



April 8, 2025

I am pleased to share that today, our government tabled Bill 50, the *Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2025*. Bill 50 makes amendments to the *Municipal Government Act (MGA)*, *Local Authorities Election Act (LAEA)*, *New Home Buyer Protection Act (NHBPA)*, and the *Safety Codes Act (SCA)* to modernize municipal processes.

The proposed amendments will strengthen local governance and reduce conflict by repealing code of conduct provisions and granting Ministerial authority to establish procedures of council. The amendments also clarify the accountability of chief administrative officers and strengthen oversight authorities of appointed Official Administrators.

Also included are amendments regarding Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks (ICFs) which would clarify the required content of ICFs and strengthen the dispute resolution process to ensure ICFs are adopted and implemented effectively.

Changes are also proposed to the *LAEA* to clarify administrative requirements in advance of the October 2025 municipal and school board elections. In addition, we are allowing for the use of elector assistance terminals which enable voters who live with visual or physical impairments to vote independently and privately. We are also proposing amendments to residency requirements so that residents displaced by last year's wildfire in Jasper can vote and run for office, provided they intend to return to the community.

Finally, proposed changes to the *NHBPA* and the *SCA* address stakeholder concerns with the current new home buyer protection program, the quality of new homes, affordability, and red tape.

I invite you to read Bill 50. A copy of the Bill can be found here: <https://www.assembly.ab.ca/assembly-business/bills/bills-by-legislature>. Additional information about the proposed amendments is also available here: www.alberta.ca/modernizing-municipal-processes.

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ALBERTA
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary-Hays*

I will be hosting a town hall for stakeholders to share additional information and answer questions about the proposed amendments. The town hall will take place virtually on April 16, 2025, at 6:00 PM. Please send the names and email addresses of your representative(s) who will attend to ma.engagement@gov.ab.ca. Individuals identified by your organization will receive a link ahead of the town hall.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ric McIver". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Ric McIver
Minister