



RMA
RURAL MUNICIPALITIES
of ALBERTA

ICFs and ASSET MANAGEMENT

IAMA Workshop, June 13, 2018

Current Intermunicipal Collaboration – how and why?

- Voluntary
- Service efficiencies
- Reduced resources
- Improved levels of service
- Support viability
- Alternative to worse consequences – dissolution, etc.

Current Intermunicipal Collaboration - Barriers

- Personalities
- Autonomy/identity
- Different visions
- Decision-making
- Capacity



Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks

- Included in amendments to *Municipal Government Act*
- ICFs must be completed between all municipalities sharing a common boundary
- Flexibility built in:
 - Regional
 - Different services
- Two years to complete

A dark blue-tinted photograph of a rural landscape. In the foreground, several large, cylindrical haystacks are scattered across a field. The middle ground shows a line of trees or a fence. In the background, a range of mountains is visible under a cloudy sky. The overall mood is somber and quiet.

ICFs – What are they?

A blue-tinted landscape featuring a field of hay bales in the foreground and mountains in the background. The text is overlaid in white, serif font.

A tool to facilitate cooperation between
neighbouring municipalities to ensure
municipal services are provided to residents
efficiently

A blue-tinted photograph of a rural landscape. In the foreground, there are several large, rectangular haystacks. The middle ground shows a field with rows of crops, possibly corn. In the background, there are rolling hills or mountains under a cloudy sky. The overall scene is dimly lit, with a strong blue color cast.

Great. So...again...what are they?

Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks

Five areas **MUST** be addressed in ICFs:

- Transportation
- Water/wastewater
- Solid waste
- Emergency services
- Recreation

Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks

- ICFs can also include other services that the municipalities choose to include
- Including a service in an ICF does not mean it has to be delivered collaboratively. It means the possibility of delivering it collaboratively must be discussed in good faith.
- ICFs must be completed by April 2020

Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks

- RMA/AUMA/GOA ICF Workbook
 - Step-by-step interactive workbook to support development of ICFs
 - Find it on RMA, AUMA, and GOA websites

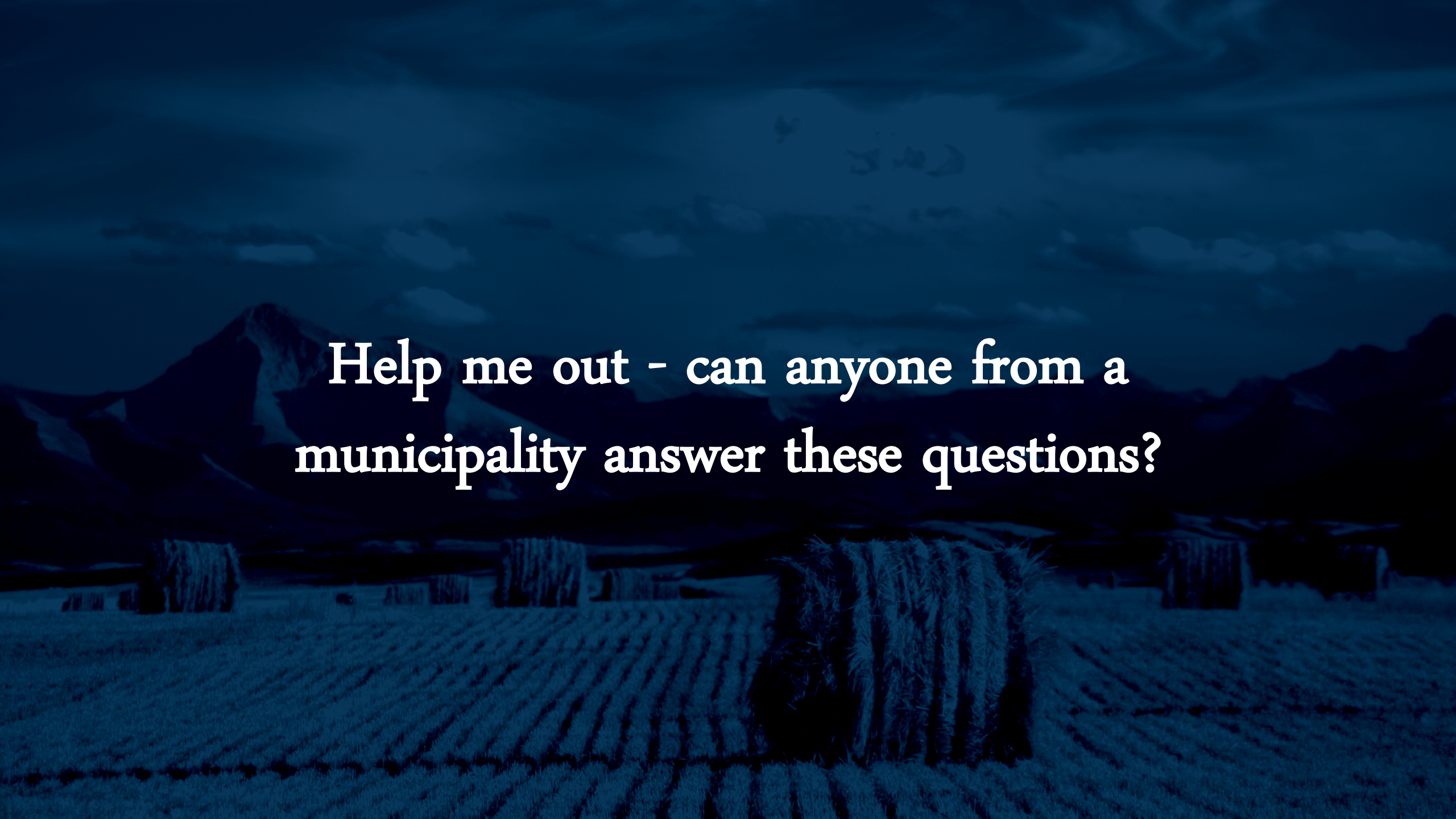
A blue-tinted landscape featuring a field of hay bales in the foreground and mountains in the background. The text is centered in the middle of the image.

**When is the asset management part going to
be discussed?**

How can we use ICFs to support AM?

- Can we?
- Does asset management lend itself to intermunicipal collaboration?
- Is collaborative asset management already in practice?



A blue-tinted photograph of a rural landscape. In the foreground, several large, rectangular hay bales are scattered across a field. The middle ground shows a line of trees or a fence. In the background, there are dark, silhouetted mountains under a cloudy sky. The overall scene is dimly lit, with the blue tint giving it a cool, somewhat somber atmosphere.

Help me out - can anyone from a
municipality answer these questions?

How can we use ICFs to support AM?

- Should asset management practices and capacities be a consideration when a council is deciding on whether to collaborate on a service?
 - How can you collaborate on a service that is provided at different levels in different municipalities?
 - Does this present risks to one or both municipalities?
 - Can service levels be different yet approaches be the same?

How can we use ICFs to support AM?

- Can asset management itself be a shared service?
- Can municipalities work together to move forward asset management?
 - Purchasing/spending (software, data collection risk assessments, etc.)
 - Leadership/capacity building (policy development, cross-sectional [or even regional] working groups, decision-making processes)



How can we use AM to support ICFs?

- Can asset management be a guiding framework around determining shared services?
 - It likely already is, even if it's not formulated through formal “asset management planning”
 - If collaborating allows for improved service levels, risk management, efficiency, etc. it will likely move forward



How can we use AM to support ICFs?

- Does it make sense for two (willing) municipalities to use asset management planning to collaboratively provide a given service in both of their municipalities?
 - Share resources (knowledge, software, etc.)
 - Jointly determine LOS, risk, etc. for assets in both municipalities linked to the shared service

What would be needed and is it realistic?

- Shared asset inventory?
- Shared software?
- Shared staff and expertise
- Formal agreement to pursue asset management, or informal use of asset management in background of other service agreements?



The background is a dark blue-tinted photograph of a rural landscape. In the foreground, there are several large, cylindrical hay bales scattered across a field. In the middle ground, there are some structures that look like small huts or sheds. In the background, there are mountains under a cloudy sky. The overall tone is somber and contemplative.

Final questions to consider:

Is this realistic?

Is this already happening?

**Are ICFs a realistic tool for a regional focus
on AM?**