



NEW ERA
**Community
Charter**

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Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services

Development Process

- In 1991 UBCM passed a *Local Government Bill of Rights*
- In August 2001, *Community Charter Council Act* enacted
- In August 2001, government established the Community Charter Council

New Era Commitments

- Outlaw offloading of costs on to municipal government
- Give local governments greater autonomy and better planning tools to reduce pressure on property taxes

B.C. Communities Empowered

- Currently councils do not have enough authority to make local decisions locally
- The Community Charter provides councils:
 - broad authority to provide services
 - new tools to carry out their business
- Increased efficiency and effectiveness including the ability to develop P3's

Improved Provincial-Local Relationship

- Currently provincial government can act without consultation
- The Community Charter provides for:
 - recognition as an Order of Government
 - enhanced consultation with communities
 - reduced provincial approvals of local actions
- Resulting in better relationships between orders of government

Greater Municipal Council Accountability

- Currently no requirement exists for councils to report results
- The Community Charter provides for
 - more municipal disclosure and reporting of results to citizens
 - enhanced ethical standards
- Resulting in more municipal council accountability to citizens

Modern Day Legislation

- The Community Charter will be the most empowering municipal legislation in Canada
 - Provincial interests addressed
 - Municipal interests addressed
 - Citizen interests addressed

Decisions Required

- Cabinet approval to table policy paper and draft Community Charter in Legislature
- Begin public consultation process