

Do you have anything else to add about any aspect of municipal legislation?

Responses

Town should have more power to regulate the appointment of fire staff (greater authority and power - to appoint and remove) (Shall instead of may).

Cleaner water.

Take out newspaper ads as requirements.

Conflict of interest should be decided at provincial level.

Council every year needs to adopt a tax receivable recovery plan- what's the point if you are not allowed to recover your taxes.

You get so much more reach now with social media. Looking for more options in legislation for when communities have to advertise. Options outside print media. Give range of options. Right now it is restricted to newspapers.

There should be enforcement by MAE when municipalities don't comply with legislation- cut MOG any funding.

MAE needs to intervene more to ensure that municipalities comply with legislation.

LSD - told by government agency we wouldn't get services if we didn't become LSD. If you look at the value, you're not getting much back. I'm sure there's people there who would shoot me just like that. When I'm trying to help the town.

As a Councillor, you sign an oath while you're in office. When they leave office, that oath should carry through. They shouldn't be able to share things when they leave and if they do, the repercussion should be severe.

The legislation needs to be more user friendly.

The legislation needs to stand the test of time.

Disposing of property. Selling property for arrears of taxes. When the money paid exceeds the amount of taxes owed. Who gets the remainder? Town is only entitled to the taxes owed. Concerns with how the legislation is worded.

Too bad that there were only 4 or 5 towns/municipalities represented here tonight. If towns want funding or help from MAE/government, they should be required to come to events like this to have input.

MAE needs to do a better job communicating with LSDs.

Municipalities should have to fund things from own source revenues for things that their residents want and the provincial government should assist with funding for mandatory services.

Ensure continued existence of LSD model – there is a place for this model. People should have the choice to live where they want to receive the level of services they want.

Fundraising should be allowed.

We would have liked to have access to the document to read before the meeting tonight, very good discussion.

Emergency/disaster plan - should be a service that LSDs should provide and be supported to develop.

Large towns should have more authority for enforcement of highway act.

Great discussion.

Ability for municipal police to give fines.

No regulations for enforcement officers.

Regions are too big - LSDs and small communities are getting lost.

Provincial standards for towns to be transparent and accountable.

There should be something in municipal legislation that acknowledges or governs the unincorporated areas and the fact that they do not pay services.

In larger municipalities the facilities of the municipality get used by people who do not contribute.

Should have greater authority with regards to setting property tax structures, particularly vacant land mill rates should be variable.

No comments.

Act needs to be clearer, take away the grey areas, and make it easier to interpret - simplify and make it black and white.

Protections should be put in place to assess just cause for suspending or dismissing employees.

Wording needs to be easier to understand - education level is different.

Municipalities should be required to have mandatory group insurance.

Fishing enterprises should have to pay business taxes.

Municipalities should be able to consult with legal council internal to government.

Good night and God bless.

Give municipalities more power to act - broad powers (more supports from provincial government to use the powers) and less restrictions.

Need more provincial government help to get things done for small towns.

Need provincial government help (i.e. for fish plant removal. Provincial government should be able to step in.)

Should be more in Municipalities Act to give them more power in what they do.

If provincial government puts pressure on fish plant owners for example, it would help with these issues.

UIAs should not exist unless you are cabin owner. Even then you should have to pay for six months.

If your cabin has larger value, it should have to pay more.

Everyone should be forced to be something.

Too many municipalities but it should not lead to regionalization.

MAE doesn't have enough "teeth" to deal with huge issues.

Concern that small communities would not get money if you become part of a bigger region.

Some LSDs would like some more authority so that they could better provide more services. If they could have a little more power to enforce certain things to help better the community (i.e. Telling someone that they need to clean up their yard, noisy neighbours etc.).

Service NL is strong arm - they are enforcers but do not see what they do.

Certain services can be regional.

LSDs don't need anything from MAE, they fine the way they are operating.

As a small community we sometimes feel like we are not even part of rest of province (i.e. outside Avalon).

Issue with poll tax - LSD fee makes them exempt from poll taxes.

Want to see a draft of the proposed document. Minimum ratio and infrastructure.

Federal government should be 45% and province should be 90/10.

Put the amount of the minimum in the legislation to be the minimum of the poll tax within the town that you are working in.

Regionalization needs to be a reality. Small towns cannot handle the amount of dollars for people to stay in these remote areas.

Scope of regionalization covering up north would be way too big - need to be 4 natural areas.

Regional services in some cases.

Regionalization to keep our communities alive.

LSDs should be able to number their buildings and towns.

LSDs should be able to name streets (causing issues with mailing and emergencies).

Over-involvement of government in planning and development.

Municipalities need the ability to give written and oral warnings to residents and then collect any fees owed to them.

Legislation needs to be more modern in terms of language.

Accountability - more public discussion.

Conflict - staff should not have to retain their own lawyer.

Government should provide town plan template.

Discussions with public - working well for some municipalities.

Committee of the whole needs to be in the legislation.

MAE should have an external office for conflict interest and they determine.

Legislation would have a base prescriptive part (default) along with levels of rules and authority with which to abide.

Councils being responsive to the residents - if they want council to be more transparent and accountable, council needs to be aware of this and needs to do something about it.

Volunteer councillors need support if conflict arises.

Very good consultation process.