

GETTING TO KNOW THE AAMDC

A Guide for New Councillors



VOLUME I : WHO IS THE AAMDC?

As a newly elected official, there is no doubt that you've been over-run with information over the past several weeks. During this blur, you likely attended the AAMDC's [Fall 2017 Convention](#) in Edmonton. We hope that you enjoyed convention, and to build on the positive experience we hope that you had, we will be sharing a series of special *Getting to Know the AAMDC* bulletins over the next few months to make sure that you, a new AAMDC member, understand:

- What is the AAMDC?
- What can the AAMDC do for you?
- How you can get involved?

Let's start with a short overview of what the AAMDC is, what we can do, and where you can learn more.

WHAT IS THE AAMDC?

The [Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties](#) (AAMDC) represents all of Alberta's 64 municipal districts and counties, as well as four specialized municipalities and the Special Areas Board. Founded in 1909, the AAMDC prides itself as being the voice of rural Alberta. The AAMDC advocates on behalf of its members to government and other stakeholders on a wide range of issues, and provides both members and many public-sector organizations with cost-saving aggregated business services on products and services they need.

WHAT CAN THE AAMDC DO FOR YOU?

As an elected official for a rural municipality, you are an AAMDC member. We work for you, and we rely on your local perspectives to shape how we advocate on your behalf. To facilitate this process, the AAMDC has a board of directors consisting of a president, vice-president, and five directors, one from each of the AAMDC's districts. To learn more about your board of directors, [click here](#), and to see what district your municipality is in, [click here](#). While the board of directors provides the AAMDC with its strategic direction on behalf of all members, we regularly work

directly with individual municipalities and elected officials through resolutions, committee work, and informal calls and emails. Watch for future versions of *Getting to Know the AAMDC* to learn more about how we communicate and how you can get involved.

It is not always clear which issues are dealt with by the AAMDC, and which are dealt with by your own municipality. Generally speaking, the AAMDC deals with issues that have the potential to impact some or all AAMDC members. Concerns around the details of a specific municipal plan or policy are best addressed with your CAO, and concerns around changes to provincial or federal legislation impacting municipalities are likely being addressed by the AAMDC. We are always happy to discuss any concern our members have, but we strive to respect municipal autonomy and therefore avoid becoming involved in local issues.

WHERE CAN YOU GET MORE INFORMATION?

We hope that this was a helpful introduction to what exactly the AAMDC does and how it benefits our members. Be on the lookout for more *Getting to Know the AAMDC* articles on our website in the coming weeks. Additionally, we will be running these bulletins in our regular [Contact newsletter](#) to bring you up to speed on some of the AAMDC's advocacy priorities, so make sure to sign up on our website today! In the meantime, we encourage you to reach out to [your district director](#) with any questions or just to introduce yourself, and we look forward to working with you in the future!

Mission

AAMDC empowers its members through proactive leadership, strategic partnerships, effective advocacy and collective business services.

Vision

Strong, vibrant and resilient rural communities.