

Regular and Closed Meeting Agenda
for Monday, March 11, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. to be held
in the Council Chambers, in the Town Hall Complex,
at 240 Main Street, Milk River, Alberta



1. Call to Order
2. Delegations 6:00 pm
 - A) RCMP
 - A) Kim Welby, SouthGrow: Heritage Handi-Bus EV Project
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes
 - A) Minutes of the February 12, 2024, Regular Council Meeting
6. Business Arising from Minutes
7. Financial Report
8. Administration Reports
 - A) Public Works
 - B) Community Peace Officer
 - C) Chief Administrative Officer
9. Bylaws and Policies
 - A) Code of Conduct Bylaw
 - B) Procedural Bylaw
 - C) Snow and Ice Control Policy
10. Old Business
11. New Business
 - A) Correspondence
 - B) Employee Recognition
 - C) Royal Canadian Legion Request
12. Councillor Reports
 - A) Authorities, Boards, Committees and Commission Minutes
13. Mayor's Report
 - A) Authorities, Boards, Committees and Commission Minutes
14. Closed Session
 - A) Section 17: Disclosure harmful to personal privacy
15. Adjournment

Request for Decision

RCMP Delegation

March 11, 2024



RECOMMENDATION

That the RCMP Report be accepted as information.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

BACKGROUND

On a quarterly basis, the Milk River RCMP detachment will provide a Community Policing Report that serves to provide a quarterly snapshot of the human resources, financial data, and crime statistics.

RISK/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

SouthGrow Delegation

March 11, 2024



RECOMMENDATION

That the update on the Heritage Hand-Bus EV Bus project be accepted as information.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

BACKGROUND

Kim Welby, Director, Economic Development from SouthGrow, will be in attendance to provide Council an update on the EV Bus project as well as answer questions.

RISK/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. Email communication

From: Kim Welby <edo@southgrow.com>
Sent: February 29, 2024 8:00 AM
To: Steve Pain; Kelly Lloyd
Subject: EV Bus Update

Good morning,

Just wanted to provide you with an update of where we are at with this project:

Just as a refresher from the last email chain that was sent to you.

? Operations have been halted at the Lightning facility.

? McNabb (Bus supplier is unsure of the future of the ZE4 (electric conversion) platform. They identified the following options for us:

? We wait until the bus is ready at Startrans and see what the update with Lightning ZEV4 Program is then

? We issue you the refund for the bus purchase.

? We get the bus completed at Startrans and deliver you the gas minibus with the proper price adjustment

? Since then, I have spoken with FCM about what (if any) implications this development has on our funding agreement – they confirmed that there is none and they are very interested in the value of the lessons learned so are willing and able to work with us to navigate next steps.

? The MCCAC on the other hand is unable to extend their grant agreement if we are not in receipt of an electric unit by March 31, 2024 so their 20% contribution is off the table. (~\$60-80,000k)

So...here are the options in front of us:

? Option #1a: Wait until March 31, 2024 to see what the status of the unit is. It would take a literal miracle for a converted unit to come out the other side but, there is no risk in waiting this out.

? Option #1b: If you would like to assume the ~\$80,000 investment and carry the remaining \$167,000 for a year or more. We can take delivery of the gas unit and attempt to source an alternative supplier for conversion. I have re-opened the conversations with ITB in Coaldale. But, this still remains to be a very uncertain path. The very big flag on the play in this is that if we cannot source an electric conversion you will end up with an overpriced gas unit that will not have any grant dollars attached to it as we will have to send the FCM funds back.

? Option #2: Cancel the project and return the funds that have already been disbursed back to the FCM.

Always happy to set up a call if that's easier to discuss this.

Thanks!

Kim Welby
Director, Economic Development
Southgrow Regional Initiative
403-849-1754
www.southgrow.com

Request for Decision

Approval of Minutes

March 11, 2024



RECOMMENDATION

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

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Municipal Government Act, Section 208(1)(a)
Procedure Bylaw 1023

BACKGROUND

As per the MGA and the Town'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: February 12, 2024, regular council meeting minutes

Prior to Adoption

Minutes of the Town of Milk River Regular and Closed Council meeting held on Monday, February 12, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, in the Town Hall Complex, at 240 Main Street, Milk River, Alberta.

Present - Elected Officials

Mayor Larry Liebelt, Councillor Peggy Losey, Councillor Dave Degenstein, Councillor Anne Michaelis, and Deputy Mayor Shayne Johnson

Present - Administration

Kelly Lloyd, Chief Administrative Officer
Barry Salter, Public Works Supervisor

1. Call to Order

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

2. Delegation: 6:00 p.m.

A) RCMP

This delegation has been moved to the March Council meeting.

3) Additions to the Agenda

A) Adoption of the Agenda - Additions to the Agenda

Moved by Councillor Degenstein, "that Council approve the agenda for February 12, 2024, regular council meeting as presented."

Motion Carried 2024-35

4) Approval of Minutes

A) Minutes of the January 8, 2024, Regular Council Meeting

Moved by Deputy Mayor Johnson, "that Council approve the January 8, 2024, regular council meeting minutes as presented."

Motion Carried 2024-36

5. Business Arising from Minutes

6. Financial Report

7. Administration Reports

A) Public Works

The report was contained within the agenda package.

Moved by Councillor Degenstein, "that Council accept the Public Works report for the period ending January 31, 2024, as information."

Motion Carried 2024-37

B) Community Peace Officer

The report was contained within the agenda package.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Johnson, "that Council accept the Community Peace Officer report for the period ending January 31, 2024, as information."

Motion Carried 2024-38

C) Chief Administrative Officer
CAO Lloyd provided a verbal report.

Moved by Councillor Losey, "that Council accept Administration Report for the period ending January 31, 2024, as information."

Motion Carried 2024-39

5. Bylaws and Policies

A) Borrowing Bylaw

Moved by Councillor Losey, "that Council give first reading to the Borrowing Bylaw 1054."

Motion Carried 2024-40

Moved by Councillor Michaelis, "that Council give second reading to the Borrowing Bylaw 1054."

Motion Carried 2024-41

Moved by Deputy Mayor Johnson, "that the Borrowing Bylaw 1054 receive unanimous consent for consideration of third reading."

Motion Carried 2024-42

Moved by Councillor Degenstein, "that Council give third and final reading to the Borrowing Bylaw 1054."

Motion Carried 2024-43

B) Vehicle Policy A3.0

Moved by Councillor Michaelis, "that Council accept Vehicle Policy A3.0 for information."

Motion Carried 2024-44

C) Snow Policy

Moved by Councillor Losey, "that Council accept the Snow Policy report as information and direct administration to bring the snow policy back to Council with the weekend changes as discussed and further to respond to the resident letter."

Motion Carried 2024-45

Public Works Supervisor Salter left the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

The Mayor recessed the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

The Mayor reconvened the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

6. Old Business

7. New Business

A) Correspondence

Moved by Councillor Degenstein, "that correspondence for the period ending February 12, 2024, be accepted as information."

Motion Carried 2024-46

B) County of Warner Donation Request

Moved by Councillor Losey, "that Council provide a donation worth up to \$100.00 to the Emergency Services Volunteer Appreciation event."

Motion Carried 2024-47

C) Milk River Health Professionals Attraction and Retention Housing Subcommittee

Councillor Michaelis updated Council on the four options the Housing Subcommittee is investigating regarding housing in Milk River.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Johnson, "that Council accept the Milk River Health Professionals Attraction and Retention Housing Subcommittee report as information."

Motion Carried 2024-48

D) Canada Day Donation Request

Moved by Councillor Degenstein, "that Council donate \$1,200 to sponsor the band for Canada Day."

Motion Carried 2024-49

Moved by Deputy Mayor Johnson, "that the bouncy houses be provided for the Canada Day celebrations."

Motion Carried 2024-50

E) Pink Shirt Day Proclamation

Moved by Councillor Degenstein, "that Council proclaim February 28, 2024, as Pink Shirt Day in the Town of Milk River."

Motion Carried 2024-51

F) Payment Approval for Invoices

Moved by Councillor Losey, "that Council approve payment to MicroAge, invoice 24216, in the amount of \$6,590.85; Mr. Rooter, invoice 88148822, in the amount of \$7,438.78 and Passey Electric, invoice 230625, in the amount of \$4,240.12."

Motion Carried 2024-52

G) Milk River Watershed Donation Request

Moved by Deputy Mayor Johnson, "that Council donate to the Milk River Watershed Community Appreciation Forum at the Silver Contributor Level."

Motion Carried 2024-53

8. Councillors Reports

Councillor Michaelis attended a Milk River Health Professionals Attraction and Retention Housing Subcommittee meeting, as well as the LGFF and Police Engagement webinars.

Councillor Degenstein attended an FCSS meeting, a Ridge Country Housing meeting, and LGFF webinars.

Councillor Losey attended the Chief Mountain Regional Solid Waste Commission meeting, an AHS engagement, Milk River Watershed meeting, and the Milk River and District Seniors Citizens Society meeting.

Deputy Mayor Johnson attended the Heritage Handibus meeting.

Moved by Councillor Degenstein, "that the Councillors reports for the period ending February 12, 2024, be accepted as information."

Motion Carried 2024-54

9. Mayors Report

Mayor Liebelt attended the Mayors and Reeves meeting.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Johnson, "that Council approve Councillor Degenstein to attend the Municipal Leaders Caucus."

Motion Carried 2024-55

Moved by Councillor Michaelis, "that Council approve Councillors Losey and Degenstein to attend the Southern Alberta Economic Summit."

Motion Carried 2024-56

Moved by Councillor Degenstein, "that Council accept the Mayors Report for the period ending February 12, 2024, as information."

Motion Carried 2024-57

10. Closed Session

11. Adjournment

Moved by Councillor Losey, "that the regular council meeting of February 12, 2024, adjourn at 8:37 p.m."

Motion Carried 2024-58

Larry Liebelt
Mayor

Kelly Lloyd
Chief Administrative Officer

These minutes were approved on the day of 2024.

Request for Decision

Administration Reports

March 11, 2024



RECOMMENDATION

That the Administration Reports for the period ending February 29, 2024, be accepted as information.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

BACKGROUND

On a monthly basis, administration provides Council with reports on the following: Public Works, Municipal Enforcement (Community Peace Officer), and the Chief Administrative Officer.

RISK/CONSEQUENCES

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

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None

ATTACHMENTS

1. Public Works Report
2. Community Peace Officer Report
3. Chief Administrative Officer Report

March 2024 Council Meeting

Public Works

The crews have been trying to keep up with the weather. They have done snow removal as needed and removed wind rows. Then for warmer weather, they opened gutters etc. in order for water to flow properly to the drainage. February 26, 2024, there were potential water leaks at 401 3 Avenue and 501 7 Avenue. 401 3 Avenue was leaking through a crack and we confirmed that it was a leak.

The decision was made to leave overnight as it appeared to be slow enough that would not cause potential complications and Jenex was called. Jenex said they would rearrange schedule to come out and call us in the morning. February 27, 2024, Jenex ran into problems with equipment not starting and other project going longer. They brought out their Excavator later in afternoon and was decided to start digging February 28, so we wouldn't leave a hole overnight and prepare for potential complications. Jenex and our crew believed it was possibly a service line; however, did not line up with a service. This was potentially a main line leak. We notified residents with letters and social media that water would be turned off from 7:00 AM till repair was complete.

The excavator had difficulty removing asphalt and first few feet of soil, due to ground frozen with water. Once exposed, it was clearly a service line and we turned water back on for other residents as soon as this service line was turned off. Due to the age of the connection, we could not locate any parts to fix immediately. The contractor created a new connection (Hot Tap) for the service line. Once the connection was complete, we turned the service line back on. Alberta Environment confirmed we did not have to do give a boil water advisory and no further action needed.

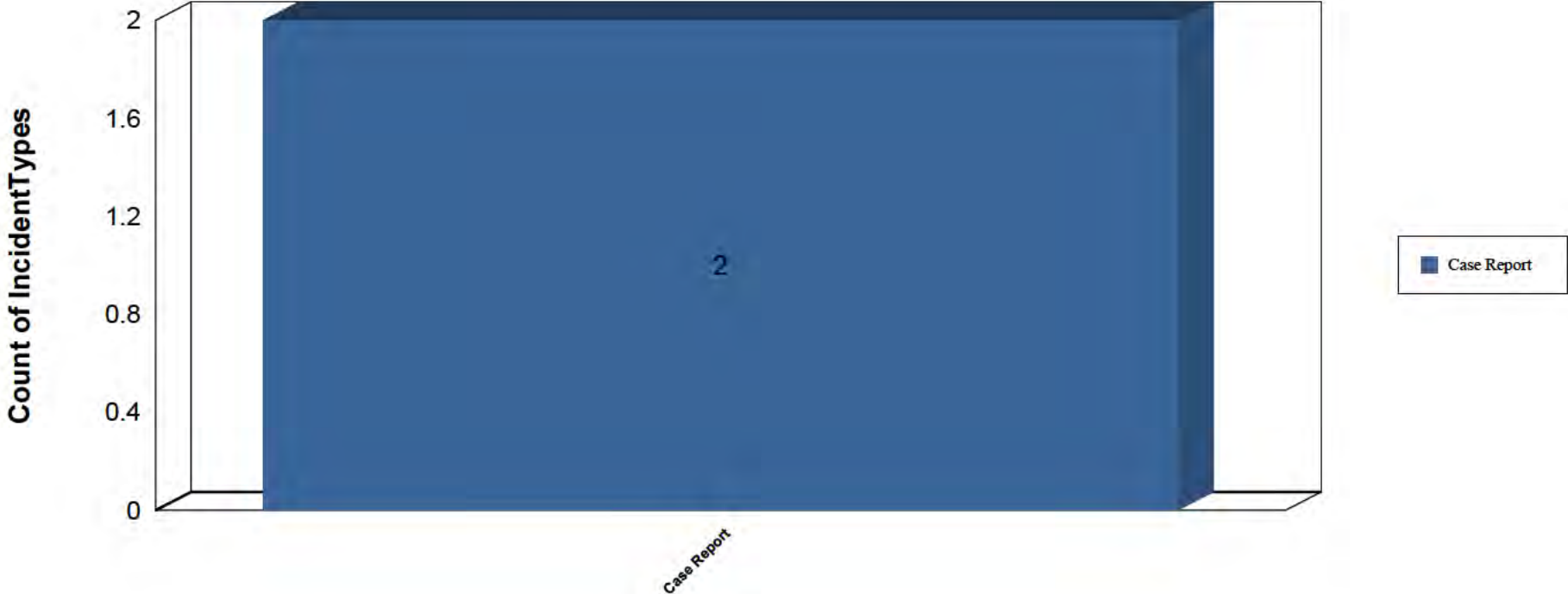
The contractor and our crew believe that there is no leak at 501 7 Avenue. It appears to be water that was insulated by snow and ice. We checked on this water numerous times over 2 days and at this time, it does not appear to be a leak. Greg successfully, completed his written for Class 3 Driver's License; as well as writing exam and being certified with Water Distribution Level 2. Randy successfully completed his written for Class 3 Driver's License.

Friday, March 1, 2024, I dropped off Tripod, Harnesses and SRL's (Confined Space Equipment) to be sent to Medicine Hat for certification. Also, picked up water meters that arrived last week. Finally, the Dump Truck Mast was not be able to be repaired and new one was ordered. Thankfully, the cost of the Mast was under \$3000 before Shipping. The full cost should be under \$6000, well below possible \$10,000 previously predicted. Dump Truck should be completed by Friday, March 8, 2024.

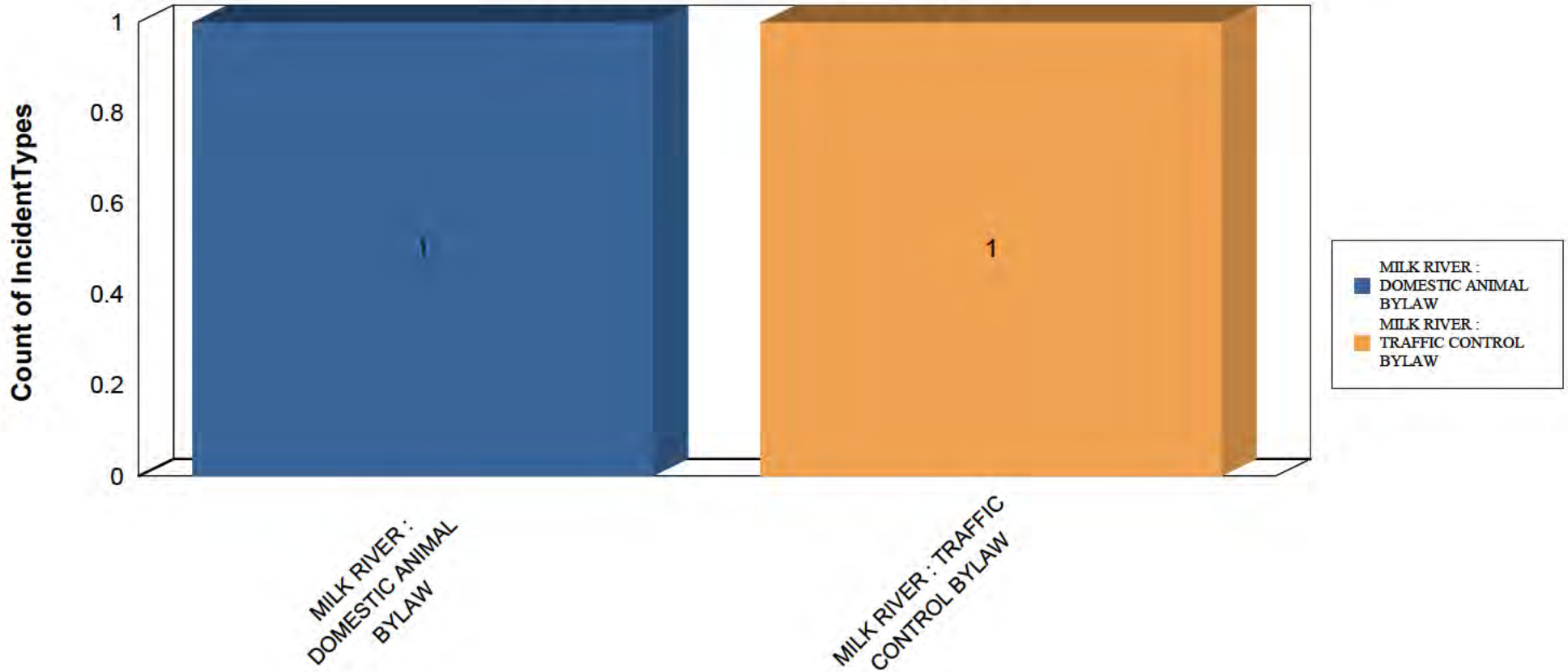
Municipal Enforcement

Statistics from: 2/1/2024 12:00:00AM to 2/29/2024 11:59:00PM

Count of Reports Completed



Count of Incident Types



MILK RIVER : DOMESTIC ANIMAL BYLAW

<u>Location</u>	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Incident Type</u>	<u>Officer</u>	<u>Date</u>
Case Report RIDGE REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES : MILK RIVER	RRPSS2024-0031	MILK RIVER : DOMESTIC ANIMAL BYLAW	ROSS BOND	2024/02/01 1030
<u>Specific Location</u>				

Report Synopsis : stray cat caught in cat trap retrieval

50.00% # of Reports: 1 Case Report MILK RIVER : DOMESTIC ANIMAL BYLAW

MILK RIVER : TRAFFIC CONTROL 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 : MILK RIVER	RRPSS2024-0039	MILK RIVER : TRAFFIC CONTROL BYLAW	BRAYDEN FENZ	2024/02/06 0820

Specific Location
[REDACTED]

Report Synopsis : complaint of trailer parked for months without moving, now causing a traffic hazard due to the snow.

50.00% # of Reports: 1 Case Report MILK RIVER : TRAFFIC CONTROL BYLAW

Grand Total: 100.00% Total # of Incident Types Reported: 2 Total # of Reports: 2

Grand Total: 100.00% Total # of Incident Types Reported: 2



Administration

- Council meeting agenda preparation
- Council meeting attendance
- Council meeting minutes
- Council meeting highlights for newsletter
- Staff meeting
- Walk in visitors, phone calls, and emails
- Development of draft strategic plan - work in progress
- Prepare 2024 draft operating and capital budgets
- Attend budget meeting
- Attend EPR webinars
- Attend Municipal Affairs Town Hall and AB Municipalities Budget webinars
- Attend Oldman River Health Advisory meeting
- Council professional development registrations
- Attend Hazard Outlook webinar
- Gathering information and planning for a water user meeting (Water Shortage Plan)
- Attend a Tax Bylaw webinar
- Attend a Resiliency webinar
- Council Chambers overhaul project
- Regional Water discussions with MPE
- Attend AHS MFR meeting
- Housing Subcommittee meetings and research preparation therein
- **Updates from CPO's** (when applicable)
- Development inquiries/meetings
- AIIP - Rural Renewal Program weekly meetings
- Attend AIIP workshop
- Canada's Core Public Infrastructure Survey
- 8th Avenue Development - power and gas

<u>2022-04-03</u>	Moved by Councillor Losey, “that administration look into the affordability of raising our grants to the small committees.”	WIP
	2023	
<u>2023-12</u>	Moved by Councillor Losey “that Council directs administration to dispose of extra desks in Council Chambers and clean up Council Chambers.”	Complete
<u>Motion Carried 2023-206</u>	Moved by Deputy Mayor Degenstein, “that Bylaw 1024 and Policy R1.0 be revised reflecting the following changes and bring back to a future Council meeting:	WIP
	<i>the failure to cut grass or weeds, including responsibility for the land at the front of property to the centre of the Street/Avenue and at the alley to the centre of the alley responsibility for the land at the front of the property to the gutter of the Street/Avenue and to where the lane for driving begins in the alley.”</i>	
<u>Motion Carried 2023-210</u>	Moved by Councillor Michaelis, “that Council directs administration to look into sidewalk repair for 108-1 Avenue, NE for 2024 budget.”	Complete
<u>Motion Carried 2023-231</u>	Moved by Councillor Johnson, “that Council direct administration to determine options regarding kochia weeds.”	WIP
<u>Motion Carried 2023-251</u>	Moved by Councillor Losey, “that the detailed park design fee proposal for Block 39 from Stantec, be accepted as information and be put forward to the 2024 budget deliberations.”	Complete
<u>Motion Carried 2023-253</u>	Moved by Councillor Losey, “that Council approve an annual \$1,000.00 member community contribution, for the next three years to Canada’s Western Gateway, beginning in 2024.”	Complete
<u>Motion Carried 2023-255</u>	Moved by Councillor Losey, “that Council directs administration to work with the Milk River and District Ag Society to mitigate water drainage.”	WIP
<u>Motion Carried 2023-260</u>	Moved by Councillor Michaelis, “that Council write a letter to all ministries regarding the Visitor Information Centre, including the Milk River Watershed Council Canada.”	WIP
<u>Motion Carried 2023-279</u>	Moved by Councillor Losey, “that the item of a housing needs assessment be added to the 2024 budget deliberations.”	Complete
<u>Motion Carried 2023-286</u>	Moved by Councillor Degenstein, “that \$10 per person per meal at council to include in budget deliberations for 2024, as well as a change in the procedural bylaw to include a nutrition break.”	March meeting
<u>Motion carried 2023-287</u>	Moved by Deputy Mayor Johnson, “that Council direct administration to investigate the feasibility of a streetlight on the corner of 3rd Avenue and 1st Street NE.”	2024 Budget
<u>Motion Carried 2023-328</u>	Moved by Councillor Degenstein, “that Council add street signs to the 2024 budget deliberations.”	2024 Budget
<u>Motion Carried 2024-25</u>	Moved by Councillor Losey, “that Council directs administration to go to RFP for auditor services.”	WIP
<u>Motion Carried 2024-29</u>	Moved by Councillor Degenstein, “that Council direct administration to discuss with curling club the current agreement and arrangements with a look to revising to a potential cost share prior to budget deliberations.”	WIP

<u>Motion Carried</u> 2024-45	Moved by Councillor Losey, “that Council accept the Snow Policy report as information and direct administration to bring the snow policy back to Council with the weekend changes as discussed and further to respond to the resident letter.”	March meeting
<u>Motion Carried</u> 2024-47	Moved by Councillor Losey, “that Council provide a donation worth up to \$100.00 to the Emergency Services Volunteer Appreciation event.”	Complete
<u>Motion Carried</u> 2024-49	Moved by Councillor Degenstein, “that Council donate \$1,200 to sponsor the band for Canada Day.”	WIP
<u>Motion Carried</u> 2024-50	Moved by Deputy Mayor Johnson, “that the bouncy houses be provided for the Canada Day celebrations.”	WIP
<u>Motion Carried</u> 2024-53	Moved by Deputy Mayor Johnson, “that Council donate to the Milk River Watershed Community Appreciation Forum at the Silver Contributor Level.”	Complete
<u>Motion Carried</u> 2024-55	Moved by Deputy Mayor Johnson, “that Council approve Councillor Degenstein to attend the Municipal Leaders Caucus.”	WIP
<u>Motion Carried</u> 2024-56	Moved by Councillor Michaelis, “that Council approve Councillors Losey and Degenstein to attend the Southern Alberta Economic Summit.”	WIP

Request for Decision

Code of Conduct Bylaw 1004

March 11, 2024



RECOMMENDATION

That Council accept the Code of Conduct Bylaw 1004 as information.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Municipal Government Act

BACKGROUND

Administration has placed the Code of Conduct Bylaw on the agenda as a refresher for Council.

RISKS/CONSEQUENCES

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

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None

ATTACHMENTS

1. Bylaw 1004 Code of Conduct

**TOWN OF MILK RIVER
IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
BYLAW NO. 1004**

BEING A BY-LAW OF THE TOWN OF MILK RIVER. IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, TO PROVIDE THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MILK RIVER.

WHEREAS The citizens and the taxpayers of the Town of Milk River have the right to be served by a Council committed to conducting its service in an ethical and professional manner. It is important that there not be, nor appear to be, any conflict between the private interests of each Councillor. The purpose of the Code of Conduct shall be to uphold these principles governing the conduct of Councillors so Councillors maintain the highest standards while faithfully discharging their duties.

NOW THEREFORE, the Municipal Council of the TOWN OF MILK RIVER, in the Province of Alberta, duly assembled, hereby enacts as follows:

That this by-law may be cited as the Councillor Code of Conduct

ARTICLE 1 REPRESENTING THE MUNICIPALITY

1. Govern individual conduct in accordance with the requirements set out in The Municipal Government Act, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter M-26, or any other Act of the Government of Canada or the Province of Alberta, and the bylaws and policies approved by the Councillors of the Municipality;
2. The primary obligation of Council members is to represent the best interests of the Town of Milk River. This accountability supersedes all other interests;

ARTICLE 2 COMMUNICATION ON BEHALF OF THE MUNICIPALITY

1. Where Council members are appointed as members of committees or boards, they serve in a liaison role, but not necessarily as an advocate for the committee or board;
2. Council members' interaction with the public, media, or other entities must recognize the inability of any Council member to speak for the Council expect to repeat explicitly stated Council decisions, unless expressing personal opinion(s);

ARTICLE 3 RESPECTING THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS

1. All Councillors should be given a full opportunity to address issues in Council in a full, open, and professional manner to encourage and promote healthy debate of issues;
2. Council decisions are made by majority vote by the Councillors. The decision of Council must be accepted and respected by all Councillors even if some individual Councillors do not agree with the majority decision;

3. While an individual Councillor may publically state that he/she did not vote with the majority of Council on an issue, this type of statement must be made in a manner that respects Council, Council's decision and other members of Council;

ARTICLE 4 ADHERENCE TO POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND BYLAWS

1. Council members will uphold and model the letter and intent of the Code of Conduct;
2. Councillors shall adhere to all laws, legislation, regulations, bylaws and policies of the Town of Milk River;

ARTICLE 5 RESPECTFUL INTERACTIONS WITH COUNCILLORS, STAFF, THE PUBLIC AND OTHERS

1. Councillors shall show respect and accountability to each other and understand the benefit of healthy debate and discussion;
2. Councillors shall show respect to all staff and the public;
3. The only employee of Council is the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). Councillors shall respect the CAO's authority to direct staff;
4. Council's point of communication access with the employees is the CAO. Councillors shall direct their questions and concerns regarding administrative matters to the CAO. Requests for information from Public Works Foreman shall be permitted;
5. Councillors shall refrain from making negative comments about staff to the public or media;
6. Council shall not advocate for the promotion, sanction or termination of any municipal employee other than the CAO;

ARTICLE 6 CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

1. Councillors shall protect confidential information in accordance with Alberta's FOIP Act. Any matters discussed during an in-camera portion of a council meeting shall be considered confidential;
2. No resolutions shall be made during the in-camera portion of a meeting, except for a resolution to leave the in-camera portion and resume the regular meeting;
3. Only information protected by FOIP or allowed by the MGA shall be discussed during the in-camera portion of a meeting;
4. Councillors are required to continue to keep confidential information confidential even after leaving office at risk of fines or prosecution as per FOIP;

ARTICLE 7 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

1. Councillors shall remove themselves from Council proceedings where they or an immediate family member would have a pecuniary interest concerning an outside business interest;
2. If a Councillor has a pecuniary interest they will disclose the pecuniary interest to Council. The disclosure will be described and recorded in the Council minutes. The Councillor will then abstain from the discussion and voting on the matter and leave the room, until the discussion and voting on the matter has concluded;

3. In the case that a Councillor may have a perceived pecuniary interest, they may indicate their desire to remove themselves from discussion and voting on that particular matter. The Councillor will disclose and describe the perceived pecuniary interest to council and Council will, by resolution, decide if that Councillor will or will not vote on the matter under discussion;
4. Discussions or motions regarding a non-profit organization that a Councillor is affiliated to shall not be deemed a pecuniary interest;

ARTICLE 8 IMPROPER USE OF INFLUENCE

1. Councillors shall not use any influence of office for any purpose other than official duties;

ARTICLE 9 USE OF MUNICIPAL ASSETS AND SERVICES

1. Councillors shall not make unreasonable or unintended use of municipal materials, equipment, facilities or employees for personal gain or any private purpose;

ARTICLE 10 ORIENTATION AND OTHER TRAINING ATTENDANCE

1. Councillors have the responsibility to come prepared to Council meetings;
2. Councillors will strive to educate themselves and take mandatory and offered training in order to continuously improve their ability to carry out their Council duties;

ARTICLE 11 COMPLAINT SYSTEM

1. If a Councillor suspects a breach of this bylaw by a fellow Councillor, that Councillor shall bring it to the attention of the Mayor;
2. If a Councillor suspects a breach of this bylaw involves the Mayor, it shall be taken up with the Deputy Mayor. If that Councillor is not satisfied with the outcome of that discussion the Councillor can table the matter in Council which may be discussed during an in-camera portion of the meeting;

ARTICLE 12 SANCTIONS FOR BREACHING CODE OF CONDUCT

1. A letter of reprimand addressed to the Councillor;
2. Requesting the Councillor to issue a letter of apology;
3. Publication of a letter of reprimand or request for apology and the Councillor's response;
4. A requirement to attend training;
5. Suspension or removal of the appointment of a councillor as the chief elected official under section 150(2) of the Act;
6. Suspension or removal of the appointment of a councillor as the deputy chief elected official or acting chief elected official under section 152 of the Act;

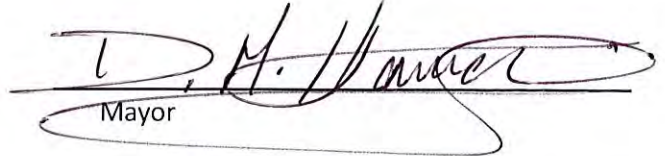
ARTICLE 13 REVIEW OF CODE OF CONDUCT

1. The Councillor Code of Conduct will be reviewed at the organizational meeting preceding the election every 4 years.

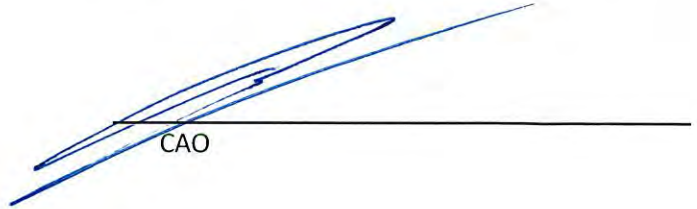
Read a first time in Council this 14 day of Aug., 2017

Read a second time in Council this 14 day of Aug., 2017

Read a third and final time, with unanimous consent, in Council this 14 day of Aug., 2017



Mayor



CAO

Schedule "A"

I recognize that I have a responsibility to assure that ethical standards are understood and met so that the public will have confidence in the integrity of the Council. In recognition of my commitment as a Councillor of the Town of Milk River, I promise that I will uphold the standards of the Councillor Code of Conduct and the MGA, while performing my duty to the public.

Dated at the Town of Milk River, in the province of Alberta, this _____ day of _____, 2017.

Witness to the Signature of Councillor

Councillor



Request for Decision

Procedural Bylaw 1023

March 11, 2024



RECOMMENDATION

That Council accept the Procedural Bylaw 1023 as information.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Municipal Government Act

BACKGROUND

As a result of budget deliberations and the potential addition of nutrition breaks, Council may wish to review the Procedural Bylaw and provide revisions, should they be required.

RISKS/CONSEQUENCES

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

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None

ATTACHMENTS

1. Bylaw 1023 Procedural

BY-LAW NO. 1023

A BY-LAW OF THE TOWN OF MILK RIVER, IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, TO DEAL WITH THE PROCEDURE AND THE TRANSACTING OF BUSINESS BY THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF MILK RIVER.

WHEREAS, Section 145 of the Municipal Government Act, being Chapter M-26 R.S.A. 2000 and amendments thereto, deal with meetings of Council, this By-Law, by virtue of the Act, provides for the regulation of the proceedings of Council and the Committees thereof.

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Town of Milk River, duly assembled enacts as follows:

PART I: TITLE

1. This By-Law shall be cited as the "Procedure By-Law" of the Town of Milk River.

PART II: DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

1. In this By-Law:

- a) "Act" means the Municipal Government Act, Chapter M-26, as amended.
- b) "Acting Mayor" means the member selected by the Council to preside at a Regular Meeting thereof in the absence or incapacity of both the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor, pursuant to the Act.
- c) "Agenda" means the agenda for a Regular, Special or Committee of the Whole meeting prepared pursuant to Part VII of this By-Law.
- d) "By-Law" means a By-Law of the Town.
- e) "Chair" means the person who has been given authority to direct the conduct of a meeting including the appointed head of a committee.
- f) "Committee" means any committee, board or other body established by Council under the Municipal Government, unless Council decides that this by-law does not apply to any particular Council Committee.
- g) "Council" means the duly elected Council of the Town of Milk River
- h) "Deputy Mayor" means the person appointed by Council pursuant to the provisions of Part IV of this By-Law to act as Mayor in the absence or incapacity of the Mayor.
- i) "Mayor" means the person elected as the Chief Elected Officer under Section 150 of the Act.
- j) "New Business" means business dealing with a matter, which has not been introduced at the same or previous meeting and of which no notice has been given of the intention to present it.
- k) "Privilege" means the rights and immunities of Council collective or the position and conduct of members of Council in their office character as elected representatives and a "matter of privilege" means any matter affecting privilege.
- l) "Quorum" means minimum number of members of Council or Committee necessary to conduct business.
- m) "Town" means the corporation of the Town of Milk River and where the context so requires, means the area included within the boundaries of the Town.
- n) "Old Business" means the business which has been raised at the same or previous meeting and which has not been completed.

2. Wherever this By-Law requires that a motion be made, a By-Law be passed or any other action be taken by a vote of:

- a) a simple majority of Council;
- b) two-thirds or any other stipulated fraction of Council members;
- c) all members of Council;

the requirements shall be interpreted as meaning such majority, fraction or total of the members of Council who are present and voting on the matter.

PART III: APPLICATION OF BY-LAW

1. This By-Law applies to:
 - (a) All Regular and Special Meetings of Council; and
 - (b) the conduct of meetings of all Committees and Boards of Council.

PART IV: ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

1. Council must hold an organizational meeting annually not later than two weeks after the third Monday in October.
2. Unless the Mayor has been elected at the last General Election, immediately preceding the Organizational meeting, the Mayor shall take the chair and call the meeting to order.
3. If the Mayor has been elected at the last General Election, immediately preceding the meeting, the CAO shall call the meeting to order and shall preside over the meeting until the oath, prescribed by the Oath of Office Act, has been administered to the Mayor.
4. After the Mayor has taken the oath, the Mayor shall preside over the meeting and the Councillors shall take the Official Oath of Office.
5. All Committees and other bodies that Council is entitled to appoint may be changed annually at the time of the Organizational Meeting as set by the statute then in effect.
6. The business of the Organizational Meeting shall be limited to:
 - a. The appointment of the Deputy Mayor;
 - b. The appointment of Council to committees or other bodies;
 - c. Setting the date, time and place for regular Council meetings;
 - d. A review the Councillor Code of Conduct;
 - e. A review of the remuneration and expenses policy;
 - f. In an election year, a review of the Procedural Bylaw;
 - g. Appoint signing authorities;
 - h. Appoint the auditor;
 - i. Appoint the assessor;

PART V: APPOINTMENT AND ORGANIZATION OF COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

1. All Committees of Council and all members of Committees, including citizen members shall be bound by the voting rules of this by-law.
2. All elected and citizen members of Committees of Council, will be appointed at an Organizational Meeting, or by a motion of Council.
3. Terms for Councillors appointed to any Committee are twelve months.
4. Terms for residents at large appointed to a Committee will be a twelve-month term.
5. Residents interested in volunteering to serve on Committees may apply to the Town by way of cover letter outlining their interest. Recommendations for appointments will be made using the following considerations:
 - (i) the best interests of the Town
 - (ii) the competence of members
 - (iii) willingness to serve.
6. The purpose of the Committee of the Whole is to allow for Council and Department heads to have discussions on operational and capital priorities and issues. It shall include Council, the CAO, the Public Works Foreman and the Fire Chief. Only the members of Council are able to vote. The Committee of the Whole meets, as required and as determined by Council.

PART VI: GENERAL RULES OF COUNCIL

1. Regular Meetings of Council shall be held on the second Monday of each month provided that where a Regular Council Meeting falls on a holiday, the meeting shall be held on the next following day, not being a holiday, or on such other day as Council decides.

2. Regular Meetings of Council shall commence at 5:30pm and adjourn by a unanimous vote of the members present. Adjournment of a meeting shall be no later than 9:30pm, unless a vote of the majority of Council extends the meeting for 30 minutes. The Council meeting must be completed before 10:00pm, including an extension.
3. If there is no quorum present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for the meeting of Council, the CAO shall, for the purpose of remuneration, call the roll and take down the names of the members present and the Council shall stand absolutely adjourned until the next meeting.
4. Absences of a member of Council shall be dealt with under the provisions provided in the Act.
5. The minutes of the preceding meeting shall have previously been circulated to the Councillors, allowing the minutes circulated to be adopted by a majority vote.
6. The Chair shall preserve order and decorum and decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Council, and the decision of the Chair shall be final unless reversed or altered by a majority vote of the members present without debate.
7. Every member wishing to speak to a question or motion shall address themselves only to the Chair.
8. When a request is made to have a member's vote recorded against a question, all present at that time shall be recorded, and the member's votes shall be recorded as voting for, against, and /or abstained for pecuniary interest only, pursuant to the Act.
9. Special Council meetings can be held under the provisions provided in Section 194 of the Act.
10. Special Council meetings should only be held to address time sensitive issues.
11. Public Hearings will follow the process outlined in the Act.
12. A member of Council shall be allowed to participate in a Regular or Special meeting of Council via electronic means, as described in the Act. A member of Council will only be able to participate in one meeting via electronics means in a row. The per diem rates for a member of Council participating in a meeting via electronic means will be paid at the same rate as if the member of Council is physically present. If the meeting goes into a Closed Session, while a member of Council is participating via electronic means, he/she will not be able to participate in the Closed Session portion of the meeting.
13. Audio and video recordings of all meetings of Council are prohibited, unless authorized by a unanimous vote of Council.

PART VII: PROCEEDINGS AT MEETINGS

1. Unless otherwise specified in this By-Law, the Order of Business for a Regular Meeting of Council shall be contained in the agenda for the meeting, which shall be prepared by the CAO. Copies of all reports or communications to be dealt with shall be placed at the disposal of Council by the noon on the Friday immediately preceding a Regular Council Meeting.
2. The Order of Business in the agenda shall be as follows:
 - (1.) Call to Order
 - (2.) Delegations
 - (3.) Additions to the Agenda
 - (4.) Approval of Minutes
 - (5.) Business Arising from Minutes
 - (6.) Financial Reports
 - (7.) Administration Reports

- (8.) Old Business
 - (9.) New Business & Bylaws
 - (10.) Councillor's Reports
 - (11.) Mayor's Report
 - (12.) In Camera (if required)
 - (13.) Adjournment
3. Additions to the agenda will be made by motion and accepted by majority vote of the Council.
 4. Delegations who wishes to bring any matter to the attention of the Council or who wishes to have any matter considered by the Council, shall address a letter to the Council outlining the subject to be discussed. The letter shall be typewritten or legibly written, signed by the correct name of the writer, delivered or mailed to the office of the CAO so that it arrives no later than 1:00 p.m. on the Tuesday immediately preceding the meeting at which it is to be presented, and it shall contain the full mailing address of the writer. If he or she wishes to appear before Council, it shall be so stated in the letter. The CAO shall then place the person(s) on the next meeting agenda if possible.
 5. Delegations will be allocated a maximum of 10 minutes to present the subject matter indicated in their request. The Chair of the meeting may extend this maximum time allocation at their choice. A maximum of 2 delegations will be included on the agenda at a Regular Council meeting.
 6. Delegations may present to Council no more than 2 times per year on items considered to be the same issue.

PART VIII: MOTIONS AND PUTTING QUESTIONS OR RESOLUTIONS IN COUNCIL

1. In all cases not provided for in the proceedings of the Council or in Committee, Robert's Rule of Order shall be followed and, in such cases, the decision of the Chair shall be final and accepted without debate.
2. No motion bringing in a new matter before Council may be made while any other motion is pending.
3. A recommendation in a report does not constitute a motion until a Council Member has expressly moved it.
4. A motion is not required to be seconded.
5. All motions shall be in writing and recorded before being debated or put from the Chair.
6. The Chair must call for a motion before a vote is taken
7. A motion may be tabled to enable Council to deal with other more pressing matters. A motion that has been tabled may be brought back at any time by a majority vote and when brought back, it will take precedence over other new motions.
8. Under Section 183 of the Act, every member of Council present, shall vote on every matter of Council, unless they are required to or permitted to abstain from voting due to a pecuniary interest.

PART IX: ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS WHEN IN A CLOSED SESSION

1. The rules of the Council shall be observed when Council is in a closed session as far as may be applicable. Recommendations shall be voted on after returning to Regular Meeting.
2. The Committee of the Whole Meeting can, by resolution, move into a closed session and exclude any person or persons from the meeting. Recommendations shall be voted on after returning to Regular Meeting.

PART X: READING OF PROPOSED BY-LAWS AND PROCEEDINGS THEREON

1. When a proposed By-Law is read in Council, the CAO shall certify the reading and the date of the reading on the face thereof. When a By-Law has been read a third time and finally passed the CAO shall keep on file correct copies thereof, including amendments, if any.
2. A By-Law appearing upon the Council agenda when listed as ready for first reading shall be introduced by a member moving “That By-Law No. (Quoting the By-Law No.) be now read a first time.” After first reading, the By-Law may be debated, referred or laid over. If a By-Law fails to receive first reading, then it may be struck from the agenda.
3. Every By-Law shall be read a third time before it is signed by the Mayor or Deputy Mayor. If a By-Law fails to receive third reading, it shall remain on the agenda to be dealt with at the next Regular Meeting of Council. However, if a By-Law fails to receive third reading at three consecutive Regular Meetings of Council, it shall be deemed to have failed and be struck from the agenda.

PART XI: REGULATIONS FOR CONDUCTING BUSINESS IN COMMITTEE

1. The business of the Committee of the Whole, Authorities, Boards, and other Committees shall be conducted in accordance with the rules governing procedure in the Council, in addition, the following rules shall be adhered to:
 - a) The Chairperson shall preside at each meeting, shall vote on all questions submitted and, upon an equal vote, the question shall be negative.
 - b) The name of the Chairperson shall appear on all reports and recommendations made by a Committee/Authority/Board.
 - c) In the absence of the Chairperson and unless another has been appointed by the Mayor or the Council, one of the other members shall be elected to preside and shall discharge the duties of the Chairperson during the meeting or until the arrival of the Chairperson.
 - d) The minutes of the transactions of each Committee/Authority/Board shall accurately kept in a book provided for that purpose and, at each meeting, the minutes of the preceding meeting shall be submitted for approval. After they are approved by a majority of the members present, shall be signed by the Chairperson and the CAO.
2. The general duties of all the Committees of Council shall be as follows:
 - a) To report to the Council, on all matters connected with the duties imposed upon each such Committee and to recommend such action by the Council as it deems necessary within its terms of reference.
 - b) To observe, unless otherwise specifically permitted, the rules prescribed by the By-Laws of the Council.

This By-Law shall rescind By-Law No. 952 upon final passing thereof. This By-Law shall come into full force and effect on the final day of passing.

READ a first and second this 9th day of September 2019.

MAYOR – Peggy Losey

CAO – Ryan Leuzinger

READ a third and final time this 21st day of October, 2019.

MAYOR – Peggy Losey

CAO – Ryan Leuzinger

Request for Decision

Snow and Ice Control Policy

March 11, 2024



RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the Snow and Ice Control Policy as presented.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Policy R3.0 Snow and Ice Control

BACKGROUND

At the February Council meeting, discussion took place regarding weekend snow plowing operations.

As a result, the Snow and Ice Control Policy has been amended and is presented to Council for approval.

RISK/CONSEQUENCES

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

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

None

ATTACHMENTS

1. Snow and Ice Control Policy

Council Policy R3

Snow and Ice Control



Responsibility: Public Works

Effective Date

November 14, 2023

References

Bylaw 139 Sidewalk Snow Removal

Council Resolution

2023-270

POLICY STATEMENT

An effective snow and ice control policy is necessary to allow the Town to function under normal winter weather conditions to reduce snow and ice hazards.

The aim of the snow and ice control policy is to provide reasonable winter driving conditions for vehicles that are properly equipped for winter driving and are operated in a manner consistent with good driving habits.

PURPOSE

To establish the standards, procedures and priorities for the snow and ice control program within the Town of Milk River to ensure for safe traffic movement.

The intent of the snow and ice control policy is to minimize economic loss to the community, ensure the available resources are best utilized, and to reduce the inconvenience and hazards of winter conditions for motorists.

SCOPE

Street and sidewalk snow and ice control throughout the Town of Milk River.

DEFINITIONS

Discretionary - Due to a variety of variables (weather conditions, operational limitations, and seasonal trending), some snow and ice control activities are initiated by administration outside the realm of this policy. The intent of having non-quantified triggers is to provide administration the flexibility to respond to upcoming weather projections, balance resources, and deploy measures to prevent situations that could restrict access for emergency and waste management vehicles. Discretionary does not apply to a performance target measure.

Laneway - also known as back alleys, Laneways provide access to the rear of properties.

Snow plowing - Pushing accumulated snow from the roadway surface either to the sides of the roadway or the centre of the roadway to ensure travel lanes are passable to traffic.

Windrow - A continuous ridge of snow running parallel to the road, created by Snow plowing operations.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) and/or their designate, is responsible for the implementation of this policy.

STANDARDS

1. Guidelines

- 1.1. This policy sets out the priorities and procedures for snow and ice control, however, the Town may direct crews and equipment to work in areas requiring immediate attention due to emergency conditions or localized drifting.
- 1.2. The Town will take full advantage of all snow storage capacity of roadways to minimize the expenditures associated with snow removal and hauling.
- 1.3. The Town may adjust/alter any section within this policy when an emergency and/or when severe weather situations occur.
- 1.4. The Town will consistently endeavour to accomplish the tasks laid out within this policy in the most cost-effective and safe manner, while still maintaining the high level of service.

2. Service Levels

Level of service standards are established for Town controlled roadways according to their priority ranking. The level of service priorities is based upon emergency access and routing, traffic speed and volumes.

- 2.1. Service levels may be impacted by available resources, Council approved budget, equipment failures, and extreme weather conditions.
- 2.2. Snow plowing operations will be conducted on a seven days per week basis, **including Windrowing** ~~meaning that work may commence~~ on weekends and holidays.
- 2.3. Private driveways or sidewalks will not be cleared by Town crews or equipment, with the exception of the sidewalks in the downtown commercial areas, the sidewalk in front of the recreation facilities, including the cement entrance pad and stairs in front of the curling rink and civic centre as depicted in Appendix A. Any minor snow removal will continue to be the responsibility of the business owners.
- 2.4. Except for downtown from 3rd Avenue down and across, Laneways or alleys will not be plowed by Town crews unless extensive snow drifting occurs and will be based upon request and the Discretion of the Town. The focus of Laneway clearing will be to provide access for emergency services and to permit access for garbage removal and business deliveries. Laneways will be cleared with a single pass. Residents will be responsible for clearing openings in the Windrows if access to private property is desired.
- 2.5. Roadway plowing will always take priority over Laneway plowing.

- 2.6. It is expected that there will be extreme weather situations where the immediate demand for snow and ice control services will exceed the available resources.
- 2.7. The Town may commence snow clearing as soon as possible after a storm.
- 2.8. During a blizzard or severe weather conditions, public works and the CAO may use Discretion to prioritize any areas they deem essential.

3. Roadway Plowing and Removal Priority Ranking (Appendix B)

3.1. Priority One

- Emergency Routes and Firehall
 - Firehall apron and sidewalk
- School Access
 - 3rd Avenue NE from Main Street to 3rd Street NE (blade not lifted)
 - North on 3rd Street NE from 3rd Avenue NE to 4th Avenue NE (blade not lifted)
 - 4th Avenue N from 3rd Street NE to 5th Street NE (blade not lifted)
- All of Main Street
- Prairie Rose Lodge
 - 1st Street NW and 4th Avenue NW
- Downtown Commercial Areas
 - Sidewalks in front of downtown businesses (conducted with equipment)
 - 1st Avenue from Railway Street to the alley west of Main Street
 - Laneways (from 3rd Avenue south to 1st Avenue and west to Railway Avenue)

3.2 Remaining Routes

- Public Works and the CAO will use Discretion to clear remaining priority routes (including campground and airport) based on determined needs. **At 8 Flags Campground, the paved area around the EV Charging Station, as well as the road through the campground will be completed.**
- All other roadways throughout the Town, including 10th Avenue, will be plowed. Snow pushed to the Windrow must be completed prior to snow removal.
- 5th Street or County Road is the responsibility of the County of Warner #5.
- Highway #501 is the responsibility of Alberta Transportation; however, the Town will assist with plowing when resources are available. The contracted service provider conducts snow clearing, sanding, etc.

4. Snow Storage and Removal

- 4.1. The Town will build or place Windrows to the centre of the roadway or on the sides of the roads. The Town will make all reasonable efforts to ensure that the Windrows do not block access to private driveways. Windrows in the centre of the roadways will be utilized during extreme weather situations. Residents and businesses that push snow to the Windrow must be completed prior to Windrow pick up.
- 4.2. During extreme weather situations, boulevards may be utilized for snow storage and may result in damages to improvements and private trees within Town boulevards. Care and attention will be taken to reduce potential damage to private trees and boulevards.

- 4.3. At the Discretion of the Town, Windrows placed on the roadways will be hauled away once snow plowing has been completed and where there is the potential to cause safety or drainage issues.
- 4.4. All snow that will be hauled away will be moved to designated storage sites within the Town, as per Alberta Environment approvals and regulations.
- 4.5. All private snow removal contractors are strictly prohibited from dumping snow on any Town property, street, or snow storage site.

5. Sanding and Snow Fence

- 5.1. Roads are sanded on the same priority basis as Snow plowing.
- 5.2. Every intersection will be sanded at the end of every shift.
- 5.3. The Town is not responsible for any sand/gravel that may be left on boulevards after the snow has melted.
- 5.4. Every fall, snow fence will be erected along 8th Avenue NE in the laneway between 3rd and 4th Street NE.

Revised: September 11, 2023
Revised: September 14, 2015
Approved: March 10, 2010

Resolution: 2023-227
Resolution: 2015-09-08



Roadway Plowing and
Removal Priority Ranking Map

— Priority One



Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors, Microsoft, Facebook, Inc. and its affiliates, Esri Community Maps contributors, Map layer by Esri

Request for Decision

Correspondence

March 11, 2024



RECOMMENDATION

That correspondence for the period ending March 11, 2024, be accepted as information.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

BACKGROUND

Correspondence is a collection of general information received at the Town 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. Municipal Affairs - ACP Grant
2. Chief Mountain Regional Solid Waste Services Commission
3. Municipal Affairs - ICF Engagement
4. National Police Federation
5. SouthGrow
6. FCSS Report to Municipalities
7. Municipal Services Division Update
8. Municipal Affairs Budget Letter
9. FCSS Funding Letter
10. Municipal Affairs - Municipal Excellence



ALBERTA
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary-Hays*

AR113641

February 12, 2024

His Worship Jim Depew
Mayor
Town of Raymond
PO Box 629
Raymond AB T0K 2S0

Dear Mayor Depew:

Through the Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) program, the Government of Alberta encourages strengthened relationships between municipalities and cooperative approaches to service delivery. By working in partnership with our neighbours, we create opportunities that support economic development and job creation. Together, we help build vibrant, resilient communities for the benefit of every Albertan.

I am pleased to inform you that the Town of Raymond has been approved for a grant of \$200,000 under the Intermunicipal Collaboration component of the 2023/24 ACP in support of your Investigation of Enhancement of Regional Solid Waste Collection through Design and Efficiencies project. This approval does not signify broader provincial support for any recommendation or outcome that might result from your project.

The conditional grant agreement will be sent shortly to your Chief Administrative Officer to obtain the appropriate signatures.

The Government of Alberta looks forward to celebrating your ACP-funded project with you and your municipal partnership. I encourage you to send invitations for these milestone events to my office. We ask that you advise Municipal Affairs a minimum of 15 working days prior to the proposed event. If you would like to discuss possible activities or events to recognize your ACP achievements, please contact a grant advisor, toll-free by dialing 310-0000, then 780-422-7125, or at acp.grants@gov.ab.ca.

.../2

I congratulate the partnership on initiating this project, and I wish you every success in your efforts.

Sincerely,



Ric McIver
Minister

cc: Honourable Joseph Schow, MLA, Cardston-Siksika
Honourable Grant Hunter, MLA, Taber-Warner
Chelsae Petrovic, MLA, Livingstone-Macleod
Mayor Maggie Kronen, Town of Cardston
Mayor Byrne Cook, Town of Magrath
Mayor Larry Liebelt, Town of Milk River
Mayor Scott MacCumber, Village of Coutts
Mayor Linda Allred, Village of Glenwood
Mayor Dwight L. Davis, Village of Hill Spring
Mayor Trevor Lewington, Village of Stirling
Mayor Tyler Lindsay, Village of Warner
Reeve Randy Bullock, Cardston County
Reeve Randall Taylor, County of Warner
Kurtis Pratt, Chief Administrative Officer, Town of Raymond
Jeff Shaw, Chief Administrative Officer, Town of Cardston
James Suffredine, Chief Administrative Officer, Town of Magrath
Kelly Lloyd, Chief Administrative Officer, Town of Milk River and Village of Warner
Lori Rolfe, Chief Administrative Officer, Village of Coutts
Cynthia Vizzutti, Chief Administrative Officer, Village of Glenwood
Greg Robinson, Chief Administrative Officer, Village of Hill Spring
Scott Donselaar, Chief Administrative Officer, Village of Stirling
Murray Millward, Chief Administrative Officer, Cardston County
Shawn Hathaway, Chief Administrative Officer, County of Warner

RECEIVED

FEB 26 2024

Chief Mountain



Regional Solid Waste Services Commission

P.O. Box 1711, Cardston, Alberta T0K 0K0 Phone: 403-653-2703 Fax: 403-653-2704

February 15, 2024

Kelly Lloyd
Town of Milk River
Box 270
Milk River, AB
T0K 1M0

Dear Ms. Lloyd,

Last night, the Town of Milk River's request for a 2022 Waste Diversion Incentive rebate was discussed at the Commission board meeting.

A motion was passed to pay only for the 2023 Waste Diversion, as this affects the already approved budget. This payment was directly deposited into your account on January 29, 2024.

Yours truly,

Marian Carlson
SEO



ALBERTA
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary-Hays*

AR113898

To All Chief Elected Officials:

I am inviting your municipality to participate in the review of the *Municipal Government Act* requirements related to Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks (ICFs). ICFs encourage integrated and strategic planning, delivery, and funding of inter-municipal services.

Municipal Affairs welcomes your insight and feedback to ensure any future legislative changes consider the needs of municipalities. The scope of this engagement covers the following topics:

- required content of ICFs;
- ICF agreement duration;
- cost calculations;
- mediation and arbitration; and
- enforcement.

I encourage you to complete the survey and share your perspectives on these important matters. The survey is available at extranet.gov.ab.ca/opinio6//s?s=ICFReview and should take 15 to 20 minutes to complete. The survey is available until **April 12, 2024**.

Ministry staff will also be seeking input from chief administrative officers through discussion sessions to supplement the survey and focus on practical implementation considerations. The collective outcomes of the engagement will inform future legislative changes targeted for 2025.

If you have any questions about this review or the collection and use of this information, please email ma.engagement@gov.ab.ca.

Thank you for your participation.

Sincerely,

Ric McIver
Minister

cc: All Chief Administrative Officers

From: Maryanne King <mking@npf-fpn.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 08, 2024 8:38 AM
To: liebelt@milkriver.ca
Cc: main@milkriver.ca
Subject: Budget 2024 Update from the National Police Federation

Hello Mayor Liebelt,

I hope that your 2024 is off to a pleasant start.

Over the past few years, the NPF has been advocating for a needed increase into Alberta RCMP resources. Since 2017, the provincial investments to the RCMP have been minimal, forcing the provincial service to have to cut its budget and run under resourced. Starting in 2021, the province changed the Police Funding Model, so that every municipality would have to pay a portion for policing. Since then, millions have been collected that are supposed to be reinvested in policing, with a priority on increasing core policing.

However, recent policing investments have gone to municipal policing services in Edmonton and Calgary, or the Alberta Sheriffs who do not typically perform policing duties in rural environments like the Alberta RCMP does.

The NPF has submitted to the Government of Alberta our 2024 2024 Pre-Budget Recommendations, which address the issue of needed funding for the AB RCMP. To keep pace with population growth of 10% since 2017, the province needs to fund 400 more RCMP positions to keep pace with current and future needs. I have attached our full 2024 Pre-Budget submission for your review and consideration. We invite you to consider supporting this crucial ask by writing to the Government in support of hiring additional RCMP officers in your community and across the province. To aid in this endeavour, we have included a template letter that you can use in whole or in part.

If you have any questions on our 2024 Budget submission or should you like to meet to discuss, I welcome inquiries at your convenience.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Kind regards,

Maryanne King

Policy Advisor | Conseiller Politique
National Police Federation | Fédération de la Police Nationale
(587) 672-0695

npf-fpn.com

The mission of the National Police Federation is to provide strong, professional, fair and progressive representation to promote and enhance the rights of RCMP Members. La mission de la Fédération de la police nationale est de fournir une représentation forte, professionnelle, juste et progressive afin de promouvoir et faire avancer les droits des Membres de la GRC.

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NATIONAL
POLICE
FEDERATION

FÉDÉRATION
DE LA POLICE
NATIONALE™

2024 PRE-BUDGET SUBMISSION

TO THE GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA

JANUARY 2024



NPF Contact:

Sarah Nolan | Director, Government Relations & Policy | snolan@npf-fpn.com

INTRODUCTION

The National Police Federation (NPF) represents ~20,000 RCMP Members serving across Canada and internationally. We are the largest police union in Canada. The NPF is focused on improving public safety for all Canadians, including our Members by advocating for much-needed investment in the public safety continuum. This includes investments in police resourcing and modern equipment, as well as social programs including health, addiction, and housing supports to enhance safety and livability in the many communities we serve, large and small, across Canada.

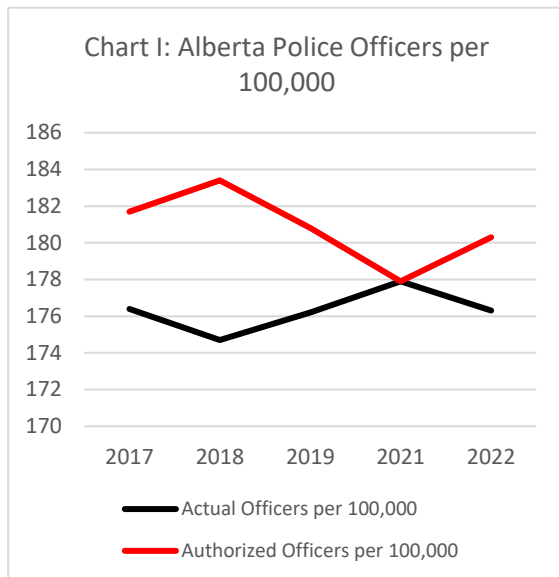
In 2019, the Government of Alberta announced a commitment of \$286m over five years to fund improvements to public safety. This funding would include an additional 300 officer positions across RCMP detachments in Alberta with the support of an additional 200 civilian staff. Under this investment plan, the Alberta RCMP would have increased from the 1,600 officers recorded in 2019 to approximately 1,900 by 2024.ⁱ While this announcement was welcomed, the province had been critically underfunding the Alberta RCMP to this point. This announcement was made concurrently with modifications to the Police Funding Model (PFM) that would result in every Alberta municipality beginning to pay for their policing services. While the province had stated that the revenue from the new police funding model would be reinvested into policing, both promises of additional personnel and increased resources for public safety across rural communities have not been kept.

Today, rather than invest in areas that could support the rural communities our Members are proud to serve and call home, Budget 2023 saw investments in the Alberta Sheriffs and other programs that largely benefitted Edmonton and Calgary. Polling conducted by the NPF with Pollara Strategic Insights quantifies that half of Albertans agree that the province should focus funding for public safety on existing fully-trained police officers. Additionally, 4-in-5 Albertans in RCMP-served areas are satisfied with the RCMP's policing. The NPF, the Alberta RCMP, many Alberta Mayors and Councils, and Indigenous communities have reiterated to the provincial province that equitable investments must be made across police services in Alberta. Investing in the Alberta RCMP is crucial to demonstrating that the Government of Alberta both understands and is committed to addressing public safety challenges equitably across communities. For Budget 2024, the public safety of all Albertans – both urban and rural – must be upheld by the province through renewed investments from the Government of Alberta toward the Alberta RCMP.

NPF RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **Invest \$80m over three years to hire 400 RCMP officers to meet population growth and future demand**

From 2017-2022, Alberta's population increased by 9.5%. Over the same period, total police personnel increased by 7%. Actual police personnel in 2022 consisted of 8,007 officers, but the authorized strength had been 8,190 personnel total – thereby leaving Albertans short 183 officers across the province.ⁱⁱ For years, the Government of Alberta has not been ensuring that officer strength has been met and made little investments in ensuring it. Investments must match the needs



of 2024 and beyond to ensure that future needs can continue to be met as the province encourages and promotes Alberta’s population growth. By the province’s stated ideal personnel strength of 180 police personnel per 100,000 population, 400 more officer personnel are needed, constituting a 5% increase in the current amount of police personnel.

Further, while the Alberta Crime Severity Index has decreased by 9.5%, demonstrating the outstanding work of our Members, calls for service continue to rise. Between 2017 and 2021, calls for service increased by 8%, from 650,080 in 2017 to 701,126 in 2021.ⁱⁱⁱ All of these factors indicate that a fully resourced Alberta RCMP continues to be necessary for maintaining this effective response across communities.

Polling conducted by the NPF with Pollara Strategic Insights from September 2023 demonstrated that increasing resources for policing was the top public safety priority for Albertans. Increased resources for policing outranked priorities such as increased response times, increased resources for addressing petty crimes, and increased local autonomy in policing. Continued and sustained investment in the Alberta RCMP is necessary to meet current and future demands.

2. \$4m in grant funding to support the implementation of policing committees

Policing committees are a critical function in delivering community-based needs and priorities to those that contract the RCMP as their municipal police service. Through a policing committee, municipal leadership can represent the interests of Council to the officer in charge of the contracted detachment.

Recent changes to the *Police Act* in 2022 have now made it mandatory for municipalities policed by the RCMP to establish their own policing committees, giving them a role in setting policing priorities. Before this, these committees were not mandatory and many communities never established them, creating a disconnect between the RCMP and the community. These committees are another function of local governance and would require that the municipality put yearly funding towards the success of the committee. Many chose not to establish these committees as a way to save money.

The *Police Act* changes establish that communities served by the RCMP with populations over 15,000 must now create their own policing committee. Additionally, communities with populations under 15,000 can choose to be represented by a regional governance body that will make recommendations on policing priorities in the region, or establish their own local policing committee.

While this function should be considered a core component of ensuring municipalities are best able to provide community-based public safety priorities through the RCMP, these committees do not currently receive any investment from the Government of Alberta to support their implementation. The province should fund the creation of these committees for communities over and under

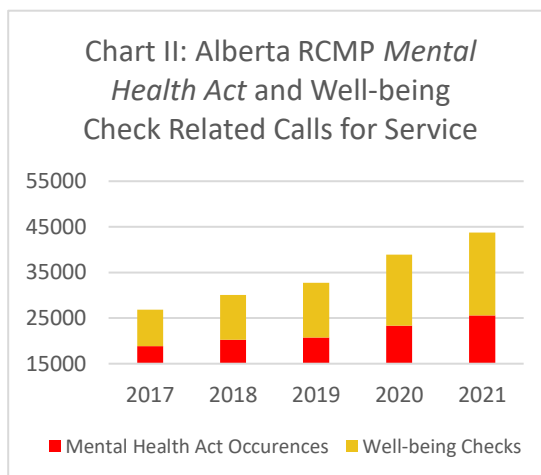
populations of 15,000 who wish to create their own police committee, separate from the regional governance bodies, by providing a commensurate financial investment into these communities.

The Government of Alberta should support the implementation of greater community involvement in their policing services by investing \$4m toward the establishment of policing committees. By investing in municipalities through assisting their launch of these committees, the province can fulsomely demonstrate its commitment to all Albertans having access to policing services that best support their individualized needs.

3. \$4m to expand the Regional Police and Crisis Teams in partnership with Alberta Health Services

The Alberta RCMP have been increasingly called on to fill gaps resulting from significantly decreased funding for mental health and social services. Albertans and our Members want to see more funding for frontline services that help alleviate pressures on vulnerable Canadians and, by extension, the police.

A clear example of this pressure is present in both the increase of mental health calls and well-being checks being done by our Members. In Alberta, from 2017 to 2021, the number of *Mental Health Act* calls and well-being checks have increased by 63% (see Chart II), from a combined total of 26,855 occurrences in 2017 to 43,761 in 2021.^{iv} This means that our Members are spending more time responding to those in mental health crises and less time on core policing duties.



Police calls responding to someone in crisis are not always routine and can vary in complexity. The Alberta RCMP has implemented and expanded the Regional Police and Crisis Teams (RPACT) units across Alberta to address a rising number of calls for service associated with the *Mental Health Act*. RPACT is a collaboration between the Alberta RCMP and Alberta Health Services, pairing Members with mental health professionals to provide a fulsome response to *Mental Health Act* related calls. From its launch in 2011, RPACT has since expanded to various detachments across Alberta, inclusive of Red Deer, Grande Prairie, and Airdrie. Recently, the Alberta RCMP announced that RPACT would be expanding to serve Hinton, Athabasca, Gleichen, Wainwright, and High level in addition to Sundre, Rocky Mountain House, Innisfail, Blackfalds, Rimbey, Sylvan Lake, Drayton Valley, Lake Louise, Banff, Canmore, Cochrane, Airdrie rural, Disbury, Olds, Drumheller, Chestermere, Strathmore, St. Paul, and Coaldale.^v

However, calls for service related to those in crisis are continuing to increase at an alarming rate and more investment into these successful RPACT programs are needed. These investments should be evidence-based and be established in communities who frequently see *Mental Health Act* related calls. Through a total investment of \$4m to expand the RPACTs in Alberta, the province can demonstrate its commitment to providing all Albertans with accessible assistance when they need it.

ⁱ December 2019. Municipalities will pay up as Alberta adds 300 RCMP officers to combat rural crime. Available at: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/alberta-rcmp-rural-crime-schweitzer-1.5383062>

ⁱⁱ Statistics Canada. Police personnel and selected crime statistics. Available at: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=3510007601&pickMembers%5B0%5D=1.10&cubeTimeFrame.startYear=2018&cubeTimeFrame.endYear=2022&referencePeriods=20180101%2C20220101>

ⁱⁱⁱ Royal Canadian Mounted Police. RCMP Occurrence Report – 2021. Available at: <https://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/transparenc/police-info-policieres/calls-appels/occurrence-incident/2021/index-eng.htm>

^{iv} Royal Canadian Mounted Police. RCMP Occurrence Report – 2021. Available at: <https://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/transparenc/police-info-policieres/calls-appels/occurrence-incident/2021/index-eng.htm>

^v March 2023. RCMP's Regional Police and Crisis Teams expanding. Available at: <https://www.mountainviewtoday.ca/sundre-news/rcmps-regional-police-and-crisis-teams-expanding-6589661>

Dear Premier Smith,

The government's renewed interest in supporting public safety across the province is appreciated by my community and others. To ensure that every community across our province has the resources they need to continue to keep the public safe, I'm writing to ask you to include the Alberta RCMP in Budget 2024.

As you know, the Commissioner of the RCMP establishes a minimum level of policing in consultation with the Provincial Minister, who then decides if that standard will be met or exceeded per Article 6 of the Provincial Police Service Agreement (PPSA). The number of officers is reviewed annually by the Provincial Minister as part of planning for each upcoming fiscal year. The Provincial Minister can increase the number of Members in the service through Article 5 of the PPSA.

We are asking the Government of Alberta to invest \$80 million in our Alberta RCMP in pursuit of hiring an additional 400 new RCMP officers across the province. Our community could specifically benefit from an additional ## officers from these new positions. The government can utilize the PPSA as described above to request additional personnel that will bolster the safety of Albertans across the province, and we invite you to act on this function.

Over the past few years, the provincial investments to the RCMP have been minimal, forcing the provincial service to have to cut its budget and run under-resourced. Starting in 2021, the province changed the Police Funding Model, so that every municipality would have to pay a portion for policing. Since then, millions have been collected that are supposed to go towards reinvestment in policing, with a priority on increasing core policing.

We need your reassurance that communities served by the RCMP are just as crucial to your government's public safety plans as others. We know that the impact of crime and the number of Albertans needing help aren't limited to the boundaries of Calgary and Edmonton, which is why we are asking you to equitably invest in the Alberta RCMP.

Sincerely,

Dear Board Members and Associates,

Please find below and attached the most recent information package that has gone out to our partners in government on the value of Regional Economic Development Alliances.

Last week I focused on how REDA's leverage the GOA's economic development dollars by profiling how we've turned your investment in SouthGrow over 3 years into a \$4.5 million capital project to build out EV chargers across the whole province and explained how that's only 1 project from 1 REDA.

This week I've written a piece about how the GOA leverages the REDA network for Investment Attraction efforts through Invest Alberta, citing both a past project that has yielded a \$100 million dollar investment, and a current \$1 billion capital inquiry that was fielded through our offices this week. Outcomes matter, and hey, you're getting some great outcomes here. Please see attached the write up and a supporting document on the outcomes of our annual marketing campaign that we do in partnership with Alberta SouthWest.

TLDR: The REDAs have spent the past 4 years building relationships with Invest Alberta. Presently most of the regions have provided Invest Alberta with detailed information sheets on the opportunities in our communities and Invest Alberta routinely reaches out to REDA offices to help them find and short-list communities as part of a site selection process. This has made Invest Alberta much more efficient and the province as a whole more competitive. If we lose REDAs, we lose this advantage.

I encourage you to share this information within your own organization, or use it in your conversations with MLA's, Ministers, or CAs.

Sincerely,
Peter Casurella
Executive Director
SouthGrow Regional Initiative
Creating Opportunity in Southern Alberta

1-403-394-0615
peter.casurella@southgrow.com
southgrow.com

Hi Merry and Team!

Please find attached this week's episode of the REDA Value Proposition.

Last week I focused on how REDA's leverage the GOA's economic development dollars by profiling how we've turned your investment in SouthGrow over 3 years into a \$4.5 million capital project to build out EV chargers across the whole province and explained how that's only 1 project from 1 REDA.

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As with the last one, I will be forwarding this to all of the MLA's. We are also adding on the Constituency Associations as recipients of our information. I encourage you to share all of these resources directly with Minister Jones, but will also be sending it to him as well.

Future episodes will included:

- MORE amazing stories of leveraged dollars
- A long list of some of the 'exciting tools' we've developed at the local level over the years that are informing provincial economic development initiatives
- A list of how we collaborate across ministries to improve whole government outcomes (I made a list and SouthGrow alone is working on outcomes that impact 16 or 17 ministries - depending on how you cut it).

Have a great day!

Sincerely,
Peter Casurella
Executive Director
SouthGrow Regional Initiative
Creating Opportunity in Southern Alberta
1-403-394-0615
peter.casurella@southgrow.com
southgrow.com

February 7, 2024

Regional Economic Development and Provincial Outcomes

Episode 2: The Provincial Investment Network



TLDR: The REDAs have spent the past 4 years building relationships with Invest Alberta. Presently most of the regions have provided Invest Alberta with detailed information sheets on the opportunities in our communities and Invest Alberta routinely reaches out to REDA offices to help them find and short-list communities as part of a site selection process. This has made Invest Alberta much more efficient and the province as a whole more competitive. If we lose REDAs, we lose this advantage.

The Issue:

The Regional Economic Development Alliances are municipally owned non-profits which have been in a partnership with the Government of Alberta since the early 2000's to realize provincial and municipal economic development outcomes. Minister Jones of Jobs, Economy and Trade is proposing to end the GOA's partnership with the REDAs, putting the entire program and all of its good outcomes in peril.

These briefings are the story of those outcomes.

Last week: I discussed how REDA's massively leverage the GOA's investment by bringing funding from other sources to impactful projects, highlighting SouthGrow's EV Charging Network project as an example in which we've turned \$300,000 of investment from the GOA into a \$4.5 million capital project to build charging stations across the entire province.

Episode #2: Collaborating for Investment Attraction Success

There are a LOT of communities in Alberta and it would be inefficient for either the Minister or Invest Alberta to have enough boots on the ground to know about all of the opportunities throughout the province. However, our REDA's DO know their areas, and have direct contact with all the municipalities in the regions where they work and can track down and stay on top of information in those regions.

A natural partnership, the value of which has been recognized repeatedly, has developed. Invest Alberta has invested time and effort in building relationships with our REDAs as a way of opening avenues for collaboration that branch out like a tree and extend into almost every municipality in Alberta.

In 2021, Invest Alberta and the Battle River Alliance for Economic Development (BRAED) developed a process together and a template for capturing local intelligence and information for IA's databases and feeding that information back to their offices and investment attraction officers. In return, IA worked with the REDA to help train their people on best practices for being investment ready. This process was extended in 2022/23 to SouthGrow, Alberta SouthWest and AlbertaHub, with opportunity profiles being

created for all of the communities in each of these three REDAs. The rest of the REDAs are in various stages of collaboration with Invest Alberta as well and a true province-wide network of collaboration is developing a promising fashion.

How does this yield dividends?

I have an example from this last week. Invest Alberta had a \$1 billion capital inquiry for an agri-food / cosmetics facility that needed to be sighted in a rural region on around 600 acres of land. Invest Alberta reached out through the networks that they have developed with our regions and had about 75 people on the call together from all over the province. They answered questions, and shared the site selection requirements and information.

After the call, I organized my notes and forwarded them out to the 30 communities of the SouthGrow region along with specific advice on how to build a successful response to the site selection inquiry. From this reach out, at least one collaboration of a rural and urban municipality is working on a response to the inquiry and the REDA office is assisting them in locating labour force and demographic data that they otherwise don't have the resources to access. In fact, we are leveraging our own partnerships from one of our associate members to get high-quality data over to the communities.

Another good example happened about a year ago. Invest Alberta reached out with a large inquiry from a food processing company. The site selection requirements were high but also very specific to our region here in Southern Alberta because of adjacency to customers. The REDA prequalified our member communities, discovered that four of them met the criteria. One opted out, and we supported the other three to complete their bids. The investment landed in one of our communities and construction is going ahead in 2024 with an over \$100 million capital investment and around 100 new jobs.

All of the REDAs have such stories to tell.

What happens if the GOA exists the partnership with the REDAs?

1. Several of the REDAs may go under in year 1 or 2 of the proposed agreement as the GOA demands a higher leverage ratio from the municipalities. Our municipalities have already increased their investment into the REDAs and now the GOA is asking them to do so again. If REDAs go under, the province will have fewer resources by which to pursue investment leads in rural Alberta. As a reminder, the Province is the government entity that has the mandate for regional economic development, and our municipalities partner with them out of mutual common interest.
2. Entities like Invest Alberta, or the Investment Attraction team with Agriculture and Irrigation who currently leverage our network will NOT have that network anymore. They will lose local contacts and expertise and have to invest MUCH more than the GOA currently invests to build out the same level of local expertise. It is likely that they will also experience reduced collaboration and partnership from municipalities as well both from a lack of help on the file, but also from a sense that the partnership has gone cold and among many competing priorities, it isn't as valuable to work with the GOA as in the past when they were an official partner.

Why is the Ministry of Jobs Economy and Trade doing this?

We have no idea and strongly recommend that you reach out to Minister Jones to inquire how his proposals are in line with the Economic Development in Rural Alberta Plan OR his own mandate letter which directs him to partner with the REDAs on investment attraction efforts in Rural Alberta.

Another Example of how REDA's improve Provincial Outcomes on Investment Attraction:

All of our REDAs are working on this file to one extend or another, here's an example of what SouthGrow and Alberta Southwest are up to in partnership with Economic Development Lethbridge and Lethbridge County:

The Southern Alberta Investment and Trade Initiative is a regional investment attraction partnership which profiles and markets economic opportunities in southern Alberta to the world, with a strong emphasis on Agri-food opportunities. (www.saiti.ca)

I've attached the Year 2: Awareness Campaign Analysis of our latest marketing campaign for your consideration.

Our two REDAs, in partnership with Economic Development Lethbridge and Lethbridge County, leveraged our member and provincial resources to secure a CanExport grant for the 4th year in a row to do regional investment attraction marketing.

We put together a \$40,000 program to a.) market the region online to agri-food companies, b.) put together profile sheets on 41 communities for Invest Alberta, and c.) send a representative on a trade mission with Invest Alberta. We accomplish all three tasks.

Outcomes:

- Ben Young from Economic Development Lethbridge attended the Site Selectors Guild conference in Austin Texas in 2023.
- A local consultant completed community profiles for Invest Alberta on all 41 communities in the two Regions.
- We achieved just under 20 Million impressions for our ads across LinkedIn

Action Request: Please contact Minister Matt Jones and ask him to reconsider the course he is on. We've got a good thing going that is worth working together to build up, rather than tear down.



Regional Economic Development Alliances In Alberta

Fostering broad based economic prosperity
through regional collaboration across rural Alberta



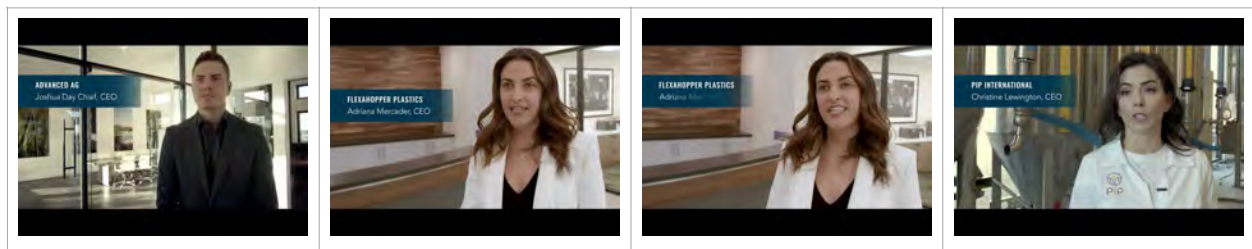


Year 2
Awareness Campaign Year End Analysis

2023

2023 Content Strategy

In 2023, the campaign focused on the 4 best performing messages from the 6 categories of the previous year. The messaging categories this year were: sustainable production, high functioning value chain, top notch infrastructure, and emerging technology. In each category, we reused the short animated video from the previous campaign, and then created 5 variations of the ads by writing variations of the headlines, ad copy, and calls to action. By creating ad variations and running them against each other, we allow the ad platforms to identify the higher performing ads which improves our ad performance. In addition to the existing animations, we also spent the first quarter of 2023 creating one 30 second video ad per category for YouTube.



In addition to the sponsored content in the categories above, we are regularly posting organic content. This content spans across a variety of topics, including upcoming ag or food conventions, relevant news stories, cross-posting from similar channels, and content from the Healthy Food and Safely Prepared categories from last year's campaign.

Updated Website Design

The landing page for the 2023 campaign was also updated in an effort to improve engagement and provide more value to our target audience. We incorporated new content like 3 case studies of local business innovators who are taking advantage of the Southern Alberta benefits, more information about our advantages, and highlights of our key sectors. Our bounce rate fell to 85% despite 10X the incoming traffic. In addition, we logged nearly 2000 sessions on pages that are NOT the homepage. Finally, our contact form saw 318 submissions compared to only 1 last year.

Keyword Campaign

Another new component of the campaign this year was the use of Google Ads for nonprofits. The program allows up to \$10,000 USD in free keyword advertising available to nonprofits. As a qualifier of the program, we implemented keyword ads and slowly optimized the campaign over the course of the year. To date we have accessed \$1,070 in free advertising from the program.

Summary of how your keywords are performing

	Cost	Clicks	CTR
● agriculture	\$263.87	20	6.41%
● alberta canada	\$125.94	36	5.45%
● agribusiness	\$108.05	7	4.58%
● development	\$101.24	7	7.37%
● economic development	\$89.06	5	5.75%

2023 vs 2022 by the Numbers

Impressions of the 2023 campaign are up 423% from 2022. Total impressions for the year reached 19 million compared to 4.5 million last year. Clicks have also significantly increased, totalling 46.7 thousand compared to 11.4 thousand last year. The website saw 11,191 unique visitors in 2023, whereas the previous iteration of the website saw a total of 1,335 in 2022.



Our best source of website traffic was the newly implemented YouTube campaign, totalling 4,171 unique users for the year. X (Twitter) and Google made top 5, while LinkedIn fell to 8th.

		2022	2023	difference
Spend	Linked In	\$9,101.26	\$2,645.52	-\$6,455.74
	X	\$4,300.00	\$2,433.71	-\$1,866.29
	YouTube	-	\$7,942.68	
	Total	\$13,401.26	\$13,021.91	-\$379.35
Impressions	Linked In	395,130	76,399	-318,731
	X	4,111,608	16,441,579	12,329,971
	YouTube	-	2,558,501	
	Total	4,506,738	19,076,479	14,569,741
Clicks	Linked In	2,471	1,519	-952
	X	8,965	26,647	17,682
	YouTube	-	18,564	
	Total	11,436	46,730	35,294

Takeaways

Updating our ad content and focusing on the 4 best categories significantly improved our ad performance across all platforms, shown by simultaneously higher impressions/clicks and lower costs.

Our new website design is a marked improvement on the last iteration, although the bounce rate is still higher than we'd like, suggesting our ads could be better targeted.

YouTube is an excellent platform for traffic. X is an excellent platform for getting a lot of impressions for a very low cost.

LinkedIn's decrease in performance is almost certainly due to its budget being reduced by two thirds, as the average cost per click (CPC) in 2023 is lower than the CPC in 2022, which shows our ads are better quality to the audience. Our strategy on LinkedIn will need to be adjusted, as the ad performance (although better in 2023 overall than 2022) was starting to decline as time went on.

2023



REPORT TO MUNICIPALITIES
FAMILY SERVICES



Strengthening Families in rural Alberta

www.fcss.ca





VISION | Residents living their full potential.

MISSION | FCSS enhances the social well-being of individuals, families and communities within our region.

CORE VALUES:

Integrity | *We strive to be accountable and transparent to all whom we serve.*

Innovation | *We remain open to changing needs and ensure services remain timely and relevant.*

Inclusiveness | *We are committed to building a spirit of acceptance and respect with those we work with and support.*

FAMILY SERVICES

OUTCOME STATEMENT

Parents/Caregivers have increased knowledge, abilities and confidence to develop healthy family relationships and to enhance their child's development.

PRIORITIES:

- Exceed the annual Triple P targets.
- Distribute and complete ASQ's for all infants attending programs.
- Collect evaluations quarterly from all participants attending drop-in programs.
- Promote the importance of early childhood development through social media.

Strengthening Families

INTRODUCTION

FAMILY SERVICES AT A GLANCE

	2023	2022
Total Service Hours	28,143	19,421
Total Service Visits	16,603	12,492
Information and Referrals provided	1,120	1,438
Total New Clients	1,446	1,072
One-time Essential Services	592	809

WHAT WE DO

- Parent Education & Family Support
- Early Childhood Development Programs
- Youth Programs
- Community Events & Family Programs

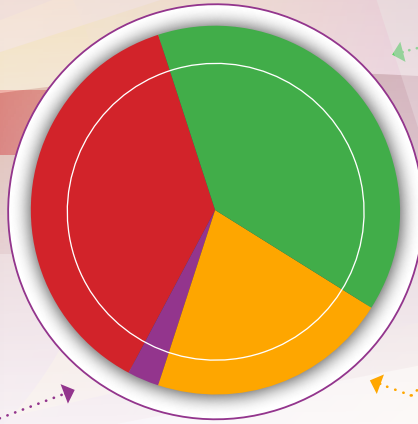


WHO WE SERVE

CLIENT AGE

ADULT AGE 18+ **37%**

SENIOR AGE 55+ **3%**

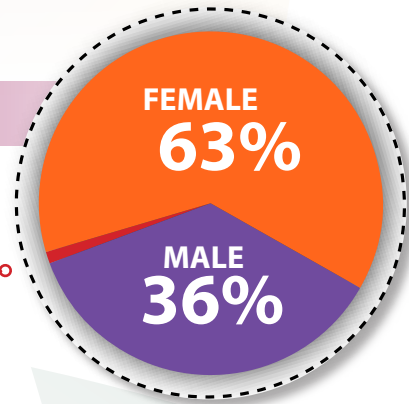


CHILDREN AGE 0-5 **39%**

YOUTH AGE 6-17 **21%**

CLIENT GENDER

NON/BINARY **1%**

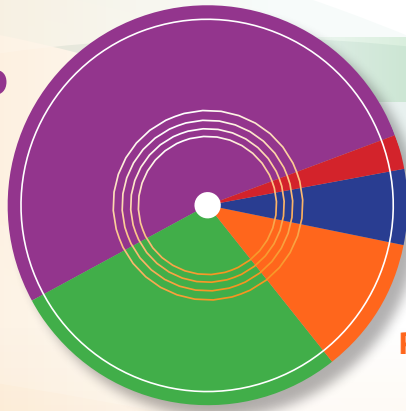


FEMALE **63%**

MALE **36%**

WALK-INS **52%**

EVENT/PROGRAM **28%**



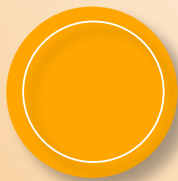
HOW FAMILIES FIND US

WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA **3%**

EMAIL **6%**

PHONE/TEXT **11%**

CLIENT SELF-IDENTIFY AS



LGM **12%**



INDIGENOUS **7%**



2SLGBTQ+ **2%**

PARENT EDUCATION AND SUPPORT PROGRAMS

2,339 Total service hours

1,593 Total service visits

The Family Services team offer a variety of Parent Education and support programs. They are designed to increase the knowledge and confidence of parents/caregivers, thereby building resiliency, healthy families, and improved child and adolescent development.

- Baby Signing • Caregiver Cafe • Baby & Me • Infant Massage • Triple P Discussion groups
- Triple P Fearless • Walk & Talk • Autism Support Group • Down Syndrome Support Group

EVALUATIONS

92% Strongly agree or agree they have more information on what resources are available for their family

93% Strongly agree or agree they are more aware of how their child's needs change as they grow and develop

83% Strongly agree or agree they have met other parents in their neighborhood/community they can ask for help and support

TESTIMONIALS

"Originally, I am from the Ukraine and don't have family here. That is why this course is a lifesaver for me. invited guests were super useful to understand. This is my first baby. Greatly appreciate all the work." – Parent

"I love the sense of community within our group. An incredible facilitator and everyone who comes to class feels welcome. The facilitator is so loving and relatable, too. My kids and I look forward to going each week." – Parent

"I loved seeing how different we Moms are but can still be supportive of each other. How much I learnt about doing for my baby and how to spend more time together." – Parent



ONE-ON-ONE PARENT SUPPORT

1,123 Total service hours

869 Total service visits

110 Caregivers received this service

The Family Support Workers and the Family Liaison Workers provide families with one-on-one Triple P and family support. The purpose of these sessions is to help families increase positive parenting skills, gain knowledge of child development, increase protective factors and build familial resilience. This is done by first helping the family to identify parenting strengths and challenges and then to set goals for positive change and lastly develop a parenting/family plan where new skills and strategies are introduced and practiced. During these sessions staff may also support families with basic needs referrals or help with a financial support application such as child tax benefits.

2023 Most common challenges families report:

- 1 Child behaviour
- 2 Family/Relationship dynamic stress
- 3 Financial stress
- 4 Food security
- 5 Child development/Attachment
- 6 Mental health

2022 Most common challenges families report:

- 1 Child behaviour
- 2 Family/Relationship dynamic stress
- 3 Financial stress
- 4 Mental health concerns
- 5 Self-care
- 6 Child with disability



ONE-ON-ONE PARENT SUPPORT FEEDBACK

EVALUATIONS

I am more aware of how my child's needs change and develop as they grow

**FIRST
SESSION SURVEY**

62.29%

**MOST RECENT
SESSION SURVEY**

75.51%

I have confidence in my parenting skills

44.89%

66.33%

I have more information on what resources are available for my family

69.39%

79.59%

TESTIMONIALS

WHAT DID YOU LIKE BEST ABOUT OUR TIME TOGETHER?

"The practical ways to put into practice the principles that were taught." – Parent

"The facilitator is very easy to talk to. I enjoyed how invested she was in helping both my child and my family as a whole." – Parent

"I feel more confident and happier after doing this program I feel like I can parent again and that I'm excited about it. This program brought the joy of parenting back in me." – Parent

"I learned how to more effectively handle my child's emotions and speak to him on a level playing field. I feel that I am more in tune with him. I feel more in sync with him and feel more confidence in speaking with him." – Parent

"When we went over my child's temperament it really helped me understand my child better and how my husband and I could change how we parented to fit his temperament style better." – Parent

REFLECTIONS

"I felt like I was going down. It was tough leaving my child at school as he was struggling to stay there. I started Stay and Play, then Triple P Parenting and then Conversation classes. I also now send my oldest two children to Do Drew Jr. and that really helps! It made my life easier and my daughter's life too. I know it has made a difference in her too. Since my child is very strong willed, the parenting classes are helping and I feel less stressed. It makes it easier to parent. Now, just in the last week, I am enjoying doing my housework. It makes a huge difference just getting out of the house. I don't need to go and talk about my stress. For me it's just getting out and realizing that I'm not alone, to see there are more people who feel the same way. I now feel supported. Now, I want to have people over, where before I didn't. I also want to start sewing again. Coming here has made a huge difference to me and my family!" – Parent

"I am grateful for the support I received from my family support worker. She has helped me navigate the hard road I am on. My children are all dealing with the separation in different ways. They have been angry, closed off, trouble sleeping at night, clingy. It has been hard. I have really appreciated the parenting help. I am trying to be present, mindful of their feelings and patient when they express their feelings. I feel more confident as a parent, although some days it is still a struggle, but I know I can come here to get support and encouragement. She helped me with finding a counsellor for myself, and the online separation class I took. Also, the food we receive at times is very much appreciated. Thank you so much." – Parent

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

24,771 Total service hours

10,782 Total visits

Early childhood development programs are designed for caregivers and children aged 0-6 to attend together, learn new skills through play, meet other families and get connected to resources in their community.

- Stay & Play • Outdoor Play • Physical Literacy (Move it, Move it) • Summer Fun

EVALUATIONS

88%

Strongly agree or agree they are more aware of how their child's needs changes as they grow and develop

91%

Strongly agree or agree they have more information on what resources are available for their family

88%

Strongly agree or agree they have met other parents in their neighborhood/community they can ask for help and support

TESTIMONIALS

"I like to see how my children, despite the language barrier, play and communicate with other children." – Parent

"We learn new things every day, starting with new English words, what possibilities there are in the community and much more. I like that the children here learn to communicate with other children and solve conflicts and find agreements." – Parent

"I like the inviting environment & the local location. I appreciate that there is a place that I can consistently take my child to play & interact, outside the home." – Parent

"Meeting new moms; Without FCSS, I wouldn't have the strong circle of support I do now. Such a relief to have." – Parent

"Having this service, especially in the winter, as a first time mom has been huge for me. My mental & emotional health has been hugely benefiting from this. Thank you." – Parent



YOUTH PROGRAMS

1,383 Service hours

930 Service visits

The Family Services team offers programs for youth ages 6-14. These programs are designed to provide a safe and inclusive environment for youth where they can make social connections and learn new skills.

- Do Crew Jr
- Rainbows
- Lego Club
- Indigenous Arts & Culture
- After School programs

EVALUATIONS

90% Strongly agree or agree they know adults they can go to for help

91% Strongly agree or agree that they understand that it is okay to be themselves

TESTIMONIALS

"I know that I can talk to adults about stuff that is going on in my life and who are the safe adults I can talk to." – Youth

"It's FUN! It doesn't matter what gender you are, girls can play with boys. Loved all the activities and the snacks." – Youth

"We learned lots about team work, and how to communicate better. We did activities that made us learn about trust and emotions. I also really liked making ice cream!" – Youth



FAMILY & COMMUNITY EVENTS

3,129 Service visits

150 Events

Community events and family programming during 2023 included Clothing Fests, Family Nights, Corn Fest, Pride, National Indigenous peoples Day Celebrations, Farmers markets, back to school events and cultural programming.

EVALUATIONS

93%

Strongly agree or agree they have more information on what resources are available to their family.

93%

Strongly agree or agree they have met other parents in their neighbourhood/community they can ask for help and support.



MEET THE FAMILY SERVICES TEAM



Tashina Calf Robe



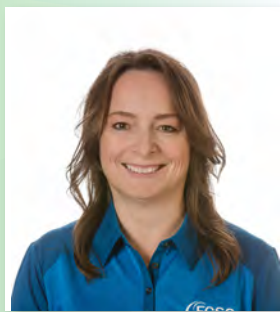
Kim Febr



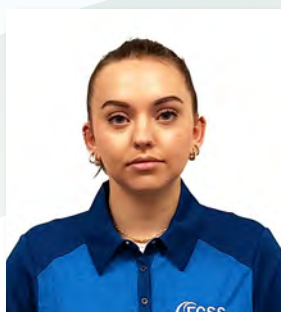
Janet Fekete



Jackie Fiorino



Kim Forchuk



Susana Friesen



Jessica Goodrider-Loewen



Kim Hardy



Susy Hiebert



Maria Klassen



Stacey Maynes



Penny Pittman



Margarita Sawatsky



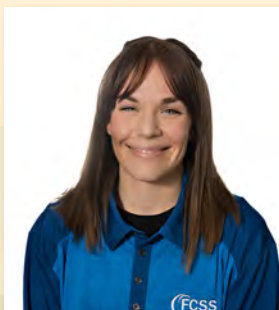
Christie Saddleback



Myrna Sopal



Lauren Tams



Jess Walton



Amanda Weaselfat



Amanda Webster



Serving:

Barnwell | Barons | Coaldale | Coalhurst | Lethbridge County
County of Warner | Coutts | Milk River | M.D. of Taber | Nobleford
Picture Butte | Raymond | Stirling | Taber | Vauxhall | Warner



Municipal Services Division

Update February 2024

Recall Petition Populations

- The ministry is aware of some confusion in relation to the source of population data to be used for recall petitions under the *Municipal Government Act*.
- Ministerial Order MSD: 021/23 signed on April 6, 2023, provides recall guidance for Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs) and indicates that the 2019 Municipal Affairs Population List (MAPL), excluding the shadow population, is to be used for the purposes of recall petitions under section 240.5(a) of the *Municipal Government Act*. This Ministerial Order remains in effect.
- For purposes other than recall petitions, Ministerial Order MSD: 004/24 was signed on February 1, 2024, approving the 2023 MAPL.

Municipal Affairs Administrators' Training Initiative (MAATI) – Spring Sessions

- MSD is hosting two in-person sessions as part of the spring MAATI program.
 - April 16 in Lethbridge
 - April 17 in Cochrane
- Registration information will be available on the [Training for Municipal Officials](#) webpage starting March 4.
- Virtual MAATI sessions will be offered from mid-April to mid-May. Registration information will be available on the [Training for Municipal Officials](#) webpage starting March 15.



ALBERTA
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary-Hays

AR113944

February 29, 2024

Dear Chief Elected Officials:

I am writing to share information with you about *Budget 2024*, which my colleague, the Honourable Nate Horner, President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance, has tabled in the Alberta Legislature. You will find below some details about *Budget 2024* that are most closely related to Alberta Municipal Affairs.

Budget 2024 is a responsible plan for a growing province that invests more than \$1 billion to build stronger communities across Alberta. Through these important investments, my ministry will continue to support local governments in providing fiscally responsible, collaborative, and accountable services to Albertans.

I am particularly excited about the Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF), which will deliver predictable capital infrastructure funding to municipalities and Metis Settlements across Alberta for many years to come. As we are all aware, the LGFF represents years of collaboration between the province and local governments, and the LGFF replaces the Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) with a more sustainable model. We set the initial capital funding baseline for the LGFF at \$722 million to remain consistent with the average amount municipalities have received annually over the last three years of the MSI Capital program.

We now have a true partnership in place through the Revenue Index Factor, which will see municipal funding rise and fall at a one-to-one ratio that is based on changes in provincial revenue from three years prior. Our new framework will deliver the predictability and partnership that municipalities have long been asking for, and I would like to thank you once again for your input to the development of the LGFF to ensure it effectively supports communities and residents provincewide. The MSI Operating program will continue as LGFF Operating funding and will provide \$60 million in 2024/25 to local governments to assist with your operational costs and help to respond to inflationary pressures. More information about the LGFF and the 2024 allocations can be found online.

Additionally, *Budget 2024* includes \$60 million over three years for the Local Growth and Sustainability Grant, a new grant to help relieve some of the pressures facing fast-growing communities. This new grant will help address acute infrastructure priorities and economic development opportunities. More details about the program will be shared with you later this year.

.../2

As with previous years, our budget includes capital support through the federal Canada Community-Building Fund and Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program. We are also pleased to maintain the strong support we have for public libraries with more than \$33 million going towards operating grants for libraries across the province.

Budget 2024 puts Albertans and Alberta families first by investing in strong health care, a modern education system, and supports to keep life affordable. This budget also invests in safe and supportive communities in Alberta by managing our resources wisely.

I look forward to continuing our work together over this next year as we continue to build strong and vibrant communities that contribute to a stronger province and a brighter future for Albertans and their families.

Sincerely,

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

Ric McIver
Minister

March 1, 2024

MAR 06 2024
RECEIVED

Town of Milk River
Box 270
Milk River, AB T0K 1M0

RE: 2024 Annual Funding Contribution to Barons-Eureka-Warner (BEW) Family & Community Support Services (FCSS)

At the December 6, 2023, Board Meeting, the Barons-Eureka-Warner FCSS Board approved the following motion.

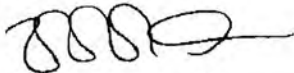
G. Bekkering moved the Board approve a 0% increase per capita for the 2024 Municipal requisition based on the population list as provided by the Municipalities.
Carried Unanimously

The FCSS team continues to report that individuals and families within our communities are struggling with a broad range of issues ranging from basic needs to emotional and relationship stress. As a result, FCSS continues to see an increase in new clients and families attending programs and/or reaching out for support.

I wish to thank you for supporting the Alberta Community Partnership Program (Village of Stirling) Community Needs Assessment Proposal. I am hopeful this initiative will bring clarity to the trending needs in our region and offer suggestions for future programming and services to guide our staff.

FCSS continues to adapt and work with our partners to best support the diverse needs of your residents. However, if you have any questions, concerns and/or suggestions please do not hesitate to contact me anytime.

Sincerely,



Zakk Morrison, MSc
Executive Director

att. Invoice



ALBERTA
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary-Hays*

AR113651

Dear Chief Elected Official or Library Board Chair:

I am pleased to invite your municipality or library board to provide submissions for the 2024 Minister's Awards for Municipal and Public Library Excellence. This program recognizes excellence in municipal government initiatives and provision of library services, and promotes knowledge-sharing to build capacity. These awards offer an opportunity to recognize the truly great work happening in communities across Alberta.

Submissions will be accepted in the following categories:

- **Building Economic Strength (open to all municipalities)** – An award will be given for an innovative initiative that builds the economic capacity and/or resiliency of the community, and/or improves the attractiveness of the community to businesses, investors, and visitors.
- **Enhancing Community Safety (open to all municipalities)** – An award will be given for an innovative initiative that engages the community to address a safety issue. This could involve crime prevention, infrastructure enhancements (for example: lighting, accessibility, traffic calming measures), and community services initiatives.
- **Partnership (open to all municipalities)** – An award will be given for an innovative initiative involving a local or regional partnership that achieves results that could not have otherwise been accomplished by the municipality alone. This could involve cooperation, coordination and collaboration with other municipalities, businesses, Indigenous communities, non-profit organizations, community groups, and other orders of government to achieve a specific outcome.
- **Public Library Services (open to Library Boards serving a population over 10,000)** – Two awards will be given for library service initiatives that demonstrate excellence and/or innovation. The initiatives should demonstrate responsiveness to community needs and provide direct benefit to the public.

...2

- **Public Library Services (open to Library Boards serving a population under 10,000)** – Two awards will be given for library service initiatives that demonstrate excellence and/or innovation. The initiatives should demonstrate responsiveness to community need(s) and provide direct benefit to the public.
- **Red Tape Reduction (open to all municipalities)** – An award will be given for an innovative initiative that improves a municipal program or service by saving time, money, and resources, or impacts municipal operations by reducing regulatory, policy, or process requirements.
- **Service Delivery Enhancement (open to all municipalities)** – An award will be given for an innovative initiative that improves, or presents a new approach to, how a municipality can deliver a program or service.
- **Smaller Municipalities (open to municipalities with populations less than 5,000)** – An award will be given for a municipal initiative that demonstrates leadership, resourcefulness or innovation, or both, to better the community.

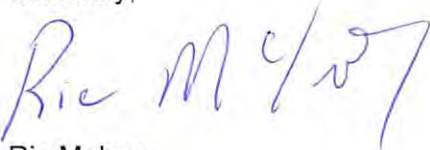
Details regarding eligibility and submission requirements are available on the Minister's Awards for Municipal and Public Library Excellence webpage at www.alberta.ca/ministers-awards-for-municipal-excellence.aspx. The deadline for submission is **April 15, 2024**.

Questions about the program from municipalities can be sent to municipalexcellence@gov.ab.ca or program advisors may be reached at 780-427-2225 (toll-free by first dialing 310-0000).

Questions about the program from library boards can be sent to libraries@gov.ab.ca or program advisors can be reached at 780-427-4871 (toll-free by first dialing 310-0000).

I encourage you to share your stories, and I look forward to celebrating these successes with your communities.

Sincerely,



Ric McIver
Minister

Request for Decision

Employee Recognition

March 11, 2024



RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the provision of \$100.00 each in Milk River Bucks to the full time and transfer station employees, as a 2023 Christmas Bonus.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

BACKGROUND

In previous years, Council has graciously approved a \$100.00 Christmas bonus to full time staff.

RISKS/CONSEQUENCES

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

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

\$800.00 from code 2-11-00-510-00

ATTACHMENTS

None

Request for Decision

The Royal Canadian Legion Annual Military Service Recognition Book

March 11, 2024



RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the advertisement in the Annual Military Service Recognition Book in the amount of \$_____.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

BACKGROUND

The Town of Milk River has been supporting this effort for many years.

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

2023 \$315.00

ATTACHMENTS

1. Request Letter
2. Rates Sheet

From: Robert Griffiths <rgriffiths@campaign-office.com>
Sent: February 15, 2024 11:36 AM
To: cao@milkriver.ca
Subject: ALBERTA/ NWT COMMAND -ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - MILITARY SERVICE RECOGNITION BOOK
Attachments: Ratesheet.pdf

Hello Kelly,

Firstly, we would like to thank TOWN OF MILK RIVER for the ongoing support for the Alberta/ NWT Command of The Royal Canadian Legion's Annual Military Service Recognition Book to honor and recognize our Veterans.

We would like to count on your support again for the next edition. Your past support of the Color Business Card was a was a great help can we count you in again this year for the same?

We are profoundly indebted to our Veterans. Their extraordinary service and commitment have afforded us the rights and freedoms that are merely a dream to millions of people around the globe. WWW.ABNWTLEGION.COM

The Royal Canadian Legion has honoured these deserving citizens with unwavering support. The Military Service Recognition Book is a fitting tribute to our Veterans and will be an invaluable resource to our young people, whose pride and character will be enhanced by learning about the very important role played by our Veterans, the Royal Canadian Legion, and the contributions of its members and supporters.

Thank you again for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Rob Griffiths
Advertising Rep/Military Service Recognition Book
Alberta / NWT Command - Royal Canadian Legion
Campaign Office 1-888-404-1877

This e-mail and any attachment(s) is for authorized use by the intended recipient(s) only. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, retransmission, conversion to hard copy, copying, circulation or any other use of this message and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately and delete this e-mail and any attachment(s). Thank you. Ref [ED071422139]



**Alberta-Northwest Territories Command
The Royal Canadian Legion**

“Military Service Recognition Book”

Dear Sir/Madam:

Thank you for your interest in the **Alberta-Northwest Territories Command of The Royal Canadian Legion**, representing **Veterans** in Alberta and the NWT. Please accept this written request for your support, as per our recent telephone conversation.

The **Alberta-NWT Command** is very proud to be printing another **5,000 copies** of our 18th Annual **“Military Service Recognition Book”** that helps recognize and honour many of our brave Veterans who served our Country so well during times of great conflict. This annual publication goes a long way to help the Legion in our job as the **“Keepers of Remembrance”**, so that none of us forget the selfless contributions made by our **Veterans**.

We would like to have your organization’s support for this Remembrance project by sponsoring an advertisement space in our **“Military Service Recognition Book.”** Proceeds raised from this important project will allow us to fund the printing of this unique publication and also help our Command to improve our services to **Veterans** and the more than 170 communities that we serve throughout Alberta and the NWT. The Legion is recognized as one of Canada’s largest “Community Service” organizations and we are an integral part of all the communities we serve. This project ensures the Legion’s continued success in providing very worthwhile services.

Enclosed, please find a rate sheet for your review. Whatever you are able to contribute to this worthwhile endeavor would be greatly appreciated. For further information please contact the **Alberta-NWT Command Campaign Office** toll free at **1-888-404-1877**.

Thank you for your consideration and or support.

Sincerely,

Rosalind LaRose
President



**Alberta-Northwest Territory Command
The Royal Canadian Legion**

“Military Service Recognition Book”

Advertising Prices

<u>Ad Size</u>	<u>Cost</u>		<u>GST</u>		<u>Total</u>
Full Colour Outside Back Cover	\$2,776.19	+	\$138.81	=	\$2,915.00
Inside Front/Back Cover (Full Colour)	\$2,414.29	+	\$120.71	=	\$2,535.00
Full Colour 2 Page Spread	\$3,861.90	+	\$193.10	=	\$4,055.00
Full Page (Full Colour)	\$1,928.57	+	\$96.43	=	\$2,025.00
Full Page	\$1,447.62	+	\$72.38	=	\$1,520.00
½ Page (Full Colour)	\$1,085.71	+	\$54.29	=	\$1,140.00
½ Page	\$842.86	+	\$42.14	=	\$885.00
¼ Page (Full Colour)	\$657.14	+	\$32.86	=	\$690.00
¼ Page	\$533.33	+	\$26.67	=	\$560.00
1/10 Page (Full Colour)	\$395.24	+	\$19.76	=	\$415.00
1/10 Page (Business Card)	\$328.57	+	\$16.43	=	\$345.00

G.S.T. Registration # R12 397 0410

All typesetting and layout charges are included in the above prices.

A complimentary copy of this year’s publication will be received by all advertisers purchasing space of 1/10 page and up, along with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Alberta-NWT Command.



PLEASE MAKE CHEQUE PAYABLE TO:
Alberta-NWT Command
The Royal Canadian Legion
(AB-NWT RCL)
(Campaign Office)
P O Box 2275, Stn. M
Calgary, AB T2P 2M6



Request for Decision

Councillor Reports

March 11, 2024



RECOMMENDATION

That the Councillors reports for the period ending March 11, 2024, be accepted as information.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

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. Milk River and District Ag Society Minutes
2. Ridge Country Housing Minutes
3. FCSS Minutes
4. Milk River Health Professionals Attraction and Retention Committee

Milk River & District Ag Society
Regular Meeting # 3
Feb 12, 2024

Members Present: Laurie Balog, Gwen Chamberlain, Ted Swanson, Suzanne Furlong, Sheila Garber, Jodie Wehlage, Clayton Schmitt, Leslie Cody, Dave Robertson, Bob Bogle, Ricky Feist,

Meeting called to order at 7:03 by Laurie Balog.

Laurie Balog moved to adopt the agenda presented with addition – Open Gym night?

Minutes from previous meeting presented. Motion to accept as presented by Clayton Schmitt, 2nd by Jodie Wehlage. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

- Financial report includes November, December and January, nothing out of the ordinary reported. Bills to be paid are Utilities, outstanding Oktoberfest expenses, and Insurance (approx. \$10K). Motion to accept financial report as presented and pay bills made by Leslie Cody, 2nd by Sheila Garber. Motion carried.
- GIC that was due in January has been renewed at 4.6%

Old Business:

- **Membership cards** – Sample cards were circulated for comments. Dave R. suggested to have the card like a raffle ticket (perforated in the middle to capture name, etc on one side, membership card on the other). Clayton S suggested we set up a box at various businesses, also to have a raffle for the cost of a membership.
 - It was agreed we should attend markets, etc to promote and sell memberships.
 - Further discussion is warranted, table to next meeting.
- **Analysis donation** – this was tabled from a previous meeting – AAAS is asking for a donation towards the cost of this analysis of all Ag Societies. Motion made to contribute \$200.00, made by Dave Robertson, 2nd by Ted Swanson. Motion carried.
- **Library steps** - Kinsmen gave us the money to get the steps fixed, we have the quote. They will be fixed this summer, including the railing.
- **Power plant location** – the pavement has been removed by the Agora room door, once the water is gone it will be installed.
- **Fixing water leaks** – update from the Town CAO – the engineer is still working on the report, the fix will not be done by March. Stay tuned.
- **Community Foundation Grant (municipal)** – the cost of the generator is \$104K, the Town has secured a grant to pay half the cost, they will cover the other half. This will be a diesel generator. There is no cost to us.
- **Janitor update** – there are still a few issues but he is doing much better. He will be away Feb 22 - 27. We will need to look at the calendar for possible coverage.
- **Open Gym Night** – kids are coming with more than just rollerskates on the rollerskating nights. Do we want to try an open gym night? We will try March 8th with Bob Bogle & Leslie Cody working the door and concession.

Correspondence:

- Agri-News weekly news (forwarded by email)
- Alberta Community Development January Newsletter (forwarded by email)

New Business:

- **New rental agreement** – a new agreement has been developed to simplify the rental process and to clarify the town's role. Circulated for comments.
- **Do we want to change the meeting date** – NO, there will never be a perfect date.
- **Bingo at PRL** – we've been asked to volunteer on March 21 to call bingo for the residents. Laurie B, Gwen C, Leslie C and Sheila G have all said they will help.

Committee reports:

- ✓ **Oktoberfest** – Oktoberfest is in 7 months, The committee needs to know what direction the Ag Society want to go : what theme to have, what dates(s), what type of event (dance or meal and silent auction). Please give some serious thought to any ideas and bring to our next meeting for discussion.

Laurie Balog motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 PM.

Next meeting: March 18, 7PM

RIDGE COUNTRY HOUSING

January 18th, 2024

A Ridge Country Housing Organizational Meeting was held at the Ridgeview Lodge in Raymond AB, on Thursday January 18th, 2024.

In attendance were Peggy Losey, Kelly Jensen, Phil Jensen, Megan Payne, Dave Degenstein, Don Toovey, Jim Depew, Larry Nilsson, CAO Bruce Jackson, South Regional Manager Karen Geddert.

Absent: none

Guest: Allen Tollestrup

BUSINESS MEETING

RCH Board Chair, Peggy Losey called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

1) Addition to Agenda – none

AGENDA

1.1) Larry Nilsson made a motion to adopt the agenda.

Motion Carried

RM MINUTES

2) Minutes of the previous RCH Board Meeting held on November 16th, 2023, were reviewed.

2.1) Phil Jensen made a motion to adopt the previous RCH Board Meeting minutes, as presented.

Motion Carried

3) Financial Report – prepared and presented by guest Allen Tollestrup

3.1) Financial Report – F/S's for Lodge Operations and Housing Operations – Balance Sheets and profit and loss reports as of December 31, 2024. Also, December 2024 cheque listings for Lodge Operations and Housing Operations were provided for review, comment, and approval.

REGIONAL MANAGER'S

4) Regional Managers Reports presented as follows:

4.1) The RCH South Regional Managers' report was prepared and presented by Karen Geddert. Noted that PRL gained 2 residents but lost 3 to higher levels of care. Dave Degenstein asked if there were any losses due to recent covid outbreak. Response was none.

4.2) The RCH North Regional Managers' report was prepared and presented by Bruce Jackson – Discussion about ongoing problems with fire suppression repairs.

4.3) Megan Payne made a motion to approve/accept the Regional Managers' reports as presented.

Motion Carried

5) CAO Report – prepared and presented by CAO Bruce Jackson – Discussion

regarding request for Allen Tollestrup to have access to ATB online banking, Larry Nilsson inquired about moving to all online banking.

5.1) Dave Degenstein made motion to approve Allen Tollestrup's access.
Motion Carried

5.2) Discussion regarding expanding Raymond Lodge. Peggy Losey presented letter from the town regarding expansion.

5.3 Status of operations – Staffing issues and maintenance issues to be discussed in closed session. No North region Manager right now – with Allen Tollestrup having been hired to help with accounting needs, Bruce Jackson will continue to manage the roll of management as well as CAO.

5.4) Kelly Jesen made motion to approve report.

Motion Carried

OLD BUSINESS

6) Old Business – brought forward for discussion at this time.

6.1) Mileage rate for maintenance employees – discussion to raise rate to \$0.70 per/km, and management to receive same rate if/while performing maintenance duties.

6.2) Dave Degenstein made motion to approve new rate.

Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS

7) New Business:

7.1) Increased phone allowance for CAO – discussed an addition \$25.00.

7.1a) Meagan Payne made motion to approve.

Motion Carried

7.2) Discussed reduction of employee hours for step 2 of salary schedule. Moved from 1976 hours to 700 hours. Bruce Jackson will present this decision to the Union for their approval as well.

7.2a) Dave Degenstein made motion to approve.

Motion Carried

7.3) Discussion of moving \$1400 GIC emergency housing funds which need to be invested in a redeemable account.

7.3a) Don Toovy made motion to approve.

Motion Carried

7.4) Status of Operations at Prairie Rose Lodge – discussion of not receiving any more covid funding. Potential for an additional \$1400 grant which Bruce Jackson will talk to Amber Gallant about. Tabled discussion on DORF account.

Discussion on how Bruce Jackson and Karen Geddert are seeking potential opportunities for more SL3 beds at Prairie Rose Lodge, and how to potentially access the ability to house SL4 beds as well. Discussions to be had with AHS, and their representatives.

SPECIAL REPORTS

7) Special Reports – none

CORRESPONDENCE
RECEIVED

8) Correspondence – none.

ROUND TABLE

9) A round table discussion was initiated.

Megan Payne discussed Wheatland Manor and noted that she would like to continue to solicit donations for furnishings for the outdoor space. One donation has already been received.

Bruce Jackson made enquiry as to what copies of Board Meeting minutes go to the Municipalities. Peggy Losey confirmed where to send.

CLOSED SESSION

10) A closed "In Camera" session was called to order at 5:29pm and called out of order at 5:39pm.

10.1) Megan Payne made motion.

Motion Carried

NEXT MEETING

11) The next RCH Board of Directors meeting will be held at 4:00 pm on Thursday, February 15th, 2024. We will be meeting at the Prairie Rose Lodge in Milk River.

ADJOURNMENT

13) Kelly Jensen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:40pm.

Motion Carried

Chairperson - RCH

CAO

**Barons-Eureka-Warner Family & Community Support Services (FCSS)
Minutes of Board Meeting – Wednesday, December 6, 2023
Lethbridge County Office (#100, 905 – 4th Ave. South, Lethbridge)
In-person and Online**

Attendance (in-person)

Board Members:

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

Attendance (on-line):

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

Staff (in-person):

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

Call to Order

D. Degenstein called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

L. Nilsson moved the Board approved the agenda as presented.
Carried Unanimously

Minutes

T. Fiest moved the minutes of the November 1, 2023, FCSS Board meeting be approved as presented.
Carried Unanimously

Business Arising from Minutes

Family and Community Support Services Association of Alberta (FCSSAA)
Conference

SA, M

K. Jensen, D. Doell, R. Coad and L. Hickey discussed the FCSSAA Conference they attend.

Z. Morrison shared that Michelle McKenzie was re-elected to the position of FCSSAA South Region representative.

G. Bekkering moved to receive the Business Arising from the minutes as presented for information.

Carried Unanimously

Correspondence

The following correspondence was presented for information:

- Food Security Guidelines for Food Banks and Community Organizations
- FCSSAA Board Meeting Highlights October 12, 2023
- FCSSAA November News
- FCSSAA Annual Report 2023
- 2023-10-27 – Town of Raymond – Kelly Jensen appointed to FCSS Board
- 2023-10-27 – Town of Coaldale – Bill Chapman appointed to FCSS Board
- 2023-10-30 – Village of Coutts – Megan Payne appointed to FCSS Board
- 2023-10-30 – Town of Milk River – Dave Degenstein appointed to FCSS Board
- 2023-10-31 – Town of Nobleford – Melissa Jensen appointed to FCSS Board
- 2023-10-31 – Village of Warner – Martin Kirby appointed to FCSS Board
- 2023-10-26 – Town of Taber – Garth Bekkering appointed to FCSS Board
- 2023-11-15 – Town of Picture Butte – Teresa Feist appointed to FCSS Board

M. Harris moved to receive the correspondence as presented for information.

Carried Unanimously

Reports

Executive Director

Z. Morrison reviewed the Executive Director's report.

The following was highlighted:

- Monthly Message. **#OvercomingHolidayBlues**. For many, the holiday season is filled with fun, friends and family, and happiness. But, for others, the holiday season can be a reminder of challenging times, the loss of a loved one, or feelings of loneliness. Visit: <https://fcss.ca/monthly-message/overcomingholidayblues/>

M. Foster entered the Board meeting at 4:20

L. Hickey moved the Board to approve the Executive Director's Report as presented.

Carried Unanimously

Financial Report

Z. Morrison reviewed the Financial Report.

The Board discussed the Financial Report and monthly accounts.

J. Heggie moved the Board approve the October 2023 Financial Report including:

- Financial statement for October 31, 2023;
- Monthly accounts for October 1-31, 2023;
- Mastercard statement for October 12 to November 13, 2023.

Carried Unanimously

New Business

Interim Budget 2024

Z. Morrison presented the proposed interim budget for 2024.

The Board discussed the interim budget.

**Barons-Eureka-Warner FCSS
Proposed Interim Budget 2024**

REVENUE

Provincial FCSS funding	1,493,196
Municipal Requisitions	440,328
Interest Income	25,000
Revenue Other	70,656
Family Resource Network (Children's Services)	588,500
Farm Family Outreach (Canadian Red Cross)	5,949
Youth Services (ESDC)	30,389
Project Grant Funding	2,735
TOTAL	2,656,753

EXPENDITURES

Counselling Services	693,111
Family Services	721,197
Program Support	280,879
Senior Services	226,072
Youth Services	107,921
Youth Services (ESDC)	30,389
Family Resource Network (Children's Services)	588,500
Farm Family Outreach (Canadian Red Cross)	5,949
Project Grant Funding	2,735
TOTAL	2,656,753

ZM

L. Hickey moved the Board approve the interim budget as presented.
Carried Unanimously

Municipal Requisitions

The Board discussed the 2024 Municipal Requisition rate.

G. Bekkering moved the Board approve 0% increase in the Municipal Requisition for 2024.

Carried Unanimously

All-Councils meeting 2024

The All-Councils meeting was discussed.

T. Fiest moved the Board approve FCSS to host the All-Council Meeting on a two-year cycle rotation.

Carried

Plaque Presentation

M. Harris was presented with a plaque by the FCSS Board recognizing his 6 years as Board Chair for FCSS.

The Board thanked M. Harris for his years of service.

Round Table:

M. Harris mentioned that he and B. Chapman attended the RMA provincial convention.

H. Caldwell mentioned that the Town of Coalhurst is hosting Santa's Gone Looney event.

R. Coad appreciates the support he has received.

B. Chapman attended the RMA convention with M. Harris, The FCSS Women in Farming Conference was of great interest to the Mayors and Reeves.

B. Chapman tasked Z. Morrison to look into the vandalism of the DO Crew's Little Pantry.

Z. Morrison responded that the door to the pantry has been replaced with a modified door with 4 separate panes of acrylic.

Z. Morrison thanked both M. Harris and B. Chapman for their support and leadership.

D. Degenstein asked that childcare be offered for Board Members with small children during Board Meetings.

Z. Morrison responded when notice is given prior to the Board meeting, FCSS could accommodate the childcare request.

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next regular Board meeting will be February 7, 2024, at the Coaldale Hub (2107-13th Street) in-person and online (via Teams) starting at 4:00 p.m.

Adjournment

M. Harris moved the meeting adjourn at 5:14 p.m.

Carried Unanimously



Chairperson



Executive Director

**Milk River Health Professionals Attraction
& Retention Committee Minutes Feb 6, 2024**

In Attendance: Scott MacCumber, Dr Theresa Aweke, Anne Michaelis, David Cody, Shaylin Hoyt, Lisa Balog, Judy Gaehring, Christine Latmier, Austin Hook] Colleen Bianchi

1 **WELCOME** The meeting was called to order at 5:30p.m by Scott

2 **AGENDA** Dave moved the Feb agenda Carried.

3 **Minutes** of Previous Meeting: Christine made a motion to accept the minutes of January 2024. Carried.

4 **UPDATE** from **HEALTH CENTER** and **CLINIC**:

- CLINIC -

A water pipeline broke in the Milk River Clinic. AHS owns the clinic space. The Clinic has been moved into the hospital, north of the Lab doors. The clinic started in the ‘new space’ using paper since the computer system wasn’t ‘set-up’, to begin with.

- Dr Aweke arrived Jan 31 to Milk river ---YAY!!

-Psychiatrist will be coming to Milk River once a month.

- Diabetic person is coming back to clinic, possibility twice a month

-Speech Therapist coming for children

- Wednesday from the Clinic will be for Dr’s visits either at the Long Term Care or the Prairie Rose Lodge.

Renovations has not started in the Milk River clinic

Dr Meyer has moved into his rented home.

-HOSPITAL ---

Milk River Kinsmen donated \$15,000.00 to the hospital for a “QBE Space Lab” – a Life Pack/ this system can be seen by the RN at the desk.

- No Full -time Nurse Practitioner

- Zone with Dr Low, gives 'ER wait times', for all the area.

- Discussed that if MILK RIVER was allowed, the Milk River ER, could take 'weight off', for Lethbridge and Raymond's ER's.

- 'Flex Beds' "set up" in the hospital

- AHS budget is on a 'Freeze', Til new budget starts after March 31st

- Nurses, RN's has full line, filled

- Shay informs us that RN's /LPN's work 12 hour shifts; HCA is 12 hour; 8 hours for the Lab Technologist; Therapist staff [Sherry Lackman & assistant]

- The Hospital Auxiliary is selling Valentine Sugar Cookie packages on the Feb Monday 12th as Fundraiser

5. FINANCIAL REPORT:

Bank Account -\$19355.13

GIC's --\$3170.93

Total \$22,526.06

Scott moves the financial report. Motion Carried. There was Baskets were given to Both the Doctors and The Clinic. Cost was \$386.25 bought from the Riverside.

Lunch with Dr Aweke, was \$44.07.

- 'IOU' of DR Meyer extension was discussed.

Ann moves to extend to May 11,2024. Carried.

-Dr Aweke signed a 3 year contract with Milk River.

-Dr Meyer will do ER on Monday & Wednesday evenings He won't do weekends

-Dr Aweke will do ER on Tuesday & Thursday evenings

6. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Recruitment

B. REFRESH/RESTART – 'on hold'

C. Rental Housing Shortage- Housing Committee looks into house costs...\$180,00 to \$310,000

Bow Island Builder says house with 2 bath/3 bedroom No basement No garage \$450,000 - \$500,000 Discussed about leasing home for 10 -15 years

-Elsie Walker rented house to Dr Meyer.

-PhPAP is not into owning buildings.

D. Committee Webpage –

E. AGM -April

7. PROJECTS:

a Locum Welcome Packages – good

b Support of Healthcare Workers -

c Healthcare Services Book –working project

d School Awards -

e Health Centre Staffing -
Staff Hours Discussed

f Scholarship Employee – nil

8. RhPAP – Lysney sent regrets.

“Rural Go Rural” Event Day [March 15] which will have High Students [grade 9 & up] pairs them with Stations in the Hospital. There could be jobs for Students in Housekeeping/Health Care Aides which they get “hours” and get paid. Online Course [12 months] and Practicum in the hospital.

Austin asks Definition of ER is “open” – ‘when a DR./Nurse Practitioner or Physician Assistant is NOT on the ‘floor’ then ER is CLOSED.’

SOUTH ZONE

- Lab Services only can be covered Jenny. Liver work cant be done in Milk River so goes to

Raymond, also Milk River Xrays after hours and weekends.

- Made a difference having the Floor Nurses able to do 'Lab Tests'

- Shay "makes it work" –Thank you Shay!!

Sue Frank past local Lab/Xray Tech, still not able to work in Milk River on 'OFF' hours.

- We NEED to have Lab/Xray Tech "sitting" in Milk River on after 5pm and weekends.

9.NEW BUSINESS:

IN ROUND Table- Ann shared Creates of Health 'Lonely Seniors Program'

Next meeting March5/2024 at 5:30pm

Christine Adjourned [sorry] missed the time

Request for Decision

Mayors Report

March 11, 2024



RECOMMENDATION

That the Mayors Report for March 11, 2024, be accepted as information.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

BACKGROUND

Mayor Liebelt will provide a report from the Mayors Desk.

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. Chief Mountain Regional Solid Waste Services Commission
2. Mayors and Reeves

**MINUTES OF THE CHIEF MOUNTAIN REGIONAL SOLID WASTE SERVICES COMMISSION
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING HELD DECEMBER 13, 2023, AT THE TOWN OF MAGRATH.**

Authority Members Present:

Larry Liebelt – Town of Milk River
Byrne Cook – Town of Magrath
Wayne Harris – Cardston County
Tanya Smith – Village of Coutts (zoom)
Allan Burton – Town of Cardston (Zoom)

Tyler Lindsay – Village of Warner
Randy Taylor – County of Warner
Bryce Coppieters – Town of Raymond
Mike Nish – Village of Glenwood

Others Present:

Marian Carlson – SEO
Suzanne Pierson – Secretary/Treasurer

Lee Beazer – Operator

Meeting commenced at 5:03 p.m.

Byrne Cook in the Chair.

Chairman

Byrne Cook asked for nominations for Chairman.
Bryce Coppieters nominated Gary Bikman.
Byrne Cook called for nominations a second and third time.
Randy Taylor called for nominations to cease.
Gary Bikman is declared Chairman.

Vice-Chairman

Byrne Cook asked for nominations for Vice-Chairman.
Bryce Coppieters moved to nominate Byrne Cook.
Byrne Cook asked for nominations a second and third time.
Randy Taylor called for nominations to cease.
Byrne Cook is declared Vice-Chairman.

Signing Authorities

23-15 Bryce Coppieters moved that the signing authorities be as follows: Gary Bikman, Allan Burton, Byrne Cook, Wayne Harris, Marian Carlson, Suzanne Pierson, and Lee Beazer; (Lee Beazer and Suzanne Pierson cannot sign the same cheque(s)) signing for the following accounts: Chief Mountain Regional (Depreciation), Chief Mountain Regional Solid (Current Operating), Chief Mountain Regional Closure Account, and Chief Mountain Regional Reserve Account. Carried

The SEO advised the need to access online banking for printing bank statements and transferring funds as per the budget.

23-16 Randy Taylor moved to allow access to online banking for the SEO and Secretary/Treasurer to print bank statements and transfer funds between accounts according to the budget. Carried

Committees

23-17 Wayne Harris moved that the committees be as follows: Finance Committee are Bryce Coppieters, Tyler Lindsay, and Byrne Cook; Joint Health and Safety Committee are Larry Liebelt, Mike Nish, and Brian Wickhorst; Policy Committee are Allan Burton, Tanya Smith, Randy Taylor, and Wayne Harris; HR Committee are Wayne Harris, Tyler Lindsay, Bryce Coppieters, and Randy Taylor. Carried

Per Diem

23-18 Randy Taylor moved that the per diem rates stay at \$200 for meetings less than four hours and \$260 for meetings over four hours and to follow the CRA-approved rate for mileage, same as 2023. Carried

The Board discussed whether to keep the regularly scheduled board meetings.

23-19 Bryce Coppieters moved to maintain the regularly scheduled board meetings on the second Wednesday of each month in Magrath at 5:00 p.m. Carried

Wayne Harris advised that the Commission By-Law allows an alternate to be assigned to the Commission board. The SEO will send a letter to the municipalities regarding an option of having an alternate assigned and request that the alternate be submitted in writing to the Commission.

Allan Burton was excused at 5:17 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Larry Liebelt moved the adjournment of the organizational meeting.

Adjournment at 5:17 p.m.



Chairman

**MINUTES OF THE CHIEF MOUNTAIN REGIONAL SOLID WASTE SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING HELD
DECEMBER 13, 2023, AT THE TOWN OF MAGRATH.**

Members Present:

Brian Wickhorst – Village of Glenwood
Byrne Cook – Town of Magrath
Bryce Coppieters – Town of Raymond
Tyler Lindsay – Village of Warner
Mike Nish – Village of Hill Spring

Tanya Smith – Village of Coutts (Zoom)
Wayne Harris – Cardston County
Randy Taylor – County of Warner
Larry Liebelt – Town of Milk River

Others Present:

Marian Carlson – SEO
Suzanne Pierson – Secretary/Treasurer

Lee Beazer – Operator

Commenced at 5:17 pm

Byrne Cook in the Chair.

AGENDA

Randy Taylor moved that the agenda be adopted as presented. Carried

Brian Wickhorst arrived at 5:19 p.m.

MINUTES

Bryce Coppieters moved that the minutes of the November 8, 2023, regular board meeting be adopted as presented. Carried

NEW BUSINESS

The SEO presented the 2024 Budget with the 5-year reserve schedule for the board to review. The presented budget represents a 3% increase in requisition rates. A portion of the budget increase will provide funds to be placed in a reserve account for purchasing new equipment.

The board discussed the Landfill Tipping Fee for 2024 and the rates for the City of Lethbridge.

23 -20 Larry Liebelt moved to have the Landfill Tipping Fee for the 2024 year set at \$115/tonne. Carried

23-21 Randy Taylor moved to approve the 2024 Budget with the requisition rate set at 31.24/capita. Carried

Wayne Harris brought to the board's attention concerns at the Glenwood Transfer Station regarding customers coming from the Blood Tribe and not helping pay the Operator's wage. The Blood Tribe does pay a requisition fee for waste disposal.

The SEO reported that she participated in a webinar on November 15, 2023, hosted by the Circular Materials Working Group, to further discuss the Extended Producer Responsibility. Some important information from the webinar was that if municipalities don't register, no funding from the producer will come to the municipality. The regulation requires recycling curbside pick-up beginning October 2026 if the municipality currently has curbside pick-up. All municipalities can have Circular Materials contracted with a 3rd party for curbside pick-up.

Wayne Harris was excused at 6:26 p.m.

Tyler Lindsay moved to approve the SEO's report. Carried

The Operator reported that 881.82 tonnes of waste were delivered to the Landfill in November 2023, making the year-to-date total 9,437.279 tonnes.

The Operator advised that Wilde Brothers Engineering has been contacted regarding completing the year-end report for Alberta Environment.

The Operator reported that water samples have been taken and gas sampling has been completed.

The Operator advised that J.I.M. Equipment is near completion on the drainage ditch to deal with the spring run-off.

Brian Wickhorst moved to approve the Operator's report. Carried

Financial Statement

The Financial Statement for October 31, 2023, was reviewed.

Bryce Coppieters moved to accept the October 31, 2023, Financial Statement. Carried

Approval of Bills

Bills for November 2023 were reviewed.

Larry Liebelt moved to approve the bills for November 2023. Carried

The Year-to-date Budget was presented as of November 30, 2023.

Mike Nish moved to approve the Year-to-Date Budget as of November 30, 2023. Carried

The Operator reported that the 2012 semi-truck and trailer were present during an accident on Saturday, December 8, 2023. A resident passed the semi-truck on a solid line and went over the guard rail near the Lee Creek bridge near Cardston. The semi did not make contact with the vehicle. The other driver was taken to Lethbridge by ambulance but will fully recover.

The SEO presented a Christmas card from RMA Insurance.

Byrne Cook advised that he has information from SAEWA regarding a waste incineration plan moving forward. He will forward the information to the SEO.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter from the Town of Magrath regarding their organizational meeting and the representative to the Commission. Filed

Randy Taylor moved the correspondence filed for information. Carried

ADJOURNMENT

Tanya Smith moved the meeting adjourned.

Adjournment at 6:41 p.m.

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



Chairman

**MINUTES OF THE CHIEF MOUNTAIN REGIONAL SOLID WASTE SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING HELD
JANUARY 10, 2024, VIA ZOOM.**

Members Present:

Brian Wickhorst – Village of Glenwood
Byrne Cook – Town of Magrath
Bryce Coppieters – Town of Raymond
Tyler Lindsay – Village of Warner
Gary Bikman – Village of Stirling

Tanya Smith – Village of Coutts
Wayne Harris – Cardston County
Randy Taylor – County of Warner
Peggy Losey – Town of Milk River
Allan Burton – Town of Cardston

Others Present:

Marian Carlson – SEO
Suzanne Pierson – Secretary/Treasurer

Lee Beazer – Operator

Commenced at 5:00 pm

Gary Bikman in the Chair.

AGENDA

Bryce Coppieters moved that the agenda be adopted as presented. Carried

MINUTES

Brian Wickhorst moved that the minutes of the December 13, 2023, organizational board meeting be adopted as presented. Carried

Wayne Harris moved that the minutes of the December 13, 2023, regular board meeting be adopted as presented. Carried

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The SEO reported that a letter was sent to the participating municipalities advising that an alternate may be assigned to the Commission board.

Allan Burton and Bryne Cook arrived at 5:04 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

The SEO reported that the audit RFP will go out on Monday, and the application deadline is February 15, 2024. The finance committee will review the applications and bring a recommendation to the March board meeting.

The SEO has been trying to meet with Kurtis Pratt, Town of Raymond, regarding the pilot project, but with the holidays, they have not been able to meet.

The SEO advised that the Waste Diversion reports from 2023 will be analyzed, and a summary will be given at the next board meeting.

The SEO reported that some municipalities have registered with the Circular Materials Working Group. The SEO will contact the rest of the municipalities to see if they have registered.

Tanya Smith arrived at 5:08 p.m.

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

The Operator reported that 552,002 tonnes of waste were delivered to the Landfill in December 2023, making the year-to-date total 9,989,281 tonnes.

The Operator advised that Wilde Brothers Engineering has been given the information to complete the year-end report.

The Operator reported that Chris Law will be starting on the wind fence in Raymond this week.

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

Financial Statement

The Financial Statement for November 30, 2023, was reviewed.

Randy Taylor moved to accept the November 31, 2023, Financial Statement. Carried

Approval of Bills

Bills for December 2023 were reviewed.

Byrne Cook moved to approve the bills for December 2023. Carried

The SEO will get a quote from Kim Welby to run the Strategic Planning Session. The board discussed meeting on a weekday in March or April. The SEO will find out when Kim is available and bring tentative dates for the session for the board to decide on.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Alberta CARE Spring Seminar is on February 28-March 1, 2024, in Canmore, Alberta. Filed

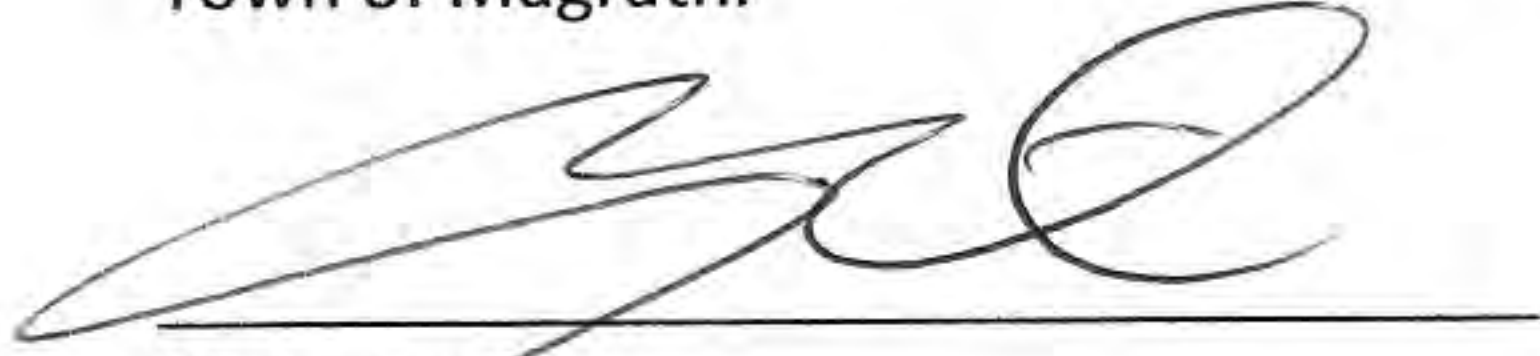
An engagement letter from Avail to perform the 2023 Audit. Filed

ADJOURNMENT

Tanya Smith moved the meeting adjourned.

Adjournment at 5:21 p.m.

The Next Commission board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 14, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in the Town of Magrath.



Chairman

**MINUTES OF THE CHIEF MOUNTAIN REGIONAL SOLID WASTE SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING HELD
FEBRUARY 14, 2024, AT THE TOWN OF MAGRATH.**

Members Present:

Brian Wickhorst – Village of Glenwood
Byrne Cook – Town of Magrath
Randy Taylor – County of Warner
Tyler Lindsay – Village of Warner
Gary Bikman – Village of Stirling

Tanya Smith – Village of Coutts
Wayne Harris – Cardston County
Allan Burton – Town of Cardston
Larry Liebelt – Town of Milk River

Others Present:

Marian Carlson – SEO
Suzanne Pierson – Secretary/Treasurer (Zoom)

Lee Beazer – Operator

Commenced at 5:01 pm

Gary Bikman in the Chair.

AGENDA

Randy Taylor moved that the agenda be adopted as presented. Carried

MINUTES

Brian Wickhorst moved that the minutes of the January 10, 2024, regular board meeting be adopted as presented. Carried

NEW BUSINESS

The SEO reported that the municipalities were contacted regarding the EPR program; a report is attached as to the status of each municipality.

The SEO advised that Kim Welby can facilitate a session to update and review the Strategic Plan on March 25th to 28th or April 2nd to 5th. The session will run from Noon to 5:00 p.m. The board agreed to meet on March 28, 2024, at the Town of Magrath.

The SEO reported that the Raymond pilot project is ready to begin in April. A minimum of one load of waste will be transported to the Landfill per week in this three-month pilot. The days will be alternated, and the goal will be to have a minimum of three scale tickets per route day for the Town of Raymond. Mileage, time, and maintenance costs will be calculated.

The SEO advised that there is no confirmation yet on the approval of the ACP Grant.

The SEO reported that the RFP for Audit services was released on January 15, 2024, and will close on February 15, 2024. The tenders will be presented to the Finance Committee, and a recommendation will be brought to the Board at the March meeting.

The SEO presented the Employee Benefit Package information and will not look at the program this year because of the high-cost quote.

The SEO reported on the Waste Diverted in 2023. The board set a goal of an 80% increase in recycling, and the Commission reached 7.5%. The Commission will keep working with the municipalities to increase the waste diverted.

The SEO presented the website that has been developed for the Commission. Suggestions were noted, and slight changes will be made before the website goes live.

The SEO advised that Transfer Station Operator Training is being organized for March 2024. The board would like the Operator to go to each site and perform the training. The Commission would like the municipality representative, the Commission representative, and the Transfer Station Operator to be present for the on-site training.

Allan Burton moved to approve the SEO's report.

Carried

The Operator reported that 888.46 tonnes of waste were delivered to the Landfill in January 2024, leaving the year's available tonnage at 9,111.54 tonnes.

The Operator advised that some private companies are bringing waste to the Landfill, the bills are large, and the Commission does not want them to be in arrears. The board wants, effective immediately, all waste to be paid for upon delivery. The Operator and Secretary/Treasurer will work on notifying customers of this change. Policy F7 will be updated and emailed to the Policy Committee for approval. Once the Policy Committee approves the amended policy, it will be presented at the next board meeting.

The Operator advised that Wilde Brothers Engineering has been given the information to complete the year-end report.

The Operator reported that Chris Law will start on the wind fence in Raymond this week.

The Operator advised that the older Peterbilt semi-truck had a DEF filter plug, changed injectors, and had high exhaust pressure. All required repairs will be approximately 36,700. The board would like to see the truck DEF system deleted once they are off warranty.

The board would like the SEO to advertise an expression of interest in trucking waste to the Landfill.

The Operator advised that Cardston County is wondering if the Commission can take some sludge. The SEO will phone Murray Millward, SEO of Cardston County, and get a clearer picture of where this sludge is coming from and the contingency plan in place. The SEO will send an email to the board as to the information found.

Wayne Harris moved to approve the Operator’s report. Carried

Financial Statement

The Financial Statements for December 31, 2023, and January 31, 2024, were reviewed.

Tanya Smith moved to accept the December 31, 2023, and January 31, 2024, Financial Statements. Carried

Approval of Bills

Bills for January 2024 were reviewed.

Byrne Cook moved to approve the bills for January 2024. Carried

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter from the Town of Magrath regarding Gerry Baril being the alternate representative. Filed

A letter from the Town of Milk River requesting funding for the 2022 Waste Diverted. Filed

A letter from the Village of Warner requesting funding for the 2022 Waste Diverted. Filed

24-01 Tanya Smith moved to pay only the 2023 Waste Diversion to the Town of Milk River and the Village of Warner. Carried

ADJOURNMENT

Tanya Smith moved the meeting adjourned.

Adjournment at 6:32 p.m.

The Next Commission board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in the Town of Magrath.

Chairman

Alberta's government is protecting Albertans' privacy by strengthening protections.

Key messages:

- Alberta's privacy protections are outdated and need updating.
- We are providing strengthened privacy protections for Albertans and ensuring that their data is not misused, and providing them with a portal to view where their data has been requested.
- Government uses data, and needs to use data, to deliver services from driver's licenses to health care effectively. These frameworks ensure we collect that data safely.
- We will also be engaging to ensure that the penalties for misusing the data of Albertans or violating their privacy, whether by government or by private entities, are the strongest in Canada.

Alberta's government is winning the battle against red tape. In 2019, we made a commitment to cut red tape by 1/3 and we did it!

Key messages:

- We have saved Albertans and Alberta businesses more than \$2.75 billion by updating rules and improving procedures while continuing to make Alberta the best place to live, invest, and do business.
- We have hit the 33-percent milestone, but we are not slowing down. We will continue to make high-impact changes that drive economic growth, job creation, and improve service delivery.
- Our work in red tape reduction has changed the culture across government to regulate only when needed, with the lightest touch while continuing to ensure the health and safety of Albertans, and the protection of our environment.
- When we introduce a new regulation, we ensure we have eliminated four regulations, making the process leaner and efficient.

Alberta's government is investing \$1.2 million through the Alberta Community Justice (ACJ) Grant to empower community-based organizations and interest groups to increase access to justice for Albertans.

Key messages:

- Many Albertans prefer to resolve legal issues within their communities, which provides a more culturally appropriate process that aligns with their values.
- To empower communities to resolve issues outside the traditional court system, Alberta's government has created a one-time grant to boost community-justice programs.
- Community-justice programs operate within a framework that is culturally sensitive and encourages collaborative problem-solving to address the root causes of crime.
- By engaging community members in the decision-making process to address the root causes of crime, this new grant aims to build safer and stronger communities through community involvement, prevention programs, and alternative approaches to justice.
- Applications for one-time grants of \$5,000 to \$25,000 will be accepted Jan. 31 through Feb. 29 from eligible organizations.

Alberta has scored another 'A' on the CFIB's annual red tape report card and is leading all provinces in Canada in red tape reduction.

Key messages:

- The CFIB has again given Alberta's government an 'A' grade, which keeps us ahead of all other provinces for the fourth year in a row, and it coincides with the milestone of cutting regulation by one-third that we recently reached.
- By making our programs faster, more accessible, and more efficient, we're not only making it easier for businesses to thrive, we're making life more affordable as well.
- We're proud to be top of the class, but that doesn't mean our work is done. There's always room for improvement, and we want Albertans to continue to send us their ideas on cutting red tape.
- If there's a government rule or process that's too complex, takes too long, or serves no real purpose, Albertans can let us know about it by emailing the link on our Cut Red Tape page on alberta.ca.
- Together, we'll continue to strive for excellence to ensure Alberta remains the best place to live, work, and do business.

Led by WaterSMART Solutions, Alberta's government will begin stakeholder engagement on water sharing agreements starting Feb. 1.

Key messages:

- Due to El Niño, Alberta is currently experiencing one of its warmest and driest winters on record. As such, the province is at high risk of experiencing a significant drought.
- This is not exclusive to Alberta. According to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's latest assessment, more than 72 per cent of the country is experiencing moderate to exceptional drought conditions.
- Alberta's government will begin meeting with major water users to develop voluntary agreements to share water if there's a severe drought.
- This includes meeting with municipalities, irrigation districts, industry, and other major users to develop voluntary water-sharing agreements.
- Once completed, these water-sharing agreements will maximize the chances of all Albertans and Alberta businesses having sufficient supply this year, even during a significant drought.
- This is part of Alberta's work to ensure the province is fully prepared for the possibility of a severe drought in 2024.

Alberta is investing \$18 million to help communities become more energy efficient and reduce costs. This funding will help communities across our province rural and urban to save energy, lower costs, all while reducing emissions.

Key messages:

- Alberta is investing \$18 million to help municipalities and communities reduce energy costs, increase energy efficiency, and reduce emissions.
- Rural and urban communities of all sizes can apply for funding to make buildings more energy efficient and make other important improvements that will lower energy costs.
- This funding provides crucial support for smaller communities that might not have the resources needed to make energy efficient upgrades or implement other energy saving solutions.
- This will also enable new programs to help Alberta's communities access supports for energy conservation, energy management, outreach, and engagement, and more.

Alberta's government is introducing policies to make sure children are supported as they grow into adults to become the people they want to be.

Key messages:

- We, as a society, must support and reach out with kindness and inclusion to those who identify as transgender, and work to eliminate the discrimination they often experience in their lives.
- Alberta's government will continue to ensure that every Albertan who identifies as transgender is supported, and that their rights are protected.
- One of the greatest responsibilities we as parents, teachers and community leaders have, is to preserve for our children, the right to grow and develop into mature adults so they are better prepared to make the most impactful decisions affecting their lives.

Alberta has established a new Water Advisory Committee which will help prepare for drought and work to make every drop count in 2024.

Key messages:

- Due to El Niño, Alberta is currently experiencing one of its warmest and driest winters on record. As such, the province is at high risk of experiencing a significant drought.
- This is not exclusive to Alberta. According to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's latest assessment, more than 72 per cent of the country is experiencing moderate to exceptional drought conditions.
- The committee includes leaders with experience in agriculture, irrigation, Indigenous, industry, rural issues, and urban concerns, providing a diverse sounding board to help support farmers and ranchers, businesses and communities share, conserve and manage water in 2024.
- This committee will help give advice directly to Alberta's Minister of Environment and Protected Areas, providing an independent sounding board on the needs and perspectives of Albertans during a drought.

Alberta's Treasury Board and Finance department commissioned The Conference Board of Canada to complete an analysis report on the proposed federal oil and gas cap.

Key messages:

- This policy could reduce Canada's nominal GDP by \$600 billion to \$1 trillion between 2030 and 2040.
- The Conference Board of Canada's report also found the proposed oil and gas production cap could cut our provincial government revenue between \$73 and \$127 billion in the same period.
- Alberta can, and will, continue regulating and reducing emissions from the oil and gas sector to achieve a carbon-neutral economy by 2050.
 - This will be done through investments in emission-reducing technologies combined with practical emission offsets, all while continuing to develop Alberta's world-class natural energy resources.

Family doctors will soon be receiving additional payments to help manage an increasing number of patients.

Key Messages:

- Alberta's government is pulling out all the stops to stabilize, strengthen and improve Alberta's primary health care system.
- We are providing \$57 million over three years to provide family doctors and nurse practitioners with support to help manage costs related to their increasing number of patients.
- This funding is part of our commitment to stabilize, strengthen and improve Alberta's primary health care system.

Alberta added 23,800 full time jobs in January, building on the strong job growth we saw last year.

Key messages:

- Alberta continues to be the best place to live, work, invest or grow a business and raise a family.
- Alberta saw an increase of 23,800 full time jobs in January. This builds on the overall growth we saw last year.
- Alberta has added 84,800 jobs over the last 12 months, more than 85 per cent have been full-time positions.
- Our competitive tax rate, highly skilled workforce, abundant natural resources, and world-class education system means we will continue to be the economic engine of Canada.

Alberta is seeing more women enter the workforce and engage meaningfully in Alberta's economy.

Key messages:

- Alberta's women are leaders within of our communities and our economy, and when they can fully participate in our economy and civil society, our province thrives.
- Ensuring women in Alberta have access to good quality jobs and can succeed in fulfilling careers is crucial to the success of our province.
- Alberta's government is committed to finding new ways to ensure Alberta's women have every opportunity to fully participate in our province's economy.
- We are seeing impressive results from our efforts, for example, we have seen women's unemployment in Alberta drop below five per cent.

Alberta's government is launching a new tourism and hospitality immigration stream to help address labour gaps and challenges in Alberta's tourism and hospitality sectors.

Key messages:

- Alberta's government is advancing economic growth by tackling labour shortages and positioning Alberta as the premier destination for jobs and investment in Canada.
- The tourism and hospitality sector in Alberta propels economic growth, fosters prosperity, and generates jobs, particularly in communities beyond urban centers.
- Our new Tourism and Hospitality stream will help attract and retain the experienced workers needed, providing stability for businesses to focus on growing the visitor economy throughout the province.
 - Tourism and Hospitality Stream applicants must have a valid full-time, non-seasonal job offer from an approved employer operating within the appropriate industry.
- This new stream helps address concerns voiced by Alberta tourism and hospitality operators about chronic labour shortages.
- The Tourism and Hospitality stream is designed to supplement existing immigration pathways already attracting international talent to in-demand sectors in Alberta.

Nominations are now open for the 2024 Alberta Agriculture Hall of Fame.

Key messages:

- The Alberta Agriculture Hall of Fame honours individuals who have made significant contributions to the agriculture and food industry, and to the development and sustainability of rural life in Alberta.
- Every two years, up to three individuals who have demonstrated exemplary leadership while making a province-wide impact on Alberta's agriculture and food industries are inducted.
- Albertans are encouraged to nominate an agricultural leader in their community by May 3, 2024.
- The 2024 Agriculture Hall of Fame inductees will be celebrated at an induction ceremony later this year.

Alberta's government has officially submitted its response to the methane regulations being proposed by the federal government.

Key messages:

- We strongly oppose the federal government's draft methane regulations and are calling on Ottawa to stop any further development.
- Managing emissions from Alberta's oil and gas industry is our constitutional responsibility, and jurisdiction, and we are getting the job done in a cost-effective way.
- We already reached our methane reduction target of 45 per cent by 2025, three years ahead of schedule while saving industry over \$600 million. These regulations are flawed and rely on unrealistic targets and timelines, as well as technologies not readily available at scale.
- These regulations will require \$9.4 billion in infrastructure upgrades in Alberta alone while risking thousands of jobs in Alberta due to the increased costs and reduced production.
- We support reducing methane emissions. This is why we have invested tens of millions into developing these technologies and are engaging with industry on new paths to reduce emissions in the years ahead.

On April 1, the financial threshold for which an individual can access Legal Aid Services will be increasing from \$24,456 (gross) to \$30,000 so that more vulnerable Albertans can access the legal aid support they may need.

Key messages:

- Legal Aid Alberta plays an integral role in the administration of justice by supporting some of our most vulnerable citizens, but many Albertans can simply not qualify to access the services they need.
- To remove some of the financial eligibility barriers to accessing legal aid, Alberta's government is increasing financial eligibility guidelines for which an individual can qualify for Legal Aid so that more Albertans can get the help they need.
- By expanding who can access Legal Aid services, Alberta's government is strengthening the justice system and making it more accessible for Albertans.
- Alberta's government remains committed to working collaboratively with legal aid to ensure the optimal delivery and long-term sustainability of legal aid in our province.

Alberta's government has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Blood Tribe Department of Health to continue operating the Lethbridge shelter and is investing \$4 million in its expansion.

Key messages:

- Alberta's government has built a strong partnership with the Blood Tribe in caring for those experiencing homelessness in southern Alberta.
- Indigenous-led programs such as the Lethbridge emergency shelter are an act of true reconciliation as those in need receive culturally appropriate supports.
- Our government is providing \$4 million to support an expansion of the Lethbridge emergency shelter in response to capacity concerns, ensuring more people can access the supports and services they need such as social benefits, healthcare, addiction treatment, and housing.
- With continued partnership and Indigenous-led services, vulnerable Albertans are receiving the support they need to connect to addiction treatment and recovery, housing, and other social supports.

Alberta's government is providing \$2.8 million in grant funding over two years to Women Building Futures to support its commercial trucking program.

Key messages:

- Alberta's women are leaders within our communities and our economy, and when they can fully participate in our economy and civil society, our province thrives.
- Alberta's government is proud to support Women Building Futures with \$2.8 million in funding over two years to expand training opportunities for women pursuing careers in commercial transportation.
- Ensuring women in Alberta have access to good quality jobs and can succeed in fulfilling careers is crucial to the success of our province.
- This funding will help Women Building Futures provide programming to unemployed or underemployed women while continuing our government's work to address skilled worker labour shortages in commercial trucking.
- Now more than ever, drivers are needed in the commercial transportation sector to help get Alberta products to market and ensure communities have access to essential goods and services.
 - Women Building Futures is part of the solution to address these challenges.
- We continue working with community leaders to find ways to help women break into fields of employment that they are traditionally under-represented in, including the transportation industry.

EMS response times and workforce shortages are improving provincially; however, we recognize and value the important role our medical first response (MFR) partners play, in rural, remote, and Indigenous communities where support is delivered through this established program.

Key messages:

- Albertans deserve the best health care possible, which is why we are investing in emergency care delivery for Albertans across the province.
- Medical first responders are often the first to arrive on the scene of an emergency and provide life-saving care until an ambulance arrives.
- A total of \$3.85 million will be distributed to over 200 Medical First Response agencies across the province, supporting rural, remote, and Indigenous communities with training, equipment, and direct financial aid to strengthen emergency medical services.
- Alberta's government is committed to working with EMS providers and community partners to bring better emergency medical services to communities across the province.

Forestry and Parks Minister Todd Loewen has declared an early start to the 2024 wildfire season and has requested funding for 100 new wildland firefighters.

Key messages:

- Alberta continues to experience warmer than normal temperatures and below average precipitation in many areas of the province, leading to heightened risk of wildfire.
- Alberta's government is declaring an early start to the 2024 wildfire season, which means additional regulations are in place for Albertans within the Forest Protection Area.
- To help reduce the risk of wildfires, Albertans must have a permit for any burning planned in the Forest Protection Area, while Alberta Wildfire will also use the fire ban and restriction system to help reduce human caused wildfires in response to hazardous conditions.
- In addition to declaring an early wildfire season, if Budget 2024 is passed, it will provide funding for 100 new firefighters resulting in five additional 20-person crews available to fight wildfires within our province.
- These additional firefighters will be a critical help to the Alberta Wildfire team.
- Wildfire prevention is a shared responsibility, and we all need to remain vigilant and recreate responsibly to reduce the risk of wildfire.

Today, on National Human Trafficking Awareness Day, Alberta's government is announcing grant funding for the Alberta Office to Combat Trafficking in Persons (AOCTIP) community partner organizations and two co-chairs to lead its board of directors.

Key messages:

Funding announcement

- Alberta's government is announcing \$3.5 million in funding to support survivor-centered services and combat human trafficking in our province.
- This year's funding will enhance frontline service delivery, building capacity in organizations, and reaching communities at risk, such as youth, Indigenous and newcomers.
 - Community partner organizations are sharing knowledge and expertise to help to ensure that resources are allocated where they will have the greatest impact.
- Fighting human trafficking is a key priority, and we will continue to work on uprooting the associated criminal networks, while also supporting those impacted by these crimes.
- Alberta's government will do whatever it takes to combat human trafficking and keep people safe.

If passed, Budget 2024 will invest \$24 million per year over the next three years to create 3,200 additional apprenticeship seats at 11 post-secondary institutions across Alberta.

Key messages:

- As our economy and the world around us evolve, Alberta's government is helping students get the skills they need to meet labour market demands and succeed in the economy of the future.
- The skilled trades provide an opportunity for Albertans to earn money while they learn skills for good paying, in-demand jobs.
- We are making a targeted investment that responds to industry needs and supports long term growth.
- Additional apprenticeship seats will connect more Albertans to good-paying jobs.

Alberta saw steady venture capital investment in 2023, while Canada as a whole dropped by 30 per cent.

Key messages:

- While the rest of Canada is seeing declines in tech investment, Alberta is holding steady.
- Meanwhile, Edmonton's tech sector saw an increase in investment of over 300 per cent in 2023.
- Alberta's tech sector growth over the last five years is more than triple that of Canada overall, showing that our province is an engine of growth.
- Our tech sector has grown by over 600 per cent since 2017, showing that we are experiencing exponential growth.

Alberta's government is supporting 10 major international hockey events and development camps through 2027.

Key messages:

- If Budget 2024 is passed, Alberta’s government will commit \$11 million to deliver several world-class hockey events and development camps in our province.
- These world-class hockey events and development camps will foster diversity and inclusion in hockey, provide players with the opportunity to play in front of a hometown crowd, and inspire the next generation of athletes.
- The economic impact of hosting these events is significant, at over \$55 million across Alberta while showing the breathtaking landscape of our province to millions of viewers around the world.
- In addition, hosting these international tournaments, games, and national development camps will continue to build the province’s reputation as a premier host for major events and an attractive travel destination for visitors from around the country and world.

Alberta’s government is providing an additional \$1.2 million in capital maintenance and renewal (CMR) funding to invest in affordable housing units.

Key messages:

- Alberta’s government is helping repair and revitalize housing facilities to ensure they can be a safe place for families to call home for years to come.
- We heard from housing providers that their facilities needed improvements, and we are taking action and we are providing \$1.2 million to support improvements in 245 units across the province.
- We are continuing to work closely with housing providers to identify priority projects for future funding.
- Investing in affordable housing repairs keeps affordable units usable and facilities safe, accessible, and up to date.

Latest results from Statistics Canada’s Canadian Survey on Business Conditions point to an increase in overall business confidence in Alberta.

Key messages:

- Alberta continues to be the best jurisdiction to invest in due to the lowest tax rates in Canada, a young, highly skilled, and productive workforce, and an environment that embraces innovation and entrepreneurship.
- The overall business confidence in Alberta continues to grow, according to Statistics Canada's Canadian Survey on Business Canada.
- This confidence in Alberta is out pacing the rest of the country.
- Optimism improved in 12 out of 16 industries.
- The biggest jump came in the professional, scientific, and technical services sector, boosted largely by Alberta's burgeoning tech sector which continues to be one of the hottest in Canada.
- The most optimistic sector to start the year was the arts, entertainment, and recreation sectors, they have been buoyed by the film and television sector which has had record investment with major productions that have helped put Alberta on the map.

Alberta's government has introduced Budget 2024, a responsible plan to strengthen health care and education, build safe communities, and manage resources wisely to support a growing Alberta.

Key messages (main):

- Budget 2024 is a responsible plan to strengthen health care and education, build safe communities, and manage resources wisely to support a growing Alberta.
- With a steady focus on fiscal responsibility and wise spending, Alberta's government will continue to meet the needs of Albertans today and tomorrow.
- Budget 2024 presents three more years of balanced budgets, beginning with a forecast surplus of \$367 million in 2024-25.
- Budget 2024 is a responsible plan that puts Albertans and Alberta families first by investing in strong health care, a modern education system, and supports to keep life affordable.
- Budget 2024 is a responsible plan that invests in Alberta's safe, secure communities by managing our resources wisely.
- Budget 2024 is a responsible plan that maintains Alberta's competitive advantage, so businesses and industry continue to thrive, innovate, and create jobs.

Supporting a growing province

- Budget 2024 is a responsible plan that puts Albertans and Alberta families first by investing in their health, education, safety, and economic growth and success.
- Our \$25 billion Capital Plan builds the schools, hospitals, and roads our communities will rely on as they grow. That's an increase of \$2 billion from Budget 2023.
- \$1.9 billion over the next three years will fund the planning, design, or construction of 98 new or modernized schools, including 43 new projects announced in Budget 2024.
- 717 million in capital grants to give Albertans and families access to more affordable housing, in line with Stronger Foundations – Alberta's 10-year strategy designed to increase affordable housing supply and supports for Albertans.
- \$20 million over the next three years, including \$17 million in new funding, to continue planning for a stand-alone Stollery Children's Hospital.

Savings for the future

- Alberta's commitment to reducing debt and to increase savings and bring the province's finances into the black are not going unnoticed, nor unrewarded.
- The province is retaining more than \$1 billion in investment earnings from 2023-24 in the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund. Alberta's government will also deposit another \$2 billion from the Alberta Fund, increasing the value of the Heritage Savings Trust Fund to a forecast \$25 billion. This is a significant investment in the future of Albertans and the province's main long-term savings fund.
- Prior to the end of this year, government will release its long-term plan charting a path to a Heritage Fund worth between \$250 billion and \$400 billion dollars by the year 2050.
- Alberta will join the ranks of jurisdictions such as Alaska, Norway, and many other resource-based jurisdictions around the world who boast sovereign wealth funds large enough to replace their reliance on resource revenues.
- It is important to our government to not burden our children and grandchildren with debt.
- Our framework will require us to reduce taxpayer-supported debt by a forecast \$3.2 billion in 2023-24.

Health care

- \$475 million to modernize Alberta's primary health care system, including:
 - \$200 million over two years to improve access to family physicians;
 - \$10 million for primary health care initiatives in Indigenous communities; and,
 - \$15 million to further develop a compensation model for nurse practitioners.
- \$6.6 billion for physician compensation and development, up from \$6.1 billion in Budget 2023.
- \$1 billion over three years to transform the continuing care system to shift care to the community, enhance workforce capacity, increase choice and innovation, and improve the quality of care within the continuing care sector.
- \$287 million over four years, part of a bilateral agreement with the federal government, for new mental health and addiction facilities, as well as for targeted supports for children and youth, adults, and Indigenous communities.
- \$62.4 million over three years to create two rural health professional training centres and expand physician education.
- \$20 million over the next three years, including \$17 million in new funding to continue planning for a standalone Stollery Children's Hospital.
- \$35 million in capital funding over the next three years to purchase new emergency medical services vehicles and ambulances, upgrade the existing fleet and acquire additional equipment.
- \$1.55 billion total expense to continue building the Alberta Recovery Model and ensure anyone suffering from the deadly disease of addiction or facing mental health challenges has an opportunity to pursue recovery.

Education

- Budget 2024 invests in a bright future for Alberta students with new and modernized schools, learning supports for students of all abilities and post-secondary programs to help build a skilled workforce.
- \$1.9 billion in capital funding over the next three years for planning, design, or construction of new and modernized school projects across the province. This includes \$681 million in new funding for 43 priority projects that will create 35,000 new or modernized student spaces. A

total of 98 school projects are in various stages of the planning, design, or construction process in 2024.

- \$842 million in new operating funding over the next three years to further support enrolment growth, bringing additional enrolment-based funding to more than \$1.2 billion over the next three years to enable schools to hire more than 3,100 education staff.
- More than \$1.5-billion operating expense funding for educational learning supports for vulnerable students, children with specialized learning needs and other students requiring additional supports.
- \$26 million over the next three years in additional funding for Program Unit Funding (PUF). PUF will total \$209 million in the 2024-25 fiscal year.
- \$103 million in capital funding over three years to increase modular classroom spaces to address the most urgent needs for additional student spaces across the province.
- \$55 million in capital funding starting in 2025-26 for the University of Calgary's multidisciplinary hub to add 1,000 spaces in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) programs.
- \$63 million in capital funding over the next three years for Olds College to renovate and expand student spaces in the WJ Elliot Building.
- \$43 million in capital funding over the next three years for NAIT's trades and technology learning facility.
- \$13 million in capital funding over the next three years for Red Deer Polytechnic to create a new space to help businesses conduct applied research.

Keeping communities safe

- Albertans deserve to feel safe in their communities, whether they are at their homes, studying at school or commuting to work. Budget 2024 helps promote a safe environment, so Albertans feel secure, welcomed, and valued through:
 - \$49 million in capital funding over three years to better support first responders and sheriffs by providing them with the equipment and facilities they need to protect Albertans;
 - \$10 million in 2024-25 to support 100 police officers deployed to high-crime areas in Calgary and Edmonton through the Safe Streets Action Plan;
 - \$8 million in community-based grants to continue addressing crime prevention, community safety and hate crimes; and,
 - \$85 million in operating expense to the Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence program, an increase of \$5 million from the 2023-24 budget, to support victims and women at risk of assault.

Supporting Albertans

- We are keeping our promise to Albertans and intend to introduce a new personal income tax bracket of eight per cent on the first \$60,000 of income, which would save individual taxpayers up to \$760 per year once the tax cut is fully implemented.
 - As we implement the new tax bracket, we must proceed in a responsible way. Based on the current fiscal plan, the government expects to implement the tax cut over two years.
 - Albertans will see the full impact of the new tax bracket in 2027.

- \$717 million in capital grants to give Albertans and families access to more affordable housing, in line with Stronger Foundations – Alberta's 10-year strategy designed to increase affordable housing supply and supports for Albertans.
- \$355 million for the Alberta Child and Family Benefit to provide lower-income families with benefits, an increase of \$31 million from last fiscal year.
- \$980 million in savings for Albertans in 2024-25 because of indexation of personal income taxes.
 - Budget 2024 formalizes the schedule to phase in a new personal income tax bracket on the first \$60,000 of income, which would save individual taxpayers up to \$760 per year once the tax cut is fully implemented.
- 25 per cent discount for seniors on personal registry services and medical driving tests, scheduled to come into effect in 2024-25.
- \$38 million increase to operational funding for the Seniors Lodge, Social Housing and Specialized Housing and Rental Assistance programs in 2024-25.
- \$22 million increased operating expense over the next three years to index foster, kinship, and other caregiver rates, which will support stronger foundations for children in care and provide them with the care and protection they need for a brighter and secure future.

Wildfire supports

- \$151 million operating expense over the next three years for enhancements to the Wildfire Management Program and \$55 million in capital investment for new firefighting equipment and facilities.
 - The fiscal framework provides the flexibility the government needs to respond quickly to disasters and emergencies as they arise, including a \$2-billion contingency.

Water management and drought preparedness

- \$1.3 billion in capital funding over the next three years, including \$251 million to better prepare the province for floods and droughts; \$272 million for irrigation projects; and \$539 million to support municipal water supply and wastewater infrastructure.
 - Budget 2024 also provides additional operating support of \$19 million over three years for the Strategy to Increase Water Availability and \$9 million for water management initiatives.

Revenue

- In 2024-25, total revenue is estimated to be \$73.5 billion, which is \$2.1 billion lower than the third-quarter forecast for 2023-24.
- Revenue from personal income taxes is estimated to increase to \$15.6 billion in 2024-25, up \$365 million from the third-quarter forecast, and grow in the following two years as more people continue to move to Alberta.
- Corporate income tax revenue is estimated at \$7 billion in 2024-25, down \$176 million from the third-quarter forecast for 2023-24 but rising over the next two years.
- Non-renewable resource revenue is estimated to drop to \$17.3 billion in 2024-25, from \$19.4 billion forecast for 2023-24, and is forecast to pick up over the medium term.

Expense

- Total expense in 2024-25 is \$73.2 billion, a 3.9 per cent increase from the forecast for 2023-24.
- Total expense is expected to be \$74.6 billion in 2025-26 and \$76.2 billion in 2026-27.
- Total operating expense in 2024-25 is \$60.1 billion, a 3.9 per cent increase from the 2023-24 forecast.
- A contingency of \$2 billion will help the province respond to disasters and emergencies and other in-year expense pressures, a \$500-million increase from 2023-24.

Surplus

- A surplus of \$367 million is forecast for 2024-25.
- Surpluses of \$1.4 billion and \$2.6 billion are forecast for 2024-25 and 2025-26, respectively.

Economic outlook

- In 2024, real gross domestic product is expected to grow by 2.9 per cent, up from the 2.6 per cent forecast at mid-year.
- Strong population growth is expected to continue at 3.7 per cent in the 2024 calendar year, down from 4.1 per cent growth in 2023.