Preparing for the Unknown

The Future of Municipal Government

May 3, 2023











Alberta Municipalities

From the smallest village to the largest city, we harness the power of our members.

We represent Alberta's municipalities where +85% of Albertans live.



The Future of Municipal Government

Partnership with University of Calgary's School of Public Policy and ABmunis

Independent, rigorous, academic research into financial, political, social, cultural, and environmental pressures facing municipalities



Why consider the future?

Economic, social, cultural, and environmental shifts amid uncertainty impacting communities and all levels of government

Strained political culture

Concerns over the administrative and fiscal viability of municipalities

Requests by members



Principles

Partnership with The School of Public Policy (SPP) guided by:

Academic Independence:

The research of the SPP is independent and fact-based.

Transparency:

ABmunis, the SPP, and project partners will proactively share the project process and findings.

Engagement:

Municipalities and other stakeholders, as appropriate, will be given opportunities to provide input on the project and discuss the policy implications of its findings.

Respect:

The project will create the space for civil dialogue on challenging issues impacting the future of municipal governance.







Climate Risk Assessment and Adaptation for Municipalities







Impact of Extreme Weather Events on Municipalities

Three major risks identified:

- 1. Infrastructure performance and lifespan
- 2. Water scarcity (quality and quantity)
- 3. Governance capacity to adequately plan and prepare



Climate Adaptation Strategies







Intermunicipal Collaborative Frameworks

MGA Section 708.27: Purpose

The purpose of this Part is to provide for intermunicipal collaboration frameworks among 2 or more municipalities:

1.to provide for the integrated and strategic planning, delivery and funding of intermunicipal services,

2. to steward scarce resources efficiently in providing local services, and

3.to ensure municipalities **contribute funding** to services that **benefit** their residents.



Long-term Planning and:

- Emergency Planning
- Natural Asset Management
- New, innovate infrastructure



Engagement& Consultation

- Residents
- Council
- Province



Collaborative Land Use Planning

- Recognize the importance of agricultural land.
- Recognize the importance of renewable energy projects.
- Recognize that one size fits all solutions don't work. Local context matters!



Collaboration isn't easy

It is necessary

















