



May 7, 2018

Jeff Shaw
Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Cardston
PO Box 280
Cardston, AB T0K 0K0

Dear Mr. Shaw:

Each year, AUMA members have the opportunity to submit resolutions on issues of importance to them. These resolutions are then presented, debated, and voted on by our members at the fall Convention. If passed, the resolutions remain active for three years, after which time they expire. On behalf of AUMA's Board, I am pleased to provide information on the outcome of the Town of Cardston's expired 2014 resolution.

The resolution titled "Provincial Responsibility for Education Property Tax Collection" called for AUMA to advocate for the province to eliminate the education property tax requisition. Unfortunately, the province has made it clear that they are not contemplating the removal of the requisition. This response is disappointing given extensive advocacy on this issue over the past several years including a joint AUMA-AAMDC submission to the Minister of Municipal Affairs in 2015 and inclusion in advocacy on Municipal Government Act amendments.

Given the province's firm stance on this issue, AUMA has been advocating for the government to hold the line on education property tax increases. Ensuring that no further increases are introduced would prevent the requisition from further limiting municipalities' capacity to utilize property taxes. As well, AUMA has been strongly advocating on the need for a predictable, sustainable funding model to replace the Municipal Sustainability Initiative. Due to efforts including our advocacy on the 2018 Provincial Budget, the province has been receptive to the need for action on this issue. AUMA is hopeful that our ongoing advocacy will lead to a new era of predictable long-term funding for municipalities.

Thank you for raising this important issue through our resolution process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Rude', is written over a white background.

Dan Rude, Interim CEO