

February 13, 2025

AR117690

Dear Chief Elected Official:

Joint use and planning agreements (JUPAs) between municipalities and school boards operating within municipal boundaries enable the integrated and long-term planning and use of school sites on municipal reserve, school reserve, and municipal and school reserve lands.

On June 10, 2020, Section 670.1 of the *Municipal Government Act* was proclaimed, setting the deadline for municipalities to complete these agreements with the applicable school boards to June 10, 2023. A two-year extension was granted to June 10, 2025, via Ministerial Order No. MSD:013/23.

The ministries of Municipal Affairs and Education have heard from municipalities and school boards about the challenges of meeting this year's deadline. My colleague, the Honourable Demetrios Nicolaides, Minister of Education, and I have agreed to extend the deadline for municipalities and school boards by one year, to June 10, 2026, to provide sufficient time to complete these agreements. As a result, Ministerial Order MSD:013/23 is rescinded and Ministerial Order No. MSD:004/25 is now in effect. Please find attached a copy of the new Ministerial Order.

Municipal Affairs advisory staff can provide additional supports to municipalities to assist with the development of these agreements. Questions regarding JUPAs can be directed to a planning advisor at <u>ma.advisory@gov.ab.ca</u>, or call toll-free by first dialing 310-0000, then 780-427-2225. Should municipalities require support to mediate discussions with school boards, please email <u>municipalcollaboration@gov.ab.ca</u>, or call the number above for more information.

Sincerely,

Ric Mclver

Ric Mclver Minister

Attachment: Ministerial Order No. MSD:004/25

cc: Honourable Demetrios Nicolaides, Minister of Education