



ALBERTA COMMUNITY AND CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION  
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**March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Dear fellow co-operators,

I am pleased to announce that as part of our efforts to scale up the government relations value ACCA provides to you, our members, we are establishing a formal process to ensure our government relations work is driven by the priorities of our member co-operatives.

The purpose of this communication is to introduce you to this new process, why it is important to our government relations work, and how you can participate in it.

This new process will build on the success of our 2020 AGM where we selected two initial policy priorities to guide ACCA's government relations and advocacy efforts; 1) seeking a securities filing exemption for co-operatives, and 2) increasing rural broadband connectivity. While these two issues are a good start, and although we are making progress on each of them through focused advocacy, we know there are more policy issues facing Alberta co-operatives that must be addressed.

That is why ***in advance of the 2021 ACCA AGM, we are asking for your help identifying those issues where government policy is impacting your co-operative.*** This could include legislation, regulations, or other government decisions that impact your co-operative's sustainability, your business value, or your members.

**I have attached a template and a sample submission for your co-operative to submit your policy issues to ACCA.** There is no limit on the number of submissions, but we ask that you please complete one submission for each separate policy issue.

**The deadline for these submissions is April 9th, 2021.** This will allow ACCA to consolidate all of the member policy submissions into a draft advocacy platform for discussion and approval at ACCA's AGM on May 28.

Following the AGM, ACCA staff will work with our Government and Stakeholder Relations Committee to formulate an action plan to advocate on behalf of our members priorities based on the policy issues identified by you, our members. Our ultimate goal is to repeat this process every year ahead of ACCA's AGM so there is a predictable and regular process our members can use to ensure their government relations priorities are the basis of ACCA's advocacy for the co-operative system in Alberta.

As with any new process, we expect there to be a learning curve for ACCA as we implement this. That is why I will be contacting you directly to follow up on this announcement and seek your perspective on how it could be useful to your co-operative. In the meantime, and as always, I invite your feedback and your questions.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Cabaj', is positioned above the printed name.

Paul Cabaj  
Executive Director