

Government of Alberta ■

Municipal Affairs

Municipal Sustainability Strategy Meeting - Summary

January 22, 2010

Representatives in attendance from:

AAMDC: Gerald Rhodes, Executive Director, Kim Heyman, Director of Advocacy and Communications

ARMAA: Ross Rawlusyk, President, Pat Vincent, Director

AUMA: John McGowan, Chief Executive Officer, Sue Welke, Director, Policy and Advocacy

LGAA: Carol Revega, Director, Town of Westlock

ASVA: Sue Evans, Municipal Administrator

Alberta Municipal Affairs: Michael Merritt, Assistant Deputy Minister, LGS, Gary Sandberg, Executive Director, Municipal Services Branch, Patrick Cadden, Manager, Stakeholder Relations and Sustainability, Jessica Spratt, Public Affairs Officer

Meeting summary and highlights:

- Representatives met to discuss the first two fundamental questions that will be used to develop the Municipal Sustainability Strategy:
 - What basic services should a municipality provide?
 - What constitutes a viable and sustainable municipality and how can this be measured?
- The working group agreed to ask the subcommittee to continue its deliberation on the definition of basic services. It was agreed that more clarification is needed regarding the purpose of defining basic services and how or if they ought to be regulated or legislated.
- The working group also initiated discussions on possible measures or indicators of municipal viability and sustainability, and briefly reviewed work done in other provinces and territories on this subject. It was agreed that a common list of measures or indicators could provide a useful self-assessment tool for municipalities. The subcommittee has been asked to carry out further work on this topic over the next two weeks.
- The working group agreed to meet again in two weeks to continue discussions on the development of the Municipal Sustainability Strategy.