

Update: Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA)

Initiative Title: Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA)

City Council Lead(s):

- **Councillor A. Knack:**
 - Board of Directors, Vice-President and Director, Cities over 500,000
 - Executive Committee, Vice-President
 - Infrastructure and Energy Committee Chair
 - **Councillor M. Banga:**
 - Board of Directors, Director, Cities over 500,000
 - Audit & Finance Committee
 - **Councillor S. Hamilton:**
 - Safe and Healthy Communities Committee
 - **Councillor T. Caterina:**
 - Municipal Governance Committee
-

Objective:

The City of Edmonton and the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA) have a long standing working relationship. Both organizations have a shared interest in advancing complex public policy issues with the Government of Alberta, Government of Canada and other municipal associations such as the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

Shared Priorities and Advocacy Areas:

Some of the shared priorities of the AUMA and the City of Edmonton include the future of the Municipal Sustainability Initiative and long-term predictable infrastructure funding, cannabis excise tax revenue distribution, the *Police Act* review, the *Municipal Government Act* implementation, a provincially mandated Extended Producer Responsibility program and a review of Alberta's recycling regulations. The City has also supported the Association in developing an off-site levies guide to assist municipalities in their implementation efforts.

Key outcomes, projects or activities and their status as of March 2020:

AUMA: Annual Convention, September 25-27, 2019, Edmonton

Almost 1,200 participants attended last year's Convention from member municipalities. The Mayor's Reception, hosted in City Hall, allowed attendees to

6.5 – Council Member Appointment reporting – B3

meet and network with peers from other municipalities. Twenty-two resolutions focusing on a range of topics - including but not limited to social, environmental, and community development priorities - were debated, of which 17 were passed. Most of the adopted resolutions focus on a request for action by the other orders of government, and were submitted to the relevant ministries following the Convention.

AUMA: Committee and Board Membership Appointments, September 2019

The AUMA renewed their committee and board membership for the 2019-2020 year. With the exception of the Sustainability and Environment committee, the City is represented on all the relevant committees by elected officials.

Red Tape Submission, October 2019

- In September 2019, AUMA provided their red tape submission to the Associate Minister of Red Tape Reduction and the Minister of Municipal Affairs. AUMA's submission was based on the results of their member survey, which the City of Edmonton and 141 other municipal respondents contributed input into.
- The City of Edmonton provided our Red Tape Review submission to the Province in December 2019, which also provided another opportunity to highlight our City's continuous improvement efforts and included perspectives from Edmonton Public Library and Edmonton Police Service.

President's Summit on Municipal Finances - Transparent and Effective, January 2020

- The AUMA hosted their first Municipal Finances Summit this year in Edmonton. This was an opportunity for members to discuss the need for continued and sustainable funding from the Province to municipalities even in times of financial strain.
- There was much discussion around the need for municipalities to continue working together to advocate for funding despite our different make-up.
- Mayor Iveson was one of five panelists on the Municipal Impacts Panel.
- Major themes of members' feedback included:
 - Having a strong and united municipal voice.
 - Municipalities taking ownership of the narrative by telling their side of the story.
 - Using facts to counter wrong/inaccurate arguments.
 - Helping residents understand the impacts of provincial decisions.

Upcoming AUMA Opportunities:

- The Municipal Leaders' Caucus is scheduled to take place March 25-26, 2020 in Edmonton.
- In accordance with the Protocol Agreement between the AUMA and City Council Executives, the AUMA Executive Committee will be coming to Council on April 16, 2020 to give a presentation on their recent and upcoming

6.5 – Council Member Appointment reporting – B3

advocacy efforts related to City business. City Administration and AUMA staff also meet and exchange information and perspectives on a regular basis.

Evaluation and Recommendation:

- The City will continue to work with the AUMA in advancing municipal priorities and areas of shared interest including how to advocate for big city interests.