

## NEWS RELEASE

### ABmunis' initial response to provincial government's Police Funding Model announcement

December 19, 2025

**EDMONTON** – *The following statement is issued on behalf of Alberta Municipalities' President Dylan Bressey and the Board of Directors:*

Yesterday's Government of Alberta news release about the Police Funding Model (PFM) highlights the pressure that increased policing costs are placing on strained municipal budgets throughout Alberta.

Financial pressures such as those created by the PFM are what prompted us to launch our Property Taxes Reimagined initiative in October 2025. The initiative provides an overview of the various factors that, over the past 15 years, led to the fiscal dilemma many municipal councils currently find themselves in.

The Government of Alberta contracted the RCMP to provide provincial policing and shared the cost with the federal government until 2020. Since then, the PFM has required small communities that receive RCMP community policing to pay a percentage of the total cost. Combined with rising policing expenses, this has created additional strain on municipal finances at a time when population growth, inflation, reduced provincial funding, and restrictions on local revenue tools are already forcing municipalities to increase property taxes to maintain core services and infrastructure.

We have concerns about the timing, implementation and rollout of the PFM. Many municipalities have just set their annual budgets for 2026. When it comes to policing, an important principle is that our members have "say with pay." In this instance, the provincial government prioritized payment over governance. To date, municipalities have not had the input necessary to have confidence that their financial contributions are improving local community safety.

Alberta Municipalities believes something needs to be done to bend the "cost curve" down on policing. We know that investing in prevention is one of the best ways to accomplish this. That's why we're optimistic that the Government of Alberta will increase its annual funding for Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) by about 60 per cent in the 2026 Budget (from about \$105 million/year to \$161.5 million/year) so communities can deliver more evidence-based, preventative support services that reduce demand on more costly services like crisis intervention and policing.

Our association will continue advocating for an equitable funding model that reflects demand for services and ability to pay, strengthens oversight and accountability, and reinvests all funds raised back into front-line policing and public safety. We'll analyze the funding model announced on December 18 and speak with our members about it in the new year.

---

**Media contact:**

Scott Lundy  
Communications Manager, Alberta Municipalities  
780.668.2436  
scott@abmunis.ca  
ABmunis.ca

300, 8616 - 51 Avenue NW ■ Edmonton, AB, T6E 6E6 ■ [abmunis.ca](http://abmunis.ca) ■ [hello@abmunis.ca](mailto:hello@abmunis.ca)  
T 780.433.4431 ■ F 780.433.4454 ■ AB Toll Free 310.MUNI