



Section 617 of the *MGA* reminds us that planning decisions are about the balancing of community AND individual interests

Part 17 Planning and Development

Purpose of this Part

617 The purpose of this Part and the regulations and bylaws under this Part is to provide means whereby plans and related matters may be prepared and adopted

(a) to achieve the orderly, economical and beneficial development, use of land and patterns of human settlement, and

(b) to maintain and improve the quality of the physical environment within which patterns of human settlement are situated in Alberta,

without infringing on the rights of individuals for any public interest except to the extent that is necessary for the overall greater public interest.

Section 617 of the MGA should be interpreted liberally and not narrowly.

“A broad and purposive approach (is to be applied) to the interpretation of municipal legislation ...every provincial enactment must be given a fair, large and liberal construction and interpretation that best ensures the attainment of its objects.”

Justice Bastarache of the Supreme Court of Canada in *United Taxi Drivers' v Calgary (City)* [2004]

“ROMA UNO DIE NON EST CONDITA”



ROME WAS NOT BUILT IN A DAY – introduced into the English language in John Heywood’s *“A Dialogue Conteyning the Number in Effect of all the Prouerbes in the Englishe Tongue”* (c. 1538)