



June 20, 2018

Mr. Craig Curtis
City Manager
City of Red Deer
Box 5008
Red Deer, AB T4N 3T4

Dear Mr. Curtis:

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 the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA) Board of Directors, I am pleased to provide information on the outcome of the City of Red Deer's expired 2014 resolution on [Contaminants in Water](#). The resolution called on the Alberta and federal governments to inform municipalities concerning the risks associated with Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products (PPCPs), and to collaborate with municipalities to identify, study, and monitor PPCPs contaminants in Alberta aquatic environments.

In 2015, AUMA met with Environment Canada to discuss actions to address PPCPs that are flushed into water systems. The federal government informed AUMA that it is taking actions through the [Chemical Management Plan](#) (CMP). The federal government adopted the CMP in 2006. The first action under the plan was to complete a triage of about 23,000 chemicals that had been in commercial use during the previous two decades. That triage process identified 4,300 substances requiring further assessment. Launched in 2016, the next phase of the CMP hopes to address the remaining 1,550 priority chemicals out of the original 4,300 chemicals identified as priorities during the categorization. The goal of the CMP is to address all 4,300 of those substances by 2020.

As part of the CMP, Health Canada is also involved in the development of regulatory frameworks to assess the environmental and indirect human health effects associated with the release of PPCPs into the environment. Health Canada is also actively researching voluntarily methods of reducing the introduction of PPCPs into the environment such as programs to dispose of unused pharmaceuticals.

We have also advocated that the Alberta government enhance water quality monitoring and reporting. The province has taken steps such as establishing a [River Basins website](#) that provides information on water quality and quantity through an interactive mapping tool. However, it is

recognized that more work needs to be done, and Alberta Environment and Parks, recently formed a dedicated Monitoring and Science Division, which is identifying monitoring gaps.

In addition, AUMA endorsed the international water industry position statement on non-flushable and 'flushable' labelled products and is [encouraging](#) municipalities to join the movement advocating for standards to be applied to products labelled 'flushable.' These standards are in response to problems caused by disposable wipes and other items being flushed into wastewater systems.

The challenge of contaminants in water is an on-going issue within the scope of municipal water and wastewater management, and any new developments are shared with the AUMA Sustainability and Environment Committee and will be updated on the AUMA Water Management Hub, water.auma.ca.

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

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Rude', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Dan Rude, CPA, CGA
AUMA CEO

cc: Her Worship Tara Veer , Mayor, City of Red Deer