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DEVELOPING A STRATEGIC VISION PROJECT BACKGROUND MATERIAL SUMMARY SHEET

1. Title

Trade, Investment & Labour Mobility Agreement

2. Location:

www.tilma.ca/

3. Year Published:

April 2006

4. Brief Summary:

TILMA is a Provincial trade agreement between the Provinces of British Columbia and Alberta that came into effect April 1, 2007. It is intended to liberalize trade, investment and labour mobility between the two provinces; however, the agreement is set up in such a way that every aspect of trade, investment and labour mobility is covered by the agreement unless it is "expressly excluded." This raises the possibility that British Columbia municipalities and regional districts could be required to change their bylaws for zoning, subdivision development, noise, business, tax exemption and other such matters as environmental protection and waste disposal to conform to the provincial agreement.

TILMA is seen as favourable to business (which is the whole purpose of the agreement) but may weaken bylaws that are intended to protect the environment, public health and other municipal and regional district areas of concern. It is important for local governments to identify what needs to be "expressly excluded" from TILMA. There is a two-year transition/consultation period during which time the province and the municipalities and regional districts can review the possible impact of the agreement. The Union of B.C. Municipalities (UBCM) has become involved in the consultation process.

5. Opinion on Relevance to Project:

Residents need to ensure that community values and interests and bylaws to support such values and interests are "expressly excluded" from the TILMA agreement before the deadline for April 2009.

6. Categories Covered:

Governance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Economy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Environment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Others (Specify): _____

7. Reviewer: