



May 7, 2021

Laurie Hodge, CAE, Executive Director/Registrar
Alberta Assessors' Association
10555 172 Street
Edmonton, AB T5S 1P1
Email: lhodge@assessor.ab.ca

Dear Ms. Hodge:

The Alberta Urban Municipalities Association ("AUMA") wishes to express its support for the re-application by the Alberta Assessors' Association ("Association") for certification under the amended *Professional and Occupational Associations Registration Act* ("POARA").

It is our understanding that existing organizations registered under the POARA are required to validate their objects and purpose within the revised legislation to ensure alignment with new sections. We note specifically section 7(1.1), "...the degree to which the association serves to protect the public interest and the interest of public safety by safeguarding (a) life, health and the environment, and (b) the property and economic interests of the public."

The work of the Association's regulated property tax assessors is essential to ensuring the funding of service delivery in many municipalities. AUMA has worked with the Association as a stakeholder organization in our work representing urban municipalities across Alberta. We cannot understate the importance of the work of professional assessors to our membership and the surety provided by the regulatory framework within which they practice.

Urban municipalities across Alberta understand the value of a letter stating their Assessor is a member in good standing with the Association. It is testament to the training, experience and skills required by the practice that is consistent across all practicing members. Confirmation that an Assessor is a member in good standing of the Association gives our membership confidence that the assessments prepared by the members of the Association are compliant with legislation and prepared using best practices.

The AUMA has also had occasion to call upon the Association and its members to aid in understanding technical matters related to assessment, including data collection; data review and processing; and the assessment roll. Assessment is a specialized process within Alberta's property valuation industry. We acknowledge both the skill of individual assessors and the rigour of their training. The importance of ongoing professional development and adherence to a professional code of conduct is appreciated by municipalities. In that, we acknowledge the Association's commitment to serving the public interest and to ensuring the highest standards of professionalism of its members.

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We recommend and hope that the Minister of Labour and Immigration approves the Alberta Assessors' Association's application for registration under the amended POARA based on their submission. Please feel free to include this letter in the Association's submission and encourage the Minister to contact members of AUMA's Board or Administration to discuss our support for the Association's application.

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please feel free to contact me by email at president@auma.ca or on my cell phone at (403) 363-9224.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barry Morishita', written in a cursive style.

Barry Morishita
AUMA President

Cc: Scott Powell, President, Alberta Assessors' Association