



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 – SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 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 August 16, 2023, Regular Council meeting minutes
- B) Municipal Enforcement Report
- C) Chief Administrative Officer Report
 - C.1) Water Reports
- D) Financial Report
- E) Committee Reports

5. ITEMS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES & CORRESPONDENCE

- A) Correspondence

6. BYLAW/AGREEMENTS / POLICY REVIEW

- A) 618-23 Dangerous and Unsightly Property Bylaw
- B) 619-23 Dog Bylaw
- C) 620-23 Utility Bylaw
- D) 622-23 Noise Bylaw
- E) 623-23 Truck Bylaw
- F) 102 Elected Official Appointment Policy
- G) 701 Civic Centre Policy

7. ACTION ITEMS/COUNCIL DECISION

- A) Land Lease Agreement
- B) Penalty Waiver Request
- C) BEW FCSS Grant
- D) National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

8. CLOSED MEETING

- A) Section 16: Disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party

9. NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday – October 18, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT



Request for Decision Adoption of Minutes

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes for the August 16, 2023 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: August 16, 2023, regular council meeting minutes

Prior to Adoption

Minutes of the Village of Warner Regular and Closed Council meeting held on Wednesday, August 16, 2023, 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 Derek Baron, and Councillor Chris Koehn

Absent – Elected Officials

Present – Administration

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lindsay called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. DELEGATIONS

None

3. AGENDA

A) Items added or deleted

B) Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Councillor Toovey, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that the August 16, 2023, regular council meeting agenda be accepted as presented."

Motion Carried 2023-143

4. REPORTS/FINANCIALS

A) Approval of May 17, 2023, Regular Council Meeting minutes

Moved by Councillor Baron, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that the minutes for the August 16, 2023, regular council meeting be accepted as presented."

Motion Carried 2023-144

B) Municipal Enforcement Report

Moved by Councillor Koehn, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kirby, "that the Municipal Enforcement report for the period ending July 31, 2023, be accepted as information."

Motion Carried 2023-145

Mr. and Mrs. Meredith, 402-1 Avenue were in attendance to speak to their communication to council regarding the unsightly property bylaw and grazing animal pastures.

Moved by Councillor Baron, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that Bylaw 612-23 Dangerous and Unsightly Property section 3.2.1 be amended to allow for an exception to transitional agricultural zoned properties."

Motion Carried 2023-146

C) Chief Administrative Officer Report

Moved by Councillor Toovey, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that the Chief Administrative Officer report for the period ending July 31, 2023, be accepted as information."

Motion Carried 2023-147

D) Financial Report

Moved by Deputy Mayor Kirby, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that the financial report for the period ending July 31, 2023, be accepted as information."

Motion Carried 2023-148

E) Committee Reports

Deputy Mayor Kirby attended Chinook Arch Regional Library, Oldman River Regional Services Commission, and the Warner Municipal Library meetings, as well as participated in the Coaldale parade.

Councillor Toovey – no meetings

Councillor Baron attended two Milk River Health Professionals Attraction and Retention Committee meetings.

Mayor Lindsay attended the Chief Mountain Regional Solid Waste Commission board meeting.

Councillor Koehn – no meetings as the Veterans Memorial Highway meeting was cancelled.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Kirby, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that the committee reports for the period ending August 16, 2023, be accepted as information."

Motion Carried 2023-149

5. ITEMS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES & CORRESPONDENCE

A) Correspondence

Moved by Councillor Baron, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that the correspondence for the period ending August 16, 2023, be accepted as information."

Motion Carried 2023-150

6. BYLAW/AGREEMENTS / POLICY REVIEW

A) Tax Rate Bylaw 617-23 Ratification

Moved by Deputy Mayor Kirby, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that Council ratify the following electronic motions for the Revised Tax Rate Bylaw 617-23.

Moved by Mayor Lindsay, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that Council give first reading to the revised Tax Rate Bylaw 617-23."

Motion Carried 2023-139

Moved by Deputy Mayor Kirby, seconded by Mayor Lindsay, "that Council give second reading to the revised Tax Rate Bylaw 617-23."

Motion Carried 2023-140

Moved by Councillor Toovey, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that Council give Unanimous Consent for presentation of third reading."

Motion Carried 2023-141

Moved by Mayor Lindsay, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that Council give third and final reading to the revised Tax Rate Bylaw 617-23."

Motion Carried 2023-142

Motion Carried 2023-151

B) Council Policy 601 Compliance Letters

Moved by Councillor Toovey, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kirby, "that Council approve Council Policy 601: Compliance Letters as presented."

Motion Carried 2023-152

7. ACTION ITEMS/COUNCIL DECISION

A) Bell Lease

Moved by Councillor Baron, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that the Leased Premises Agreement between Bell West Inc. and the Village of Warner at 202 – 4th Avenue, Warner, be approved for five years from September 16, 2023, to September 28, 2028."

Motion Carried 2023-153

B) Assessment and Budget

Moved by Councillor Koehn, seconded by Councillor Toovey, "that the Assessment and Budget discussion be accepted as information."

Motion Carried 2023-154

C) Warner Winter Fun

Moved by Councillor Baron, seconded by Councillor Toovey, "that Council support Warner Winter Fun in the amount of \$250.00."

Motion Carried 2023-155

8. CLOSED MEETING

A) Section 16: Disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party

Moved by Councillor Koehn, seconded by Councillor Toovey, "that Council move into closed session in accordance with Section 197(2) of the Municipal Government Act at 6:35 p.m., to discuss matters exempt from disclosure under FOIP Section 16: Disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party, with CAO Lloyd and Director Owen to remain in attendance."

Motion Carried 2023-156

Moved by Deputy Mayor Kirby, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that the meeting reconvene to the regular Council meeting at 6:47 p.m."

Motion Carried 2023-157

Rise and Report

Moved by Mayor Lindsay, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that Council directs administration to provide information to legal."

Motion Carried 2023-158

B) Section 17: Disclosure harmful to personal privacy
This item was removed from the agenda.

9. NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday – September 20, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Toovey, seconded by Councillor Koehn, "that the regular council meeting for August 16, 2023, adjourn at 6:49 p.m."

Motion Carried 2023-159

Tyler Lindsay
Mayor

Kelly Lloyd
Chief Administrative Officer

These minutes were approved on the XXX day of XXXX 2023.



Request for Decision Municipal Enforcement Report

RECOMMENDATION

That the Municipal Enforcement report for the period ending August 31, 2023, 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

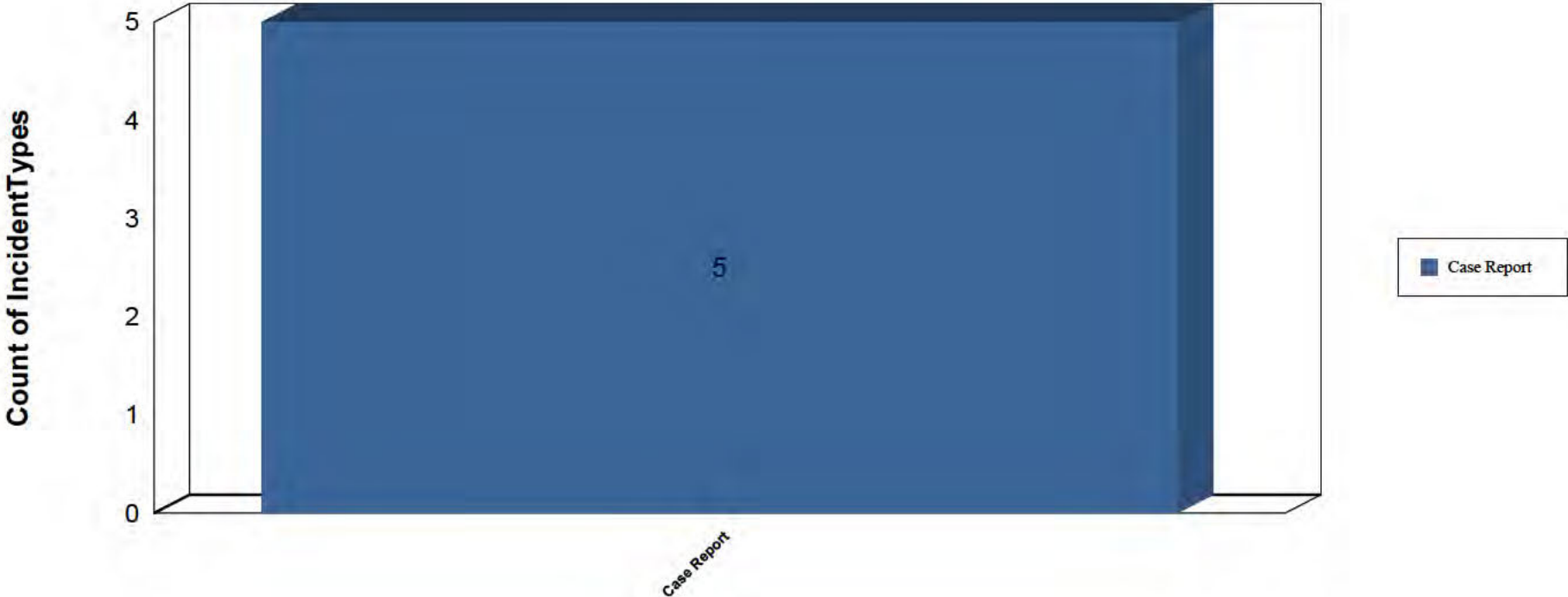
ATTACHMENTS

1. Municipal Enforcement Report

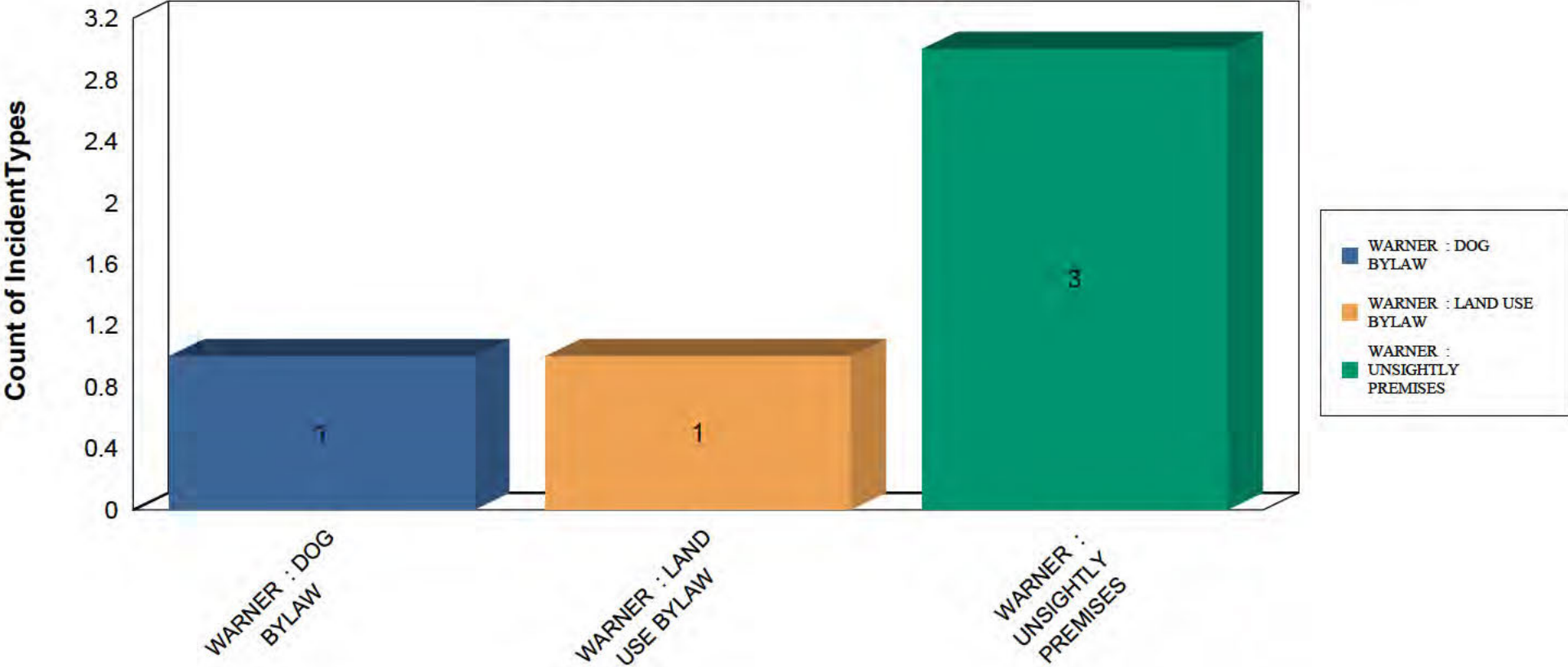
Municipal Enforcement

Statistics from: 8/1/2023 12:00:00AM to 8/31/2023 11:59:00PM

Count of Reports Completed



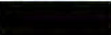
Count of Incident Types



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	RRPSS2023-0406	WARNER : DOG BYLAW	MELANIE MAREK	2023/08/19 1930

Specific Location



Report Synopsis : aggressive dog emailed complaint

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	RRPSS2023-0380	WARNER : LAND USE BYLAW	TODD NELSON	2023/08/08 1424

Specific Location

[REDACTED]

Report Synopsis : Living in Trailer

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	RRPSS2023-0368	WARNER : UNSIGHTLY PREMISES	MELANIE MAREK	2023/08/01 1458

Specific Location

[REDACTED]

Report Synopsis : unsightly premises with overgrown grass

Case Report RIDGE REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES : WARNER	RRPSS2023-0379	WARNER : UNSIGHTLY PREMISES	MELANIE MAREK	2023/08/10 0000
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Specific Location

[REDACTED]

Report Synopsis : Unsightly property - wood, garbage, metal, debris in backyard, ongoing issue

Case Report RIDGE REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES : WARNER	RRPSS2023-0393	WARNER : UNSIGHTLY PREMISES	MELANIE MAREK	2023/08/10 1315
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Specific Location

[REDACTED]

Report Synopsis : unsightly - Anonymous complaint

60.00% # of Reports: 3 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 August 31, 2023, 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 August 2023

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)
- Bylaw work – begin migration of fees out of bylaws to one rates bylaw
- Policy work
- Job Description Updates
- Performance Reviews
- Employee Handbook creation
- IT quote
- MPC
- Updates from CPOs / letters
- Ice meeting – plant to be turned on September 29
- Legal
- Regional Water meetings
- Assessor RFP closed and awarded
- First Quad Health housing subcommittee meeting set up in progress
- RFP for Civic Centre Concession Operator closed

Public Works

- Installation of the EV Charging Stations
- Cost analysis on single stream recycling
- Manhole repairs
- Sidewalk repairs – letter of completion
- Water leak/break

8806066, Warner Waterworks System

Box 88

Warner, AB T0K2L0
4036423877

Environmental Public Health, Raymond -ER4

c/o Lethbridge Environmental Public Health
801 - 1st Avenue South 1-833-476-4743
Lethbridge, AB T1J 4L5

Accession #: WC-23-0046603
AESRD Approval #: 0323162
EI #:
Provlab Study #:

Environmental Microbiology

Collected Date	2023-07-24	
Collected Time	10:30:00	
Procedure		Units
Total Coliforms by Enzyme Substrate	ABSENT ^{In1}	per 100mL
E coli by Enzyme Substrate	ABSENT	per 100mL
-----	-----	
Drinking Water Sample Category	Treated Public	
Water Sample Source	Surface Water	
Received Date and Time	2023-07-25 0847	
Analyzed Date	25-JUL-2023	
ID Number	2611402	
Sample Collected By	Blake Atwood	
Collected By Phone Number	403-360-1452	
Sample Collection Site.	Arena	

Interpretive Data

In1: Total Coliforms by Enzyme Substrate
Total Coliforms and E coli testing performed by Enzyme Substrate Method -
Presence/Absence.

LEGEND: @=Faxed #=Corrected H=High T=Textual Result
 R=Result Comment O=Order Comment In=Interpretive Data

Cc:

Information on this report related only to this sample
For further information contact the Environmental Public Health Agency
Report Request ID: 349935566

Print Date/Time: 2023-07-26 14:15

XR Env: ER4 - Provider - Permanent



Request for Decision Committee Reports

RECOMMENDATION

That the committee reports for the period ending September 20, 2023, 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. Chinook Arch Regional Library Board Report
2. SouthGrow Mayors and Reeves Report
3. Chief Mountain Regional Solid Waste Services Commission Minutes

BOARD REPORT



CHINOOK
ARCH REGIONAL
LIBRARY SYSTEM

Chinook Arch Library Board Meeting - August 3, 2023

Summer Reading Program 2023!

The Chinook Arch Summer Reading Program is in full swing! SRP Coordinators Amy Kim and Tori Norlin have made nearly 40 visits to libraries to deliver their program. So far, 435 kids have attended. Thanks to Amy and Tori for a wonderful summer!



Resource Sharing Agreement

Chinook Arch has a long-standing agreement with the City of Lethbridge Library Board that acknowledges the Lethbridge Public Library's contribution to the System through its collections, expertise, and resources. The agreement is reviewed by both parties every two years. No changes to the agreement are recommended by the Chinook Arch Library Board at this time.

Board Members Present

Arrowwood	Corry Wa k
Barons	Ron Gorzitza
Cardston	Marsha Jensen
Coutts	Stephen A Pain
Crowsnest Pass	Doreen G avin
Fort Mac eod	Jim Monteith
Hi Spring	Suzanne French
Lethbridge (County)	Tory Campbe
Lomond	Marie Logan
Magrath	Darry Christensen
Mi k River	Anne Michae is
Nanton	Amanda Bustard
Pincher Creek	Mark Barber
Pincher Creek M D	Dave Cox
Stave y	Che sey Hurt
Taber M D	Tamara Miyanaga
Vauxha	Mari yn Forchuk
Vu can County	Doug Logan
Ministeria Appointment	Vic Mensch (Chair)
Regrets	
C aresho m	Ke sey Hipkin
Coa da e	Jordan Sai er
Picture Butte	Teresa Feist
Raymond	Ke y Jensen
Stir ing	Gary Bikman
Taber	Monica McLean
Vu can	Debra Wyatt
Wi ow Creek M D	Maryanne Sandberg
LPL Resource Centre	Brendan Cummins
Absent	
Barnwe	Jane Johnson
Cardston County	Tom Nish
Carmangay	Sarah Mitche
Champion	Terry Penney
Coa hurst	Lyndsay Montina
G enwood	Linda A red
Lethbridge (City)	Robin Harper
Mi o	Christopher Northcott
Nob eford	Me issa Jensen
Warner	Derek Baron
Warner County	Morgan Rockenbach
ID of Waterton	Les ey Litt e

Thank You and Farewell to Lisa Weekes

Chinook Arch Associate Director Lisa Weekes has accepted a position at the UBC Okanagan Library. The Board would like to formally thank Lisa for her significant contributions to Chinook Arch. During her 5 years with the organization, she masterminded several successful programs, including the Digital Literacy Exchange Program (DLEP), the Seniors and Intergenerational Program, and many others. She also fundraised nearly \$1 million dollars to support these multi-year programs. Chinook Arch Board and staff wish Lisa well in her future endeavours.



Policies Reviewed

The board reviewed and approved the following policies:

- Workplace Violence and Harassment
- Board Meetings
- Bylaws

Contact Us

Chnook Arch Regional Library System
2902 7th Avenue North
Lethbridge, AB T1S 5C6 | 403-380- 500
www.chnookarch.ca | arch@chnookarch.ca



facebook.com/
chnookarch



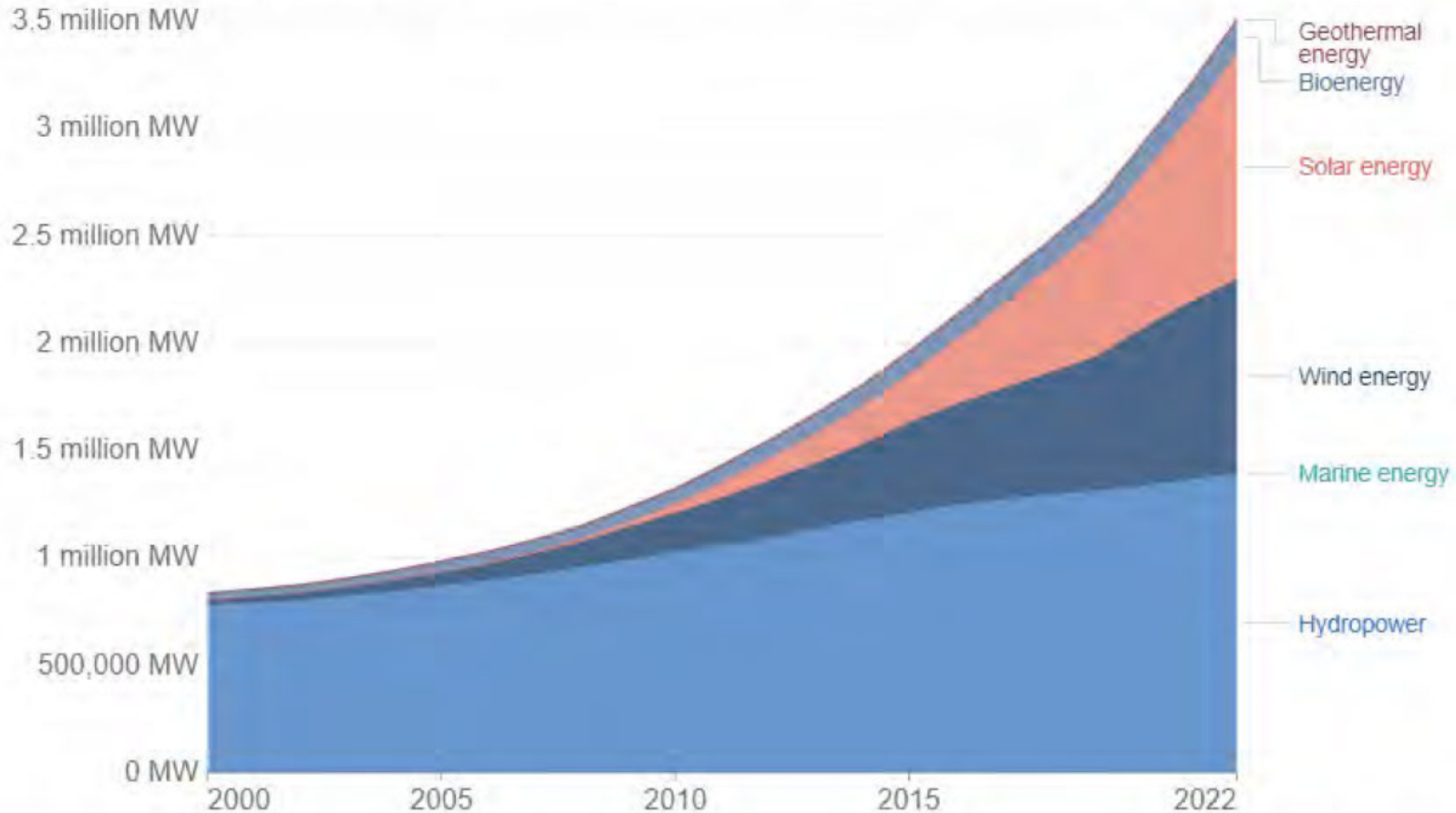
@chnookarch



@chnookarch

Installed global renewable energy capacity by technology

Installed global renewable energy capacity in megawatts (MW) by energy technology (hydropower, solar, wind, biomass, marine and geothermal)



Source: International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)

OurWorldInData.org/energy • CC BY

Monthly Report

For Mayors and Reeves

SouthGrow Regional Initiative

P: 403-394-0615

E: peter.casurella@southgrow.com

September 2023

Dear Mayors and Reeves,

For SouthGrow, the summer months were dominated by conversations around the renewable industry in Alberta. I thought I would spend my space here to talk about what SouthGrow has done and is doing on this file for your awareness.

SouthGrow's official mission is to *collaborate to deliver economic development programs and initiatives that contribute to growth potential throughout the region*. We do this by focusing on key sectors and projects where we have the ability to make and impact, and since 2007 the board has handed down an operational mandate to staff to work with our partners at the **Southern Alberta Alternative Energy Partnership (SAAEP)** to attract investment and create new opportunities in southern Alberta in the renewable energy space.

This has been the most economically impactful work that SouthGrow has ever done, bar none. The marketing and brand development work that SAAEP has done has contributed to the growth of a multi-billion-dollar industry in southern Alberta in one of the fastest growing market segments. These investments have resulted in billions of dollars in local impact, with millions of dollars in tax revenues flowing to our rural municipalities.

Over the past few years, however, it has become apparent that there was a growing gap between the regulatory environment and the conditions on the ground and that the legislative and regulatory environment was falling woefully behind the needs of this developing industry.

Beginning in 2019 SouthGrow and its partners realized that the growing obsolescence of energy regulations was becoming a problem and would be a barrier to investment if we didn't get things updated. We started to add government education into our works plans.

In 2019 and 2020 SAAEP communicated to government the surging economic opportunities in renewables and asked government to become a proactive champion of the industry in their official investment attraction programing. We built a research report on the **economic impact of the renewable industry to back up our messaging**.

In 2021 we **profiled the economic demand** in the province of Alberta from AUC application data and talked to government again about the **need to champion the industry** and facilitate investments. We also started talking seriously about regulatory reform and begin collecting stories from industry and from our municipalities asking government to act to **update the regulatory environment**.

In 2021 and into 2022 we became engaged with the Energy Futures Lab, a non-partisan industry advisory group that was working to chart the future of Alberta's energy sector. Our messaging in this period focused on the need for a unified vision for Alberta's Electricity sector, the need to rapidly modernize the electricity sector, and the need to update the regulatory environment for

renewables. In 2022 the GOA also released **Bill 22: Modernizing Alberta's Electricity System** as a partial response to the changes stakeholders like us were calling for.

In 2022 SAAEP also **presented to two government committees** on these issues along with a co-presenter from the Energy Futures Lab. Our reception was lackluster, but subsequent appeals through Minister Neudorf found more traction when he took the issues directly to the premier.

In 2023, we also added specific regulatory issues around **reclamation, land use, soil preservation, weed control, and municipal input into approvals to our messaging**. We have consulted with the Rural Municipalities of Alberta, Alberta Municipalities, our private industry partners and friends, and our own members on these issues extensively and continue to communicate what we are seeing on the ground where we work at the intersection of municipal concerns and industry interests to those in power who are making decisions. We've worked to make sure that government officials have access to advice and input from the people in the province who are working at the leading edge of policy innovation in this field.

{ SouthGrow's operational mandate remains to facilitate investment and the growth of opportunities in this sector, and staff has a clear mandate from the Board to focus on fixing the regulatory environment so that we can continue to attract investment in a sustainable fashion which respects all stakeholders and answers the concerns of our member municipalities. This is what we are engaged in. }

It is my educated opinion as your employee that improving the regulatory environment now during this period of government focus *has the potential* to significantly improve the investment environment with needed controls and certainty for the stakeholders at the table.

However, this can be done right and it can be done wrong. I am cautiously optimistic that it is headed in the right direction. Our municipalities are unlikely to get everything they are asking for, but they are likely to get significant concessions. Our industry partners are unlikely to avoid cost impositions on their bottom line, but they are likely to still have significant economic opportunity. There's so much investment interest in this sector that we can legitimately afford to lose some and still add projects as fast as grid capacities allow.

The world is changing rapidly, and this is very apparent in the energy industry. As elected officials you have the unenviable job of attempting to influence policy development in this space while balancing the very diverse opinions of your voter and retaining the ability to attract investments that will help you balance your books and preserve the quality of life for your people, while also helping to guide them along the torturous path of inevitable change.

SouthGrow will continue to work on your behalf in the unique role we occupy on this issue together with our partners.

Sincerely,

Peter Casurella
Executive Director
SouthGrow Regional Initiative
1-403-394-0615

Headlines for September 2023

Please find below a summary of our operational plan. As the year progresses you will see a rolling report here that tracks our progress on each of the deliverables in real-time. New information each month is highlighted to make it easy for you to spot progress as it happens.

Pillar I: Strategic Collaboration

I. Member Engagement

A. Annual Council Presentations

Goal: The Executive Director will endeavor to deliver a direct report to council to 40% of our members on an annual basis. (12) Staff will also provide a once-per-year recorded update to all members that they can play for their councils, and will distribute the monthly Mayors and Reeves reports to the full board with

Progress: Council appearances booked for 40% of member municipalities to occur over the summer and fall of 2023.

B. Councillor Training

Goal: SouthGrow hosts an Economic Disaster Resilience & Recovery Course for Municipal Staff and Councils that is attended by at least 40 individuals from across the region. This session will take place in quarter 1 or quarter 3 of the fiscal year. Amended by Board motion to be a series of webinars delivered over the year.

Progress: Held 1 webinar with & Villages. Second Webinar with BILD booked for September 20th. More webinars in cooperation with JET booked for October and beyond. Housing and Investment Attraction are the evolving focusses of these.

C. Government Relations

Goal: SouthGrow will work to secure multi-year funding for SouthGrow (at or above current funding levels), to retain the promise of a 10-year commitment to twinning all of Highway 3, to retain the core elements of the present rural economic development strategy, and to secure other regional priorities that only partnerships with other levels of governments can bring. We will do this by proactively communicating the value of our priorities to all personalities involved that we can in a politically neutral fashion and by providing them with data that substantiates our claims.

Progress: BRAED leading on booking annual Chair's meeting in Edmonton for this year. Letters sent to re-elected MLAs in region and to the premier. Letters drafted for sending to all new ministers, specific priorities being added to those letters. Meeting with Minister Matt Jones for Chairs booked. Numerous meetings with Ministers and Chair of SouthGrow have been held or booked. REDA joint initiative requests have been submitted to Matt Jones. Requests are for multi-year funding and \$100k per year for regional investment attraction. Executive Director has consulted extensively with Minister Neudorf on the Renewables file.

D. IEDC Accreditation

Goal: SouthGrow secures a membership with the International Economic Development Council, applies for Accredited Economic Development Organization status, and completes the deliverables necessary for accreditation. This will be completed early in the fiscal year. The process will culminate in an SGRI representative attending the IEDC annual conference in Dallas TX in October to receive our accreditation (board or staff member as convenient)

Progress: Application nearing completion. Worked on extensively over the summer months. Several documents created or updated.

E. Economic Development Summit

Goal: SouthGrow hosts a regional Economic Development Summit in 2023 that provides stakeholders with access to speakers and engagement on important economic development topics, trends, and issues that affect our region. Importantly, this year we attempt to expand the summit scope to include active partnerships with stakeholders in the Alberta SouthWest and Palliser regions with the intent of growing the event into a pan southern-Alberta partnership. Dates this year have been left vague to accommodate potential partnerships.

Progress: Post-op conducted on last year's event. Survey of attendees complete. Planning for next year complete. Letters sent to possible partners, waiting to hear back. Strategized event budget of \$40k - \$50k is within reach from our input of \$5k. 7 partners signed up. Applying for event grant from City of Lethbridge. Applying for event sponsorship from Prairies Canada. Steering committee forming.

F. Community Ec Dev Matchmaking

Goal: SouthGrow surveys its member municipalities by the end of Q2, 2023 to identify what community level Ec Dev projects are being pursued by our administrations, and then offers matchmaking introductions between communities who are pursuing similar projects for potential collaboration. SouthGrow also identifies resources and connections which might help each community to pursue their projects.

Progress: Process workshopped. Goals refined. Survey outlined. Survey drafted in software. Responsibilities for collecting feedback have been defined. Survey needs some final review then is ready to send out to our communities. Half of surveys have been completed. Co-op student doing followups.

II. Build and Sustain Collaborations

A. Southern Alberta Alternative Energy Partnership – Government Education

Goal: SouthGrow will continue to advocate for a unified vision for Alberta's electrical grid and regulatory reform within the province with the intent of creating certainty in the market for investment and updating Alberta's regulatory codes to account for the modern energy mix and issues on the ground. We will do this by communicating the issues at stake to decision makers along with SAAEP's partners across the province.

Progress: Director Welby booked to attend Energy Efficiency Conference in Edmonton in June. Executive Director Casurella attending Energy Futures Lab visioning session in Calgary in June. SAAEP working on drafting policy recommendations for rural renewable energy regulations that are missing which would prevent abuses. This is in the works and will be completed in time for delivery to AB Munis for discussion at their policy convention. Extensive conversations with government following renewables pause. Consultations with industry and municipal staff have been had. Recommendations have been shared with Minister Neudorf for specific policies that he requested feedback on. Have participated in AUC consultations. Have participated in Energy Futures Lab feedback to Government on this issue (supportive of the pause). Have engaged extensively with CANREA's policy team on the issue.

B. Southern Alberta Investment and Trade Initiative

Goal: SouthGrow maintains its participation and leadership in the Southern Alberta Investment and Trade Initiative, pursuing meaningful projects under its umbrella as detailed in other plan sections.

Progress: CanExport grant was secured along with partner contributions to this years iteration of our Global marketing campaign. Campaign was re-launched after adjustments and additions in April. We are advertising now across the Google network with youtube ads, and on LinkedIn and Twitter. First campaign report will be forthcoming at end of June. Campaign is going really well. Excellent progress on youtube especially. These ads are driving dozens of conversions to the website.

C. **Canada's Premier Food Corridor and Canada's Western Gateway**

Goal: SouthGrow supports the growth of sub-regional collaborations that promote industry clusters by convening them when necessary, hosting meetings, providing advisor services, connecting them with resources, and by actively using those brands in our own communications efforts. This support is ongoing and continual.

Progress: Canada's Premier Food Corridor in the process of rapid build out with funding received from Prairies Canada. Being led by EDL. Canada's Western Gateway website is being re-freshed by SouthGrow right now. EDL is leading on another application for funded support of cluster growth for CWG. CPFC has completed hiring for their positions. CWG website has been refreshed.

D. **Southern Alberta Tourism Collaboration**

Goal: SouthGrow will partner with Tourism Lethbridge and contribute funds to enable digital marketing of regional tour routes that are under development or have been developed through previous partnerships.

Progress: Last Year's program is in full swing by TL. Our \$9000 that we gave them enabled a regional program worth \$321,000 which included the development of three additional regional tours focused on natural resources. They will be on TL's website soon. Our money this year will be used for marketing these routes and the others that were created last year – the Ale Trail and the Food Tours. – All of these are regional in scope. Travel Alberta has finished their strategy for the highway 3 tourism development zone, but hasn't released it publicly due to the election. Contribution for marketing paid to TL. Sip, Taste Explore is live. Regional Natural Resources tours are live on Driftscape and marketing to commence soon.

E. **Highway 3 Twinning Development Association**

Goal: SouthGrow supports the Highway 3 Twinning Development Association towards its goals by providing matching funding, board representation, in-kind support, and by helping to continually secure regional buy-in from our membership. SouthGrow ensures that the H3TDA remains a vibrant, active, and impactful organization.

Progress: SouthGrow presented on economic trends and the impacts of bypasses to the Crowsnest Pass Chamber of Commerce and Crowsnest Pass Council. SouthGrow facilitated a visioning session that the Board of the H3TDA held in Lethbridge. SouthGrow presented on bypasses to the Town of Bow Island. Contrary to media, construction is proceeding. Just not the road-work phase yet. SouthGrow covering the cost of Agrifood speaker for H3TDA meeting.

F. **REDA Collaboration**

Goal: SouthGrow collaborates with the other Regional Economic Development Alliances to promote the value of regional partnerships, encourage government interaction with, and leveraging of, the REDAs, and helps to position the REDAs as key players in the provincial Economic Development ecosystem.

Progress: Annual Chairs meeting with the new Minister is in the planning stages. SouthGrow, ABSW, and PEP presenting to Mayors and Reeves on June 16th. Meeting has been booked and joint requests sent in. PREDA seems to be coming back to the group table as a collaborator.

III. **Sustain or Expand Membership**

A. **Sustain Membership**

Goal: SouthGrow sustains its paying membership within 10% of its current membership income levels (+ or - \$10,000).

Progress: Invoices due out this month to members. Letter from full board set to go to the City of Lethbridge as per board motion in April. Most payments collected. Village of Lomond has given 1-year notice to exit partnership citing financial difficulties.

B. **Expand Associate Memberships**

Goal: SouthGrow retains at least 4 existing associate members and adds 2 more for a total end of year of no fewer than 6 associate members. (Current 10)

Progress: Payments collected. FortisAlberta has been added as an associate member.

Pillar II: Marketing & Communications

I. **Regional Promotion**

A. **Website Improvements**

Goal: SouthGrow updates its website toolkit with additional resources for our communities and enhances the content on our website to host information for site selectors looking at the region. This site selector information is also plugged into our other core websites (SAITI, SAAEP) and is provided to our partner brands or municipalities for their use.

Progress: Local intel tools installed on main website and SAITI website. SAAEP being re-worked. Consultations on CWG website underway for refresh and addition of tools. Partners have had Localintel tools installed on ABSW website and EDL website. All websites have had a refresh this year. Already identifying additional improvements for next year.

B. **Market the Region Globally**

Goal: SouthGrow project manages a global digital marketing campaign to promote the agrifood opportunities in southern Alberta. This is based on content created in 2021 and run as a global campaign in 2022. Content is refreshed in early 2023, youtube ads are created and added to our stable of ads in early 2023. Global marketing is continued through 2023 with these ads. In addition, SouthGrow supports the attendance of a regional representative at the Site Selectors Guild conference in Texas in the spring of 2023 (grant dependent).

The region continues its unified digital campaign and has increased global awareness as measured by digital metrics. The region continues to build partnerships with global site selectors.

Progress: Same metrics as SAITI reporting above.

II. Internal Communications

A. Newsletters

Goal: SouthGrow keeps its internal members and stakeholders well-advised of trends, opportunities, threats, and events that impact community and regional economic development. We also keep them well informed of Provincial Government initiatives.

Progress: Newsletters rolling out regularly. AB Today rolling out regularly.

B. Regional Sponsorships

Goal: SouthGrow supports stakeholder or partner initiatives with sponsorships to help enable their success. Sponsorships are selected on a case-by-case basis. Requests that provide benefits in the economic sphere to as many of our member communities as possible are prioritized. The sponsorships will not go to any organizations that exist outside of member communities.

Progress: Notice of available sponsorships has been sent out to all members to remind them of the available funding. Sponsorships to the JEDC and Nikka Yuko have been paid out. \$1000 in sponsorship money remaining.

Pillar III: Economic Development & Innovation

I. Ag-Tech Market Development

A. Agri-food Scholarship Program

Goal: SouthGrow actively supports youth engagement in the Hi-Tech Ag sector by partnering with educational organizations in the region to deliver up to 4 scholarships to students attending Lethbridge College or the University of Lethbridge who plan to build a career in agri-food in southern Alberta.

Progress: Sponsorships received from MNP Taber, Ridge Utilities, and Community Futures. Guidelines sent out. Ready to issue call for applications. Applications have been received. Next step is judging.

B. Agri-food Conference Representation

Goal: SouthGrow represents southern Alberta at one global agri-food convention or trade show to build relationships and increase awareness of opportunities within the region. Furthermore, we collaborate with our partners to divide up conference attendance so that we have the maximum reach possible.

Progress: Kim Welby attended SIAL Canada in Toronto. EDL provided access to Gazelle AI to allow her to develop targeted contacts. Kim learned a lot and provided the Executive with a full report. 8 individual meetings with prospects held. Trip came in underbudget. Excess of budget applied to sending Kim to Energy Efficiency Conference in Edmonton in June. Budget room has been found to send Kim Welby to the Protein Industries Canada AGM in Edmonton in September.

II. Broadband Deployment

A. Project Manage upgrade of remaining regional POP sites.

Goal: SouthGrow identifies remaining regional supernet POP sites that require upgrading to 10G, and works with regional ISPs, municipalities, Service Alberta, and Axia-Bell to secure the funding to upgrade

as many sites as possible or which make sense. The projects will be identified and funded within the year.

Progress: Met with Phil Wright from the MCCAC to get initial direction for project. Key contacts secured and file on project is open.

III. **Labour Market Solutions**

A. Regional Grad Retention Strategy

Goal: SouthGrow serves as the funding partner for the ongoing regional grad retention strategy project and successfully administers it to completion in May of 2023.

Progress: SouthGrow amended project agreement to extend deadlines until November of 2023. Project still underway. Interviews and focus groups are whats left.

B. Implementation of Regional Grad Retention Strategy

Goal: SouthGrow leads on the implementation of strategies arising out of the regional grad retention study by serving as the lead funding applicant and convener of partners.

Progress: Pending completion of A.

IV. **Community Supports**

A. Regional Investment Initiative

Goal: Through our SAITI partnership SouthGrow will work with Invest Alberta to create a network of connected communities who share information and act as ground-level support for the provincial investment attraction ecosystem. SouthGrow will utilize a template provided by Invest Alberta, hire an appropriate contractor in collaboration with Alberta SouthWest, and get the opportunity identification template filled out for all of our communities. We will then submit these templates to Invest Alberta and utilize the information in our own marketing efforts with SAITI. The project is complete within the operational year.

Progress: Initial conversations with Alberta Southwest held. Project pending official kick off. **Project has been awarded to a consultant and kick off meetings are booked. Due by end of December.**

V. **Special Projects**

A. Zero Emissions Vehicle Infrastructure Project (2-year)

Goal: SouthGrow manages the disbursement of ZEVIP funding from NRCAN to fund a wide array of charging infrastructure in the region. This project is completed by 2024 and involves an active partnership with the MCCAC allowing many of our member municipalities to get fully subsidized infrastructure, and institutions and businesses to get 46% matching funding for their projects. The full amount is successfully spent by project end in 2024.

Progress: Program is fully subscribed. Completion documents starting to roll in. Coalition of partners has been gathered and permission given to pursue a second program. Fortis and ATCO are on-board as marketing partners and AB Munis is willing to continue working with us. **NRCAN fully allocated current**

intake before we could apply. They are working to open a 2024 intake for a continued program for existing delivery organizations. This is going very well.

B. EV Bus Project

Goal: SouthGrow completes multi-year application process to get EV bus for highway 4 corridor funded, with funding landed within 2022 and bus purchased and operational in-region by Fall of 2022.

Progress: Deposit has been paid by Milk River to Crestline Motors in Saskatoon for order of the bus. Agreement with FCM has been amended for new timelines. Next step is to get payouts from FCM for the bus deposit and then wait on delivery of the vehicle. Bus provider pivoted to a different company but same deliverable and same cost. New agreement signed and sent. They've promised on-time delivery for our funding deadlines.

C. Demand Side Management Pilot Project (PENDING)

Goal: SouthGrow partners with Fortis to deliver a Demand Side management program funded by NRCAN's Toward Net Zero Homes program, applied for in Q4 of 2022. This partnership would see SouthGrow serve as money handler for a \$600,000 project to install and monitor demand side management technology in homes and businesses in SouthGrow Communities so that Fortis can measure the impact on demand management from these pilots to be able to project to the regulator the impact on grid function that can be achieved from mass implementation. This project specifically focuses on the installation of heat pumps to measure their efficacy year-round and demand side impact on energy use. The program study would be conducted by Dr. Myers from the University of Calgary.

Progress: Grant application to Towards Net Zero Homes was unsuccessful. Conversations for pivoting the project to a new grant target are underway. SouthGrow has applied along with Fortis to the ERA to deliver battery supported EV charging station to two SouthGrow communities (TBD) as part of a technology pilot. Battery EV project is advancing to full application. SouthGrow is responsible for helping find sites. We have facilitated conversations with Bow Island and Coaldale on this as per FortisAlberta's interest.

D. Supply Chain Opportunity Identification Project

Goal: Together with Economic Development Lethbridge, SouthGrow launches a 2-year Supply Chain Identification project that profiles regional inputs and outputs from our 200 largest industrials, investment opportunities, red flags, and more, and captures that information in a database to begin matchmaking and the sharing of opportunities. This project is underway by summer of 2022 with a contractor hired and implementing the deliverables. Project moves into phase 2 by summer of 2023 for completion in 2024.

Progress: Initial setup done. Waiting on EDL to complete Stats Can compilation of in-region business for SouthGrow and contractor to sort and filter. Then it will be off to the interview and surveying stages of the project. Master lists received from EDL. Onto the interview and survey stage!

E. Blackfoot Language Signage

Goal: SouthGrow, Community Futures Lethbridge Region, and Tourism Lethbridge lead a partnership that includes the Blood Tribe with the intent of leveraging partner contributions against grant funding to assemble a pool of money used to fund the deployment of Blackfoot language place signage across south-western Alberta. This project will pursue the assemblage of a significant funding package for Q4 of 2023 (grant timelines) and a project implementation date in Q1 of 2024. Funding will be given in the form

of micro-grants to applicants with the Blood Tribe informing the language on the sign. The partners will utilized a common brand for the deployment.

Progress: Steering committee has been struck. Intake portal in development. Securing key contacts from Blood Tribe. Community Futures has received the NRED grant dollars. SouthGrow developing style guide right now. All processes and documents have been created. Program is ready to launch and open for applications next week.

VI. Flagship Project

A. SouthGrow Power Project

Goal: SouthGrow advances the implementation of a < 5MW solar installation that will be owned and operated by SouthGrow the intent of funding the organization. Within the operational year, we will attempt to Identify eligible land, purchasers for the power, and a viable grid connection while completing a feasibility study. By the end of the operational year, we will reach the point where the Board will need to decide on a go-no-go for the project.

Progress: NRED grant received to support application costs. Grant received from Fortis to lower application costs. Waiting on final paperwork from Fortis to confirm grant then applications going in. Proceeding well. Renewables Pause affected us. Working aggressively with Prairies Canada on securing a contribution. The pause gives us some breathing space as we navigate pieces of the project. No reason we won't be able to proceed as we have designed this. Our land is 'effluent spreading land' around a waste water pond.

Don't forget to email info@southgrow.com if you would like to get signed up for our economic development newsletter. This newsletter has been called 'The Best Economic Development Newsletter in the West' (mostly by us, but that doesn't make it less true.) It comes packed with great resources for you and your people.



Economic Development | Government Relations

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About SouthGrow Regional Initiative

SouthGrow is an economic development alliance of twenty-nine south central Alberta communities committed to working together to achieve prosperity for the region. Representing over 180,000 people, SouthGrow is committed to assisting communities, organizations, businesses, and people in the region to further their economic development goals and to maintain the high quality of life.

**MINUTES OF THE CHIEF MOUNTAIN REGIONAL SOLID WASTE SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING HELD
JULY 12, 2023, AT THE TOWN OF MAGRATH.**

Members Present:

Brian Wickhorst – Village of Glenwood
Byrne Cook – Town of Magrath
Tyler Lindsay – Village of Warner
Gary Bikman – Village of Stirling
Allan Burton – Town of Cardston

Tanya Smith – Village of Coutts
Wayne Harris – Cardston County
Mike Nish – Village of Hill Spring
Randy Taylor – County of Warner (Zoom)
Bryce Coppieters – Town of Raymond

Others Present:

Marian Carlson – SEO
Suzanne Pierson – Secretary/Treasurer

Lee Beazer – Operator

Commenced at 5:01 pm

Gary Bikman in the Chair.

AGENDA

Wayne Harris moved that the agenda be adopted as presented. Carried

MINUTES

Bryce Coppieters moved that the minutes of the June 14, 2023, regular board meeting be adopted as presented. Carried

NEW BUSINESS

The SEO presented a graph showing the last three years of waste incentives paid to participating municipalities and organizations. The municipalities and organizations are being asked to submit recycling figures to the Commission on a monthly basis.

The SEO presented the Communications Plan for the board to review.

23-10 Byrne Cook moved to approve the Communications Plan. Carried

Bryce Coppieters moved to approve the SEO's report. Carried

The Operator reported that 930.26 tonnes of waste were delivered to the Landfill in June 2023, making the year-to-date total 4,884.45 tonnes.

The Operator advised that he met with Jesse Salmon and Kurtis Pratt from the Town of Raymond regarding the transfer station and devised three possible solutions. The board would like to have a cost

comparison completed to move the transfer station versus completing needed repairs to the transfer station in the current location.

Allan Burton moved to approve the Operator's report.

Carried

Approval of Bills

Bills for the month of June 2023 were reviewed.

Tanya Smith moved to approve the bills for June 2023.

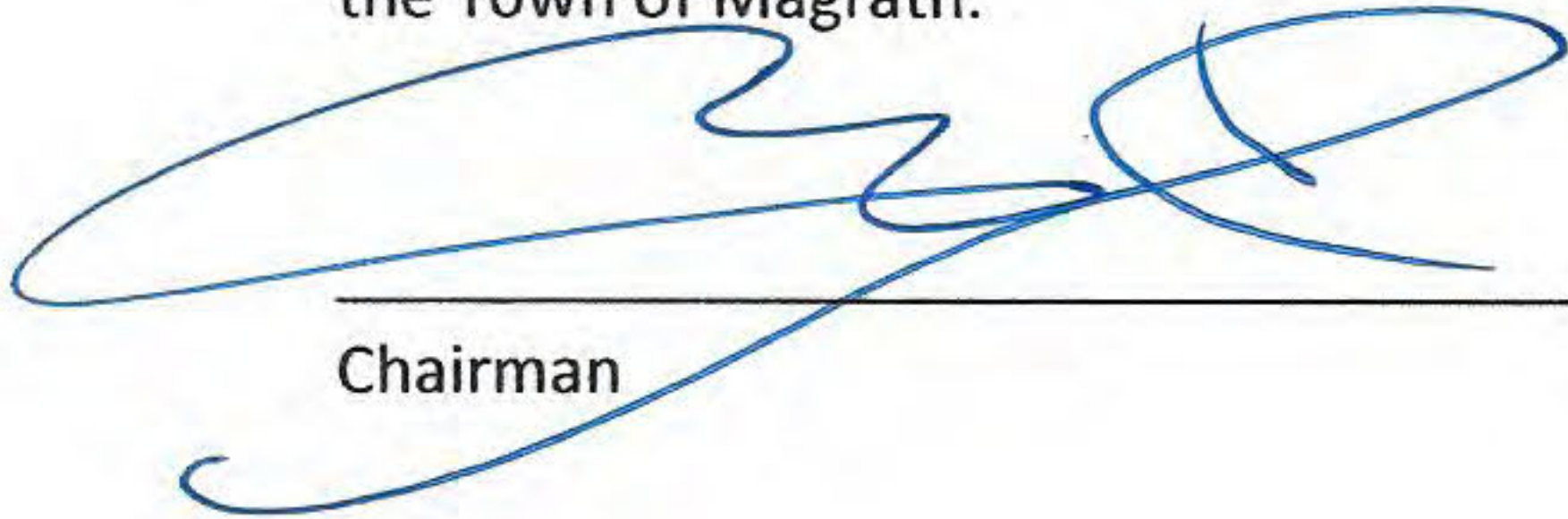
Carried

ADJOURNMENT

Tanya Smith moved the meeting adjourned.

Adjournment at 6:12 p.m.

The Next Commission board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. in the Town of Magrath.



Chairman



Request for Decision Correspondence

RECOMMENDATION

That the correspondence for the period ending September 20, 2023 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. Alberta Municipalities Resolution Book
2. Alberta Precision Laboratories

2023 Resolutions Book



 **Alberta
Municipalities**
Strength
In Members

Version 1: July 2023

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About Resolutions

Alberta Municipalities (ABmunis) conducts an annual resolutions process that enables member municipalities to identify and prioritize common issues and solutions while also empowering Alberta Municipalities Board of Directors to advocate to the federal and provincial governments on members' behalf. This process includes a Resolutions Session at the Alberta Municipalities Convention where members vote on the resolutions submitted.

As set out in ABmunis' [Resolutions Policy](#), a resolution must address a topic of concern affecting municipalities on a regional or provincial level, and must be approved by the council of the sponsoring municipality and seconded by an additional municipal council. 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 Alberta Municipalities.

Resolutions adopted by members annually at Convention are typically active for three years. Alberta Municipalities administration, standing committees, and the Board take action to develop and implement advocacy strategies for each resolution. Given the scope, complexity, and volume of issues facing municipalities, ABmunis uses a [framework to prioritize](#) where it invests our collective efforts.

All resolutions from the current year and the fourteen previous years, including those that are both active and expired, are posted in the [Resolutions Library on ABmunis' website](#).

How to participate in the Resolutions Session

The resolutions session will take place on Thursday, September 28 as part [of ABmunis 2023 Convention and Tradeshow](#). The session will follow our [Resolutions Policy](#), which outlines the process for the Resolutions Session at Convention in sections 32 to 57.

Who can speak to a resolution?

As outlined in the Resolutions Policy, elected representatives of Regular Members can speak to resolutions. In addition, upon a motion from the floor, or at the discretion of the Resolutions Chair, a representative of an Associate Member, which are 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 in opposition, seeking clarification or proposing 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 attending virtually, will be able use the Q&A function of Zoom to enter questions or comments, which will be read out by a staff member in turn.

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

To be fair to everyone who wants to speak, we will turn off the microphone once a speaker's two minutes are up.

How to propose an amendment

To propose an amendment, please send it to resolutions@abmunis.ca as soon as possible ahead of the Resolutions Session.

Once the resolution session starts, those attending in person are asked to provide proposed amendments in writing to both the ABmunis staff person sitting in the audio booth at the back of the room and to the Resolutions Chair. Those attending virtually can enter amendments through the Zoom chat function.

Regardless of how you propose the amendment, please ensure you include your name, title, municipality, and the resolution title, along with the exact wording of the proposed amendment.

Note that all amendments must be moved and seconded.

How to vote

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

The email from Simply Voting will look something like this:

You are registered to vote during the ABmunis Convention, taking place September 27 to 29. Below, you will find your login credentials for the vote.

There is a test vote that is open now. Please check your credentials and cast a vote on the test question as soon as possible so that we can be sure you received your credentials.

If you need any assistance, please contact: credentials@dataonthespot.com

To vote, please visit: <https://abmunis.dotsconnect.com/>

Then enter:

Elector ID - *****

Password - *****

Or follow this link to access the ballot directly: [\(link will be included in the email\)](#)

Please note that these are only the voting credentials. Further information will be sent out by Alberta Municipalities in the coming days.

Regards,
Alberta Municipalities

When you receive this email from Simply Voting, we ask that you **complete the test vote as soon as possible** to ensure that your credentials are activated. The same login information will be used during the Board of Director elections.

Please bring to convention a laptop, phone or other device that is internet enabled. Once we get to the resolutions portion of our event, 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 final 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.

2023 RESOLUTIONS

Category B - Issues Related to Alberta Municipalities Strategic Initiatives

B1: Protection for Vulnerable Residential Tenants

Moved by: Municipality of Jasper

Seconded by: Town of Edson

WHEREAS the *Alberta Residential Tenancies Act* provides few protections for vulnerable residential tenants;

WHEREAS residential tenants in Alberta communities are vulnerable to unregulated annual rent increases, which can result in increased negative outcomes for Albertans, and for the communities in which they reside;

WHEREAS affordable housing for families, seniors and individuals is defined as housing that costs not more than 30% of a household's total annual income, including heat, water and sewer expenses;

WHEREAS residential tenants required to spend more than 30% of household income on rent are increasingly vulnerable; and

WHEREAS it is within provincial authority to protect vulnerable residential tenants through legislation, and it is also within provincial authority to create or increase rental subsidies and other housing supports to the most vulnerable Albertans.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to amend existing legislation or pass new legislation to increase protection for vulnerable residential tenants;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to create or improve financial supports available to vulnerable residential tenants; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to continue its work improving the availability of affordable housing for vulnerable residential tenants.

BACKGROUND:

- When rent exceeds 30% of household income, a variety of individual and social issues arise, including:
 - Increased mental health crisis and anxiety around experiencing homelessness and paying rent or bills;
 - Increased access to foodbank and food recovery programs;
 - Increased need for donated or free personal hygiene products;
 - Decreased ability to pay for childcare and extracurricular activities for children;
 - Decreased ability to engage in community activities;
 - Increased applications to Alberta Supports and seniors housing authorities for rent subsidies;
 - Increased job hunting for sufficient income;
 - Increased waitlists for Social Housing;
 - Increased negative impacts on employers; and
 - Decrease in community stability, including families and individuals having to relocate.
- Other jurisdictions have recognized the need for provincial protections for vulnerable residential tenants, such as British Columbia; Manitoba; Ontario; and Prince Edward Island.
- This resolution should be given high priority as it both impacts our most vulnerable residents in all Alberta communities, and negatively impacts our local and provincial economies.
- This issue and call to action align with the Alberta Municipalities strategic initiatives of Welcoming and Inclusive Communities (WIC) and Social Issues Scoping.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this specific issue; however, this resolution aligns with past advocacy on affordable housing and homelessness. 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 Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

B2: Enhanced Funding for the Rent Assistance and Temporary Rent Assistance Benefits

Moved by: City of Airdrie

Seconded by: City of Grande Prairie

WHEREAS the Governments of Canada and Alberta proclaimed that every Canadian deserves a safe and affordable place to call home and committed to providing \$444 million in rent support to low-income Albertans in need through the Canada-Alberta Housing Benefit from 2019 to 2028;

WHEREAS the Stronger Foundations Alberta Affordable Housing Strategy identifies the goal to simplify processes and regulations for eligibility, prioritization, and rent setting, creating a more transparent and fair system for Albertans who need housing supports;

WHEREAS a diverse labour force is required to fill a wide range of jobs to support a vibrant, strong provincial economy;

WHEREAS Albertans across the province are facing increased financial pressures and there are 9.9 per cent (2021 federal Census) or approximately 422,000 Albertans in core housing need; and

WHEREAS the Rent Assistance Benefit (RAB) and the Temporary Rent Assistance Benefit (TRAB) programs are intended to assist lower income Albertan households to afford their rent in housing of their choice.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to:

- establish predictable, long-term rent assistance funding to meet the needs of all low-income Albertans allowing them to access rent support for appropriate housing;
- increase awareness of rent assistance programs to provide more Albertans in core housing needs with the support that they need to ensure they have access to appropriate housing; and,
- simplify the application process.

BACKGROUND:

Core housing need refers to whether a private household's housing falls below at least one of the indicator thresholds for housing adequacy, affordability or suitability, and would have to spend 30% or more of its total before-tax income to pay the median rent of alternative local housing that is acceptable (attains all three housing indicator thresholds).¹

The Rent Supplement Program provides a subsidy directly to households for an accommodation of their choice to help make rent more affordable. In 2021 the Government of Alberta redesigned the Program and created two benefits, the Rent Assistance Benefit (RAB) and the Temporary Rent Assistance Benefit (TRAB). RAB is a long-term benefit available to subsidize the rent for Albertans if they are below low-income thresholds, while TRAB provides a modest subsidy for working households with low income, or those between jobs, and is intended to help eligible tenants afford their rent while they stabilize or improve their situation.²

Presently the Province announces RAB and TRAB funding amounts in the Government's spring budget (prior to end of Q1 annually). The funding cycle for rent assistance program applicants is based on the calendar year, from January to December. This lack of alignment between the funding model and the term of the rent assistance program, means that Administrators must be cautious in accepting additional households in need of support until

¹ 1 [Dictionary, Census of Population, 2021 – Core housing need \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/92-62-001-x/2021001/article/00001-eng.htm)

² 2 Stronger Foundations: Alberta's 10-year strategy to improve and expand affordable housing, pg 8.

after the budget is confirmed in the first quarter of the year to avoid oversubscribing the program. In the case that additional program budget is received, Administrators must then onboard new recipients and spend the money prior to the end of the calendar year.

The TRAB was initially launched in seven Alberta urban centres. In August 2022 the temporary assistance program was expanded to include residents from more than 80 communities across the Province. While this was a welcome announcement, no additional funding was dedicated to the expanded program.

Albertans are struggling to afford housing at alarming rates. An expansion of funding to rent assistance programs would help meet some of the increased need. The Province's ***Alberta is Calling*** campaign actively encourages people to relocate to Alberta to build their futures. The resulting high in-migration of people is a driver behind the low vacancy rates across the province, causing rents to spike to unprecedented levels impacting those who can afford it least.

Many lower income Albertans are not aware of either the RAB or TRAB. If people are not connected to government or not-for-profit supports, they may simply not know about the program and applying on-line can also be confusing. One of the main challenges applicants face is that to qualify they must already be living in a rental unit or have a signed lease prior to receipt of their first subsidy payment. Many individuals and families need to secure the rent assistance benefit prior to obtaining housing to be able to afford it.

In addition, the TRAB income level is quite low and Albertans who know about the program are finding it difficult to qualify for the temporary assistance. More funding targeted at those Albertans most in need, enhanced public education about the existence of rent assistance programs and a simplified application process would go a long way to addressing core housing need in Alberta.

Access to stable, adequate housing is foundational to community wellbeing and prosperity of all Albertans. Adequately funding the rent supplement program has a direct impact on building thriving, safe and welcoming communities for all.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this specific issue; however, this resolution aligns with past advocacy on affordable housing. 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 Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

B3: Homelessness and Associated Social Needs in Rural Communities

Moved by: Town of Rocky Mountain House

Seconded by: Town of Edson

WHEREAS safe, stable, affordable, accessible, and permanent housing is a human right, and its absence negatively impacts typical development; physical and mental health functioning; nutrition; social and emotional wellbeing; education, employment, and training opportunities; academic success; family and social cohesion; and the ability to exercise individual rights and responsibilities;¹

WHEREAS the provision of addressing homelessness and affordable housing falls within Federal and Provincial jurisdiction;

WHEREAS the Government of Canada renewed their support for affordable housing, and reducing chronic homelessness nationally by 50% by fiscal year 2027 to 2028, through the National Housing Strategy and a commitment to invest \$40 billion in capital over 10 years;

WHEREAS according to the Government of Alberta's Economic Multiplier Analysis, every \$1 invested in building affordable housing creates \$1.74 in total economic output;

WHEREAS in times of economic downturn, pandemics, job loss, and periods of high rates of under-employment and unemployment, persons of low socioeconomic status and those living in poverty in urban, suburban, and rural locations are at significantly heightened risk of losing stable housing resulting in homelessness;²

WHEREAS homelessness results from systematic barriers, structural racism, anti-LGBTQ+ discrimination, and embedded social injustices including the lack of safe and affordable housing; discriminatory gaps in wages based on gender, race, ethnicity, and immigration status; high costs of food, childcare, transportation, and utilities; insufficient supportive community services, including those targeted to treat mental health and substance disorders; under-funded schools ill equipped to prepare students for academic or vocational success; scarce job training programs; limited early childcare and after school programs to support working families; inadequate and unfair wages; job layoffs and under-employment and;

WHEREAS the purpose of municipalities are to develop and maintain safe and viable communities, and provide services and facilities that are necessary as established through Alberta's *Municipal Government Act*; and local residents, businesses, and communities are expressing concerns to their municipalities about the negative impact that homelessness is having on both individuals experiencing homelessness and the broader community.¹

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to:

- Invest in the rural municipalities to aid in the development of affordable housing units and support those most vulnerable to the current economic and health impacts.
- Maximize the funding that can be leveraged from the Government of Canada, and increase research directed towards the prevention of homelessness among marginalized and vulnerable populations, and evidence-based intervention plans for those currently experiencing homelessness.
- Encourage the province to dedicate additional resources towards creating permanent shelter spaces in coordination with smaller communities who request it; ensuring homeless and women emergency shelters

¹ American Psychological Association. (2021a). APA resolution on APA, psychology, and human rights. In *Council policy manual*. Retrieved from <https://www.apa.org/about/policy/resolution-psychology-humanrights>

²(e.g., Blustein et al., 2019; Desmond, 2016; Kopf, 2017; Shinn & Khadduri, 2020; United States Conference of Mayors, 2020

³. City of Edmonton's [Provincial Support for Addressing Affordable Housing and Homelessness](#) (2020)

have the operating funding support they need; funding bridge housing to help transition people from shelters into supportive housing with additional supports;

- Invest in the cost-effective health and support services needed to help those with complex needs get housed and stay housed, resulting in a visible reduction in homelessness and a drastic savings in health, justice, and law enforcement costs.
- Investigation of interventions to promote resilience in different populations at risk for homelessness, including those within rural, suburban, or urban areas.

BACKGROUND:

Rural homelessness is a huge issue and it is a bigger problem that most people realize. Rural homelessness might look different than in urban centres but the percentage of those experiencing homelessness is the same in both places. There are some people who cannot afford a place to live due to a small and competitive rental market.

With the continued increase in pressures resulting from the transfer or assumption of responsibilities to municipalities without the resources to properly support them from federal and provincial government, many municipalities are recognizing that while there is a definite need for these support services but unfortunately, many municipalities are not able to fully provide financial supports and there is a need for increased sources of funding, which must be provided from all orders of government.

The Government of Alberta's Budget 2023 talks about providing essential services and supports, with \$316 million over 3 years for ongoing supports for affordable housing.

On March 1, 2023, Alberta Municipalities (ABmunis) release its Preliminary Analysis of the Government of Alberta's 2023 Budget, which included the following comments regarding Affordable Housing:

"Released in 2021, Alberta's affordable housing strategy maps out the changes needed to provide affordable housing for an additional 25,000 households over the next 10 years, an increase of more than 40 per cent. To meet this target the province aims to support the creation of 2,300 new affordable housing units and new low-income rental subsidies per year each of the next three years. Budget 2023-24 allocated \$342.5 million for affordable housing, including rent supplements. Of the \$342.5 million, \$34.3 million is allocated to help grow the supply of affordable housing in priority areas through the Affordable Housing Partnership Program."

On February 28, 2020, AUMA (now ABmunis) released its Preliminary Analysis of the Government of Alberta's 2020 Budget, which included the following comments regarding Affordable Housing:

"AUMA is very concerned to see significant cuts to capital investment in affordable housing for both the development of new units, as well as the maintenance and repair of existing units. Addressing Alberta's lack of affordable housing is a priority for municipalities. In addition to stimulating employment and economic growth, capital investment in affordable housing yields long-term savings for all levels of government due to decreased use of health services, police and justice services, child welfare, and other services such as homeless shelters, income supports, and addictions and mental health supports."

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

This resolution aligns with past advocacy on affordable housing, homelessness, and addictions. 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 Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

B4: Rural Access to Supports for Addictions, Homelessness and Mental Health

Moved by: Town of Grimshaw

Seconded by: Town of Peace River

WHEREAS the province is providing \$187 million to address addiction, homelessness, and mental health in Alberta's large urban centres and while challenges remain in these centres, equitable access to training, support, funds, and resources has not been provided for municipalities of all populations across the province;

WHEREAS municipalities of all populations in Alberta require collaboration and coordination, as they are in dire need of assistance to deal with addiction, homelessness, and mental health;

WHEREAS every Albertan, no matter their circumstance, deserves the opportunity to pursue recovery from addiction, and pre-treatment programs can be a bridge between detox and treatment for people who are pursuing recovery from addiction;

WHEREAS the most common factors contributing to persons being homeless are lack of money, unaffordable rent or mortgage, mental health struggles, addictions, medical conditions, and job loss; and

WHEREAS the urgent need for shelter spaces in rural communities has been steadily increasing and requires provincial support as access to resources is limited.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to provide a solution for municipalities of all populations who identify a need, to address the issues of addiction, homelessness, and public safety, and build on the province's recovery-oriented system of addiction and mental health care.

BACKGROUND:

Addiction and mental health issues are exacerbated in rural communities, including towns and villages, as there is generally a large geographical area to cover. As a result, people have to travel further for treatment and wait a long time for services. Municipalities in rural communities also require more workers and funding per capita than is needed in large urban centres for supporting and treating mental health and addiction.

The total number of emergency department visits in Peace River and area (six hospitals) in 2021/2022 that had an Addiction/Mental Health presentation were over 2,000, with 1,400 of those visits being mental health related and 600 of them substance related. In 2022, the Peace River RCMP detachment made 62 transfers (a 135% increase from the previous year) to convey a person with Addiction/Mental Health presentation to a designated facility in Grande Prairie and/or Edmonton. This uses up many hours of the officers' time, in addition to the many hours responding to call outs from the public for these people.

When it comes to homelessness and understanding its causes, the larger urban experience tends to dominate the conversation due to the "visibility" of individuals experiencing homelessness. The issue of homelessness within rural and remote communities is far less understood or even acknowledged by the wider public because of its "hidden" nature. Individuals experiencing housing insecurity in rural and remote communities are more likely to couch surf, live in overcrowded housing, or own/rent housing that may need major repairs, often leveraging the relationships around them for support. The lack of available, accurate, and current data on rural communities' homelessness limits the ability of those communities to advocate for better resources for their residents in greatest need.

The shelter in Peace River has 15-20 people staying there every night and this number is steadily increasing. In Peace River, when persons are released from the Peace River Correctional Center they are provided with transport into the downtown core and end up at the shelter when it is open, due to extenuating factors, which greatly

increases the number of homeless in the area. In a one-month period, there were 80 persons transported to Peace River from the Correctional Center with no repatriation or transportation plan home for them. As a result, Peace River is overwhelmed with people who need better supports that rural communities cannot currently offer. RMA passed a similar resolution earlier this year, which provides the opportunity for ABmunis and RMA to collaborate on advocating for increased access to supports for addictions, homelessness, and mental health for Albertans in municipalities large and small, urban and rural throughout Alberta.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

This resolution aligns with past advocacy on affordable housing, homelessness, and addictions. 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 Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

B5: Supporting Long-Term Sustainability of Affordable Housing in Alberta

Moved by: City of Edmonton

Seconded by: City of Grande Prairie

WHEREAS adequate housing is a fundamental human right affirmed in international law, and is a critical element to building vibrant and inclusive communities;

WHEREAS a lack of affordable housing puts people at risk of homelessness and contributes to social disorder and places increased pressure on health and social services;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta has a key role in ensuring housing options are available to all Albertans, and is committed to supporting greater sustainability in the affordable housing sector and ensuring that housing supports are available for Alberta's most vulnerable populations through the province's 10-year affordable housing strategy;

WHEREAS there has been an increase in provincial investments into affordable housing; however, the demands for affordable housing exceed current funding commitments;

WHEREAS increasing costs due to inflation, deferred maintenance and other requirements are pushing the limits of affordable housing operators' abilities to maintain existing supply and;

WHEREAS municipalities are committed to working together in collaboration with other orders of government, non-profit and private housing providers, Indigenous peoples and other stakeholders to help develop, manage and maintain the supply of affordable housing.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to:

1. Provide increased capital and operating funds to address growing gaps in supporting affordable housing needs across Alberta and help further accelerate housing supply.
2. Amend provincial legislation to exempt all non-profit affordable housing providers from both municipal and education tax *and* establish a clear definition to indicate which properties will qualify for the exemption.

BACKGROUND:

Alberta is often described as an affordable place to live, however this affordability does not extend to all households and is not equitable across all demographic groups and income levels. For example, through the completion of local housing needs assessments, many municipalities across Alberta are identifying significant and projected growing gaps in addressing core housing needs for very-low income households and select vulnerable and marginalized populations within their communities.

In 2021, the Government of Alberta released their 10-year strategy to improve and expand affordable housing. The strategy broadly describes affordable housing as supporting "low-to-moderate income households that cannot attain housing at market rates. It also provides stability for vulnerable people who may have several barriers to accessing safe, suitable accommodations on their own (e.g., Albertans in receipt of Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped). In Alberta, affordable housing is provided by housing management bodies or private, non-profit operators to individuals and families in core housing need. To determine which households are unable to afford market housing, the Government of Alberta uses income thresholds for each region/community as identified each year by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation."

Available 2022 [data](#) from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation shows that Alberta has the fewest number of affordable housing units per capita (with many units being rated in fair to poor condition) compared to most other

provinces across Canada. While progress has been made on supporting affordable housing development and providing increased rental supplements through recent provincial and federal investments, there are still concerns over insufficient funding to support capital maintenance and renewal of existing assets. Further actions are required to keep pace with Alberta's growing population and lagging housing investments.

Various housing management bodies, which operate most of Alberta's affordable housing units, have also shared how they have had their operating budgets decreased since 2018, and are limited in their ability to create financial reserves and explore innovative funding models which hampers their long-term planning and financial sustainability. Given growing inflationary pressures, and no new increases put towards housing management body operating agreements included in the 2023 provincial budget, many are operating with significantly less funding and having to potentially pivot limited resources away from critical reinvestments in preserving housing assets and required support programs and services.

In Alberta, property tax exemptions are governed by the *Municipal Government Act*, the *Community Organization Property Tax Exemption Regulation* and other regulations including the recently enacted *Alberta Social and Affordable Housing Accommodation Exemptions Regulation*. Existing provincial legislation specifically exempts a limited number of affordable housing properties from paying municipal and education taxes. While municipalities are enabled to exempt or cancel municipal taxes for other affordable housing properties who may not be covered by existing legislation, this does not include education tax and adds unnecessary inconsistencies and municipal red tape. Various non-profit organizations who support the delivery of affordable housing have raised challenges they face in qualifying for property tax exemptions and have echoed the need for legislative reform that is currently hindering their ability to reinvest into affordable housing.

On October 1, 2022, the Government of Alberta announced plans to take action on homelessness. The provincial [action plan](#) included the following statement about supporting Ministry initiatives, however, no action has yet been taken:

- In alignment with Stronger Foundations' Action 5.4: Introduce new programs and incentives to grow the supply of affordable housing. As part of this action, Alberta's government will explore policy and legislative changes that will provide tax exemptions and relief for more affordable housing projects, including exemption from municipal property taxes and provincial property education taxes.

During the Fall 2020 ABmunis' convention, a [resolution](#) seeking provincial support for addressing affordable housing received broad member support. While a number of the advocacy requests within this resolution still remain relevant, resolutions only have an active life of up to three years, therefore, this resolution will expire this year.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

The first clause of this resolution aligns with previous ABmunis advocacy on affordable housing. With respect to the second clause, ABmunis has not taken a position on exempting non-profit affordable housing providers from paying municipal taxes. 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 Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

B6: Capital Funding Support for Housing Management Bodies

Moved by: Town of Wembley

Seconded by: Town of Sexsmith

WHEREAS Housing Management Bodies (HMB's) in the Alberta who provide supportive living facilities for seniors (lodges) are facing continual unanticipated increasing cost pressures including inflation, higher utility costs and interest rate increases that are heavily impacting budgets needed to keep sites operational;

WHEREAS these costs are pressuring HMB's operations causing deficits that require higher requisition requests as they try to balance capital repairs over and above operating expenses. The overall outcome is an impact to the affordability for residents;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta has announced the Affordability Action Plan designed to provide assistance to seniors facing affordability crisis, however, there is no assistance offered for supplies or works needed for capital maintenance of the actual lodges which are also negatively affected by the increased costs crisis; and

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta has previously provided selected organizations with capital maintenance level funding, however, this has reduced or is no longer available to HMB's. HMB's are in immediate and long-term need of this support to sustain and improve Alberta's seniors' facilities.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Alberta Municipalities lobby the Government of Alberta to increase funding to Housing Management Bodies to alleviate the affordability crisis and provide funding for capital upkeep or replacement needed to sustain supportive living at senior lodges.

BACKGROUND

A recent presentation by our Housing Management Body (HMB), the Grande Spirit Foundation, highlighted the fact that all capital replacement funding is becoming the sole responsibility of the organization as lodges are not eligible for additional funding such as MSI or other regular grant contributions. Housing Foundations can typically access Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) for new facilities and capital maintenance via borrowing along with some provincial funding to complete new projects, but not for existing facilities. HMB's throughout the province submit annual business plans to the province with capital renewal requests for existing and new facilities. These requests were funded through grants in the past, which assisted HMBs to prioritize and upgrade capital repairs as required. This grant funding for capital repairs is either no longer existent or insufficient to keep up to aging lodge infrastructure. The result is the Foundation either continues to raise rental rates to the maximum of residents' income as per the Social Housing Regulation and further challenges our senior affordability or increases municipal requisitions which adds to the existing tax burden for municipal ratepayers. The Grande Spirit Foundation currently has over 1100 units with 1700 residents, more or less, and has approximately \$90 million in capital budgets in planning to assist people in need of housing accommodation.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this specific issue; however, this resolution aligns with past advocacy on affordable and seniors' housing. 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 Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

B7: Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Coverage for Community Peace Officers Under the Workers Compensation Act

Moved by: Town of Drayton Valley

Seconded by: City of Edmonton

WHEREAS Bill 1: *Workers' Compensation Amendment Act*, 2012, was introduced to amend the *Workers Compensation Act* to include provisions under part 4, that if a first responder, correctional officer, emergency dispatcher or a member of any other class of worker prescribed by regulations is, or has been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder by a physician or psychologist, the post-traumatic stress disorder shall be presumed, unless the contrary is proven, to be an injury that arose out of and occurred during the course of the worker's employment;

WHEREAS post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is a psychiatric disorder that may occur in people who have experienced or witnessed a traumatic event such as a natural disaster, a serious incident, a terrorist act, war/combat, or rape or who have been threatened with death, sexual violence, or serious injury;¹

WHEREAS public safety personnel appear to be at an increased risk for developing a psychological injury due to the nature of their work and 44.5% meet the criteria for one or more mental disorders;²

WHEREAS post-traumatic stress disorder is a potentially disabling condition that is now a widely recognized public health issue, particularly among public safety personnel. A study conducted by Carleton et al. (2018) investigated the proportion of Canadian public safety personnel reporting symptom clusters consistent with various mental disorders. The results indicated that 23.2% of the total sample screened positive for PTSD (in contrast, estimates of the prevalence of PTSD among the general population range from 1.1 to 3.5%);³

WHEREAS the *Workers Compensation Act*, part 4, defines a first responder as a firefighter, paramedic, peace officer, or police officer;

WHEREAS the *Workers Compensation Act*, part 4, defines a peace officer as an individual appointed as a peace officer under section 7 of the *Peace Officer Act* who is authorized by that appointment to use the title "Sheriff";

WHEREAS the restricted definition of Peace Officer to only include those authorized to use the title of Sheriff under part 4 of the *Workers Compensation Act*, does not encompass approximately 3000 Community Peace Officers and Peace Officers throughout Alberta under the presumptive provisions for PTSD coverage; and

WHEREAS municipalities, their residents, businesses, and visitors benefit from having Community Peace Officers in their communities to preserve and maintain the public peace and benefit from an engaged mentally healthy and resilient workforce.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to

- A. by regulation, add all peace officers appointed under the *Peace Officer Act* as an 'other class of worker' referred to in section 24.2(2) of the *Workers' Compensation Act* until such time as the Act can be amended, and

¹ <https://psychiatry.org/patients-families/ptsd/what-is-ptsd>

² <https://www.mdpi.com/1660-4601/17/4/1234/html>

³ <https://ourspace.uregina.ca/bitstream/handle/10294/9055/Glossary%20of%20Terms%20Version%202.pdf?sequence=4&isAllowed=y>

- B. amend the definition of Peace Officer under the *Workers Compensation Act*, Part 4, section 24.2(1)(f) to include all Peace Officers appointed under section 7 of the Peace Officer Act.

BACKGROUND:

Under the [Workers Compensation Act](#), RSA 2000, specifically, Part 4; Compensation Entitlement, Application and Payment, workers are entitled to compensation under the Act if the worker suffers personal injury by accident, unless the injury is attributable primarily to the serious and willful misconduct of the worker, and to the dependents of a worker who dies as a result of an accident.

Further, under Part 4, is PTSD Presumptions, specifically section 24.2, if a first responder, correctional officer, emergency dispatcher or a member of any other class of worker prescribed by regulations is or has been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder by a physician or psychologist, the post-traumatic stress disorder shall be presumed, unless the contrary is proven, to be an injury that arose out of and occurred during the course of the worker's employment.

According to the American Psychiatric Association, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is a psychiatric disorder that may occur in people who have experienced or witnessed a traumatic event such as a natural disaster, a serious incident, a terrorist act, war/combat, or rape or who have been threatened with death, sexual violence, or serious injury.

As of 2020, the Government of Alberta indicated that the province has more than 30,000 part and full-time police officers, firefighters, and paramedics.⁴ Section 24.2(1)(d) of the Act defines first responders as a firefighter, paramedic, peace officer, or police officer. However, when reviewing the definition of peace officer under section 24.2(1)(f), it defines a peace officer as an individual appointed as a peace officer under section 7 of the [Peace Officer Act](#) who is authorized by that appointment to use the title "Sheriff".

According to the Government of Alberta, there are approximately 3000 Peace Officers in Alberta that are employed by approximately 290 authorized employers such as municipalities, post-secondary institutions, hospitals, and police agencies. These Community Peace Officers are appointed under section 7 of the *Peace Officer Act* but are only permitted by the Ministry of Justice and Solicitor General to use the title of Peace Officer or Community Peace Officer, and not the title of Sheriff. Therefore, there are approximately 3000 Community Peace Officers that are not covered under section 24.2 of the *Workers Compensation Act* and compensation will not be presumed.

Workers that do not fall under the definition of a first responder, are still able to submit a claim for PTSD, or other psychological diagnosis. Adjudication of these psychological injury claims will occur in the same manner as other WCB claims.

According to the Government of Alberta, which is responsible for the *Workers Compensation Act*, in Alberta, they indicated that a committee review is required every 10 years for the Act. The most recent committee review was completed in 2020. At that time, there was an amendment to the definition of workers covered under the presumptive coverage, which still does not encompass Community Peace Officers.

Peace Officers and Community Peace Officers are across Alberta providing services to protect Albertans and visitors alike. Community Peace Officers are in communities and institutions to "preserve and maintain the public peace". To that end, these dedicated Community Peace Officers can become involved in serious, traumatic, and life altering events. These events include but are not limited to physical confrontations; motor vehicle collisions where severe injury or death has occurred; transporting or assisting in the transportation of deceased people within hospitals; providing first-aid medical services such as CPR; amongst others. Duties that are consistent with "first responders" such as firefighters, paramedics, police officers, and sheriffs, which are currently being

⁴ <https://www.alberta.ca/establishing-the-heroes-fund.aspx#>

covered under the Act.

Under the Public Security Peace Officer Program Policy and Procedures Manual, issued through the Government of Alberta, Community Peace Officers are permitted to provide emergency response while operating emergency vehicles, to injury collisions, attending fire or medical situations at the request of the Fire or EMS department, any emergent situation if requested by the police service to attend in an emergency response capacity, or to provide backup to police or peace officers where there is a reasonable belief that the officer is in serious danger.

There has been no previous advocacy or resolutions pertaining to this specific topic through Alberta Municipalities. However, in 2021, the City of Fort Saskatchewan brought forward a resolution, which was adopted, titled “[Mental Health and Wellness for Public Safety Personnel](#)”. The resolution was that “it is resolved that the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association request that the Government of Alberta work cooperatively with public safety personnel organizations and allied stakeholders to research, develop and implement evidence-based solutions to address mental health and wellness of public safety personnel in the Province of Alberta.

Heroes’ Compensation Act

Should this amendment be made to the *Workers Compensation Act* and Community Peace Officers are defined as first responders under the *Workers Compensation Act*, Community Peace Officers would also be recognized under the [Heroes’ Compensation Act](#), as First Responders. This Act provides a lump sum payment of \$100,000 being paid to the dependent(s), or the estate, of a First Responder that dies as a result of an accident defined by the *Workers Compensation Act*.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this specific issue; however, this resolution aligns with past advocacy on mental health supports for 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 ABmunis’ Board by the Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

B8: Provincial funding for Medical First Response

Moved by: City of Grande Prairie

Seconded by: City of Medicine Hat, Town of Sexsmith, and City of Wetaskiwin

WHEREAS public health is a provincial responsibility and emergency medical services (EMS) and ambulance response are the authority of Alberta Health Services (AHS) and its contractors;

WHEREAS AHS centralized and assumed responsibility for EMS from municipalities and at that time promised no degradation of EMS services;

WHEREAS many municipalities operate a fire service whose firefighters participate in the Medical First Response program but are not trained paramedics;

WHEREAS these firefighters often serve as first responders in the absence or delay of AHS paramedics within their service area;

WHEREAS AHS paramedics are at times delayed or not available to attend as first responders thereby leaving that responsibility to the firefighters;

WHEREAS the Alberta Emergency Medical Services Dispatch Review by PwC noted that the average wait time to respond to an EMS event increased by 18.5 minutes province-wide between 2017 and 2022;

WHEREAS Health Minister Jason Copping indicated that the Alberta government accepted all 53 recommendations in the Alberta EMS Provincial Advisory Committee's Final Report¹; and

WHEREAS many jurisdictions, due to unbudgeted rising costs, are contemplating reducing MFR service levels to no longer respond to medical assist calls, even though it places its own residents in further jeopardy.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to compensate municipalities that operate a fire service with employees or volunteers who are qualified as Medical First Responders in instances when those firefighters respond to emergencies due to the absence or delay of provincial paramedics in their service area.

BACKGROUND:

In May 2022, the Province engaged PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP to conduct an independent review of Alberta's integrated EMS dispatch model. The purpose of the review was to identify opportunities and provide recommendations that support the EMS Dispatch system in improving patient outcomes. The PwC Report noted that:

In 2004 Alberta began a journey to evolve the coordination and oversight of the EMS dispatch system from a decentralized system to a centralized system. This was done to improve service consistency, standardization, and embed EMS within the broader health system to provide high-quality, patient centered care across the province. However, a number of questions were raised by stakeholders about the impact the model's design has had on system performance, protocol challenges, and event addressing challenges.

Many municipalities have entered into agreements with AHS to have their fire services provide Medical First Response (MFR) when AHS paramedics are delayed. However, there is no direct compensation for this service although support for training can be provided by AHS.

¹ [Alberta EMS report recommends steps toward privatization, critics say | CBC News](#)

In January 2022, the Alberta EMS Provincial Advisory Committee was established to address the growing demand for EMS across Alberta. In their Final Report, they made 53 recommendations to improve EMS services in the province. Several of the recommendations addressed MFR.

Recommendation #12 included, “developing strategies to enhance the profile of MFR programs and ensure that community and service delivery partners have an ongoing process for engagement, consultation and advice on the system, **including a sustainable funding model.**”

Recommendation #13 states that, “If MFR agencies are more effectively structured within the EMS system, then these skilled professionals can be used more effectively. ... To bring this about, it is recommended that AHS consult with MFR agencies and AHS EMS leaders to ... **develop options for funding opportunities to use MFR responders.**”

Throughout the Final Report, enhancing and expanding MFR is touted as one of the solutions to improving EMS service across the Province. Funding this important function of EMS service delivery would give municipalities the support they need to remain as part of the program and to possibly take on further responsibilities if service gaps exist.

Rural Municipalities of Alberta members passed the following resolution in November 2022 which has the similar intent and from which this resolution has been modeled:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rural Municipalities of Alberta advocate to the Government of Alberta to compensate municipalities that operate a fire service with volunteers or employees that are qualified as Medical First Responders in instances when those volunteers or employees respond to emergencies due to the absence or delay of provincial emergency medical technicians and paramedics in their service area.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

This resolution aligns with past advocacy on compensating municipalities that participate in the Medical First Response program. 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 Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

B9: Integration of Nurse Practitioners into the Alberta Healthcare System

Moved by: Town of Wembley

Seconded by: Town of Sexsmith

WHEREAS Nurse Practitioners (NPs) are expert clinicians with advanced training, who are able to provide comprehensive primary, acute and specialty health care;

WHEREAS smaller municipalities in Alberta experience challenges accessing essential healthcare services and therefore need access to alternative options to a traditional physician-oriented service delivery model;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta recognizes the potential of Nurse Practitioners in meeting the healthcare needs of Albertans and saving the healthcare system money;

WHEREAS current provincial grant funding programs for Nurse Practitioners are short term and do not address the broader funding models that create a barrier to greater integration of Nurse Practitioners into the healthcare system; and

WHEREAS provisions in provincial legislation should support Nurse Practitioners in providing services they are qualified to conduct.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to remove the legislative and funding barriers that impede greater integration of Nurse Practitioners into the healthcare system.

BACKGROUND:

In Alberta, Nurse Practitioners have Master's degrees or PhDs and, as such, are prepared autonomous health professionals who provide essential healthcare services grounded in professional, ethical and legal standards. Nurse Practitioners integrate their in-depth knowledge of advanced nursing practice and theory, health management, health promotion, disease/injury prevention, and other relevant biomedical and psychosocial theories to provide comprehensive primary health care services. For more information on Nurse Practitioners, see the [Nurse Practitioners Association of Alberta \(NPAA\)](#) and [Alberta Health Services \(AHS\)](#) websites.

The [March 2015 Rural Health Services Review Final Report](#) clearly stated that Albertans are struggling to obtain access to essential healthcare services. Feedback provided by Albertans, which is documented in the report, identified that Albertans support the implementation of Nurse Practitioners as an approach to improving access to essential healthcare services.

From a funding perspective, Nurse Practitioners are labelled as a member of a multi-disciplinary team, as opposed to a primary care provider like a physician. Therefore, while physicians are paid directly by the Alberta Health Care Insurance Program for services they provide, Nurse Practitioners are paid out of the budget for an AHS hospital or clinic, or a Primary Care Network (PCN). As a result, about 60 percent of Alberta's Nurse Practitioners (i.e., 500 out of approximately 800 Nurse Practitioners) are employed by Alberta Health Services in hospital settings. In contrast, throughout Canada, about 66 percent are employed in community settings and only 24 percent work in hospitals. Municipalities have identified the opportunity to increase the number of Nurse Practitioners in rural/small community settings to improve access to healthcare. Providing a more flexible funding model would enable Nurse Practitioners to practice in community-based clinics and support the longer-term integration of Nurse Practitioners throughout the Province.

ABmunis' advocacy related to Nurse Practitioners started with a resolution adopted in 2015, [Promoting the Use of Nurse Practitioners within the Alberta Healthcare System](#), which called for the Government of Alberta to allocate

funding to models of remuneration that support the integration of Nurse Practitioners within the Alberta healthcare system. Since 2015, the province has provided grants and developed programs related to Nurse Practitioners. For example, in 2016, the province launched the \$10 million Nurse Practitioner Demonstration Project, which explored the increased use of Nurse Practitioners in primary health care. Based on the success of the four demonstration project sites, the province launched the Primary Care Network Nurse Practitioner Support Program in March 2019 to provide \$38.5 million over three years to Primary Care Networks to support Nurse Practitioners currently working within the networks, as well as to hire 50 more Nurse Practitioners over two years. Despite the passing of the intended end date of the Support Program (which was extended into 2022-23) grant funding for Nurse Practitioners continues to be provided to PCNs, while they negotiate a future funding model with Alberta Health.

The funding programs that the province has implemented to support Nurse Practitioners to-date have primarily benefitted metropolitan areas and have not focused on increasing the use of Nurse Practitioners in smaller and rural communities. In addition, small communities have identified that grant funding has not been sufficient to support deployment of Nurse Practitioners throughout Alberta. Instead, there is a need for an ongoing sustainable funding model that more permanently ensures the integration of Nurse Practitioners into Alberta's healthcare system as a whole.

Legislation limiting Nurse Practitioner authority to provide primary care has been a further barrier to the integration of Nurse Practitioners into the healthcare system. The province started taking steps to address these legislative barriers in June 2020. Changes made to legislation include:

- Updating ambulance regulations to allow NPs to work as medical directors and provide real-time medical advice to paramedics.
- Allowing NPs to act as independent primary care providers in nursing homes.
- Authorizing NPs to complete driver medical examination forms.

Allowing Nurse Practitioners to take on these roles and complete these tasks is in line with their typical responsibilities, as they are already within their regulated scope of practice under the *Health Professions Act*. Any remaining legislation that limits the ability of Nurse Practitioners to practice as primary health care providers should be identified and amended.

ABmunis administration and the Small Communities Committee regularly connect with representatives of the NPAA to discuss alignment of advocacy, any remaining legislative barriers to integration, and steps that both organizations are taking to promote the greater integration of Nurse Practitioners into the health care system.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

This resolution aligns with ABmunis priority initiative, Access to Health Care Outside of Metropolitan Areas. 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 Small Communities Committee in the context of related priorities and positions.

B10: Expand Capacity to Train Combined Laboratory and X-Ray Technologists for Rural Alberta

Moved by: Town of Sundre

Seconded by: Town of Olds

WHEREAS all disciplines of healthcare in Alberta are experiencing shortages of qualified professionals and rural areas are experiencing even greater shortages than urban sites;

WHEREAS rural healthcare facilities require staff with a wider, multi-disciplinary skill set, known as a Combined Laboratory and X-Ray Technologist (CLXT), than the staff that are required in conventional urban settings;

WHEREAS CLXT skill sets are mandatory for rural healthcare locations, and inadequate numbers of students are being trained at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) to meet the need in rural Alberta;

WHEREAS NAIT is the only institution offering this training in Alberta, with a current class size of forty students per year. NAIT has indicated that they have the capacity within their infrastructure to increase their class size by an additional twenty students if they have the clinical sites to support student training and/or a viable option of simulation training that will allow for the increase in students;

WHEREAS NAIT has also advised that they are committed to exploring ways to increase their CLXT intake; and

WHEREAS the province's Alberta 2030 vision is focused on the post-secondary system and being highly responsive to labour market needs.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to collaborate with post-secondary institutions to expand the number of seats available to train Combined Laboratory and X-Ray Technologist (CLXT) for rural Alberta by increasing the number of seats for CLXT training at NAIT by twenty seats and exploring means by which an additional twenty seat capacity (to a total of 80 students annually) can be created at NAIT or another Alberta post-secondary institution.

BACKGROUND:

The Alberta landscape is dotted with many small rural hospitals. Although small, they are mighty, and provide an essential service to many Albertans. Often remote, these facilities offer a buffer for the injured and sick from the chronically overcrowded big city emergency rooms. Many rural hospitals offer minor surgeries, obstetrics, pre- and post-operative care, and palliative and long-term care, which helps to take the pressure off the city hospitals. These hospitals also allow local citizens to receive quality health care close to home and family.

One discipline where staff shortages have become a particularly serious concern is the combined Lab and X-ray Laboratory and X-Ray Technologist (CLXT). This part of our hospital's team is vital in assisting with efficient diagnosis and treatment and is essential to keeping a rural emergency room open. These combined skills are specific to, and mandatory for, rural hospitals, and staff shortages in this discipline are apparent across the Province. Rural hospitals are often limited in the number of staff they can hire by budgetary constraints and therefore in many cases cannot afford to hire both a position for lab and for x-ray as separate personnel. The combined CLXT provides a cost-effective way to fill both positions with a single staff member.

The [Alberta Health Services website](#) includes the following statement:

“Combined laboratory and x-ray technologists play a critically important role in the diagnosis, disease prevention and public health surveillance. They are responsible for collecting, preparing and analyzing patient samples, providing general patient care and taking blood. They conduct medical laboratory tests and administer electrocardiograms. They are also responsible for general radiography exams (X-ray). Combined laboratory and x-ray technologists are responsible to perform site specific manual and

automated approved laboratory procedures, diagnostic imaging exams and related duties, following established standards and practices defined by the ACCLXT (Alberta College of Combined Laboratory and X-ray Technicians), CPSA (College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta) and HPA (Health Professions Act).”

NAIT is the only post-secondary institution providing this specialized program, offering forty (40) seats annually. Increasing those seat numbers, from forty to eighty would significantly address the current demand in rural Alberta. NAIT currently has twenty new seats and thereafter increasing NAIT’s capacity, and/or adding another institution with capability to offer this training, may be enough to meet current demand. Currently, NAIT receives 500 applications for the program, and interviews approximately 200 people for each intake of the 40 seats. This demonstrates that the demand for the current program is very high and filling additional seats would not be an issue.

Access to health facilities and trained health care professionals in rural areas is essential to the sustainability and economic growth of our Province as a whole. Skill specific training, in adequate numbers, is necessary to foster growth and sustainability in rural Alberta. The request for the Government of Alberta to support additional post-secondary seats for CLXT training aligns well with the already developed Alberta 2030 vision:

- “Alberta’s world-class post-secondary system will equip Albertans with the skills, knowledge and competencies they need to succeed in their lifelong pursuits.”
- “The system will be highly responsive to labour market needs and through innovative programming and excellence in research, contribute to the betterment of an innovative and prosperous Alberta.”

This resolution was also adopted by RMA in November 2022, providing the opportunity for joint advocacy on this issue.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this specific issue; however, this resolution aligns with past advocacy on access to medical imaging. 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 Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

B11: Maintaining Non-Partisan Municipal Elections

Moved by: City of Brooks

Seconded by: Village of Duchess

WHEREAS municipal elections in Alberta have been predominantly free from political party influence, affording local elected officials the autonomy to debate and vote on community issues based on the best interests of their community;

WHEREAS at the Provincial level there has been comment on opening the door to having political parties at the local level;

WHEREAS partisan politics would restrict individual elected officials from independently pursuing the best interests of the municipality but instead bind them by the ideology of the political party they represent; and

WHEREAS the current *Local Authorities Elections Act* (LAEA) does not explicitly restrict political party influence in local elections.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Provincial Government to refrain from introducing partisan politics in local government elections;

AND IT IS FURTHERED RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to amend the LAEA to prohibit partisanship infiltrating local elections or politics in any way including political party endorsements of local candidates, donations directly or indirectly to local candidates, or by way of any other influence.

BACKGROUND:

Local government elected officials are closer to the people they represent than any other form of government. These representatives also live in their community which is not always the case for those elected provincially or federally. Local representatives interact with their citizens often, are accountable to their citizens and are easily accessible.

On any community issue they face, these local elected officials bring their experience and what they believe is best for the overall community and express this through their debate and vote. This is critical in local government and plays a big part in why local government is the most accountable and efficient form of government.

Partisanship in local politics would be a disappointment. No longer could our local elected officials vote on what they believe is best for the community, but instead, they would be beholden to vote based on the ideology of the political party they represent. In the few cases where elected officials in non-local governments dare vote on what they feel is in the best interests of their constituents rather than by their parties' ideologies, they have been alienated by the party. This has the effect of leaving their constituents frustrated with the feeling their voice has been further eroded.

For our municipalities to remain efficient, effective and accountable, it is critical that we leave no room for partisan politics. Thank you for your consideration and support of this resolution.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

This resolution aligns with ABmunis Local Election Principles (approved by members on June 18, 2020) which emphasize that candidates are elected to represent and be accountable to municipal residents, not a political party. These [principles have guided ABmunis advocacy on amendments to the LAEA](#) and they will be a foundation for future advocacy as ABmunis presses the province to complete a full-scale review of the LAEA. 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.

B12: Inclusion of Libraries in Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks

Moved by: Town of Cardston

Seconded by: Town of Magrath

WHEREAS the purpose of Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks (ICFs) is to ensure municipalities contribute funding to services that benefit their residents (MGA s. 708.27 (c));

WHEREAS most libraries serve residents of more than one municipality and the financial sustainability of libraries is of great importance to all Alberta municipalities;

WHEREAS Library Boards are created by municipalities by bylaws, and many are primarily funded by a municipality, including many municipalities having responsibility for staffing and facility maintenance and replacement;

WHEREAS Library Boards are charged in the *Libraries Act* with the responsibility for funding, but have no effective leverage to secure funding for the provision of their services with neighbouring municipalities except within the ICF negotiation framework; and

WHEREAS many ICFs currently contain funding provisions for library services within many of the negotiated ICF agreements, which is of common knowledge to Municipal Affairs.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the clear articulation by the Government of Alberta in legislation that cost sharing for library services is within the scope of Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks.

BACKGROUND:

ICFs are intended to require municipalities to create comprehensive frameworks between them which address all intermunicipal services that benefit the residents of both municipalities. This ensures that municipalities which benefit from services offered in neighbouring municipalities will equitably share in the costs associated with delivering those services. Limiting “intermunicipal services” to only those services that are directly administered by municipalities is contrary to the Legislature’s intent. With respect to library services, while it is true that Library Boards are separate legal entities, the fact remains that they are created and funded by municipalities, and most importantly are largely dependent on funding from municipalities to sustain their operations. Since ICFs are required to include provisions addressing the proportionate funding of intermunicipal services, it is an unreasonable for the Minister of Municipal Affairs to exclude any consideration of intermunicipal services that are funded by municipalities.

The MGA

Part 17.2 of the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA) creates a flexible framework intended to allow municipalities to, either by agreement or through arbitration, craft comprehensive ICFs which address all shared services which benefit residents of both municipalities. A broad and purposive interpretation of Part 17.2 of the MGA would include all intermunicipal services within the ambit of ICFs, regardless of whether the intermunicipal service is delivered directly by a municipality, or if it is principally funded by municipalities but delivered by a third party.

Section 708.27 of the MGA confirms that ICFs are intended:

- “a. To provide for the integrated and strategic planning, delivery and funding of intermunicipal services,*
- b. To steward scarce resources efficiently in providing local services, and*
- c. To ensure municipalities contribute funding to services that benefit their residents.”*

Section 708.29 sets broad parameters for what must be included in an ICF:

“(1) A framework must describe the services to be provided under it that benefit residents in more than one of the municipalities that are parties to the framework.

(2) In developing the content of the framework required by subsection (1), the municipalities must identify which municipality is responsible for providing which services and outline how the services will be delivered and funded.

(3) Nothing in this Part prevents a framework from enabling an intermunicipal service to be provided in only part of a municipality.

(3.1) Every framework must contain provisions establishing a process for resolving disputes that occur while the framework is in effect, other than during a review under section 708.32, with respect to

(a) the interpretation, implementation or application of the framework, and

(b) any contravention or alleged contravention of the framework.

(4) No framework may contain a provision that conflicts or is inconsistent with a growth plan established under Part 17.1 or with an ALSA regional plan.

(5) The existence of a framework relating to a service constitutes agreement among the municipalities that are parties to the framework for the purposes of section 54.”

Read together, sections 708.27 and 708.29 give municipalities significant flexibility in crafting an ICF that covers all intermunicipal services between them, provided those services are municipally funded and benefit residents of both municipalities.

The direction in section 708.29(1) is that the ICF “must describe the services to be provided under it that benefit residents in more than one of the municipalities that are parties to the framework.” There is no reference to excluding intermunicipal services that are municipally funded but are operated by third parties. All that is required is that the intermunicipal service be funded by the municipalities, and benefit residents in both municipalities, for it to be addressed in the ICF.

Further, there is no indication that the reference to “delivery” of services was intended to exclude intermunicipal services delivered by third parties. The broad and unqualified language in section 708.27 suggests that municipalities can have flexibility in determining how services are planned, funded and delivered, and there is no indication in the legislation that ICFs are intended to include only certain modes of service delivery and not others. The key consideration is whether the service is municipally funded and benefits residents in multiple municipalities (thereby addressing the third objective to require municipalities to contribute equitably to services that benefit their residents).

The Libraries Act

The *Libraries Act* sets out the relationship between Library Boards and municipal Councils. Section 3 states that it is the discretion and responsibility of the local municipal Council to establish a library board.

“Municipal board

3 (1) The council of a municipality may, by bylaw, establish a municipal library board.”

The *Libraries Act* continues to expound upon the financial relationship between the Library Board and the municipality. It is obvious from section 8 that the local municipal Council continues to have great influence and discretion over the financial position of the local Library Board.

“Budget

8 (1) The municipal board shall before December 1 in each year prepare a budget and an estimate of the money required during the ensuing fiscal year to operate and manage the municipal library.

(2) The budget and the estimate of money shall be forthwith submitted to the council of the municipality.

(3) Council may approve the estimate under subsection (1) in whole or in part.”

The province also supplies a great deal of data to show the reliance of Library Boards on the local municipal authority. On the Government of Alberta web site, the following financial information is shared;

“In 2018:

Provincial operating grants to public library boards (municipal and system) totaled \$30,132,755, representing 13% of total library operating revenue.

The province also expended \$4,841,109 to support the provincial library network. This included funds for SuperNet connectivity for all public libraries, electronic resources and the resource sharing network. Total provincial support for public library service amounted to \$34,973,864.

Municipal contributions (including in-kind support) to public library boards (municipal and system) totaled \$173,295,301. This represented 73% of total library operating revenue.” (<https://www.alberta.ca/public-library-statistics.aspx>)

This confirms that the local municipality is the key stakeholder in library funding, and by extension should be permitted to negotiate library funding as part of the ICF process.

The successful future of libraries in Alberta is highly dependent on the ability of local municipalities to fund them properly, thereby maintaining or increasing library relevance in the community. The fact that Municipal Affairs prohibits the negotiation of library funding in the ICF context complicates the ability of the local municipality or the local Library Board to secure long term, reliable funding to serve the members of all benefitted communities.

The Town of Cardston respectfully requests the support of Alberta Municipalities membership in petitioning the Government of Alberta to reconsider their current position on cost-sharing within ICF agreements, and to include this service firmly within the scope of future negotiations of ICFs.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

This resolution aligns with advocacy related to funding for municipal libraries, ongoing research and advocacy guided by the Future of Municipal Government project, as well as change management related to the province's reviews of the *Municipal Government Act*, with the most current review being focused on ICF legislation. 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.

B13: Provincial Funding for Growing Municipalities

Moved by: City of Airdrie

Seconded by: City of Leduc

WHEREAS Alberta's population increased by more than 347,000 people, or by 8.3%, since 2016;

WHEREAS the Province's *Alberta is Calling* campaign encourages people to relocate to Alberta to build their futures;

WHEREAS Government of Alberta projections indicate that more than 91% of newcomers are settling in urban centres;

WHEREAS urban municipalities support the development of whole communities to house newcomers and provide crucial quality of life amenities and services;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta's transition from the Municipal Sustainability Initiative to the Local Government Fiscal Framework in 2024-25 will result in a 37% decrease in total dedicated capital funding to municipalities;

WHEREAS high growth rates require large infrastructure investments in transportation, recreation and cultural amenities, water/wastewater and in protective services to ensure that communities remain attractive and viable; and

WHEREAS municipalities are very limited in options, other than steep property tax increases, to raise necessary capital funds to support large infrastructure investments.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to actively partner with municipalities absorbing the population growth required to support a vibrant, diverse and thriving provincial economy through the creation of a dedicated funding program to support the capital investment pressures of growth.

BACKGROUND:

Alberta is one of Canada's fastest growing provinces. The Alberta is Calling campaign actively encourages skilled workers to consider relocating to Alberta. Most newcomers are settling in urban centres.

According to the Government of Alberta's Office of Statistics and Information population estimates 2016-2022 released in March of this year 61 Alberta municipalities recorded a growth rate of more than 10% over that time period¹. In total these municipalities welcomed 326,068 newcomers, almost 94% of the entire population increase recorded over that seven-year period.

Alberta municipalities, as required by the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA,) must produce five-year capital plans outlining schedules to fund new and lifecycle capital projects. These capital plans include roads, bridges, pathways, water/wastewater infrastructure, community facilities like libraries, recreation, cultural and community amenities, parks and infrastructure for protective services. All of which are important in creating strong, vibrant, liveable communities.

Population growth pressures, coupled with high-cost escalations and a proposed 37% decrease in the amount of capital funding available to non-charter municipalities (all other than Calgary and Edmonton) is placing tremendous burden on those municipalities absorbing the population growth the Province is actively attracting.

¹ <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/alberta-population-estimates-data-tables>

As an example, the City of Airdrie will see a reduction in capital funding of approximately \$3-4M from the Province when LGFF becomes effective in 2024. The LGFF Transition Fund introduced in Budget 2023-24 will help off-set the impact of the formula chosen to distribute funds but does nothing to address the impact of the overall decrease in the funding available to non-charter municipalities. The City's 10-year capital plan 2023-2032 outlines more than \$1B of capital projects. There are many other high growth urban municipalities that are facing similar pressures with very few options than to increase property taxes significantly.

In addition, three of the Government of Alberta's funding programs that address municipal water/ wastewater and local infrastructure projects – Water for Life, the Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership and the Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program – exclude certain types and sizes of municipalities. The funding is not equally available to all municipalities to meet important infrastructure needs.

The three funding programs noted above need to be expanded to include all municipalities or the Government of Alberta needs to set aside dedicated funding, during times of high growth, to better partner with those municipalities absorbing the growth. Working better together we can make Alberta prosperous for all.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis is focused on advocating for a significant increase to the starting amount of the LGFF Capital to change from its current level of \$722 million to be \$1.75 billion to benefit all municipalities throughout Alberta. Our advocacy is based on the estimated municipal infrastructure deficit along with our analysis of the significant decade-long downward trend in provincial funding for municipal infrastructure, after accounting for Alberta's increase in population and inflation. In addition, ABmunis has engaged members in taking a principle-based approach to the proposed allocation formula for LGFF based on each municipality's scope of infrastructure and growth pressures while considering the differences in fiscal capacity between municipalities. ABmunis' recommendations to Alberta Municipal Affairs for population to be a primary weighting in the LGFF Capital allocation formula is in part designed to support higher growth municipalities.

B14: Provincial Lending Rates to Municipalities

Moved by: City of St. Albert

Seconded by: City of Airdrie

WHEREAS Albertan municipalities must build capital projects to support future growth and ensure their long-term sustainability;

WHEREAS it is difficult for Alberta municipalities to fund the building of capital projects using funds generated by property taxes alone;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta provides loans to municipalities to fund the building of capital projects;

WHEREAS in 2021, the Government of Alberta announced that any new loans to municipalities would henceforth be charged a higher interest rate similar to what a large City could obtain in the bond market, as opposed to the lower rate available to the Government itself;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta communicated that the new spread between the province's borrowing rate and the rate charged to municipalities is an approximate increase of 0.5%;

WHEREAS in addition to the increase of interest rates imposed by the Government of Alberta on municipalities, the shift in national and global financial markets since 2021 has caused a massive increase in debt servicing costs municipalities must pay in comparison to debt servicing costs paid prior to 2021;

WHEREAS the increase in debt servicing costs has created greater strains on municipal finances, forcing municipalities to make difficult financial decisions in order to provide well-managed, accountable local government to Albertans;

WHEREAS the burden of increased debt servicing costs has resulted in Albertan property owners paying more to fund the building of community infrastructure; and

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta's fiscal standing has significantly improved since 2021, with the Government posting a budgetary surplus of \$10.4 billion in the 2022-2023 fiscal year in addition to a projected surplus of \$2.4 billion for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Ministry of Treasury Board and Finance to implement measures to restore the policy that permitted municipalities to obtain loans with lower interest rates, as was provided prior to 2021, to allow for improved financial flexibility to encourage municipalities to fund capital projects and save taxpayer dollars.

BACKGROUND:

Albertan municipalities finance the building of capital infrastructure projects in their jurisdictions that are critical for long-term community sustainability and growth. Such capital projects, including the construction of roads, bridges and utilities, are required to support growth essential to Alberta's long-term economic prosperity.

Although grants and provincial funding such as the Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF) are provided by the Province, such funding is often inadequate to cover the entire cost of capital projects. Consequently, municipalities must utilize other fiscal tools to fund the construction of capital infrastructure projects to avoid placing undue burdens on citizens through the raising of property taxes or the reduction of essential services. One such tool is obtaining loans issued to municipalities by the Government of Alberta.

Loans are issued to municipalities with interest rates calculated by the Province, based on current market conditions. Municipalities are required to pay the principal of the loan back to the province, in addition to interest based on the type of loan and payment term. For example, on a 20-year term “Blended Amortization” loan of \$10,000,000.00 borrowed on April 15, 2023 (4.93% interest), municipalities will have paid in total, at the end of the term:

- Principle: \$10,000,000.00
- Interest: \$5,840,712.80
- Total: \$15,840,712.80

In 2022, the City of St. Albert needed to obtain the following loans to finance three capital projects critical to economic growth and sustainable development of essential infrastructure. The following loan terms and interest rates were obtained:

- Ray Gibbon Drive Construction:
 - \$15,000,000.00 – 20 Year Term – 4.78% Interest
- North St. Albert Trail Construction
 - \$7,000,000.00 – 20 Year Term – 4.78% Interest
- Community Amenities Site & Lakeview Business District (RR260):
 - \$4,000,000.00 – 3 Year Term – 4.77% Interest

At the end of payment terms for these loans, St. Albert taxpayers will have paid \$12.75 million in interest payments. Had the Government of Alberta restored the previous policy of offering loans with interest rates that are available to the government itself – a ~0.5% reduction in the above-listed interest rates – St. Albert taxpayers would pay \$11.268 million in interest at the end of the payment term, equating to a savings of over \$1.48 million. These savings will instead be received by the Government of Alberta as a revenue stream.

With higher interest rates set to only increase the burden on taxpayers if the City borrows more money from the province to fund new capital projects, St. Albert’s City Council is forced to consider deferring the approval of new capital projects, despite the economic growth and development such projects would generate.

Across Alberta, municipalities are faced with making similar decisions regarding approvals of capital projects. Consequently, certain projects may not receive municipal approval – not because these projects wouldn’t support the growth of new developments and availability of more local jobs for Albertans, but because related debt servicing costs would risk the ability of municipalities to continue to fund essential services without imposing further tax increases on Albertans.

Given that the Government of Alberta posted a budgetary surplus of \$10.4 billion in the 2022-2023 fiscal year in addition to a projected surplus of \$2.4 billion for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the Province is in a position where the charging of higher interest rates to municipalities is unnecessary for its own fiscal health, and instead levies increased pressure on municipalities who rely on loans to fund capital projects.

Should the Ministry of Treasury Board and Finance take measures to restore the policy of issuing loans with interest rates similar to those available to the Province, more capital projects may receive municipal approval; more infrastructure will be built, more local jobs will be created, taxpayer dollars will be saved, and Albertans will see increased growth and economic prosperity in their communities.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

This resolution aligns with Alberta Municipalities’ existing advocacy efforts related to the 2020 resolution, “Continuation of Municipal Bonds in Alberta”, wherein members have called on the Government of Alberta to ensure a sufficient supply of low-cost infrastructure loans for local authorities. Alberta Municipalities made presentations about the interest rate differential to various ministers in early 2023 and will need to bring this issue forward again under the new government.

B15: Infrastructure Servicing and Construction Costs of School Sites

Moved by: City of Lethbridge

Seconded by: Town of Okotoks

WHEREAS sections 670.1 of the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA) and 53.1 of the *Education Act* require municipalities and school boards to enter into binding agreements addressing the [allocation of reserve land](#) and servicing for future school sites;

WHEREAS the Alberta government's current school site readiness checklist requires school boards to obtain letters of commitment from municipalities to provide and fund the infrastructure servicing of future school sites (i.e., water, sewer, storm water, electric and telecommunications connections to property lines) if the landowner or land developer is unable, in advance of provincial allocations of capital funding for school construction;

WHEREAS school boards and municipalities have no authority to compel landowners or land developers to fund such costs in advance of the neighbourhood being developed;

WHEREAS the cost of serving school sites in advance of neighbourhood development creates an additional financial burden for landowners as well as private-and public-sector land developers;

WHEREAS the costs of school-site servicing are added to future lot prices, and this ultimately affects home affordability in a community;

WHEREAS the current requirements and constraints force municipalities to encumber municipal financial reserves or municipal borrowing capacity, or to raise municipal taxes to provide and fund the servicing of future school sites;

WHEREAS encumbering municipal reserves and borrowing capacity to facilitate school-site servicing is not sustainable and renders these financial resources unavailable for municipalities to make other much-needed community investments; and

WHEREAS the province currently collects the education property tax requisition, and all education property taxes are pooled through the Alberta School Foundation Fund.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to ensure provincial allocations of capital funding for school construction cover all costs of construction, including the servicing of school sites with the required infrastructure.

BACKGROUND:

- This issue impacts all municipalities but especially mid-sized and small municipalities as well as those with slower rates of growth and land absorption. They may not have the financial ability to meet the requirements of the readiness checklist but still need new schools. Ensuring that the school-age population across the Province has the opportunity to learn in environments that are tech-friendly and are not overcrowded demonstrates equity and an investment in the future.
- Municipalities set aside monies in various municipal reserves that are not intended for servicing of school sites. Forcing municipalities to dip into these reserves to finance school site infrastructure costs renders these reserves unavailable for their intended purposes of addressing community needs. In addition, if monies in municipal reserves are not available to satisfy this requirement and a municipality must borrow, this would encumber overall municipal borrowing capacity.
- This issue is urgent, as this provincial requirement is already putting a strain on municipal finances, including municipal reserves. It could jeopardize the advancement of school construction in some communities unless the province ensures that allocations of capital funding for school construction cover

all costs of construction, including the servicing of school sites with the required infrastructure.

- The Government of Alberta already collects an education property tax, as a component on municipal property tax notices, to fund schools and school construction. This provincial education tax could simply be adjusted to sufficiently fund all costs of school construction, including the servicing of school sites with the required infrastructure.
- A somewhat similar resolution by the Town of Penhold was adopted in 2014 [Provincial Support for School Development](#), but has since expired. Although, there are some similarities, this resolution is distinct in that it seeks only the inclusion of site servicing (water, sewer, storm water, electric and telecom connections to property line) in provincial capital funding for school construction. Nor does our resolution seek to have the province take on an active role as contractor on school construction projects.
- ABmunis members also passed a resolution in 2019, [School Site Procurement](#), which focused on the province developing necessary legislation, policy, and procedures to ensure productive engagement by the province and school boards with municipalities in the early stages of planning and announcing new school sites. This resolution expired in 2022.
- On June 10, 2020, the MGA was amended to require municipalities to enter into [Joint Use Planning Agreements \(JUPAs\)](#) with school boards. These agreements were originally required to be in place by June 10, 2023; however, [the deadline for completion of JUPAs was extended to June 2025](#). A JUPA is a formal partnership between a municipality and a school board to enable the integrated and long-term planning and use of school sites on municipal reserve (MR), school reserve (SR) and municipal and school reserve (MSR) land. More than one municipality or school board may be a party to a JUPA.
- The Alberta School Board Association (ASBA) shared a position statement proposed by one of their members with the mover, the City of Lethbridge, in April 2023. which addresses capital funding for school construction covering all costs of construction, including the servicing of school sites, as well as ensuring that adequate properly sized reserve land is made available for school sites. See Appendix 1.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

This resolution aligns with ABmunis' Municipal Finance strategic initiative, as well as with the Infrastructure Committee's priority initiative, Forthcoming Federal/Provincial Infrastructure Funding Programs. 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 Infrastructure Committee. The Municipal Governance Committee would also be asked for input on the approach to advocating for the requested capital funding allocations.

Appendix 1

Proposed Regular Position Statement – Infrastructure Allocation, Servicing and Construction Costs of School Sites
Sponsored by St. Albert Public Schools, seconded by _____

Proposed Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, ASBA advocate to the Government of Alberta for the Ministries of Education, Infrastructure and Municipal Affairs work together with Alberta Municipalities and school boards to ensure provincial allocations of capital funding for school construction cover all costs of construction, including the servicing of school sites with the required infrastructure.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, ASBA advocate to the Government of Alberta to instruct the Ministries of Education, Infrastructure and Municipal Affairs to work together with Alberta Municipalities and school boards to resolve challenges around the lack of properly sized and available reserve land for school site allocations through the Municipal Government Act.

RATIONALE

[ASBA's 2023 provincial election advocacy priorities](#) included capital planning.

“Capital planning is a priority for school boards. Clarity on the new School Planning Program phases, and consultation on the capital planning process, would support well-informed decision making in relation to providing adequate, modern and appropriate learning spaces for our students.”

Section 53.1 of the Education Act requires school boards to enter into joint use and planning agreements (JUPAs) with municipalities under section 670.1 of the Municipal Government Act.
In April 2023, Alberta Municipal Affairs Minister extended the deadline for JUPAs to June 10, 2025.

Integrated and long-term planning and use of school sites has long been a challenge in Alberta and a priority for many school boards to address the need for new schools and spaces for students.

Changes to the reserve process in the Municipal Government Act for municipal reserve (MR), school reserve (SR) and municipal and school reserve (MSR) requirements challenge both municipalities and school boards to plan for and secure adequate school sites.

At the April 4, 2023, Lethbridge City Council Meeting, submission of the following proposed resolution to the September 27-29, 2023 Alberta Municipalities Convention was approved:

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to ensure provincial allocations of capital funding for school construction cover all costs of construction, including the servicing of school sites with the required infrastructure.

To ensure equity in funding and provision for adequate and appropriate learning spaces for students, the government must include school boards and municipalities in any consultation on the capital planning process.

BACKGROUND

At the April 4, 2023 Lethbridge City Council Meeting, approved submission of the following proposed resolution to the September 27-29, 2023 Alberta Municipalities Convention:

“WHEREAS Section 670(1) of the Municipal Government Act requires municipalities to enter into binding agreements with school boards for the allocation of reserve land and servicing for future school sites;

WHEREAS the Alberta government’s current school site readiness checklist requires school boards to obtain letters of commitment from municipalities to provide and fund the infrastructure servicing of future school sites (water, sewer, storm water, electric and telecom connections to property lines) if the landowner or land developer is unable,

in advance of provincial allocations of capital funding for school construction;

WHEREAS school boards and municipalities have no authority to compel landowners or land developers to fund such costs in advance of the neighbourhood being developed;

WHEREAS the cost of servicing school sites in advance of neighbourhood development creates an additional financial burden for landowners as well as private-and public-sector land developers;

WHEREAS the costs of school-site servicing are added to future lot prices, and this ultimately affects home affordability in a community.

WHEREAS the current requirements and constraints force municipalities to encumber municipal financial reserves or municipal borrowing capacity, or to raise municipal taxes to provide and fund the servicing of future school sites;

WHEREAS encumbering municipal reserves and borrowing capacity to facilitate school-site servicing is not sustainable and renders these financial resources unavailable for municipalities to make other much-needed community investments;

WHEREAS the Province currently collects the education property tax requisition, and all education property taxes are pooled through the Alberta School Foundation Fund;

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to ensure provincial allocations of capital funding for school construction cover all costs of construction, including the servicing of school sites with the required infrastructure.”

SOURCE: <https://agendas.lethbridge.ca/AgendaOnline/Meetings/ViewMeeting?id=3901&doctype=2>
[Education Act Section 53.1](#)
[April 2023 Deadline for School Site JUPAs Extended to 2025](#)

B16: Provincial Support for Downtowns, Business Districts and Mainstreets

Moved by: City of Edmonton

Seconded by: City of St. Albert

WHEREAS downtowns, business districts and mainstreets serve as community hubs where residents and visitors can gather to celebrate, build community, share ideas, learn, trade and innovate, and are often the first and lasting impression of municipalities;

WHEREAS downtowns, business districts and mainstreets support a municipality's ability to attract, retain and grow economic investment;

WHEREAS vibrant, attractive, welcoming, safe, and economically diverse downtowns, business districts and mainstreets support the Government of Alberta's ongoing efforts to attract new residents and economic activity to Alberta;

WHEREAS downtowns, business districts and mainstreets were, and continue to be, some of the most impacted areas stemming from the negative economic effects of COVID-19 such as the loss of residents, workers, businesses, and visitors, and the increase and concentration of social disorder;

WHEREAS municipalities require partnerships with, and support from, other orders of government to revitalize and ensure the ongoing vitality of these strategically important areas of communities throughout Alberta; and

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta has recognized the importance and prominence of downtowns, business districts and mainstreets through the release of the Calgary Office Revitalization and Expansion (CORE) and the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Economic Recovery (EMRER) reports.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta and the Government of Canada to increase their financial commitment to supporting the recovery and ongoing vitality efforts for the downtowns, business districts, and main streets of communities throughout Alberta.

BACKGROUND:

Downtowns, business districts and mainstreets are the focal point of businesses, retail, tourism, and the hospitality industry in communities of all scales.

These areas within communities throughout Alberta contribute greatly to Alberta's economy and are areas in which jobs are often concentrated. Furthermore, these areas exert a strong influence on how a community is perceived, in turn impacts the attraction of tourism, investment, workers, students, visitors, and new residents to a community.

These issues are not just big city issues but can be seen in communities throughout Alberta as the downtowns of mid-sized cities and the mainstreets of all communities have suffered from the negative economic effects stemming from COVID-19.

Alberta's municipalities and the Government of Alberta have a shared interest and responsibility to ensure these strategic areas within communities throughout Alberta can thrive and be utilized as an incentive to new residents and investment to Alberta. These areas within communities throughout Alberta have and will continue to play a critical role in our ability to attract and retain investment, grow our tourism industry, and contribute to the reputation of Alberta as a place to call home.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this specific issue; however, this resolution aligns with past advocacy on community building and community safety. 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.

B17: Changes to the Clean Energy Improvement Program

Moved by: City of Edmonton

Seconded by: City of Lethbridge and Town of Athabasca

WHEREAS existing buildings make up a large portion of greenhouse gas emissions that are created from urban settings, and energy retrofits to existing buildings have been identified as a strategy to reduce these emissions;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta's Act to Enable Clean Energy Improvements, SA 2018, c 6 amended the Municipal Government Act, and an associated Clean Energy Improvements Regulation, AR 212/2018, to establish the Clean Energy Improvement Program (CEIP);

WHEREAS CEIP is an alternative financing tool for residential and non-residential property owners to fund energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades that are repaid through property taxes;

WHEREAS initiatives similar to CEIP have proven successful in numerous jurisdictions and has the potential to result in significant retrofit investments, support the creation of a thriving retrofit industry, and create thousands of private sector jobs; and

WHEREAS changes to CEIP are required to scale up and expand the program so it can reach its full potential.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to make the following changes to the Clean Energy Improvement Program (CEIP):

1. Make borrowing for CEIP eligible under the Local Authorities Capital Financing Act;
2. Allow residential building financing for multi-unit buildings, including condominiums, to be equivalent to the non-residential investment limit;
3. Increase the maximum financing limit for residential properties, which is currently set at \$50,000 or no more than double the municipal property taxes, whichever is less;
4. Increase the maximum financing limit of \$1 million for non-residential properties; and,
5. Expand eligible items to include additional clean energy and adaptation upgrades such as, but not limited to, EV Chargers, while allowing municipalities to retain the ability to choose which elements of an expanded program to offer.

BACKGROUND:

Legislation to enable a Clean Energy Improvement Program (CEIP) became effective in Alberta on January 1, 2019. This program is similar to the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs that can be found in other cities across Canada and the United States. CEIP is administered through ABmunis and to date, nine municipalities throughout Alberta have implemented a Clean Energy Improvement Program.

The City of Edmonton's Community Energy Transition Strategy is Edmonton's plan to transition to a low carbon city by 2050. The strategy has five critical pathways for climate action, one of which is an Emission Neutral Building pathway. Existing buildings make up about 38 per cent of Edmonton's total greenhouse gas emissions.

Edmonton created a two-year pilot of the CEIP to provide low-cost financing to property owners to complete a minimum of three eligible upgrades to their buildings.

A few lessons were learned through this pilot, including:

- The benefit of low cost financing is critical for the success of CEIP and the extent to which property owners can make retrofit investments. Consideration needs to be given to making CEIP borrowing eligible under the Local Authorities Capital Financing Act as it can offer excellent rates that are transferred without markup to the applicants. Initially, CEIP was an approved borrowing reason under Alberta Capital Finance Authority

(ACFA). When ACFA was dissolved and LAC identified as the alternative source, CEIP was not an eligible borrowing purpose. This has forced municipalities to search elsewhere for program financing.

- The financing limits of \$50,000 and \$1 million for residential and non-residential buildings have proved to be too restrictive to support deep retrofits. Net Zero retrofits have typically required greater investment than the current financing limits, especially for residential buildings. Increasing the maximum financing limit may require increasing the ceiling for financing from doubling the annual municipal property tax, to tripling or disconnecting from the property tax assessment and incorporating equity or ability to repay calculations. There is an option to facilitate exceptions for increasing the non-residential ceiling above \$1 million as detailed in the regulation through approval by the Minister and by a resolution of council.
- Consumers have expressed an interest in energy efficiency upgrades that are not currently included within the program. The original eligibility list for the program was driven by the Energy Efficiency Alberta mandate to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. However, adding other technologies including those for adaptation, such as electric vehicle chargers and flood proofing is recommended and could be an opportunity to increase community climate resilience.
- The program currently considers multi-unit residential buildings as “residential” and allows only the \$50,000 maximum. Given the scale of multi-residential buildings, a financing limit similar to the non-residential buildings limit (currently \$1 million) is warranted.
- There are significant economic benefits resulting from a robust Clean Energy Improvement Program. Similar programs have proven to be very successful in other jurisdictions including the United States, resulting in billions of dollars in retrofit investment and the creation of thousands of jobs. It is estimated that since 2009, CEIP programs in the United States have had a \$21.6 billion economic impact, created 170,000 job-years, and have facilitated the completion of 325,000 projects.

There are significant economic benefits resulting from a robust Clean Energy Improvement Program. Similar programs have proven to be very successful in other jurisdictions including the United States, resulting in billions of dollars in retrofit investment and the creation of thousands of jobs. It is estimated that since 2009, CEIP programs in the United States have had a \$21.6 billion economic impact, created 170,000 job-years, and have facilitated the completion of 325,000 projects.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on these proposed CEIP amendments. However, ABmunis has previous resolutions advocating for additional financing options for micro-generation. This resolution also aligns with past advocacy on expanding the financing tools available to municipalities. 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 Sustainability and Environment Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

2023 RESOLUTIONS

CATEGORY C – OTHER ISSUES OF POTENTIAL INTEREST TO ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES

C1: Sustainable Community Hospice Funding Model

Moved by: Town of Rocky Mountain House

Seconded by: Town of Penhold

WHEREAS the demographics in Alberta are shifting, it is projected that over the next 25 years, the share of the population 80 years and older will increase significantly, more than doubling to as much as 7 per cent of the total Albertan population;¹

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta has communicated, “adopting the palliative approach to care when life-limiting diseases are diagnosed is an effective way of managing health care spending. It reduces the cost of delivering care, frees up acute care capacity and improves quality of life for patients with life-limiting illness and their families;”²

WHEREAS there is an increasing demand on community providers, such as non-profit hospice societies, to deliver palliative end-of-life care (PEOLC) in Alberta;

WHEREAS the ability to meet the Alberta Health Services’ accepted standard for PEOLC bed capacity is severely limited by the lack of a province-wide, sustainable funding model;

WHEREAS Alberta Health Services’ Rural Palliative Care In-Home Funding Program can only be used to cover end-of-life care received at home and cannot be utilized to cover end-of-life care provided by hospice societies in their facilities; and

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta’s Palliative End-of-Life Care Grant Fund was one-time grant funding that was not eligible for operational costs for hospice societies.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to implement a sustainable operational funding model for the provision of hospice services by community hospice societies across the province.

BACKGROUND:

There has been ongoing engagement from the Government of Alberta regarding Palliative End-of-Life Care, highlighting the importance of these supports and services to Albertans. The need to develop the capacity of these community services, especially in rural settings, is clear; the following provincial frameworks and reports are all consistent in that message:

- Government of Alberta – Advancing palliative and end-of-life care in Alberta – Palliative and End-of-Life Care Engagement Final Report November 2021
- Alberta Health Services – Palliative and End of Life Care – Alberta Provincial Framework Addendum 2021
- Alberta Health Services - Palliative and End of Life Care - Alberta Provincial Framework 2014

What remains is the question of continual operational funding for PEOLC hospice community providers.

The Government of Alberta identified the service gaps that exist for PEOLC needs in Alberta in the Advancing Palliative and End-of-Life Care in Alberta Final Report November 2021. The report included the following recommendation:

¹ <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/90a09f08-c52c-43bd-b48a-fda5187273b9/resource/bb7c6ef6-ade5-4def-ae55-ef1fd5d4e563/download/2020-2046-alberta-population-projections.pdf>

² <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/130eb68f-c7b5-4ab1-8a4a-ce6181c34610/resource/69c4fd85-8206-4d63-b43f-94d447c55c31/download/health-advancing-palliative-end-of-life-care-in-alberta.pdf>

“Government, AHS, and their partners, should grow and expand community-based PEOLC services via home and community care programs and facility-based continuing care... Stand-alone hospices face challenges in maintaining sustainable operational budgets and workforce.”

The Government of Alberta committed \$20 million over four years to improve PEOLC by shifting from hospital to community-based care; raising awareness of how and when to access PEOLC; developing effective caregiver supports; and establishing education, training and standards for health professionals.³ The funds were entirely allocated as of 2022 and were not eligible for hospice societies' operational expenses.

Non-profit hospice societies who are already operating in communities and working towards expanding these important services in Alberta have been left in budget purgatory. They are actively working towards a priority identified by the Government of Alberta, but reliant on fundraising for operational funding.

Correcting the disparity between the funding available to patients who choose to receive PEOLC in-home versus in a hospice suite is an immediate solution that could address these challenges while the economic analysis of reallocating health care financial resources in accordance with the shift from hospital to community-based hospice care is completed.

Municipalities must advocate for the allocation of financial resources to these valuable supports and services provided in their communities.

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 Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

³ <https://rmalberta.com/resolutions/20-19f-policies-for-supporting-community-hospice-associations/>

C2: Review of Vehicle Collision Reporting Damage Threshold

Moved by: City of Airdrie

Seconded by: City of St. Albert

WHEREAS the Alberta Government has mandated that all collisions with combined damage over \$2000 must be reported and that all autobody shops are required by the Alberta Government to have a damage sticker that can only be issued by a police force in order to repair the vehicle;

WHEREAS motor vehicle collisions are among the top ten calls for service to municipal police departments and the work involved in managing these collisions is extensive;

WHEREAS the cost to repair a vehicle has increased, especially newer vehicles which have complex technology and require more parts to repair; and

WHEREAS the majority of collisions occurring in the province are property damage only and most will require a damage sticker.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to engage stakeholders and review the \$2,000 collision reporting damage threshold to reflect current repair costs, while reducing red tape and administrative work for municipal police departments.

BACKGROUND:

According to Alberta Traffic Collision Statistics, out of the 95,001 collisions that occurred in our province in 2020, over 90 per cent were categorized as property damage only (PDO).¹ Due to a provincial requirement in sections 146 and 147 of the Operator Licensing and Vehicle Control Regulation under the *Traffic Safety Act*, if the combined damage to all vehicles and any property involved is over \$2,000, a collision report must be filed with police. A damage sticker will be issued which allows for repairs to be completed. With the increasingly high cost for vehicle repairs, nearly all PDO collisions will require reporting, using significant police officer and support staff resources.

A report released in March 2023 by the Insurance Bureau of Canada (IBC), outlined that due to inflation, the price of vehicle and automotive parts had increased by 13 per cent in the last two years. Cost pressures are further magnified by increases in the price and availability of labour to undertake repair work. While the cost of replacement parts for older vehicles has increased making them more expensive to repair, newer vehicles have complex technology and require more parts to repair. The cost to repair vehicles on the road today has increased dramatically over the last few years. The IBC report compares the cost to repair a Toyota RAV4 bumper on models from 2017 and 2022. The number of parts required and total cost more than doubled.²

A Collision Cost Study Update prepared for the Edmonton Capital Region Intersection Safety Partnership (CRISP) in 2018 offered estimates on the average cost of damage to vehicles in the Capital Region during the time of the study. The report concluded that the average cost of vehicle repairs in a PDO collision was \$9,130.³

At the RCMP detachment in the City of Airdrie, almost every collision results in the requirement to be reported to obtain a damage sticker. In 2022, 3,030 collisions were reported to the Airdrie RCMP detachment.

The demand for RCMP officers and support staff is significant. Officer time to review damage and issue a damage sticker so that repairs can be completed, along with support staff follow-up to photocopy statements, prepare

¹ <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/25020446-adfb-4b57-9aaa-751d13dab72d/resource/07d4f0b8-d2e3-42ab-9eae-3d01b8291e04/download/tran-alberta-traffic-collision-statistics-2020.pdf>

² <https://www.albertaautoinsurancefacts.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Alberta-Auto-Reform-Report-March-2023.pdf>

³ https://drivetolive.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/CollisionCostStudyUpdate_FinalReport.pdf

requests from law offices for collision details, assist the driver with paperwork, enter the data into two databases and manage any errors of submissions, takes a great deal of time and resources.

The amount of administrative work surrounding this reporting has led cities such as Grande Prairie, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat to direct reporting of PDO collisions and the issuing of damage stickers to a third-party collision reporting centre. A 2022 collision reporting centre pilot project in Edmonton was offered at no additional cost to police or the public. Whether reporting to a public or private entity, the \$2,000 damage threshold remains for all PDO collisions.

Other provinces have different reporting structures. For example, in Saskatchewan, British Columbia and Manitoba, only collisions involving injury, death, criminal offence, towing or an out of province vehicle, require reporting to the police. BC also requires a police report if a vehicle has sustained more than \$10,000 in damage. All of these provinces operate under a provincial insurance model.

The Province of Ontario, similar to Alberta, has legislation that requires collisions resulting in property damage of \$2,000 or more be reported immediately to an authorized peace officer.

Alberta's collision damage threshold increased from \$1,000 to \$2,000 on January 1, 2011. Prior to the change, the threshold had not changed in almost 20 years.⁴

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

Alberta Municipalities 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 Infrastructure Committee.

⁴ <https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=29699F51C2115-C0C6-C2B5-3131AFOA489B467C>

C3: E-Scooters and Modernizing the Alberta Traffic Safety Act for Personal Use

Moved by: The City of Calgary

Seconded by: The City of Edmonton

WHEREAS e-Scooters are now readily available for sale on the private market;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta's *Traffic Safety Act* does not currently provide a legal framework for personal use of e-scooters beyond private property;

WHEREAS without a legal framework personal choice and freedom of mobility to meet needs and lifestyles is limited;

WHEREAS in Alberta a municipality cannot create bylaws to regulate the use of personal e-Scooters;

WHEREAS the Cities of Calgary and Edmonton have had to obtain special Alberta Transportation ministerial permissions to be allowed to authorize and regulate the use of rental e-Scooters under a pilot project;

WHEREAS if this process was replicated for dozens, or hundreds, of municipalities it would create needless red tape for both municipalities and Alberta Transportation and still not address the issue of e-Scooters for personal use; and

WHEREAS all Albertans should be able to legally use micromobility options that help connect travelers to local destinations.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to amend the Traffic Safety Act to accommodate the daily use of e-Scooters Alberta wide, for rental and personal use.

BACKGROUND:

What is micromobility?

Micromobility refers to a range of small, lightweight vehicles operating at speeds typically below 25 km/h (15 mph) and driven by users personally. Micromobility devices include bicycles, electric bicycles (e-Bikes), electric scooters (e-Scooters), electric skateboards, shared bicycle fleets, and electric pedal assisted (pedelec) bicycles. Shared e-Scooters are a great way for a resident or visitor to travel throughout a community. Since 2019, many Alberta municipalities have issued permits to companies, with the approval of the Government of Alberta through Alberta Transportation and Trade Corridors (Alberta Transportation), to provide rental access to new, safe, and sustainable methods of transportation. Users can ride a shared e-Scooter municipality-wide on bicycle lanes, pathways, empty sidewalks and roadways with lower speed limits and lower traffic volumes. E-Scooters are not permitted on busier roadways, like Macleod Trail or Gateway Boulevard. Information on the types of vehicles allowed on pathways can be found on the following site - <https://www.calgary.ca/roads/safety/bike-laws.html>

ALLOWED VEHICLES	
Bicycles – manual and electric assisted 	Skateboards – manual and electric assisted 
Scooters – manual and electric assisted 	Inline skates or Rollerblades 
Segway 	Electric Unicycle 
Hoverboards 	Mobility Devices – Wheelchairs and Scooters 

PROHIBITED VEHICLES (with examples)	
All electric motorcycles	Juiced Scrambler 
	CSC City Slicker 
	Vespa Style Scooter or genZe Scooter 
Any gas-powered vehicle	Gas Assisted Bicycles and Scooters 

Despite the type of vehicle being used, ALL users must obey a maximum speed of 20km/hr, or posted speed limit.

Benefits of shared micromobility programs

Data from other North American cities have demonstrated a wide range of benefits of shared micromobility programs including:

- Filling in the gap for the vital first/last mile by encouraging people to walk, cycle and take public transit more often.
- Saving time on short trips.
- Providing access to various transportation options for all demographics.
- Improving people's physical health by providing transportation options that encourage citizens to be more physically active.

Personal e-Scooter use not allowed in Alberta

Currently, personal e-Scooters are not allowed to operate on public sidewalks or roadways as they do not have provincial approval to operate beyond private property. For a private citizen to operate their own e-Scooter legally on a municipal roadway or sidewalk, they would also require a provincial exemption. No municipality has the authority to issue a vehicle exemption for public roadways. For personal e-Scooters, the devices do not have the same level of device regulation as shared e-Scooters, and many can travel at speeds over 50 km/h. Municipalities also do not have the authority to regulate what is sold online or in stores. If the Government of Alberta were to allow for personal e-Scooters on roadways, the City of Calgary would currently recommend that personal e-Scooters be treated the same as bicycles and travel on roadways, bike lanes and pathways.

Personal e-Scooters are a growing regulatory gap that the Government of Alberta needs to address and allow for it.

Shared E-Scooter Operations and Restrictions

Shared e-Scooters have a number of restrictions on them to receive an exemption from the Government of Alberta including restrictions of top speed (maximum of 20 km/hour), insurance requirements (which in the case of Calgary is \$10 million in Corporate General Liability Insurance), reporting requirements and geofenced areas that the

devices slow down and/or cannot operate in. Currently, shared e-Scooters are allowed to operate on roads without lane markings (lower volume roadways), bike lanes, pathways, and sidewalks (as long as they do not interfere with pedestrians).

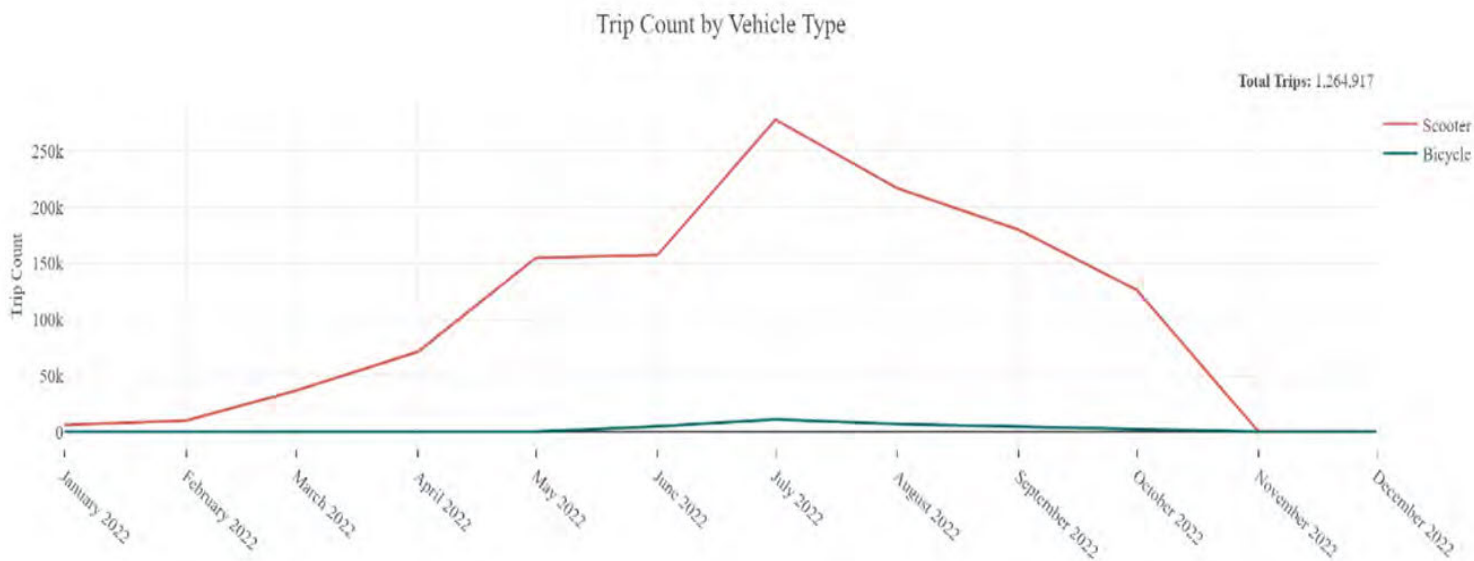
E-Scooter and Micro-mobility in Alberta

Alberta's municipalities currently do not have the authority to create their own bylaws that allow for and regulate the operations of e-Scooters on sidewalks or roadways within our communities. The Government of Alberta through Alberta Transportation and the *Traffic Safety Act* has jurisdiction over what types of vehicles are allowed on roadways, cycle tracks and sidewalks within a municipality. Under the current provincial law, motorized scooters (both electric and gas powered) are considered prohibited miniature vehicles. Alberta Transportation can authorize exemptions and allow their use under the *Traffic Safety Act*, and it is this legislated procedure municipalities that wish to undertake an e-Scooter pilot program must comply with.

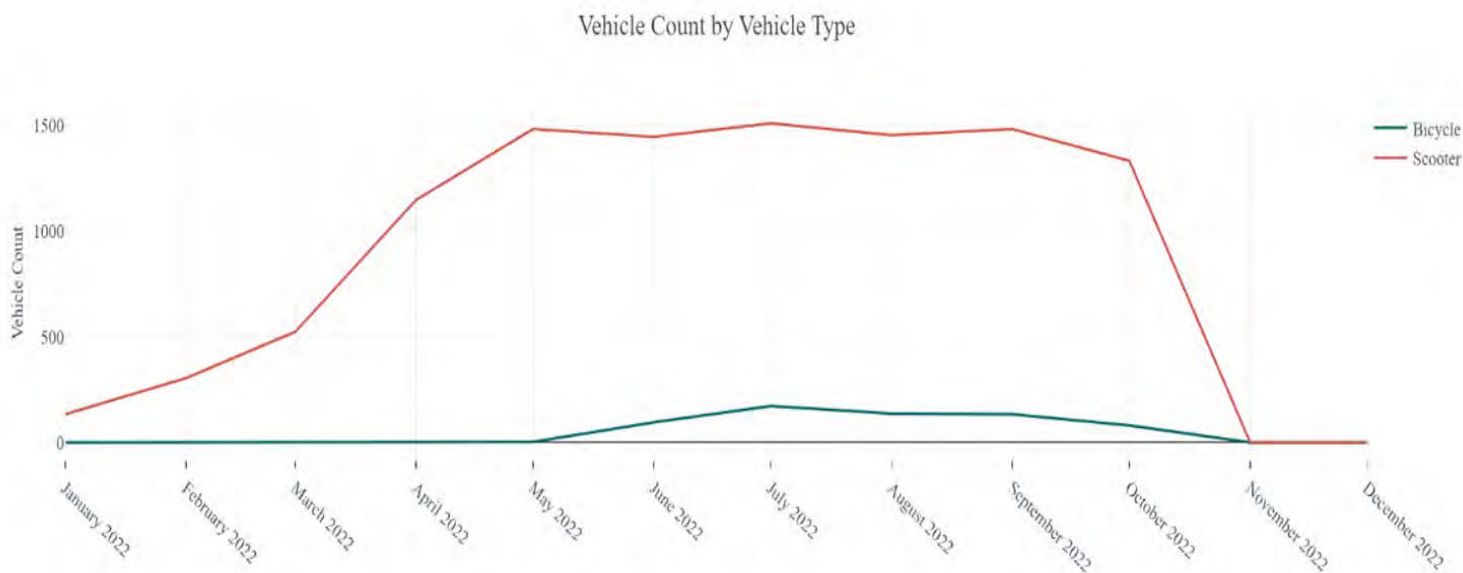
In 2018, the City of Calgary and the City of Edmonton received permission and permits from the Government of Alberta to be able to conduct pilot projects in 2019 (and subsequently 2021, 2022 and 2023) that allowed e-Scooter and e-Bike companies to operate within these municipalities, such as Bird, Spin and Lime, in Edmonton and Neuron and Bird in Calgary. Once permission was granted by Alberta Transportation, municipal administrations were able to author bylaws that further regulated the approved shared e-Scooters. For example, the City of Calgary updated its Traffic, Streets, Stephen Avenue and Parks and Pathways Bylaws through the course of their shared e-Scooter and e-Bike pilot and the City of Edmonton updated their Traffic Bylaw, including specifically prohibiting e-scooters riding on sidewalks, through the course of their pilot.

The Calgary and Edmonton 2019 e-Scooter pilots were successful and subsequently in 2021, 2022 and in 2023 more of Alberta's municipalities applied to Alberta Transportation for their own e-Scooter pilots. In 2023, authorized e-Scooter pilot projects are in effect in the cities of Calgary, Edmonton, Red Deer, Lethbridge, Airdrie, Medicine Hat, St. Albert, Leduc and in the towns of Okotoks, Cochrane, Lacombe, and Blackfalds, among others. With Alberta having 344 municipalities, municipal e-Scooter and e-Bike pilot programs becoming more common province-wide, and successful e-Scooter pilot programs transitioning to permanent programs, Alberta Transportation should reduce the burden of red tape on itself and municipalities by formalizing shared e-Scooter use and personal e-Scooter use within the *Traffic Safety Act* and permitting municipalities to draft their own bylaws to regulate the use and operations of e-Scooter within their municipality.

City of Calgary 2022 Micromobility Trip data.



City of Calgary 2022 Micromobility Operators fleet numbers.



ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

Alberta Municipalities 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 Infrastructure Committee.

C4: Use of Golf Carts on Designated Municipal Roads

Moved by: Summer Village of Half Moon Bay

Seconded by: Village of Delburne

WHEREAS a number of ABmunis members, primarily from smaller communities, have expressed support for the use of golf carts on certain designated municipal roads as an ability-inclusive, cost-effective, safe, environmentally-aware transportation alternative that enhances community connectivity;

WHEREAS as the result of a Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) member resolution, the Saskatchewan Traffic Safety Act has been updated to allow people to drive golf carts on certain municipal roads. As of May 2023, Saskatchewan municipalities have the ability to allow golf carts to be used on public roads if their municipality passes a bylaw, subject to certain limitations and Saskatchewan Government Insurance (the “Administrator”) approval;

WHEREAS British Columbia and Ontario have implemented pilot projects to determine how to best integrate the safe use of golf cart in municipalities. The municipalities involved in the pilot projects must pass a by-law to permit golf cart use and may set out specific requirements, including additional safety requirements, based on what is best for their communities;

WHEREAS the operation of golf carts on Alberta municipal roads would be governed by changes to the Traffic Safety Act of Alberta and should be enabled through a municipality specific bylaw. Off Highway Vehicles already enjoy this type of flexibility through the Alberta Traffic Safety Act 120(4)(b) where the council of a municipality may, by bylaw, authorize or issue a permit authorizing persons to drive off-highway vehicles along certain roads that are under their direct control and management; and

WHEREAS the use of micro-mobility battery-powered scooters on roads is a good example of where municipality specific bylaws have been successfully created in coordination with amendments to Alberta provincial regulations to allow for the safe use electric scooters.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to make changes to the Alberta Traffic Safety Act and regulations plus the Use Of Highway And Rules Of The Road Regulation that would allow Municipalities, if they so desire, to approve the use of golf carts on certain approved roads and public lands within their municipality.

BACKGROUND:

The requested action should have a high priority. Many jurisdictions across Canada already see the benefit of having an ability-inclusive, cost-effective, safe, environmentally-aware transportation alternative that enhances community connectivity and golf carts can provide this. Properly positioned, these changes could also form part of a bigger strategy on aging population, mobility, and declining rural populations.

Currently, golf carts are classified as a prohibited miniature vehicle, which also includes personal transporter, pocket bikes, go carts, electric scooters and golf carts. These vehicles are motor vehicles as defined in the Traffic Safety Act; however, they also meet the definition of “miniature vehicles” which are prohibited from use on roads. With the rise of a micro-mobility revolution to deliver low- carbon, cost- effective, ability-inclusive means for alternative transportation, changes are required to the prohibited miniature vehicle classification. Golf Carts and electric scooters should be removed from this classification and provided with rules and regulations that would allow for their safe operation on municipal roads.

Saskatchewan

As of May 2023, Saskatchewan municipalities now have the ability to allow golf carts to be used on public roads for more than just getting to and from the course. SGI has updated a policy that will allow people to drive golf carts on certain municipal roads, if their municipality passes a by-law, subject to certain limitations and SGI approval. This change in regulations is the result of a member resolution at their recent annual convention of the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA). The resolution called for change, stating, "many SUMA members, primarily from smaller communities and resort villages, have expressed support for ability-inclusive, cost-effective, safe, environmentally-aware transportation alternatives that enhance community connectivity and reduce parking congestion in public gathering spaces."

In response to that resolution, the Saskatchewan Government stated that, "Our government has listened to our municipal stakeholders and asked SGI to make these common-sense changes that balance safety considerations with meeting the needs of our communities," Minister Responsible for SGI Don Morgan said.

"Expanding the use of golf carts within our resort village will allow golf carts to operate as vehicles on municipal roadways subject to numerous safety requirements," Resort Village of Shields Mayor Angie Larson said. "This will improve the quality of life for our community."

British Columbia

A new pilot project will now allow golf carts to operate on certain local roads in Chase and in Qualicum Beach, providing drivers with more transportation options, Premier Christy Clark announced today.

"This change makes it easier for people, particularly seniors, to stay engaged in their community and access the services that make their lives better," said Premier Clark. "By allowing these lower emission vehicles on local streets, we are connecting British Columbians with their families and friends and improving not only their health but the quality of their lives."

"This innovative pilot project will provide British Columbians with more transportation choices," said MLA for Parksville-Qualicum Michelle Stillwell. "Qualicum Beach is a great location to trial the program, keeping people, especially seniors connected with their family, friends and community."

"We have heard from residents that they would like additional options to use alternative and environmentally friendly vehicles," said Qualicum Beach Mayor Teunis Westbroek. "Golf carts will give our town more ways to get around and we are thrilled to be part of this pilot project as I believe it is appropriate in our community."

The golf carts will need to meet detailed operating conditions and vehicle specifications such as only driving on municipal roads with a maximum speed of 30 km/h during daylight hours. The golf cart must be registered and insured and be equipped with seat belts, a horn, lights, signals, and a rear-view mirror. Drivers will need to have a valid driver's license.

Ontario

Ontario has created a ten-year pilot framework for permitting the use of golf carts on-road; referred to as 'golf cars' in regulations. On June 3, 2020, the Ontario Ministry of Transportation introduced this new pilot project in order to examine golf cart's ability to safely integrate with other vehicle types and determine whether existing rules of the road are adequate. The pilot project operates under Ontario Regulation 407/21 Pilot Project – Golf Cars sets out the broad regulatory framework to allow golf cars on roads on Pelee Island and in Huron-Kinloss and includes operator and vehicle requirements.

The province established the broad regulatory framework for golf carts that include a number of vehicle and operating requirements that must be met. The municipalities involved in the pilot project must pass a by-law to permit golf cart use and may set out specific requirements, including additional safety requirements, based on what is best for their communities. Municipalities are in the best position to determine the needs of their communities.

Electric Scooters

Micro-mobility companies Lime, Neuron and Bird Canada offer rentable, battery-powered scooters after Alberta's provincial regulations were amended to allow for their use. Like other forms of motorized transportation, scooters are subject to laws governing safe usage. But those laws can vary. A great example of how municipalities can decide what is best for them, in Calgary scooter users can ride on sidewalks but not on roads and in Edmonton, it is the opposite: Riders are prohibited from sidewalks but allowed on roads with speed limits of 50 km/h or less. Both cities permit scooters on paved pathways and in bike lanes. It is notable that these rules specifically apply to rented scooters.

Municipalities in Alberta already have some flexibility in determining road safety rules under the Alberta Traffic Safety Act and this flexibility should be extended to the use of golf carts. Example, Alberta Traffic Safety Act 120(5) A [municipal] permit, order or bylaw issued or made under this section may do one or more of the following: (a) prescribe terms and conditions, or either of them, under which an off-highway vehicle may be operated on a highway; (b) prescribe the maximum speed limits, not to exceed the maximum speed limits prescribed for vehicles under this Act, that are applicable to an off-highway vehicle; (c) prescribe the minimum speed limits that are applicable to off-highway vehicles; (d) prescribe routes to be used by off-highway vehicles.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

Alberta Municipalities 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 ABmunis' Board by the Infrastructure Committee. The Small Communities Committee would also be asked for input on the approach to advocating for the requested legislative change.

C5: Access to Mobile Wireless (Cellular) Services

Moved by: Alberta Municipalities Board of Directors

Seconded by: N/A

WHEREAS Albertans rely on mobile wireless (cellular) services to conduct business activities, for personal use, and in emergency situations;

WHEREAS the Telecommunications Act affirms that the Canadian telecommunications policy has an objective “to render reliable and affordable telecommunications services of high quality accessible to Canadians in both urban and rural regions in all regions of Canada”;

WHEREAS the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) made access to mobile wireless voice and internet services part of a nation-wide service objective for telecommunications services in 2016;

WHEREAS the CRTC has a target of 100% of all Canadian households having access to the latest generally deployed mobile wireless technology (currently defined as long-term evolution [LTE]) by December 2026; and

WHEREAS despite CRTC reporting that more than 99% of all Albertans have access to cellular services, many Albertans outside of major urban centres do not have access to reliable cellular network coverage; and

WHEREAS access to landlines and high-speed internet is challenging in rural and remote areas which further increases the importance of reliable mobile wireless (cellular) services;

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities engage the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission to address the lack of reliable cellular network coverage for mobile wireless (cellular) service.

BACKGROUND:

This resolution was adopted at the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) Spring 2023 Conference. Alberta Municipalities Board recognizes that many of our members also experience challenges with access to wireless internet and there is an opportunity for ABmunis and RMA to collaborate in advocating for improved coverage.

There are several telecommunications providers offering mobile wireless voice and internet services. Despite telecommunications providers offering services, there are areas throughout the province that do not have reliable cellular network coverage.

The lack of reliable cellular network coverage is experienced by residents and businesses in remote municipalities that are at a distance from the higher populated urban centers.

Residents and business owners alike have raised concerns about their ability to operate their businesses due to challenges with telecommunications. Today many residents and businesses in rural Alberta are not being serviced by landlines or being refused service. Therefore, reliance on mobile wireless (cellular) services becomes their only option. However, when a business must rely on high spots on the property to receive and send cellular calls it makes it difficult for business owners to operate and grow their business.

Even more importantly, emergency situations require reliable cellular network coverage. Rural and remote areas are at risk of emergency situations becoming critical when there is no access to 911.

The CRTC provides reports on “Major Roads With & Without LTE Services” that support cellular networks. Most major roads in Alberta are identified by the CRTC as having LTE service. However, the data does not accurately reflect the reliability of the service. For example, Highway 18 is marked as having LTE service, however there is a

location between Barrhead and Westlock with no cellular access or a dead spot. The same is true on Highway 33 between areas heading west to Swan Hills and south to Edmonton (marked in yellow on map below).

Source: https://crtc.gc.ca/cartovista/RoadsWithAndWithoutLTE_En/index.html

CRT also reports on “LTE Service Coverage Areas.” The area encompassing the County of Barrhead is shown as fully covered by two facility-based networks, however there are several areas within the County of Barrhead that are three-digit highways and local roads that do not have reliable coverage and experience dead spots. According to the map, the Village of Heisler also does not have LTE service along Highway 855. These dead spots occur from no coverage by service providers, no cellular signal or lack of towers.

Source: https://crtc.gc.ca/cartovista/LTEProviderCountYE2019_EN/index.html

CRTC reports do not reflect the reality on the ground in rural and remote Alberta with respect to mobile wireless (cellular) services. As a result, the lack of attention and investment leaves rural Alberta underserved which limits economic growth from many perspectives and potentially increases risk to life and property by negatively impacting emergency response.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

Alberta Municipalities has no active resolutions directly related to 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 Small Communities Committee. The Infrastructure Committee would also be asked for input on the approach to advocating for the requested policy change. ABmunis would also seek opportunities for joint advocacy with RMA.

C6: Capital Budget Disclosures Negatively Impacting Procurement Processes

Moved by: Town of Okotoks

Seconded by: City of Airdrie

WHEREAS Part 8 of the Municipal Government Act (MGA) outlines the framework local councils and administrations must operate within when managing the finances of a municipality;

WHEREAS municipalities must follow specific requirements regarding budgets, borrowing, investing, corporate planning and financial reporting, and off-site levy requirements, and that same information and deliberations must be provided to the public;

WHEREAS the procurement and tendering process is a regimented and highly competitive process;

WHEREAS the costing and phasing of municipal project details provided as part of municipal budgets negatively impacts the results of open, competitive procurement processes; and

WHEREAS inflation, shortages of skilled trades and supplies have increased the pressures in budgeting and procurement processes.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta for amendments to Part 8 of the *MGA* to provide that detailed phasing and costing of projects are protected information from disclosure in public budget documents and off-site levy bylaw requirements until after those projects have been awarded under the applicable procurement process.

BACKGROUND:

Section 283.1 of the *MGA* states that each municipality must prepare a written plan respecting its anticipated financial operations over a period of at least the next three financial years and respecting its anticipated capital property additions over a period of at least the next five financial years. A municipality may only authorize expenditures that are included in the budget, are for an emergency, are legally required or are otherwise authorized by council.

Municipal operating and capital budgets are one of the most important policy decisions of council. The budget determines the programs and services that the municipality will provide to residents. The inability to keep phasing and design information for municipal projects protected until the procurement process is complete affects all municipalities across the Province. Escalating costs due to inflation, materials, skilled trades, and suppliers has magnified the negative impact of being unable to negotiate or award projects on a level playing field. Companies or firms submitting bids or tenders for municipal procurements have detailed financial information that no other private company or individual would be subject to divulging. To protect taxpayers, this amendment should be prioritized as these financial impacts will increase and be experienced on all local government projects.

Recent tendering results submitted to the Town of Okotoks have highlighted the trend for submissions to exactly match detailed budget documents contained in off-site levy and budget approval documents.

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 related priorities and positions.

C7: Trade Agreement Impacts on Municipal Procurement Processes

Moved by: Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo

Seconded by: Town of Lac La Biche

WHEREAS the New West Partnership Trade Agreement (“NWPTA”) is an accord between the Governments of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba (“Western Provinces”) to create a barrier-free, interprovincial market;

WHEREAS the NWPTA is restrictive as it relates to the procurement process and limits the opportunities or options for local sourcing by municipalities in the western provinces to the posting thresholds, which are less than the posting thresholds in the Canadian Free Trade Agreement (“CFTA”);

WHEREAS that discrepancy in the thresholds creates an advantage for public bodies and contractors outside of the western provinces to be detriment of municipalities and contracts within the western provinces; and

WHEREAS local sourcing could be beneficial for a number of municipalities in Alberta as they would be supporting their own local economy.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the provincial government to abolish the NWPTA, as it would permit greater opportunities for local sourcing.

BACKGROUND:

Municipalities in Alberta would benefit from a shift to procurement processes that allow for local businesses to be given priority. Domestic trade agreements, such as the CFTA and the NWPTA, which are negotiated at the federal and provincial levels of government, do not currently allow for such provisions.

One option for Alberta Municipalities is to lobby on behalf of all its member municipalities with a focus on dissolving one of the domestic trade agreements, being the NWPTA, which applies only to western provinces. While it is true that the NWPTA served a valuable purpose in promoting trade liberalization in the western provinces prior to the introduction of the CFTA in 2017, the NWPTA applies only to the western provinces, whereas the CFTA applies to the federal government and all provinces in Canada. Considering the introduction of the CFTA, a case can be made that the NWPTA continues to exist in a way that disadvantages the western provinces.

For example, the thresholds in the CFTA are tied to inflation and increase over time, while the thresholds in the NWPTA do not. Further, the CFTA has higher thresholds than the NWPTA, meaning the threshold for single-source or sole source procurements is higher for non-western provinces. Under the NWPTA, western provinces are restricted to a threshold of \$75,000 for goods and services and \$200,000 for construction, while other provinces can take advantage of the higher thresholds in the CFTA of \$121,200 for goods and services and \$302,900 for construction. This ultimately allows non-western provinces local preference policies for procurements up to \$121,200 for goods and services and \$302,900 for construction, while western provinces are limited to \$75,000 for goods and services and \$200,000 for construction.

Additionally, while the foundational concepts contained in the CFTA and NWPTA are similar, the agreements do contain some different exceptions for when single-sourcing or sole sourcing is permitted. This results in more opportunities for non-western provinces to engage in single-source or sole-source procurements than there are for western provinces.

When non-western provinces extend more sole sourcing opportunities to their own local contractors, contractors from the western provinces bidding on work in other regions of Canada may have fewer opportunities than are afforded to contractors from these other regions of bidding on work within the western provinces, which are bound by the more restrictive terms of the NWPTA.

As the NWPTA is negotiated at the provincial government level, Alberta Municipalities, which represents numerous Alberta municipalities, is a natural conduit to lobby the provincial government for support in this initiative.

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 ABmunis' Board by the Economic Strategy Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

2023 RESOLUTIONS

CATEGORY E - EMERGENT RESOLUTIONS

About Emergent Resolutions

Criteria

The criteria for an emergent resolution, as set in section 16 the [Resolutions Policy](#), are that it **must**:

- a. Deal with an issue of concern to Alberta municipalities which has arisen after the resolution deadline, or just prior to the resolution deadline, such that Members could not submit it as a resolution in time;
- b. Have a critical aspect that needs to be addressed before the next Convention; and
- c. Comply with the guidelines for resolutions set out in the policy.

Submission

If your municipality is considering an emergent resolution, please contact resolutions@abmunis.ca as soon as possible. ABmunis administration can help your municipality determine if the proposed resolution may meet the criteria and help your municipality work through the submission process. Any proposed emergent resolutions will be reviewed by either Alberta Municipalities Board or Executive Committee, depending on timing, to determine if they meet the criteria and can go forward for consideration at the 2022 Convention.

Seconding

The policy also stipulates that, if the Alberta Municipalities Board or Executive Committee determines the resolution meets the criteria of an emergent resolution, the Board will second the resolution.

Notification

Should Alberta Municipalities receive emergent resolutions, an updated version of this Resolutions Book will be distributed to Members through email and The Weekly newsletter.

More Information

For more information on emergent resolutions, see sections 15 through 22 of the [Resolutions Policy](#) or contact resolutions@abmunis.ca.

E1: Enhancing Amusement Ride Safety

Moved by: Town of Stony Plain

Seconded by: Alberta Municipalities Board of Directors

WHEREAS Alberta municipalities provide safe and healthy community spaces, events, and programs for residents and visitors to gather and celebrate;

WHEREAS Amusement rides offer an exciting and fun feature to many permanent and temporary festivals and events throughout Alberta;

WHEREAS Alberta municipalities seek to mitigate residents' and visitors' exposure to harm and injury associated with the operation of amusement rides in their community;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta administers the *Safety Codes Act*, which includes the development, interpretation, and enforcement of safety standards for amusement rides;

WHEREAS the Alberta Elevating Devices and Amusement Rides Safety Association provides independent oversight to the installation and ongoing safety compliance of elevating devices, amusement rides, and passenger ropeways throughout Alberta; and

WHEREAS recent incidents involving members of the public on amusement rides in Alberta warrant a review of the safety standards and industry compliance.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to conduct a review of the codes and standards that govern amusement rides to ensure members of the public can enjoy the safe operation of these experiences.

BACKGROUND:

The Town of Stony Plain is requesting this emergent resolution be considered as a result of recent incidents that occurred in Stony Plain during a community event. In June 2023, two separate incidents occurred where amusement rides caused injuries to eventgoers, requiring an immediate call for inspection of the amusement rides, and resulting in the cancellation of the midway for the remainder of the event. Following these incidents, other Alberta municipalities with amusement ride providers participating in community celebrations have proactively requested onsite ride inspections to ensure the safety of eventgoers.

Amusement rides in Alberta must operate based on Canadian standards and regulations adopted under the *Alberta Safety Codes Act*. The *Safety Codes Act* outlines that amusement rides are inspected for compliance with the standards and regulations based on the following frequency:

- All amusement rides are reviewed for compliance at least once a year; and
- Portable rides must be inspected at the first set up in Alberta each year.¹

The amusement ride provider involved in the incidents in Stony Plain received their required inspection at their first setup in Alberta for 2023 before hosting the midway in Stony Plain. Based on the incident in June, consideration should be given to conducting further inspections beyond the first setup.

While incidents involving amusement rides in Alberta are rare, the impact can be life-threatening. A 2010 incident at the Calgary Stampede resulted in enhancements to the regulations and oversight of the amusement ride providers².

¹ <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/ddf68cc1-a702-4bc0-b867-f834194dd877/resource/5887fd61-c82a-42c3-a34f-4d764b16fb10/download/ar-2011-001frequencyofcompliance-monitoring.pdf>

² <https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=30120E8777162-CD2D-2AF8-5615FA043A170717>

These recent incidents in Stony Plain warrant a further review of the *Safety Codes Act* standards and consideration of improved oversight, compliance, and enforcement.

The Town of Stony Plain has been in communication with Alberta Elevating Devices and Amusement Rides Safety Association to clarify their role and consider opportunities to mitigate the occurrence of these incidents. Additionally, Alberta Recreation & Parks Association has been contacted by the Town of Stony Plain to request support for this resolution prior to or during their upcoming AGM in the fall of 2023.

Ensuring safe and healthy communities is a cornerstone role for Alberta municipalities. Our direct and strong relationship with the Government of Alberta provides an opportunity to respond to these incidents productively, seek improvements in regulations, strengthen industry partners, and allow for continued positive community events and celebrations.

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 ABmunis' Board by the standing committee within the context of related priorities and positions.



Alberta Municipalities

Strength In Members

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Message from

Dr. Carolyn O'Hara
Chief Medical Laboratory Officer (Interim)

Tammy Hofer
Chief Operating Officer

Lab Integration Begins

Dear community partners,

The [joint agreement](#) between Alberta Health Services (AHS) and DynaLIFE (first announced on August 18, 2023) has closed, officially commencing the integration of DynaLIFE lab services and employees with Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL), today.

APL will now move forward, building on the expertise of both the former DynaLIFE and existing APL teams to stabilize the community lab system and continue to improve services.

Lab services must be accessible to all Albertans, and we look forward to leveraging a shared belief in the transformative power of laboratory medicine to improve health for all Albertans.

Please be assured that no immediate changes to lab services are being made at this time. Your community members can continue to access their lab appointments as scheduled and can book their lab appointments at qme.dynalife.ca or by calling 1-877-702-4486.

Although DynaLIFE operations have now transferred to APL oversight, the integration of staff and systems is expected to be completed by December 18, 2023. All DynaLIFE staff will transition to APL. There will be no job loss. We will continue to work closely with staff and unions to ensure transparency, and seek feedback as we move forward.

We thank all staff for their continued dedication and excellent care provided to Albertans. Albertans deserve to have health informed by world class integrated laboratory diagnostics. We are excited for collaboration as we pursue this vision.

Should you have questions about this integration, or lab services in your community, please don't hesitate to reach out to AHS Community Engagement, or your local Zone leader.

Thank you,

Tammy & Carolyn



**ALBERTA PRECISION
LABORATORIES**

Leaders in Laboratory Medicine

We would like to recognize that our work takes place on historical and contemporary Indigenous lands, including the territories of Treaties 6, 7 & 8, and the homeland of the Métis. We also acknowledge the many Indigenous communities that have been forged in urban centres across Alberta



Request for Decision 618-23 Dangerous and Unsightly Premises Bylaw

RECOMMENDATION

That first reading be given to Bylaw 618-23, being the Dangerous and Unsightly Premises Bylaw.

That second reading be given to Bylaw 618-23, being the Dangerous and Unsightly Premises Bylaw.

That unanimous consent be given to Bylaw 618-23, being the Dangerous and Unsightly Premises Bylaw, for consideration of third reading.

That the third and final reading be given to Bylaw 618-23, being the Dangerous and Unsightly Premises Bylaw.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Municipal Government Act

BACKGROUND

Council had approved Bylaw 612-23, being the Dangerous and Unsightly Premises Bylaw at the April 2023 Regular Council meeting.

Subsequent to this passing, it came to light that the approved bylaw did not include an exemption for transitional agriculture properties, which limited the ability for land owners to grow and provide feed for livestock allowed for in transitional agriculture land districts.

RISKS/CONSEQUENCES

1. Council may provide further direction. Council shall be specific in the direction it provides.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Dangerous and Unsightly Premises Bylaw 618-23

VILLAGE OF WARNER
BYLAW NO. 642-23618-23

A BYLAW OF THE VILLAGE OF WARNER IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA TO REGULATE DANGEROUS AND UNSIGHTLY PROPERTY.

WHEREAS the Municipal Government Act RSA 2000, c M-26 and regulations as amended, provides that Council may pass bylaws for municipal purposes respecting the safety, health and welfare of people; the protection of people and property; nuisances, including unsightly property; services provided by or on behalf of the municipality; public utilities and the enforcement of bylaws;

AND WHEREAS no Owner or Occupant in control of Property, land, premises or building shall permit, suffer, continue or allow to be continued an unsightly condition on that Property, land, premises or building;

AND WHEREAS Section 546 of the Municipal Government Act RSA 2000, c M-26 and regulations as amended, authorizes Council to require the owner of the property that is in an unsightly condition to improve the appearance of the property.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council of the Village of Warner, in the Province of Alberta, hereby enacts as follows:

1. TITLE

1.1. This Bylaw may be referred to as the “Dangerous and Unsightly Property Bylaw”.

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1. In this Bylaw, unless the content otherwise requires:

"Act" means the Municipal Government Act RSA 2000 c-M-26 and regulations made under the Municipal Government Act as amended;

"Council" means the Municipal Council of the Village of Warner;

"Dangerous and Unsightly Property" means property as described in section 3 of this Bylaw.

"Designated Officer" means the Chief Administrative Officer, Bylaw Enforcement Officer, RCMP Officer, Peace Officer, and/or Fire Chief of the Village of Warner or their duly authorized assistants.

"Emergency" means a situation in which there is imminent danger to public safety or of serious harm to property.

"Improvement" means a structure or anything attached or secured to a structure that would be transferred without special mention by a transfer or sale of the structure, including but not limited to a manufactured home or mobile home, or machinery and equipment.

"Occupant" means any person other than the Owner who is in possession of the Property, including, but not restricted to, a lessee, licensee, tenant or agent of the Owner.

"Order" means a document issued by a Designated Officer pursuant to sections 545 or 546 of the *Act*.

"Owner" means in respect of land, the person who is registered under the Land Titles Act as the owner of the fee simple estate in the land, and in respect of property other than land, the person in lawful possession of it.

"Person" means any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company or organization of any kind.

"Property" means a parcel of land; an improvement, or; a parcel of land and the improvements to it.

"Structure" means a building or other thing erected or placed in, on, over or under land, whether or not it is so affixed to the land as to become transferred without special mention by a transfer or sale of the land.

"Unsightly Property" property described in Section 3 of this Bylaw.

"Village" means the Village of Warner, a Municipal Corporation in the Province of Alberta.

"Violation Ticket" means a ticket issued pursuant to Part 2 or Part 3 of the Provincial Offences Procedures Act, RSA 2000, c P-34, as amended or repealed and replaced from time to time, and any Regulations thereto.

3. DANGEROUS AND UNSIGHTLY PROPERTY

- 3.1. Unsightly Property is Property that, in the opinion of the Designated Officer, is detrimental to the surrounding area because of its unsightly condition.
- 3.2. Some factors which may be considered by a Designated Officer in determining whether property is Unsightly Property include the following:
 - 3.2.1. the presence of uncut grass or weeds longer than 20 cm (with the exception of Transitional Agriculture Land Use Districts);
 - 3.2.2. the presence of trees, shrubs or other vegetation in such a manner that they interfere with the use of or obstruct visibility of street signage, sidewalks, roadway clearance, municipal works or public utilities;
 - 3.2.3. the presence of wrecked or dismantled vehicles, including vehicles that are inoperable and unregistered, unless they are enclosed in a structure or in a back yard out of public view. A maximum of 2 inoperable and/or unregistered vehicles may be on the Property;
 - 3.2.4. the storage or accumulation of waste, litter, refuse (including but not limited to building materials, tires, boxes, scrap material), equipment, dilapidated furniture or appliances, machinery, parts or other similar materials or items;
 - 3.2.5. specific or general lack of repair or maintenance including but not limited to:
 - 3.2.5.1. significant deterioration of Improvements or portions of Improvements;
 - 3.2.5.2. broken or missing windows, siding, shingles, shutters, eaves or other building materials; or,
 - 3.2.5.3. significant fading, chipping or peeling of painted areas of improvements;
- 3.3. any property, improvement, structure, excavation or hole, which is Dangerous to public safety or that constitutes a fire hazard because of its Dangerous condition;
- 3.4. the location, zoning, use and visibility of property.

4. GENERAL PROHIBITION

- 4.1. No Person being the Owner of any property or structure within the Village shall permit one's Property or structure to be or remain in a Dangerous or unsightly condition.

5. INSPECTION

- 5.1. A Designated Officer may inspect after giving reasonable written Notice to the Owner or Occupant of the land for the purposes of determining whether:
- 5.1.1. Property is Unsightly Property under this Bylaw because its unsightly condition is detrimental to the surrounding area;
 - 5.1.2. there has been compliance with an Order issued under Section 6 of this Bylaw;
 - 5.1.3. there has been compliance with an Order.
- 5.2. The Village may apply to the Court of ~~Queen's-King's~~ Bench to authorize inspection and enforcement in accordance with Section 543 of the Act if a person refuses to allow or interferes with entry for inspection.

6. ORDER

- 6.1. If, in the opinion of a Designated Officer, Property is detrimental to the surrounding area because of its unsightly condition, the Designated Officer may issue a written Order to the Owner or Occupant of the Property to improve the appearance of the Property in the manner specified within a period of seven (7) days from the date of the issuance of the Order.

7. REMEDY UNSIGHTLY CONDITION OF PROPERTY

- 7.1. If a written Order has been issued and not complied with within the time period set out in that Order, the Village may take whatever actions or measures are necessary to:
- 7.1.1. deal with the unsightly condition of the Property; and,
 - 7.1.2. collect any unpaid costs or expenses incurred by the Village in accordance with the Act.
- 7.2. The costs and expenses of the actions or measures taken by the Village are charged in addition to any penalty imposed under this Bylaw.

8. REVIEW OF ORDERS

- 8.1. A Person who receives an Order may by written notice within seven (7) days after the Order is received, request Council to review the Order.
- 8.2. After reviewing the Order, Council may confirm, vary, substitute or cancel the Order.

9. APPEAL TO COURT

- 9.1. A Person affected by the decision of Council may appeal to the Court of ~~Queen's-King's~~ Bench in accordance with Section 548 of the Act.

10. OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

- 10.1. Any Person who is in non-compliance of this Bylaw is guilty of an offence, and upon summary conviction, shall be liable to the specified penalties set out at Schedule "A" of this Bylaw, as amended by resolution of Council from time to time.
- 10.2. Any Person who contravenes any provision of this Bylaw is guilty of an offence and liable:

- 10.2.1. a Designated Officer is hereby authorized and empowered to issue a Violation Ticket to any Person who the Designated Officer has reasonable and probable grounds to believe has contravened any provision of this Bylaw.

10.3 A Violation Ticket may be issued to such Person:

- 10.3.1. personally; or
- 10.3.2. by mailing a copy to such Person at their last known post office address; or
- 10.3.3. if being issued to a corporation by serving the Violation Ticket personally upon the manager, secretary, receptionist or other officer or Person in charge at any premises of the corporation, or by mailing a copy to such corporation by registered mail.

10.4 The Violation Ticket shall state:

- 10.4.1 the name of the Person;
- 10.4.2 the municipal or legal description of the land on or near where the offence took place;
- 10.4.3 the offence;
- 10.4.4 the penalty for the offence as set out in Schedule A of this Bylaw;
- 10.4.5 that the penalty shall be paid within seven (7) days of the issuance of the Violation Ticket; and
- 10.4.6 any other information as may be required by the Chief Administrative Officer or by the provisions of the Act.

10.5 Where a contravention of this Bylaw is of a continuing nature, further Violation Tickets may be issued by a Designated Officer provided, however, that no more than one Violation Ticket shall be issued for each day that the contravention continues.

10.6 Where the Violation Ticket is issued pursuant to this Bylaw, the Person to whom the Violation Ticket is issued may, in lieu of being prosecuted for the offence, pay to the Village the penalty specified on the Violation Ticket.

10.7. A Violation Ticket issued pursuant to this Bylaw shall be issued in the form and manner specified by Part 2 or Part 3 of the Provincial Offences Procedure Act RSA 2000, c P-34, to any Person who the Designated Officer has reasonable and probable grounds to believe has contravened any provision of this Bylaw.

11. EMERGENCIES

- 11.1. Despite any provisions of this Bylaw, in an emergency the Village may take whatever actions or measures necessary to eliminate the Emergency.

12. RECOVERY OF COSTS

- 12.1. The expenses and costs incurred by the Village to remedy the Dangerous or Unsightly property become the responsibility of the Owner. All unpaid amounts as of December 31st of the year the Order is given shall be placed on the tax roll of the property on which the remedial action was taken.

13. SEVERABILITY

- 13.1. It is the intention of Council that each separate provision of this Bylaw shall be deemed independent of all other provisions herein and it is the further intention of Council that if any provision of this Bylaw is declared invalid, all other provisions hereof shall remain valid and enforceable.

14. REPEAL OF BYLAW

14.1. That Bylaw No. ~~530-11 and amendments thereto are~~612-23 is hereby repealed.

15. EFFECTIVE DATE

15.1. This Bylaw shall take effect at the date of final passing thereof.

Read a first time this XX day of XXXX, 2023.

Read a second time this XX day of XXXX, 2023.

Unanimous consent given for consideration for third reading this XX day of XXXX, 2023.

Read a third and final time this XX day of XXXX, 2023.

Tyler Lindsay
Mayor

Kelly Lloyd
Chief Administrative Officer

SIGNED by the Chief Elected Official and the Chief Administrative Officer this XX day of XXXX, 2023.

SCHEDULE 'A'

BYLAW NO. 618-23

Penalties

Offence

Section 10

First Offence by that Person	\$300.00
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Subsequent Offence by that Person	\$500.00
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Request for Decision 619-23 Dog Bylaw

RECOMMENDATION

That first reading be given to Bylaw 619-23, being the Dog Bylaw.

That second reading be given to Bylaw 619-23, being the Dog Bylaw.

That unanimous consent be given to Bylaw 619-23, being the Dog Bylaw, for consideration of third reading.

That the third and final reading be given to Bylaw 619-23, being the Dog Bylaw.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Municipal Government Act

BACKGROUND

Administration is currently revising all Bylaws that have rates (a fee or penalty) embedded by removing all rates from the bylaw and creating a new all-encompassing Rates Bylaw that would take effect January 1, 2024.

The intent to combine all rates into one Bylaw will allow Council to review all rates annually in the fall prior to budget deliberations.

RISKS/CONSEQUENCES

1. Council may provide further direction. Council shall be specific in the direction it provides.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Dog Bylaw 619-23

**VILLAGE OF WARNER
BYLAW NO. ~~613619~~-23**

**A BYLAW OF THE VILLAGE OF WARNER IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, FOR THE
PURPOSE OF REGULATING AND CONTROLLING DOGS.**

WHEREAS, Sections 7 and 8 of the *Municipal Government Act*, R.S.A. 2000, Chapter M-26, as amended or repealed and replaced from time to time, authorize the Village of Warner Council to pass Bylaws to license and regulate Dogs and activities in relation to them;

AND WHEREAS the Village of Warner Council deems it advisable to adopt such a Bylaw;

NOW THEREFORE the Village of Warner Council, duly assembled, enacts as follows:

1. TITLE

1.1. This Bylaw may be cited as the "Dog Bylaw".

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1. For the purpose of interpreting this Bylaw, the following terms have the following defined meanings:

"Animal" means any Domestic Animal including Dogs;

"Animal Shelter" means the facility or facilities designated by the Village from time to time as a facility for the impoundment and care of Animals subject to this Bylaw;

"Communicable Disease" means any disease or illness which may be transferred from one Animal to another Animal or person through direct or indirect contact;

"Controlled Confinement" means when a Dog is confined in a pen, cage, building or other structure or securely tethered in a manner that will not allow the Dog to physically harm any Person or Animal;

"Council" means the Council of the Village of Warner;

"Designated Officer" means the Chief Administrative Officer, Bylaw Enforcement Officer, RCMP Officer, Peace Officer, and/or Fire Chief of the Village of Warner or their duly authorized assistants.

"Dog" means a member of any domesticated canine species, including male, female, spayed, neutered and intact members;

"Dog Fancier's License" means a license issued by the Village to a person authorizing that person to own more than two (2) dogs in accordance with Section 6 of this Bylaw;

"Domestic Animal" means any animal kept by a Person for domestic purposes or as a household pet including but not limited to Dogs, Cats, rabbits, ferrets, cows, horses, sheep, goats and pigs;

"Guide Dog" means a dog as defined in the Blind Persons Rights Act, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter B-3, specifically, a dog trained as a guide for a blind person and having the qualifications prescribed by the regulations.

"License" means a Dog License issued under this Bylaw in accordance with Section 5 of the Bylaw;

"Motor Vehicle" means a motor vehicle as defined in the *Traffic Safety Act*, R.S.A. 2000, Chapter T-6, as amended or repealed and replaced from time to time;

"Owner" means any Person:

- a. who has the care, charge, custody, Possession or control of the Domestic Animal;
- b. who owns or claims a proprietary interest in the Domestic Animal;
- c. who harbours, suffers, or permits a Domestic Animal to be present on any property owned or under their control, or
- d. who claims and receives a Domestic Animal from the custody of the Animal Shelter or a Designated Officer.

"Notice" means official communication from the Village.

"Park" means a public space owned or controlled by the Village and used by the public for rest, recreation, exercise, pleasure, amusement, or enjoyment and includes the following areas:

- a. Playgrounds,
- b. Cemeteries,
- c. School yards,
- d. Sports fields, and
- e. Golf courses.

"Person" means any individual or corporate body;

"Possession" means a Person who:

- a. has physical or effective control of a Dog; or
- b. has transferred physical or effective control of a Dog to another person for the purpose of allowing that person to exercise control over that Dog for a limited period of time;

"Property Owner" means a Person having a legal or equitable interest in any land, building or structure within the Village, including any resident, tenant or occupier of such land or building;

"Public Nuisance" includes the following activities:

- a. biting a Person or Animal,
- b. Running At Large,
- c. chasing any Person, Animal, Motor Vehicle or bicycle,
- d. barking, howling or otherwise disturbing any Person,
- e. causing damage to property,
- f. upsetting waste receptacles or scattering the contents thereof,
- g. leaving a Dog unattended in or on a Motor Vehicle in a manner in which the Dog has access to Persons or Animals located outside the Motor Vehicle, or
- h. being left unattended, whether tied up or otherwise, in any area where the public has access.

"Public Property" means property owned by or under the control and management of the Village and contained within the boundaries of the Village;

"Registered Veterinarian" means a registered Veterinarian as defined in the *Veterinary Profession Act*, R.S.A. 2000, Chapter V-2;

"Restraining Device" means any leash or other restraining system capable of allowing the Owner to maintain adequate control of the attached Dog and preventing the Dog from chasing or biting Animals or Persons, or if located on the property of the Owner, capable of retaining the Dog within the boundaries of the Owner's property;

"Running At Large" means a Dog that is off the premises of the Owner's property without being on a Restraining Device, confined or otherwise under immediate, effective and continuous control of a competent and responsible Person;

"Secure Enclosure" means a building, cage, fenced area or other enclosure for the retaining of a Dog and which prohibits the Dog from jumping, climbing, digging or using any other means to exit the enclosure, and which is capable of prohibiting the entry of young children into the enclosure, and which conforms with the following minimum requirements:

- a. The Secure Enclosure shall have secure sides and a secure top. If the Secure Enclosure has no bottom secured to the sides, the sides of the Secure Enclosure must be embedded in the ground to a minimum depth of one (1) foot;
- b. The Secure Enclosure must provide the Dog with adequate shelter from the elements including heat, cold, sun, rain, and wind;
- c. The Secure Enclosure must be not less than 1.5 metres wide by 3.0 metres long and a minimum of 1.5 metres in height; and
- d. The Secure Enclosure must be located not less than 1.0 metre away from the property line and not less than 5 metres away from a dwelling unit of any adjacent property;

"Serious Wound" means an injury resulting from a Dog which causes a breaking of the skin or the flesh to be torn;

"Service Dog" has the meaning as defined in the Service Dogs Act, SA 2007, C.S 7.5, specifically a dog trained as a guide for a disabled person and having the qualifications prescribed the regulations.

"Tag" means a tag issued by the Village office showing that the Dog License has been paid for the dog wearing the Tag for the year that the Tag was issued;

"Village" means the Village of Warner and its jurisdictional boundaries;

"Vicious Dog" means:

- a. any Dog which has, without provocation, chased, attacked, or bitten an Animal or Person;
- b. any Dog which has, without provocation, inflicted a Serious Wound upon an Animal or Person, but shall not include an Dog that has inflicted a Serious Wound upon a trespasser on the property of the Dog's Owner or any property controlled by the Dog's Owner; or
- c. a Dog which has been the subject of an order or direction of a Justice, pursuant to the *Dangerous Dogs Act*, R.S.A. 2000, Chapter D-3, as amended or repealed and replaced from time to time;

"Vicious Dog License" means a license issued with respect to a Vicious Dog under this Bylaw;

"Violation Ticket" means a ticket issued pursuant to Part 2 of the Provincial Offences Procedure Act, R.S.A. 2000, Chapter P-34, as amended, or repealed and replaced from time to time, and any Regulations thereunder.

3. OFFENCES

- 3.1. No Person shall own or keep any Dog over the age of six (6) months within the Village unless the Dog is licensed in accordance with this Bylaw.
- 3.2. No Person shall:
 - 3.2.1. No Person shall tease, torment, or provoke a Dog.
 - 3.2.2. No Person shall trap or bait a Dog.
 - 3.2.3. Untie a Dog which has been tied, or
 - 3.2.4. Open a gate, door or other opening in a fence or enclosure in which a Dog is confined, thereby permitting the Dog to be Running At Large.
- 3.7 An Owner is guilty of an offence under this Bylaw if their Dog:
 - 3.7.1 Barks, howls or otherwise makes such noise as to disturb the quiet or repose of any individual;
 - 3.7.2 Bites, attacks or threatens any individual or Domestic Animal;
 - 3.7.3 Chases a Motor Vehicle, bicycle, or an individual walking or running;
 - 3.7.4 Chases, kills, attacks, injures, or otherwise harasses other Domestic Animals;
 - 3.7.5 Causes damage to Public Property or private property within the Village;
 - 3.7.6 Is Running at Large; or
 - 3.7.7 Otherwise constitutes a Public Nuisance.
- 3.8 Where a Dog has defecated on any private property or Public Property within the Village other than the property of the Dog's Owner, the Owner shall be required to remove such defecation immediately, and failure to do so constitutes an offence under this Bylaw.
- 3.9 No Person shall allow an unreasonable amount of Dog feces, as determined by the Designated Officer in their sole discretion, to accumulate on property which that Person owns or occupies.
- 3.10 Any Person who interferes with, prohibits, or otherwise impedes a Designated Officer in the performance of the Officer's duties under this Bylaw including but not limited to, is guilty of an offence under this Bylaw.
 - 3.10.1 Inducing a Dog into a building or other place where it may escape from being seized, or otherwise assist the Dog from being seized by a Designated Officer;
 - 3.10.2 Falsely represent themselves as being in charge or control of a Dog for the purposes of establishing that the Dog is not Running at Large; or
 - 3.10.3 Removing or attempting to remove any Dog from the Possession of the Designated Officer or any of their designates.
- 3.11 An Owner of a Dog that is suffering from a Communicable Disease:
 - 3.11.1 shall not permit the Dog to be in any public place,
 - 3.11.2 shall not permit the Dog to have contact with or be in proximity to any other Animal which is free of such Communicable Disease,
 - 3.11.3 shall keep the Dog in a Secure Enclosure,
 - 3.11.4 shall immediately report the matter to a Registered Veterinarian, and
 - 3.11.5 shall adhere to the directions of the Registered Veterinarian.
- 3.12 An Owner of a Dog who is in season must keep the Dog confined and controlled in such a manner throughout the Dog's season such that the Dog does not escape the

Owner's property or otherwise present an attraction to other Dogs which are located off of the Owner's property.

- 3.13 No Owner shall permit their Dog to enter or remain in a Park at any time unless the area is designated by the Village as being an area where Dogs are permitted.

4. VIOIOUS DOGS

- 4.1. No Person shall own, nor have, the physical care, Possession or control of a Vicious Dog within the Village unless that Person is not less than 18 years of age and is physically and mentally capable of maintaining control of the Dog.
- 4.2. An Owner of a Vicious Dog shall:
- 4.2.1. Notify the Village that they own a Vicious Dog,
 - 4.2.2. Ensure that the Dog remains, at all times while on the property of the Owner, confined to a Secure Enclosure,
 - 4.2.3. Ensure that at any time that the Dog is not on the property of the Owner, the Dog is secured by a Restraining Device which does not exceed 1.0 metre in length and which is sufficient to control the Dog, and the Dog is under the physical control of the Owner or person in possession of the Dog with the Owner's consent,
 - 4.2.4. Ensure that any time that the Dog is not on the property of the Owner, that the Dog is wearing a properly fitted muzzle that permits adequate ventilation for the Dog while remaining securely fastened on the Dog,
 - 4.2.5. Ensure that at no time while the Dog is in a Motor Vehicle, the Dog has access to Persons or Domestic Animals which are outside the Motor Vehicle, while ensuring that, at all times, the Dog has adequate ventilation and temperature control within the Motor Vehicle,
 - 4.2.6. Ensure that at no time is the Dog transported unsecured in a Motor Vehicle or transported outside of the cab of a Motor Vehicle unless the Dog is being transported in accordance with Section 6.1 of this Bylaw,
 - 4.2.7. Provide to the Village proof that a policy of liability insurance is in force and provides third party liability coverage in a form satisfactory to the Village and in a minimum coverage amount of \$500,000.00 for any injuries which may be caused by the Dog,
 - 4.2.8. Ensures that the insurance policy contains a provision requiring the insurer to immediately notify the Village in writing in the event that the policy expires, is cancelled or is terminated, and
 - 4.2.9. Prominently displays, at the front and rear entrances to the Owner's property, a sign stating "Beware of Dog".
- 4.3 If an Owner has any reason to believe that their Dog may be a Vicious Dog, they shall keep the Dog in accordance with the provisions of this Section unless and until the Village's Designated Officer has determined that the Dog is not a Vicious Dog and has so advised the Owner in writing.
- 4.4 If the Village's Designated Officer has reasonable grounds to believe that a Dog is a Vicious Dog, either through personal observation or after an investigation initiated by a complaint about the Dog, the Designated Officer may, in writing:
- 4.4.1 Notify the Owner that the Dog is deemed to be a Vicious Dog, and
 - 4.4.2 Require the Owner to comply with all provisions of this Bylaw with respect to Vicious Dogs immediately.

- 4.5 A Notice under Section 4.4 shall include a summary of the applicable Bylaw provisions governing Vicious Animals.
- 4.6 Notice given under Section 4.4 will be deemed served upon actual personal service of the Notice upon the Owner or after five (5) days from mailing via registered mail to the Owner's address as it appears on the Village's tax roll.
- 4.7 A Person who has been served with a Notice in accordance with Section 4.4 may appeal the Notice to the Council by filing a written notice of appeal with the CAO within seven (7) days of being served with the Notice under Section 4.4. The appeal will be heard by Council within 30 days of receiving the notice of appeal.
- 4.8 Until such time as Council hears and upholds the appeal, the Dog must be treated in accordance with Vicious Dog provisions under this Bylaw.
- 4.9 The Owner of a Vicious Dog shall apply for a Vicious Dog License under this Bylaw within 7 days of the Dog being declared a Vicious Dog.
- 4.10 Where the Owner of a Vicious Dog is guilty of an offence under this Bylaw, the minimum penalties for Vicious Dogs set out in Schedule "B" shall apply.
- 4.11 Nothing contained within this Bylaw shall prevent the Village from making application to the Court for an Order to destroy a Dog in accordance with the *Dangerous Dogs Act*, R.S.A. 2000, Chapter D-3 as amended, or repealed and replaced from time to time or taking such other steps with respect to the seizure, impoundment, control or destruction of a Dog as may be available to the Village.
- 4.12 The Owner of a Vicious Dog shall immediately advise the Village and Designated Officer if the Vicious Dog is sold, gifted, transferred or dies.

5. LICENSING

- 5.1. The maximum number of Dogs over the age of six (6) months which can be kept in any single-family dwelling or on any lot, parcel or other property in the Village is two (2).
- 5.2. An Owner who resides within the Village and owns a Dog that is over the age of six (6) months shall apply for a License within fifteen (15) days of acquiring ownership of the Dog or taking up residence in the Village as set out within this Section by paying the applicable fee as set out in the Village of Warner's Rates Bylaw Schedule "A" to this Bylaw, and providing:
 - 5.2.1. The name, phone number, and street address of the Owner;
 - 5.2.2. The name and description of the Dog to be licensed including any identifying tattoo or microchip;
 - 5.2.3. The breed or breeds of the Dog to be licensed; and
 - 5.2.4. such other relevant and necessary information as may be required by the CAO in respect of the application;

The Village shall keep a record of the name, address and phone number of each Owner, and the name, description, breed, color and sex of each Licensed Dog, together with the date of registration of the Dog, the number on the Tag and the amount of the fee paid.

- 5.3 A Dog License under this Bylaw must be renewed on an annual basis, by paying the applicable License fee to the Village Office prior to January 31st in each year. Any Person who fails to renew a License within this time limit is guilty of an offence.
- 5.4 An Owner of an unlicensed Dog is guilty of an offence under this Bylaw.
- 5.5 No Person shall give false information when applying for a License, including but not limited to a Vicious Dog License.
- 5.6 Upon payment of the required License fee, and providing the information set out in Section 5.2 herein, the Owner will be supplied with a Tag having a number which will remain registered to that Dog year to year;
- 5.7 Where a Dog under the age of six (6) months is found Running At Large, the Designated Officer may require the Owner of the Dog to purchase a License for the Dog.
- 5.8 The Owner shall ensure that any Dog owned by them is wearing its Tag, which is to be securely fastened on the Dog's collar any time the Dog is off the Owner's property.
- 5.9 Upon losing a Tag, the Owner of the Dog shall present the receipt of payment for the current year's License to the Village and a replacement Tag shall be issued to the Owner for a fee of half the price of the original tag.
- 5.10 An Owner of a Vicious Dog shall obtain a Vicious Dog License on an annual basis and pay the annual fee prescribed for the Vicious Dog License as set out in the Village of Warner's Rates Bylaw-Schedule "A" of this Bylaw.
- 5.11 Upon payment of the required License fee, and providing the information set out in Section 5.10 herein, the Owner will be supplied with a Vicious Dog Tag having a number which will remain registered to that Dog year to year;
- 5.12 The Owner of a Vicious Dog shall ensure that any Vicious Dog owned by them is wearing the Vicious Dog Tag which is to be securely fastened on the Dog's collar any time the Dog is off the Owner's property.
- 5.13 No Owner shall transfer or allow to be transferred any License or Tag from the Dog for which the License or Tag was assigned or purchased, to any other Dog.
- 5.14 No Person shall be entitled to a rebate or refund of a fee paid for the issuance of a License, Tag, Vicious Dog License or Vicious Dog Tag under this Bylaw.

6. DOG FANCIER'S LICENSE

- 6.1. An Owner who is 18 years of age or older, and who owns or rents the Property where the Dogs will be kept may apply to the CAO or their designate for a Dog Fancier's License which will permit up to a maximum of four (4) Dogs to be kept on the Owner's Property.
- 6.2. In order to apply for a Dog Fancier's License, the Owner must complete a Dog Fancier's License application form attached in Schedule "BD" to this Bylaw and submit the

completed application form, together with the applicable application fee, to the CAO or designate.

- 6.3. Within thirty (30) days of receiving a completed Dog Fancier's application, the CAO or designate shall consider the Dog Fancier's application, and may, in its sole and absolute discretion:
 - 6.3.1. Refuse the application for the Dog Fancier's License;
 - 6.3.2. Grant a Dog Fancier's License; or
 - 6.3.3. Grant a Dog Fancier's License upon such terms and conditions as they deem appropriate.
- 6.4. A Dog Fancier's License shall not be transferable to any other Owner, property or Dogs described in the application.
- 6.5. The CAO or designate may revoke a Dog Fancier's License at any time if the Owner of the Dogs is in breach of this Bylaw or any terms and conditions of the Dog Fancier's License.
- 6.6. If the Dog Fancier's License is revoked, no refund of the Dog Fancier's License fee or application shall be made.
- 6.7. The Owner shall pay an Annual Dog Fancier's License fee as established under this Bylaw by January 31 of each year or the Dog Fancier's License will become void and invalid.
- 6.8. The Dog Fancier's License is only applicable to the Dogs listed in the application form and approved by the CAO or designate. If the Owner wants to bring any additional or different Dogs onto the property, the Owner must make a new Dog Fancier's License application with applicable fee.

7. POWERS AND DUTIES OF A DESIGNATED OFFICER

- 7.1. A Designated Officer is an officer of the Village for the purposes of carrying out inspections, investigations and enforcement of this Bylaw and, in addition to any other powers or authority granted under this Bylaw or other enactment, is authorized to:
 - 7.1.1. capture including baiting and trapping if required, and impound in an authorized Animal Shelter any Dog that is Running At Large or any Dog which has bitten a Person;
 - 7.1.2. to take any reasonable measures necessary to subdue any Dog, including the use of tranquilizer equipment and materials;
 - 7.1.3. to enter onto lands surrounding any building in pursuit of a Dog while that Dog is Running At Large; and
 - 7.1.4. if a Dog is in distress, whether or not as a result of enforcement actions taken pursuant to this Bylaw, to take the Dog to a Registered Veterinarian for treatment and, once treated, to transfer the Dog to the Animal Shelter.
- 7.2. All costs and expenses incurred by the Village as a result of veterinary treatment pursuant to Section 7.1 above shall be recoverable from the Owner of the Dog as a lawful debt owed to the Village.
- 7.3. No action shall be taken against any person, including a Designated Officer, acting under the authority of this Bylaw for damages for destruction or other disposal of any Dog.

8. IMPOUNDING DOGS

- 8.1. Dogs impounded in the Animal Shelter shall be kept for a period of at least 72 hours. In the calculation of the 72-hour period, Sundays, Statutory Holidays and days that the Animal Shelter is not open shall not be included.
- 8.2. Where a Dog that has been impounded bears obvious identification tattoos, brands, marks, tags or licenses, the Dog must be kept by the Animal Shelter a minimum of 10 days from the date the Dog was impounded. In the calculation of the 10-day period, Sundays, Statutory Holidays and days that the Animal Shelter is not open shall not be included.
- 8.3. Where the Owner of a Dog has been notified that the Dog has been impounded in accordance with Section 8.4, the Dog must be kept by the Animal Shelter a minimum of 5 days from the date that the Owner received the Notice. In the calculation of the 5-day period, Sundays, Statutory Holidays and days that the Animal Shelter is not open shall not be included.
- 8.4. If the Designated Officer knows or can ascertain the name of the Owner of any impounded Dog, they shall serve the Owner with a copy of the Notice in Schedule "~~AG~~" of this Bylaw, either personally or by leaving it at the Owner's property, or by mailing the Notice to the last known address of the Owner. The Owner to whom a Notice is mailed under this Section is deemed to have received the Notice within seven (7) days from the time that the Notice is delivered or mailed.
- 8.5. During the period established in Sections 8.1, 8.2 and 8.3 above, the Dog may be redeemed by its Owner, except as otherwise provided in this Bylaw, upon payment to the Village or its authorized agent, the Owner shall provide proof of ownership of the Dog at the time of redeeming the Dog.
 - 8.5.1. the impoundment fee as established in the Village of Warner's Rates Bylaw at Schedule "A" of this Bylaw; and
 - 8.5.2. the cost of any veterinary treatment provided in respect of the Dog pursuant to this Bylaw, or the *Animal Protection Act*, R.S.A. 2000, Chapter A-41, as amended, or repealed and replaced from time to time.
- 8.6. At the expiration of the time period established at Sections 8.1, 8.2 and 8.3 above, whichever is applicable, the Council or its designate is authorized to:
 - 8.6.1. Allow the dog to be redeemed by its Owner in accordance with the provisions of Section 8.5; or
 - 8.6.2. offer the Dog for sale or as a gift; or
 - 8.6.3. continue to impound the Dog for an indefinite period of time or for such further period of time as the Designated Officer, in their discretion, may decide; or
 - 8.6.4. destroy the dog in a humane manner.
- 8.7. Proceeds of the sale of a Dog shall be distributed in accordance with the priorities set by Section 7 of the Animal Protection Act, R.S.A. 2000, c. A-41, as amended or repealed and replaced from time to time.
- 8.8. When a Designated Officer exercises their authority under Section 7.1.4 to take a Dog in distress into custody, they shall leave a written Notice at the location from which the Dog

was removed advising of the reason the Dog was taken into possession, the location at which the Dog can be reclaimed, and the process for reclaiming the Dog. The Designated Officer shall also make all reasonable effort to contact the Owner of the Dog, if known, to advise of the removal of the Dog and the process for recovering it.

9. PENALTIES

- 9.1. Any person who contravenes any provision of this Bylaw is guilty of an offence and is liable to a penalty not less than the minimum penalty set out in the Village of Warner's Rates Bylaw Schedule "B" herein.
- 9.2. Notwithstanding Section 9.1 of this Bylaw, any Person who commits a second or subsequent offence under this Bylaw within one (1) year of committing a first offence under this Bylaw, will be liable to not less than double the minimum penalty as set out in the Village of Warner's Rates Bylaw Schedule "B" of this Bylaw.

10. VIOLATION TICKETS

- 10.1. Where a Designated Officer has reasonable grounds to believe that a provision of this Bylaw has been contravened, that Designated Officer is authorized and empowered to issue a Violation Ticket to any person who the Designated Officer has reasonable grounds to believe is responsible for the contravention.
- 10.2. A Violation Ticket issued pursuant to this Bylaw shall be in a form approved by the CAO and may be delivered to the Person reasonably believed to have contravened this Bylaw by means of actual service upon the person or by mailing a copy to the Person at their address as it appears on the tax roll.
- 10.3. Where a Violation Ticket is issued pursuant to this Bylaw, the Person to whom the Violation Ticket is issued may, in lieu of being prosecuted for the offence, pay to the Village, the penalty specified on the Violation Ticket within seven (7) business days if delivered by actual service to the person and within fourteen (14) business days if served by mail.
- 10.4. Where a Violation Ticket has been issued and the specified penalty not paid within the prescribed time, the right of the Person named on the Violation Ticket to pay the penalty in lieu of prosecution shall expire and the Designated Officer is authorized to issue a Violation Ticket pursuant to Part 2 and Part 3 of the Provincial Offences Procedure Act R.S.A. 2000, c. P-34, as amended or repealed and replaced from time to time, to any person that the Designated Officer has reasonable ground to believe contravened a provision of this Bylaw.
- 10.5. Notwithstanding Section 10.4, a Designated Officer is hereby authorized and empowered to immediately issue a Violation Ticket to any Person whom the Designated Officer has reasonable grounds to believe has contravened or is responsible for a contravention of any provision of this Bylaw regardless of whether a Violation Ticket has been first issued. Nothing in this Bylaw shall prevent a Designated Officer from immediately issuing a Violation Ticket.
- 10.6. The specified penalty payable in respect of a contravention of a provision of this Bylaw is the amount provided for in the Village of Warner's Rates Bylaw Schedule "B" of this Bylaw in respect of that provision.

10.7. Where any Person contravenes the same provision of this Bylaw twice within one TWELVE (12) month period, the specified penalty payable in respect of the second such contravention shall be double the amount provided for in the Village of Warner's Rates Bylaw Schedule "B" of this Bylaw.

10.8. Where any Person contravenes the same provision of this Bylaw three or more times within one TWELVE (12) month period, the specified penalty payable in respect of the third and subsequent such contravention shall be triple the first offence amount provided for in the Village of Warner's Rates Bylaw Schedule "B" of this Bylaw.

11. GENERAL PROVISIONS

11.1. Should any provision of this Bylaw be determined invalid, then the invalid provision shall be severed and the remaining Bylaw shall be maintained.

11.2. ~~Bylaws 5, 443.93, and 562.14 513-09613-23 are-is~~ hereby repealed as of January 1, 2024.

11.3. This Bylaw shall come into ~~effect upon third and final reading thereof~~ January 1, 2024.

Read a first time this XX day of XXXX, 2023

Read a second time this XX day of XXXX, 2023

Unanimous consent given for consideration for third reading this XX day of XXXX, 2023.

Read a third and final this XX day of XXXX, 2023

Tyler Lindsay
Mayor

Kelly Lloyd
Chief Administrative Officer

SIGNED by the Chief Elected Official and the Chief Administrative Officer this XX day of XXXX, 2023.

~~Schedule "A"~~

~~ANNUAL DOG LICENSE FEES~~

~~Altered (spayed or neutered) Dog~~ **~~\$15.00~~**

~~Unaltered Dog~~ **~~\$25.00~~**

~~Vicious Dog~~ **~~\$100.00~~**

~~Fancier's License~~ **~~\$40.00 plus license per dog~~**

~~Replacement Tag~~ **~~Half the price of the original license~~**

~~POUND FEES~~ **~~Are set by Ridge Regional Public Safety Services~~**

Schedule "B"**PENALTIES AND FEES****Minimum Penalties**

SECTION	OFFENCE	VIOLATION TICKET	
		First Offence	Second Offence
3.1; 5.4	Unlicensed Dog	\$200.00	\$250.00
3.2.1	Teasing, tormenting or provoking	\$100.00	\$150.00
3.7.6	Running At Large	\$100.00	\$150.00
3.2.2	Bait or Trap Animal	\$100.00	\$150.00
3.2.3	Untie Animal or Open Gate	\$100.00	\$150.00
3.7.1	Barking, Howling or Disturbing	\$100.00	\$150.00
3.7.2	Biting or Injuring a Person or Domestic Animal	\$300.00	\$350.00
3.7.3	Chasing Person, Motor Vehicle, Bicycle	\$200.00	\$250.00
3.7.4	Chasing or harassing a Domestic Animal	\$200.00	\$250.00
3.7.4	Killing, attacking or injuring a Domestic Animal	\$300.00	\$350.00
3.7.5	Damage to property	\$100.00	\$150.00
3.7.7	Public Nuisance	\$100.00	\$150.00
3.8; 3.9	Defecation	\$200.00	\$250.00
3.10	Obstruction or Interference	\$500.00	\$550.00
3.11	Communicable Disease	\$100.00	\$150.00
3.12	Failure to keep Dog in season confined	\$100.00	\$150.00
3.13	Dog in Park	\$100.00	\$150.00
4	Failure to comply with Section 4	\$200.00	\$250.00
5.1	Exceeding permitted number	\$200.00	\$250.00
5.13	Transferring License	\$100.00	\$150.00
5.8	Dog not wearing Tag	\$50.00	\$75.00
5.5	Providing False Information	\$500.00	\$550.00
6	Failure to comply with Section 6	\$200.00	\$250.00
		VIOLATION TICKET	
Minimum Penalties for Vicious Dogs		First Offence	Second Offence
5.10	Unlicensed Dog	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
5.12	Not wearing Vicious Dog Tag	\$100.00	\$200.00
3.4	Dog Running At Large	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
3.7.1	Barking, Howling or Disturbing	\$500.00	\$600.00
3.7.2	Biting or Injuring a Person	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00
3.7.3	Chasing Person, Motor Vehicle, Bicycle	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00
3.7.4	Chasing or harassing a Domestic Animal	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
3.7.4	Killing, attacking or injuring a Domestic Animal	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00
3.7.5	Damage to property	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
3.7.7	Nuisance	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
3.10	Obstruction or Interference	\$500.00	\$750.00
3.11	Failure to comply with Communicable Disease provisions	\$500.00	\$750.00

4.1	Failure to keep Vicious Dog under control of responsible adult person	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
4.2.1	Failure to notify Village of Vicious Dog	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
4.2.2	Failure to keep Vicious Dog in Secure Enclosure	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
4.2.3	Failure to keep Vicious Dog under Control	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
4.2.4	Failure to keep Vicious Dog properly muzzled	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
4.2.5	Failure to keep Vicious Dog restrained in Motor Vehicle	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
4.2.6	Transporting Vicious Dog outside passenger cab of Motor Vehicle	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
4.2.7	Failure to provide proof of insurance	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
4.2.8	Failure to include notification provision	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
4.2.9	Failure to provide proper signage	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
4..9	Failure to apply for Vicious Dog License	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
4.12	Failure to notify Village if Vicious Dog sold, gifted, transferred or dies	\$250.00	\$300.00
5.5	Providing False Information	\$500.00	\$750.00
5.3	No License	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
5.13	Transferring License	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
5	Failure to comply with Section 5	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00

NOTICE OF VIOLATION AND IMPOUND

[Date]

[Owner name and address]

You are hereby notified that a Dog bearing Dog License No. _____ for 20____, registered under the above name and address, was impounded by the Village of Warner on _____ day of _____, 20____ for the following reasons:

[Description of reasons for impounding the Dog]

You may claim the Dog and pay all impoundment charges at **[Set out address of Animal Shelter]** at any time between **[Set out hours of operation and days of week that Shelter is open]**.

Unless said Dog is claimed and all impoundment charges are fully paid on or before the ____ day of _____, 20____, the Dog will be sold, destroyed, or otherwise disposed of pursuant to Bylaw _____.

[Printed Name and Signature]
Village of Warner Designated Officer

Schedule "B" ~~D~~: Dog Fancier's License Application Form

Proposed License Holder's Name(s) _____

Property Address _____

Legal Description Lot _____ Block _____ Plan _____

This application is limited to the following Dogs:

Name	Breed	Tattoo or Microchip	Registration Number
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

A copy of the applicable registration papers for the Dogs must accompany the Application.

The Dogs will be housed in the following manner (i.e., are the Dogs going to be kept in the house or another building on the property; what access to the outside will the Dogs have; how much time will the Dogs spend outside every day).

The following provisions will be undertaken to minimize and control any noise caused by the Dogs:

The following provisions will be undertaken to remove all waste caused by the Dogs:

Other Conditions:

I certify that:

- A) I am 18 years of age or older
- B) I own or rent the Property where the Dogs will be kept
- C) I am the proposed License Holder
- D) I am the Owner of the listed Dogs
- E) All the information in this Application is true

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20__.

Applicants Printed Name _____

Applicants Signature _____



Request for Decision 620-23 Utility Bylaw

RECOMMENDATION

That first reading be given to Bylaw 620-23, being the Utility Bylaw.

That second reading be given to Bylaw 620-23, being the Utility Bylaw.

That unanimous consent be given to Bylaw 620-23, being the Utility Bylaw, for consideration of third reading.

That the third and final reading be given to Bylaw 620-23, being the Utility Bylaw.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Municipal Government Act

BACKGROUND

Administration is currently revising all Bylaws that have rates (a fee or penalty) embedded by removing all rates from the bylaw and creating a new all-encompassing Rates Bylaw that would take effect January 1, 2024.

The intent to combine all rates into one Bylaw will allow Council to review all rates annually in the fall prior to budget deliberations.

RISKS/CONSEQUENCES

1. Council may provide further direction. Council shall be specific in the direction it provides.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Utility Bylaw 620-23

VILLAGE OF WARNER
BYLAW ~~615-23~~ 620-23

**A BYLAW OF THE VILLAGE OF WARNER, IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, TO REGULATE
AND CONTROL THE VILLAGE'S WATER, SEWER, AND SOLID WASTE ~~FEE~~ STRUCTURE**

WHEREAS: The Village of Warner, being a Municipal Corporation in the Province of Alberta, owns and operates Water, Sewer and Sanitation systems as public utilities; and

WHEREAS: The Municipal Government Act R.S.A. 2000 Chapter M-26 and amendments thereto, provides that a Council may pass bylaws for municipal purposes respecting public utilities within the Village of Warner;

NOW THEREFORE: Council of the Village of Warner, in the Province of Alberta, duly assembled, enacts as follows:

1. Title

1.1. This bylaw may be referred to as the Utility ~~Rates~~ Bylaw.

2. Property Owners Responsibility Section 42 - Municipal Government Act

2.1. Utility accounts will not be established by the Village for a person(s) who has an overdue or outstanding utility account with the Village.

2.2. Failure to receive a utility invoice is not considered sufficient reason for non-payment of the account.

3. New Owners

3.1. The property owner is responsible to advise the Village of any sale of property and to provide the contact information of the person or company to whom the property has been sold.

3.2. An administration fee as per ~~Schedule A~~ the Village of Warner's Rate Bylaw will be levied to both the seller and the new owner of the property for costs associated with finalizing one account and creating a new account.

4. New Water Meters

4.1. The property owner of a new building must acquire a water meter from the Village. The Village covers the cost of the meter. It is the owner's responsibility to hire and pay a qualified plumber for installation of the meter.

4.2. A Utility Account will be set up immediately, in the owner's name, following the installation of a meter in a new building.

4.3. If the meter needs to be replaced (if not deemed faulty), the property owner is responsible for the cost of a new meter.

5. Water Disconnect and Reconnect

- 5.1. The owner of a new property may request water shut-off at a fee as per ~~Schedule A~~[the Village of Warner's Rate Bylaw](#) to avoid receiving a monthly invoice for an unoccupied building. A fee as per ~~Schedule A~~[the Village of Warner's Rate Bylaw](#) will be levied to turn the water back on.
- 5.2. If an owner of an existing property requests Public Works to physically shut-off the water at the curb stop valve, the owner will be levied fees as per ~~Schedule A~~[the Village of Warner's Rate Bylaw](#) for both the disconnect and the re-connect.
- 5.3. Notwithstanding 5.1 and 5.2, if water is disconnected at a vacant dwelling, the property owner will continue to be invoiced for garbage, sewer, administration and waterline loan fees.

6. Replacement Water Meters and Meter Readings

- 6.1. If an existing building requires a replacement water meter for any other reason than a faulty meter, the property owner will be responsible for the cost of the meter.
- 6.2. If Public Works is requested to read a water meter for any reason other than change in the utility account, an administration fee as per ~~Schedule A~~[the Village of Warner's Rate Bylaw](#) will be levied.
- 6.3. If Public Works is asked to remove and inspect a water meter which is found not faulty, an administration fee as per ~~Schedule A~~[the Village of Warner's Rate Bylaw](#) will be levied.

7. Overdue Utility Accounts, Outstanding Utility Accounts and Collection

- 7.1. An interest charge of two percent (2%) per month will be imposed on outstanding accounts payable to the Village of Warner which remain unpaid after thirty (30) days from the date of the billing of the account.
- 7.2. Pursuant to Section 553(1)(b) of the Municipal Government Act, overdue utility accounts, including those of tenants, which remain unpaid after ninety (90) days may be added to the property owner's taxes (of the same municipal address).
- 7.3. If a house is being sold, any outstanding utility account balance may be added to the property owner's taxes.
- 7.4. Pursuant to Section 553(2) of the Municipal Government Act, upon being added to the property owner's tax levy, the outstanding amount is subject to the requirements of the tax bylaw.

8. Sewer Blockages/Issues

- 8.1. Repairs - Water & Sewer
 - 8.1.1. Frozen water lines - the Village shall assume the full responsibility and costs for any water service line which may be hereinafter frozen between the property line and the street main. Any water line frozen between the property line and the meter shall be the responsibility of the property owner. Any costs incurred by the Village, in thawing

frozen lines on behalf of a person, shall be recoverable, subject to penalties, and taxes.

8.2 Sewer Blockages

8.2.1 The owner shall at their own cost be responsible for the unplugging or repair of wastewater lines from the sewer main to the building. All work is to be completed to Village specifications. In instances when the Village has installed new wastewater lines from the sewer main to the building, and said installation is found to be faulty or during construction, or the Village damages the wastewater line to a building, the Village shall incur the costs to repair them.

8.2.2 Any blockages of the service piping to the sewer main due to foreign material introduced to the service, by the owner/occupant, is the responsibility of the property owner.

8.2.3 No person other than those authorized by the Village shall make any connection to or shall cut or otherwise tamper in any way with the Village wastewater system.

8.2.4 If the repair of a blockage, which is determined to be the responsibility of the owner, causes any portion of sidewalks, boulevards, curbs, gutters, streets or other Village property to be dug up, disturbed or otherwise changed, it shall be the responsibility of the property owner for the cost of repairing damages.

8.2.5 Costs incurred in determining where and what caused any blockage on the service line, including but not limited to such costs as camera scoping, flushing or de-rooting shall, in the event the owner is found to be responsible, be recoverable from the owner as costs in the same manner as other costs.

8.2.6 Grease traps of sufficient size and approved design shall be placed on the Waste pipes from hotels, restaurants, laundries and such other places as the Village may direct. Such traps shall be installed prior to any connection to the Village wastewater system.

9. **Utility Fees, Payment, Collection**

9.1. That monthly rates for water be adopted as per ~~Schedule A~~ the Village of Warner's Rate Bylaw.

9.2. That monthly rates for sewer, garbage pick-up, administration fee (street lighting) and waterline loan repayment be adopted as per ~~Schedule B~~ the Village of Warner's Rate Bylaw.

9.3. Payments of utility accounts may be made at the Village Office, local banks, online banking, electric funds transfer using utility roll number, or through a pre-authorized payment plan.

9.4. If payment is not received within 90 days after the date of mailing, the water service will be turned off and will not be turned on until the account, including arrears, a reconnection fee as specified in ~~Schedule A~~ "the Village of Warner's Rate Bylaw" are paid in full. Payment must be in cash or by certified cheque only.

10. Effective Date

10.1. This bylaw shall come into effect on ~~May 1, 2023~~ January 1, 2024.

10.2. Bylaw ~~523-19615.23~~ is hereby repealed as of January 1, 2024 ~~ed as of May 1, 2023~~.

Read for a first time this XX day of XXXX, 2023

Read for a second time this XX day of XXXX, 2023

Unanimous consent given to present for third reading this XX day of XXXX, 2023

Read for a third and final time this XX day of XXXX, 2023

Tyler Lindsay
Mayor

Kelly Lloyd
Chief Administrative Officer

Signed by the Chief Elected Official and the Chief Administrative Officer this XX day of XXXX, 2023.

SCHEDULE A

WATER RATES

Residential: _____ \$ 45.00 minimum for 22.73 cubic meters
\$ 1.50 per cubic meter overage will apply

Commercial: _____ \$ 65.00 minimum for 34 cubic meters
\$ 1.50 per cubic meter overage will apply

The following fees may be charged at the Villages discretion

Utility Hook up Administration Fee:	_____ \$ 25.00
Account Finalization Administration Fee	_____ \$ 25.00
New Building Temporary Disconnect of Water	_____ \$ 50.00
New Building Reconnect	_____ \$ 50.00
Water Shut-off at Curb Stop	_____ \$ 50.00
Turn-on at Curb Stop (Reconnection Fee)	_____ \$ 50.00
Water Meter Inspection When Meter Not Faulty	_____ \$ 50.00
Meter Readings (see Item 5.2)	_____ \$ 30.00

SCHEDULE B

SEWER RATES

Residential and Commercial: _____ \$ 10.00

GARBAGE RATES _____ \$ 17.00

UTILITY ADMIN FEE _____ \$ 7.50

WATERLINE LOAN REPAYMENT FEE _____ \$ 13.00



Request for Decision 622-23 Noise Bylaw

RECOMMENDATION

That first reading be given to Bylaw 622-23, being the Noise Bylaw.

That second reading be given to Bylaw 622-23, being the Noise Bylaw.

That unanimous consent be given to Bylaw 622-23, being the Noise Bylaw, for consideration of third reading.

That the third and final reading be given to Bylaw 622-23, being the Noise Bylaw.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Municipal Government Act

BACKGROUND

Administration is currently revising all Bylaws that have rates (a fee or penalty) embedded by removing all rates from the bylaw and creating a new all-encompassing Rates Bylaw that would take effect January 1, 2024.

The intent to combine all rates into one Bylaw will allow Council to review all rates annually in the fall prior to budget deliberations.

RISKS/CONSEQUENCES

1. Council may provide further direction. Council shall be specific in the direction it provides.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Noise Bylaw 622-23

VILLAGE OF WARNER
NOISE BYLAW ~~542-13~~—REVISED-2020622-23

BEING A BYLAW OF THE VILLAGE OF WARNER TO ~~PROHIBIT~~ REGULATE CERTAIN ACTIVITIES CREATING NOISE AND TO ABATE THE INCIDENCE OF NOISE AND RESTRICT THE HOURS WHEN CERTAIN SOUNDS MAY BE MADE.

WHEREAS pursuant to the Municipal Government Act, Chapter 26.4 RSA 2000, and amendments thereto, the Council may pass Bylaws for the purpose of prohibiting, eliminating or abating Noise;

NOW WHEREAS the Council of the Village of Warner duly assembled, enacts as follows:

1. TITLE

1.1. This Bylaw may be cited as “The Noise Bylaw”.

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1. “Chief Administrative Officer” or “CAO” means the Chief Administrative Officer of the Village appointed by Council in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Government Act., R.S.A. 2000, Chapter M-26;

2.2. “Holiday” means any statutory ~~holiday~~ Holiday as defined in the Interpretation Act (Alberta);

2.3. ~~“Land Use Bylaw” means Bylaw No. 538-13, the Land Use Bylaw of the Village of Warner as amended from time to time or any Bylaw passed in substitution for or in addition to Bylaw No. 538-13~~

2.4. “Noise” means sound which in the opinion of the Peace Officer, having regard for all circumstances, including the time of day and the nature of the activity generating the sound, is likely to unreasonably annoy or disturb persons or to injure, endanger or detract from the comfort, repose, health, peace, or safety of persons within the boundary of the Village;

2.5. “Peace Officer” a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, a sworn member of a municipal police service or a person appointed under the Peace Officer Act of Alberta;

2.6. “Residential Zone” includes a zone defined as General Residential (R), Residential Mobile/Modular Home (RMH) in the Land Use Bylaw, Transitional/Agricultural (T/A);

2.7. “Signaling Device” means a horn, gong, bell or other device producing an audible sound for the purposes of drawing a persons’ attention to an approaching vehicle, including a bicycle;

~~2.8. “Village” means the Municipality Corporation of the Village of Warner, or the area contained within the boundaries of the Village as the context requires~~

~~2.9-2.8.~~

~~2.10-2.9.~~ “Weekday” means any day other than a Sunday or a ~~holiday~~ Holiday;

3. GENERAL PROHIBITION

- 3.1. Except to the extent allowed under this Bylaw, no person shall make, continue to make or cause or allow to be made or continued any loud, unnecessary or unusual Noise or any Noise which annoys, disturbs, injures, endangers or detracts from the comfort, rest, health, peace, or safety of other persons within the limits of the Village.
- 3.2. What constitutes a loud Noise, an unnecessary Noise, an unusual Noise or a Noise which annoys, disturbs, injures or endangers the comfort, rest, health, peace or safety of others is a question of fact to be determined by the Court which hears the prosecution of an offence against this Bylaw.
- 3.3. Where an activity which is not specifically prohibited or restricted by any legislation of Canada or the Province of Alberta or by this Bylaw involves making a sound, which:
 - 3.3.1. Is or may be or may become; or
 - 3.3.2. Creates or produces or may create or produce;
 - 3.3.2.1. A disturbance or annoyance to other people or a danger to the comfort, rest, health, peace or safety of others, a person engaged in that activity shall do so in a manner creating as little sound as practicable under the circumstances.

4. MOTOR VEHICLE NOISES

- 4.1. The failure of a person to comply within the Village with the following provision of Traffic Safety Act and Regulations;
 - 4.1.1. The prohibition against the use of Signaling Devices on motor vehicles, motorcycle, or bicycles so as to make more Noise than is reasonably necessary for the purpose of giving notice or warning to other persons on the highway, as set out in subsection (2) of Section 83 of the Traffic Safety Act; Use of Highway and Rules of Road Regulation;
 - 4.1.2. The restrictions on the type or use of mufflers and similar equipment on motor vehicles, as set out in 61(1) of the Traffic Safety Act; Vehicle Equipment Regulation;
 - 4.1.3. The prohibition against equipping a vehicle other than those specified with a siren, as set out in section 77 of the Traffic Safety Act Vehicle Equipment Regulation; constitutes a violation of this Bylaw in addition to and not in substitution for the offence under Traffic Safety Act and Regulations.
- 4.2. Where a person operates a vehicle of any type on a street in a Residential Zone at any time in such a way as to unduly disturb the residents of that street, ~~he is~~they are guilty of an offence under this Bylaw in addition to and not in substitution for any offence of which ~~he~~they may be guilty under Section 13~~(1)(g)(iii)~~ of the Traffic Safety Act.
- 4.3. Where a vehicle is equipped with a siren under Section 77, of the Vehicle Safety Act; Vehicle Equipment Regulations, the driver thereof shall only use the siren when the vehicle is proceeding in response to an emergency call.

- 4.4. ~~Subsection (d)~~Section 4.4 does not apply to the use of a siren on a vehicle operated by a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, or a Peace Officer.

5. DOMESTIC NOISES

5.1. No person shall:

- 5.1.1. Operate a motorized or electric construction/lawn/garden tool
- 5.1.2. Operate a snow clearing device powered by an engine of any type; in a Residential Zone between the hours of:
 - 5.1.2.1. ~~Eleven-Ten~~ o'clock in the evening and ~~six-seven~~ o'clock in the morning of the next day which is a Weekday; or
 - 5.1.2.2. ~~Eleven-Ten~~ o'clock in the evening and ~~eight-seven~~ o'clock in the morning of the next day which is a Saturday, Sunday or ~~holiday~~Holiday.
- 5.1.3. Host a party that inflicts loud music or other loud Noises on their neighbors.

5.2. No person shall advertise any event or merchandise by ringing bells, calling loud, playing any type of musical or Noise making instrument or by any other audible means in any of the of the Village except by permit from the Village.

5.3. A person who owns, keeps, houses, harbors, or allows to stay on ~~his-their~~ premises an animal which by reason of barking, or howling, disturbs persons in the vicinity of ~~his or her~~their home is guilty of an offence under this Bylaw.

5.4. Unless written permission from the Village is first obtained, no person or persons shall operate or allow to be operated;

- 5.4.1. A riveting machine;
- 5.4.2. A concrete mixer;
- 5.4.3. A gravel crusher;
- 5.4.4. A trenching machine;
- 5.4.5. Jack hammer or pneumatic drill;
- 5.4.6. Sander/grinder on motorized vehicles;
- 5.4.7. A tractor or bulldozer; or
- 5.4.8. Any other tool, device or machine of a noisy nature; so as to create a Noise, confusion or disturbance which may be heard in a residential building between the hours of ten o'clock in the evening and seven o'clock in the morning of the next day.

6. EXEMPTION

6.1.

~~Subsection (b) Nothing in this Bylaw shall apply to work carried on by the Village, or by a contractor carrying out the instructions of the Village. does not apply to work on a Village street or on a public utility carried on by~~

6.2.

~~6.3. A Person acting in the normal course of that Person's employment as a Village Employee (or as an agent under contract by the Village); or~~

6.4.

~~6.5. A Person operating an Emergency Vehicle in the normal course of the Person's employment;~~

~~6.6. Section (1) does not apply to the work of an exigent nature being carried on by a Village Department, Utility Company, or outside contractor acting on the Village's behalf.~~

6.2. Nothing in this Bylaw shall prevent contractors carrying out snow removal from commercial or industrial sites which are not adjacent to Residential Zones.

6.3. In the case of snow removal from commercial or industrial sites located adjacent to Residential Zones and where in the reasonable opinion of the Peace Officer it is necessary to ensure the peace and quiet of residents, the Peace Officer may require Noise abatement practices including one or both of the following:

6.3.1. a requirement that snow not be removed between 12:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.;

6.3.2. a requirement that snow be removed from a site in a sequence which is least disruptive to the peace and quiet of residents.

7. FINES

7.1. A person who contravenes any provision of this Bylaw is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine as per the Village of Warner's Rates Bylaw not exceeding \$500.00 or in default of payment of the fine and costs to imprisonment for a period not exceeding thirty days or until such fine and costs, including costs of committal, is sooner paid.

~~8. Any/all previous Noise Bylaws are hereby repealed by this Bylaw~~

~~9. This Bylaw shall come into effect upon third and final reading thereof.~~

7. REPEAL OF BYLAW

7.1. That Bylaw 542-13 is hereby repealed as of January 1, 2024.

8. EFFECTIVE DATE

8.1. This Bylaw shall take effect on January 1, 2024.

Read a first time this XX day of XXXX, 2023.

Read a second time this XX day of XXXX, 2023.

Unanimous consent given for consideration for third reading this XX day of XXXX, 2023.

Read a third and final time this XX day of XXXX, 2023.

Tyler Lindsay
Mayor

Kelly Lloyd
Chief Administrative Officer

SIGNED by the Chief Elected Official and the Chief Administrative Officer this XX day of XXXX, 2023.



Request for Decision 623-23 Truck Bylaw

RECOMMENDATION

That first reading be given to Bylaw 623-23, being the Truck Bylaw.

That second reading be given to Bylaw 623-23, being the Truck Bylaw.

That unanimous consent be given to Bylaw 623-23, being the Truck Bylaw, for consideration of third reading.

That the third and final reading be given to Bylaw 623-23, being the Truck Bylaw.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Municipal Government Act

BACKGROUND

Administration is currently revising all Bylaws that have rates (a fee or penalty) embedded by removing all rates from the bylaw and creating a new all-encompassing Rates Bylaw that would take effect January 1, 2024.

The intent to combine all rates into one Bylaw will allow Council to review all rates annually in the fall prior to budget deliberations.

RISKS/CONSEQUENCES

1. Council may provide further direction. Council shall be specific in the direction it provides.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Truck Bylaw 623-23

**VILLAGE OF WARNER
BYLAW 623-23**

A BYLAW OF THE VILLAGE OF WARNER IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA TO
REGULATE VEHICLE WEIGHT.

WHEREAS the Municipal Government Act RSA 2000, c M-26 and regulations as amended, provides that Council may pass bylaws for municipal purposes respecting the safety, health and welfare of people; the protection of people and property; nuisances, including unsightly property; services provided by or on behalf of the municipality; public utilities and the enforcement of bylaws;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Council of the Village of Warner, in the Province of Alberta, has the authority to implement a Traffic Bylaw in accordance with the Highway Traffic Act, being Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000 Chapter T-6 Chapter H7 of the Revised Statutes of Alberta, 1980 and amendments thereto, and the Municipal Government Act being Chapter M-26.1 respectively of the Revised Statutes of Alberta, 2000, and amendments thereto, ~~and~~

AND WHEREAS, the Municipal Council deems it necessary to provide such a Bylaw to regulate and control vehicles having a gross vehicle weight of 9,600 kgs (21,164 lbs) or more.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council of the Village of Warner, in the Province of Alberta, hereby enacts as follows:

1. TITLE

1.1. This Bylaw may be referred to as the "Truck Bylaw"

2. DEFINITIONS:

2.1. **Vehicle** (for the purpose of this bylaw) includes any vehicle having a gross vehicle weight of 9,600 kgs or 21,164 lbs or more. Vehicle, therefore will include truck tractor, semi-trailer or trailer or any other vehicle exceeding the aforementioned weight.

2.2. **Village** shall mean the Municipal Corporation of the Village of Warner in the Province of Alberta ~~or the land lying within the corporate limits of the Village, as the context requires.~~

~~NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Village of Warner, in the Province of Alberta, duly assembly enacts the following:~~

3. GENERAL

3.1. No person shall park a vehicle as defined in (a) within the Village; with the exception of truck tractor units only being permitted on the ~~owners~~ owners' private property.

~~3.2. "Peace Officer" means a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, a sworn member of a municipal police service or a person appointed under the Peace Officer Act of Alberta.~~

3. ~~POWERS OF PEACE OFFICERS:~~

~~Each Peace Officer is hereby empowered with the authority and charged with the duty of enforcing the provisions of this bylaw.~~

4. **FINES:**

4.1. Any person contravening this bylaw may avoid eventual prosecution by way of summary conviction procedure by the voluntary payment of a specified penalty within the time stated thereon.

~~PARKING:~~

(1) Parking not permitted	\$ 100.00
(2) Sidewalk/Boulevard	\$ 100.00
(3) Obstructing access	\$ 100.00
(4) Motor Running	\$ 200.00
(5) School Exit	\$ 100.00
(6) Vehicle parked in Village of Warner	
 a. First offense	\$ 500.00
 b. Second offense	\$1000.00
(7) Non payment of ticket	
 a. First offense	\$ 500.00
 b. Second offense	\$1000.00

5. **REPEAL OF BYLAW**

5.1. That Bylaw 529-11 is hereby repealed as of January 1, 2024.

6. **EFFECTIVE DATE**

6.1. This Bylaw shall take effect on January 1, 2024 ~~at the date of final passing thereof.~~

Read a first time this XX day of XXXX, 2023.

Read a second time this XX day of XXXX, 2023.

Unanimous consent given for consideration for third reading this XX day of XXXX, 2023.

Read a third and final time this XX day of XXXX, 2023.

Tyler Lindsay
Mayor

Kelly Lloyd
Chief Administrative Officer

SIGNED by the Chief Elected Official and the Chief Administrative Officer this XX day of XXXX, 2023.



Request for Decision Policy 102: Elected Official Appointments

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve Council Policy 102: Elected Official Appointments as presented.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Municipal Government Act

Division 3: Duties, Titles and Oaths of Councillors

General duties of councillors

153 Councillors have the following duties:

(b) to participate generally in developing and evaluating the policies and programs of the municipality.

Part 6: Municipal Organization and Administration

Council's principal role in municipal organization

201(1) A council is responsible for

(a) developing and evaluating the policies and programs of the Municipality.

BACKGROUND

As provided for by previous Municipal Inspections and most recently, as per the viability review recommendation and Minister directives, the Village of Warner will develop policies in order to guide staff and to communicate service level expectations to the public.

RISKS/CONSEQUENCES

1. Council may provide further direction on the policy. Council shall be specific in the direction it provides.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Council Policy 102: Elected Official Appointments



COUNCIL POLICY 102 Elected Official Appointments

References:

Municipal Government Act
Records Management Bylaw
Code of Conduct Bylaw

Effective Date:**Council Resolution No:**

POLICY STATEMENT

Village of Warner Council members are appointed to Authorities, Boards, Commissions or Committees.

PURPOSE

To provide for the appointment of elected officials to Authorities, Boards, Commissions or Committees.

DEFINITIONS

"Ad Hoc" means a Council Committee with a specific task or objective, and dissolved after the completion of the task or achievement of the objective. This committee has a beginning and an end.

"Authority, Board, Commission or Committee" or "(ABC)" means a committee that is granted the authority by Council to make decisions on behalf of Council to which elected officials are appointed to at the Village of Warner annual Organizational Meeting.

"Conflict of Interest" is a situation in which a person or organization is involved in multiple interests, financial or otherwise, and serving one interest could involve working against another. Typically, this relates to situations in which the personal interest of an individual or organization might adversely affect a duty owed to make decisions for the benefit of a third party.

"Council Committee" means an Ad Hoc or Standing Committee, or any other body established by Council. Council Committee does not include an assessment review board established under section 454 or a Subdivision and Development Appeal Board established under section 627.

"Pecuniary Interest" means something of which could monetarily affect you, your spouse, or adult interdependent partner, or children, your parents or the parents of your spouse, or a business in which employs you or in which you have an interest.

"Standing Committee" means a Council Committee, formed to do its assigned work on an ongoing basis. This committee does not have an end date and it is formed to discuss items specific to municipal functions. (I.e., Standing Committee on Transportation)

SCOPE

This policy applies to all members of the Village of Warner Council.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Council is responsible for elected official appointments to Authorities, Boards,

Commissions or Committees. All members of Council shall adhere to the Council Code of Conduct Bylaw when representing the Village of Warner.

STANDARDS

1. Council Appointments

- 1.1. Council appointments will be made annually at the Organizational Meeting.
- 1.2. Each Councillor is to submit an expression of interest pertaining to annual appointments to Authorities, Boards and Commissions to the Mayor by the end of September. This process will be the same during an election year.
- 1.3. Appointment of Council Members to Authorities, Boards, Commissions, or Committees, is coordinated by the Mayor.
- 1.4. Should there be interest from more than one Council Member to any particular Authority, Board, Commission, or Committee, appointment to said ABC will be voted upon at the Organizational Meeting.
- 1.5. A request for decision for council appointments will be prepared for presentation at the Organizational Meeting, held in accordance with the Municipal Government Act.
- 1.6. The Mayor acts as an ex-officio member of all Council Committees solely appointed by the Council of the Village of Warner as provided by the Municipal Government Act.
- 1.7. Within reasonable means, alternates appointed should attend training and the Annual General Meeting of an Authority, Board, Commission, or Committee.

2. Council Role

- 2.1. Council members appointed to Authorities, Boards, Commissions, or Committees containing members of the public shall not take positions on the executive of the Board or committee, and shall not make motions on subjects likely to be presented to Council for further review.
- 2.2. Council members appointed ensure that the activities of the committee do not exceed the authority of the committee granted by Council as defined by bylaw or terms of reference.
- 2.3. A member of Council on a Committee shall not be considered as an advocate for the interests of the committee and shall not be expected to present issues or recommendations to the receiving body on behalf of the committee.
- 2.4. Council members have fiduciary duties to both the Village and the body to which they were appointed and must be cognizant of the "hat" they are wearing and where their duty of loyalty and fidelity lies. Council members must act in the best interest of the Village when sitting at the council table, and conversely, must act in the best interests of the Authority, Board, Commission or Committee appointed to.



Request for Decision Policy 701: Civic Centre

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve Council Policy 701: Civic Centre as presented.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Municipal Government Act

Division 3: Duties, Titles and Oaths of Councillors

General duties of councillors

153 Councillors have the following duties:

(b) to participate generally in developing and evaluating the policies and programs of the municipality.

Part 6: Municipal Organization and Administration

Council's principal role in municipal organization

201(1) A council is responsible for

(a) developing and evaluating the policies and programs of the Municipality.

BACKGROUND

As provided for by previous Municipal Inspections and most recently, as per the viability review recommendation and Minister directives, the Village of Warner will develop policies in order to guide staff and to communicate service level expectations to the public.

RISKS/CONSEQUENCES

1. Council may provide further direction on the policy. Council shall be specific in the direction it provides.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Council Policy 701: Civic Centre

References:

Occupational Health and Safety
Municipal Government Act
Records Management Bylaw
Rates Bylaw

Effective Date: _____

Council Resolution No: _____

POLICY STATEMENT

The Village of Warner provides residents and visitors with accessible, inclusive, affordable, and safe access to Village operated Civic Centre.

PURPOSE

To ensure that safe access to its Civic Centre is fair and equitable for all of its existing and potential users.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all User Groups, Patrons, and Staff wishing to access the Village owned Civic Centre.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), or designate, is responsible to administer this policy within the terms and conditions established.

Under the jurisdiction of the CAO, staff are responsible for the safety and efficient operation for Village facilities. The CAO and facility staff shall enforce all policies and standards as designated by the Village Council.

The CAO has a right to ban offenders from use of a facility. Individuals who have their use suspended have a right to appeal to Council.

DEFINITIONS

"Patron(s)" shall mean any individual who utilizes the Civic Centre.

"Primary User(s)" shall mean a User Group that exclusively utilizes space and has been extended individualized negotiated privileges at the Civic Centre via a Primary User Group Agreement.

"Staff" shall mean those employees working at the Civic Centre.

"User(s) or User Group(s)" shall mean those formally recognized local groups that regularly book the Civic Centre.

STANDARDS

1. General

1.1. Establish and maintain ongoing preventative maintenance programs for facilities.

- 1.2. Ensure all construction, maintenance, custodial, and operational duties will be carried out in a safe and efficient manner to the benefit of the User Groups, Patrons, and Staff.
- 1.3. Maintain appropriate standards of behaviour at the Village Civic Centre.
- 1.4. Establish a set of fees for charges that are fair and equitable for users.
- 1.5. Provide guidelines for the use and scheduling of activities.
- 1.6. Strive for the highest utilization of facility use for establishing levels of service and space allocation of site-specific activity.
- 1.7. All Patrons utilizing the Warner Athletic Centre and the ice surface will be required to sign a release form and waiver of claims.

2. Renters

- 2.1. All rentals shall be made through the Village Office.
- 2.2. All keys must be signed out and a deposit as per the Rates Bylaw is to be left for security until the keys are returned.
- 2.3. Venue insurance will be required when renting the Civic Centre.
- 2.4. All groups using the Civic Centre are responsible for setting up and taking down of chairs and decorations and otherwise cleaning facility as per the facility agreement. Groups failing to do this will be charged the cost of labour of the Village crews. Groups using the arena dressing rooms are asked to leave this in a sanitary and clean state. If any group abuses the facility the privileges of use will be withdrawn.
- 2.5. Users may be required to sign a release of liability, waiver of claims, assumption of risks and indemnity agreement.
- 2.6. User Groups renting on a regular basis will be billed for time used at the end of each month.
- 2.7. Fees and charges follow the Village of Warner's Rate Bylaw.
- 2.8. Organizations or User Groups who do not pay their bill within 30 days will have their regular ice time cancelled immediately.
- 2.9. Each organization or User Group must specify one contact person who will be responsible for bookings, cancellations, receiving and ensuring payment of invoices. Only the specified person(s) will be allowed to change the confirmed times booked for the organization.

3. Athletic Centre (Gym)

- 3.1. 16 years of age or under must be under the direct supervision of an adult.

4. Ice Install and Removal

- 4.1. The normal ice season begins mid October through to the middle of March, annually.
- 4.2. School bookings will not be accepted from mid September to mid October as ice is being made (weather dependent). This schedule can be subject to change.

5. Ice Allocation Prioritization

To accommodate Prime-time ice allocation in as fair a manner as possible the following priority ranking is established in the following order:

- 5.1. Village programs and/or services that are endorsed by the Village of Warner Council and/or are directly funded by the Village.
- 5.2. Programs and/or services provided by Primary User Groups.
- a. Primary User Groups will have priority when scheduling ice time in the Civic Centre.
 - b. An ice time booking allocation for youth Primary User Groups during Prime-time will be:
 - Monday through Thursday 4:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
 - Friday and Saturday 7:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.
 - Sunday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
 - c. Public/Family Skating shall be allocated with a minimum of 5 hours per week with minimum of 3 hours per weekend.
 - d. Local adult organizations have priority after A, B and C (above) are accommodated for. Therefore, they have priority to book ice after 9:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and after 7:30 p.m. Sunday.
- 5.3. Programs and/or services provided by schools within the Horizon School Division.
- 5.4. Programs and/or services provided by a group, organization or individual associated with a recognized national, provincial or regional governing body.
- 5.5. Participant use by local groups or individuals for not-for-profit recreational activity.
- 5.6. Programs and/or services offered by private groups, organizations or individuals whose primary purpose is to make a profit (i.e., commercial users).

6. Patrons

- 6.1. Patrons shall not obstruct the free use and enjoyment of the facility by any other person.
- 6.2. Smoking is strictly prohibited in all areas of the facility.
- 6.3. Alcoholic beverages shall not be allowed in any facilities, unless written consent from the Village is provided. The use of alcohol must comply with Alberta Liquor Laws.

Any person or group found with alcohol in their possession will be ejected and may have privilege for use of the facility suspended. Intoxicated individuals shall not be granted admission to the facility.

- 6.4. Profane or abusive language and conduct considered undesirable will not be tolerated in Village facilities. No person shall interfere with, obstruct, impede, hinder, or prevent the discharge of the duties of any attendant, aid, or other person engaged in superintending, controlling, aiding, instructing or over-seeing any Village of Warner sports program or recreational activity.
- 6.5. Individuals or groups damaging the premises will be charged with the cost for repairing the damage.
- 6.6. Loitering, running and horseplay is not allowed anywhere in the facility. All children 12 and under must be under the care and control of a parent or at all times.
- 6.7. With the exception of coaches, aids, timers and Village staff, no one is allowed on the ice without skates.
- 6.8. All persons 18 years old and under must wear a CCA approved sports helmet while on the ice.
- 6.9. Absolutely no cameras or filming equipment permitted in dressing rooms.
- 6.10. Glass containers, hot drinks, coloured drinks, and chewing tobacco are strictly prohibited on the ice surface.
- 6.11. Absolutely no one permitted on ice while ice surface cleaning is in operation and until overhead door is closed.
- 6.12. Group or club officials negotiating facility use are responsible for the conduct of their members during their allotted time while using the facility.
- 6.13. The Village of Warner, and the Warner Civic Centre staff are not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged items.



WARNER CIVIC CENTRE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISK / RELEASE OF LIABILITY / INDEMNITY

In consideration of the Village of Warner (the "Owner") allowing _____ (the "Participant") to enter onto lands owned by the Owner, the Warner Civic Centre (the "Civic Centre"), for the purpose of ice skating (the "Permitted Use"), I, the undersigned hereby acknowledge and agree, on behalf of myself or as the legal guardian of the Participant, as follows:

ASSUMPTION OF RISK

1. I acknowledge that ice skating is an inherently dangerous activity and I am aware of the possible risks, dangers and hazards associated with entering onto the Civic Centre and engaging in the Permitted Use, including the risk of severe or fatal injury, illness, death and property damage. I hereby assume these risks voluntarily.
2. I acknowledged that the Civic Centre will not be supervised and the Owner will not provide supervision, training or coaching to the Participant and I will be responsible for the supervision of myself and/or any minor children for which I am the legal guardian. I further recognize my responsibility to ensure that the Participant has the required skills, qualifications, training and physical conditioning to engage in the Permitted Use.
3. I understand that I will be given a key fob to access the Civic Centre to engage in the Permitted Use and agree that I will not prop open any doors or allow any non-participants to enter the Civic Centre.
4. I agree to abide by all of the rules set by the Owner with respect to the Civic Centre and the Permitted Use.
5. I agree that my use of the Civic Centre is limited to the Permitted Use and that entering onto the Civic Centre for any other purpose or use is considered trespassing.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND WAIVER OF CLAIMS

I, on behalf of myself, my heirs, next of kin, personal representatives and assigns, hereby forever waive all claims against, and release, discharge and hold harmless, the Owner, its directors, officers, employees, agents, successors and assigns, (the "Releasee") from and against any and all present and future claims and all liabilities of any kind whatsoever, known or unknown, arising out of or in connection with my entering onto the Civic Centre and engaging in the Permitted Use.

I agree that the Releasee shall not be liable for any personal injury, illness, death or property damage that I may suffer or incur and I agree not to sue the Releasee for any of the claims or liabilities that I have waived, released or discharged herein.

INDEMNITY

I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Releasee from and against any and all actions, causes of action, proceedings, claims, demands, loss, costs, damages and expenses whatsoever which may be brought against or suffered by the Releasee in connection with my entry onto the Civic Centre or engaging in the Permitted Use.

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THIS AGREEMENT AND I AM AWARE THAT BY SIGNING THIS AGREEMENT I AM WAIVING CERTAIN LEGAL RIGHTS WHICH I AND MY HEIRS, NEXT OF KIN, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES AND ASSIGNS MAY HAVE AGAINST THE RELEASEE, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO SUE, CLAIM DAMAGES AND SEEK COMPENSATION.

Signature of Participant/Legal Guardian

Witness

Name of Legal Guardian

Witness Name

Key Fob Number

SIGNED this ____ day of _____, 20__ at _____, Alberta.



WARNER ATHLETIC CENTRE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISK /
RELEASE OF LIABILITY / INDEMNITY

In consideration of the Village of Warner (the "Owner") allowing _____ (the "Participant") to enter onto lands owned by the Owner, the Warner Athletic Centre (the "Athletic Centre"), for the purpose of using the gym facility and exercise equipment for working out (the "Permitted Use"), I, the undersigned hereby acknowledge and agree, on behalf of myself or as the legal guardian of the Participant, as follows:

ASSUMPTION OF RISK

1. I acknowledge that there is a risk of injury associated with the participation in physical activity and the use of exercise equipment and I am aware of the possible risks, dangers and hazards associated with entering onto the Athletic Centre and engaging in the Permitted Use, including the risk of severe or fatal injury, illness, death and property damage. I hereby assume these risks voluntarily.
2. I acknowledged that the Athletic Centre will not be supervised and the Owner will not provide supervision, training or coaching to the Participant and I will be responsible for the supervision of myself and/or any minor children for which I am the legal guardian. I further recognize my responsibility to ensure that the Participant has the required skills, qualifications, training and physical conditioning to engage in the Permitted Use.
3. I understand that I will be given a key fob to access the Athletic Centre to engage in the Permitted Use and agree that I will not prop open any doors or allow any non-participants to enter the Athletic Centre.
4. I agree to abide by all of the rules set by the Owner with respect to the Athletic Centre and the Permitted Use.
5. I agree that my use of the Athletic Centre is limited to the Permitted Use and that entering onto the Athletic Centre for any other purpose or use is considered trespassing.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND WAIVER OF CLAIMS

I, on behalf of myself, my heirs, next of kin, personal representatives and assigns, hereby forever waive all claims against, and release, discharge and hold harmless, the Owner, its directors, officers, employees, agents, successors and assigns, (the "Releasee") from and against any and all present and future claims and all liabilities of any kind whatsoever, known or unknown, arising out of or in connection with my entering onto the Athletic Centre and engaging in the Permitted Use.

I agree that the Releasee shall not be liable for any personal injury, illness, death or property damage that I may suffer or incur and I agree not to sue the Releasee for any of the claims or liabilities that I have waived, released or discharged herein.

INDEMNITY

I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Releasee from and against any and all actions, causes of action, proceedings, claims, demands, loss, costs, damages and expenses whatsoever which may be brought against or suffered by the Releasee in connection with my entry onto the Athletic Centre or engaging in the Permitted Use.

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THIS AGREEMENT AND I AM AWARE THAT BY SIGNING THIS AGREEMENT I AM WAIVING CERTAIN LEGAL RIGHTS WHICH I AND MY HEIRS, NEXT OF KIN, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES AND ASSIGNS MAY HAVE AGAINST THE RELEASEE, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO SUE, CLAIM DAMAGES AND SEEK COMPENSATION.

Signature of Participant/Legal Guardian

Witness

Name of Legal Guardian

Witness Name

Key Fob Number

SIGNED this ____ day of _____, 20____ at _____, Alberta.



Request for Decision Land Lease Agreement

RECOMMENDATION

That Council direct administration to

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

BACKGROUND

The Village of Warner owns land that surrounds the lagoon and the airport. In past years, there have been crop share agreements with local producers. In 2019, that changed to be a land lease agreement with a local producer.

This agreement expires in December of 2023.

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

None



Request for Decision Property Tax Penalty Waiver Request

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the property tax waiver request for roll number 23211 for the 2022 year in the amount of \$390.38.

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 a resident with tax roll number 23211 to waive the 12% penalty from the 2022 property taxes 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 \$390.38.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Request Letter


Dear Council members

Enclosed are my 2022/20.
Taxes.

③ I would like you to cons
waving my Interest for 20.
\$780,77

I'm on a fixed income
it's a struggle for me;
come up with funds.

Thank you





Request for Decision BEW FCSS Grant

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve participating with the Village of Stirling in applying for an Alberta Community Partnership Intermunicipal Collaboration grant, to fund the Barons-Eureka-Warner FCSS community needs assessment project.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

BACKGROUND

The BEW FCSS Board passed a motion at their last meeting to support *the Village of Stirling's Alberta Community Partnership Intermunicipal Collaboration BEW FCSS Proposal to conduct a region wide community needs assessment.*

The project will focus on the root causes of social challenges related to the province's priorities and determine strategies to proactively address these challenges.

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. Support Request Letter

September 7th, 2023

Village of Warner
Box 88
Warner, AB T0K 2L0
ATTN: Kelly Lloyd
Email: cao@warner.ca

RE: Alberta Community Partnership - [Intermunicipal Collaboration] – Village of Stirling Application (BEW FCSS Proposal)

To determine how best to serve residents' needs and reduce social stigma surrounding support services within the BEW region, the Village of Stirling has proposed to submit an Alberta Community Partnership Intermunicipal Collaboration Application to conduct a community needs assessment. The project will focus on the root causes of social challenges related to the province's priorities and determine strategies to proactively address these challenges.

On September 6th, 2023 the Barons-Eureka-Warner FCSS Board endorsed this proposal with the following motion.

M. Plumtree moved the Board support the Village of Stirling's Alberta Community Partnership Intermunicipal Collaboration BEW FCSS Proposal to conduct a region wide community needs assessment based on FCSS provincial prevention priorities.
Carried Unanimously

Request

We are asking each of the BEW FCSS participating municipal councils to show support for this proposal with the following motion.

Moved by _____ to approve participating with the Village of Stirling in applying for an Alberta Community Partnership Intermunicipal Collaboration Funding grant, to fund the Barons-Eureka-Warner FCSS community needs assessment project.

Please email confirmation of this motion on municipal letterhead to Scott Donselaar, CAO, Village of Stirling at cao@stirling.ca. Deadline for the application is October 2nd, 2023.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Scott at 403-756-3379 or myself at 403-715-2260.

Sincerely,



Zakk Morrison, MSc
Executive Director

cc: Scott Donselaar, CAO, Village of Stirling
incl. Alberta Community Partnership BEW FCSS Proposal Summary

Alberta Community Partnership Program Proposal

Project Purpose

The purpose of this project is to empower the 16 municipalities in the Barons-Eureka-Warner (BEW) Family & Community Support Services (FCSS) region to make informed decisions individually and collectively about how they invest in community assets and services as a prevention strategy against social challenges. Similar to the Developmental Assets Framework that identifies 40 positive supports and strengths that young people need to succeed, this project endeavours to determine which community assets can support greatest community wellbeing.

Project Summary

The primary activity for this project is a Community Needs Assessment of the BEW FCSS region.

- The BEW FCSS community needs assessment will be based on the Government of Alberta's provincial prevention priorities: Homelessness and housing insecurity; Mental health and addictions; Employment; Family and sexual violence across the lifespan; Aging well in community.
- The project will focus on the root causes of social challenges related to the province's priorities, and whether communities in the region have the services they need to proactively address these challenges.
- The assessment will take a collaborative approach to engaging multiple levels of stakeholders in assessing community asset strengths and gaps against community needs and resources.

Key activities

Primary data collection:

- A multi-modal survey of residents of the 16 municipalities comprising the BEW FCSS service region.
- Focus groups with municipalities and service providers.
- Interviews with key stakeholders within the BEW FCSS service region, as well as subject matter experts from outside the region.

Themes

Themes for the projects are based on the province's service requirement for BEW FCSS:

- What are the social issues impacting the wellbeing of the municipalities of the BEW FCSS region?
- How do social issues impact specific communities and demographic groups within the BEW FCSS region?
- What services currently exist to address the needs related to these social issues?
- How can existing services be reoriented to improve effectiveness and efficiency?
- Are there any gaps in existing services that need to be addressed?
- Who should be responsible for what services, and how should they be funded?
- How can the services be monitored and evaluated to measure progress towards goals and ensure effectiveness?

Expected Concrete Results

1. Shared understanding amongst the 16 municipalities of BEW FCSS of how community assets can support community wellbeing.
2. Productive conversations about areas of responsibility for community assets and services.
3. Informed decisions to drive service plans and budgets for municipalities and BEW FCSS.
4. Collective focus on prevention of social issues through enhancing community wellbeing.



Request for Decision National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

RECOMMENDATION

That September 30, 2023, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation be recognized as a general holiday for the Village of Warner employees.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Council's principal role in municipal organization: Section 201(1) (a): A council is responsible for developing and evaluating the policies and programs of the municipality; and

General Duties of Councillors: Section 153(b) Councillors have the duty to participate generally in developing and evaluating the policies and programs of the municipality.

BACKGROUND

On June 3, 2021, Bill C-5 An Act to amend the Bills of Exchange Act, the Interpretation Act, and the Canada Labour Code (National Day for Truth and Reconciliation) was given royal assent in Parliament. Amongst its provisions is the creation of a new federal general holiday, the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, to be observed on September 30 of every year.

With the implementation of the new statutory holiday by the federal government, some municipalities are asking if they need to give their employees the day or if it only applies to federal employees. However, the federal legislation only amended the *Canada Labour Code* to make September 30 a general holiday. Therefore, it only applies to federally regulated workplaces and the federal government. As of the date of this report, there was no indication that the Government of Alberta intended to adopt it as a provincial holiday.

There is no obligation on municipalities in Alberta to treat September 30, or any other federal holiday, as a holiday. That could change if, or when, Alberta decides to adopt it for the purposes of the provincial *Employment Standards Code*. At the moment, Alberta only has nine general holidays: New Years Day, Family Day, Good Friday, Victoria Day, Canada Day, Labour Day, Thanksgiving Day, Remembrance Day, and Christmas Day.

Alberta also has four optional general holidays. Optional general holidays are decided by the employers: Easter Monday (First Monday following Easter), Heritage Day (First Monday in August), National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Boxing Day.

These are the federal statutory holidays for 2023: New Years Day, Good Friday, Victoria Day, Canada Day, Labour Day, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Thanksgiving, Remembrance Day, Christmas Day, Boxing Day and Provincial or civic holiday in the area where you are employed: Monday, August 7, 2023.

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

None