

## Alberta Municipalities Update – December 2023 (Verbal)

### Recommendation

That the Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA) Committee recommend that Council receive this verbal report and distribution for the Corporate Record.

### Alberta Municipalities (AB Munis) Year in Review

In December 2023, President Tyler Gandam shared highlights of AB Munis' work over 2023:

- **On Infrastructure Funding** – The province's announcement on 2023 December 15, confirming that the province will allocate \$722 million in capital funding for the Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF) in 2024-2025, and increase funding by 14 per cent to \$820 million in 2025-2026. Though Alberta Municipalities is making progress in its advocacy, increasing LGFF funding to a target of \$1.75 billion annually will be a focus of the 2024 Spring Leaders' Caucus in March 2024.
- **On Family & Community Social Services (FCSS)** – While the province increased the FCSS budget by five per cent in 2023 to \$105 million, AB Munis reports that many of its members are contributing more than the 20 per cent that the funding model targets. Therefore, AB Munis will continue to urge the province for an additional \$25 million in funding for social services and supports.
- **On possible involvement of political parties in local elections** – AB Munis participated in engagement sessions on the *Local Authorities Elections Act (LAEA)* and the *Municipal Government Act (MGA)*, and urged its members and, more broadly, Albertans to take part in surveys hosted by the province.

### Report Card on the 2020 Expired Resolutions

Also in December, AB Munis released its first Resolutions Report Card. The report tracks the advocacy outcomes for the 18 Resolutions carried in 2020 that expire after three years.

- For each resolution, AB Munis confirms whether: it has accepted the provincial government's response; the intent of the resolution was not met, (which was the case for most of the 2020 resolutions); or the intent of the resolution was partially met.
- AB Munis points to the creation of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program as a key win. Sponsored by The City of Calgary, this resolution urged the province to adopt legislation to ensure that the responsibility for end of life management of products be shifted to producers. AB Munis states that because the province followed its recommendations to implement the EPR program, AB Munis member municipalities can pass the savings to Albertans.
- The Resolutions report card can be found on the Alberta Municipalities website ([Report card on 2020 resolutions | Alberta Municipalities \(abmunis.ca\)](https://www.abmunis.ca/report-card-on-2020-resolutions)).

### Upcoming meetings and events

- In January 2024, AB Munis will release details on how to submit resolutions for next year's annual Convention.

- The final paper of this phase of the Future of Municipal Government (FOMG) project will be released in early 2024. (Led by AB Munis, the project aims to release research conducted by the School of Public Policy at the University of Calgary to prompt conversation on key topics.)

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General Manager Chris Arthurs concurs with the information in this verbal update.