

19 October 2021

On behalf of the Alberta Council for Global Cooperation (ACGC), I would like to offer congratulations to all mayors, councillors, and school trustees elected in the 2021 Alberta Municipal Elections.

Rural and urban communities play a critical role in driving the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). According to UN Habitat, approximately 23% of all SDG global indicators have a measurable local or urban component. Through addressing pressing issues such as affordable housing, sustainable transportation, and waste management, municipal governments help create a pathway toward an equitable and sustainable future for all people. I encourage all newly elected officials to review the [UN SDGs](#) and [Moving Forward Together: Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy](#), and take immediate and concrete actions to forward this agenda within your own jurisdictions. To the newly elected mayors of Alberta's largest cities – Amarjeet Sohi in Edmonton and Jyoti Gondek in Calgary – I trust you will continue the progress made by your predecessors in championing the SDGs on a local and global stage. I look forward to future collaboration.

Alberta school trustees have a crucial role to play to ensure the achievement of [SDG 4: Quality Education](#) in Alberta. Championing a public education system that is inclusive and responsive to the needs of all learners is not only critical for the development of our children, but also for the future sustainability of our province. I encourage all trustees to ensure that learners within their districts are provided the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills as global citizens (*SDG 4.7*), so they may thrive in our diverse and interconnected world.

Finally, I would like to highlight all Albertans who worked tirelessly to ensure peaceful, free, and fair elections across our province. To all those listed on ballots, as well as those who worked behind the scenes, thank you for your efforts to uphold and strengthen our democratic process, especially in light of the difficulties posed by the pandemic. I applaud your willingness to serve our province.

Sincerely,



Leah Ettarh
Executive Director, ACGC