



Implementation Fact Sheet

Amendments to the Municipal Government Act, 2015-17

Public Participation Policy

Legislation	Municipal Government Act (MGA) 
Regulation	Public Participation Policy Regulation 
Category	Governance
Section Number	s. 216

Previous MGA requirement:

The MGA did not require municipal public participation policies.

What's changed?

- Municipalities are required to adopt a public participation policy. [s.216.1\(1\)](#)







What do municipalities need to know?

- The new requirements clarify how each municipality approaches public engagement, and will provide citizens and stakeholders with an understanding of when and how they will be engaged.
- Ensure that any existing or newly created public participation policy meets the new requirements:
 - the policy must identify the types or categories of approaches the municipality will use to engage municipal stakeholders, and the types or categories of circumstances in which the municipality will engage municipal stakeholders;
 - make the policy available for public inspection, which may include posting it on the municipality's website; and
 - review the policy at least once every four (4) years.

When does this change take place?

- These sections come into force October 26, 2017.
- Municipalities must establish a public participation policy by July 23, 2018 (270 days (9 months) from the date it came into force.

What resources are/will there be available to assist?

- Sample Template and Bylaws are under development (AUMA/AAMDC). 
- [Municipal Affairs Regional Training Sessions](#). 
- Public Input Toolkit www.municipalaffairs.alberta.ca/documents/MDRS/AMA_Public_Input_Toolkit_Sept2014.pdf 
- [Citizen Engagement Toolkit and Social Media Resource](#) (AUMA/AAMDC). 
- [Elected Officials Education Program](#) (EOEP) – www.eoep.ca (AAMDC/AUMA) 
- [Municipal Government Amendment Act, 2015](#) 

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