



March 17, 2017

Honourable Shaye Anderson  
Minister of Municipal Affairs  
132 Legislature Building  
10800 - 97 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Minister Anderson:

One of AUMA's goals is to work with the province to create tools that municipalities can use locally to make a positive environmental impact and help address climate change. As such, we are recommending that additional changes be made to the Municipal Government Act (MGA) to allow municipalities to use local improvement taxes, special taxes and loans to support energy efficiency and clean energy projects on private property.

AUMA understands that such provisions, commonly referred to as Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing, are already being considered as part of the City Charters process. However, other municipalities, such as the Town of Devon, are keen to use PACE financing to compliment programs being rolled out under Alberta's Climate Leadership Plan and advance the speed at which energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy installations occur.

By amending the MGA to enable PACE financing, Alberta would be following best practices in Nova Scotia, Ontario and many jurisdictions in the United States. As research indicates that the most successful PACE programs are supported by a third party, the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre could provide support to municipalities in implementing such programs once the necessary legislative changes are made.

We hope you seize this opportunity to create a tool that municipalities can choose to deploy to help their residents address climate change.

Sincerely,

Lisa Holmes  
AUMA President