



VILLAGE OF WARNER

BOX 88, WARNER, ALBERTA, T0K 2L0
PHONE 642-3877 FAX 642-2011

AGENDA FOR THE REGULAR AND CLOSED MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF WARNER, IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, TO BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT THE WARNER MUNICIPAL OFFICE, WEDNESDAY – AUGUST 21, 2024 AT 5:30 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. DELEGATIONS

3. AGENDA

- A) Items added or deleted
- B) Adoption of the Agenda

4. REPORTS/FINANCIALS

- A) Approval of the June 12, 2024 Regular Council meeting minutes
- B) Municipal Enforcement Report
- C) Chief Administrative Officer Report
 - C.1) Resolutions
 - C.2) Water Report
- D) Financial Report
- E) Committee Reports

5. ITEMS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES & CORRESPONDENCE

- A) Correspondence

6. BYLAW/AGREEMENTS / POLICY REVIEW

- A) Bylaw Repeals

7. ACTION ITEMS/COUNCIL DECISION

- A) Riding Arena
- B) Alberta Municipalities Convention Resolution Book
- C) Airport Insurance
- D) Village of Warner Library Appointment
- E) Tax Penalty Waiver Request

8. CLOSED MEETING

- A) Section 17: Disclosure harmful to personal privacy

9. NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday – September 18, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT



Request for Decision Adoption of Minutes

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes for the June 12, 2024 regular council meeting be accepted as presented.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Municipal Government Act, Section 208(1)(a)
Bylaw 561-18 Procedural Bylaw

BACKGROUND

As per the MGA and the Village's Procedural Bylaw, minutes are to be recorded and given to council for adoption at a subsequent council meeting.

RISKS/CONSEQUENCES

1. By not approving the previous meetings minutes, Council would then not approve the decisions they made, as recorded and no motion would be actioned by administration.
2. The minutes of the Council meetings can be adopted as amended; Council would need to be specific in an amendment to the recording of the previous meetings minutes.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None

ATTACHMENTS

1. Prior to Adoption: June 12, 2024, regular council meeting minutes

Prior to Adoption

Minutes of the Village of Warner Regular and Closed Council meeting held on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. in the Warner Municipal Office, at 210 – 3rd Avenue, Warner, Alberta.

Present – Elected Officials

Mayor Tyler Lindsay, Councillor Don Toovey, Deputy Mayor Marty Kirby, Councillor Chris Koehn, and Councillor Derek Baron

Absent – Elected Officials

Present – Administration

Kelly Lloyd, Chief Administrative Officer
Kim Owen, Director of Corporate Services

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lindsay called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

2. DELEGATIONS

A) Dieslr Corp.

Not in attendance.

B) Anita Fewer

Ms. Fewer was in attendance to speak to opposing the granted urban bee permit.

Moved by Councillor Baron, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that the discussion regarding the urban bee permit be accepted as information."

Motion Carried 2024-116

3. AGENDA

A) Items added or deleted

Added: 7G) Library Appointment

B) Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Councillor Toovey, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that the June 12, 2024, regular council meeting agenda be accepted as amended."

Motion Carried 2024-117

Moved by Councillor Baron, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that the agenda for June 12 be amended to state the correct meeting date as June 12 and to correct the date of the last meeting minutes to be approved as May 15."

Motion Carried 2024-118

4. REPORTS/FINANCIALS

A) Approval of May 15, 2024, Regular Council Meeting minutes

Moved by Deputy Mayor Kirby, seconded by Councillor Toovey, "to approve the May 15,

2024 minutes with an amendment on item 4D adding Deputy to Mayor Kirby as seconding the motion."

Motion Carried 2024-119

B) Municipal Enforcement Report

Moved by Councillor Koehn, seconded by Councillor Toovey, "that the Municipal Enforcement report for the period ending May 31, 2024, be accepted as information."

Motion Carried 2024-120

C) Chief Administrative Officer Report

Moved by Councillor Toovey, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that the Chief Administrative Officer report for the period ending May 31, 2024, be accepted as information."

Motion Carried 2024-121

D) Financial Report

None.

E) Committee Reports

Councillor Koehn did not have a report for this meeting.

Councillor Toovey attended a Ridge Country Housing meeting, a Ridge Regional Public Safety Services meeting, and updated on the Heritage Handi-Bus activities.

Mayor Lindsay attended a Ridge Water Services Commission meeting. Water consumption is down overall and 8.4% down in Warner.

Deputy Mayor Kirby did not have a report for this meeting.

Councillor Baron spoke to the Milk River Health Professionals Attraction and Retention Committee meeting.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Kirby, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that the committee reports for the period ending June 12, 2024, be accepted as information."

Motion Carried 2024-122

5. ITEMS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES & CORRESPONDENCE

A) Correspondence

Moved by Councillor Toovey, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that the correspondence for the period ending June 12, 2024, be accepted as information."

Motion Carried 2024-123

6. BYLAW/AGREEMENTS / POLICY REVIEW

A) 2024 Tax Rate Bylaw 628-24

Moved by Councillor Koehn, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kirby, "that first reading be given to the 2024 Tax Rate Bylaw 628-24."

Motion Carried 2024-124

Moved by Councillor Toovey, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that second reading be given to the 2024 Tax Rate Bylaw 628-24."

Motion Carried 2024-125

Moved by Councillor Koehn, seconded by Councillor Toovey, "that unanimous consent be given to present for third reading of the 2024 Tax Rate Bylaw 628-24."

Motion Carried 2024-126

Moved by Mayor Lindsay, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that the third and final reading be given to the 2024 Tax Rate Bylaw 628-24."

Motion Carried 2024-127

B) Water Use and Conservation Bylaw 629-24

Moved by Councillor Baron, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that first reading be given to the Water Use and Conservation Bylaw 629-24."

Motion Carried 2024-128

Discussion to remove provision 3.1.2 as well as the first part of 3.4.

Moved by Councillor Toovey, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that second reading be given to the Water Use and Conservation Bylaw 629-24, with amendments."

Motion Carried 2024-129

Moved by Deputy Mayor Kirby, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that unanimous consent be given to present for third reading of the Water Use and Conservation Bylaw 629-24, with amendments."

Motion Carried 2024-130

Moved by Councillor Baron, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that the third and final reading be given to the Water Use and Conservation Bylaw 629-24, with amendments."

Motion Carried 2024-131

C) Lions Campground Rules Policy 702

Moved by Mayor Lindsay, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that Council approve the Lions Campground Rules Policy 702, as amended to include a schedule outlining the boundaries of the campground site."

Motion Carried 2024-132

7. ACTION ITEMS/COUNCIL DECISION

A) Transfer Station Hours

Moved by Councillor Baron, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that the Transfer Station Hour discussion be accepted as information."

Motion Carried 2024-133

B) 10 Year Capital Plan

Moved by Mayor Lindsay, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that the 2024-2033 Capital Plan be approved as presented."

Motion Carried 2024-134

C) July Council Meeting

Moved by Mayor Lindsay, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that Council cancel the July 17, 2024 council meeting."

Motion Carried 2024-135

D) Riding Arena

Moved by Mayor Lindsay, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that Council directs administration to conduct public engagement and gather feedback to the proposed riding arena at the Civic Centre."

Motion Carried 2024-136

E) Library Appointment

Moved by Councillor Toovey, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that Council approve Barbara Hoytos as the Village of Warner Library Board's financial reviewer for the library's financial statements."

Motion Carried 2024-137

8. CLOSED MEETING

9. NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday – August 21, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Deputy Mayor Kirby, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that the regular council meeting for June 12, 2024, adjourn at 7:12 p.m."

Motion Carried 2024-138

Tyler Lindsay
Mayor

Kelly Lloyd
Chief Administrative Officer

These minutes were approved on the XXX day of XXXX 2024.



Request for Decision Municipal Enforcement Report

RECOMMENDATION

That the Municipal Enforcement report for the period ending July 31, 2024, be accepted as information.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Peace Officer Act
Various municipal bylaws

BACKGROUND

The Village of Warner joined the Ridge Regional Public Safety Services Commission in 2019. The Commission serves the municipalities of Coutts, Magrath, Milk River, Raymond, Stirling, Warner and County of Warner.

The Village Council receives a monthly report, to provide information on the number and types of incidents that violate municipal bylaws.

RISKS/CONSEQUENCES

1. Council may provide further direction on any item contained in the report. Council shall be specific in the direction it provides.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None

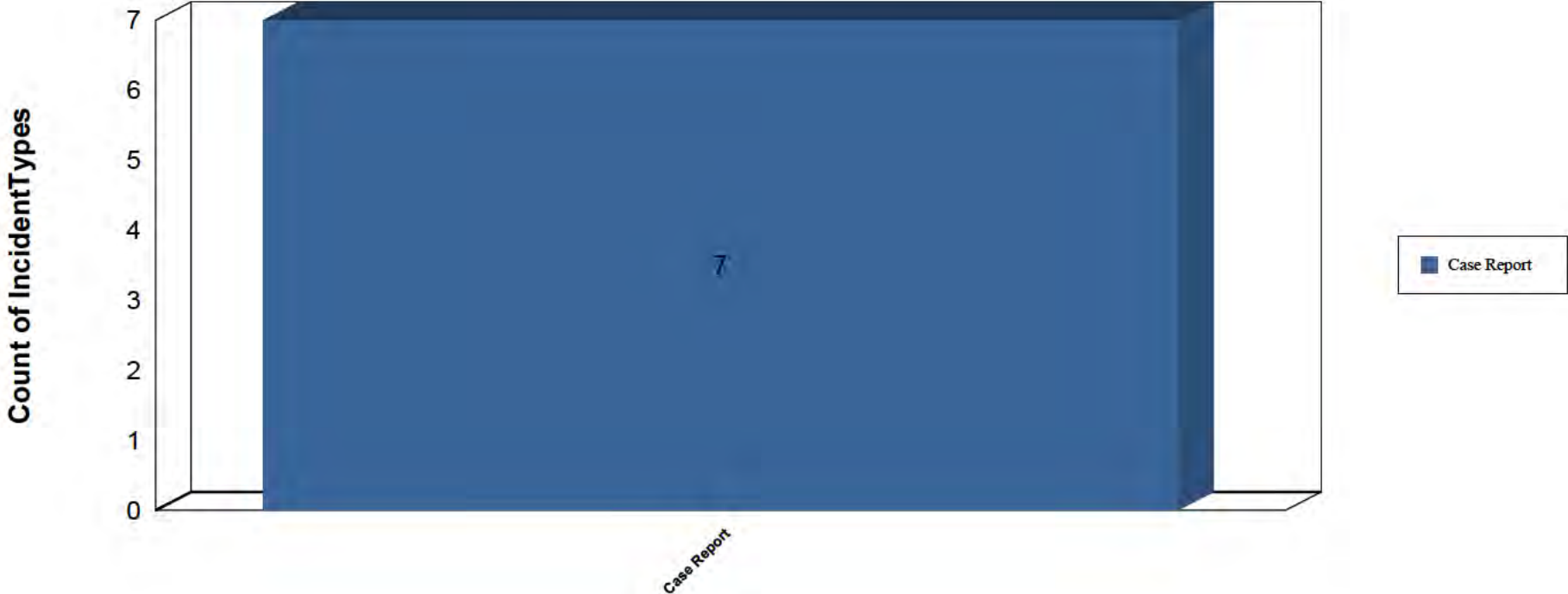
ATTACHMENTS

1. Municipal Enforcement Report

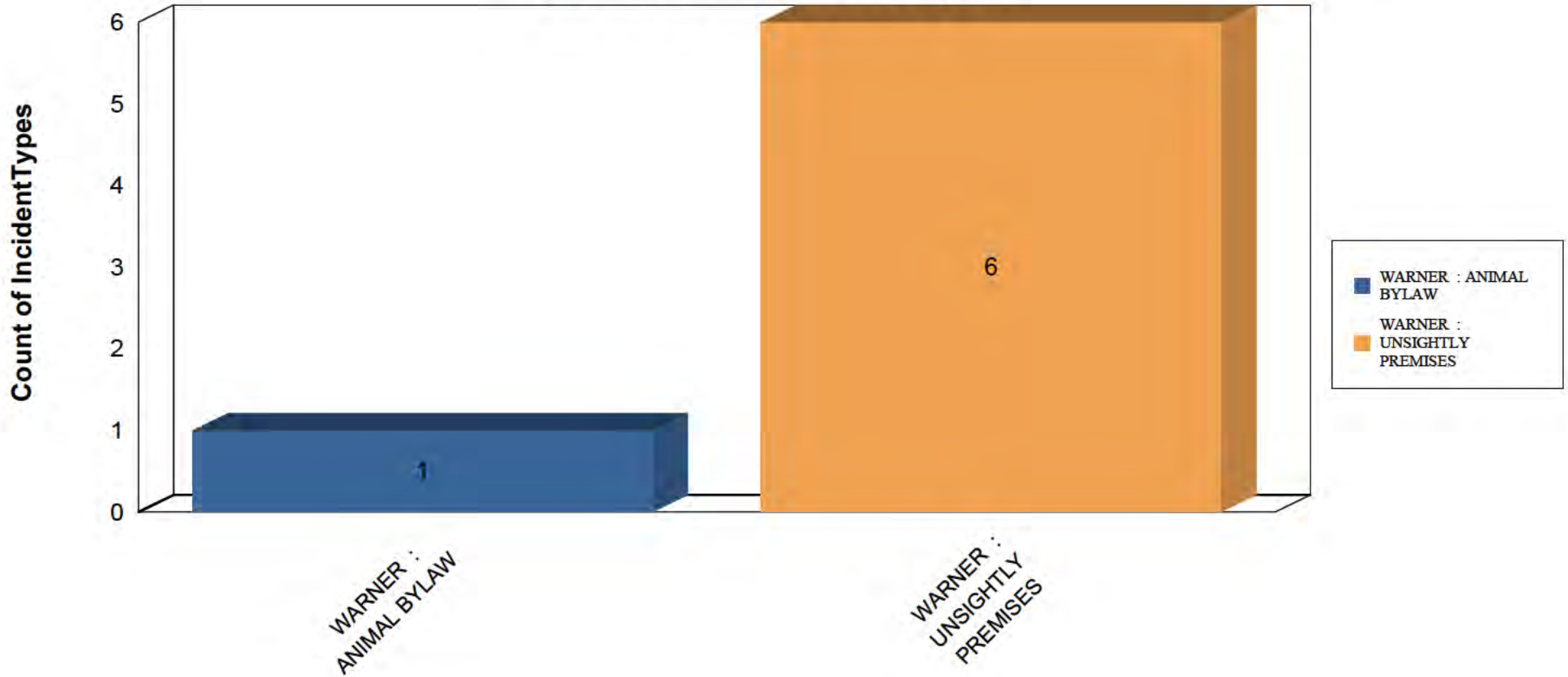
Municipal Enforcement

Statistics from: 6/1/2024 12:00:00AM to 6/30/2024 11:59:00PM

Count of Reports Completed



Count of Incident Types



WARNER : ANIMAL BYLAW

<u>Location</u>	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Incident Type</u>	<u>Officer</u>	<u>Date</u>
Case Report RIDGE REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES : WARNER	RRPSS2024-0195	WARNER : ANIMAL BYLAW	TODD NELSON	2024/06/01 1558

Specific Location

[REDACTED]

Report [REDACTED] mplaint of a Bee Hive within town limits.

14.29% # of Reports: 1 Case Report WARNER : ANIMAL BYLAW

WARNER : UNSIGHTLY PREMISES

<u>Location</u>	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Incident Type</u>	<u>Officer</u>	<u>Date</u>
Case Report RIDGE REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES : WARNER	RRPSS2024-0196	WARNER : UNSIGHTLY PREMISES	ROSS BOND	2024/06/03 1200
<u>Specific Location</u> [REDACTED]				
<u>Report Synopsis</u> : overgrown grass on vacant commercial property				
Case Report RIDGE REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES : WARNER	RRPSS2024-0218	WARNER : UNSIGHTLY PREMISES	ROSS BOND	2024/06/11 1115
<u>Specific Location</u> [REDACTED]				
<u>Report Synopsis</u> : unsightly vacant lot with overgrown grass/weeds				
Case Report RIDGE REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES : WARNER	RRPSS2024-0220	WARNER : UNSIGHTLY PREMISES	ROSS BOND	2024/06/12 1045
<u>Specific Location</u> [REDACTED]				
<u>Report Synopsis</u> : unsightly property with overgrown grass/weeds				
Case Report RIDGE REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES : WARNER	RRPSS2024-0221	WARNER : UNSIGHTLY PREMISES	ROSS BOND	2024/06/12 1050
<u>Specific Location</u> [REDACTED]				
<u>Report Synopsis</u> : unsightly vacant premises with overgrown grass/weeds				
Case Report RIDGE REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES : WARNER	RRPSS2024-0225	WARNER : UNSIGHTLY PREMISES	BRANDON BERG	2024/06/17 1406
<u>Specific Location</u> [REDACTED]				
<u>Report Synopsis</u> : tall grass and weeds				
Case Report RIDGE REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES : WARNER	RRPSS2024-0226	WARNER : UNSIGHTLY PREMISES	BRANDON BERG	2024/06/27 1143
<u>Specific Location</u> [REDACTED]				
<u>Report Synopsis</u> : tall grass/weeds				

85.71% # of Reports: 6 Case Report WARNER : UNSIGHTLY PREMISES

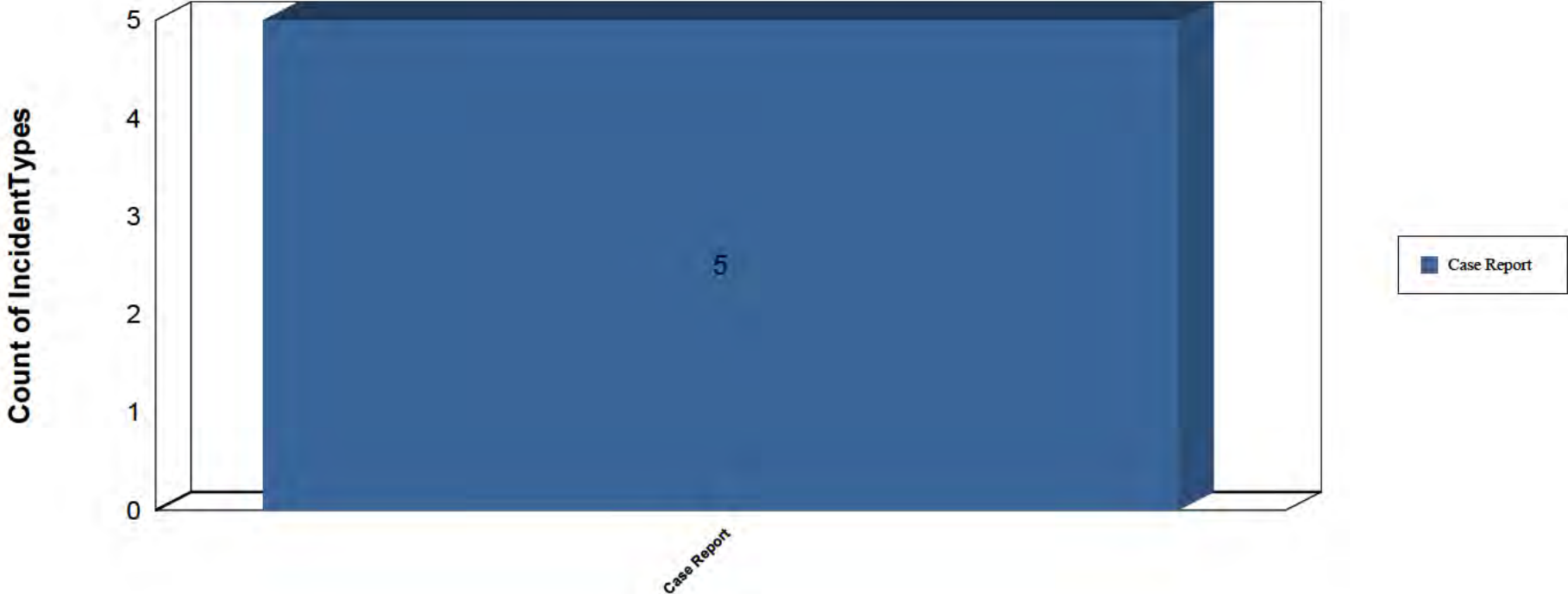
Grand Total: 100.00% Total # of Incident Types Reported: 7 Total # of Reports: 7

Grand Total: 100.00% Total # of Incident Types Reported: 7

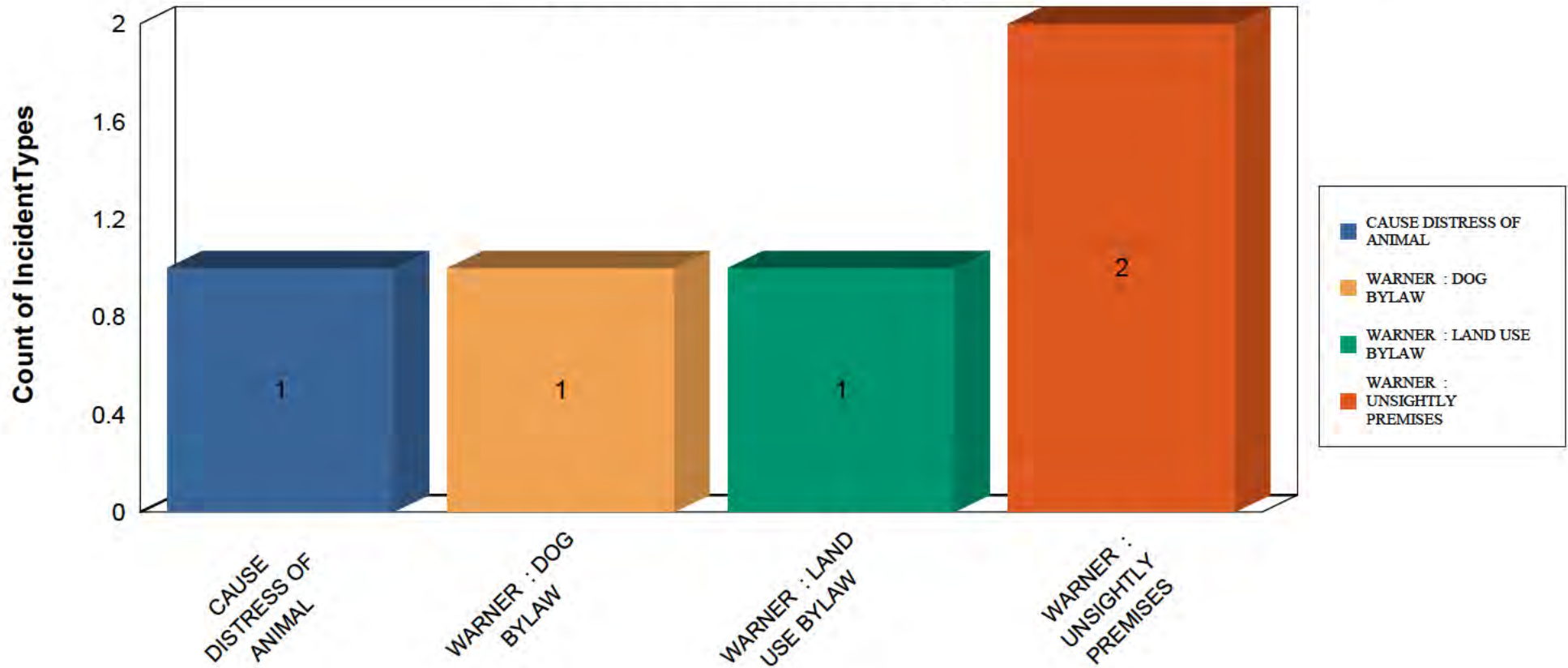
Municipal Enforcement

Statistics from: 7/1/2024 12:00:00AM to 7/31/2024 11:59:00PM

Count of Reports Completed



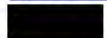
Count of Incident Types



ANIMAL PROTECTION ACT : CAUSE DISTRESS OF ANIMAL

<u>Location</u>	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Incident Type</u>	<u>Officer</u>	<u>Date</u>
Case Report RIDGE REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES : WARNER	RRPSS2024-0334	ANIMAL PROTECTION ACT : CAUSE DISTRESS OF ANIMAL	TODD NELSON	2024/07/25 1528

Specific Location



Report Synopsis : complaint of dog being left outside for 2 weeks

20.00% # of Reports: 1 Case Report ANIMAL PROTECTION ACT : CAUSE DISTRESS OF ANIMAL

WARNER : DOG BYLAW

<u>Location</u>	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Incident Type</u>	<u>Officer</u>	<u>Date</u>
Case Report RIDGE REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES : WARNER	RRPSS2024-0343	WARNER : DOG BYLAW	BRANDON BERG	2024/07/31 0849

Specific Location
[REDACTED]

Report Synopsis : barking dog

20.00% # of Reports: 1 Case Report WARNER : DOG BYLAW

WARNER : LAND USE BYLAW

<u>Location</u>	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Incident Type</u>	<u>Officer</u>	<u>Date</u>
Case Report RIDGE REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES : WARNER	RRPSS2024-0316	WARNER : LAND USE BYLAW	TODD NELSON	2024/07/19 0737

Specific Location
[REDACTED]

Report Synopsis : Complaint of bee hives.

20.00% # of Reports: 1 Case Report WARNER : LAND USE BYLAW

WARNER : UNSIGHTLY PREMISES

<u>Location</u>	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Incident Type</u>	<u>Officer</u>	<u>Date</u>
Case Report RIDGE REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES : WARNER	RRPSS2024-0291	WARNER : UNSIGHTLY PREMISES	ROSS BOND	2024/07/11 1100

Specific Location
[REDACTED]

Report Synopsis : complaint of weeds in rear yard

Case Report RIDGE REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES : WARNER	RRPSS2024-0309	WARNER : UNSIGHTLY PREMISES	BRANDON BERG	2024/07/25 1323
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Specific Location
[REDACTED]

Report Synopsis : UNSIGHTLY PROPERTY WITH OVERGROWN GRASS

40.00% # of Reports: 2 Case Report WARNER : UNSIGHTLY PREMISES

Grand Total: 100.00% Total # of Incident Types Reported: 5 Total # of Reports: 5

Grand Total: 100.00% Total # of Incident Types Reported: 5



Request for Decision Chief Administrative Officer Report

RECOMMENDATION

That the Chief Administrative Officer report for the period ending July 31, 2024, be accepted as information.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

BACKGROUND

On a monthly basis, the Chief Administrative Officer provides Council with an update on administrative items.

RISKS/CONSEQUENCES

1. Council may provide further direction on any item contained in the report. Council shall be specific in the direction it provides.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None

ATTACHMENTS

1. CAO Report



Chief Administrative Officer Report July 2024

Administration

- Council meeting preparation
- Council meeting attendance
- Council minutes and highlights for newsletter. Copies of newsletter at grocery store.
- Meetings/communication (walk in, email and phone)
- Bi-Weekly staff meetings
- Bylaw work
- Policy work
- Job Description Updates
- Legal – AB Environment
- N95 Mask Order
- Housing Sub Committee meeting
- ATB BBQ for Warner Community Agriculture Project
- Attend Quad Council meeting
- Grant support meeting
- Begin website review
- Development inquiries
- MPC meeting preparation
- MPC meeting attendance
- MPC minutes and permit communication follow up
- Seven development permits to date
- Begin compiling information for a Water Shortage Plan
- Updates from CPO's (when applicable)
- Lions Club Campground Management Agreement
- MPE Engineering – WTP facility tour
- Strategic Plan Community Engagement
- Community Futures Chinook Beautification Loan Program
- LGAA Conference
- EPR Workshop
- Recycling Round Up
- Vacation

<u>Motion Carried 2023-65</u>	Moved by Mayor Lindsay, seconded by Councillor Toovey, "that administration follow up on any outstanding conditions of development permits and proceed with future tracking."	WIP
Motion Carried 2023-261	Moved by Mayor Lindsay, seconded by Councillor Baron, "that the school zones be changed to playground zones and to include a playground zone at the Lions Campground."	WIP
Motion Carried 2023-267	Moved by Councillor Baron, seconded by Mayor Lindsay, "that Council directs administration to send out a Request for Proposal for financial auditing services."	WIP
<u>Motion Carried 2024-11</u>	Moved by Councillor Toovey, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that Council accept the Reserves Policy 202 as information."	WIP
<u>Motion Carried 2024-111</u>	Moved by Mayor Lindsay, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that Council grant the request for a special permit to house urban bees at the property of 504 - 5th Avenue, Warner to the period ending December 31, 2025."	WIP
<u>Motion Carried 2024-113</u>	Moved by Mayor Lindsay, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that the Village of Warner participate in the Municipal Recycling Roundup on July 22, 2024."	Complete
<u>Motion Carried 2024-132</u>	Moved by Mayor Lindsay, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that Council approve the Lions Campground Rules Policy 702, as amended to include a schedule outlining the boundaries of the campground site."	Complete
<u>Motion Carried 2024-135</u>	Moved by Mayor Lindsay, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that Council cancel the July 17, 2024 council meeting."	Complete
<u>Motion Carried 2024-136</u>	Moved by Mayor Lindsay, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that Council directs administration to conduct public engagement and gather feedback to the proposed riding arena at the Civic Centre."	WIP



Request for Decision Committee Reports

RECOMMENDATION

That the committee reports for the period ending August 21, 2024, be accepted as information.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Municipal Government Act
Bylaw 561-18 Procedural Bylaw

BACKGROUND

Elected Officials, appointed at the annual organizational meeting, attend regular meetings of various boards, commissions and committees. Each elected official is required to keep Council informed by providing regular activity of the board, commission or committee they are appointed to.

RISKS/CONSEQUENCES

Should committee reports not be relayed, members of Council will not be informed on the various boards, commissions and committees.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None

ATTACHMENTS

1. FCSS Board Minutes
2. Chief Mountain Regional Solid Waste Services Commission Minutes
3. Oldman River Regional Services Commission Minutes
4. Milk River Health Professionals Attraction and Retention Committee Financials
5. Ridge Country Housing Minutes

Barons-Eureka-Warner Family & Community Support Services (FCSS)
Minutes of Board Meeting – Wednesday, April 3, 2024
Coaldale Hub (2107-13th Street)
In-person and Online

Attendance (in-person)

Board Members:

Degenstein, Dave – Town of Milk River, Chair
Chapman, Bill - Town of Coaldale, Vice-Chair
Bekkering, Garth – Town of Taber
Coad, Ray – Town of Vauxhall
Doell, Daniel – Village of Barons
Feist, Teresa - Town of Picture Butte
Foster, Missy – Village of Barnwell
Heggie, Jack – County of Warner
Hickey, Lorne – Lethbridge County
Jensen, Kelly – Town of Raymond
Kirby, Martin – Village of Warner
Nilsson, Larry – Village of Stirling

Attendance (on-line):

Jensen, Melissa – Town of Nobleford
Payne, Megan – Village of Coutts

Absent

Caldwell, Heather – Town of Coalhurst
Harris, Merrill – M.D. of Taber

Staff (in-person):

Morrison, Zakk – Executive Director
DeBow, Petra – Manager
Hashizume, Linda – Executive Assistant
Florence-Greene, Evelyn – Accounting Assistant

Call to Order

D. Degenstein called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

G. Bekkering moved the Board approve the agenda as amended.
Delegation: Supports for Newcomers to a) and Auditor to b).
Addition: 6b) Seniors Week

Carried Unanimously

Minutes

J. Heggie moved the minutes of the March 6, 2024, FCSS Board meeting be approved as presented.

Carried Unanimously



Delegation

Supports for Newcomers

Margarita Penner, Newcomer Services Supervisor presented information on support for newcomers through FCSS.

The Board discussed the Supports for Newcomers.

L. Hickey moved the Board receive the presentation on Supports for Newcomers as information.

Carried Unanimously

Margarita Penner left the meeting at 4:13 pm.

Audited Financial Statements

Daniel Bosters, KPMG presented the Year End Audited Financial Statement for December 31, 2023.

The Board discussed the Draft Year End Audited Financial Statement for December 31, 2023.

L. Hickey moved the Board to approve the Year End Audited Financial Statement for December 31, 2023, as presented.

Carried Unanimously

Daniel Bosters left the meeting at 4:41 p.m.

Correspondence

The following correspondence was presented for information:

- Family and Community Support Services Association of Alberta (FCSSAA) – Board Meeting Highlights from January 19, 2024
- FCSSAA March 2024 News
- Southern Alberta Kanadier Association (SAKA) Committee minutes from March 20, 2024

Z. Morrison noted that the FCSSAA South Region Meeting will be held June 5, 2024 in Lethbridge. Once the details are finalized, he will send out the information to the Board.

L. Nilsson moved the Board to receive the correspondence presented for information.

Carried Unanimously

Reports

Executive Director

Z. Morrison reviewed the Executive Director's report.



The following was highlighted:

- National Volunteer Week is April 15 – 19, 2024. FCSS Monthly Message at <https://fcss.ca/monthly-message/national-volunteer-week-2/>

T Feist moved the Board to approve the Executive Director's Report as presented.

Carried Unanimously

Financial Report

Z. Morrison reviewed the Financial Report.

The Board discussed the Financial Report.

B. Chapman moved the Board approve the April 2024 Financial Report including:

- Financial statement for February 29, 2024;
- Monthly accounts for February 29, 2024;
- ATB Mastercard statement February 13, 2024 to March 12, 2024

Carried

M. Jensen left the meeting at 5:02 pm.

New Business

Signing Authority

K. Jensen moved the Board authorize the removal Linda Hashizume, Executive Assistant and Eva Penner, Administrative Assistant from signing authority effective June 5, 2024.

Carried Unanimously

M. Kirby moved the Board to authorize the addition of Michael Fedunec, Counselling Services Supervisor and Kaitlynn Weaver, Outreach Services Supervisor for signing authority effective June 5, 2024.

Carried Unanimously

B. Chapman asked Z. Morrison if FCSS Senior events could be held at the Coaldale Senior Center instead of at the HUB.

Z. Morrison responded Seniors groups in all our communities are given the option to choose where they would like their monthly meetings and/or events. Z. Morrison will follow up with FCSS staff regarding the request.



Round Table:

L. Hickey reported that another organization he is part of have moved to digital signatures only for signing documents, and asked if FCSS has considered this option.

B. Chapman attended a presentation at the University of Lethbridge regarding the Alberta government investing millions to train more physicians in rural areas.

T. Feist reported:

- Seniors speaker series in Picture Butte is going really well.
- Clothing & Toy Fest will be held April 13.
- Tax Program is being utilized.
- Recruiting a new Doctor for the Town.

Date of Next Meeting

K. Jensen moved the Board to cancel the May 1, 2024 Board meeting.

Carried

The date of the next regular Board meeting will be June 5, 2024, at the Coaldale Hub (2107-13th Street) in-person and online (via Teams) starting at 4:00 p.m.

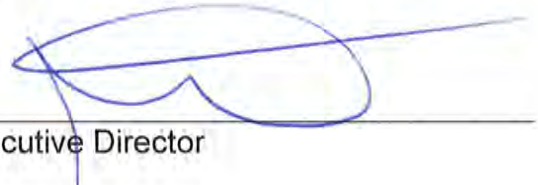
Adjournment

T. Feist moved the meeting adjourn at 5:19 p.m.

Carried



Chairperson



Executive Director



**MINUTES OF THE CHIEF MOUNTAIN REGIONAL SOLID WASTE SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING HELD
MARCH 13, 2024, AT THE TOWN OF MAGRATH.**

Members Present:

Brian Wickhorst – Village of Glenwood
Gerry Baril – Town of Magrath
Allan Burton – Town of Cardston
Tyler Lindsay – Village of Warner (Zoom)
Bryce Coppieters – Town of Raymond

Tanya Smith – Village of Coutts
Wayne Harris – Cardston County
Gary Bikman – Village of Stirling
Peggy Losey – Town of Milk River

Others Present:

Marian Carlson – SEO
Suzanne Pierson – Secretary/Treasurer

Lee Beazer – Operator

Commenced at 5:01 pm

Gary Bikman in the Chair.

AGENDA

Tanya Smith moved that the agenda be approved as amended. Carried

MINUTES

Bryce Coppieters moved that the minutes of the February 14, 2024, regular board meeting be adopted as presented. Carried

NEW BUSINESS

The SEO reported that Kim Welby will facilitate the strategic planning on Thursday, March 28, 2024, at noon at the Town of Magrath. Lunch will be provided.

The SEO advised that the Town of Raymond received a letter from Alberta Municipal Affairs stating the \$200,000 ACP Grant was successfully acquired. The SEO will work with the Town of Raymond to move the project forward.

The SEO reported that the Finance Committee reviewed the RFP for Audit services on March 15, 2024. The Commission received 3 proposals, and based on the scoring, the Finance Committee passed a motion at their meeting to accept the proposal from MWG Chartered Professional Accountants.

Allan Burton arrived at 5:06 p.m.

24-02 Bryce Coppieters moved to accept the proposal from MWG Chartered Professional Accountants for auditing services for 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027 and 2028. If the contract is satisfactorily carried out for the five (5) year term, the contract may be extended for two (2) one (1) year extensions for 2029 and 2030 at the sole discretion of the Commission. There will be a clause to terminate the contract earlier if the Commission is unsatisfied with the work. Carried

The SEO advised that she participated in the Circular Materials webinar held on February 21, 2024. They anticipate implementation by April 1, 2025, for those communities that registered prior to December 31, 2023. A total of 254 communities are registered throughout the province.

The SEO reported that the Operator has set up training for the Transfer Station Operators starting this Saturday in Mountain View.

The SEO advised that the website was launched on February 22, 2024. The SEO has asked the participating municipalities to advertise the Commission website.

Wayne Harris moved to approve the SEO's report. Carried

The Operator reported that 706.46 tonnes of waste were delivered to the Landfill in February 2024, leaving the year's available tonnage at 8,405.08 tonnes.

The Operator advised that Wilde Brothers Engineering has completed the year-end report. The SEO confirmed that, per their report, the Landfill should last until 2074 if the usage remains the same.

The Operator reported that the DEF pollution system has been deleted on both semi-trucks.

The Operator advised that a new cell needs to be dug this year. Jim Aneca would like to dig the new cell at the same price as the last completed cell.

24-03 Tanya Smith moved to hire JIM Equipment to dig the new cell at the Landfill at the same price as the past contract. Carried

Allan Burton moved to approve the Operator's report. Carried

Financial Statement

The Financial Statement for February 29, 2024, was reviewed.

Gerry Baril moved to accept the February 29, 2024, Financial Statement. Carried

Approval of Bills

Bills for February 2024 were reviewed.

Brian Wickhorst moved to approve the bills for February 2024. Carried

The Policy Committee, via email, updated Policy F7 Fees – Landfill Tipping Fee and Schedule F7A and are now presenting them to the board for approval.

24-04 Allan Burton moved to approve the revision to Policy F7 Fees – Landfill Tipping Fee and Schedule F7A. Carried

Gary Bikman suggested meeting every other month for board meetings. The SEO and Operator can send out monthly reports via email on the months there isn't a board meeting.

24-05 Wayne Harris moved to have board meetings every other month starting in April and review the meeting schedule next January 2025. Carried

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter from Avail regarding the 2023 Audit. Filed

A letter from Genesis regarding the Annual General Meeting on Monday, April 8, 2024, at 3 pm. Filed

24-06 Bryce Coppieters moved to have Duane Gladden act as proxy at the Annual General Meeting on Monday, April 8, 2024. Carried

A letter from Wilde Brothers Engineering regarding the 2023 year-end report on Closure & Post Closure. This letter was sent to Avail to aid in the Audit. Filed

ADJOURNMENT

Tanya Smith moved the meeting adjourned.

Adjournment at 5:33 p.m.

The Next Commission board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in the Town of Magrath.



Chairman

**MINUTES OF THE CHIEF MOUNTAIN REGIONAL SOLID WASTE SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING HELD
APRIL 10, 2024, AT THE TOWN OF MAGRATH.**

Members Present:

Brian Wickhorst – Village of Glenwood
Byrne Cook – Town of Magrath
Allan Burton – Town of Cardston
Derek Baron – Village of Warner (Zoom)
Randy Taylor – County of Warner (Zoom)

Tanya Smith – Village of Coutts
Wayne Harris – Cardston County
Gary Bikman – Village of Stirling
Larry Liebelt – Town of Milk River
Bryce Coppieters – Town of Raymond (Zoom)

Others Present:

Marian Carlson – SEO

Suzanne Pierson – Secretary/Treasurer

Commenced at 5:00 pm

Gary Bikman in the Chair.

AGENDA

Byrne Cook moved that the agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

MINUTES

Tanya Smith moved that the minutes of the March 13, 2024, regular board meeting be adopted as presented.

Carried

NEW BUSINESS

DELEGATION

Chandra Deaust from Avail reviewed the audited financial books for 2023. Avail found the books to be in order.

24-07 Allan Burton moved to accept the audited 2023 Financial Statement as performed by Avail.

Carried

Chandra Deaust was excused at 5:34 p.m.

The SEO reported that the draft Kim Welby updated for the Strategic Plan was emailed this afternoon to the Board for review.

The SEO advised that the RFP for the ACP grant was finalized and issued on April 2, 2024. Submissions are to be received by May 17, 2024. The SEO would like 2 to 3 representatives from the Board to be appointed to review the submissions along with the SEO and bring a final recommendation to the Board.

The SEO reported that she has been reviewing all the Human Resources Policies and drafting revisions where necessary for the Policy Committee to review.

The SEO advised that she will visit every municipality in May to update them regarding plans for the Commission. All municipalities are booked except for Raymond; she is waiting to hear from them on a date.

The SEO reported that she keeps participating in the Circular Materials webinars.

The SEO is working on an information package about the items accepted at the Transfer Stations that the municipalities can post on their websites.

The SEO advised that the Town of Raymond has put off hauling waste to the Landfill due to the wet conditions and is planning to begin next week.

The SEO reviewed the Strategic Planning documents with the board from Kim Welby.

24-08 Byrne Cook moved to accept the new Strategic Planning document. Carried

24-09 Wayne Harris moved to appoint Larry Liebelt, Allan Burton, and Bryce Coppieters to review the RFP submissions for the ACP grant and bring a recommendation to the Board. Carried

The board discussed taking over the transfer stations in depth.

Brian Wickhorst was excused at 6:15 p.m.

Byrne Cook moved to approve the SEO's report. Carried

The board reviewed the Operator's report that 706.09 tonnes of waste were delivered to the Landfill in March 2024, leaving the year's available tonnage at 7,698.99 tonnes.

The Operator's report stated that a water pump was replaced on the 2012 Peterbilt, and minor repairs were completed on the tarps for both trucks.

Tanya Smith moved to approve the Operator's report. Carried

Financial Statement

The Financial Statement for March 31, 2024, was reviewed.

Allan Burton moved to accept the March 31, 2024, Financial Statement. Carried

Approval of Bills

Bills for March 2024 were reviewed.

Tanya Smith moved to approve the bills for March 2024.

Carried

The board inquired how many outstanding accounts there are for waste brought to the Landfill. Suzanne advised that only a couple of accounts remain outstanding, and the Operator is working with her to clear the accounts.

ADJOURNMENT

Tanya Smith moved the meeting adjourned.

Adjournment at 6:37 p.m.

The Next Commission board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in the Town of Magrath.



Chairman



OLDMAN RIVER REGIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, December 7, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

ORRSC Conference Room (3105 - 16 Avenue North, Lethbridge) or ZOOM Virtual Meeting

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Colin Bexte (Virtual).....Village of Arrowwood
 Jake Hiebert (Absent) Village of Barnwell
 Dan Doell (In Person)..... Village of Barons
 Mike Wetzstein (Virtual)..... Town of Bassano
 Ray Juska (In Person) City of Brooks
 Roger Houghton (In Person)..... Cardston County
 Allan Burton (Absent) Town of Cardston
 Sue Dahl (Virtual)..... Village of Carmangay
 James F. Smith (Absent) Village of Champion
 Brad Schlossberger (In Person)..... Town of Claresholm
 Scott Akkermans (In Person) Town of Coalhurst
 Tanya Smith (In Person)..... Village of Coutts
 Dave Slingerland (Absent) Village of Cowley
 Dave Filipuzzi (Virtual) Mun. Crowsnest Pass
 Dean Ward (Virtual)..... Mun. Crowsnest Pass
 Stephen Dortch (In Person) Village of Duchess
 Gordon Wolstenholme (In Person).....Town of Fort Macleod
 Mark Peterson (In Person)..... Village of Glenwood
 Suzanne French (Virtual) Village of Hill Spring
 Morris Zeinstra (Absent)Lethbridge County

Brad Koch (Absent) Village of Lomond
 Gerry Baril (In Person) Town of Magrath
 Peggy Losey (In Person) Town of Milk River
 Dean Melnyk (Virtual)..... Village of Milo
 Victor Czop (In Person) Town of Nanton
 Marinus de Leeuw (Absent)..... Town of Nobleford
 Teresa Feist (Absent) Town of Picture Butte
 Tony Bruder (Virtual) M.D. of Pincher Creek
 Don Anderberg (In Person) Town Pincher Creek
 Ronald Davis (Absent)..... M.D. of Ranchland
 Neil Sieben (Absent) Town of Raymond
 Don Norby (In Person) Town of Stavely
 Matthew Foss (Absent)..... Village of Stirling
 John DeGroot (Absent) MD of Taber
 Raymond Coad (In Person) Town of Vauxhall
 Christopher Northcott (In Person)..... Vulcan County
 Richard DeBolt (In Person) Town of Vulcan
 David Cody (In Person)..... County of Warner
 Marty Kirby (In Person)..... Village of Warner
 Evan Berger (In Person) M.D. Willow Creek

STAFF:

Mike Burla Senior Planner
 Ryan Dyck Planner
 Carlin Groves GIS Technologist
 Steve Harty Senior Planner
 Raeanne Keer Executive Assistant
 Lenze Kuiper Chief Administrative Officer

Jennifer Maxwell Subdivision Technician
 Kattie Schlamp..... Planner
 Gavin Scott Senior Planner
 Tristan Scholten.....Intern Planner
 Jaime Thomas.....GIS Analyst

Being the Organizational Meeting, Chief Administrative Officer Lenze Kuiper called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by: Richard DeBolt

THAT the Board adopts the Agenda for December 7, 2023, as presented.

CARRIED

2. ADOPTION OF LIST OF MEMBERS AND ALTERNATE MEMBERS FOR 2023-24

Moved by: Tanya Smith

THAT the Board adopts the List of Members and Alternate Members for 2023-2024, as presented.

CARRIED

3. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 2023-2024

a. Nomination Information

L. Kuiper presented the Executive Committee Election process to the Board and presented the list of nominations received during the nomination period.

b. Election of Chair

L. Kuiper stated that Administration received 1 nomination for Chair, Gord Wolstenholme of the Town of Fort Macleod, and inquired if there were any nominations from the floor for the position of Chair, and there were none.

L. Kuiper asked a second and third time if there were any nominations from the floor for the position of Chair, and there were none.

Mr. Gord Wolstenholme of the Town of Fort Macleod was proclaimed Chair of the Oldman River Regional Services Commission Board of Directors.

c. Election of Vice Chair

L. Kuiper stated that Administration received 1 nomination for Vice Chair, Don Anderberg of the Town of Pincher Creek, and inquired if there were any nominations from the floor for the position of Vice Chair, and there were none.

L. Kuiper asked a second and third time if there were any nominations from the floor for the position of Vice Chair, and there were none.

Mr. Don Anderberg of the Town of Pincher Creek was proclaimed Vice Chair of the Oldman River Regional Services Commission Board of Directors.

d. Election of Executive Committee.

L. Kuiper stated that Administration received 5 nominations for Executive Committee members David Cody of the County of Warner, Christopher Northcott of Vulcan County, Brad Schlossberger of the Town of Claresholm, Neil Sieben of the Town of Raymond, and Scott Akkermans of the Town of Coalhurst, and inquired if there were any nominations from the floor for the Executive Committee, and there were none.

L. Kuiper asked a second and third time if there were any nominations from the floor for the Executive Committee, and there were none.

David Cody of the County of Warner, Christopher Northcott of Vulcan County, Brad Schlossberger of the Town of Claresholm, Neil Sieben of the Town of Raymond, and Scott Akkermans of the Town of Coalhurst were proclaimed members of the Executive Committee for the Oldman River Regional Services Commission Board of Directors.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

e. Minutes of September 7, 2023

Moved by: Gerry Baril

THAT the Board adopts the minutes of September 7, 2023, as presented.

CARRIED

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

6. REPORTS

a. Executive Committee Report

Chair Wolstenholme presented the Executive Committee Report to the Board.

7. BUSINESS

a. Proposed 2024 Operating Budget & Proposed 5-year Capital Plan 2023-2027

L. Kuiper presented the proposed 2024 Operating Budget and 5-Year Capital Plan to the Board, highlighting an increase to membership fees for both planning and GIS, and a decrease in projected revenue for Fee for Service and Subdivision.

Moved by: Scott Akkermans

THAT the Board approves the 2024 Budget and 5 Year Capital Plan, as presented.

CARRIED

- b. Subdivision Activity**
 - **As of October 31, 2023**

L. Kuiper presented the Subdivision Activity statistics as of October 31, 2023 to the Board.

- c. Assessment Appeal Activity**

L. Kuiper presented the 2023 Assessment Appeal Board Statistics to the Board for information purposes.

- d. Subdivision and Development Appeal Board Activity**
 - **As of November 23, 2023**

L. Kuiper presented the 2023 Subdivision and Development Appeal Board Statistics to the Board as of November 23, 2023.

- e. ORRSC Periodical – Slope Adaptive Development**

R. Dyck, Planner, presented information on the upcoming ORRSC Periodical topic, Slope Adaptive Development

8. ACCOUNTS

- a. Balance Sheet and Comparative Income Statement**
 - **As of October 31, 2023**

L. Kuiper presented the Balance Sheet and Comparative Income Statements as of October 31, 2023.

Moved by: Brad Schlossberger

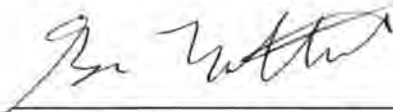
THAT the Board approves Balance Sheet and Comparative Income State, as of October 31, 2023, as presented.

CARRIED

9. NEXT MEETING – March 7, 2024

10. ADJOURNMENT

With no further questions and nothing further to discuss, L. Kuiper adjourned the meeting, the time being 8:10 pm.



Gordon Wolstenholme, Chair



Lenze Kuiper, Chief Administrative Officer

A1	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1							
2							
3	Chequing Account Balance As At April 30, 2024			\$ 14,356.88			
4							
5	Income in May						
6	Bottle Donations		\$ 770.10				
7	Bank Account Interest		\$ 0.19				
8	Total Income			770.29			
9							
10	Expenses in May						
11	#306 Scott MacCumber - Rural AB Week Gift Cards			500.00			
12							
13	Chequing Account Balance As At May 31, 2024			\$ 14,627.17			
14							
15							
16	Bank Balance As At May 31, 2024			\$ 14,627.17			
17							
18							
19	GIC's As At May 31, 2024	Maturity Date	Int Rate	Balance			
20	46351308400 Redeemable	6-Mar-25	4.25%	\$ 5,000.00			
21	46351623700 Redeemable	6-Mar-25	4.25%	\$ 5,000.00			
22	Total GIC's			\$ 10,000.00			
23							
24							
25	Total Funds As At May 31, 2024			\$ 24,627.17			
26							
27							
28							
29							
30							
31							
32							
33							
34							
35							
36							
37							
38							

RIDGE COUNTRY HOUSING

GENERAL BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Thursday June 20, 2024 @ 4:00 p.m.2024

@ Ridgeview Lodge, Raymond, AB.

Welcome and/or introductions.

Attendance / Welcome board members and/or guests.

Present: K Geddert, P. Jensen, L. Nilsson, D. Toovey, P. Losey, B. Coppieters, M. Payne, K. Jensen, C. Block, B. Jackson

Absent: D. Degenstein, _____, _____, _____.

Guest(s): A. Tollestrup

RCH Business Meeting:

Call to order by Chair, P. Losey at 4:01 p.m.

Welcome to our new North Regional Manager – Christy Block – Introductions

Skills Questionnaire & Expense claims handed out return to Bruce by end of meeting.

1. Additions to current agenda.

Add. #1 _____

Add. #2 _____

1.1 Motion to adopt the agenda. Motion by L. Nilsson. Carried

2. Reading and adoption of minutes from previous meeting (May 16th, 2024).

2.1 Motion by B. Coppieters. Carried

3. Financial Report – Allen Tollestrup

3.1 Financial report - F/S's for Lodge Operations and Housing Operations - Balance Sheets and Profit and Loss Reports as of May 31, 2024. Also, May 2024 cheque listings for Lodge Operations and Housing Operations are provided for review, comment, and approval.

3.2 Motion by M. Payne. Carried

4. Regional Manager's reports presented as follows.

4.1 South Region report - prepared and presented by Site Manger Karen.

_____ See Report _____

4.2 North Region report - prepared and presented by NR / Site Manager Christy Block.

_____ See Report _____

4.3 Motion to approve / accept reports. Motion by P. Jensen. Carried

5. CAO Report – prepared and presented by Bruce Jackson.

5.1 Status of operations - Staffing issues, Maintenance issues, Administration issues, etc.

_____ See Report _____

5.2 Motion to approve / accept report. Motion by D. Toovey. Carried

6. Old Business:

_____ None _____

7. New Business:

7.1 Budgets and Forecasts: 2024 & 2025 budgets and forecast were presented by Bruce Jackson – CAO – It was noted that budgets are going to be tight the next couple years due to inflation and increased wages expected during union negotiations. Requisitions will need remain at current levels for the next 2 years.

7.2 Motion to approve / accept report. Motion by K. Jensen. Carried

8. Special reports _____ None _____

9. Correspondence received, etc. – as provided for your review (includes relevant emails).

Hair Salon at Ridgeview Lodge: Management was approached by the Hair Stylist serving the Lodge and asked if she might service other clients and rent the space. After checking with the Government oversight person to ensure we could we obtained the proper documentation to do so. Correspondence was from the former employer of the stylist who was angry that they were not informed what was happening as they had provided the stylist initially. CAO called and apologized for not having communicated properly with the business, thanked them for their service, and let them know that they would be considered for any future changes with the Salon..

10. Board round table. (Member discussions)

_____ None _____

11. Next regular meeting – Thursday, Sep 19, 2024; 4:00 p.m., at Prairie Rose Lodge in Milk River.

12. Closed session (in camera), as required. In: 5:06 p.m. Out: 5:13 p.m.

13. Motion to adjourn by K. Jensen at 5:14 p.m. Carried



Request for Decision Correspondence

RECOMMENDATION

That the correspondence for the period ending August 21, 2024 be accepted as information.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

BACKGROUND

Correspondence is a collection of general information received at the Village Office and is provided to Council as information.

RISKS/CONSEQUENCES

1. Council may provide further direction on any item contained in correspondence. Council shall be specific in the direction it provides.
2. Council may direct Administration on any item contained in correspondence.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None

ATTACHMENTS

1. Oldman River Regional Services Commission Annual Report
2. FCSS Annual Report – Counselling
3. Municipal Affairs – Canada Community Building Fund
4. Municipal Affairs – Bill 20
5. Municipal Affairs – Viability Review 2024 Report



www.orrsc.com

2023 Annual Report

**Oldman River
Regional Services
Commission**



■ About ORRSC

The Oldman River Regional Services Commission (ORRSC) provides a spectrum of land use planning, subdivision, GIS, drone photography, and assessment review services to municipalities spanning the Oldman, Milk and Bow River watersheds.

ORRSC's history is deeply rooted in southern Alberta and has evolved from various forms since 1955 when it first started as the Lethbridge District Planning Commission.

2023 marked our 68th year anniversary of embodying an exemplary shared services approach to regional service delivery. We are comprised of 39 member municipalities, 40 appointed members to the Board of Directors, and 21 staff members.

Cover: Town of Cardston
Below: ORRSC Office



■ Our Intent

Established under Part 15.1 of the Municipal Government Act, this service commission is a cooperative effort of its member municipalities in southern Alberta who have created an organization to provide municipal planning advice to its members.


To continue to champion municipal perspectives sustaining the legacy of southern Alberta as a region where meaningful connections are experienced.



■ What We Do?

The Municipal Government Act requires municipalities to manage land use, subdivision, and development by preparing bylaws and statutory long-range planning documents.

ORRSC is contracted by its member municipalities and provides professional advice and assistance to Administration and Council regarding land use planning, subdivision, and other related planning concerns.



Above: Cardston County

■ Our Services

But ORRSC is not only planning services, we are also comprised on a strong GIS Department who offers a multifaceted approach to the world of displaying and providing geographic information to our GIS member municipalities and their residents. The GIS Department also provides services such as developing maps, plotting, GPS acquisition, and a variety of geographic analysis tools and modules.

Statutory Plans
Subdivision Processing & Finalization
Regional Subdivision and Development
Appeal Board
Regional Assessment Review Board
Quarterly Periodical
Development Officer Training
Professional Planning Advice
GIS Services & Data Aquisition
Mapping Services
Drone Photography

■ Message from the Chair & CAO

"Individual commitment to a group effort - that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work."

– Vince Lombardi

It is with great pleasure that we present to you our 68th annual report, encapsulating our journey, achievements, and aspirations over the past year. As Chair and Chief Administrative Officer of the Oldman River Regional Services Commission, we are immensely proud of the strides we have made and the transformative impact we continue to have in our municipalities and beyond.

As we approach another milestone in our journey together, we find ourselves filled with gratitude and admiration for each one of you. In the face of challenges and triumphs alike, it is your unwavering dedication, resilience, and innovation that continue to propel us forward.

Throughout the year, we have achieved significant milestones across all facets of our operations. From optimizing our subdivision, development, and GIS processes, to enhancing operational efficiencies, each accomplishment reflects our unwavering dedication to driving positive change and creating long-term value for all stakeholders.

Our commitment to innovation remains at the forefront of our endeavors. By harnessing the power of emerging technologies, fostering strategic partnerships, and nurturing a culture of continuous improvement, we have positioned ourselves as experts in our profession and trusted advisors, poised to navigate new opportunities and future challenges with confidence.

Furthermore, our dedication to municipal social responsibility continues to guide our actions and decisions. Whether it be through our sustainability initiatives, community engagement programs, new plans, or through ethical professional practices, we remain steadfast in our commitment to making a meaningful difference in the municipalities that surround us.

As we reflect on the past year and look ahead to the future, we are filled with optimism and excitement for what lies ahead. With a talented team, a strong cooperative spirit, and a shared vision for success, there is no limit to what we will achieve as an organization.

In closing, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our Executive, our Board, our colleagues, and our member municipalities for their unwavering support and dedication. It is through our collective efforts and collaboration that we continue to drive progress, inspire innovation, and create a brighter future for all.

Thank you for your continued trust and confidence in ORRSC. Together, let us embrace the opportunities that lie ahead and continue to write the next chapter of our success story. Here's to another year of growth, success, and meaningful impact.



Lenze Kuiper, Chief Administrative Officer



Gord Wolstenholme, Chair

■ Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is elected by their peers on the Board of Directors and are delegated the responsibility of financial and administrative matters, such as budget preparation, approval of accounts, and policy and procedure review.

In accordance with its governing Bylaw, the Board of Directors works to elect a minimum of 2 Rural and 2 Urban Members to ensure their is equal representation of all Member Municipalities. At the Organizational Meeting held on December 1, 2022, the following members were elected:

Below: Village of Cowley



- **Gord Wolstenholme** Chair, Town of Fort Macleod
- **Don Anderberg** Vice Chair, Town of Pincher Creek
- **David Cody** County of Warner
- **Jesse Potrie** Town of Coalhurst
- **Christopher Northcott** Vulcan County
- **Brad Schlossberger** Town of Claresholm
- **Neil Sieben** Town of Raymond

"Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other."

John F. Kennedy

■ Board of Directors

As of December 31, 2023, including former members of 2023

Colin Bexte

Village of Arrowwood

Kent Bullock

Village of Barnwell -Former Member

Jake Hiebert

Village of Barnwell

Dan Doell

Village of Barons

Mike Wetzstein

Town of Bassano

Ray Juska

City of Brooks

Roger Houghton

Cardston County

Allan Burton

Town of Cardston

Sue Dahl

Village of Carmangay

James F. Smith

Village of Champion

Brad Schlossberger

Town of Claresholm

Jesse Potrie

Town of Coalhurst - Former Member

Scott Akkermans

Town of Coalhurst

Tanya Smith

Village of Coutts

Dave Slingerland

Village of Cowley

Dean Ward

Municipality of Crowsnest Pass

Dave Filipuzzi

Municipality of Crowsnest Pass

Stephen Dortch

Village of Duchess

Gord Wolstenholme

Town of Fort Macleod

Mark Peterson

Village of Glenwood

Suzanne French

Village of Hill Spring

Morris Zeinstra

Lethbridge County

Brad Koch

Village of Lomond

Gerry Baril

Town of Magrath

Peggy Losey

Town of Milk River

Dean Melnyk

Village of Milo

Victor Czop

Town of Nanton

Marinus de Leeuw

Town of Nobleford

Teresa Feist

Town of Picture Butte

Tony Bruder

Municipal District of Pincher
Creek

Don Anderberg

Town of Pincher Creek

Ron Davis

Municipal District of Ranchland

Neil Sieben

Town of Raymond

Don Norby

Town of Stavely

Matthew Foss

Village of Stirling

John DeGroot

Municipal District of Taber

Ray Coad

Town of Vauxhall

Christopher Northcott

Vulcan County

Richard DeBolt

Town of Vulcan

David Cody

County of Warner

Marty Kirby

Village of Warner

Evan Berger

Municipal District of Willow
Creek

ORRSC Staff

Administration

Lenze Kuiper
Chief Administrative
Officer (2005)

Sherry Johnson
Bookkeeper (1981)

Raeanne Keer
Executive Assistant (2022)

Planning

Mike Burla*
Senior Planner (1978)

Steve Harty
Senior Planner (1998)

Diane Horvath
Senior Planner (2000)

Bonnie Brunner
Senior Planner (2007)

Gavin Scott
Senior Planner (2007)

Ryan Dyck
Planner (2013)

Jennifer Maxwell
Subdivision Technician (2015)

Maxwell Kelly
Planner (2019)

Madeleine Baldwin
Planner (2019 - March 2023)

Kattie Schlamp
Planner (2022)

Jack Shipton
Planner (March - Sept. 2023)

Tristan Scholten
Planning Intern (June 2023)

GIS

Jaime Thomas
GIS Analyst (2005)

Mladen Kristic
CAD/GIS Technologist (2006)

Jordan Thomas
GIS Analyst (2006)

Kaylee Sailer
CAD/GIS Technologist (2013)

Yueu Majok
CAD/GIS Technologist (2017-April 2023)

Carlin Groves
GIS Technician (2019)

121

bylaw amendments were
implemented for
Intermunicipal
Development Plans, Land
Use Bylaws, and Municipal
Development Plans in
2023**

*M. Burla retired in February 2022, and has continued as a contracted employee.

**as of December 31, 2023

■ Planning Projects

Below: Municipal District of Ranchland



With rising inflation and interest rates in 2023, riding on the coattails of the COVID-19 pandemic, many industries were impacted, such as development, construction, agriculture, and government. As a result, the Oldman River Regional Services Commission felt the trickle down, like many organizations, as the desire to subdivide land softened and an aversion to spending on Fee for Service projects due to economic conditions was felt. That being said, the Commission continues to provide strong professional support to our member municipalities, and foster opportunities for collaboration with outside agencies and landowners.

In 2023, we completed numerous statutory plans such as Municipal Development Plans and Area Structure Plans. Also, collaborative efforts have begun in several communities to amend and review Intermunicipal Development Plans.

Work continued with a variety of new, and amended Land Use Bylaws, to ensure that each member municipality's unique land use needs continue to be monitored and addressed. We also provided planning advice and support to assist our member's with intermunicipal matters, annexation discussions and applications, subdivision and development appeal board hearing, as well as participation in Provincial Board Hearings including the Land and Property Rights Tribunal, Natural Resources Conservation Board, and Alberta Utilities Commission. This year has also allowed for a number of new projects to be initiated such as land use strategies, policy reviews, and joint-use and planning agreements.

Our Planners continued to work closely with entities like the Miistakis Institute in developing various tools and studies. The results of these projects can be leveraged by our members and help facilitate bringing people and ideas together to promote healthy communities and landscapes. To this end, our quarterly periodical on various planning topics provides a conversation starter that can act as a bridge between municipalities, community stakeholders, academics, and other levels of government.

Moving into 2024, our Planners look forward to working diligently to provide valuable planning support to our members while completing and initiating important projects.

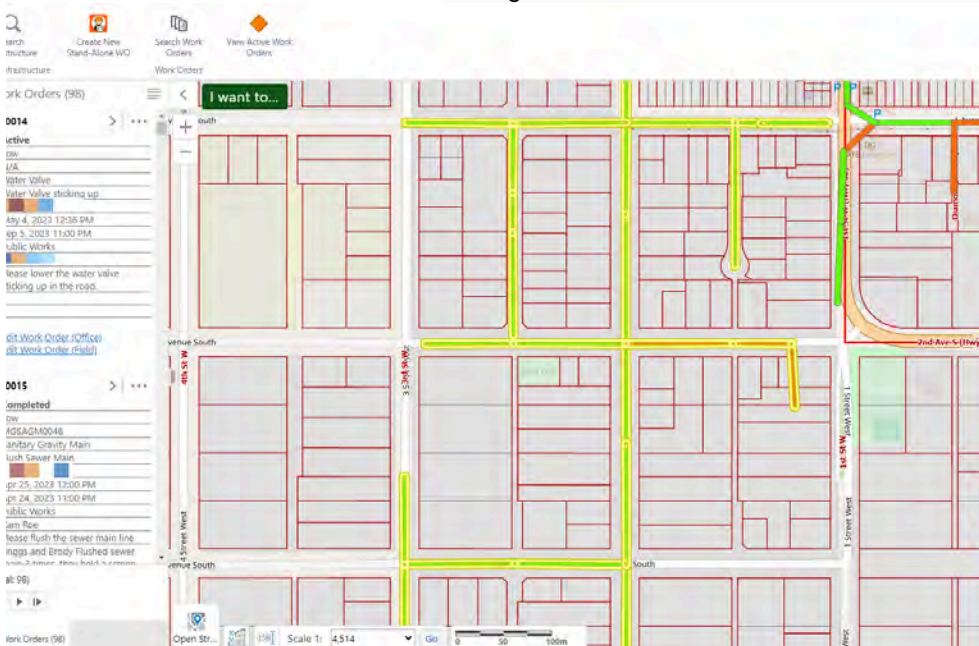
Geographic Information System (GIS) Projects

GIS staff completed three large projects in 2023, which resulted in great enhancements for the user experience.

The first project was adding the ability to attach documentation to all infrastructure features in the GIS. This functionality already existed for the property layer, but the demand existed to also add it to infrastructure features. Upon completion, users now can attach unlimited files to any infrastructure feature of their choice. Users may choose to simply attach photos of hydrants and curb stops or attach a full as-built drawing to a specific area.

GIS Staff made major enhancements to the existing cemetery layer in the GIS providing municipal staff the ability to not only add their own records but edit existing records using a customizable edit form tailored to their specific needs.

Photo: GIS Work Order Module, Town of Magrath



Cemetery information varies greatly from one cemetery to another, we worked alongside municipal staff to ensure each edit form was fully customized to meet the needs on their specific cemetery. Municipal staff can now add documents to specific plots (purchase agreements, headstone photos) and track the financing and purchasing directly in the GIS.

The largest undertaking by GIS staff in 2023 was the creation of the Work Order module within the GIS. This new module allows users to create, track and edit work orders from the office or in the field. A work order can be created on either a pre-existing infrastructure asset or a user defined area. The system then prompts a user to enter details about the work required to be completed such as priority, dates of completion, materials, and a detailed description of the project. The system then sends an auto-generated email to select employees responsible for conducting the work and at the same time, creates a new layer on the GIS showing the area of interest. The module comes equipped with capabilities to search work orders by status, priority, department, employee, and dates, and spatially creates a visual inventory of what work orders have been created and completed. This module has been highly successful and has been utilized very heavily by a number of municipalities who now rely solely on this module for their work order system.

2024 will bring another major enhancement to the GIS system as staff are in the preliminary steps of adding an asset management module to the GIS system. This module will assist municipalities with their annual Tangible Capital Asset (TCA) reporting as well as provide information on replacement valuation and long-term infrastructure capital planning.

■ Recognition of Service

Board of Directors

5+ Years

Tanya Smith
Dean Ward
Suzanne French
Morris Zeinstra
Peggy Losey
Marinus de Leeuw
Don Norby
David Cody

10+ Years

Dave Filipuzzi
Don Anderberg

15+ Years

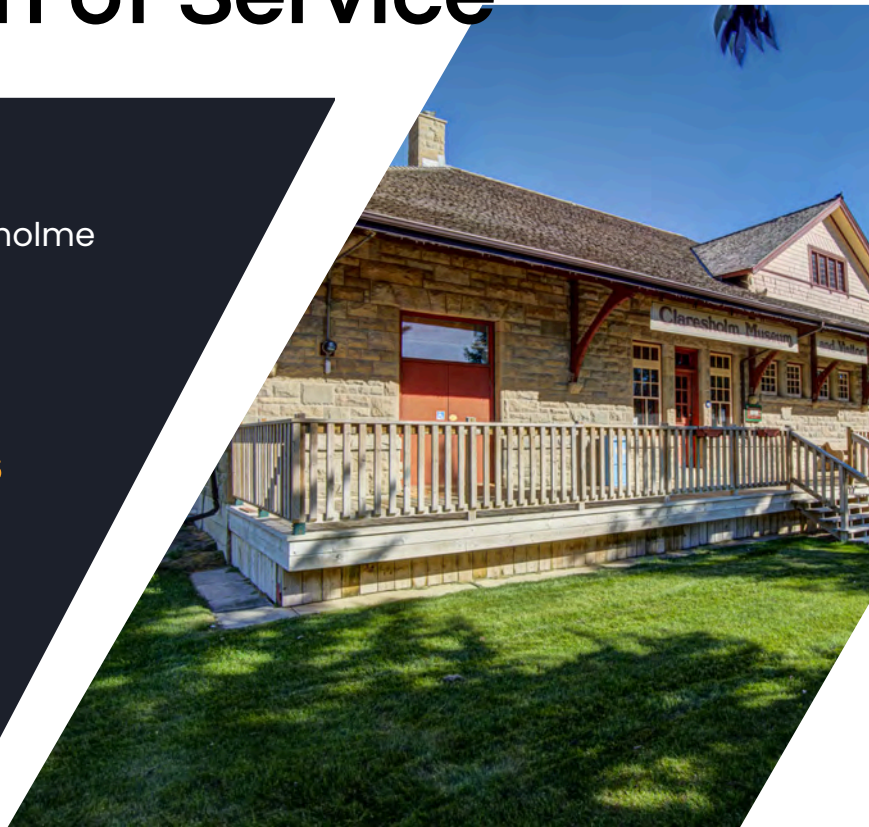
Gord Wolstenholme

20+ Years

Brad Koch

40+ Years

Ron Davis



Above: Town of Clareholm

■ Recognition of Service

ORRSC Staff

5+ Years

Jennifer Maxwell

10+ Years

Ryan Dyck
Kaylee Sailer

15+ Years

Bonnie Brunner
Mladen Kristic
Lenze Kuiper
Gavin Scott
Jaime Thomas
Jordan Thomas

20+ Years

Steve Harty
Diane Horvath

40+ Years

Mike Burla
Sherry Johnson

Subdivision Statistics

A total of 160 Subdivision applications were processed during the 2023 calendar year. The status of these applications, as of December 31, 2023 are as follows:

144 Approved or Approved on Condition

14 Pending

1 Refused

1 Withdrawn

MEMBER MUNICIPALITY	# of Subdivisions	Boundary Line Adj	DECISION				NEWLY CREATED LOTS (By Use)								
			A or A/C	R	W/E	P	Res	Com	Ind	CR	Ag	Inst	Rec	Misc	TOTAL
Cardston County	14	1	11	1	-	2	-	-	-	18	3	-	-	-	21
City of Brooks	3	-	2	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	3
County of Warner No. 5	11	-	9	-	-	2	-	-	1	12	2	-	-	-	15
Lethbridge County	29	17	28	-	-	1	3	4	16	12	2	-	-	-	37
Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9	9	1	9	-	-	-	5	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	11
Municipal District of Ranchland No. 66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Municipal District of Willow Creek No. 26	15	10	13	-	1	1	-	-	6	7	2	-	-	-	15
Municipal District of Taber	19	5	18	-	-	1	-	-	-	14	2	-	-	-	16
Municipality of Crowsnest Pass	10	3	8	-	-	2	20	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	26
Town of Bassano	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Town of Cardston	4	1	4	-	-	-	12	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	17
Town of Claresholm	3	1	3	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Town of Coalhurst	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Town of Fort Macleod	7	-	4	-	-	3	10	-	2	-	-	1	2	-	15
Town of Magrath	4	1	4	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Town of Milk River	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Town of Nanton	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Town of Nobleford	2	-	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Town of Picture Butte	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Town of Pincher Creek	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Town of Raymond	3	2	3	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Town of Stavely	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Town of Vauxhall	4	-	4	-	-	-	8	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	11
Town of Vulcan	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Village of Arrowwood	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Village of Barnwell	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Village of Barons	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Village of Carmangay	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Village of Champion	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Village of Coutts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Village of Cowley	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Village of Duchess	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Village of Glenwood	1	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Village of Hill Spring	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Village of Lomond	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Village of Milo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Village of Stirling	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Village of Warner	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Vulcan County	15	16	14	-	-	1	1	1	-	7	2	-	-	-	11
TOTAL	160	61	144	1	1	14	89	14	31	76	14	2	8	0	234

■ Chinook Intermunicipal SDAB

The Chinook Intermunicipal Subdivision and Development Appeal Board (SDAB) is a quasi-judicial board comprised of appointed persons from participating municipalities. The Chinook Intermunicipal SDAB is a regional board which provides municipalities with shared access to a large pool of certified board members and board clerks. ORRSC offers regular in-house training to board members to ensure the legislative requirement is met.

13 SDAB Appeals Received

10 SDAB Hearings Held

13 SDAB Members Trained (new and recertified)

49 Board Members Appointed

■ Regional Assessment Review Board

The Regional Assessment Review Board (ARB) is long-standing quasi-judicial board established under the Municipal Government Act, and is responsible for making decisions regarding property assessment complaints. The Regional ARB is comprised of both appointed lay-members and Councillors from participating municipalities who have completed the provincially mandated training.



7 Hearings Held*

*11 Appeals were held concurrently in 1 Hearing



22 Residential Complaints Filed

8 Commercial Complaints Filed



10 Complaints Withdrawn

Right: Town of Coalhurst



■ ORRSC Periodical

2023 Editions

Spring 2023

Campgrounds

Summer 2023

Temporary Uses

Fall 2023

Liquor and Land Use

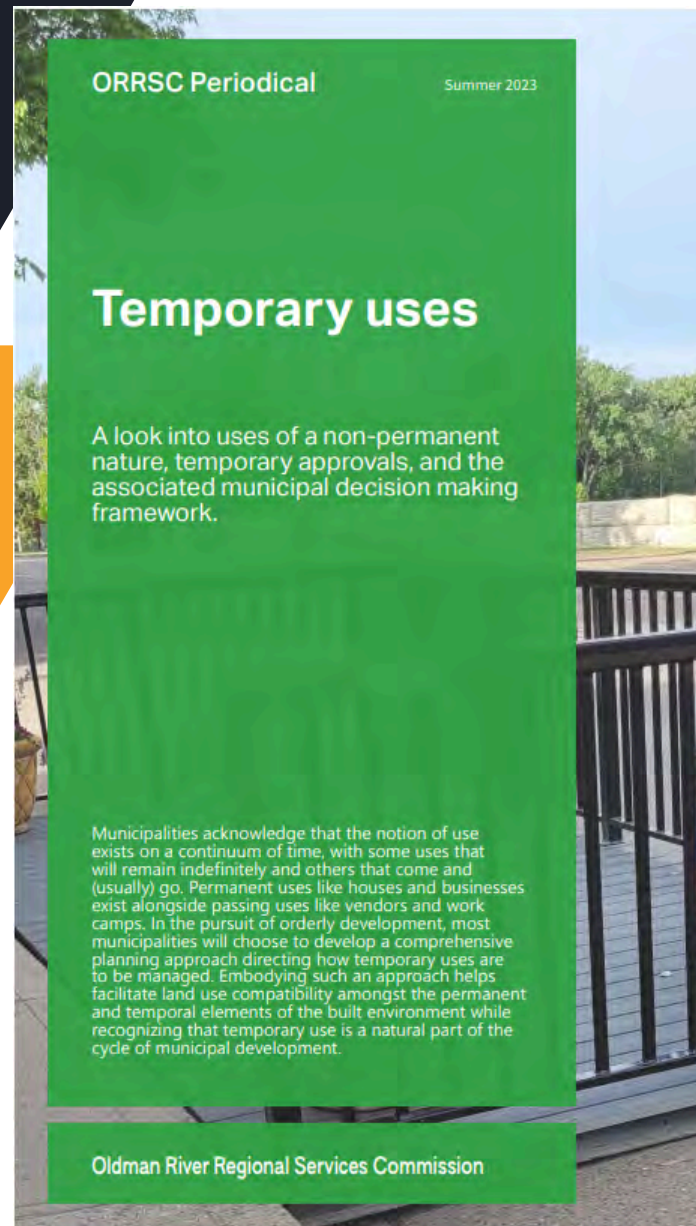
Winter 2023

Slope Adaptive Development

■ What is the Periodical?

The ORRSC Periodical is a quarterly publication focusing on planning topics of a regional interest and the promotion of best practices.

The Periodical is researched, written, and designed in house by ORRSC staff.



Copies of the current and past editions of the Periodical can be found at www.orrsc.com.

Financial Statements

The following pages consist
of the Independent Auditor's
Report prepared by KPMG LLP.

Financial Statements of

**OLDMAN RIVER REGIONAL
SERVICES COMMISSION**

And Independent Auditor's Report thereon

Year ended December 31, 2023



KPMG LLP
3410 Fairway Plaza Road South
Lethbridge, AB T1K 7T5
Canada
Telephone 403 380 5700
Fax 403 380 5760

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors of Oldman River Regional Services Commission

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Oldman River Regional Services Commission (the Commission), which comprise:

- the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2023
- the statement of operations for the year then ended
- the statement of changes in net financial assets for the year then ended
- the statement of cash flows for the year then ended
- and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies (Hereinafter referred to as the "financial statements").

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Commission as at December 31, 2023, and its results of operations, changes in net financial assets, and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, including the 4200 series of standards for government not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***" section of our auditor's report.

We are independent of the Commission in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.



Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, including the 4200 series of standards for government not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Commission's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Commission or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Commission's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.



- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Commission's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Commission to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

KPMG LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

Lethbridge, Canada

April 11, 2024

OLDMAN RIVER REGIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Statement of Financial Position

DRAFT

December 31, 2023, with comparative information for 2022

	2023	2022
Financial assets		
Cash and short-term deposits	\$ 215,450	\$ 460,068
Accounts receivable (note 4)	62,895	51,631
Cash not available for current operations	192,986	350,035
	<u>471,331</u>	<u>861,734</u>
Financial liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 225,957	\$ 241,114
Deferred revenue	20,000	20,000
Debt	40,000	40,000
	<u>285,957</u>	<u>301,114</u>
Net financial assets	185,374	560,620
Non-financial assets		
Prepaid expenses and deposits	7,522	11,356
Capital assets (note 5)	630,982	502,140
	<u>638,504</u>	<u>513,496</u>
Accumulated surplus (note 10)	823,878	1,074,116
Commitments (note 6)		

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

On behalf of the Board:

OLDMAN RIVER REGIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Statement of Operations

Year ended December 31, 2023, with comparative information for 2022

	2023 Budget (note 13)	2023 Actual	2022 Actual
Revenue:			
Municipal contributions	\$ 985,947	\$ 985,948	\$ 941,570
GIS member fees	560,753	526,463	556,608
Application fees	310,000	203,605	249,815
Other revenue	59,700	96,523	99,058
Service fees	400,000	127,557	85,759
Finalization fees	-	56,780	64,144
Interest income	12,000	47,353	24,509
Extention fees	-	5,520	6,210
	2,328,400	2,049,749	2,027,673
Expenses:			
Salaries and benefits	2,071,015	1,995,158	1,855,012
Occupancy costs	34,700	59,436	48,193
Equipment	104,000	55,294	44,384
Repairs and maintenance	15,001	41,971	36,855
Telephone	16,000	24,931	27,895
Staff travel	13,000	15,415	13,945
Miscellaneous	1,250	11,207	22,798
Professional fees	13,000	10,450	9,000
Members' fees	5,000	7,383	6,144
Members travel	8,000	7,105	1,646
Consulting fees	1	6,720	11,465
Advertising	5,000	6,338	4,863
Janitorial	6,000	6,000	7,502
Public relations	2,000	4,924	10,513
Staff training and conferences	7,000	4,792	5,170
Printing and duplicating	4,500	2,134	4,937
Land titles office	2,500	2,051	3,008
Office and general	5,500	1,376	8,233
Interest and bank charges	-	647	1,014
Postage	7,500	16	4,135
Amortization	-	36,119	39,804
	2,320,967	2,299,467	2,166,516
Deficiency of revenues over expenses before the undernoted item	7,433	(249,718)	(138,843)
Other expense:			
Loss on sale of capital assets	-	(520)	-
Deficiency of revenues over expenses	\$ 7,433	\$ (250,238)	\$ (138,843)

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

OLDMAN RIVER REGIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended December 31, 2023, with comparative information for 2022

	2023	2022
Cash provided by (used in):		
Operations:		
Deficiency of revenue over expenses	\$ (250,238)	\$ (138,843)
Items not involving cash:		
Amortization	36,119	39,804
Loss on sale of capital assets	520	-
	(213,599)	(99,039)
Changes in non-cash operating working capital:		
Accounts receivable	(11,264)	14,452
Prepaid expenses and deposits	3,834	4,333
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(15,157)	(25,081)
	(236,186)	(105,335)
Capital activities:		
Purchase of capital assets	(165,481)	(8,072)
Decrease in cash and short-term deposits	(401,667)	(113,407)
Cash and short-term deposits, beginning of year	810,103	923,510
Cash, end of year	\$ 408,436	\$ 810,103
Cash is represented by:		
Cash and short-term deposits	\$ 215,450	\$ 460,068
Cash not available for current operations	192,986	350,035
	\$ 408,436	\$ 810,103

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

OLDMAN RIVER REGIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Statement of Changes in Net Financial Assets

Year ended December 31, 2023, with comparative information for 2022

	Budget	2023	2022
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 7,433	\$ (250,238)	\$ (138,843)
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	--	(165,481)	(8,072)
Loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	--	520	--
Amortization of tangible capital assets	--	36,119	39,804
	7,433	(128,842)	31,732
Decrease in prepaid expenses	--	3,834	4,333
Change in net financial assets	7,433	(375,246)	(102,778)
Net financial assets, beginning of year	560,620	560,620	663,398
Net financial assets, end of year	\$ 568,053	\$ 185,374	\$ 560,620

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

OLDMAN RIVER REGIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

Nature of operations:

Oldman River Regional Services Commission (the "Commission") is a regional planning commission created by an order in Council of the province of Alberta on October 21, 2003. It was created pursuant to the Municipal Government Act of Alberta. Members of the Commission are restricted to municipal authorities. The Commission is exempt from income tax under Section 149 of the Canadian Income Tax Act.

1. Significant accounting policies:

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards including the 4200 standards for government not-for-profit organizations. The Commission's significant accounting policies are as follows:

(a) Revenue recognition:

The Commission follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Externally restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are recognized. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Restricted investment income is recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are recognized. Unrestricted investment income is recognized as revenue when earned.

Approval fees, sales of maps revenue and fee for service revenue are recognized as revenue in the period in which the service is delivered or in which the transaction or events that gave rise to the revenue occurred.

OLDMAN RIVER REGIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2023

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(b) Capital assets:

Capital assets are stated at cost, less accumulated amortization. Amortization is provided using the following methods and annual rates:

Asset	Basis	Rate
Building	Declining balance	4%
Vehicles	Declining balance	30%
Computer	Straight-line	4 years
General contents	Straight-line	5 years

Capital assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the asset no longer has any long-term service potential to the Commission. Any such impairment is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of an asset to estimated residual value.

(c) Cash and cash equivalents:

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and short-term deposits, which are highly liquid with original maturities of less than three months from the date of acquisition. These financial assets are convertible to known amounts of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

OLDMAN RIVER REGIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2023

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(d) Financial instruments:

A contract establishing a financial instrument creates, at its inception, rights and obligations to receive or deliver economic benefits. The financial assets and financial liabilities portray these rights and obligations in the financial statements. The Commission recognizes a financial instrument when it becomes a party to a financial instrument contract.

Financial instruments consist of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, portfolio investments, bank indebtedness, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, debt and other liabilities. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Commission is not exposed to significant credit and liquidity risks, or market risk, which includes currency, interest rate and other price risks.

Portfolio investments in equity instruments quoted in an active market and derivatives are recorded at fair value. All other financial assets and liabilities are recorded at cost or amortized cost and the associated transaction costs are added to the carrying value of items in the cost or amortized cost upon initial recognition. The gain or loss arising from de-recognition of a financial instrument is recognized in the Statement of Operations. Impairment losses such as write-downs or write-offs are reported in the Statement of Operations.

There are no remeasurement gains or losses and as such, a statement of remeasurement gains and losses has not been prepared.

(e) Employee future benefits:

The Commission participates in a multi-employer defined pension plan called the Local Authorities Pension Plan ("LAPP"). This pension plan is a multi-employer defined benefit pension plan that provides pension benefits for the Commission's participating employees, based on years of service and earnings.

The plan is accounted for as a defined contribution plan whereby contributions are expensed as incurred.

OLDMAN RIVER REGIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2023

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(f) Use of estimates:

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with Canadian public sector accounting standards requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the year. Significant items subject to such estimates and assumptions include the carrying amounts of capital assets. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

(g) Contaminated sites liability:

The Commission uses Public Sector Accounting Standards section 3260 - liability for contaminated sites. Contaminated sites are a result of contamination being introduced into air, soil, water or sediment of a chemical, organic or retroactive or live organism that exceeds an environmental standard. The liability is recorded net of any expected recoveries. A liability for remediation of a contaminated site is recognized when a site is not in productive use and is management's estimate of the cost of post-remediation including operation, maintenance and monitoring. At December 31, 2023 the Commission did not have any liabilities associated with contaminated sites.

OLDMAN RIVER REGIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2023

2. Future accounting pronouncements:

The following summarizes the upcoming changes to the Public Sector Accounting Standards by the Public Sector Accounting Standards Board ("PSAB"). In 2024, the Commission will continue to assess the impact and prepare for the adoption of these standards. While the timing of standard adoption can vary, certain standards must be adopted concurrently.

(i) PS 3400 - Revenue :

This section provides guidance on how to account for and report on revenue, specifically addressing revenue arising from exchange transactions and unilateral transactions. This standard has been deferred by PSAB and is now effective for fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2023

(ii) PSG-8 - Purchased Intangibles:

The Canadian Public Sector Accounting Board issued a new guideline, PSG 8 - Purchased Intangibles. This new guideline explains the scope of the intangibles now allowed to be recognized in financial statements given the removal of the recognition prohibition relating to purchased intangibles in Section PS 1000. The key aspects of this guideline are:

- A definition of purchased tangibles.
- Examples of items that are not purchased intangibles.
- References to other guidance in the PSA Handbook on intangibles.
- Reference to the asset definition general recognition criteria and the GAAP hierarchy for accounting for purchased intangibles.

(iii) PS 3160 - Public Private Partnerships:

The Canadian Public Sector Accounting Board issued a new standard, PS 3160, Public Private Partnerships in April 2021. This section establishes standards for the recognition, measurement, presentation, and disclosure of infrastructure procured through certain types of public private partnership arrangements.

This section is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2023 and may be applied retroactively with or without prior period restatement. Early adoption is permitted.

3. Change in accounting policy :

Effective January 1, 2023, the Commission adopted the new accounting standard PS 3280 Asset Retirement Obligations and applied the standard using the modified retroactive approach. The adoption had no effect on the financial statements.

OLDMAN RIVER REGIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2023

4. Accounts receivable:

	2023		2022	
Trade receivables	\$	51,254	\$	46,990
Goods and services tax		11,641		4,641
	\$	62,895	\$	51,631

5. Capital assets:

	2023		
	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net book value
Land	\$ 80,000	\$ -	\$ 80,000
Building	773,397	407,324	366,073
General contents	408,053	272,851	135,202
Other equipment	13,678	13,097	581
Vehicles	83,140	54,691	28,449
Computer	171,216	150,539	20,677
	\$ 1,529,484	\$ 898,502	\$ 630,982

	2022		
	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net book value
Land	\$ 80,000	\$ -	\$ 80,000
Building	773,397	392,071	381,326
General contents	280,461	267,448	13,013
Other equipment	13,678	13,097	581
Vehicles	53,411	42,499	10,912
Computer	173,446	157,138	16,308
	\$ 1,374,393	\$ 872,253	\$ 502,140

OLDMAN RIVER REGIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2023

6. Financial risks and concentration of risk:

(a) Liquidity risk:

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Commission will be unable to fulfil its obligations on a timely basis or at a reasonable cost. The Commission manages its liquidity risk by monitoring its operating requirements. There has been no change to the risk exposures from 2022.

(b) Market risk:

Market risk is the risk that changes in market price such as interest rates will affect the Commission's income or value of its holdings of financial instruments. The objective of market risk management is to control market risk exposures within acceptable parameters.

(c) Interest rate risk:

The Commission is exposed to interest rate risk on its fixed interest rate financial instruments and floating rate operating line of credit.

(d) Credit risk:

Credit risk refers to the risk that a counterparty may default on its contractual obligations resulting in a financial loss. The Commission is exposed to credit risk with respect to accounts receivable and has processes in place to monitor accounts receivable balances. The Commission believes that it is not exposed to significant credit risk arising from its financial instruments.

OLDMAN RIVER REGIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2023

7. Commitments:

- (a) The Commission leased equipment under agreements expiring on dates ranging from June, 2026 to August, 2026. The base rent obligation under the leases for the next year is approximately \$7,284.
- (b) The Commission has signed contracts for electricity and natural gas for its facilities, which expired on December 31, 2018, however it is to continue on a year to year basis until written notice of termination on December 31, 2024.

8. Economic dependence:

The Commission receives a significant portion of its revenue directly and indirectly from its members, as such, the Commission is economically dependent on its members.

9. Debt limits:

Section 276(2) of the Municipal Government Act requires that debt and debt limits as defined by Alberta Regulation 76/2000 for the Commission be disclosed as follows:

	2023	2022
Total debt limit	\$ 1,024,874	\$ 1,013,836
Total debt	(40,000)	(40,000)
Amount of debt limit unused	\$ 984,874	973,836
Debt servicing limit	\$ 204,975	202,767
Debt servicing	(40,000)	(40,000)
Amount of debt servicing limit unused	\$ 164,975	\$ 162,767

The debt limit is calculated at 0.5 times revenue of the Commission (as defined in Alberta Regulation 76/2000) and the debt service limit is calculated at 0.1 times such revenue. Incurring debt beyond these limitations requires approval by the Minister of Municipal Affairs. These thresholds are guidelines used by Alberta Municipal Affairs to identify municipalities which could be at financial risk if further debt is acquired. The calculation taken alone does not represent the financial stability of the Commission. Rather, the financial statements must be interpreted as a whole.

OLDMAN RIVER REGIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2023

10. Accumulated surplus

	2023	2022
Net assets:		
Unrestricted	-	221,941
Investment in capital assets	630,982	502,140
Internally restricted	192,896	350,035
	823,878	1,074,116

Internally restricted net assets is comprised of the following:

	2023	2022
Operating reserve fund	175,228	175,017
Capital reserve fund	17,668	175,018
	192,896	350,035

OLDMAN RIVER REGIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2023

11. Local Authorities Pension Plan:

Employees of the Commission participate in the Local Authorities Pension Plan, which is one of the plans covered by the Public Sector Pension Plans Act. The plan covers approximately 291,259 employees of approximately 437 non-government employer organizations such as municipalities, hospitals, and schools (non-teachers).

The Commission is required to make current service contributions to the Plan of 8.45% of pensionable payroll up to the year's maximum pensionable earnings under the Canada Pension Plan, and 12.23% on pensionable earnings above this amount.

Employees of the Commission are required to make current service contributions of 7.45% of pensionable salary up to the year's maximum pensionable earnings under the Canada Pension Plan, and 11.23% on pensionable salary above this amount.

Total current and past service contributions by the Commission to the Local Authorities Pension Plan in 2023 were \$147,035 (2022 - \$137,670). Total current and past service contributions by the employees of the Commission to the Local Authorities Pension Plan in 2023 were \$130,483 (2022 - \$123,539).

At December 31, 2022 the Plan disclosed an actuarial surplus of \$12.7 billion.

12. Contractual rights:

Contractual rights are rights of the Commission to economic resources arising from contracts or agreements that will result in both assets and revenues in the future when the terms of those contracts or agreements are met.

The Commission has entered into agreements to provide services to municipal members. The timing and extent of the fees collected in the future depend upon the timing and extent of services provided and as such will vary in the future.

The Commission collects municipal contributions from its members, the amounts collected depend upon participation and population of member communities and as such will vary in the future.

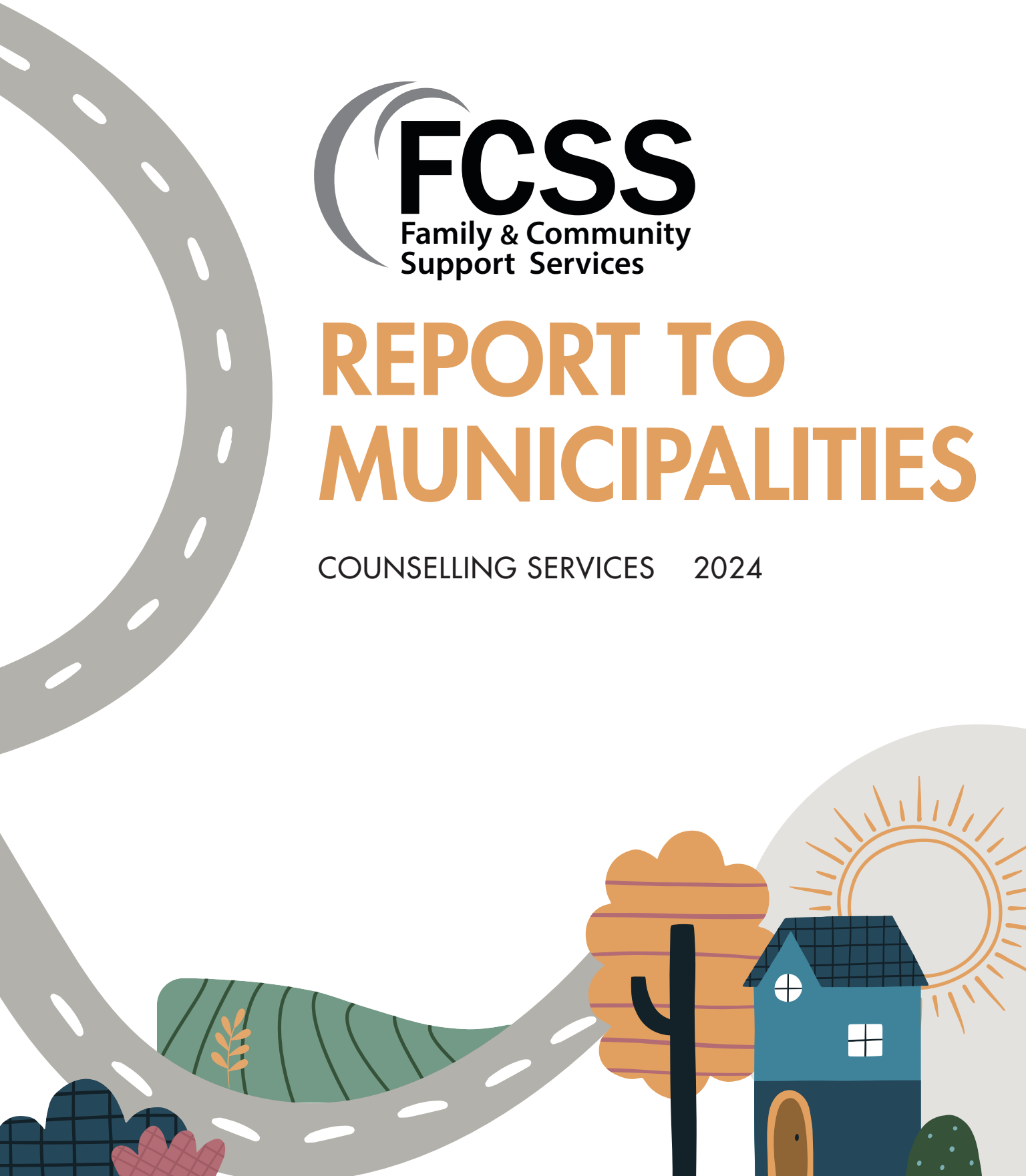
13. Budget information:

The budget information was approved by the Executive on November 10, 2022.



REPORT TO MUNICIPALITIES

COUNSELLING SERVICES 2024



Goal 1

Timely and Relevant Direct Service Delivery

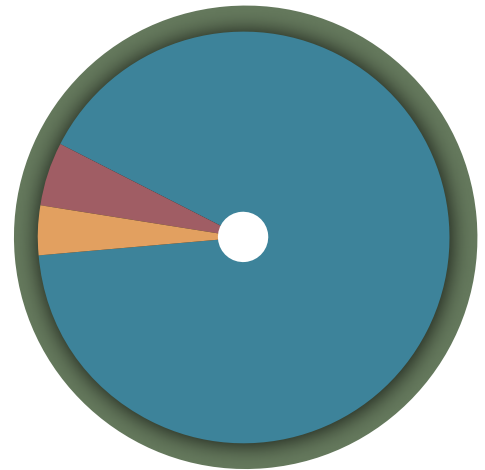
Deliver accessible and evidence-informed services to meet community needs throughout the lifecycle of residents.

► MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS

ONE-ON-ONE

COUNSELLING
SERVICES FORMATS:

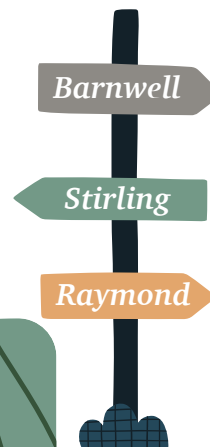
In-Person	91%
Phone	5%
Online	4%



450 CLIENTS SUPPORTED

3,517 SERVICE HOURS

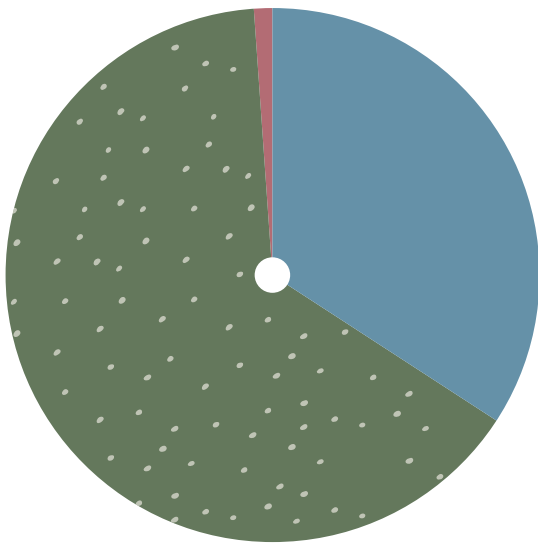
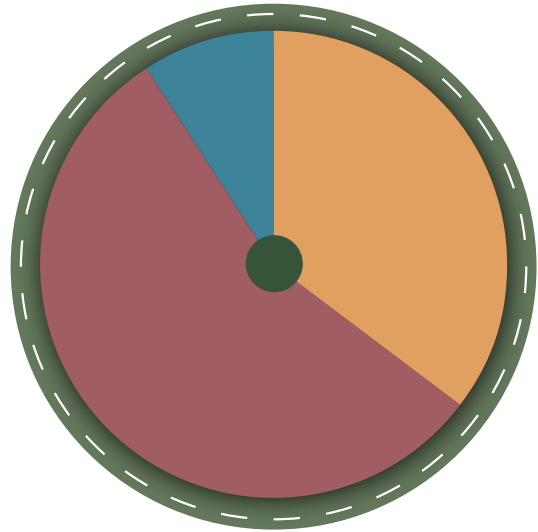
2,662 SERVICE VISITS



CLIENT DEMOGRAPHICS

AGES:

Adult (18–54)	57%
Children/Youth (0-17)	33%
Seniors (55+)	10%



GENDER:

Females	64%
Males	35%
Non-binary or Transgender	1%



GROUP PROGRAMS

173 CLIENTS SUPPORTED

477 SERVICE HOURS

425 SERVICE VISITS

Taming Worry Dragons

This group program is designed to help children ages 8-12 and their parents identify signs and impacts of anxiety. It provides them with essential tools and strategies to better cope with life stressors.

Circle Of Healing

Utilizing the use of drums, this program helps individuals of all ages heal from anxiety, depression, trauma, grief/loss and provide a sense of belonging.

Rainbows For All Children

Rainbows is an 8 week program that helps children who are grieving a loss of someone due to death, divorce, deployment, incarceration, or trauma.



Circle of Healing with Seniors



Thrive (New)

A therapeutic group designed to help new parents navigate the early days of parenthood. The focus of this group is on building coping strategies to promote perinatal mental wellness.

Mom and Baby Thriving Together (New)

An educational group designed to help parents learn more about parenting and early childhood development. The focus on the group is both to build mental wellness as well as to promote healthy attachments between parents and children. This program is a collaboration between Counselling and Family Services.

Blue Christmas: Therapeutic Drumming (New)

A support group for families dealing with grief/loss during the holiday season that utilizes drumming to help participants regulate emotions and provide them with a sense that they are not alone in their grief.

Rainbows For All Children

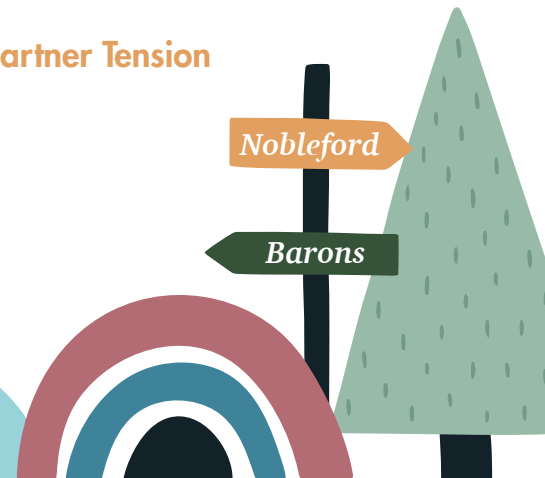
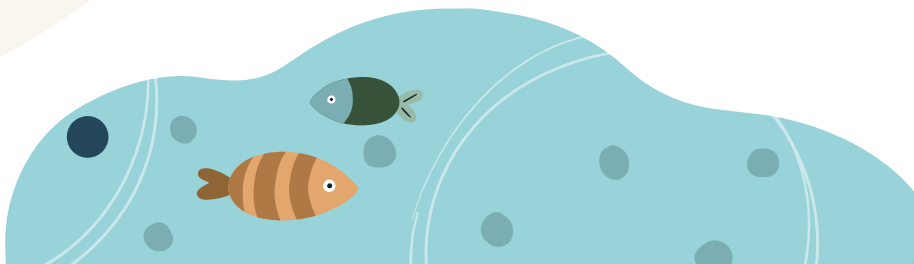


TOP 10 REASONS CLIENTS SEEK COUNSELLING SERVICES:

- **INDIVIDUAL**
Anxiety, Stress, Grief/Loss
- **FAMILY**
Family/Domestic Violence, Parent/Adult Child Conflict
- **COUPLE/RELATIONSHIP**
Communication, Conflict Resolution, Spousal/Partner Tension
- **SCHOOL/EMPLOYMENT**
Stress Management, Interpersonal Skills

Nobleford

Barons



Goal 2

Enhance Community Spirit

Recognize the uniqueness of each municipality with an inclusive approach.

► COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND ENGAGEMENT

199 SERVICE HOURS

1,446 SERVICE VISITS

EVENTS

- Low German Mennonite (LGM) Information Night
- Alberta Irrigation Districts Association Conference
- Newcomers Resource Fair

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

- SAKA (Southern Alberta Kanadier Association)
- Healthy Together Initiative
- Palliser School Division Clinical Consultation

PRESENTATIONS

- Youth Employment Program
- Farming Mental Health
- Circle of Healing through Drumming
- Caregiver Café-Love Languages
- Baby and Me
- Senior Appreciation Day
- Emergency Service Provider Counselling



Coffee Chat with Seniors

Hola



► VOLUNTEERING

Two Counselling Practicum Student Placements.

81 CLIENTS SUPPORTED BY PRACTICUM STUDENTS

423 SERVICES HOURS PROVIDED BY PRACTICUM STUDENTS

537 SERVICES VISITS



MEREL KROSS
Practicum Student
Yorkville University



KAITLYNN MORIN
Practicum Student
Gonzaga University

► CULTURAL PROGRAMMING

115 CLIENTS SUPPORTED

761 SERVICE HOURS

675 SERVICE VISITS



Newcomers Resource Fair



Goal 3

Entry Point for Supports

Connect residents to supports at the earliest opportunity through a person-centred approach.

► INFORMATION AND REFERRALS

COUNSELLING SERVICES PROVIDERS MADE **156** INTERNAL REFERRALS
AND **32** EXTERNAL REFERRALS

TOP EXTERNAL REFERRALS

- AHS Addictions and Mental Health
- ICS (Integrated Coordinated Access)
- Lethbridge Family Services



In the most recent 90 days, the Counselling Services webpage has received the following visits.

525 VISITS **327** UNIQUE VISITORS

1 MINUTE & 44 SECONDS AVERAGE DURATION ON THE PAGE



► COMMUNITY CAPACITY BUILDING

PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

AGKNOW

- The FCSS Counselling Team is working with AgKnow to address the mental health needs of the local agricultural community.
- The FCSS Counseling Services Supervisor:
 - Serves as a Represented on the AgKnow's Provincial Advisory Committee.
 - Is the trained facilitator in southern Alberta to provide the Introduction to Suicide Prevention for Agriculture workshop.
 - Is a member of the AgKnow Therapists Network.

FIRST RESPONDER SUPPORTS

- The FCSS Counselling Team is available to provide regular mental health check-ins and Trauma Counselling for the Taber Police Services staff and their families.
- The FCSS Counselling Services Supervisor has met with Taber Police Service and Stirling Fire Department to discuss the Emergency Response Provider Counselling service.
- The FCSS Counselling Service Team has provided a confidential online counselling request form on the FCSS webpage.





Goal 4

Capture Impact

Measure the positive impact of programs and services.

► INFORMATION STUDY AND RESEARCH

623 TOTAL # OF CLIENTS SUPPORTED

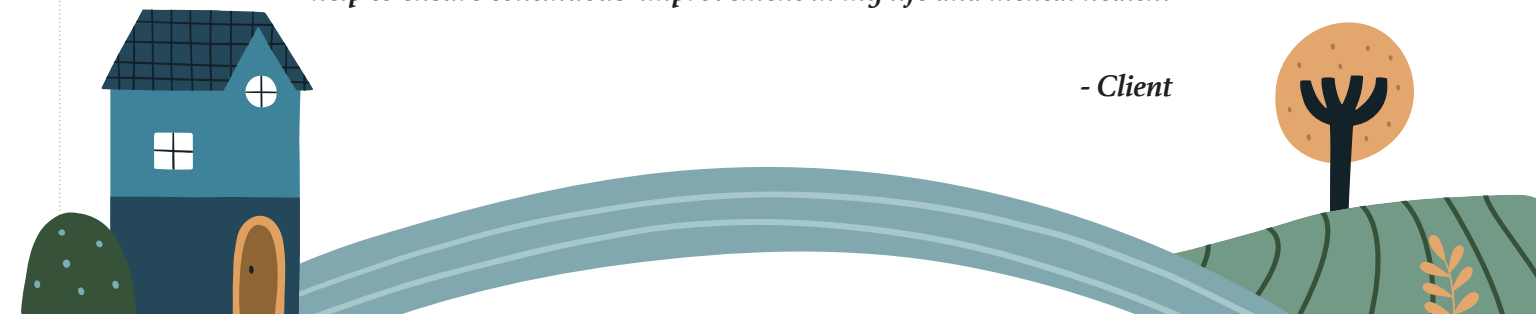
4,193 TOTAL # OF SERVICE HOURS

4,533 TOTAL # OF SERVICE VISITS

► CLIENT TESTIMONIALS

“ *I am extremely thankful and relieved for the free counseling sessions through FCSS. If these were not available, I would not have been able to afford the help. Having the access to talk to a professional has been very helpful, for my well being and mental health. When I first went I was at the point of exhaustion! I was unsure of where to turn or what to do. My mental health was the worst it had ever been. Through my counsellor's knowledge, support and compassion, I have gained strategies and supports which have been very beneficial for my overall well-being. These will also help to ensure continuous improvement in my life and mental health.* ”

- Client



“ As a couple who’s been married over twenty years, we can attest to the fact that a good marriage relationship requires work. However, knowing what type of tools are required to make it work can be a challenge. We are farmers in the Coaldale, AB area. Over the course of six months, we have accessed FCSS’s free counseling services, and are so grateful for the resources that it provides. With no cost barriers, and a counsellor who understood the pressures of the agriculture industry, we have gained valuable insights to help our relationship weather the ups and downs of another farming season on the horizon. A big, “Thank you” goes to our counsellor and FCSS for their support. ”

- Client

“ I am writing to you to let you know what a great experience I had with my counsellor at FCSS. I sought counselling at a low point in my life. I was dealing with my adult son who is fighting addictions and I was living with an Alcoholic boyfriend. I had a panic attack one night but thought it was a heart attack and ended up in emergency overnight.

I started doing counselling every two weeks at FCSS. I have coverage with my employment but certainly not enough for the counselling I received from my FCSS counsellor. It took some months but I am on a very good path right now. It was never a problem getting in to see my counsellor and he was very professional. My son is now in treatment and I have left the boyfriend. I don’t know if I would have had the courage to move forward without the counselling I received. ”

- Client



► ONE-ON-ONE PRE AND POST SURVEYS

ADULT CLIENTS

	Pre-surveys	Post-surveys
I am good at handling whatever comes my way	65%	78%
I am optimistic about my future	42%	77%
My relationship with my family is enjoyable	65%	76%

YOUTH CLIENTS

	Pre-surveys	Post-surveys
I am better at solving problems	52%	83%
I know adults that I can go to when I need help	77%	91%
I understand that it is ok to be myself	69%	88%

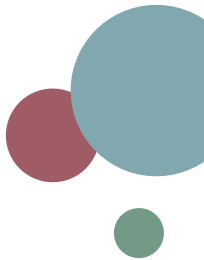
► GROUP PROGRAMMING SURVEYS

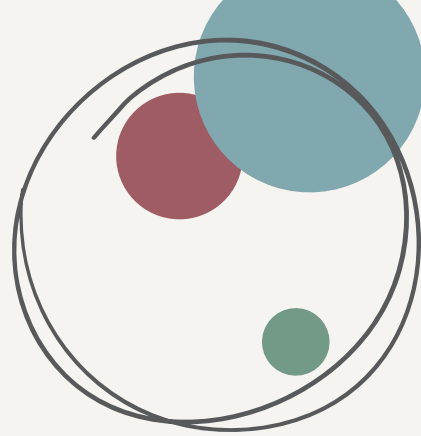
ADULT CLIENTS

I am able to better handle whatever comes my way	100%
I am more optimistic about my future	100%
My relationship with my family is more enjoyable	100%

YOUTH CLIENTS

I am better at solving problems	94%
I know adults that I can go to when I need help	100%
I understand that it is ok to be myself	97%
I am treated with respect at my school/community	94%
I look for opportunities to help others in my school/community	88%
My parents listen to my ideas and opinions	94%





FCSS

Family & Community
Support Services

www.fcss.ca





ALBERTA
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary-Hays*

AR114222

Dear Chief Elected Officials:

The Government of Alberta administers federal funding through the Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) to provide Alberta communities with flexible capital funding to invest in local infrastructure priorities. As you may be aware, the Canada-Alberta agreement for the CCBF for 2014-24 expired on March 31, 2024. The Alberta government is in active negotiations with the Government of Canada on a 10-year renewal agreement that will cover the 2024-34 period.

The Government of Canada sent a draft renewal agreement to Alberta late in 2023, and the agreement has several aspects that are concerning for Alberta and for local governments. As a result, we are standing up for the interests of Alberta in negotiations and doing our utmost to ensure funding continues to flow to local governments with as much flexibility as possible to address local priorities without unnecessary administrative burdens. As these negotiations are ongoing, there may be delays in the 2024 program, including the notification of allocation amounts and timing of payments to local governments.

As discussions with the federal government continue, we are working with the municipal associations to ensure the Alberta government understands the perspectives of local governments. We will continue to advocate for your interests and the interests of the province, and I will provide more information on the signing of the agreement as soon as possible.

Thank you for your understanding and patience during this renewal process.

Sincerely,

Ric McIver
Minister

cc: Chief Administrative Officers



ALBERTA
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary-Hays*

AR115212

June 19, 2024

His Worship Tyler Lindsay
Mayor
Village of Warner
PO Box 88
Warner AB T0K 2L0

Dear Mayor Lindsay:

The Honourable Danielle Smith, Premier of Alberta, shared your letter of May 16, 2024, regarding Alberta's introduction of Bill 20, the *Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2024*. I am pleased to respond on behalf of the Government of Alberta.

As you are aware, the recently passed Bill 20 will modify two key pieces of legislation for Alberta municipalities – the *Municipal Government Act (MGA)* and the *Local Authorities Election Act (LAEA)*. Bill 20 will help municipalities accelerate housing development, strengthen provincial oversight, and update the rules for local elections and locally elected officials. I realize there has been much misinformation about the contents and intent of this bill, and I am pleased to respond.

Under Canada's Constitution, there are two levels of government that are defined: provincial and federal. All municipal matters fall under provincial jurisdiction. The Government of Alberta has delegated significant authority to locally elected municipal governments under the *MGA*, to make decisions of a local nature on behalf of their residents. This said, all municipal jurisdictions are subject to provincial legislation and authority.

Through the powers in the Constitution and the *MGA*, the provincial government has always had the ability to dismiss a councillor, and it is a process which is not taken lightly. As you may be aware, I recently made the decision to dismiss a mayor and several councillors. More information on that situation is available at www.alberta.ca/chestermere-municipal-inspection.

This process was done through a municipal inspection and Ministerial Order. While this process may be appropriate for most cases, there may be situations which require an expedited process as outlined in Bill 20. I strongly believe in local decision-making, but like all governments, municipalities must focus on matters within their delegated responsibility when making their decisions.

.../2

Similarly, the provincial authority to repeal or amend bylaws is not new. The *MGA* already provides Cabinet the ability to intervene in planning and development bylaws; however, this ability has never been used. In 2022, the government introduced Bill 4, which amended the *MGA* to repeal bylaws related to face mask mandates in the City of Edmonton. This was an example of a municipal bylaw that was contrary to provincial public health advice. The changes in Bill 20 will enable government to address similar situations through a more expedited process; however, it remains this would be only used in rare circumstances.

On May 23, I tabled additional amendments to further clarify the intent of this bill. The amendments can be found at www.alberta.ca/strengthening-local-elections-and-councils. I encourage you to review the bill with amendments directly for more information on the contents of Bill 20.

Bill 20 will maintain the municipal ability to govern affairs within local jurisdiction while allowing Cabinet to step in when a municipal bylaw crosses into provincial jurisdiction. This will ensure municipal councils remain focused on municipal issues their constituents elected them to address. The authority of Cabinet to intervene in municipal bylaws or order public votes on possible dismissal of a councillor will be considered as a last resort; I anticipate these powers will be used very rarely, if ever.

In addition, the updates to the *MGA* and the *LAEA* will enhance transparency and ensure that local elected officials are held accountable to the Albertans they represent. We are strengthening public trust in local elections by eliminating the use of electronic tabulators. It is important for Albertans to feel they can trust the methods and results of local elections and requiring all ballots to be counted by hand will give Albertans that assurance.

Bill 20 will also enable the option to have criminal record checks as a part of candidate nomination packages and will allow local candidates to identify with local political parties without direct affiliation to provincial or federal parties. I have publicly stated my intention to implement the option to include municipal political party affiliation on ballots only in the cities of Edmonton and Calgary.

Currently, municipal candidates are able to organize into political parties or slates without any rules around their organization. Adding rules around political parties will increase transparency for electors. I will also note that no candidate will be required to join a political party – they will always remain voluntary and local.

Bill 20 will also increase transparency in campaign financing. In 2018, the government at the time banned corporation and union donations to individual candidates. Rather than taking the “big money” out of local elections, donations shifted to third-party advertisers. For example, Calgary’s Future raised \$1.7 million to endorse nine specific candidates who were elected in the 2021 municipal election. By enabling corporation and union donations at a cap of \$5,000 per municipality, voters will have public records of the unions, corporations, and individuals supporting candidates. We are also introducing an expense cap for municipal campaigns to limit donations collected and keep local campaigns focused on the current election.

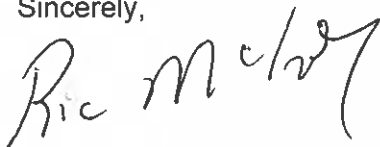
Albertans deserve to have faith in their local governments, and Albertans expect municipal leaders to behave responsibly to reflect the interests and needs of the community. Occasionally, the provincial government is asked to look into the management of an Alberta municipality and the leadership of its elected officials. We always treat such requests with the due diligence they deserve. Albertans deserve a provincial government which can respond promptly to extraordinary situations that occur within a municipality.

Bill 20 also includes amendments to the *MGA* that will encourage housing development in municipalities. Affordable and attainable housing has become one of the most urgent concerns across the country, and the Government of Alberta is unlocking options for municipalities to consider as they take local action to address housing affordability. The amendments to the *MGA* will create balance between appropriate engagement with residents and stakeholders and prompt municipal planning and development decisions. This ensures municipalities have greater flexibility to tackle their housing priorities while providing residents with the opportunity to have their say about development plans in their communities.

This bill was informed by feedback my ministry received from Albertans in 2021-23. The results of the consultation surveys can be found at www.alberta.ca/local-elections-and-councillor-accountability-engagement. I appreciate your feedback and your participation in the discussion of this important piece of legislation. The Government of Alberta remains committed to fairness and due process and will continue working with local authorities to ensure Albertans have the effective local representation they deserve.

Now that Bill 20 has passed, Municipal Affairs will be engaging with municipalities and stakeholders over the coming months to explain the changes Bill 20 will require at a local level, and develop regulations as required.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ric McIver". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ric McIver
Minister

cc: Honourable Danielle Smith, Premier of Alberta

AR115593

July 22, 2024

His Worship Tyler Lindsay
Mayor
Village of Warner
PO Box 88
Warner AB T0K 2L0

Dear Mayor Lindsay and Council:

SUBJECT: VILLAGE OF WARNER 2024 ANNUAL SUBMISSION

Thank you for the Village of Warner's emails from April and June providing the 2024 updates on the village's viability review directives 3a and 3b under Ministerial Order No. MSD:030/22.

On behalf of the Honourable Ric McIver, Minister of Municipal Affairs, I am pleased to advise that the village's 2024 updates on the capital and implementation plans satisfies the requirements of Directive 3. I would also like to congratulate council for using new tools created out of the village's action plan, including the village's review of organizational functions including job descriptions, employee handbooks, and the required Occupational Health and Safety workplace violence and harassment policy.

I appreciate the progress being made by the village in addressing the recommendations to ensure its viability, and I continue to be encouraged by the ability of council and administration to implement engagement strategies with the residents and build an effective partnership with the Town of Milk River. The sharing of resources and bulk purchasing are examples of how these regional relationships can build on the success the Village of Warner has achieved thus far.

Thank you again for your efforts. I look forward to receiving the annual progress reports, which are due by June 1, 2025, as directed in the order.

Sincerely,



Brandy Cox
Deputy Minister

cc: Honourable Ric McIver, Minister of Municipal Affairs
Kelly Lloyd, Chief Administrative Officer, Village of Warner
Gary Sandberg, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Services Division, Municipal Affairs



Request for Decision Bylaw Repeals

RECOMMENDATION

That Council repeal the following Bylaws:

- Bylaw 3: Licensing of Billiard Rooms and Bowling Alleys
- Bylaw 6: Licensing and Regulating Use of Automobiles for Hire
- Bylaw 8: Regulate Running at Large Milk Cows
- Bylaw 11: Storage of Gasoline and Other Combustible Materials
- Bylaw 140: Minimum Tax for Hospital
- Bylaw 141: Prohibit Discharge of Guns within the Village
- Bylaw 193: Establishment of a Civil Defense Unit
- Bylaw 244: Billiard Room Hours
- Bylaw 403-86: Pasteurization of Milk
- Bylaw 469-98: Warner District Ambulance Service

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Municipal Government Act

BACKGROUND

As work progresses reviewing the Village of Warner Bylaws, Administration has identified Bylaws that are either redundant, now provincial or federal law, or outdated. The noted Bylaws are on the agenda for repeal.

RISKS/CONSEQUENCES

1. Council may provide further direction on any item contained in the report. Council shall be specific in the direction it provides.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None

ATTACHMENTS

1. Bylaw 3: Licensing of Billiard Rooms and Bowling Alleys
2. Bylaw 6: Licensing and Regulating Use of Automobiles for Hire
3. Bylaw 8: Regulate Running at Large Milk Cows
4. Bylaw 11: Storage of Gasoline and Other Combustible Materials
5. Bylaw 140: Minimum Tax for Hospital
6. Bylaw 141: Prohibit Discharge of Guns within the Village
7. Bylaw 193: Establishment of a Civil Defense Unit
8. Bylaw 244: Billiard Room Hours
9. Bylaw 403-86: Pasteurization of Milk
10. Bylaw 469-98: Warner District Ambulance Service

A BY-LAW OF THE VILLAGE OF WARNER TO LICENSE
~~GOVERN~~ PERSONS HAVING BILLIARD, POOL, OR BAGATILLE TABLES
OR BOWLING ALLEYS.

The Council of the Village of Warner enacts as follows:-

1. That no person or persons shall in the said Village for hire or gain directly or indirectly keep or have in his or her or their possession on his ,her or their ~~premis~~ ~~premise~~ premises any Billiard, Pool or Bagatelle table or Bowling Alley in a house or place of public entertainment without having first obtained a license and paid the necessary fee therefor.

2. Any person desiring a license for any Billiard, Pool or Bagatelle table or Bowling Alley shall make written application to the Village Council for same and such application shall state the name of the applicant, his address, the proposed location of the premises to be used, the number of tables license is required for, and shall be accompanied by fee for license which shall be as follows:- TEN DOLLARS for the first table, and FIVE DOLLARS for each additional table, FIFTEEN ~~DOLLARS~~ DOLLARS for first Bowling Alley and TEN DOLLARS for each additional Bowling Alley. The Council may if satisfied that the premises are suitable and the applicant a fit and proper person to receive a license for such purpose, order such license to issue subject to the following conditions which shall be embodied in the license itself.

1. That no person under the age of seventeen years loiter about the premises.
2. That the premises shall be closed at and no playing allowed after eleven o'clock p.m. on Saturday night.
3. That no betting or gambling of any kind or nature be allowed on the premises where such licensees tables or Bowling Alleys are situated.
4. That the said Council on being satisfied of the breach of any of said conditions may cancel said license and the licensee shall not be entitled to any refund for the unexpired term of said license.
5. That all licenses granted under the provisions of this By-Law shall be for the year current at the time of issuing thereof and shall expire on the thirty first day of December next succeeding the date of the same.

BY-LAW NO. THREE Continued,

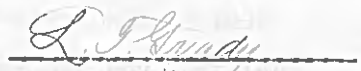
6. That any person found guilty of a breach of this By-Law shall upon conviction before a Justice of the Peace or other officer having jurisdiction, be liable to the penalties imposed by the By-Law providing for the enforcement of the By-Laws of the Village of Warner.

DONE AND PASSED in Council assembled at the Village of Warner this 3 day of Feb A.D. 1919.



Reeve

SEAL.


Secretary-Treasurer.

BY-LAW NO.SIX.

A BY-LAW OF THE VILLAGE OF WARNER FOR LICENSING AND
REGULATING THE USE OF MOTOR DRIVEN VEHICLES (AUTOMOBILES)
FOR HIRE

The Council of the Village of Warner enacts as follows:-

1. That there shall be taken out by every person having a Motor or Engine driven vehicle used for the transportation of persons, and their accompanying baggage, and for which a charge is made, either for transportation or car hire, within the Village of Warner, a license for which the person obtaining the same shall pay to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Village at the time of applying for said license, a sum of TWENTY FIVE DOLLARS for the first three or less vehicles used for the above mentioned purposes, and a license fee or sum of TEN DOLLARS for each additional vehicle used for such purposes.

2. That no person shall follow or carry on the business trade or calling of Automobile Livery, without having first obtained such license and paid the necessary fee therefo^r

3. That any person having any licensed Automobile for hire shall have the privilege of having such Automobile for hire either by the day or by the mile, provided that when the hiring is by the day it shall be for at least half a day.

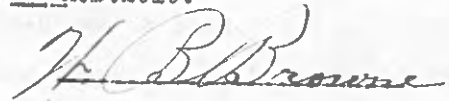
4. That all licenses granted under the provisions of this By-Law unless they are expressed to be granted for a shorter period shall be the year current at the time of the issuing thereof, and shall expire on the thirty first day of December next succeeding the date of same, and for any license issued between the first day of January and the first day of July following the amount to be paid therefor shall be equal to the charge for a full year, and for any license issued subsequent to the first day of July the amount to be paid therefor shall be equal to two thirds of the full charge for a year.

5. That the person in whose name a license is taken out shall be considered as the owner of the Automobile or vehicle licensed and shall be liable to the penalties imposed for a breach of this By-Law whether committed by said owner or by any employee of said owner. (Continued)

6. That any person licensed under this By-Law shall through himself or driver punctually keep all his appointments within the Village and should he neglect to do so he shall be liable for a breach of said By-Law.

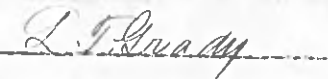
7. That any person found guilty of a breach of this By-Law shall upon conviction before a Justice of the Peace or other officer having jurisdiction be liable to the penalties imposed by the By-Law providing for the enforcement of the BY-LAWS of the Village of Warner.

DONE AND PASSED in Council assembled at the Village of Warner, this 3 day of Feb A.D. 1919.



Reeve

SEAL.



Secretary-Treasurer.

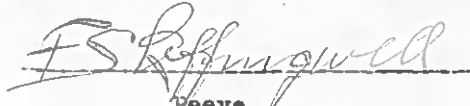
BY-LAW NO. EIGHT

A By-LAW of the Village of Warner to restrain and regulate the running at large or trespassing of Milk Cows.

1. Whereas all bonafide Milk Cows needed for the purpose of supplying milk for sale or private house use, will be allowed to run at large from Six o'clock in the morning to Seven o'clock in the evening upon payment of a tax, the amount which will be fixed by the Village Council, and the owner of cows to be furnished with a tag and the said tag to be displayed around the cows neck.

2. Under the following conditions the owners of said cows must use reasonable care that said cows do not become a nuisance and if cows are found to be Breechy, dangerous and Mischevious, they will be subject to pound.

Done and passed in council assembled at the Village of Warner this 2nd day of April, 1923.


Reeve


Sec. Tres.

BY-LAW No. 11.....

A By-law of the Village of Warner to Regulate the Storage of Gasoline and other Combustible Materials within the limits of the Village of Warner.

The Council of the Village of Warner enacts as follows:

1. No person shall have or keep within the limits of the Village of Warner any quantity of Rock Oil, Coal Oil or any other such oils exceeding 50 gallons.

2. No person shall keep any larger quantity than 50 gallons of Crude Oil, Naptha, Gasoline, Benzine or other simular combustibile or dangerous materials at any one time in any house, shop or building or in any other place whatsoever within the limits of the said Village of Warner without the permission of the Council of the said Village of Warner

3. Any person guilty of an infraction of any provision of this By-Law shall upon conviction before a Justice of the Peace or other officer having jurisdiction be liable to the penalties provided for by By-Law No..... of the Village of Warner being a By-Law to provide for the enforcement of the By/Laws of the Village of Warner.

DONE AND PASSED in Council assembled at the Village of Warner this... 7th ... day of May... A.D. 1935

..... J. G. Evans Reeve
..... M. J. [Signature] Secretary-Treas.

Seal

..... M. J. [Signature] (Secretary-Treasurer)

(Reeve or Mayor)

[Handwritten marks]

BY-LAW NO. 31

A BY-LAW OF THE VILLAGE OF WARNER FOR THE PURPOSE OF REGULATING THE PLACING OF OBSTRUCTIONS ON STREETS, LANES, SIDEWALKS OR OTHER PUBLIC PLACES.

Under and by virtue of the authority vested in the Village of Warner by the Town and Village Act, being Chapter 49, of the Statutes of Alberta, 1934, the Council duly assembled enacts as follows:-


1. No person shall place any obstruction on, over or under any street, lane, sidewalk, or other public place within the Village of Warner until a permit therefor has been issued being authorized by resolution of the Council permitting the same.
2. Persons disregarding this provision must remove such obstructions at their own expense or the person by whom or by whose direction the obstruction is so placed or by or at the expense of the occupant of the premises connected therewith, otherwise the Village Council may order removal and providing any expense has been incurred by the Village for such removal of any obstruction, may be recoverable by distress upon the goods and chattles of the person by whom or by whose direction any obstruction is so placed in the same manner as if such expenses were taxes levied pursuant to the Town and Village Act and so recoverable.

DONE and PASSED in Council assembled at Warner

this second day of December, A.D. 1940.



Mayor



Secretary-Treasurer

SEAL

BY-LAW NO. 140
OF THE VILLAGE OF WARNER

MINIMUM TAX FOR HOSPITAL AGREEMENT BY PERSONS ON THE ROLL

Under the authority and subject to the provisions of Section 352 of The Town and Village Act, (Being chapter 97 of the Statutes of Alberta, 1952); and

WHEREAS The Village of Warner is in The Lethbridge Lethbridge Hospital District No. 65 and levies a mill rate for the purpose of said hospital district;

NOW THEREFORE the Municipal Council of The Village of Warner in council duly assembled enacts as follows:--

1. That a Minimum Tax of Ten (\$10.00) Dollars be paid by all persons assessed upon the assessment and tax roll as registered or conditional owners of real property.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section (1), where the names of two persons appear upon the assessment and tax roll as owners or joint owners of real property and each of such persons is the spouse of the other, one only of such persons shall be liable to pay the minimum tax in the event the combined real property tax does not come to the sum of \$10.00; and
3. When the owner of real property, within the village, who is paying on other real property within the Lethbridge Municipal Hospital District No. 65, Section (1) will not apply if he/she can supply proof of payment.

OF THE VILLAGE OF WARNER

A BY-LAW OF THE VILLAGE OF WARNER TO PROHIBIT THE DISCHARGE OF GUNS
WITHIN THE VILLAGE BOUNDARIES FOR THE PROTECTION
OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY.

Under the authority of Section 302, Subsection (e) of The Town and Village Act, (Being Chapter 97 of the Statutes of Alberta, 1952) the Council of the Village of Warner duly assembled, Enacts as follows:--


1. That it is unlawful for the discharge of guns or other firearms and the firing and setting off of fire balls, squibs, crackers or fire works within The Village of Warner.

2. Any person found guilty for the contravention of this by-law shall be dealt with as prescribed in By-law number one, a by-law of the Village of Warner to provide for the enforcement of the by-laws of the village.

Dated at WARNER, ALBERTA, this 12th day of March, A.D. 1956.



Mayor



Secretary-Treasurer

First Reading the 12th Day of March, A.D. 1956.

Second Reading the 12th day of March, A.D. 1956.

Third Reading and finally passed the 10th day of April, A.D. 1956.

MODEL BY-LAW TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT

FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE

Border County

CIVIL DEFENCE UNIT

WHEREAS it is deemed expedient and advisable in the interests of a more efficient and economical civil defence effort that the Council of the

Village of Warner

(Name of Municipality)

is authorized to co-operate with the Councils of other municipalities in the establishment of a Civil Defence Unit.

WHEREAS THE COUNCILS OF:

the County # 5 of Warner

the Town of Raymond

the Town of Milk River

etc. Village of Coutts
Village of Stirling
Village of Warner

all in the Province of Alberta, have indicated their willingness to enter into an Agreement for the establishment of a Civil Defence Unit.

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCILS OF:

the County # 5 of Warner

the Town of Raymond

the Town of Milk River

etc. Village of Coutts
Village of Stirling
Village of Warner

under authority of *Section 279 of the Town and Village Act

hereby enact as follows:

1. The signing official (or officials) of the Village of Warner
(Name of Municipality)

are hereby authorized to enter into an Agreement with the County of Warner

Town of Raymond Village of Town of Milk River

County of Village of Coutts Municipal District of Village of Stirling

Improvement District No. _____

Special Area No. _____ for the establishment of a Civil Defence Unit.

Handwritten initials

Municipal officials shall fulfill duties and obligations imposed
Municipality by reason of the terms of the said Agreement.

By-Law comes into force on the day it is passed.

Read a first time October 19th A.D. 19 64

Read a second time October 19th A.D. 19 64

Read a third time October 19th A.D. 19 64

and finally passed this 19 day of October

A.D. 19 64.

W. Halladay
Mayor or Reeve

P. Hedberg
Secretary-Treasurer

Minister-in-Charge
Emergency Measures

IT IS RECOMMENDED that, after the second reading of this By-law
prior to the third reading, the said By-law should be submitted
to the Minister-in-Charge, Alberta Emergency Measures, for approval.

Complete with appropriate Section and Act, i.e.,

- 1. Section 254 of the Municipal District Act, or
- 2. Section 290 (e) of the City Act, or
- 3. Section 279 of the Town & Village Act.

A BY-LAW TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE
OF WARNER, TO SET THE HOURS THE BILLIARD ROOM
MAY REMAIN OPEN ON SUNDAYS

Under the authority of Section 13 of The Billiards
Room Act, the council of the Village of Warner
enacts as follows:

The Block Apartments, Grill and Billiard Room located
on 308 - 2nd Street be allowed to remain open from
2 P.M. to 10 P.M. on Sundays.

Read a first time this 13th day of May A.D., 1970.

Read a second time this 13th day of May A.D., 1970.

Read a third time and finally passed this 13th day of May A.D., 1970.

J. C. To...
Mayor

(SEAL)
P. Hedberg
Secretary-Treasurer.

VILLAGE OF WARNER
BY-LAW NUMBER 467-98

By-Law Number 467-98 of the Village of Warner in the Province of Alberta, is for the purpose of entering into an agreement and adopting such an agreement between the County of Warner No. 5 and the Village of Warner regarding the operation and maintenance of the Warner District Ambulance Service. A copy of the agreement being included in such by-law.

NOW THEREFORE the council of the Village of Warner hereby enacts the following:

DATE OF COMMENCEMENT

1. This by-law comes into effect upon third and final reading thereof.

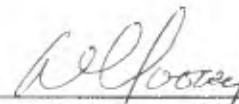
AMENDMENTS

2. Council may amend this by-law from time to time by mutual consent of both parties.


Read a first time this 18th day of November 1998

Read a second time this 16th day of December 1998

Read a third and final time this 16th day of December 1998.



Donald Toovey, Mayor



Arlene Gerard, C. A. O.

BY-LAW NUMBER 403-6

BY-LAW TO REQUIRE PASTEURIZATION OF MILK IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 57.1 OF THE DAIRY INDUSTRY ACT.

Being a By-Law of the Village of Warner requiring milk sold, offered for sale or delivered within the limits of said Village to be pasteurized before being sold, offered for sale or delivered.

WHEREAS, it is provided by Section 57.1 of the Dairy Industry Act that the Council of any municipality may pass a By-Law for the purpose of requiring milk sold, offered for sale or delivered within the limits of the municipality to be pasteurized before being sold, offered for sale or delivered; and


NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Village of Warner in council assembled ENACTS AS FOLLOWS;

1. For the purpose of this By-Law, "pasteurization" and "pasteurized" shall have the meaning given to these words in Section 57.1 of the Dairy Industry Act.
2. No person shall sell, offer for sale or deliver within the limits of the Village of Warner, milk which has not been pasteurized.
3. Section 2 of this By-Law shall not apply to milk brought into the Village by the producer and sold by wholesale to a distributor, a milk processing plant and by methods approved by the Provincial Board of Health.
4. This By-Law shall take effect on the date of the final passing thereof.
5. Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of this By-Law shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding Five hundred dollars, (\$500.00) exclusive costs, to imprisonments for a term not exceeding sixty days.

Read a first time this 9th day of April, A.D., 1986.

Read a second time this 9th day of April, A.D., 1986.

Read a third time and finally passed this 9th day of April, A.D., 1986.


Mayor Roger Christensen


Administrator Gordon MacDonnell



Request for Decision Riding Arena

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve/not approve the location of a riding arena.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

BACKGROUND

At the June regular council meeting, the following motion was passed:

Moved by Mayor Lindsay, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that Council directs administration to conduct public engagement and gather feedback to the proposed riding arena at the Civic Centre." Motion Carried 2024-136

A poll was completed and is attached for information.

There have been further discussions as to another potential location to host a riding arena.

RISKS/CONSEQUENCES

1. Council may provide further direction on any item contained in the report. Council shall be specific in the direction it provides.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Unknown

ATTACHMENTS

1. Riding Arena Poll

Answer	Percentage	TotalVotes
Yes	63%	34
No	37%	20



Request for Decision Alberta Municipalities Resolution Book

RECOMMENDATION

That the Alberta Municipalities Resolution Book be accepted as information.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

BACKGROUND

Annually, Alberta Municipalities collect resolutions from municipalities across Alberta that enables member municipalities to identify and prioritize common issues and solutions that the Board of Alberta Municipalities can advocate for to the federal and provincial governments on members behalf.

There are 27 submitted resolutions,

RISKS/CONSEQUENCES

1. Council may provide further direction on any item contained in the report. Council shall be specific in the direction it provides.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None

ATTACHMENTS

1. Alberta Municipalities Resolution Book

2024 Resolutions Book



 **Alberta
Municipalities**
Strength
In Members

Version 1: July 29, 2024

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About Resolutions

Alberta Municipalities (ABmunis) conducts an annual resolutions process that enables member municipalities to bring forward common issues and solutions and seek member approval to give direction to ABmunis' Board of Directors to advocate to the federal and provincial governments on members' behalf.

This process includes a resolutions session at ABmunis' annual Convention where Regular Members vote on resolutions that have been submitted by members. When a resolution is adopted by members, ABmunis takes action to develop and implement an advocacy strategy for each resolution.

As set out in ABmunis' [Resolutions Policy](#), for a resolution to be presented at ABmunis' Convention, the resolution must:

- address a topic of concern affecting municipalities on a regional or provincial level,
- be approved by the council of the sponsoring municipality, and
- be seconded by an additional municipal council of different sized population.

A resolution must not direct one or more municipalities to adopt a particular course of action or policy but must be worded as a request for consideration of an issue, including a call for action by ABmunis.

How to use this Resolutions Book?

Each elected official of a Regular Member municipality who registers for ABmunis' Convention has the right to vote on each resolution at ABmunis' Convention. If one or more members of your council will attend this year's Convention in Red Deer on September 25-27, 2024, then we encourage you to:

1. Review this resolutions book with your council.
2. Discuss if your council supports or opposes the proposed call to action in each resolution so that your elected delegates at Convention have that context when they vote in the resolutions session.

Note: During the Convention resolutions session, each elected official votes individually using their own device. Therefore, your council member(s) can choose to vote in accordance with the majority position of your council or their own personal view, if different. This is one reason we encourage councils to discuss each resolution in advance to increase transparency and understanding of viewpoints on resolution issues.



How can I participate in the Resolutions Session?

The 2024 Resolutions Session will take place on Thursday, September 26 as part of [ABmunis 2024 Convention and Tradeshow](#). The session will follow the process set out in sections 38 to 67 of ABmunis' [Resolutions Policy](#).

Who can speak to a resolution?

As outlined in the Resolutions Policy, elected representatives of Regular Members can speak to resolutions. Upon a motion from the floor, or at the discretion of the Resolutions Chair, a representative of an Associate Member (e.g. municipal districts and counties) may also speak to a resolution.

How to speak to a resolution

After each resolution is introduced, and the mover has been given the chance to speak for two minutes, the Chair will call for a speaker who wishes to speak in opposition, seek clarification, or propose an amendment.

In person attendees wishing to speak to a resolution will be invited to go to microphones clearly marked for those wishing to speak in favour or in opposition. Those participating virtually will be able use the Q&A function of Zoom to enter questions or comments, which will be read out by an ABmunis' staff member in turn with other members standing at the microphones.

Aside from the resolution sponsor, a speaker cannot speak more than once on each resolution.

How to propose an amendment to a resolution

A proposed amendment must be presented with your name, title, municipality, and the resolution title, along with the exact wording of the proposed amendment. All amendments must be seconded unless it is deemed a 'friendly amendment.'

Prior to the Resolutions Session

ABmunis encourages members to provide advance notice of any intent to propose an amendment to a resolution by emailing resolutions@abmunis.ca. This helps ABmunis to prepare and avoid potential delays during the Resolutions Session.

During the Resolutions Session – In Person Attendees

Hand deliver your proposed amendment in writing to both the ABmunis staff person sitting in the audio booth at the back of the room and to the Resolutions Chair.

During the Resolutions Session – Virtual Attendees

Type your proposed amendment in the Zoom chat function.

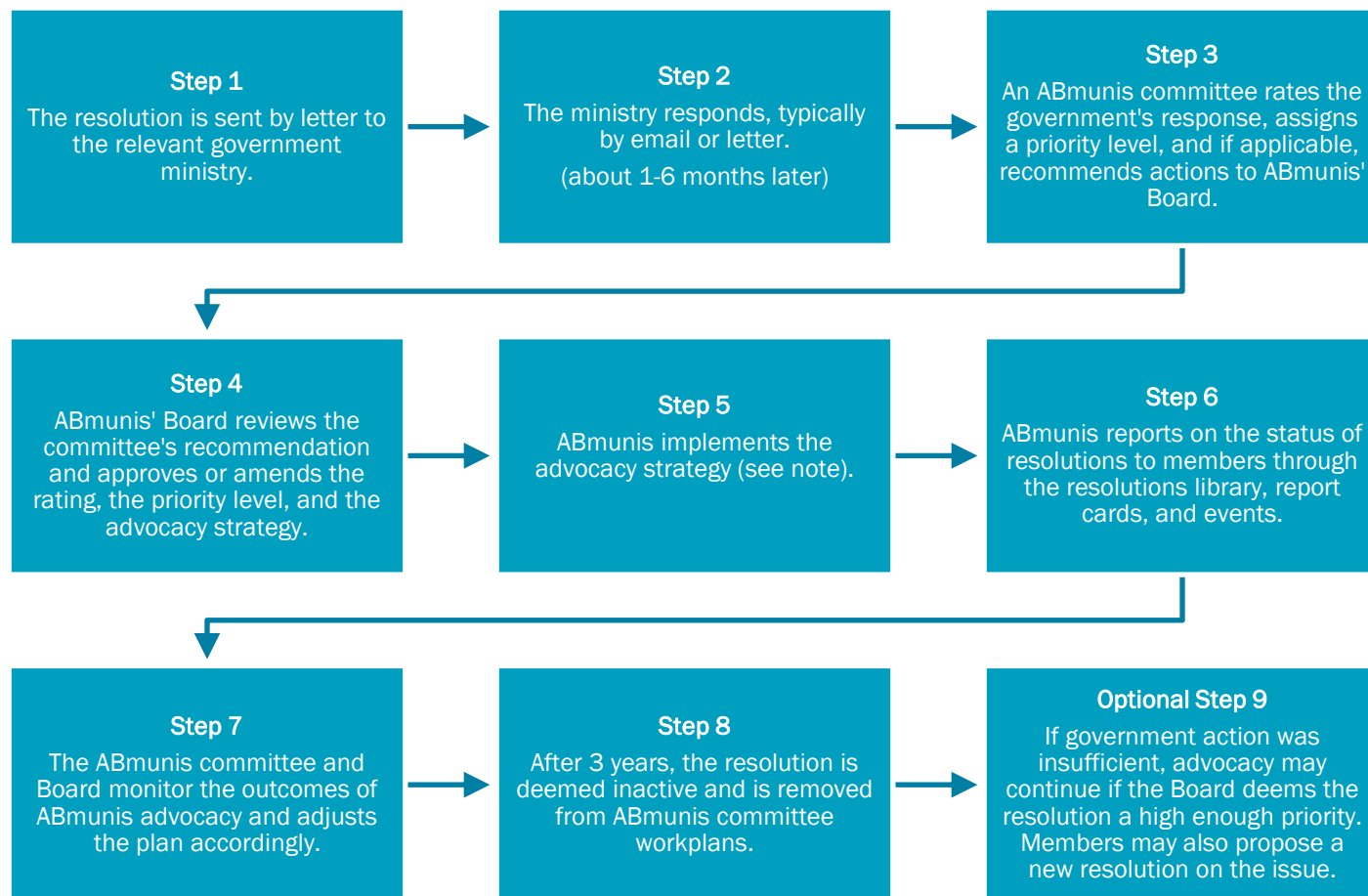
How to vote

In September, elected officials from Regular Member municipalities who are registered for Convention will receive voting credentials from Simply Voting. Elected officials who are eligible for voting credentials can vote on all resolutions.

Bring a laptop, smartphone, or other device that is internet enabled to the Resolutions Session. You will be asked to log in to the Simply Voting website. Once a resolution is called to vote, you will hit the "next vote" button at the top of the page to see the current resolution available to vote on. After you have cast your vote, you will receive confirmation that your vote has been counted. Once the vote result is posted, we will move on to the next resolution.

If you have any questions about this process, please contact resolutions@abmunis.ca.

What happens after members adopt a resolution?



Note: ABmunis' advocacy strategy will differ depending on the priority of the issue. If the Board deems a resolution to be a low priority, ABmunis will monitor the issue but may not take other action after sending the initial letter to the government. Whereas a resolution that is considered a high priority may lead to an advocacy strategy such as sending additional letters, seeking a meeting with a minister, premier, or senior staff, conduct research, strike an ad hoc working group, collaborate with other stakeholder organizations, engage media, conduct a public social media campaign, encourage members to take specific action, or other initiatives.

Status of previous resolutions

All resolutions that have been voted on by members over the previous fifteen years are posted in the [Resolutions Library](#) on ABmunis' website. The Resolution Library summarizes:

- the resolution,
- the response and any actions by the government,
- ABmunis' rating on whether the intent of the resolution has been met,
- ABmunis' rating on the priority of the issue, and
- ABmunis' actions to advocate for the issue.

The status of resolutions can also be viewed through ABmunis' new annual [resolution report cards](#).

2024 RESOLUTIONS

Category B - Issues Related to Alberta Municipalities' Strategic Initiatives

B1: Independent Office of Integrity for Local Government

Moved by: Town of Rocky Mountain House
 Seconded by: Town of Sylvan Lake, Town of Legal

WHEREAS the Municipal Government Act requires that municipalities must establish a code of conduct bylaw which governs the conduct of councillors with the intent to build and inspire public trust and confidence in local government by upholding high standards;

WHEREAS there is an inherent conflict in that fellow council members have to determine and enforce the actions of their peers in a structure that needs to be cooperative and collaborative for effective governance;

WHEREAS responsible conduct of elected officials, both individually and collectively as a council, is essential to sound, fair and effective governance;

WHEREAS the current structure of code of conduct legislation places the chief administrative officer and other municipal administration in a difficult position as they are tasked with hiring an investigator and coordinating the investigation of individuals who oversee their compensation and employment;

WHEREAS it would be fairer and more impartial if a third party assessed and determined if a code of conduct complaint was valid and if so, conducted the investigation and recommended appropriate actions warranted by any breach; and

WHEREAS local governments are best served by resources and tools that reflect the legislative framework for local government in Alberta, which is based on democracy, transparency and accountability.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the provincial government to establish an Independent Office of Integrity to serve the public, elected officials and local government officials in an advisory, educational and investigative role in the application and enforcement of council code of conducts.

BACKGROUND:

The sections of the Municipal Government Act (MGA) in regard to code of conducts came into force October 26, 2017, giving municipalities until July 23, 2018 to establish a code of conduct bylaw.

Under the previous MGA there was no requirements for a code of conduct and councillor conduct was addressed locally.

Municipalities can't remove councillors from office, but councillors can use codes of conduct to remove other councillors from committees and exclude them from some meetings. But councillors on the receiving end of those judgments argue that power can be wielded sometimes inappropriately.

Councils need to work collaboratively and cooperatively to effectively govern. This requires a concerted effort of working together and becoming a team that is respectful to each other and accepting different opinions. A code of conduct complaint can be counterintuitive to this essential aspect of a council in that it places council members in quasi-judicial role on a peer.

While the principle of code of conduct bylaws is important, it is just as important that it is implemented in a fair and unbiased manner. The creation of an independent third party such as an integrity office would alleviate this, whereas the office would evaluate and determine if a breach occurred, investigate and recommend disciplinary actions that are suitable to the breach.

The establishment of an inquiry office would also remove administration from being involved in any code of conduct process. This reinforces the dichotomy of council and municipal administration and potential conflict between the two.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

There has been no previous resolution on the matter; however, based on significant input from members, ABmunis has used previous provincial consultations on the MGA to recommend the creation of an independent office. In June 2024, ABmunis met with the Premier and Minister of Municipal Affairs who were both receptive to the idea. This led to Municipal Affairs using its July 2024 consultations on the development of regulations related to the Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act (Bill 20) to include questions on how an Integrity Commissioner's Office could be structured, its extent of power, and the funding source. The approval of this resolution would provide further confirmation that ABmunis' members support the creation of an independent body to serve municipal councils in the investigation and recommendation of sanctions related to code of conduct violations.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

Tracy Breese
Legislative Coordinator
Town of Rocky Mountain House
Legislative@TRMH.ca

Dean Krause
Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Rocky Mountain House
DKrause@TRMH.ca

B2: Allowance of Automated Vote Counting Systems in Municipal Elections

Moved by: City of St. Albert
 Seconded by: Town of Rocky Mountain House

WHEREAS the timely, accurate and efficient operation of municipal elections is essential to uphold the principles of democratic integrity and effective local government;

WHEREAS municipalities across Alberta have historically employed a variety of vote counting methods, ranging from manual counting of ballots to the use of automated vote counting systems that count paper ballots, that best enable them to facilitate local elections based on the unique demographics and structure of their municipality;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta's Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2024 repeals the section of the Local Authorities Election Act that enables the use of automated vote counting systems, necessitating that municipalities solely employ the manual counting of ballots in future local elections, thereby running counter to the core principle of enabling local decision-making;

WHEREAS a municipal electoral ballot can contain many different votes, including a vote for mayor, multiple councillors, school board trustees, senate candidate nominations, and referendum or plebiscite questions, the complexity of which can both increase the risk of human error and the time required to complete a manual count;

WHEREAS municipalities have utilized automated vote counting systems at their discretion to effectively mitigate the complexity and time required to count ballots in order to produce accurate, reliable and timely election results;

WHEREAS the previous Local Authorities Election Act and current municipal bylaws include stringent, effective and tested regulations for the use of automated vote counting systems, in addition to the allowance of manual re-counts, which have ensured fair, accurate and authentic local elections for many election cycles;

WHEREAS the requirement of manual ballot counting will impose a financial burden on municipalities that have previously relied on automated vote counting systems, limit the ability to provide accurate, timely and reliable results, and increase the risk of delayed results and errors; and

WHEREAS some municipalities have not utilized manual vote counting in years or decades and would therefore incur significant risk in adapting alternative vote counting processes without precedent or corporate expertise, thereby increasing the likelihood of delayed results, errors, and cost escalation.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to permit municipalities to utilize the vote counting system of their choice in the operation of their local elections, including automated vote counting systems, to ensure accurate, cost-effective and timely results for Albertan voters.

BACKGROUND:

On April 25th, 2024, the Government of Alberta tabled Bill 20, the Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, which makes substantive changes to the Local Authorities Election Act (LAEA). The bill repealed section 84 of the LAEA, which stated:

84(1). An elected authority may by bylaw provide for the taking of the votes of electors by means of voting machines, vote recorders or automated voting systems.

Further stipulations within this section referenced the allowance of electronic voting tabulators and included stringent requirements and regulations for the use of such equipment.

Bill 20 replaced this section with the following:

84. A local jurisdiction shall not provide for the taking or counting of votes by means of voting machines, vote recorders, automated voting systems or tabulators.

Many municipalities have used automated vote counting systems – such as electronic tabulators– over a large number of election cycles. These systems typically involve a voter filling out a paper ballot, which is then deposited in an electronic tabulator that records their votes; the technology utilized is similar to “scantron” automated test scoring systems that are used for educational exams in schools and post-secondary institutions across Alberta. Once a paper ballot’s votes have been recorded by the electronic tabulator, the paper ballot remains accessible should any errors or close results necessitate a manual re-count of the ballots.

The use of such systems allows for the effective and timely counting of ballots, some of which can contain over a dozen different individual votes, including votes for mayor, multiple councillors, school board trustees, senate nominees, provincial referendums, and local plebiscites. For example, in the City of St. Albert’s 2021 election, over 17,500 individual ballots were cast, with each ballot containing 7 separate votes, and 17 candidates elected or referendum questions answered out of over 50 options. Similar complex ballot dynamics exist among many municipalities in Alberta.

The previous LAEA enabled the use of automated vote counting systems at a municipality’s discretion, and also placed regulatory stipulations and requirements for their use; municipalities that utilized the equipment often included stricter stipulations for its use within their own election-regulating bylaws. The City of St. Albert’s Municipal Elections Bylaw 20/2017, for example, includes the following regulations:

- Requirements that the automated vote counting system has been tested, is in good working order and will provide accurate results;
- Requirements that the integrity of the automated vote counting system is protected through security measures designed to prevent unauthorized access or tampering of the system;
- Regulations for contingencies should an automated vote counting system malfunction.

Automated vote counting systems also allow for increased reliability and voter confidence in the use of complex ballots. For example, the City of St. Albert’s local election processes enable a voter to place their own marked paper ballot in an electronic tabulator; should the tabulator identify an error on the ballot, the voter will be given an opportunity to request a new ballot, ensuring that their votes are counted. Such contingencies and allowances would not be possible with a manual count, which would necessitate a degree of subjectivity to interpret unclear or improperly marked ballots and thus increase the risk of votes not being counted and vote counting errors.

Municipalities that utilize automated vote counting equipment have also invested notable resources in their operation and regulation; for example, the City of St. Albert regulates the use of electronic tabulators in its Municipal Elections Bylaw¹ and signed a contract with a value of \$55,000 to utilize 31 tabulators in its most recent election. The requirement to utilize manual vote counting will require a broad overhaul of municipal bylaws that regulate elections in municipalities that have utilized automated vote counting systems and will necessitate the design and operation of new vote counting processes in addition to the contracting and/or training of vote counting personnel. Collectively, this will impose financial burdens on affected municipalities due to the resources required to enact an overhaul of this scale to design and employ a new electoral process.

Furthermore, the lack of recent precedence on the utilization of manual vote counting in addition to the lack of corporate knowledge will increase the risk of delay, errors and other related issues for municipalities that have not recently utilized manual vote counting to tabulate complex ballots, which could negatively impact the ability for municipalities to provide timely, effective, and efficient elections. Such delays and errors could undermine the trust

¹ City of St. Albert – Municipal Elections Bylaw 20/2017

https://stalbert.ca/site/assets/files/30875/consolidated_municipal_elections_-_by_bylaw_25-2023.pdf

of residents in their local government's ability to uphold the principles of democratic integrity and effective local government.

Allowing municipalities to employ the vote counting system of their choice and design – whether through a manual count or the use of electronic tabulating equipment – will ensure that they can provide reliable, accurate, and timely elections for their residents, and will maintain the tradition of trust in the municipal electoral process that has been held by Albertans for generations. Furthermore, the autonomy to make a decision such as this is best suited to occur locally, amongst those who know and understand their communities the greatest.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

When the Government of Alberta introduced Bill 20, the Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2024 during the spring 2024 legislative session, Alberta Municipalities highlighted concerns with the removal of electronic tabulators amongst other concerns with Bill 20. The Government of Alberta has stated that the intent of removing the use of voting machines and tabulators is to increase trust in local election processes. If this resolution is approved, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response. Further advocacy would be recommended to the ABmunis' Board by the Municipal Governance Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

Monty Killoh
Advisor
Government Relations
City of St. Albert
mkilloh@stalbert.ca

Trevor Duley
Senior Manager
Government/Indigenous Relations & Environment
City of St. Albert
tduley@stalbert.ca

B3: Provincial Education Property Tax Reform

Moved by: City of St. Albert
Seconded by: Town of Penhold

WHEREAS local public infrastructure such as transportation, water/wastewater utilities, stormwater management, and other local priorities are vital to the sustainability of municipalities and the quality of life for Albertans such as recreation and community facilities;

WHEREAS municipalities across Alberta have highlighted the need for increased municipal infrastructure funding and alternative financing mechanisms and policies to maintain existing infrastructure, build new infrastructure, and support community growth, through the adoption of several associated resolutions at the 2023 Alberta Municipalities Convention;

WHEREAS provincial revenue-sharing with municipalities does not meet the need for local public infrastructure investment, as it has decreased from \$420 per Albertan in 2011 to \$186 in 2024, while municipalities face increasing fiscal pressures related to population growth and high inflation-driven construction costs¹;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta's 2024-27 Fiscal Plan expects that municipalities will collect over \$2.7 billion in provincial education property tax in 2024 on behalf of the province, and predicts this figure will grow by 4.3% a year to \$3 billion in 2026-27²;

WHEREAS on behalf of the Government of Alberta, municipalities collect \$1 billion more for provincial revenue via the provincial education property tax than what they receive in total provincial funding for municipal infrastructure via the Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF), competitive grant programs, and other one-time capital investments; and

WHEREAS the 2023 mandate letter for the Minister of Municipal Affairs directs the ministry to review the feasibility of amending the provincial education property tax to assist municipalities with retaining more funding for local priorities.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to action the Minister of Municipal Affairs' mandate letter from the Premier, to review the provincial education property tax to assist municipalities with retaining more funding for local priorities, with the outcome being that municipalities receive provincial funding for municipal infrastructure equal to or greater than what is collectively requisitioned in provincial education property tax on an annual basis for the Government of Alberta.

BACKGROUND:

The collection of the provincial education property tax by municipalities in its current form was established by the Government of Alberta in 1994. Based on equalized assessment value, the province calculates each year the amount of provincial education property taxes that a municipality must transfer to the Government of Alberta. Municipalities are subsequently responsible to calculate the amount of provincial education property taxes to be charged to each property based on their assessed property values. As the provincial education property tax is typically billed to residents in combination with their municipal property taxes, residents may be unaware that approximately 30% of their property tax bill is submitted to the province – it is a reasonable expectation that local property taxes billed by a municipality will fund the services and infrastructure needs within their local community.

¹ Alberta Municipalities – Preliminary Analysis on Alberta's 2024 Budget, pg. 5 - <https://www.abmunis.ca/system/files/2024-03/ABmunis%20Preliminary%20Analysis%20on%20Alberta%27s%202024%20Budget.pdf>

² Government of Alberta's 2024-27 Fiscal Plan, Page 63 - <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/23c82502-fd11-45c6-861f-99381fff748/resource/3782cc8f-fdc4-4704-9c50-07fc36e05722/download/budget-2024-fiscal-plan-2024-27.pdf>

The Government of Alberta's 2024-27 Fiscal Plan notes that municipalities are expected to collect \$2.7 billion worth of provincial education property tax in 2024-25, and that this revenue will grow by 4.4% per year to \$3 billion in 2026-27¹.

As the provincial education property tax is tied directly to property assessment values, growth in assessment and new development means that growing municipalities have seen their associated tax requisition increase in 2024 despite a provincial freeze on the tax rate. This increase is especially tangible for municipalities witnessing exceptional growth in development and assessment values, which in effect causes them to become victims of their own success as their provincial education property tax rates increase along with their growth in assessed property values.

The 2023 Mandate Letter for the Ministry of Municipal Affairs directed the Minister to “review the feasibility of amending the provincial education property tax to assist municipalities with retaining more funding for local priorities.” At the 2024 Alberta Municipalities Spring Municipal Leaders Caucus, Premier Danielle Smith noted that the Province will provide more public infrastructure funding to municipalities in 2024 – approximately \$3.6 billion total – than what municipalities collect in Education Property Tax, if all infrastructure spending is included in addition to LGFF allocations. Analysis by Alberta Municipalities found this assertion is accurate if inclusive of federal funding for local infrastructure allocated by the province and spending on provincially-owned highways and bridges; due to these funding allocations either being dissociated from provincial revenues and spending, or from funding municipally owned and operated infrastructure, a more accurate figure of \$1.73 billion is being spent on local infrastructure, which is \$1 billion less than what municipalities will collect in provincial education property tax in 2024².

Should the Government of Alberta reform the provincial education property tax and/or revenue sharing mechanisms with municipalities to be equal to or greater than what they collect in education property tax, the additional \$1 billion in funding would bridge the municipal infrastructure funding gap that exists when current LGFF Capital funding compared with historical funding for municipal public infrastructure³.

Reforming the education property tax in this manner would provide municipalities with the needed fiscal capacity to maintain and build infrastructure to support the quality of life Albertans expect from their local and provincial governments.

There may be some instances across Alberta Municipalities' membership base where individual municipalities currently receive more funding in provincial grants than what they collect in provincial education property tax. The active resolution clause has been worded to consider this factor, as the intent is not to lead to decreased funding for any municipality, but to be equal or greater than what they are individually requisitioned in provincial education property tax.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

Over the years, members have approved numerous resolutions on the issue of provincial property taxes with the most recent resolution in 2020, which called for the Government of Alberta to take over responsibility for the collection of provincial property taxes. The Government of Alberta's response was that the current system provides for the most efficient method of collecting provincial property taxes. Through the development of the Local Government Fiscal Framework Capital program, ABmunis also highlighted and advocated against the growing gap between provincial property taxes and provincial capital funding provided to municipalities.

¹ Government of Alberta's 2024-27 Fiscal Plan, Page 63 - <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/23c82502-fd11-45c6-861f-99381fff748/resource/3782cc8f-fdc4-4704-9c50-07fc36e05722/download/budget-2024-fiscal-plan-2024-27.pdf>

² Alberta Municipalities – Breaking Down Alberta's Capital Support for Municipalities in 2024. <https://www.abmunis.ca/news/breaking-down-albertas-capital-support-municipalities-2024>

³ Alberta Municipalities: Let's Talk About Infrastructure - <https://www.abmunis.ca/advocacy-resources/infrastructure/lets-talk-about-infrastructure>

Since the release of the Premier’s 2023 mandate letter, ABmunis has sought regular updates from ministers on the government’s progress and to date has been informed that the review is still under work. If this resolution is passed, it will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response. Further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis’ Board by the Municipal Governance Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis’ Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

Monty Killoh
Advisor
Government Relations
City of St. Albert
mkilloh@stalbert.ca

Trevor Duley
Senior Manager
Government/Indigenous Relations & Environment
City of St. Albert
tduley@stalbert.ca

B4: Restoring Provincial Grants in Place of Taxes (GIPOT) Funding

Moved by: Town of High Prairie
Seconded by: Town of Mayerthorpe

WHEREAS properties owned by the Government of Alberta are exempt from municipal property taxes, but the province provides a Grants in Place of Taxes (GIPOT) program to fund municipalities for the municipal services provided to provincial properties;

WHEREAS the Provincial budgets since 2019-2020 have made significant reductions in GIPOT funding to all municipalities across Alberta;

WHEREAS Budget 2024-25 has provided an increase of \$2.1 million in the GIPOT funding to reflect the rising assessment and construction of new provincial government infrastructure;

WHEREAS despite increases in Budget 2023 and Budget 2024, GIPOT's 2024 budget of \$38.1 million is still well below past funding levels of \$60 million before the province cut the program budget in 2019-20; and

WHEREAS these reductions have placed an unfair and disproportionate burden on municipal ratepayers.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the reinstatement of full funding, at a minimum to the 2019/20 funding level of \$60 million, for all properties that are eligible for GIPOT.

BACKGROUND:

The provincial government reduced the GIPOT program by 25% in 2019/20 and a further 25% in 2020/21, for a total reduction of 50% compared to 2019/20. The overall program funding reductions related to these changes in the 2019/21 provincial budgets were significant, impacting almost all municipal units in Alberta. GIPOT's 2024 budget of \$38.1 million is still well below past funding levels of \$60 million before the program cuts by the provincial government in 2019/20.

Historically the revenue flows to the municipalities were based on the taxes the Crown would pay if the properties were not exempt from taxation. This change in funding has effectively downloaded costs to the ratepayers within the municipalities.

This gap in provincial funding points to the need for the province to recognize the essential role that the day-to-day municipal services play in supporting provincial building and properties.

Both Alberta Municipalities and the Rural Municipalities of Alberta have been advocating for a more equitable and fair funding of properties which fall under the GIPOT classification.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

GIPOT funding has been a priority of ABmunis for many years dating back to 2016 when members were encouraged to participate in a letter writing campaign to express concerns with changes to the program. In recent years, ABmunis has highlighted how reductions in GIPOT are one of many examples of how hundreds of millions of dollars have been downloaded onto municipalities between 2017 and 2023. Overall, this resolution aligns with ABmunis' advocacy on municipal financial health and municipal funding. If the resolution is passed, it will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for a response and further advocacy recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Municipal Governance Committee within the context of other priorities.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

Brian Panasiuk
Mayor
Town of High Prairie
mayor@highprairie.ca

Bill McKennan
Chief Administrative Officer
Town of High Prairie
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B5: Small and Remote Municipalities Need Regional Economic Development Alliances (REDAs) to Thrive

Moved by: Town of Mayerthorpe
 Seconded by: Town of Coalhurst

WHEREAS the Municipal Government Act (MGA) R.S.A. 2000, Chapter M-26, Section 3 – Municipal Purposes states “the purposes of a municipality are (3)(a) to provide good government, (3)(a.2) to foster the economic development of the municipality, (3)(b) to provide services, facilities or other things that, [...] are necessary or desirable for all or part of a municipality; and, (3)(c) to develop and maintain safe and viable communities;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta’s Economic Development in Rural Alberta Plan (EDRAP) document clearly identifies REDAs as essential partners in the work to grow Alberta’s rural economy through “*continued collaboration and investment in Regional Economic Development Alliances*”;¹

WHEREAS the Premier’s 2023 mandate letter to the Minister of Jobs, Economy and Trade specifically instructs the Minister to work with REDAs by “collaborating with partner organizations, including Regional Economic Development Alliances, to enhance wayfinding services and other business-attraction initiatives for investments under approximately \$50 million”;²

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta (GoA) has embraced a more than 20-year partnership with REDAs and their members to undertake regional economic development initiatives of mutual interest and this partnership has positioned Alberta as a leader in the delivery of regional economic development;

WHEREAS most rural Alberta communities are served by one of the nine REDAs and many small urban and remote municipalities rely on REDAs for economic development service delivery due to limited budget capacity; and

WHEREAS an innovative solution can be implemented to budget for long-term, consistent provincial funding for REDAs to ensure small and remote municipalities continue to have access to economic development services thus ensuring vital growth in Alberta’s economy.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Minister of Jobs, Economy and Trade and the Government of Alberta as a whole to implement measures for the provision of continuous, stable funding for the nine existing REDAs, supporting each with a budget of \$225,000 per year consisting of \$125,000 per year in operational funding and \$100,000 per year in project funding.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for a Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Alberta and the current REDA Chairs to develop a clear purpose and program structure for the REDAs, inclusive of a stable, long-term, collaborative approach to funding.

BACKGROUND:

Over 20 years ago, the GoA envisioned a way for groups of municipalities within a geographic region to collaborate on mutually beneficial economic development initiatives and the REDAs were born. Based on an “all for one and one for all” concept, REDAs undertook projects aimed at building economic resiliency in small and remote rural areas where limited capacity meant that economic development was worked off the side of someone’s desk.

¹ Government of Alberta’s Economic Development in Rural Alberta Plan, page 14 - <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/economic-development-in-rural-alberta-plan>

² 2023 Mandate letter to the Minister of Jobs, Economy and Trade <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/mandate-letters-to-ministers-2023>

REDAs are member-driven organizations that utilize strategic planning to develop regional priorities. Historically, REDAs have tried to align themselves with provincial priorities wherever possible to maximize results for the entire province. Uniquely positioned to help the GoA deliver the Alberta Advantage in rural areas, REDAs are trusted bridges between the provincial government and their member municipalities building and maintaining networks of local, strategic relationships and expanding much needed growth opportunities.

Funding for REDAs has fluctuated over their history. Up until 2011, most REDAs were staffed and managed by GoA employees from regional offices and each had multiple employees and budgets that ranged between \$400,000 and \$500,000. In 2011, REDA funding was cancelled, and offices closed. The member municipalities of the day chose to continue supporting the work and the organizations received specific project funding from the GoA. Outcomes suffered and REDAs struggled until 2014.

REDA Renewal began as a research project to determine the potential opportunity to be found in renewing the partnership and working with the GoA to set the direction for the re-invigorated collaboration. Agreements were signed that saw each REDA provided with \$100,000 per year in operational support and a mandate to align with provincial priorities to deliver certain outcomes.

During the fiscal years of 2016-18, the REDA-CARES funding stream was created, enabling each REDA to receive \$200,000 in operational and project funding. It required REDAs to submit project plans to their GoA counterparts. The measure returned significant value to the province for that investment.

Sweeping budget cuts in 2019-20 saw REDA funding slashed to \$50,000 each. REDAs continued their work, demonstrating value and, in 2022, the GoA provided a one-time top up of \$25,000 for projects. Then, in 2023, the GoA returned the REDAs to \$125,000 per year in operational support and expressed strong government support for the value of the partnership.

On January 19, 2024, the Minister of Jobs, Economy and Trade announced the GoA's intention to defund the current REDA program. This abrupt announcement will impact every REDA member across the province. With the potential to impact roughly half of ABmunis' members, this is a matter of great consequence. For all current REDA member municipalities, it will likely mean requests for larger municipal funding contributions.

Many REDA members are small communities with limited capacity. They will have to choose between their fiscal responsibilities and their economic development goals. For the smaller REDAs, the untenable choice their members face could mean the dissolution of more than one REDA.

Even for the larger REDAs, the GoA's decision to defund will have consequences. Without operational funding support, REDAs will have fewer dollars for meaningful projects. And, like the smaller REDAs, communities with limited fiscal capacity could be forced to withdraw from participation, further straining the REDA's budget.

The County of Paintearth No. 18 presented a resolution on the floor at the Rural Municipalities of Alberta Spring 2024 Conference. Receiving overwhelming support, RMA will advocate for a stable funding agreement for the nine REDAs and a renewal of the partnership between the REDAs and the GoA.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

The resolution is consistent with a Request for Decision (RFD) that was passed by members at ABmunis' Spring 2024 Municipal Leaders' Caucus. The Government of Alberta's response to that RFD was that it still intends to proceed with its plan to transition out of providing operational funding to REDAs. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Economic Strategy Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

Janet Jabush

Mayor

Town of Mayerthorpe

Janet.Jabush@mayerthorpe.ca

B6: Family & Community Support Services (FCSS) Funding Increase

Moved by: City of Airdrie
 Seconded by: Town of Crossfield

WHEREAS the Family & Community Support Services (FCSS) program promotes and enhances the well-being of Albertans, families and communities by funding preventive programs intended to help individuals adopt healthy lifestyles, improve their quality of life and build capacity to prevent and deal with crisis situations should they arise¹;

WHEREAS FCSS is an 80/20 funding partnership between the Government of Alberta and more than 318 participating municipalities and Metis settlements;

WHEREAS between 2015 and 2022 provincial funding for FCSS was stagnant and the \$5 million increase, to a total of \$105 million, in 2023 does not adequately reflect the need for services in Alberta communities;

WHEREAS in October 2023, the Family and Community Support Services Association of Alberta called on the Alberta Government to increase total funding to \$130 million allowing FCSS programming to be maintained and for the fund to be indexed to inflation; and

WHEREAS investment in prevention creates a sustainable system of local support for Albertans, families and communities and by not increasing FCSS funding to take into account inflation and population growth the result will be a decrease or elimination of critical programs and services.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to immediately increase provincial funding for Family and Community Support Services commensurate to population growth and annual inflation rates to adequately and sustainably fund necessary prevention programs and services in communities across Alberta.

BACKGROUND:

Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) has provided funding for vital programs and services to residents in municipalities across Alberta since 1966. Today, eligible services under FCSS must be preventative in nature and may include initiatives and programs that help communities:

- identify their social needs and develop responses;
- promote, encourage and support volunteer work in the community;
- inform the public about services;
- support children and their families' social development;
- help families enrich and strengthen family life and function more effectively in their own environment; and,
- enhance retired and semi-retired people's quality of life.²

Previous FCSS funding resolutions were adopted at Alberta Municipalities' Conventions in 2006, 2007, 2010 and 2014. The Government of Alberta increased funding to a total of \$100 million in 2015 and added an additional \$5 million in 2023. Provincial funding increases have not kept pace with population growth or inflation. From 2000-2023 Alberta added nearly 1.7 million people and inflation averaged 2.25% per year over the same time period. Quickly eroding any additional funds provided by the province and municipalities.

In October 2023, the Family and Community Support Services Association (FCSSA) of Alberta requested an additional \$25 million, a 24% increase, in funding from the Government of Alberta to fund FCSS programs. Noting that preventive programming significantly reduces the amount of money that needs to be invested in health care, mental health, addictions, and the justice system.

^{1, 2} Government of Alberta, Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) program, <https://www.alberta.ca/family-and-community-support-services-fcss-program>

“Every dollar invested in preventive services saves us \$7 to \$12 in future spending on justice, health care and addictions. As our provincial priorities focus on critical social issues, Albertans have never needed FCSS more than today.”

Murtaza Jamaly, President
Family and Community Support Services Association of Alberta
October 3, 2023

FCSSA is a member-driven organization that was established in 1981 to bring FCSS programs from across the province together to connect, collaborate, and to maximize resources.

A funding increase of \$25 million to \$130 million would help to maintain current FCSS programming levels across the province according to the FCSSA. No additional funding was allotted to FCSS in the 2024 Alberta Budget. Should provincial funding be increased, municipalities would need to increase contribution rates to maintain the 80/20 funding partnership required under the *Family and Community Support Services Regulation*. It should be noted that many municipalities are currently contributing more than 20% to local prevention programs.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

This resolution aligns with ABmunis' past advocacy where the unchanged level of FCSS funding from 2015-16 to 2022-23 and again in 2024-25 represent a downloading of costs onto municipal governments. The resolution aligns with ABmunis previous advocacy to seek an increase in FCSS funding to keep pace with Alberta's growth and costs of services. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to the ABmunis Board by the Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

Leona Esau
Intergovernmental Liaison
City of Airdrie
Leona.Esau@airdrie.ca

B7: Alberta First Responders Radio Communications System Equipment Funding

Moved by: Town of Strathmore
 Seconded by: Village of Rockyford, Town of Mayerthorpe

WHEREAS a provincewide radio system helps first-responders, such as police, fire, and ambulance, coordinate to improve safety and response times;

WHEREAS it is the province's mission to provide quality, cost effective, secure, reliable, accessible land mobile radio communications supporting all Alberta first responders;

WHEREAS the Alberta First Responders Radio Communications System (AFRRCS) is a two-way radio network launched in 2016 to be used by first responders in municipal, provincial and First Nations agencies across the province;

WHEREAS the Alberta First Responders Radio Communications System was designed to allow agencies to share talk groups, allowing inter-agency communications to be achieved in a powerful fashion; and

WHEREAS not all municipalities have access to the Alberta First Responders Radio Communications System due to a lack of available funds for equipment.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to provide financial support for municipalities with a population of less than 3,000, and for regional groups, to obtain equipment necessary to participate in the Alberta First Responders Radio Communications System (AFRRCS).

BACKGROUND:

The Alberta First Responders Radio Communications System (AFRRCS) is the provincewide radio system that helps first-responders, such as police, fire, and ambulance, coordinate to improve safety and response times.

AFRRCS Operations, Maintenance and Sustainability (OMS) is responsible for the maintenance of the system and network to allow communications encompassing 335 sites and over 33,000 devices. The system is monitored 24/7, 365 days a year by the System Control Centre (SCC). There has been substantial provincial investment to build the infrastructure of the system across the province, while encouraging all relevant stakeholders to participate to achieve complete inter-operability Alberta-wide.

First responder agencies are eligible to use the system on a no-cost basis. Approved secondary responders are permitted to use the system with a yearly fee. This does not include the expense of equipment, which can cost \$5,000 to \$15,000 per radio unit. For context, a larger community like Strathmore required a \$250,000 investment to furnish the number of radios required to support the detachment.

The system has been operational since July 2016, but not all municipalities in Alberta are current participants due to the investment required in the radios needed to access the system. Unfortunately, the outlay of dollars for these radios is cost intrusive to many budgets in towns, villages and counties with vast space and smaller populations.

The Town of Strathmore prioritizes Community Wellness as a part of its strategic plan – putting emphasis on the value of the health of residents, and focusing on the maintenance, protection, and improvement of services that support optimum lifestyles. Alberta has one of the largest and fastest growing populations in the country and Strathmore has seen its share of growth. With a population of nearly 15,000 it is imperative that additional available safety measures be accessed, not only by the Town, but extending to the surrounding communities. It is these smaller community partners who should not be overlooked, as everyone works together to contribute to

the safety of Albertans. Those wearing the same uniform should be afforded the same access to communication systems to achieve the greatest benefit. It puts residents at a disadvantage and overall risk when not all villages, towns, and smaller municipalities in the province share in the amazing tool that is the Alberta First Responders Radio Communications System. Strathmore has extensive firsthand experience in the challenges faced with communications when working together with neighbouring municipalities to respond to major incidents along Highway 1 who are not all on the same system. These learnings highlight the importance of these tools.

Alberta Municipalities has advocated for collaboration between communities, and putting everyone on an equal footing with access to use of core resources that pertain to the safety and well-being of Albertans should be considered.

The proposal before Alberta Municipalities' members is to advocate that the Government of Alberta provide financial support for the purposes of obtaining the required resources, in the form of emergency service radios, to access the AFRRCS. The proposed action would be in alignment with the Government of Alberta's mission to support rural economic development. Smaller communities building their support systems serves to deliver on this by having the same advantages as larger urban centres.

The health and safety of all Albertans is a priority and ensuring that the delivery of care by those first responders who know their communities best – through access to cost effective, secure, reliable, accessible land mobile radio communications that benefit everyone.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

This resolution aligns with past ABmunis advocacy on the need to support municipal access to AFRRCS. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to the ABmunis Board by the Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

Johnathan Strathdee
Manager of Communications, Marketing & Legislative Services
Town of Strathmore
johnathan.strathdee@strathmore.ca

B8: Declining Fire Department Services Across Alberta

Moved by: Village of Mannville

Seconded by: Town of Vegreville, Town of Smoky Lake

WHEREAS small communities across Alberta rely on volunteers to serve as firefighters and first responders and therefore, having a sufficient number of volunteer firefighters is essential to the health and safety of each community;

WHEREAS businesses that employ volunteer firefighters do not currently receive a tax credit for doing so;

WHEREAS provincial Fire Services Training Program funding increases are necessary for small community firefighter training; and

WHEREAS the Government of Canada's former Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP) for fire/emergency training and equipment is no longer available.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities:

1. advocate to the Government of Canada to create a business tax credit for businesses that allow employees who are volunteer firefighters to attend calls during business hours; and
2. advocate to the Government of Canada to reinstate the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program.

BACKGROUND:

Over the past several months, there have been several instances where the Village of Mannville's local fire department has not been able to respond to calls due to the dwindling numbers of volunteer members. In addition to the decline in members, there are several existing members that are unable to leave their place of employment to attend emergency calls.

The Government of Alberta (GOA) reinstated the Fire Services Training Grant (FSTP) in 2022 providing a maximum grant of \$10,000 per application. The grant is to financially assist municipalities to ensure fire services are adequately trained to address the community's risks and levels of service. It would be helpful if the overall program funding of \$500,000 were increased to provide all municipalities opportunities to receive this funding, plus keep pace with inflationary increases in training costs.

The Federal Government cut the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP) in 2013. The JEPP was used to fund major capital purchases for fire departments. Reinstating a modernized JEPP would reduce deferred equipment purchases due to fiscal pressures. This grant is imperative as the longer these purchases are deferred the higher the risk to community safety.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

In its 2024-25 budget, the Government of Canada increased the Volunteer Firefighters Tax Credit from \$3,000 to \$6,000 to help support volunteer firefighters.

ABmunis has advocated on issues related to emergency management in the past. The provincial government and other organizations are undertaking reviews and working groups to improve wildfire response from numerous perspectives. If the resolution is passed, it will be forwarded to the Government of Canada for a response and further advocacy would be recommended to the ABmunis Board by the Infrastructure Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

Jennifer Hodel
Chief Administrative Officer
Village of Mannville
cao@mannville.com

B9: Preventative Psychological Services Support for Municipal First Responders and Emergency Dispatchers

Moved by: City of St. Albert
Seconded by: Town of Mayerthorpe

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta has stated that improving emergency medical services response times is a priority;

WHEREAS municipalities support emergency medical service response through their provision of first responder services (firefighters, police officers, peace officers, and in some instances, paramedics) and emergency dispatcher services, with these services often working in coordination with Alberta Health Services' emergency medical response;

WHEREAS in supporting emergency medical response, municipal first responders and emergency dispatcher services can be exposed to traumatic incidents that cause psychological injury, including post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), which may require treatment and extended medical leave, reducing municipal capacity to support emergency medical service response;

WHEREAS the Workers Compensation Act permits for the presumptive coverage of traumatic psychological injuries for first responders and emergency dispatchers, resulting in municipal taxpayers funding both the coverage required for recovery and return to service through increased premiums, in addition to the overtime required by active-duty personnel to cover such absences;

WHEREAS the provision of preventative psychological services reduces the frequency and severity of psychological injuries for first responders and emergency dispatchers, enabling fewer associated medical leaves and a more consistent and reliable roster of personnel on active duty;

WHEREAS the provision of preventative psychological services improves the mental health, well-being, and resiliency of first responders and emergency dispatchers, strengthening their ability to perform their emergency medical response duties; and

WHEREAS a more consistent and resilient roster of first responders and emergency dispatchers would both strengthen emergency medical service response times while also reducing the burden on taxpayers to cover associated Workers Compensation Act claims and overtime coverage for absences.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to provide a grant or funding mechanism to municipalities to provide preventative psychological services to municipal first responders and emergency dispatchers to reduce the risk of psychological injury and the associated burden on taxpayers to treat such injuries, in addition to bolstering emergency medical services response services in Alberta.

BACKGROUND:

The Workers Compensation Act defines "first responders" as firefighters, paramedics, peace officers, or police officers. The WCB, in its publication on *Presumptive Coverage for Traumatic Psychological Injuries (First Responders, Emergency Dispatchers and Correctional Officers)*, notes that "presumptive coverage for psychological injuries" sustained by first responders, emergency dispatchers and correctional officers is provided in certain situations¹. This coverage demonstrates a recognized occupational risk for first responders and emergency dispatchers to be exposed to traumatic situations that cause psychological injuries, in addition to a need to receive treatment and undergo recovery. Municipal taxpayers are financially impacted by this coverage and associated treatment costs

¹ https://www.wcb.ab.ca/assets/pdfs/workers/WFS_Presumptive_coverage_for_traumatic_psychological_injuries.pdf

through WCB premiums their municipality must pay. For the City of St. Albert, WCB premiums have been in a surcharge (over standard industry rates) for the past five years due to psychological injury claims.

Many municipalities in Alberta provide first-responder and other associated services, such as fire services, emergency dispatchers, and – in some cases – paramedics. The employees who work in these roles can be exposed to traumatic events which cause the equivalent of a psychological injury (e.g., Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder). Some psychological injuries necessitate the filing of Workers Compensation Board (WCB) claims and associated leaves of absences to manage the psychological trauma and duress associated with these events, which results in:

- Higher WCB premiums being funded by municipal taxpayers;
- A reduction of personnel available for active duty that necessitates the use of staff overtime for coverage, which is also funded by municipal taxpayers; and/or
- Reduced capacity to support emergency medical response.

Municipal first responders also support emergency medical response work under the responsibility of Alberta Health Services in situations where provincial resources are delayed, exposing these municipal first responders to risks of psychological injuries. In any case, leaves of absences for first responders to recover from psychological injuries reduces the capacity of municipal first responders to bolster provincial emergency response services.

As the consequences of psychological injuries impact the service provision of first responders and emergency dispatchers, organizations have been increasingly introducing preventative psychological services into their onboarding and professional development programs. One such service being utilized is the “Before Operational Stress” (BOS) program, which offers participants a robust, self-directed learning regiment – in addition to sessions facilitated by mental health clinicians – that covers topics such as the physiology and markers of operational stress, cognitive impacts, emotions and behaviour change, and communication. The program prepares participants to manage their operational stress, such as the experience of traumatic events, in a healthy and structured manner. Participation in the BOS program can:

- Improve mental health symptoms (e.g., depression, anxiety, substance use and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder);
- Equip first-responders with tools to manage workplace stress; and
- Enhance the sense of control over workplace stress and mental health.

A 2021 peer-reviewed study of the BOS program found statistically significant improvements in symptoms of PTSD, quality of life, stigma, and perceived social support in participants, in addition to other benefits such as improvements in symptoms of depression, anxiety, stress, alcohol use, as well as emotional regulation and resilience. The reduction in these symptoms aligns with efforts to reduce the frequency and severity of psychological injuries requiring a leave of absence and treatment for first responders and emergency dispatchers; furthermore, the stated benefits also support efforts to build resiliency among first responders, strengthening their service provision. Other supplemental preventative psychological service initiatives could further support this effort.

As improving emergency medical response services is a provincial priority, the provision of a grant by the Government of Alberta to fund the provision of preventative psychological services for first responders and emergency dispatchers would support this objective. Through improving the mental health symptoms of personnel who witness traumatic events, the risk of both receiving a psychological injury and requiring a WCB-funded leave of absence for treatment would be reduced, enabling a more consistently full roster of first responders and emergency dispatchers available to support emergency medical response. Encouraging and enabling municipalities to provide this service to their first responders and emergency dispatchers would reduce their risk of psychological injury, strengthen and maintain the roster of available municipal first responders, and reduce the burden on municipal taxpayers for the provision of services that support provincial health care service delivery priorities.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

This resolution aligns with past ABmunis advocacy on the need to provide psychological supports to first responders. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to the ABmunis Board by the Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

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City of St. Albert
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Trevor Duley
Senior Manager
Government/Indigenous Relations and Environment
City of St. Albert
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B10: Establishing a Provincial Level of Service for Emergency Social Services

Moved by: City of Grande Prairie
 Seconded by: Town of Wembley

WHEREAS there is currently no provincial level of service for Emergency Social Services support when hosting external communities from outside of their jurisdiction;

WHEREAS host municipalities each set a Level of Service for Emergency Social Services resulting in significant inconsistency among host municipalities;

WHEREAS there have been inconsistent answers from the province regarding what Emergency Social Services costs are eligible for cost recovery, resulting in host municipalities having to absorb expenses that have later been determined as ineligible for cost recovery; and

WHEREAS there was a record number of community evacuations in Alberta in 2023 and the frequency, severity; and duration of emergency evacuations is increasing.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for a provincial Level of Service for Emergency Social Services as a framework for providing support to external communities from other jurisdictions in Alberta or from out of province.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the proposed provincial Level of Service for Emergency Social Services include schedules that indicate services that are considered Basic Survival Needs, and which services are Discretionary; with identification of what costs are eligible for cost recovery.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the proposed provincial Level of Service for Emergency Social Services acknowledge that the host municipality is providing a Fee for Service and that they will directly invoice the home jurisdiction, or the Government of Alberta and will not be required to apply for Disaster Recovery Program funding to recover their costs.

BACKGROUND:

When a host municipality agrees to accept evacuees from another municipality, reserve, Metis settlement, or from outside of the province, they are doing so in good faith and trying to help others in their time of need.

Unfortunately, the result is a significant disruption of services provided to its own residents. Even worse, local taxpayers are often saddled with a portion of the costs that have been determined ineligible under a Disaster Recovery Program (DRP). This should not be happening when the host community is not the one experiencing the emergency.

During an emergency when a host municipality is asked to accept evacuees on short notice, there is verbal reassurance that all costs will be covered, but there is not enough time to prepare a written agreement. Consequently, the details are subject to individual interpretation. The time decision-making takes can't keep pace with the speed with which issues are evolving. Even when trying to clarify expectations and eligibility for cost recovery through the province, the answers will vary from one day to the next as staff changes occur and new staff are unaware of previous decisions.

Host municipalities are also asked to apply for DRP funding to recover their costs, even though they were not the community that had the emergency. This process extends the time to recover costs well beyond their fiscal year-end,

forcing them to carry those costs forward sometimes for years. In many cases, a very large portion of costs have gone unrecovered.

The rules established for Disaster Recovery Programs are often referred to by staff of the province to answer Level of Service questions. There are several problems with this approach because there are several assumptions made in the DRP rules that do not apply to the host community. DRP rules are intended as a cost-sharing arrangement between the federal and provincial governments and the affected municipality. An example of this is regular staff time not being covered, only overtime. For the host municipality that forces them to subsidize the emergency costs of another municipality.

Many of the problems faced by host municipalities can be prevented if the province creates a Level of Service for Emergency Social Services for Hosting an External Community. This Level of Service should list the services that are required to meet an evacuee's "Basic Survival Needs", services that are discretionary and require approval of the Director of Emergency Management, and what services are eligible for cost recovery.

This Level of Service must be created without using the lens of the Disaster Recovery Program rules.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this specific issue, but it aligns with ABmunis advocacy on provincial downloading of costs onto municipalities. If this resolution is passed, it will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for a response. Further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Infrastructure Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

Rory Tarant
Director of Intergovernmental Affairs
City of Grande Prairie
rtarant@cityofgp.com

B11: Provincial Emergency Shelter Strategy

Moved by: City of Red Deer
Seconded by: Town of Hinton

WHEREAS the provision of emergency shelters and addressing homelessness falls within provincial jurisdiction, that adequate housing is a fundamental human right, and that housing is essential to the inherent dignity and well-being of a person and to building sustainable and vibrant communities;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta needs to create a comprehensive emergency shelter strategy to fully address the project management lifecycle processes of initiating, planning, executing, monitoring, controlling, and closing;

WHEREAS the homeless population continues to grow, so too are the challenges that municipalities face with this segment of our communities; and

WHEREAS there is heightened community sensitivity regarding emergency shelters and their placement, so it is vital the Government of Alberta present a clear vision and strategy regarding the development process for emergency shelters across the province.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta and the Minister of Seniors, Community and Social Services to create a comprehensive emergency shelter strategy for the entire province. This detailed strategy will provide a vision, guiding principles, objectives, definitions, project management governance, and role clarity for provincial and municipal governments and applicable community stakeholders.

BACKGROUND:

Right across Alberta, there has been a significant increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness in our communities. From the large urban cities to small villages, there is a major crisis in the number of unhoused individuals in our province.

According to Red Deer's Point in Time (PIT) Count, held in the fall of 2022, the number of persons experiencing homelessness in the city increased to 334 in 2022 from 144 in 2018, confirming local outreach staff expectations that the number of people experiencing homelessness is increasing. Red Deer is not alone, results from the City of Grande Prairie's 2022 PIT Count on homelessness observed at least 328 individuals experiencing homelessness in their community. This number is up from the 2018 count which saw 228 unhoused individuals. Smaller communities experience the problem at the same proportion but often with fewer resources and partners. For example, the local Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) office of the town of Fort Macleod, population 3,300, helped 82 people in 2023 who were homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless.

In the absence of a clear Government of Alberta emergency shelter strategy, both the provincial government and municipal governments right across the province have struggled greatly in trying to construct new shelters. For example, in Red Deer, it has been four years now since the Government of Alberta announced a capital project of \$7 million for a new emergency shelter. During this time, there has been very little progress in moving this project forward. From not knowing the provincial government's vision, to confusion over role clarity, to not having proper project management structure in place, Red Deer is no further ahead in building this much needed piece of social infrastructure.

Shelters are a much-needed piece of social infrastructure and homelessness continues to grow in Alberta. To protect people's fundamental right of adequate housing, the Government of Alberta must improve in clearly articulating a vision and plan for emergency shelters right across this province.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on emergency shelters, but the topic generally aligns with ABmunis advocacy on the need for provincial action to address homelessness. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to the ABmunis Board by the Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

Darren Kuz
Interim Chief of Staff, Office of The Mayor & Council
City of Red Deer
darren.kuz@reddeer.ca

B12: Permanent Supportive Housing Capital and Operational Funding

Moved by: City of Red Deer
Seconded by: Village of Delburne

WHEREAS the number of people experiencing chronic homelessness has increased substantially since 2018, with numbers doubling in some Alberta municipalities;

WHEREAS the demand for supportive housing is high and Alberta municipalities are lacking sufficient permanent supportive housing options to meet the needs of people experiencing chronic homelessness with highly complex needs;

WHEREAS Alberta municipalities require both capital and operational funding for new permanent supportive housing developments to be feasible and sustainable; and

WHEREAS investments in long-term housing solutions for people experiencing chronic homelessness is far less expensive than supporting their needs while in emergency shelters and encampments.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta and the Government of Canada to increase capital and operational funding for hub municipalities in Alberta for permanent supportive housing to ensure appropriate housing options are available for individuals experiencing chronic homelessness.

BACKGROUND:

There has been an increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness and the rate of chronic homelessness across Canada, according to Infrastructure Canada's *Everyone Counts 2020- 2022 - Findings from the Nationally Coordinated Point-in-Time Count Results*¹.

- Compared to previous counts in 2018, there was a 20% increase across the country, with unsheltered homelessness increasing by 88%.
- Some Alberta municipalities have experienced an increase of 50% or greater in homelessness since 2018.

Supportive housing options are in high demand in Alberta municipalities due to the high prevalence of chronicity and complexity of needs among local homeless populations.

Permanent Supportive Housing provides long-term housing and support to individuals who are homeless and experiencing complex mental health, addiction, and physical health barriers. This program provides an appropriate level of service for chronically homeless individuals who may need support for an indeterminate length of time while striving to achieve increased independence.

By prioritizing chronically homeless individuals who require high levels of support, permanent supportive housing increases their likelihood of remaining housed long term. This reduces the instances of individuals returning to homelessness after being housed, thereby alleviating the personal impacts and system pressures that may result.

Investments in permanent supportive housing solutions tend to be more cost-effective than continually supporting individuals in emergency shelters and encampments. Those investments also contribute to a significantly decreased demand on other systems, such as justice and health, with provincial data highlighting that homelessness supports funding resulting in a 64.3% reduction in jail time, 53.6% decrease in hospital usage, and 50.3% decrease in emergency medical service responses.

¹ "Everyone Counts 2020-2022 - Findings from the Nationally Coordinated Point-in-Time Counts," Infrastructure Canada February 1, 2024.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

This resolution aligns with previous ABmunis advocacy on the need for increased permanent supportive housing to address homelessness. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to the ABmunis Board by the Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

Darren Kuz
Interim Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor & Council
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darren.kuz@reddeer.ca

B13: Full-Time 24-Hour Home Care Support in Lodges/Supportive Living Accommodations

Moved by: Town of Tofield
 Seconded by: Town of Vegreville

WHEREAS the service needs for rural Alberta seniors, residing in lodges, requiring enhanced services is increasing and this increases pressures for accessing community supports and amenities;

WHEREAS residents within the lodge/supportive living settings could continue to reside within this structure, without the physical and mental impact of relocation, if the minor and temporary needs could be addressed;

WHEREAS the requirement for relocation due to inability of accessible care places a significant impact on an individual's quality of life such as loneliness, isolation, dignity, and the other imposed stresses of a forced move;

WHEREAS lodges, supportive living, designated supportive living and long-term care have recently shown a vast gap in service(s) despite these facilities having a focus on "life enrichment"; and

WHEREAS adding full-time home care services in lodges and supportive living homes would help avoid the requirement for some individuals to relocate to higher levels of care to access unscheduled health care supports, placing further burden on our already taxed healthcare system.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to provide funding for full-time, 24-hour, 7 days a week home care services in lodges and supportive living environments.

BACKGROUND:

The Alberta Government has placed an emphasis and encouragement on seniors to remain in their family home for as long as possible. Therefore, there is a trend showing that seniors are entering lodges and supportive living accommodations later in life.

Further, by entering the supportive living environment at a later stage, this sees a requirement for reassessment of higher care needs as support needs cannot be adequately addressed within the current home care service limitations.

Increased frequency of needs is now placing demand upon; families, firefighters, first aid practitioners, and EMS. These needs are focusing on items such as personal hygiene support, incontinence issues, or medication assistance in the evenings. The inability for access to these services at any given time as required is robbing these people of basic human rights and dignity of life.

By having full time, 24-hours a day, 7 days a week support, the focus is placed on a humanistic approach for our seniors. Further, the demand is then removed for these services from our health care providers and remove detriment from the facilities and disciplines which they represent, such as ambulance services.

Many lodges in rural Alberta are experiencing vacancies. These vacancies are evident in both governmental and non- governmental ran entities. However, even in the non-governmental run facilities, lack of supports and services are creating barriers and roadblocks. Through the provision of enhanced services, residents would be supported and able to remain within lodges and supportive living, which they consider to be their homes. Further, this supports resident choice(s) and eases stressors on an already taxed and burdened health care system, the individual(s), and their support network.

This issue and call to action align with the Alberta Municipalities initiatives and advocacy under the social needs' component of health care, and vulnerable Albertans.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this specific issue, but the topic generally aligns with ABmunis advocacy on the need for quality seniors' living options. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to the ABmunis Board by the Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

Debora (Deb) Dueck
Mayor
Town of Tofield
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B14: Attraction and Retention Strategy for Rural Health Care Professionals

Moved by: Town of Hinton
 Seconded by: Village of Boyle

WHEREAS adequate medical services and the professionals required to deliver those services are critical to the safety and well-being of all Albertans;

WHEREAS many rural Alberta municipalities¹ find recruiting and retaining health care professionals very difficult;

WHEREAS a robust and diverse workforce of health care professionals is needed in Alberta to provide equitable access to appropriate health care services no matter where Albertans live;

WHEREAS a cohesive provincial strategy focusing on increasing the number of health care professionals in rural Alberta is critical to ensuring stability and equity in Alberta’s health care system; and

WHEREAS health providers across most professional groups are overrepresented in urban areas compared to the proportion of Canadians living in rural areas (which was about 20.5% in 2019), far less than 20% of most health professionals have taken up rural practice.²

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to develop a Rural Health Care Professionals Attraction and Retention Strategy that focuses on increasing the total number of health care professionals in rural Alberta.

BACKGROUND:

The lack of health care professionals affects all communities in Alberta but is more acute outside of the major urban centres. Per this graph, nearly all health care professions are underrepresented in rural Alberta, leading to staff burn out, dissatisfaction, and premature retirement as well as relocation to better staffed communities.³

In response to the shortage of health care professionals, community-driven attraction and retention initiatives are becoming increasingly common in rural Alberta. Leaders at the municipal, business, and community level recognize that health care services



¹ E.g., communities under 10,000 population. [Rural Health Services Review Final Report \(alberta.ca\)](https://rhsc.alberta.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Health-Workforce-Demographics-2019.pdf), Rural Health Services Review Committee, March 2015 the Government of Alberta. Accessed May 17, 2024.

² [Health Workforce Demographics - Rural Health Professions Action Plan \(rhpap.ca\)](https://rhsc.alberta.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Health-Workforce-Demographics-2019.pdf). Accessed May 17, 2024.

³ [Rural Health Services Review Final Report \(alberta.ca\)](https://rhsc.alberta.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Health-Workforce-Demographics-2019.pdf), p. 1, Rural Health Services Review Committee, March 2015. Government of Alberta.

are crucial for community sustainability and where health services are not available, growth is unlikely and out-migration of taxpayers, investors, workers, and service providers is inevitable. To avoid a continuously dwindling economy, municipalities are forced to act; and this represents another case of downloading of provincial responsibility onto municipalities left with little choice but to undertake property tax-funded initiatives to try and avoid consequential health care staff shortages and resulting reduction in medical services in their community.

Despite all recruitment efforts, there were still 270 medical service disruption notices issued by Alberta Health Services in 2023. This is empirical evidence that even where health facilities are established, staff to operate them are lacking and the facilities cannot serve Albertans. Local efforts to attract and retain service providers may address immediate community concerns, if successful, but fall short in tackling the broader challenge of addressing the overall scarcity of frontline professionals in a complex and interconnected industry.

Current demographic trends in Alberta will place additional stress on our health care system in our lifetimes unless deliberate action is taken; the following data largely taken from the [Population Projections - Alberta and Census Divisions, 2023–2051](#) noted below, are grim:

1. Alberta leads Canada with a 4.40% year-over-year population growth rate (2022/2023)¹ and is expected to reach 7.1 million people by 2051.
2. By 2051, Alberta's population is expected to reach an average age of 41.6 years, up from 39.0 years today.
3. Life expectancy is anticipated to increase by 4.7 years for females and 6.2 years for males by 2051.
4. The 'baby boom cohort' (people born between 1946 and 1965) will significantly impact the aging rate. By 2031, the number of Albertans aged 65 years and older is expected to make up a larger share of the population than the number of children aged 0 to 14.
5. The over-65 age demographic represents approximately 15% of the population and is expected to increase to 20% by 2051.²

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

The Government of Alberta released a [Health Workforce Strategy](#) in 2023, which includes Objective 2.2 to “attract and recruit health care workers to rural, remote, and underserved areas”. If this resolution is passed, ABmunis would look to work with the Government of Alberta and related stakeholders to understand the gap between the current and targeted number of healthcare professionals in rural areas, the targeted timelines, and level of investment to support attraction of healthcare professionals to rural areas. At that point, ABmunis' Board would determine an appropriate advocacy strategy with support from ABmunis' Small Communities Committee and Safe and Healthy Communities Committee.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

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Jordan Panasiuk
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Town of Hinton
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¹ [Annual Demographic Estimates: Canada, Provinces and Territories \(statcan.gc.ca\)](#) Accessed May 17, 2024.

² Population Projections Alberta and Census Divisions, 2023 – 2051 [Population Projections - Alberta and Census Divisions, 2023–2051](#) Accessed May 17, 2024.

B15: Creation of a Wildfire Prevention Committee

Moved by: Town of Hinton
 Seconded by: Town of Coronation

WHEREAS Alberta Forestry and Parks is the principal agency responsible for wildfire management in the Forest Protection Area (FPA), and municipalities are responsible for fire prevention and protection within their boundaries;

WHEREAS municipalities are responsible for the management of wildfires as per Section 7(1) of the Forest and Prairie Protection Act, including all financial costs of suppression within their boundaries;

WHEREAS wildfire seasons are growing increasingly longer and more intense, placing a significant strain on provincial and municipal wildfire resources;

WHEREAS wildfire prevention strategies are a resource-intensive activity that requires resources, expertise, and funding to effectively prepare for and mitigate the effects of wildfires;

WHEREAS there are no Provincial initiatives which allow wildfire fire affected communities and industry to discuss practical and operational issues with Provincial wildfire authorities on a regular basis; and

WHEREAS it is in the best interest of all Albertans to ensure that municipalities are provided the resources and expertise to be proactive and resilient to the effects of wildfires.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to establish a “Wildfire Prevention Committee” consisting of industry, municipal and provincial subject matter experts, elected officials, and senior municipal administrators.

BACKGROUND:

Alberta’s wildland fire seasons are worsening, posing significant challenges to municipalities within and beyond the Forest Protection Area (FPA). Wildfires are starting earlier, lasting longer, and impacting larger areas of Alberta than ever before. This increase in wildfire activity places a substantial strain on municipal fire and emergency management resources.

In response to these challenges, the Alberta Fire Chiefs Association passed resolution 2023-04 aiming to collaboratively develop a long-term strategy for managing large wildland fires. This resolution underscores the need for coordinated efforts among government ministries, Alberta Municipalities, the Rural Municipalities of Alberta, and municipalities to address the escalating threats posed by wildfires.

As wildfire seasons across Alberta grow in length and intensity, they not only endanger lives and property but also place a significant drain on municipal resources and budgets. It is imperative to take proactive measures to ensure Alberta’s municipalities are well-prepared and well-equipped to protect Albertans from the increasing threat of wildfires.

The establishment of a Wildfire Prevention Committee could serve to:

1. Inform and advise the Government of Alberta on municipal priorities.
2. Enhance communication between municipalities and Provincial agencies.
3. Encourage a proactive and collaborative approach to protecting Alberta communities from the effects of wildfires.
4. Promote advocacy and stakeholder engagement related to wildfire mitigation measures.

Through these collaborative efforts, the Provincial government and municipalities can align resources, expertise, and knowledge to enhance the resiliency and readiness of Alberta communities from the growing threat of wildfires.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

ABmunis is currently participating on the Rural Municipalities of Alberta's recent Wildfire Working Group, which involves municipalities, the Alberta Fire Chiefs Association, the Government of Alberta, and the Alberta Forest Products Association and guest speakers. The purpose of the Working Group is to improve wildfire response in Alberta; however, the Working Group is scheduled to complete its work by fall 2024.

The Ministry of Forestry and Parks is also currently developing a Wildfire Mitigation Strategy to align with the federal government's Wildland Fire Strategy. Opportunities to participate in Alberta Forestry and Parks' review have been shared with ABmunis' members via our newsletter. The Office of the Fire Commissioner is also reviewing its mandate. Several engagement sessions have been held virtually and in person around the province. ABmunis emailed members directly about these sessions. This review is looking at the role and mandate of the Office of the Fire Commissioner, training standards, firefighter recognition and management of wildland fires outside of the Forest Protection Area.

If approved, this resolution will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Infrastructure Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

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Jordan Panasiuk
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B16: Culture, Recreation, and Sport Facility Infrastructure Deficit Report Card

Moved by: Town of Innisfail
 Seconded by: City of Red Deer

WHEREAS culture, recreation, and sport enhance personal health and wellness, increase quality of life through physical activity and mental health, and play an important role in social connection and inclusion;

WHEREAS all Albertans should have the opportunity to access safe culture, recreation, and sport facilities that contribute to healthy citizens, community economic development, sport tourism, job creation and sustainability of the social fabric of communities;

WHEREAS Alberta's municipalities are ineligible to access the provincial government's Active Communities Initiative which allocates \$30 million over three years for community groups, non-profit organizations and societies, First Nations, and Metis Settlements to renew, expand, and/or build small to medium sized public-use community sport and recreation facilities;

WHEREAS the province is expecting and encouraging continued population growth and municipal governments are primarily responsible for culture, recreation, and sport facilities in Alberta, yet the provincial government is reducing its funding support for municipal owned and operated facilities;

WHEREAS a provincial inventory of culture, sport, and recreation facilities that recognizes the physical deterioration of existing infrastructure in municipalities does not exist; and

WHEREAS a culture, recreation, and sport facility infrastructure deficit report card would reinforce the need for strategic and evidence-based decisions, and adequate funding is allocated towards infrastructure investments in municipal owned and operated facilities across Alberta.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to fund Alberta Municipalities or a third-party organization to develop and maintain a database that provides an inventory of all culture, sport, and recreation facilities in Alberta and that the Government of Alberta use that inventory database to benchmark and make strategic and evidence-based decisions on investments in culture, sport, and recreation infrastructure.

BACKGROUND:

A strong provincial economy requires healthy and complete communities, and culture, recreation, and sport are critical community infrastructure that is essential to all Albertans. The Canadian Infrastructure Report Card (2019) indicates that 30-35% of culture, recreation, and sport facilities are in fair or worse condition.¹ Most publicly owned recreation infrastructures were built between the mid 1950's and early 1990's and are nearing their useful life.

The Government of Alberta (GoA) recently announced the Active Communities Initiative which is an allocation of \$30 million for community groups, non-profit organizations and societies, First Nations, and Metis Settlements to renew, expand, and/or build small to medium sized public-use community sport and recreation facilities. The grant program is intended for small and mid-sized sport and recreational facility projects² and municipalities are considered ineligible.

¹ (2024, May 5). Retrieved from Canadian Infrastructure Report Card 2019:

<http://canadianinfrastructure.ca/downloads/canadian-infrastructure-report-card-2019.pdf>

² Government of Alberta. (2024, May 3). Retrieved from Building Active Spaces and Brighter Futures:

<https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=902887A915EF0-BF58-A6D7-35BC294F5758FF3A>

Access by municipalities for culture, recreation, and sport funding is becoming scarce. The Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP) and the Community Initiatives Program (CIP) once were accessible for municipalities to assist with the renewal, expansion, or building of public-use community facilities and are no longer. Although it is appreciated that funding is available to community partner organizations, most community facilities are managed directly by municipalities.

The provincial government quickly responds to municipal inquiries of recreation infrastructure funding programs to utilize the Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF) Capital funding. Alberta's municipalities know that is not possible as the provincial government's spending on local infrastructure has dropped from 3.7% of total spending a decade ago to 1% today. This means that there is less investment of \$1.3 billion in community infrastructure funding¹ and Alberta's municipalities are facing an estimated \$30 billion deficit that will worsen without government support².

The culture, sport, and recreation infrastructure deficit is not the only challenge. The provincial government has launched Phase 3 of its "Alberta is Calling" campaign which will be the province's largest annual increase in the province's history with an average of 550 people moving to Alberta every day³. Alberta's annual population growth projection is expected to be 2.5% (2022-2025) with 4.5 million population in 2022 to 7.1 million in 2051. The population is expected to become increasingly diverse as immigration will account for 55% of the expected population growth over this period⁴. Municipalities are facing increasing pressure to accommodate the province's growth and maintaining the current infrastructure while planning the addition of new subdivisions and community facilities.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

ABmunis has encouraged municipalities to incorporate asset management practices to support the effective operation, maintenance and renewal of municipally owned infrastructure. A provincial database of recreation infrastructure would support this practice. If passed, this resolution will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for a response. Further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Infrastructure Committee within the context of related priorities and positions. If the Government of Alberta is supportive of funding the initiative, ABmunis would work with the Government of Alberta to determine if ABmunis or another third-party organization are best positioned to develop and maintain the database.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

Todd Becker
Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Innisfail
Todd.Becker@innisfail.ca

¹ Alberta Municipalities. (2024, May 5). *Let's Talk About Infrastructure*. Retrieved from Alberta Municipalities: <https://www.abmunis.ca/system/files/2023-09/ABmunis%20Background%20Funding%20of%20Local%20Infrastructure.pdf>

² Alberta Municipalities. (2024, May 5). *Local Government Fiscal Framework*. Retrieved from Alberta Municipalities: <https://www.abmunis.ca/advocacy-resources/infrastructure/local-government-fiscal-framework-lgff>

³ Gibson, C. (2024, May 9). *3rd Phase of Alberta is Calling is underway, but is province moving too fast?* Retrieved from GlobAL News: <https://globalnews.ca/news/10484561/alberta-is-calling-phase-3-movingbonus/#:~:text=Phase%203%20of%20the%20Alberta.help%20build%20housing%20and%20infrastructure.>

⁴ Government of Alberta. (2024, May 3). Retrieved from Building Active Spaces and Brighter Futures: <https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=902887A915EF0-BF58-A6D7-35BC294F5758FF3A>

B17: Federal Funding for Compressed Natural Gas and Clean Diesel Buses

Moved by: City of Red Deer
 Seconded by: Town of Innisfail

WHEREAS with the announcement of the Zero Emission Transit Fund, beginning in 2022 the Government of Canada's funding program for municipal transit has been changed to only allow eligible purchases of hydrogen and electric buses;

WHEREAS hydrogen and electric bus manufacturers do not have the capacity to meet the demand of municipal fleet replacement with confirmed delivery times exceeding two years from date of purchase;

WHEREAS the impacts on the electrical grid and costs of upgrading building infrastructure to support new electrical demand are unknown;

WHEREAS significant technological advancements have made compressed natural gas (CNG) and clean diesel environmentally friendly solutions;

WHEREAS restrictions on municipal access to buses would decrease the service level of transit that municipalities offer, reducing the access for many residents to employment and community; and

WHEREAS restrictions on municipal access to buses would lead to an increase in personal vehicles on the road, increasing the level of emissions.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to work with the Government of Canada to return to a federal funding program that accepts purchases of compressed natural gas and clean diesel buses until 2035, which will allow municipalities to transition their fleets in an efficient and realistic manner.

BACKGROUND:

Many municipalities who provide public transit have taken advantage of previous programs such as the Green Transit Incentives Program (GreenTRIP) and the Public Transit Infrastructure Fund Program (PTIF) in past years to replace diesel-based transit fleets with greener options. Significant investments were also made to construct, and service specialized fueling stations.

Transitioning to zero emission transit is a laudable goal. However, the timetable is too short for municipalities to transition without significant challenges that will be borne by their residents and taxpayers.

The current electric and hydrogen bus procurement process makes it difficult for smaller and mid-sized municipalities to fill their orders and receive buses. They are competing with major urban centres across North America. Current delivery times are beyond two years and puts fleet replacement at risk.

Additional fleets would be required to maintain service levels at current schedules, as municipalities would require two electric buses to every CNG bus. Due to the requirement of charging times throughout the day, buses would have to come off their regular service just to charge, requiring a backup bus to cover the service.

CNG and clean diesel burn significantly cleaner than previously used fuel sources. While they are not zero emission, they still significantly reduce emissions when compared to previous diesel options. Additionally, CNG and clean diesel buses cost significantly less than electric or hydrogen buses. Currently, CNG buses can be purchased for approximately \$850,000, whereas electric buses cost approximately \$1,800,000 to \$2,000,000 and hydrogen

buses cost approximately \$1,500,000 to \$1,700,000.

The environmental impact of transit is well established. Reducing the number of available buses has several major impacts on municipalities. First, it forces even more difficult choices between service levels and taxpayer supported costs. The reality is that fewer people will be able to access public transit if transitional funding of CNG and clean diesel buses is not restored. In addition, the environmental effects would be a net negative, as more people will be driving personal vehicles in municipalities who cannot afford electric buses.

The Government of Canada has committed to net-zero emissions from fossil fuels by 2035. Electric and hydrogen buses are a part of reaching that target. However, the public good provided through public transit is at risk of being diminished by moving too fast. A target of 2035 to transition public transit fleets is a more reasonable approach that can still achieve the desired outcomes without unduly burdening taxpayers.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

ABmunis has advocated for funding for public transit funding in the past but has not had a position on what types and energy sources should be eligible for a public transit funding. If approved, this resolution will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Infrastructure Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

Darren Kuz
Interim Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor & Council
City of Red Deer
darren.kuz@reddeer.ca

B18: Provincial Support for Watershed Management

Moved by: City of St. Albert
Seconded by: Town of Gibbons

WHEREAS the goals and objectives of watershed management plans under the Water for Life Strategy include a safe, secure drinking water supply, healthy aquatic ecosystems, reliable quality water supplies for a sustainable economy, flood and drought preparation, and overall watershed ecological health;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta promotes the management of water to achieve these goals through the Wetland Policy, the Water Act and the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act;

WHEREAS achieving these goals requires an understanding of, and responses to, diverse impacts from agriculture and livestock, road salt usage, vegetation clearing, development pressures, irrigation, septic concerns, and shoreline modifications;

WHEREAS municipalities develop and apply watershed management recommendations into their municipal planning documents and operations to achieve these goals, partially to address provincial regulatory, planning, enforcement, monitoring, and reporting gaps, especially for municipalities not directly situated on major rivers such as the North and South Saskatchewan Rivers;

WHEREAS there is a lack of provincial resources for municipalities to achieve the goals of the Water for Life Strategy without municipally funded services and operations such as water quality monitoring, watershed ecological health assessments, and biodiversity assessments; and

WHEREAS Alberta is currently experiencing drought conditions, with the Province initiating water-sharing negotiations and establishing a new drought advisory committee, necessitating increased attention to watershed and cumulative effects management.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to direct resources to bolster the application of the Water Act and the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act through increased enforcement, data collection and information sharing with municipalities, and biodiversity assessments for municipalities located on smaller rivers and sub-watersheds – including but not limited to engagement with municipalities on Water Act permit approvals to enable alignment with municipal statutory plans – to achieve the goals of the Water for Life Strategy.

BACKGROUND:

The City of St. Albert, along with over a dozen other municipalities and First Nations, are all members of the Sturgeon River Watershed Alliance (SRWA) – a municipally-supported watershed stewardship group established for the Sturgeon River Watershed, which works in partnership with the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA). The SRWA focuses on watershed planning to inform and align municipal policies and planning, ensure access to safe drinking water, promote healthy aquatic ecosystems, and enable a reliable, quality water supply for the economy – objectives that align directly with the Provincial Water for Life Strategy.

As the Sturgeon River is a precipitation-fed river, the use of the surrounding land has an increased impact on the quality and quantity of water in the watershed when compared to glacier-fed rivers like the North Saskatchewan and Bow Rivers. Whereas greater resources such as access to data on water quality, impact assessments, and enforcement of Water Act regulations is available to municipalities situated on major glacier-fed rivers, municipalities situated on smaller tributary rivers often do not have access to the same resources.

The priority issues in the Sturgeon River Watershed are:

- Poor water quality due to excess nutrient and sediment inputs;

- Low water levels in late Summer and Fall in rivers, creeks and lakes;
- Impacts from extensive agriculture and rapid urbanization; and
- Loss of wetlands, riparian areas and other environmentally sensitive areas.

Precipitation-fed rivers have increased risk of being affected by extreme weather events and climate change, due to the lack of glacial fed headwaters; they have lower resiliency to drought and are prone to flooding in high precipitation weather events. While they are often not a source of drinking water, they can be used to attenuate waste, support a healthy aquatic ecosystem, and are tributaries to larger glacier-fed rivers like the North Saskatchewan River – the health of such tributary rivers directly impacts the state of the major rivers into which they eventually discharge.

Furthermore, the permitted and unpermitted loss of wetlands has resulted in low ecological resiliency, with major impacts to ecosystems and economies related to highly fluctuating water levels. Oftentimes, Water Act approvals that affect wetlands are granted without significant municipal consultations, resulting in conflicts with municipal statutory plans that guide the management of wetlands and watersheds within their boundaries.

These issues are not being adequately addressed through provincial resources and oversight. Municipalities situated on smaller rivers must make decisions based on incomplete or missing data critical to making informed decisions – data that may otherwise be available to municipalities situated on larger, glacier-fed rivers. As a result of this gap, sources of pollution are often not quantified or monitored, and can impact surface and groundwater quality of sub-watersheds, and by extension, major glacier-fed rivers to which they are tributaries.

Assuming the work of ecological monitoring to address the gap in provincial resources, oversight and enforcement is expensive and requires specialized knowledge and expertise to complete tasks such as water quality testing and biodiversity assessments – such costs can be prohibitive for smaller municipalities. Furthermore, Water Act approvals are often granted to private landowners without determining the impacts of such decisions on the municipality, their statutory plans, or their water management issues and priorities.

Through allocating more resources to the application and enforcement of provincial water policies and legislation for tributary rivers and sub-watersheds, and through engagement with municipalities on Water Act approvals, the Government of Alberta can provide the tools required to ensure the objectives of the Water for Life Strategy can be adequately met at every source and tributary of Alberta's water supply.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

ABmunis is an active member of the Alberta Water Council, participating on several sub-committees. ABmunis is also currently looking at updating a water conservation, efficiency and productivity plan for members to reduce their per capita daily consumption of water. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response. Further advocacy would be recommended to the ABmunis' Board by the Environment and Sustainability Committee within the context of related priorities and positions

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

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B19: Goldfish Infestation and Emergency Approval of Powder-Form Rotenone Pesticide

Moved by: Town of Sylvan Lake
Seconded by: Town of Bentley

WHEREAS goldfish, an invasive aquatic species, are continuously infesting stormwater ponds, posing a serious risk to the ecosystem;

WHEREAS the only approved pesticide in Canada, liquid Rotenone, is no longer being manufactured due to a manufacturing plant closure;

WHEREAS affected municipalities have made great efforts to resolve the issue, including obtaining the necessary provincial authorization to remove the aquatic invasive species manually;

WHEREAS the exploration of alternative methods, such as electrofishing, dewatering, and dredging, have been used in the absence of liquid Rotenone; and

WHEREAS goldfish continue to infest stormwater ponds, despite using alternative methods, demonstrating how persistent the problem is for affected municipalities.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta for emergency approval of the dry form Rotenone to address the goldfish, an invasive aquatic species, infestation in stormwater pond systems.

BACKGROUND:

An extensive goldfish infestation in Alberta's stormwater ponds requires quick intervention to lessen the environmental harm to waterways and ecosystems.

The lack of liquid Rotenone has made it difficult to manage the aquatic invasive species successfully, even with attempts to address the problem using existing strategies, including physical removal, pond dewatering, and electrofishing. Emergency licensing of dry-form rotenone is required to assist in the prompt and effective management of the goldfish population and reduce the risk of ecological harm.

To mitigate the environmental risk posed to the lake by the aquatic invasive species in the surrounding stormwater ponds, it is imperative for the province to allow the emergency approval of dry-form Rotenone; this approval would not only facilitate an effective tool to control the goldfish population found in the stormwater ponds but also prevent further ecological damaging by providing an urgently needed solution to address the infestations.

By working collaboratively with relevant stakeholders, including municipalities, the Government of Alberta can address this pressing environmental concern and safeguard the integrity of Alberta's natural resources.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this specific issue; however, this resolution aligns with past advocacy on aquatic invasive species. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response. Further advocacy would be recommended to the ABmunis' Board by the Environment and Sustainability Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

Megan Hanson
Mayor
Town of Sylvan Lake
mhanson@sylvanlake.ca

Sean Durkin
Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Sylvan Lake
sdurkin@sylvanlake.ca

2024 RESOLUTIONS

Category C – Other Issues of Potential Interest to Municipalities

C1: Financial Disclosure of Asset Retirement Obligations

Moved by: Town of Coronation
Seconded by: Town of Hinton

WHEREAS the addition of accounting standard PS 3280, Asset Retirement Obligations (ARO), increases the transparency of a municipality's environmental liabilities through a municipality's audited financial statements;

WHEREAS the new ARO accounting standard requires municipalities and regional service commissions to report the estimated cost to retire, decommission, remediate, or monitor specific tangible capital assets that present an environmental liability at the end of its useful life;

WHEREAS many municipalities, particularly smaller municipalities, lack the administrative capacity to efficiently and accurately assess the estimated cost to retire their relevant tangible capital assets when those assets are deemed to no longer be needed to serve the community; and

WHEREAS municipalities facing the need for abatement assessments lack adequate financial support to comply with these requirements.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta for financial support and tools to support municipalities to comply with PS 3280 in the most cost-efficient manner possible.

BACKGROUND:

In 2018, the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) approved standard PS 3280, Asset Retirement Obligations, with it coming into force for all municipal financial statements for the year ending in 2023. With the implementation of PS 3280, public sector bodies, including municipalities, need to report in their financial statements the estimated cost to retire, decommission, remediate, or monitor specific tangible capital assets once they reach their end of life. Common examples include:

- Buildings with asbestos
- Closure of landfills
- Closure of wastewater treatment facilities

The issuance of detailed guidelines by the province for this process, along with the consideration of best practices to protect municipalities from lawsuits and legal costs associated with such disclosures, would be advantageous.

Some municipalities might struggle to effectively evaluate their environmental liability, which would require hiring consultants to do the work for them. This is a cost that many smaller municipalities cannot afford.

Support from the Government of Alberta would significantly contribute to the stability and sustainability of municipalities across Alberta, enabling them to fulfill their responsibilities under the MGA while protecting them from undue financial and legal risks associated with the capital assets that carry an environmental or health risk.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this issue. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Municipal Governance Committee within the context of other priorities.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

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Town of Coronation
quintonf@coronation.ca

Matthew Peacock
Mayor
Town of Coronation
matthewp@town.coronation.ab.ca

C2: Extending Municipal Voting Rights to Permanent Residents

Moved by: City of Calgary
 Seconded by: Town of Penhold

WHEREAS our responsibility as municipalities extends to all who people who call our communities' home;

WHEREAS permanent residents are community members who have demonstrated a commitment to our communities and, like citizens, contribute to civic life, have chosen to work here, raise families here, pay taxes here, and who use and support municipal services; however, permanent residents do not have the democratic right to vote in their local municipality;

WHEREAS the right to vote in federal elections is enshrined in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms for those with Canadian citizenship, the right to vote provincially is defined in Alberta's Election Act, and the right to vote in municipal elections is defined in Alberta's Local Authorities Election Act;

WHEREAS all orders of government make decisions that directly impact the daily lives of all residents, regardless of their citizenship status; and

WHEREAS municipal governments have a unique legislative opportunity to honour the contributions of Permanent Residents – who are long-term constituents, neighbours, and community members who pay property taxes and fees for municipal services, contribute to our local economy by working and purchasing goods and services, and create vibrancy in areas of social and cultural life – by extending them a democratic voice in local governments.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to amend the Local Authorities Election Act to expand voter eligibility to include individuals who have been granted Canadian permanent resident status.

BACKGROUND:

Definition of a Permanent Resident:

A permanent resident is a person who has legally immigrated to Canada and has been granted the status of a permanent resident but is not a Canadian citizen. Permanent residents can live, work, or study anywhere in Canada, and access most social and health benefits. Permanent residents must also pay all taxes in Canada and respect all Canadian laws. Permanent residents may be in the process of applying for Canadian citizenship, which takes a minimum of 4-5 years after immigrating to Canada.

National Context:

The term franchise, or enfranchisement, denotes the right to vote in elections for members of Parliament, provincial legislatures and municipal councils. As municipalities exist as a result of Provincial legislation, the opportunity exists to afford municipal voting rights to Citizens and Permanent Residents alike through an act of the Alberta Provincial Government amending the Local Authorities Election Act.

Canada has a history of expanding voting rights as our values evolve. Consider that dating back to the colonial period, restrictions once effectively limited the right to vote to male property holders. Since then, voting qualifications and voter eligibility have expanded, removing the restrictions on women, First Nations, Inuit, and Asian Canadians' right to vote, and eventually affirming the right of every Citizen to vote.

The expansion of voter eligibility reflects Canada's evolving social values and a more reflective understanding of what it means to contribute to Canadian society. Currently, New Brunswick is drafting legislation to be the first province in Canada to give permanent residents the right to vote in local elections after bipartisan legislation recognized permanent residents as significant members of the community deserving of enfranchisement in local

elections.¹ In addition, Toronto City Council² and Vancouver City Council³ have passed motions calling on their respective provincial governments to enable permanent residents the right to vote locally.

International Context:

On an international level, permanent residents, or their equivalent, have the right to vote in local elections in over 45 nations around the world under various circumstances including, but not limited to:

- U.S.A. (in various states)
- United Kingdom (including Wales and Scotland)
- Ireland
- Germany
- Belgium
- Greece
- New Zealand
- Switzerland
- Denmark
- Finland
- Belize
- Austria
- Netherlands
- Israel
- Australia
- And more...

Alignment with Alberta Municipalities' Strategic Initiatives

The expansion of democratic participation to permanent residents aligns with several strategic initiatives such as:

- Fostering a Culture of Respect
- Welcoming and Inclusive Communities
- Local Authorities Election Act

Granting permanent residents the right to vote provides several benefits across the above strategic initiatives of Alberta Municipalities. The right to vote democratically further enshrines the mutual respect we have for immigrants in our communities. Civic participation fosters a sense of ownership and responsibility amongst community, strengthens social cohesion, and ensures that governments are responsive to the needs and aspirations of the people they represent.⁴ By ensuring our community members are represented in local elections, we can create stronger communities.

The provincial government has made changes to the Local Authorities Election Act (LAEA) with, and without, the advocacy of Alberta Municipalities. This would be an opportunity to make an amendment to the LAEA that will greatly strengthen our communities and ensure our democracy is reflective of the communities we serve.

Other Considerations:

In Alberta, our elected leaders at the provincial level must win the nomination of their party's constituency association for the riding wherein they seek the nomination. To win the nomination in a riding, a candidate must receive a majority vote of eligible party members in that riding. The eligibility for party membership varies, but for example, the United Conservative Party will allow membership to⁵:

1. Residents of Alberta
2. People aged 14 and above
3. Citizens and Permanent Residents of Canada
4. Have paid the fee

When considering the democratic process is heavily influenced by the candidates who run for leadership, it is relevant information that permanent residents are able to vote for the leader of a party and vote for candidates to secure their nominations. By proxy, permanent residents can contribute to the selection of the Premier of Alberta and their local MLAs but are unable to vote for their local elected officials.

¹ [Extending vote to N.B. permanent residents won't happen by fall: province - New Brunswick | Globalnews.ca](#)

² [Council votes in favour of electoral reform measures | CBC News](#)

³ [The City of Vancouver just moved to let permanent residents vote in civic elections - BC | Globalnews.ca](#)

⁴ [Why Civic Engagement Matters in Democracy? - Modern Diplomacy](#)

⁵ [Membership – The United Conservative Party](#)

Permanent Residents are now eligible to become Police Officers.¹

- Recently, the Alberta Advantage Immigration Program announced new eligibility to allow Permanent Residents eligibility for recruitment into Police Services, including sworn officers and civilian positions.
- This change allows Police Services to recruit international officers into the service.

Permanent Residents are now eligible to join the Canadian Forces.²

- Since 2022, in response to the growing need for stability in the Canadian Armed Forces, the ban on permanent residents enrolling in the Canadian Armed Forces was lifted.
- Permanent residents are now eligible to join the Canadian Armed Forces to alleviate what was viewed as a critical shortfall in personnel.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

This issue relates to ABmunis work to support municipalities to create [welcoming and inclusive communities](#), and ABmunis' principles that local elections should be inclusive and locally focused; however, ABmunis does not currently have a position on whether permanent residents should be eligible to vote in municipal elections. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response. Further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Municipal Governance Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

Courtney Walcott
Councillor
City of Calgary
Courtney.Walcott@calgary.ca

¹ [Attracting skilled workers to protect communities | alberta.ca](#)

² [Minister of National Defence announces that permanent residents are welcome to apply now to join the Canadian Armed Forces - Canada.ca](#)

C3: Fires on Frozen Lakes

Moved by: Town of Sylvan Lake
 Seconded by: Summer Village of Jarvis Bay

WHEREAS fires directly lit on the surface of frozen lakes results in significant environmental damage due to the debris left behind, including materials such as garbage, tires, and pallets containing nails;

WHEREAS the debris from fires directly lit on the surface of frozen lakes poses a threat to the ecosystem of Alberta lakes and surrounding areas, particularly upon melting, when it enters the lake and contributes to environmental pollution;

WHEREAS the current regulatory framework lacks specific provisions to regulate fires directly lit on frozen lakes, necessitating the development of a new regulation to address this emerging environmental challenge;

WHEREAS there is an urgent need for a regulation to address this issue and prevent further harm to the environment; and

WHEREAS collaborative efforts between municipalities, the provincial government, and other stakeholders have proven effective in addressing environmental concerns in the past.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to develop, implement, and enforce, a regulation that mandates fires be contained within raised containers to mitigate the risk of debris contamination and to prevent environmental damage caused by fires directly lit on the surface of frozen lakes.

BACKGROUND:

The practice of burning fires directly on the surface of frozen lakes, as observed in Sylvan Lake and surrounding areas, has raised concerns due to the environmental damage caused by the debris left behind. The debris often contains harmful materials such as nails, garbage, and tires, posing a significant risk to the ecosystem upon melting. While efforts have been made to address this issue through existing channels, such as 310-PARKS, the current system has proven ineffective in resolving the problem.

To mitigate the environmental impact of fires on frozen lakes, it is imperative to develop a regulation mandating fires be contained and removed when the user concludes their time on the lake. This regulation would not only prevent debris contamination, but also facilitate effective enforcement measures to ensure compliance.

By working collaboratively with relevant stakeholders, including municipalities, the Government of Alberta can address this pressing environmental concern and safeguard the integrity of Alberta's natural resources.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this issue. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Environment and Sustainability Committee within the context of other priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

Megan Hanson
 Mayor
 Town of Sylvan Lake
mhanson@sylvanlake.ca

Sean Durkin
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 Town of Sylvan Lake
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C4: Increase Capital Funding for Accessible Playgrounds for All New, Replacement or Renovated Alberta Public Schools with K-6 Programming

Moved by: City of Spruce Grove

Seconded by: Village of Amisk

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta announced in June 2020 that any new school with K-6 programming will have funding for a playground included in their capital budgets;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta provides grant funding of up to \$250,000 per school to support the construction of a playground for new or replacement schools; school communities that wish to exceed \$250,000 can use fundraising to supplement the project;

WHEREAS significant fundraising is often required above the Government of Alberta grant funding with schools¹ reaching out to municipalities for additional funding due to insufficient provincial funding for accessible playgrounds;

WHEREAS accessible playgrounds are built to accommodate children of all abilities enabling youth with or without disabilities, their parents, and caregivers to fully participate in all aspects of the playground;

WHEREAS accessible playgrounds require additional funding, above what non-accessible playgrounds cost;

WHEREAS many municipal governments are working towards increasing accessibility in their communities through various measures such as accessibility policies and accessible playground standards for developers;

WHEREAS there is no mechanism that mandates accessible school playgrounds; and

WHEREAS school play time and playgrounds are vital to childhood development, which includes the development of gross motor skills, social interactions, and creativity.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to increase capital funding for all new, replacement, or renovated public schools with K-6 programming to enable the construction of accessible playgrounds to ensure that students with disabilities have equal development opportunities.

BACKGROUND:

In 2021/2022, there were 745,770 K-12 students in Alberta with approximately 14% having a coded status that can be related to an identified disability.

Municipalities across the province recognize the importance of creating welcoming, inclusive, and accessible communities. Several municipalities in Alberta have accessibility policies in place or under development; however, school playgrounds are provincially mandated, and therefore excluded from any municipal accessibility policies.

This resolution aligns with Alberta Municipalities' Welcoming and Inclusive Communities (WIC) Initiative, which aims to help municipalities adapt to and celebrate the increasing diversity of Alberta's population. The WIC Initiative works to create communities where all residents and visitors enjoy a sense of belonging and where diversity adds to the social and economic vibrancy of the community, improving the quality of life for all residents, including people with disabilities.

¹ In the context of this resolution 'schools' refer to school jurisdictions eligible for Government of Alberta capital funding which include a public, separate or Francophone grouping of schools governed by an elected school board.

Currently, school boards are eligible for Government of Alberta grant funding for playgrounds either through Alberta Education or Alberta Arts, Culture and Status of Women; however, school authorities and their fundraising societies are not eligible to receive funding from both sources:

- Alberta Education provides up to \$250,000 for playgrounds, through capital grant funding for new and replacement schools. Schools can use their fundraising societies to supplement playground construction builds that exceed \$250,000.
- Alberta Arts, Culture and Status of Women provides grant funding through the Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP) of up to \$125,000 to support the construction of a school playground. Matching funds are required, and funding can be used for new, replacement or renovated schools.

Alberta public sector entities have a history of advocating for additional capital school funding:

- In 2014, the Town of Penhold put forward the Provincial Support for School Development resolution requesting “that the Government of Alberta, when developing new schools, fulfill the role of a contractor and share the costs associated with the development of the lands for the placement of a school structure”.
- In 2017, Edmonton Public School Board successfully advocated to the Government of Alberta for funding playgrounds to be committed to in the 2020 Budget proportional to the new schools announced. In June 2020, the Government of Alberta announced that any new school with K-6 programming would have funding for a playground included in their capital budgets.

Alberta interest groups have a history of advocating for consistent accessibility standards:

- The Alberta Advocate for Persons with Disabilities is working towards a proactive approach towards reducing barriers and improving opportunities for those with disabilities.
- The Alberta Ability Network (AAN) is a collaboration of 170 organizations and community advocates located in Alberta, working together to address systemic barriers facing persons with disabilities, and has advocated to the province for mechanisms for enforcement of accessibility standards in the province.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES’ COMMENTS:

This issue relates to ABmunis’ Welcoming and Inclusive Communities initiative to support all residents to have equitable access to services and facilities, but ABmunis does not currently have a position on whether the province should create a funding system that enables the construction of accessible playgrounds at all K-6 schools. If the resolution is passed, it will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy recommended to ABmunis’ Board by the Infrastructure Committee within the context of other priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis’ Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

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City of Spruce Grove
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C5: Doubling Speed Fines in Playground Zones and School Zones

Moved by: City of Calgary
 Seconded by: Village of Duchess

WHEREAS ensuring the safety of children, particularly in playground zones near schools, is paramount due to their heightened vulnerability to traffic-related risks;

WHEREAS various public entities, including school boards and parent councils have voiced concerns regarding speeding and pedestrian safety, underscoring the urgency for additional protective measures;

WHEREAS other jurisdictions, such as Nova Scotia, British Columbia, Quebec, and Ontario, have successfully implemented measures to double speeding fines in school zones;

WHEREAS Alberta has already doubled fines for other vulnerable road users such as when workers are present in construction zones or when passing first responders; and

WHEREAS the provincial government holds responsibility for the Traffic Safety Act and associated regulations/specified penalties, including the establishment of school and playground zones with reduced speed limits to safeguard children's well-being.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to make changes to the Alberta Traffic Safety Act to improve safety within designated school zones and playground zones through measures such as double fines for speeding offenses or adjusting demerits to encourage improved compliance.

BACKGROUND:

This issue affects all Alberta municipalities with school zones and/or playground zones. According to a study cited by the Global Road Safety Partnership¹ increasing speeding fines by 50-100 per cent can result in a 15 per cent decrease in violations.

Given the alignment with existing provincial legislation intended to protect vulnerable road users, and the potential to help reduce safety incidents in school zones and playground zones, this resolution should be given a high priority.

While prioritizing the safety of road users in school zones and playground zones does not specifically align with strategic initiatives listed in Alberta Municipalities' 2024 Business Plan, it does align with the general strategy of prioritizing and building common solutions that strengthen municipalities.

Advocacy to increase fines for speeding in school and playground zones was addressed by Alberta Municipalities through a 2011 resolution sponsored by the City of Grande Prairie. Alberta Transportation responded that they were not pursuing an increase in fine amounts at that time. There does not appear to be any other associations or groups acting on this issue currently.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this specific issue. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to the ABmunis Board by the Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of other priorities and positions.

¹ Sakashita, C. Fleiter, J.J, Cliff, D., Flieger, M., Harman, B. & Lilley, M (2021). A Guide to the Use of Penalties to Improve Road Safety. Global Road Safety Partnership, Geneva, Switzerland.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

Briana Stallcup
Constituent Assistant, City of Calgary
caward3@calgary.ca

C6: Coverage of Mandatory Drivers' Medical Exam Fees for Albertans Aged 75 and Older

Moved by: City of Cold Lake
Seconded by: Town of Bonnyville

WHEREAS mandatory driver medical exams for Albertans aged 75 years and older were covered by the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan until 2020;

WHEREAS many Albertans aged 75 years and older live on a fixed income and are disproportionately impacted by new and increasing personal expenses;

WHEREAS the ability to maintain a driver's license impacts an individual's independence, his or her ability to efficiently attend medical appointments, and care for themselves as well as their families;

WHEREAS seniors who are not able to drive increasingly rely on municipal services, including accessible transportation, door-to-door bus services, and medical travel subsidies; and

WHEREAS it is in Alberta's best interest to encourage and support independent, active, and healthy seniors who are able to age in their communities with dignity and a high quality of life.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to reinstate Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan coverage for mandatory driver medical exams for Albertans aged 75 years and older.

BACKGROUND:

In 2020, the Government of Alberta removed mandatory driver medical exams from the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP) as a cost-saving measure. Amongst the reasons cited for the change was that Alberta was the only province to cover such costs.

Alberta's 2024-25 budget contains measures intended to assist seniors with rising costs, including a 25% reduction in personal registry services and a 25% coverage of the cost of mandatory medical exams. These programs are acknowledged and commended by the movers of this resolution as a meaningful step that will reduce the cost of living and help to maintain the independence of Alberta's seniors.

Given the recent and unprecedented rise in the cost of living, and the disproportionate affect that cost of living increases have on people as they age and are more likely to rely on a fixed income, however, it is requested that the Government of Alberta consider resuming its position as a leader in providing access to mandatory drivers' medical exams for its residents aged 75 years and older.

Mandatory drivers' medical exams are required at the age of 75, 80, and every two years thereafter. The requirements for such mandatory drivers' exams are, of course, reasonable given that changes in people's health can impact their ability to drive safely and are more likely to occur as people age.

The costs, however, are not consistent across the province and can range up to \$150, a 75% increase over the rate that was covered under the AHCIP, which was \$85.58. The movers of this resolution feel that it is in our province's best interest to ensure that each Albertan can live as independently as possible where they are able and willing to do so. Significant fees for mandatory drivers' medical exams can represent a barrier to maintaining a driver's license for healthy Albertan's aged 75 and older who would otherwise be medically cleared to drive.

The Government of Alberta has noted that the population of seniors in Alberta continues to rise faster than any other age group. According to the Government of Alberta's website, in September 2022, there were 725,000 Albertans

over the age of 65 years. That number is expected to double by 2042. Ensuring that Albertans aged 75 and up can afford to maintain their driver's license will also ensure that a greater number of Albertans are able to remain active participants in the communities in which they plan to age. Maintaining independence will mitigate social isolation and exclusion, which the Government of Alberta notes "... can be a significant issue for many seniors and can lead to negative health effects including depression and a reduced sense of well-being." (<https://www.alberta.ca/seniors-resources>)

The benefits of independence and independent mobility that come with maintaining a driver's license are magnified in the context of rural and remote communities. Many seniors living in a rural or remote context must travel to Alberta's larger centres for health care appointments. If these trips cannot be made independently, the burden often falls on public services or more expensive private transportation options.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this issue. On June 18, 2024, the Government of Alberta announced that seniors over 65 years of age now receive a 25 per cent discount on driver's medical exams¹; however, this does not meet the intent of the resolution that seniors should receive full coverage under the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan.

If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Economic Strategy Committee within the context of other priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

Andrew Serba
Manager of Economic Development, Strategy and Communications
City of Cold Lake
aserba@coldlake.com

¹ Government of Alberta June 18, 2024 News Release: "Another registry discount for seniors."
<https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=90536BB2B13FF-ADDE-CF3F-70AF076F9D229090>

C7: Alberta Learner's Licence Program Review

Moved by: City of Brooks
 Seconded by: Town of Sexsmith

WHEREAS the ability to drive impacts the livelihood of individuals who do not have access to public transportation to go to and from work and other daily needs, especially in rural Alberta;

WHEREAS the Province of Alberta possesses the most restrictive Learner's Licence Program in Canada;

WHEREAS within the Government of Alberta's Learner's Licence Program, a Class 7 Learner's Licence is the first step to legally driving a vehicle per Alberta's Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) program;

WHEREAS for the first year, a driver with a Class 7 Learner's License may only operate a vehicle if there is a passenger present who is over 18 years old and has a full Class 5 driver's license or higher;

WHEREAS after one year with a Class 7 Learner's License, a driver can complete a series of tests and upgrade to a Class 5 GDL, which no longer requires a licensed passenger, but still carries various restrictions; and

WHEREAS in Alberta, it takes up to three years to get a full, non-GDL Class 5 Driver's Licence.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Provincial Government to review its Learner's Licence Program for legislative changes which includes shortening the Class 7 Learner's Licence period from twelve months to eight months for those 16 years of age and older who take an approved and accredited driver's training course.

BACKGROUND:

In Alberta, there is no ability to shorten the Class 7 Learner's Licence period by taking driver's training. For those 16 and over, the process requires a minimum of twelve months before a road test can be completed to obtain a Class 5 GDL, which enables the license holder to drive without a licensed passenger present.

If a person is 16 years or older when they apply for a driver's license, Alberta's GDL system requires:

1. At least one year with a Class 7 license, which requires the driver to travel with a passenger in the front seat who has a full Class 5 license.
2. After one year, the driver may complete a road test and receive a Class 5 GDL, which allows them to drive without a licensed passenger, but other restrictions still apply.
3. A driver with a Class 5 GDL may only upgrade to a full Class 5 license after they have driven with a Class 5 GDL for at least two years and have had no license suspensions or demerits in the last year. However, a driver can reduce the time they hold a Class 5 GDL by six months if they complete an accredited Class 5 driver training school.¹

If a person is under 16 years old when they apply for a Class 7 learner's license, they will not be eligible to upgrade to a Class 5 GDL until they turn 16 years old.

In most provinces, individuals with a Class 7 Learner's Licence have the opportunity to shorten the required time period to obtain a full Class 5 Driver's Licence by way of an approved and accredited driver's training course that teaches the fundamentals of driving, both in theory and practicality. Should a new driver be successful in completing the approved and accredited driver's training course, the driver is able to cut down their probation time anywhere from 12 months to eight months (and even six months in some provinces).

¹ Steps to getting an Alberta driver's licence <https://www.alberta.ca/get-drivers-licence-steps>

If the Province of Alberta reduced the Class 7 Learner's Licence period with the approved and accredited driver's training course, it would certainly mean safer roads, as it is witnessed too often that Class 7 drivers are driving with individuals who they themselves barely know how to drive or just sit there as a passenger rather than someone who is to be providing supervision. In addition, a lot of Class 7 drivers continue to hold their Class 7 Learner's Licence for a number of consecutive years which is attributed to failing road tests, as the driver likely had no real training and or good supervision.

Giving Albertans the option to take a driver's training course that not only goes over the theory of driving, but the fundamentals of actually driving is crucial to the individual's development as a driver and fellow road user.

Furthermore, it is a great incentive for people to obtain their Class 5 GDL within a shorter period of time, which is so important in aiding in municipal economies, as new opportunities will arise for business across the province. This will also provide an opportunity for those who want to do better and learn how to be better drivers because of it. Drivers may even qualify for cheaper insurance rates with having a driver's training course on file as well.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this issue. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Economic Strategy Committee within the context of other priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

Mohammed Idriss
Councillor
City of Brooks
MIdriss@brooks.ca

C8: Review of Provincial Animal Protection Act

Moved by: City of Airdrie
 Seconded by: Town of Didsbury

WHEREAS Alberta's Animal Protection Act (APA) is a crucial legislative framework designed to safeguard the welfare of animals within the province;

WHEREAS it is imperative to periodically reassess and update existing legislation to ensure it remains effective and aligned with current standards and Alberta's APA has not been substantially changed since 2006;

WHEREAS the current version of the legislation does not differentiate between commercial and companion animals;

WHEREAS societal attitudes and norms have changed, new challenges and risks have emerged and best practices for animal protection may be enacted;

WHEREAS municipalities play a pivotal role in enforcing animal welfare laws within our jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS Alberta's outdated APA lacks clear guidance for when peace officers are empowered to act and what enforcement mechanisms are available such as cases where companion animals are in the care of an animal shelter, rescue, or humane society.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta for a comprehensive review and update of Alberta's Animal Protection Act.

BACKGROUND:

The landscape of animal welfare is dynamic, with new challenges and risks constantly emerging. Public attitudes towards animals and their treatment have undergone significant transformation in recent decades, with an increasing emphasis on compassion, empathy, and ethical stewardship.

Under the current Animal Protection Act (APA) there is no differentiation between commercial and companion animals. This distinction is necessary to provide appropriate guidelines for care and welfare enforcement. Commercial animals can include horses, cattle, sheep, swine and live poultry but usually, they are animals raised for meat production or other products from the animals. A companion animal could be anything that is not a commercial animal, but most commonly include dogs and cats.¹ While a review of the APA may include changes that impact commercial animals, this resolution allows for better protection of companion animals.

In 2006, a major revision to the APA was enacted, only the second update since its inception in 1967. A comprehensive review of the APA is now needed to identify and rectify deficiencies in the legislation, ensuring that it provides clear guidance and consistent enforcement mechanisms across municipalities in dealing with companion animals.

Modernizing legislation and regulation around kennels and rescues is critical to ensuring the welfare and safety of animals in these facilities. With the growing prevalence of companion animals and the increasing demand for adoption and boarding services, outdated regulations fail to address emerging challenges and protect vulnerable animals. Clear and comprehensive regulations can establish standards for housing, care, and hygiene, ensuring that companion animals are provided with adequate nutrition, medical attention, and living conditions. Additionally, updated regulations can mandate regular inspections, licensing requirements, and transparency measures, enabling authorities to monitor compliance and intervene promptly in cases of neglect or abuse.

¹ Province of Manitoba, Animal Care Act. https://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/statutes/ccsm/_pdf.php?cap=a84

In addition, over the past decade Alberta has witnessed a significant shift in online animal sales. The increase of online marketplaces, social media platforms and unregulated transactions has transformed the way companion animals are bought, sold, and traded, presenting both opportunities and risks for animal welfare and regulation. While reputable breeders and licensed sellers may utilize online channels to connect with potential buyers, there has also been a surge in informal or backyard breeding operations advertising animals for sale online. These sellers may operate without proper licensing, veterinary oversight, or adherence to animal welfare standards, raising concerns about the welfare and health of the animals involved.

Additionally, the anonymity and convenience of online platforms have created challenges for enforcement agencies tasked with monitoring and regulating animal sales. Unlike traditional brick-and-mortar pet stores or breeding facilities, online sellers can easily avoid scrutiny and oversight, making it difficult to ensure compliance with existing regulations. This lack of transparency and accountability poses risks not only to animal welfare but also to consumer protection, as buyers may unknowingly purchase animals from disreputable sources.

Municipalities play a pivotal role in enforcing animal welfare laws within our jurisdiction. By revisiting the APA, the province can streamline enforcement procedures, provide additional resources, and enhance collaboration between municipalities and provincial authorities, improving compliance with animal welfare standards.

A local business in Airdrie, which was operating as a dog rescue organization, was recently charged under the APA. With complaints dating back to 2016, Airdrie Municipal Enforcement in partnership with the Alberta SPCA seized a large number of dogs in varying states of distress due to the care conditions at the facility. Under the authority of the APA, peace officers are empowered to act when animals are in distress; however, challenges exist as the Act does not provide direction on animal care standards for shelters, rescues, or Humane Societies. Additionally, there are no requirements for registration or oversight of organizations who provide sheltering and care for animals.

In recent years, several Canadian provinces, including British Columbia and Ontario, have taken significant steps to strengthen their animal protection legislation, reflecting a growing recognition of the importance of safeguarding animal welfare. Manitoba's legislation¹ stands out as an example with clear definitions, separation between commercial and companion animals and kennel regulations. The Alberta SPCA and other provincial animal welfare associations agree that the APA is lacking the necessary tools to truly protect animal welfare and could be engaged as stakeholders in the review process.

A comprehensive review of Alberta's APA is essential to ensure that it remains robust, relevant, and responsive to the evolving needs of companion animals and society. From incorporating scientific advancements to addressing enforcement challenges and fostering stakeholder engagement, such a review holds the potential to enhance animal welfare outcomes across the province.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this issue. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to the ABmunis Board by the Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

Prior to the vote at ABmunis' Convention, any questions about this resolution may be directed to:

Leona Esau
Intergovernmental Liaison
City of Airdrie
Leona.esau@airdrie.ca

¹ Province of Manitoba, Animal Care Act. https://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/statutes/ccsm/_pdf.php?cap=a84



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Request for Decision Airport Insurance

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the change in the property values for both airport hangars by reducing both values to \$100,000.00 each. The reason for the reduction is as follows:

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

BACKGROUND

At a previous council meeting, it was requested to determine if the building values for the 2 airport hangars could be reduced from \$200,000.00 and \$450,000.00 to \$100,000.00 each.

The Village's insurance provider is requesting a motion to approve the change in the property value and reason for approval by completing a Declared Value Endorsement.

Declared Value means (for example) a building that is still being used by the member, but they do not want to insure it to replacement cost.

A Signed Declared Value Endorsement states that in the event of any insurable loss, the insured would only receive up to the maximum limit that was decided on by council. How that works out is if the organization decided to only insure the building for \$1,500,000, and there was a total loss, the organization would only get up to a maximum of \$1,500,000 towards the cost of replacing it. If it is chosen not to replace or rebuild the building for its current use or occupancy, that limit may be lower as the value will be assessed based on an amount equivalent to the actual out of pocket expenses or the limit that is shown on the Declared Value Endorsement, whichever is the least amount.

RISKS/CONSEQUENCES

1. Council may provide further direction on any item contained in the report. Council shall be specific in the direction it provides.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Potential change in premium.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Email Correspondence
2. Declared Value Endorsement Form

From: Stephanie Westlake <Stephaniew@abmunis.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2024 7:39 AM
To: Kim Owen <admin@warner.ca>
Subject: RE: Village of Warner Property Schedule!

Good Morning Kim,

Thank you for clarifying the below reasoning for the amendment in the building valuations. My recommendation would be to keep the replacement cost coverage for the 2024 policy term and adjust these limits to declared value for the 2025 renewal if council would like declared value instead of replacement cost. The reason I suggest keeping the replacement cost coverage is, under our program the premium is waived for endorsements under the property policy. We can reduce the coverage however the Village will not receive a return premium for this, the same goes for additions under our program.

To provide more information on the process to reduce coverage to declared value, our office requires:

- Signed declared value endorsement (attached)
- Council Minutes, where council members approve the change in the property value and reason for approval.

I have also provided some additional information regarding declared value coverage under our program for your review.

If you have any questions or concerns, please let me know.

Thank you,

Stephanie Westlake

CIP, CAIB

|
Senior Insurance Advisor



Completing and understanding the Declared Value Endorsement

- Council must meet and agree to the declared value.
- Council should be made aware of the change that completing the endorsement will make to the policy.
 - The Loss Settlement Policy Condition letter (h) – With Respect to Other Property, subsection (ii) is amended to read :

“... Liability shall in no event exceed the amount actually and necessarily expended for repair, replacement, construction or reconstruction; except with respect to the properties defined as *Declared Value* on the schedule of values Property; in which case the insurer will not be liable for more than the recorded building value as pre-determined by the insured.
- Approved minutes are to accompany the Declared Value Endorsement showing council approving the decision.
- Declared Value Endorsement must be fully completed with all sections filled out accordingly and signed.
- By submitting the Declared Value Endorsement, in the event of an insurable loss, the amount declared will be the maximum amount payable to rebuild the facility.



Request for Decision Village of Warner Library Board Appointment

RECOMMENDATION

That Council appoint Colette Glynn to the Village of Warner Library Board for a three-year term, from November 1, 2024 to October 31, 2027.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Libraries Act
Municipal Government Act

BACKGROUND

The Village has received an application from a resident who wishes to volunteer their time on the Library Board. As such, this application is in front of council for appointment.

RISKS/CONSEQUENCES

1. Council may provide further direction on any item contained in the report. Council shall be specific in the direction it provides.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None

ATTACHMENTS

1. Application

Date Aug 12, 2024

Village of Warner

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to apply for another 3 year term for the Village of Warner Library Board.

my term is up in November/2024

Thank you,

Colin Flynn



Request for Decision Property Tax Penalty Waiver Request

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the property tax waiver request for roll number 25.000 in the amount of \$.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Municipal Government Act

Cancellation, reduction, refund or deferral of taxes

347(1) If a council considers it equitable to do so, it may, generally or with respect to a particular taxable property or business or a class of taxable property or business, do one or more of the following, with or without conditions:

- (a) cancel or reduce tax arrears;
- (b) cancel or refund all or part of a tax;
- (c) defer the collection of a tax.

BACKGROUND

A formal request is being made to council from the owner of tax roll 25.000 to waive the penalties owing.

RISKS/CONSEQUENCES

1. Council may provide further direction on any item contained in the report. Council shall be specific in the direction it provides.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Tax penalty amount is \$.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Request Letter

[REDACTED]
warner, Ab
Tok 240

I am writing to ask that my Tax penalty be removed from Roll # 25.000 in order to help me be able to pay the full amount owing for the past 3+ years.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

[REDACTED]

* Please. See attached.