10. Adjournment at 2:50 PM.

Thank you for attending today.

Secretariat Coordinator
John McGowan, CEO
June 11th, 2009