February 21, 2019

Sharlene Brown

Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Black Diamond

301 Centre Avenue W

Black Diamond, AB T0L 0H0

Dear Ms. Brown,

Every 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 will provide the following update on the outcomes of the Town of Black Diamond’s expired 2015 resolution.

The resolution entitled “Grants in Place of Taxes for Social Housing” (GIPOT) called for AUMA to urge the provincial government to reinstate grants in-lieu-of taxes for housing units operated by public housing management bodies. Further, to call upon the provincial government to revise the Alberta Housing Act by amending section 27(1) by taking the word “may” out of the clause and replacing it with “shall” and by deleting section 27(2).

Despite a significant effort by AUMA, the province refused to reinstate the grants-in-lieu. The requirement for the grant to be legislated was outlined in AUMA’s and RMA’s joint submission to the Minister of Municipal Affairs in September 2015 on key MGA policy changes. Municipal Affairs declined this request and did not include our proposed change in the MGA amendments.

AUMA also coordinated an advocacy campaign in spring 2016 that enabled municipalities to profile local impacts with their citizens, MLAs and Ministers. However, the province did not reinstate GIPOT for social housing funding in the 2016 budget.

AUMA is disappointed that the province did not respond to municipal concerns on this issue. Although this resolution is expired and closed, AUMA will continue to pursue this issue on an informal basis with the provincial government.

If you have any questions about this resolution, please contact AUMA’s advocacy team at advocacy@auma.ca. Further details on AUMA’s advocacy and the province’s response can be found in AUMA’s resolution library on our website.

Yours truly,



Dan Rude, AUMA CEO