



ALBERTA
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

*Office of the Minister
M.L.A. Calgary-Shaw*

AR111331

April 11, 2023

Dear Chief Elected Official:

Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework agreements (ICFs) between municipalities with shared boundaries are designed to provide for integrated and strategic planning, delivery, and funding of intermunicipal services.

ICFs are created with the understanding that things change over time, and there is a requirement to review those frameworks regularly to ensure they are current and meet the needs of the municipalities that are parties to the framework.

I have heard from some municipalities that it will be challenging to meet the review period of "at least every five years" from the date that their original ICF was signed while the ministry is concurrently reviewing the ICF provisions within the *Municipal Government Act*. Given those concerns, I have signed Ministerial Order No. MSD:24/23, extending the review period from five to seven years.

For clarity, this does not impact the obligation to have an ICF in place and current agreements are still in effect. In other words, the time extension does not mean municipalities can forfeit their obligations within their agreement, including cost-sharing, shared services, and any agreed-upon review period. We recommend municipalities hold off on renegotiation discussions in light of the potential for further amendments.

In addition to this extension, my ministry can provide additional supports to assist with mediation or facilitation services if needed. Questions regarding ICFs can be directed to a Municipal Collaboration Advisor at icf@gov.ab.ca or toll-free by first dialing 310-0000, then 780-427-2225.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Schulz
Minister

Attachment: Ministerial Order No. MSD:024/23

cc: Chief Administrative Officers



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*Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary-Shaw*

MINISTERIAL ORDER NO. MSD:024/23

I, Rebecca Schulz, Minister of Municipal Affairs, pursuant to Section 605(2) of the *Municipal Government Act*, make the following order:

The date by which a municipality must review an intermunicipal collaboration framework, as required by Section 708.32(1) of the *Municipal Government Act*, is amended from at least every five years to at least every seven years.

This order expires March 31, 2027.

Dated at Edmonton, Alberta, this 6th day of April, 2023.



Rebecca Schulz
Minister of Municipal Affairs