
Municipal Progress Reporting

Accountability for Modern Local Government

Meagan Gergley
Ministry of Community Services

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Local Government Knowledge Partnership



University
of Victoria

School of
Public Administration



Ministry of
Community Services

Overview

- Local government accountability and the legislative framework
 - Municipal annual reporting
 - BC vs. other jurisdictions
 - Approach to implementation
 - Where are we today?
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Community Charter

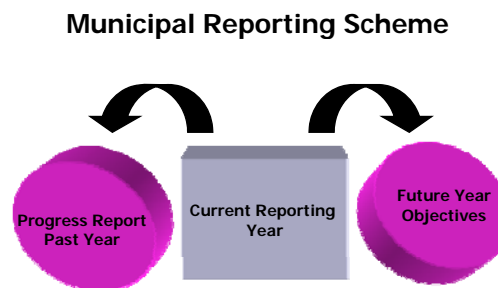
- Broad municipal empowerment
 - How much authority?
 - Checks and balances?

- Modern local government accountability
 - Open and transparent governance
 - Strategic management of public organizations
 - Performance planning, monitoring and reporting
 - Opportunities for citizen participation

Progress Reporting Structure

- **Reporting Requirements**
 - Council objectives
 - Measures
 - Report on progress/results
 - Annual public meeting

- **Flexible requirement**
- **No standardized reporting format**
- **Relevant to local conditions**
- **Tailored to community interests**



How is BC's Approach Different?

British Columbia

- Public accountability tool
- Strategic approach to decision-making
- Council discretion on setting objectives & measures
- Report on progress and accomplishments
- Laissez-faire approach to measures as mgt. and administrative tool

Other Jurisdictions

- Management and administrative tool
- Performance measurement
- Common indicators
- Standardized measures
- Report on operations (efficiency and effectiveness measures)

Implementation (2003-Present)

■ Partnership and Consultation

- Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM)
- Provincial Government
- Local Government Mgt. Association (LGMA)

■ Evaluation

- Local Government Survey and Workshop
- Local Government Institute Research Projects

■ Strong focus on municipal capacity building

- Advisory materials
- Training
- Information sharing



Early Issues and Challenges

- Resistance to progress reporting
 - Organizational change
 - Political barriers (e.g. Council engagement)
 - Resource barriers
 - Challenge for smaller communities
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Municipal Best Practices

- Strategic orientation
 - Council engagement
 - Align with financial processes
 - Balance between financial and non-financial goals
 - Communication and transparency
 - Practical and relevant to the public
 - Community engagement
 - Internal capacity building
 - Broad staff involvement
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What is Next for BC?

- Focus on the process
 - Council engagement
 - Citizen participation
 - Promote Innovation
 - Profile Best Practices
 - UBCM Excellence Awards
 - Benchmarking
 - Continued focus on building municipal capacity
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