

# Implementation Fact Sheet

## Municipal Government Act (MGA)

### Joint Use and Planning Agreements

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#### Relevant Legislation

MGA: s.670.1, s.672, s.673  
*Education Act*: s.53.1

#### MGA requirements

Joint use and planning agreements (JUPAs) are a formal partnership between a municipality and a school board to enable the integrated and long-term planning and use of school sites on municipal reserve (MR), school reserve (SR) and municipal and school reserve (MSR) land. More than one municipality or school board may be a party to a JUPA.

On June 10, 2020 the MGA was amended to require municipalities to enter into JUPAs with school boards. These agreements must be in place by June 10, 2023.

#### What do municipalities need to know?

Municipalities are required to enter into JUPAs with school boards operating within their municipal boundaries. This requirement also applies to any other school board that may commence operations in the future. s.670.1(1),(2)

A JUPA must establish a process for discussing:

- the planning, development and use of school sites on MR, SR and MSR land in the municipality;
- the transferring of MR, SR and MSR land between a municipality and a school board (s.672, s.673 of the MGA);
- the disposal of school sites;
- the servicing of school sites on MR, SR and MSR land; and
- the use of school facilities, municipal facilities and playing fields on MR, SR and MSR land,

including the maintenance of facilities and fields and the payment of fees and other liabilities associated with them. s.670.1(3)(a)(i)-(v)

A JUPA must also:

- outline how a municipality and school board will work collaboratively;
- establish a dispute resolution procedure; and
- establish a timeframe for regular review of the agreement. s.670.1(b)-(d)

Municipalities and school boards who have existing Joint Use Agreements in place should review their agreements to ensure that they meet the JUPA requirements set out in the MGA.

JUPAs will be reported on as part of the municipal Statistical Information Return.

The Ministers of Municipal Affairs and Education have the authority to extend the three-year timeline requirement for entering into a JUPA.

#### What resources are available to assist?

To learn more about the MGA or *Education Act* visit: Alberta Queen's Printer at: <https://www.qp.alberta.ca/>

#### Questions:

Phone: 780-427-2225  
Toll-free in Alberta: 310-0000  
Email: [lqsmail@gov.ab.ca](mailto:lqsmail@gov.ab.ca)

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To learn more about the MGA or *Education Act* visit: Alberta Queen's Printers at: <https://www.qp.alberta.ca/>

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