
1. **Call to Order**

2. **Land Acknowledgement**

- 2.1 Treaty Six Land Acknowledgement - Blackfalds Town Council acknowledges that we are on Treaty 6 territory, a traditional meeting ground, gathering place, and travelling route to the Cree, Saulteaux (So-toe), Blackfoot, Métis, Dene (De-nay) and Nakota Sioux (Sue). We acknowledge all the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries.

3. **Adoption of Agenda**

- 3.1 Agenda for September 18, 2023

4. **Delegation**

None

5. **Public Hearing**

None

6. **Business Arising from Minutes**

None

7. **Business**

- 7.1 Request for Direction, Council Procedural Bylaw
7.2 Request for Direction, EV Charging Station Project Update

8. **Action Correspondence**

None

9. **Information**

- 9.1 Report for Committee, Alberta Municipalities 2023 Resolutions

10. **Round Table Discussion**

None

11. **Adoption of Minutes**

None

12. **Notices of Motion**

None

13. **Business for the Good of Council**

None

14. **Confidential**

None

15. **Adjournment**

Future Meetings/Events:

- Regular Council Meeting – September 25, 2023
- Standing Committee of Council – October 16, 2023

MEETING DATE: September 18, 2023
PREPARED BY: Danielle Nealon, Executive & Legislative Coordinator
PRESENTED BY: Kim Isaak, Chief Administrative Officer
SUBJECT: **Council Procedural Bylaw**

BACKGROUND

The *Municipal Government Act (MGA)*, Section 145, provides that a municipality may pass a Bylaw in relation to the procedure and conduct of Council, Council Committees, and other bodies established by Council.

The Council Procedural Bylaw establishes rules of procedure for governing processes related to Council and Committee Meetings, as well as to regulate the conduct of Councillors and members of Committees established by Council. Both the Bylaw and the Agenda are an integral part of efficient Council Meetings and are important to the integrity of a municipality's operations.

DISCUSSION

On January 25, 2022, Council gave third and final reading to Council Procedural Bylaw 1265.22, which included several amendments which were incorporated from the office consolidated Procedural Bylaw 1257.21. Upon adoption of Bylaw 1265.22, Bylaw 1257.21 was rescinded.

Amendments to the newly revised Council Procedural Bylaw 1289.23 include the addition of a Consent Agenda to the Regular Council Meeting and procedures relating to same, from the direction provided at Standing Committee of Council on June 19, 2023.

038/23 Councillor Sands moved That Standing Committee of Council recommends Administration bring forward a new Council Procedural Bylaw to include a Consent Agenda and procedure.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

In addition to the Consent Agenda, a brief outline of further amendments to the Bylaw is as follows:

- Table of Contents as Appendix A and removing AUMA Ethical Guidelines.
- Combining Inaugural and Organizational Meetings under one Part (17).
- Revised standard order of business on Agendas for both Council and Committees.
- "Types" of motions and how they are applied and utilized during meetings have been expanded upon in Parts 21 – 29 and were included to provide clarity to Council on the use of motions during meetings. Including motions for information.
- Expansions of Special Meetings and notice required.
- Expansion of Public Hearings.
- Re-organization of the Bylaw's Parts and Sections to be more consistent.
- Establishment of the Standing Committee of Council and procedures for the Committee.
- Timelines on Delegations and subject matters set out in Parts 14 and 30.
- Addition of Conduct of Public During Meetings.

- Standing Committee of Council Agenda item submission timelines.
- Removal of reference to Robert's Rules of Order and putting sole reliance back on the procedures outlined in the Bylaw.

Due to the significant changes to the newly revised Council Procedural Bylaw 1289.23, a tracked changed version is not included, however, for Council's reference Council Procedural Bylaw 1265.22 is included as an attachment to this report.

Administration welcomes feedback from the Committee on the proposed bylaw, specifically on whether the bylaw as proposed provides enough clarity to the rules and conduct for Council Meetings. It is Administration's intention to create a condensed cheat sheet of the procedural rules that can be provided to Council as a guide.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

1. That Standing Committee of Council recommends to Council to bring forth the newly revised Council Procedural Bylaw for first reading at the September 25, 2023 Regular Council Meeting.

ALTERNATIVES

- a) That Standing Committee of Council recommends further amendments to the Council Procedural Bylaw.

ATTACHMENTS

- *Council Procedural Bylaw 1265.22*
- *Council Procedural Bylaw 1289.23 (newly revised)*

APPROVALS



Kim Isaak,
Chief Administrative Officer



Department Director/Author

BEING A BYLAW OF THE TOWN OF BLACKFALDS, IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA TO REGULATE THE PROCEEDINGS AND CONDUCT OF COUNCIL AND COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

WHEREAS the *Municipal Government Act*, S.A. 2000, Chapter M-26, as amended, provides that a Council may pass Bylaws in relation to the procedure and conduct of Council, and committees established by Council, and may regulate the conduct of Councillors and members of committees established by Council;

AND WHEREAS Council has deemed it necessary to regulate the procedure and conduct at meetings of council and committees established by Council;

AND WHEREAS Council has deemed it necessary to regulate procedures for receiving and responding to communications and submissions to Council;

NOW THEREFORE THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLACKFALDS, IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, DULY ASSEMBLED, HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

PART 1 - TITLE

1. That this Bylaw may be cited as the "**Council Procedural Bylaw**" of the Town of Blackfalds.

PART 2 - DEFINITIONS

2. In this Bylaw:
 - a) "**Act**" means the Municipal Government Act (MGA or the Act), as amended.
 - b) "**Administrative Inquiry**" is a request from a Member of Council to the Administration, made at a meeting, for the future provision of information and report.
 - c) "**Administrative Representative**" refers to the senior Administration resource person appointed to a Committee by the CAO.
 - d) "**Agenda**" means the list and order of business items for any meeting of Council, or Committees.
 - e) "**New Business**" shall mean any matter appearing before Council for the first time on an Agenda that requires a decision of Council.
 - f) "**Bylaw**" means a Municipal Bylaw of the Town.
 - g) "**CAO**" means the Chief Administrative Officer.
 - h) "**Chairperson**" means the Member elected from among the Members of a Committee to preside at all meetings of the Committee.
 - i) "**Committee**" means a committee, board, commission, authority, task force, ad-hoc working group or any other public body established by Council pursuant to this Bylaw.
 - j) "**Council**" means the elected officials, being the Mayor and Councillors of the Town of Blackfalds.
 - k) "**Council Committee Meeting**" means a meeting of Council of the Whole and referred specifically as the Standing Committee of Council.
 - l) "**Council Meetings**" are regularly scheduled or Special Meetings that require the attendance of Council.
 - m) "**Delegation**" shall mean one or more persons who have formally requested or have been requested to appear before Council at a Council or Standing Committee Meeting, in accordance with this Bylaw.
 - n) "**Deputy Mayor**" means the Member of Council appointed pursuant to this Bylaw to act as Mayor in the absence or incapacity of the Mayor.

- o) **"Ex-officio"** means membership by virtue of one's office and/or where appointed by Council.
- p) **"FOIP"** means the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* of Alberta.
- q) **"In-Camera"** means a part of the meeting closed to the public at which no resolution or bylaw may be passed, except a resolution to recommend to Council or revert to a meeting held in public.
- r) **"Live Streaming"** means to transmit or receive live video and audio coverage of (an event) over the Internet.
- s) **"Majority of Council"** means fifty (50%) plus 1 of those present, unless Council provides otherwise in this Bylaw;
- t) **"Mayor"** means the Chief Elected Official of the Town of Blackfalds duly elected.
- u) **"Media Representatives"** shall mean an employee or agent of a Licensed Broadcaster, a member of the Alberta Weekly Newspaper Association or a member of the Alberta Press Council.
- v) **"Member"** means a member of Council duly elected and continuing to hold office, or a member of a Committee duly appointed by Council.
- w) **"Motion"** means a question that has been placed before Council, but which has not yet been subject to a vote by Council.
- x) **"Municipal Government Act"** means the law under which all Alberta municipalities are empowered to shape their communities.
- y) **"Notice of Motion"** is the means by which a member of Council brings business before Council.
- z) **"Organizational Meeting"** shall mean the meeting held for the purpose of scheduling Council Meetings and to make Council appointments to Committees of Council, to be held annually no later than the 2nd Regular Council meeting in October.
- aa) **"Officer"** means the Chief Administrative Officer, Director of Community Services, Director of Corporate Services, Director of Infrastructure and Property Services, or their delegates, all of whom shall be recorded in official minutes if their attendance is required.
- bb) **"Point of Information"** means a request or statement directed to the Presiding Officer, or through the Presiding Officer to another Member or to the administration, for or about information relevant to the business at hand, but not related to a Point of Procedure;
- cc) **"Point of Order"** means the raising of a question by a Member with the view of calling attention to any departure from this Bylaw or the customary proceedings in debate or in the conduct of Council's business.
- dd) **"Point of Privilege"** means all matters affecting the rights and exemptions of Council collectively or the propriety of the conduct of individual Members and includes but is not limited to, the following.
 - i. the organization or existence of Council
 - ii. the comfort of Members
 - iii. the conduct of Administration or members of the public in attendance at the meeting, and the reputation of Members or Council as a whole
- ee) **"Point of Procedure"** means a question directed to the Presiding Officer to obtain information on a matter of parliamentary law or the rules of Council to assist a Member to:
 - i. make an appropriate motion
 - ii. raise a Point of Order
 - iii. understand the procedure, or

- iv. understand the effect of a motion
- ff) **"Presiding Officer"** shall mean the Mayor or the Deputy Mayor; or in the absence of the two, any other Member of Council appointed by Council to preside at the Meeting from those Members of Council present.
- gg) **"Public Hearing"** means a meeting of the Council, or that portion of a meeting of Council during which members of the public make representations to Council in accordance with Section 230 of the Municipal Government Act.
- hh) **"Question of Privilege"** means raising of a question which concerns a Member, or Council collectively, when a Member believes that another Member has spoken disrespectfully towards them or Council, or when they believe their comments have been misunderstood or misinterpreted by another Member;
- ii) **"Quorum"** means the majority of Members, fifty (50%) plus 1 of those present, unless Council provides otherwise in this Bylaw;
- jj) **"Resolution"** means a Motion passed by a majority of Council.
- kk) **"Special Meeting"** means a meeting called by the Mayor or by vote of 2/3 of Council pursuant to the Act;
- ll) **"Standing Committee of Council"** is a procedural device that permits Council greater freedom of debate.
- mm) **"Terms of Reference"** means those terms pertinent to the establishment and mandate of a Committee and which are:
 - i. in addition to or beyond the parameters of this Bylaw; and
- nn) **"Town"** means the Corporation or the Town of Blackfalds.
- oo) **"Video"** means the recording, reproducing or broadcasting of moving visual images and audio made either digitally or on videotape.

PART 3 – APPLICATION

- 3. This Bylaw applies to:
 - (a) all Regular Council meetings, and
 - (b) all Standing Committee meetings, and
 - (c) all Special Council meetings, and
 - (d) all Council Committee meetings, except for:
 - i. when Council has granted permission to a Committee to establish its own procedures, and
- 4. The precedence of the rules governing the procedure of Council is:
 - (a) the MGA – the Act;
 - (b) other Provincial legislation;
 - (c) this Bylaw, and;
 - (d) a Council Code of Conduct Bylaw, and;
 - (e) the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order and Parliamentary Procedure.
- 5. To the extent that a matter is not dealt within the Act or this Bylaw, Council shall have regard to Robert's Rules of Order and Parliamentary Procedure.
- 6. Subject to the appeal process set out in Section 78 of this Bylaw, the Presiding Officer or Chairperson shall interpret procedure.
- 7. In the absence of a statutory obligation, any provision of this Bylaw may be temporarily altered or suspended by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all Members present. A motion to temporarily alter or suspend this Bylaw is not debatable or amendable.

PART 4 - GENERAL

8. No Member of Council shall direct or interfere with the performance of any work for the Municipality and shall seek all information through the office of the Chief Administrative Officer or their designate.
9. Members of Council shall subscribe to the Alberta Municipalities Association Ethical Guidelines of Conduct for Members of Council (*Appendix A*) and adhere to the Town of Blackfalds Council Code of Conduct Bylaw (and any amendments hereto).
10. A breach of any Section of the Bylaw by any Member of Council may place the Member of Council in the position of censure by Council.
11. Public Hearings, when required or requested by Council, will be held prior to second reading.
12. Motions of Council and any questions of parliamentary procedures shall be dealt with in the manner set out in this Bylaw and the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order and Parliamentary Procedures.

PART 5 - ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

13. Council shall hold an Annual Organizational Meeting each year no later than the 2nd Regular Council Meeting in October.
14. The CAO shall set the time and place for the Organizational Meeting, with the business of the meeting being limited to:
 - (a) the appointments of Members to Committees which Council is entitled to make; and
 - (b) the roster of Deputy Mayors for the Council term; and
 - (c) any other business required by the Act, or which Council or the CAO may direct.
15. Appointments of Council Members to Committees shall be for a term of one year, unless otherwise specified.

PART 6 - INAUGURAL MEETING

16. The Organizational Meeting immediately following a general municipal election shall be called the 'Inaugural Meeting'.
17. The Mayor and each Councillor shall take the prescribed Oath of Office as the first order of business at the Inaugural Meeting.
18. Until the Mayor has taken the Oath of Office, the CAO shall chair the Inaugural Meeting.

PART 7 - MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

19. Regular Meetings of Council shall be held in the Council Chambers unless notice is given in accordance with the Act and this Bylaw that the Regular Meeting will be held elsewhere in the Community.
20. Regular Meetings of Council shall be held on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month.
21. If a Regular Meeting of Council falls on a Statutory Holiday, the meeting will take place on the day chosen by Council at the Organizational Meeting.
22. Regular Meetings of Council shall commence at 7:00 p.m.
23. Standing Committee of Council is considered to be a Committee of the Whole meeting and typically takes place the third Monday of every month.
24. Standing Committee of Council meetings that fall on a statutory holiday may be cancelled for that respective month as chosen by Council at the Organizational Meeting.
25. Standing Committee of Council shall commence at 7:00 p.m.

26. Special Meetings may be called and notice of such Special Meetings shall be given in accordance with the provisions of the Act and this Bylaw.
27. Councillors shall each serve an eight-month rotation as Deputy Mayor, rotating in the manner as agreed upon by Council.
28. A Member who has a pecuniary interest in a matter before Council shall disclose the general nature of the pecuniary interest, and abstain from discussing the matter or voting on the matter, and leave the room until discussion and voting on the matter are concluded, as prescribed in the Act.
29. Council meetings will be recorded and broadcasted through live streaming over the internet and through Town of Blackfalds media channels, as prescribed through applicable Town Policies, Bylaws and in accordance with legislation.

PART 8 – ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION AT MEETINGS IN EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES

30. Should a state of emergency or extenuating circumstances where restrictive measures are required occur, electronic participation may be allowed by a member of Council, of a board or committee. Members participating electronically will be counted in determining whether a quorum of members is present and may participate electronically in a meeting.
31. A Council member shall be permitted to attend a meeting using electronic communication if that location is able to support its use, ensuring that all Council members participating in the meeting are able to communicate effectively.
32. A Council member attending a meeting via electronic communications is deemed to be present at the meeting for whatever period of time the connection via electronic communications remains active.
33. The Mayor, Deputy Mayor or Presiding Officer shall announce to those in attendance at the Council meeting that a Council member is attending the meeting by means of electronic communications.
34. Where the Rules of Procedure conflict with the need to facilitate electronic participation, the Mayor, in consultation with the CAO, shall have the authority to modify the Rules of Procedure to ensure Members can effectively participate in the meeting.
35. When a Council member attends a Closed Session, they will be required to confirm that they are attending the Closed Session alone.
36. The CAO, in consultation with the Mayor, shall establish practices and procedures for electronic participation.
37. Members must notify the CAO a minimum of twenty-four hours prior to the meeting of their intention to participate electronically.
38. The CAO may provide for the electronic participation of staff, including that of the CAO.

PART 9 - NOTICE OF MEETINGS

39. For all meetings requiring notice, the notice must be:
 - (a) issued a minimum of 24-hours prior to the meeting date;
 - (b) in writing and specify the time, date, location and purpose the meeting;
 - (c) electronically distributed via email to each Council or Committee Member;
 - (d) posted at the Town Office – at the Civic Cultural Centre; and
 - (e) given any other notification as requested by Council or the Committee.
 - (f) Despite Section 27, the Mayor may call a Special Meeting of Council, on shorter notice without giving notice to the public, provided two-thirds (2/3) of the whole Council give written consent to holding the Meeting before the Meeting begins.

PART 10 - CANCELLATION OF MEETINGS

40. A Regular Meeting may be cancelled:
- a) by a majority of Members at a previously held meeting; or
 - b) with the written consent of a majority, providing twenty-four (24) hours' notice is provided to Members and the public; or
 - c) with the written consent of two-thirds (2/3) of the whole Council if twenty-four (24) hours' notice is not provided to the public.
41. A Special Meeting, called under the initiative of the Mayor, may be cancelled:
- a) by the Mayor if twenty-four (24) hours written notice is provided to all Members and the public; or
 - b) if less than twenty-four (24) hours' notice is provided, the Mayor may cancel with the written consent of two-thirds (2/3) of the whole Council.
42. A Special Meeting, requested in writing by a majority of the Members, may be cancelled:
- a) with the written consent of the requesting Members, if twenty-four (24) hours' notice is provided to the Members and the public; or
 - b) if less than twenty-four (24) hours' notice is provided, with the written consent of two-thirds (2/3) of the whole Council.

PART 11 - AGENDA

43. The Agenda shall list the items and order of business for the meeting.
44. The CAO shall ensure copies of the Agenda are:
- a) available online to the public no later than 4:00 pm on the Friday prior to the day on which the Regular Council meeting is held and by 4:00 pm on the Thursday prior to a Standing Committee meeting or any Council meeting held on a Monday.
 - b) Electronically distributed and available to all members of Council and Officers who are entitled to receive copies.
45. The CAO shall make the Agenda and all reports and supplementary materials (unless they must or may be withheld under the Act or any other statute dealing with access to information) available on the municipal website to the media and public.
46. All agenda submissions shall be received by the CAO no later than 4:30pm on the Wednesday prior to agenda posting.
47. Only material which has been received in accordance with Section 38 of this Bylaw shall be considered at the meeting for which the Agenda is prepared.
- a) If an emergent or time sensitive matter needs to be brought before Council at any meeting the item shall:
 - i. be accompanied by a brief explanation from an Officer indicating the reasons for, and the degree of urgency of the item; and
 - ii. be permitted to be added by the Presiding Officer considered as an addendum to the Agenda upon a majority vote of Council.
48. The standard order of business on the Agenda shall be as follows unless Council otherwise determines by a majority of vote a change in order:
- (a) Call to Order
 - (b) Land Acknowledgement
 - (c) Adoption of Agenda
 - (d) Delegation
 - (e) Public Hearing
 - (f) Business Arising from Minutes
 - (g) Business
 - (h) Action Correspondence
 - (i) Information
 - (j) Round Table
 - (k) Approval of Minutes
 - (l) Notices of Motion

- (m) Business for the Good of Council
 - (n) Confidential
 - (o) Adjournment
49. The Presiding Officer shall call the meeting to order at the time appointed at the prescribed meeting time in accordance with Section 22.
50. Council must vote to adopt or amend the agenda prior to carrying out any business.
51. If a delegation wishes to make a presentation to Council the Delegation must submit a written request in the form of a Delegation Application to the office of the CAO, no later than noon on the Wednesday prior to a Regular Council meeting. The Delegation Application is provided as *Appendix B*.
52. Public Hearings shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures set out in *Appendix C*.
53. Business Arising from Minutes will include business which was on the agenda of a previous meeting and was not completed and will include all information relative to the issue including the expected motion.
54. Business items include templated reports from Administration for items requesting direction from Standing Committee or a decision from Council, or information items on a Committee or Council report.
- a) Items included as information require no motion of acceptance or approval.
 - b) Request for Decision items include a recommendation by Administration and a request for a decision by Council, at which time Council may:
 - i. Vote on the recommended motion; or
 - ii. Refer back to Administration for further consideration; or
 - iii. Vote on an amended motion as determined through debate and presented by a member of Council.
55. Action Correspondence includes items that require follow up action which in turn requires a motion of Council.
56. Information includes items of correspondence addressed to Mayor and/or Council and all content shall be subject to the *Freedom of Information and Privacy Act*.
57. Round Table will take place only on the second Regular Council meeting each month and Council will provide Administration, by the 16th of each month, a summary report of meetings, events and activities using the template provided.
- a) The CAO Report will include monthly administrative activities and will be provided as a verbal report at the second monthly Regular Council Meeting.
58. Approval of Minutes will include the minutes from a prior Council meeting and will be circulated within the agenda package.
- a) Upon determination that minutes are accurate and contain no major errors or omissions, Council shall adopt the minutes as circulated.
 - b) Minutes that require major amendments must be amended and brought forward to the next meeting for adoption.
 - c) Minor amendments may include spelling, grammar and any changes that do not affect the context of an item or a motion of Council.
59. Where a Confidential matter is included on the agenda, the section of FOIP that allows information to be protected from disclosure will be cited on the agenda and reflected in the minutes, as set out in *Appendix D – Guideline to Matters Which can be Discussed In Camera Meetings*. Confidential items are those items that are discussed as per Section 197(2) of the *Municipal Government Act* "In Camera" and are confidential items of discussion between Council, Administration and invited persons. No minutes, notes, or recordings of the discussions will take place and any reports provided to Council will be returned to the CAO.
60. A Notice of Motion is made to serve notice of intent and must give sufficient detail so that the subject of the Motion and any proposed action can be determined, must state the date of the meeting at which the Motion will be made, and must meet the following requirements:

- a) Any member of Council may make a Motion introducing any new matter of municipal business provided that the Notice of Motion has been brought forward at a meeting of Council held at least seven days before the meeting at which time the motion will be debated or Council passes a Motion by majority vote dispensing of the period of notice.
- b) A Council member who submits a written Notice of Motion to the CAO, to be read at a meeting, need not be present during the reading of the notice.
- c) When notice has been given, the CAO will include the proposed Motion in the Agenda of the meeting for the date indicated in the Notice of Motion.
- d) If the Council Member is not present for the indicated date, the Motion will be deferred to the next regular Council meeting. If the Council Member is not present at the next regular Council meeting the Motion will be removed from the Agenda and may only be made by a new Notice of Motion.

PART 12 - COMMUNICATIONS

- 61. When a letter or correspondence is addressed to Council, it shall be directed through the CAO and shall:
 - a) be on paper or in a printable form;
 - b) be placed on an agenda as either an Information item or Action Correspondence;
 - c) and properly placed within the Town's filing system.
- 62. Follow up on the correspondence may include:
 - a) Discussion on the item under information during the Regular Council Meeting;
 - b) Directive to Administration to provide response to the item of correspondence.
- 63. In situations where the CAO considers correspondence to be libelous, impertinent or improper, the CAO will summarize the content of the communication verbally and inform Council that it is being withheld.

PART 13 - QUORUM

- 64. When a quorum is present at the time set for commencement of a Council meeting, the Presiding Officer shall call the meeting to order.
- 65. If there is a quorum present at the time set for commencement of a meeting, but the Mayor and Deputy Mayor are absent, the CAO shall call the meeting to order and shall call for a Presiding Officer to be chosen by resolution.
- 66. If a quorum is not constituted within fifteen minutes from the time set for commencement of a Council meeting, the CAO shall record the names of all the Members present and adjourn the meeting.
- 67. If a Council meeting is adjourned for:
 - a) failure to constitute a quorum; or
 - b) due to loss of quorum as a result of a Member leaving the meeting;
- 68. The Agenda delivered for that Council meeting shall be considered at the next Regular Meeting of Council unless a Special Meeting is conducted to complete such business.

PART 14 - ADJOURNMENT

- 69. Regular Council Meetings shall adjourn no later than 10:00 pm unless: if in session at that time, except to conclude the matter under discussion, and Council shall recess and reconvene at 6:00 pm on the next business day unless:
 - a) A matter under discussion has not concluded;
 - b) otherwise directed by Council; or
 - c) Council, by resolution of a majority vote, taken as soon before 10:00 pm as the business permits, agree to an extension of the meeting beyond 10:00 pm.

70. If adjournment takes place and unfinished business remains, these items will be carried over to the next regular meeting of Council.
71. A Member may move a motion to adjourn a Meeting at any time, except when:
 - a) another Member has the floor;
 - b) a call for a vote has been made;
 - c) the Members are voting Council is In-Camera; or
 - d) a previous motion to adjourn has been defeated and no other intervening proceedings have taken place.
72. A motion to adjourn shall be put without comment or debate.
73. When all items of an approved agenda have been dealt with, the Presiding Officer may adjourn the meeting without requiring a motion or vote by Council.

PART 15 – RECESS

74. Any Member may move that Council recess or break for a specific period. After the recess, business will be resumed at the point when it was interrupted. This motion may not be used to interrupt a speaker.
75. A motion to recess may be amended only as to length of time, but neither the motion nor the amendment is debatable.
76. If no speaker is addressing Council, the Presiding Officer may call a recess for a specific period.

PART 16 – MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

77. The CAO shall ensure minutes of a Council meeting are prepared and included in the agenda package distributed to each Member of Council for the next meeting.
78. Minutes shall be available to the public including on the Town's website on the same week as to when they were approved by Council.
79. The Presiding Officer shall present the minutes to Council with a request for a motion to formally accept the Minutes.
80. Any Member of Council may make a motion requesting that the Minutes be amended to correct any inaccuracy or omission.
81. Minor changes may be made to the minutes to correct errors in grammar, spelling and punctuation or to correct the omission of a word necessary to the meaning or continuity of a sentence. No change shall be allowed which would alter the actual decision made by Council.
82. If a Member wishes to challenge the accuracy of the minutes of a previous meeting, the Member must make the challenge known to the CAO before Council has officially confirmed the minutes.

PART 17 – CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

83. Council meetings will be held in public and no person may be excluded except for:
 - a) improper conduct; or
 - b) Council may, by resolution, meet In-Camera to discuss any matter if a statute authorizes the holding of that meeting in the absence of the public.
84. The Presiding Officer shall preserve order, decorum, and decide questions of procedure subject to an appeal of Council; and the decision of the Presiding Officer shall be final unless reversed by a majority vote of the members present, without debate.
85. A member called to order by the Presiding Officer shall immediately cease further comment and may appeal the call to order to the Council or Committee. The Council or Committee, if appealed to, shall decide on the case without debate and by way of a majority vote of the members present. If there is no appeal, the decision of the Presiding Officer shall be final.

86. No Member of Council shall:
- a) speak without first being recognized by the Presiding Officer; and being granted the floor.
 - b) speak twice to the same item after a motion on any agenda item,, without the leave of Council, until every member of Council has an opportunity to speak, except to make an inquiry or an explanation that may have been misconstrued; and no Member of Council having first received their opportunity to speak.
 - i. Speaking twice does not include asking questions or subsequent questions on an item, as this information is gathered by Council Members to make informed decisions. Speaking is referring to when a Council Member debates a motion.
87. The Presiding Officer shall give each Member of Council, who wishes to speak on a matter on the Council Agenda, an opportunity to do so before calling the question.
88. When a Member or Officer wishes to speak at a Council meeting, they shall obtain the approval of the Presiding Officer before doing so.
89. Every Member of Council, and every member of Administration present at the meeting, in speaking to any question or Motion, shall address themselves only to the Presiding Officer.
90. When any Point of Order, Point of Procedure, or Question of Privilege arises, it shall be immediately taken into consideration.
91. When the Presiding Officer is called upon to decide a Point of Order, Point of Procedure, or Question of Privilege the point shall be stated, succinctly and the Presiding Officer shall when giving his/her decision on the point cite the rule or authority applicable to the same.
92. When a Point of Information is raised, the Presiding Officer shall answer the question or direct the question to the appropriate Member of Council, or Administration.
93. When a Point of Privilege arises, the Presiding Officer shall rule upon the admissibility of the question and, if the Presiding Officer rules favorably, the Member of Council who raised the Point of Privilege shall be permitted to pursue the point.
94. When the Presiding Officer wishes to debate or make a motion, he / she shall vacate the Chair and request another Member to take the Chair, in the following order:
- a) Deputy Mayor
 - b) Any other Member of Council.
95. If no other Member of Council is willing to accept the Chair, the Presiding Officer will continue as Chair, however, will be allowed to make a motion and/or debate under the same rights and restrictions as other Members.
96. A person who is not a Member or Officer shall not address Council unless they first obtain permission from the Presiding Officer.
97. Members of the public gallery during a Council meeting:
- a) Shall not address Council without permission;
 - b) Shall maintain order and quiet; and
 - c) Shall not applaud or otherwise interrupt any speech or action of the Members, or any other person addressing Council.
98. The Presiding Officer may, in accordance with the Act, expel and exclude any person who creates a disturbance or acts improperly.
99. When a Member or Officer is addressing the Presiding Officer every other Member or Officer shall:
- a) Remain quiet and seated;
 - b) Not interrupt the speaker except on a Point of Order, Point of Procedure or Question of Privilege; and
 - c) Not carry on a private conversation.

100. When a Member is addressing Council, the Member shall:
- a) Not speak disrespectfully of others;
 - b) Not shout, raise his / her voice or use offensive language;
 - c) Not reflect on any vote of Council except when moving to rescind it and shall not reflect on the motives of the Members who voted on the motion, or the mover of the motion;
 - d) Assume personal responsibility for any statement quoted to Council or upon request of Council shall give the source of the information.
101. When a Member wishes to leave the Council Chambers while a Meeting of Council is in progress, he/she must indicate his /her intention and await the Presiding Officer's permission prior to leaving.

PART 18 – MOTIONS

102. A member who wishes to submit a motion in excess of 25 words shall do so in writing to the Presiding Officer and Recording Secretary.
103. After a motion has been moved, and prior to any vote, it is the property of Council and may not be withdrawn without the consent of a majority of Council.
104. Every motion or resolution shall be stated or read by the mover.
105. Any motion made in the negative shall be ruled out of order.
106. A request may be made to have the Recording Secretary read back the motion, as made, for clarity prior to being put to vote.
107. Council or committees may act on a motion pertaining to a subject which is not on the agenda with unanimous consent only.
108. When duly moved, a motion will be open for discussion and debate. The Presiding Officer will determine if a Member can speak twice to the same issue prior to other Members and officers have the opportunity.
109. The mover of a motion may speak and vote for or against the motion.
110. No motion other than an amending motion or motion to table or refer shall be considered until the motion already before Council has been disposed of.
111. Notices of Motion shall be in accordance with Section 57 of this Bylaw.
112. When a motion is tabled without being settled, no similar or conflicting motion which would restrict action on the first motion may be introduced or adopted.
113. Where the Town has a contractual liability or obligation, Council shall not reconsider, vary, revoke, or replace any motion except to the extent that it does not avoid or interfere with such liability or obligation.
114. The following motions are not debatable by Members:
- a) Adjournment
 - b) To take a recess
 - c) Question of Privilege
 - d) Point of Order
 - e) To limit debate on a matter before Members
 - f) To table the matter
115. There shall be a maximum of three motions on the floor at a time, the main motion, and up to two amending motions.
116. Amending Motions are those motions where word(s) or paragraphs are inserted or struck out of the original motion and can be made by any Member and must be in agreement to the Member originating the motion.
117. Amendments shall be voted on in a reverse order to that in which they have been moved, and all amendments shall be decided on or withdrawn before the original motion is put to a vote.

118. To refer a Motion is to state which Committee or Administrative department is to receive the motion for research/further information, and shall include terms, timelines and other relevant information.
119. A motion to postpone any matter shall include in the motion:
 - a) a specific time to which the matter is postponed; or
 - b) provision that the matter is to be postponed indefinitely.
120. A motion to postpone a matter is amendable and debatable.
121. Any matter that has been postponed to a particular date, or indefinitely, shall not be considered by Council before the date set, except on a majority vote of the Members present.
122. A tabling motion allows a matter without debate to be set aside and brought back at a later date.
123. A Motion to adjourn is not subject to debate and is voted on immediately.

PART 19 - VOTING ON MOTIONS

124. When debate on a motion is closed, the Presiding Officer shall put the motion to a vote, and this decision shall be final unless overruled by a majority vote of the Members present at the meeting.
125. No member shall leave the Council Chamber after a question is put to a vote and before the vote is taken.
126. If any Member of Council wishes to have a Recorded vote, the request for a recorded vote must be made prior to the vote being taken and recorded in the meeting minutes. (Section 185 MGA).
127. Votes on all motions must be taken as follows:
 - a) the Presiding Officer must declare the motion and call for the vote;
 - b) Members must vote by a show of hands
 - c) the Presiding Officer must declare the result of the vote.
128. After the Presiding Officer declares the result of the vote, Members may not change their vote for any reason.
129. A question or motion shall be declared lost when it:
 - a) does not receive the required majority of votes; or
 - b) receives an equal division of votes.
130. Each Member present shall vote on every motion as prescribed by the Act, unless the Act or other provincial or federal enactment requires or permits the Member to abstain, in which case the Member shall cite the legislative authority for abstaining, and the CAO shall record the abstention and reasons in the minutes.
131. Council Members who abstain from voting during Closed Sessions are subject to the provision above, unless they are abstaining for a reason that is considered confidential under the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act.
132. A Member shall not vote on a matter if they are absent from the Council Chambers when the matter has been heard, the vote is called.
133. The outcome of every vote shall be incorporated into the official minutes.
134. Where a motion is not carried unanimously by those members present, then the names of those who voted for and against a motion shall be entered upon the minutes for motions that are carried or defeated.

PART 20 – BYLAWS & POLICIES

135. Draft bylaws and policies shall be prepared by the appropriate Administration member and shall be reviewed at a meeting of the Standing Committee of Council before being

presented at a Regular Council Meeting.

136. When a Bylaw is presented to Council for enactment, the CAO shall publish the number and title of the Bylaw in the Agenda.
137. The CAO shall provide a copy of the Bylaw in full and include it in the agenda package.
138. Every Bylaw shall have three readings. Only the title or identifying number must be read at each reading.
139. A Bylaw shall be introduced for first reading by a motion that the Bylaw be read a first time.
140. Prior to first reading, a Member may ask questions of clarification concerning the Bylaw.
141. Council shall vote on the motion for first reading of a Bylaw without amendment or debate.
142. A Bylaw shall be introduced for second reading by a motion that it be read a second time.
143. After a Member has made a motion for second reading of a Bylaw, Council may:
 - a) debate the substance of the Bylaw; and
 - b) propose and consider amendments to the Bylaw.
144. A Bylaw shall not be given more than two readings at one meeting unless the Members present unanimously consent that the Bylaw may be presented to Council for third reading.
145. When Council unanimously consents that a Bylaw may be presented for third reading:
 - a) motion for third reading of the Bylaw shall be made;
 - b) Council shall vote on the motion without amendment or debate;
146. A Bylaw shall be passed when a majority of the Members voting on third reading vote in favor, provided some other applicable Provincial Statute or Bylaw does not require a greater majority.
147. In conformance with the Act:
 - a) if a Bylaw does not receive third reading within two years from the date of first reading, the previous readings are deemed to have been rescinded; and
 - b) if a Bylaw is defeated on second or third reading the previous readings are deemed to have been rescinded.
148. Upon being passed, a Bylaw shall be signed by the Presiding Officer of the meeting at which it was passed as well as the CAO, and then shall have the Town's corporate seal applied.
149. Hard copies of all Bylaws and Policies will be maintained and will be provided as public information on the Town's official website.
150. Bylaws which require approval from the Province of Alberta shall receive two readings prior to submission of a certified copy to the Provincial authorities. The third reading will take place only after the signed approval of the Provincial Authority is received.
151. Bylaws and policies will come into effect as soon as they are passed unless they contain a deferred date for implementation.
152. Policies shall be presented for discussion and passed by a simple majority at one sitting and shall come into effect as soon as they are passed unless they contain a deferred date for implementation.
153. Upon being passed, a Policy shall be signed by the Presiding Officer of the meeting at which it was passed as well as the CAO.

PART 21 – STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

154. Standing Committee of Council is considered to be Committee of the Whole.
155. The Deputy Mayor will chair or be the Presiding Officer for the Standing Committee of Council.
156. Quorum of the Standing Committee of Council is a majority of Council Members.
157. Procedures in Standing Committee of Council only differ from Council's in that:
- a) A member of Council may speak more than once, provided that all Council members who wish to speak to the matter have been permitted to speak;
 - b) a member of Council may speak even though there is no motion on the floor, but if there is a motion on the floor, a Council member shall only address that motion;
 - c) the only motions permitted are:
 - i. to make recommendations to Council to adopt reports and/or to recommend amendments;
 - ii. to amend its own recommendations;
 - iii. to move to meet In-Camera and subsequently to revert to a meeting held in public;
 - iv. to recess

PART 22 - COMMITTEES

158. Council may establish Committees as are necessary or advisable for the orderly and efficient handling of the affairs of the Town through the Board/Committee Policy and established Terms of Reference for said Boards & Committees.

PART 23 - REPEAL

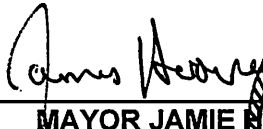
159. That Bylaw 1183.14 and 1233.19 are hereby repealed upon this Bylaw coming into effect.

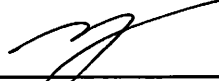
PART 24 - DATE OF FORCE

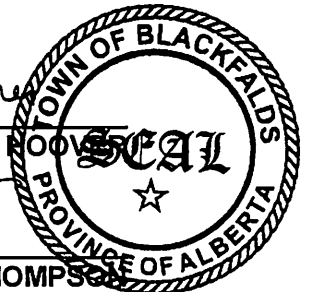
160. That this Bylaw shall come into effect, upon the date on which it is finally read and passed.

READ for the first time this 11th day January, A.D. 2022.

(RES. 007/22)

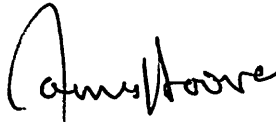

MAYOR JAMIE HOOPER

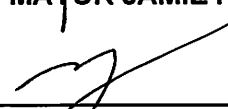

CAO MYRON THOMPSON

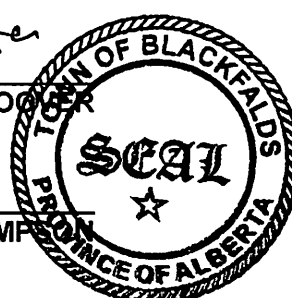


READ for the second time this 25th day of January, A.D. 2022.

(RES. 019/22)

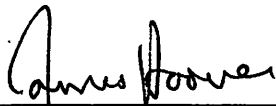

MAYOR JAMIE HOOPER


CAO MYRON THOMPSON




READ for the third and final time this 25th day of January, A.D. 2022.


(RES. 020/22)



MAYOR JAMIE HOOVER



CAO MYRON THOMPSON



List of Appendices:

Appendix A - AUMA Ethical Guidelines
Appendix B - Delegation Application
Appendix C - Public Hearing Process and Template
Appendix D - Guideline to Matters which can be Discussed In Camera Meetings

Legislative References:

Municipal Government Act of Alberta – and any amendments
Town of Blackfalds Policy 136.19
Town of Blackfalds Bylaw – Council Code of Conduct

APPENDIX A - AUMA Ethical Guidelines



Alberta Urban Municipalities Association

POLICY NO. AP004

ETHICAL GUIDELINES

The Board encourages member municipalities of the Association to adopt the following "Ethical Guidelines of Conduct for Elected Local Government Officials."

**(Municipality)
Ethical Guidelines of Conduct for Members of Council**

The proper operation of democratic local government requires that elected officials be independent, impartial and duly responsible to the people.

To this end it is imperative that:

- Local government decisions and policy be made through the proper channels of government structure.
- Public office not be used for personal gain.
- The public have confidence in the integrity of its government.

Accordingly it is the purpose of these guidelines of conduct to outline certain basic rules for elected municipal government officials in Alberta so that they may carry out their powers, duties and functions with impartiality and dignity, recognizing that the function of council members is, at all times, service to their community and the public.

To further these objectives, certain ethical principles should govern the conduct of members of council in Alberta in order that they shall maintain the highest standards in public office and faithfully discharge the duties, powers and functions of office.

Members of Council shall:

1. Govern their conduct in accordance with the requirements and obligations set out in the municipal legislation of the Province of Alberta.
2. Not use confidential information for the personal profit of themselves or any other person.
3. Not communicate confidential information to anyone not entitled to receive same.
4. Not use their position to secure special privileges, favors, or advantages for themselves or any other person.
5. Preserve the integrity and impartiality of Council.



Alberta Urban Municipalities Association

6. After leaving office, Members of Council shall continue to keep confidential, confidential information acquired as a member of Council.

Members of Council generally shall at all times ensure that their course of conduct in carrying out their duties and responsibility as elected officials at all times conform to the highest ethical standards.

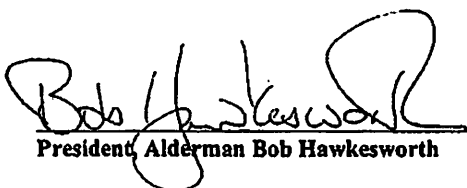
Members of this Council agree to uphold these guidelines and to govern actions accordingly.


Adopted by resolution this _____ day of _____, AD _____

Mayor

Municipal Secretary or City Clerk

	Date	Minute Page Number
Approved	24/02/05	3
Amended		
Amended		


President, Alderman Bob Hawkesworth


Chief Executive Officer, John McGowan

APPENDIX B - Delegation Application



DELEGATION APPLICATION

Box 220 | 5018 Waghorn Street
Blackfalds, AB | T0M 0J0
www.blackfalds.ca | 403.886.4677

APPLICANT INFORMATION	
Name:	Date:
Address	
Phone:	Email:
ORGANIZATION INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE)	
Name:	
Phone:	Email:
MEETING INFORMATION	
Date Requested:	Number Attending:
Name(s) of Presenter(s):	
Do you need to use your own presentation equipment? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
SUBJECT YOU WANT TO PRESENT	
DETAILS OF THE SUBJECT - Include specific requests you have of Council	

Please note if a Delegation wishes to make a presentation to Council, the Delegation must submit this request form and all pertinent background information to the Office of the CAO **no later than noon on the Wednesday prior to the Council meeting.**

Delegations are limited to 15 minutes at a Regular Council Meeting, unless at Council's discretion, longer time is required.

All written presentations will become a matter of public record, unless you inform this office otherwise, or it is deemed confidential.

I acknowledge that only the above matter will be discussed during the delegation. I further acknowledge that this meeting may be audio/video recorded, published online, and broadcast on television.	
Applicant Signature:	Date:

1. Town of Blackfalds Public Hearing Process

1.1 Definitions

- 1.1.1 "Chairman" refers to the Presiding Officer officiating the Public Meeting.
- 1.1.2 "Secretary" refers to the CAO or his/her designate.

1.2 Advertising

- 1.2.1 Advertising for all public hearings must meet the requirements of Section 606 of the MGA and will include:
 - a. Inclusion in a local newspaper once a week for two consecutive weeks ahead of the Public Hearing date.
 - b. Posted on the public notice board located in the lobby of the Civic Cultural Centre (Town Office).
 - c. Posted on the Town's website for the time period provided for print media notice.
 - d. Forwarded to parties determined to have a direct or significant impact by the matter.

1.3 Public Comments

- 1.3.1. 1.3.1 Public comments as outlined in the Public Hearing notice are to be forwarded electronically to info@blackfalds.ca.
- 1.3.2. Public comments in hard copy can be mailed to: Town of Blackfalds, Box 220, 5018 Waghorn Street, Blackfalds AB, T0M 0J0 The Office of the CAO, c/o Executive & Legislative Coordinator,
- 1.3.3. All written comments must be received by 12:00 p.m. Noon on the Wednesday prior to the following scheduled Regular Council Meeting where the Public Hearing has been scheduled.

1.4 Public Hearing Procedure Template (attached)

DATE
TIME
BYLAW

INTRODUCTION & PROCEDURES

- 1 (Chairman)

“The following Public Hearing is held pursuant to the Municipal Government Act”
- 2 (Chairman)

“The following rules of conduct will be followed during the Public Hearing:

 - Presentation should be brief and to the point*
 - The order of presentation shall be:*
 - Entry of written submission*
 - Comments from the Planning Dept*
 - Those supporting the By-law*
 - Those opposing the By-law*
 - Any other person deemed to be affected by the Bylaw*
 - The Public Hearing purpose is “ (-----) ”*

I hereby declare the Public Hearing relating to Bylaw # (-----) open”.
- 3 (Secretary)

“The purpose of Bylaw (-----) is (-----)- as shown on the attached Schedule A

First Reading was given to Bylaw (-----) on (-----)

Notice of this Public Hearing was advertised (-----)

The following written comments have been received to date (-----)
- 4 (Chairman)

“Are there any late written submissions relating to the Bylaw?” (-----)

(Note: If there are any, the secretary to read letter into record)

“Comments from the Planning Department”

“Is there anyone who supports the Bylaw and wishes to speak?”

“Is there anyone who opposes the Bylaw and wishes to speak?”

“Is there anyone deemed to be affected by the Bylaw and wishes to speak?”
- 5 (Chairman)

“Are there any further comments from the Planning Dept.”
- 6 (Chairman)

“Do the Councilors have any further questions”
- 7 (Chairman)

“If nothing further then, I hereby declare this Public Hearing relating to Bylaw (-----) be closed and will accept a motion to adjourn this Public Hearing.

Motion to adjourn: _____

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

APPENDIX D - Guidelines to Matters Which can be Discussed in Camera Meetings

GUIDELINE TO MATTERS WHICH CAN BE DISCUSSED IN CAMERA MEETINGS

Section 197 of the *Municipal Government Act* provides that Councils and council committees must conduct their meetings in public, however, they may close all or part of their meetings to the public if a matter to be discussed is within one of the exceptions to disclosure in Division 2 of Part 1 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. These exceptions are:

1. Information such as trade secrets or commercial, financial, labour relations, scientific or technical information of a third party, supplied in confidence, the disclosure of which would be harmful to the business interests of a third party must be discussed *in camera* (unless there is an overriding public interest). (Section 16)

Examples:

Information regarding the monetary resources of a third party, such as the third party's financial capabilities and assets and liabilities, including financial forecasts, investment strategies, budgets, profit and loss statements.

Third party insurance policies, pricing structures, market research, business plans and customer records.

Operating manuals containing scientific and technical information.

2. Information the disclosure of which would be an unreasonable invasion of personal privacy must be discussed *in camera* except in those circumstances where disclosure is considered not to be an unreasonable invasion of privacy. (Section 17)

"Personal information" means recorded information about an identifiable individual, including the individual's name, home or business address or home or business telephone number, the individual's race, national or ethnic origin, colour or religious or political beliefs or associations, the individual's age, sex, marital status or family status, an identifying number, symbol or other particular assigned to the individual, the individual's fingerprints, other biometric information, blood type, genetic information or inheritable characteristics, information about the individual's health and health care history, including information about a physical or mental disability, information about the individual's educational, financial, employment or criminal history, including criminal records where a pardon has been given, anyone else's opinions about the individual, and the individual's personal views or opinions, except if they are about someone else.

A disclosure of personal information is not an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy if any of the conditions listed under section 17(2) of the FOIP Act are met; items of this nature can be discussed in open session.

Examples:

The person has consented to it being discussed in open session;

The information relates to financial and other details of a contract to supply goods and services to the municipality;

The information is about a permit relating to real property, ie. a development permit, which was granted to an individual by the municipality and the disclosure is limited to the name of the party and the nature of the permit.

3. Information the disclosure of which would be harmful to individual or public safety may be discussed *in camera* if the disclosure of that information could reasonably be expected to threaten anyone else's safety or physical or mental health or interfere with public safety. (Section 18)

Examples:

Information relating to individuals fleeing from a violent spouse, a victim of sexual harassment or an employee who has been threatened in the course of a work dispute.

Information which could reasonably be expected to hamper or block the functioning of an organization or structure that ensures the safety and well-being of the public.

If the information cannot be reasonably expected to threaten anyone's safety, physical or mental health or interfere with public safety, it should be discussed in open session.

4. Information relating to confidential evaluations or opinions, such as employments references, may be discussed *in camera*. (Section 19)

The personal information must be contained in a confidential evaluation or opinion provided to the municipality, and compiled about an individual in order to assess his or her suitability for employment, the awarding of contracts or other benefits. This may involve information on his or her personal strengths or weaknesses, eligibility or qualifications.

Examples:

A verbatim transcript of a reference check of an employment candidate, supplied in confidence

A summary of a mix of telephone and written reference checks compiled by an official

5. Information, the disclosure of which may be harmful to law enforcement, may be discussed *in camera*. In order for the exception to apply, it is necessary to ensure that specific authority to investigate exists and that the investigation can lead to a penalty or sanction being imposed. Three types of investigations are included: police, security and administrative investigations. (Section 20)

Examples:

Information about a police investigation, including a special constable, or by a person responsible for investigating offences under the Criminal Code or Traffic Safety Act.

Information about a security investigation relating to the security of the organization and its clients, staff, resources or the public.

Information about an administrative investigation to enforce compliance or remedy non-compliance with standards, duties and responsibilities defined under an Act, regulation or bylaw.

6. Information, the disclosure of which may be harmful to intergovernmental relations, may be discussed *in camera*. This exception has two parts; one deals with harm to relations and the other deals with information given in confidence. (Section 21)

(a) In order to apply the harm to intergovernmental relations exception, the municipality must demonstrate that the conduct of intergovernmental relations of the Government of Alberta, or other municipality, or Federal Gov't, and not just those of the municipality, would be harmed by disclosure.

Example:

Notes of a private discussion between municipal officials, officials of a 'twinning' municipality in a developing country, the province and the country concerned, where no agreement has been reached between the parties to make their discussions public.

(b) In order to apply the information exception, the information must have been supplied in circumstances that clearly place an obligation on the municipality to maintain confidentiality.

Example:

Negotiating strategies relating to a federal, provincial and municipal infrastructure program.

7. Local public body confidences may be discussed *in camera*. This includes information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to reveal a draft of a resolution, bylaw or other legal instrument by which the municipality acts. (Section 23)

Drafts of resolutions, bylaws or other legal or formal written documents which relate to the internal governance of the municipality or the regulation of the activities over which it has jurisdiction are covered by this exception, however, final versions of a bylaw, resolution or other legal instrument are not. Similarly, if a draft of a resolution, bylaw or other legal instrument has already been considered in a meeting open to the public, this exception cannot be applied.

8. Advice from officials may be discussed *in camera*. This exception is intended to protect the deliberative process involving senior officials and heads of public bodies, and their staff, as well as among officials themselves. This exception also protects the deliberative process involving senior officials, heads of public bodies and the governing authorities of local public bodies. (Section 24)

A rule permitting public access to all records relating to policy formulation and decision-making processes in public bodies would impair the ability of those bodies to discharge their responsibilities in a manner consistent with the public interest. This exception is intended to provide a 'deliberative space' for those involved in providing advice, carrying on consultations and making recommendations, so that records may be written with candour and cover all options. This 'deliberative space' is especially important for those involved in the policy-making process. Senior officials and heads of local public bodies may accept or reject the advice and recommendations of those advising them.

Examples:

Information, including proposed plans, policies or projects, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to result in disclosure of a pending policy or budgetary decision

The contents of a formal research or audit report

Plans relating to the management of personnel

9. Information, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to be harmful to the economic and other interests of a public body, may be discussed *in camera*. (Section 25)

This exception applies to information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to harm the economic interest of a public body or the Government of Alberta, or the ability of the government to manage the economy. It recognizes that a public body may hold significant amounts of financial and economic information that is critical to the financial management of the public sector and the provincial economy.

Examples:

Trade secrets, such as software developed by a public body or special testing equipment which has been kept secret or confidential.

A proprietary interest in geographical information systems mapping data or statistical data.

Financial forecasts, investment strategies, budgets and profit and loss statements.

The exception does **not** cover the results of product or environmental testing carried out by or for a public body.

10. Information relating to testing procedures, tests and audits may be discussed *in camera*. This exception provides protection for the procedures and techniques involved in testing and auditing as well as details relating to specific tests to be given or audits to be conducted where disclosure would invalidate the results. (Section 26)

Examples:

Environmental testing, staffing examinations, personnel audits, financial audits and program audits.

11. Information that is subject to a legal privilege, or relates to the provision of legal services or the provision of advice or other services by a lawyer may be discussed *in camera*. (Section 27)

Examples:

A letter, fax, e-mail or other correspondence from the municipality's lawyers, including any record attached to correspondence from a lawyer.

A note documenting legal advice given by a lawyer or a statement of account from a lawyer detailing the services provided.

Information relating to an existing or contemplated lawsuit.

12. Information, the disclosure of which may be expected to result in damage to or interfere with the conservation of any historic resource or any rare, endangered, threatened or vulnerable form of life, may be discussed *in camera*. (Section 28)

Examples:

Information regarding designated municipal historic resources.

Information regarding any species of flora or fauna that is of concern because it is naturally scarce or likely to become threatened as a result of disclosure of specific information about it.

13. Information that is or will be available to the public may be discussed *in camera*. This exception covers information that is available for purchase by the public or that is to be published or released to the public within 60 days, but does not cover information that is already available to the public. (Section 29)

**GUIDELINE TO MATTERS WHICH CAN BE
DISCUSSED IN CAMERA MEETINGS UNDER FOIP ACT**

SEC. #	DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION:	EXAMPLES:
16	Trade secrets of a third party	Monetary resources, investment strategies, market research, manuals containing scientific, technical information.
17	Harmful to personal privacy	Recorded information about an identifiable individual – name, address, phone number, race, health, education. See s. 17(2) for exceptions.
18	Harmful to individual or public safety	Information relating to individuals threatened with violence, abuse or harassment, interfere with public safety.
19	Confidential evaluations	Reference checks.
20	Harmful to law enforcement	Police, security and administrative investigations.
21	Harmful to intergovernmental relations	Private discussions between municipal officials and officials of another municipal, provincial or federal government.
23	Local public body confidences	Drafts of resolutions or bylaws, legal or formal written documents.
24	Advice from officials	Proposed plans, policies, projects, budgetary decisions, research or audit reports, personnel management plans.
25	Economic interests of the municipality	Trade secrets, in-house developed software, proprietary interest in GIS mapping or statistical data, financial forecasts, investment strategies.
26	Testing procedures, tests and audits	Environmental testing, staffing exams, personnel, financial or program audits.
27	Legal privilege	Correspondence from municipality's lawyers, legal opinions
28	Historic sites or vulnerable life forms	Municipal historic resources, rare flora or fauna likely to be threatened by disclosure of information about it.
29	Information available or to be available to the public	Information that is available for purchase or that will be published within 60 days.



Alberta Urban Municipalities Association

POLICY NO. AP004

ETHICAL GUIDELINES

The Board encourages member municipalities of the Association to adopt the following "Ethical Guidelines of Conduct for Elected Local Government Officials."

(Municipality)

Ethical Guidelines of Conduct for Members of Council

The proper operation of democratic local government requires that elected officials be independent, impartial and duly responsible to the people.

To this end it is imperative that:

- Local government decisions and policy be made through the proper channels of government structure.
- Public office not be used for personal gain.
- The public have confidence in the integrity of its government.

Accordingly it is the purpose of these guidelines of conduct to outline certain basic rules for elected municipal government officials in Alberta so that they may carry out their powers, duties and functions with impartiality and dignity, recognizing that the function of council members is, at all times, service to their community and the public.

To further these objectives, certain ethical principles should govern the conduct of members of council in Alberta in order that they shall maintain the highest standards in public office and faithfully discharge the duties, powers and functions of office.

Members of Council shall:

1. Govern their conduct in accordance with the requirements and obligations set out in the municipal legislation of the Province of Alberta.
2. Not use confidential information for the personal profit of themselves or any other person.
3. Not communicate confidential information to anyone not entitled to receive same.
4. Not use their position to secure special privileges, favors, or advantages for themselves or any other person.
5. Preserve the integrity and impartiality of Council.



Alberta Urban Municipalities Association

6. After leaving office, Members of Council shall continue to keep confidential, confidential information acquired as a member of Council.

Members of Council generally shall at all times ensure that their course of conduct in carrying out their duties and responsibility as elected officials at all times conform to the highest ethical standards.

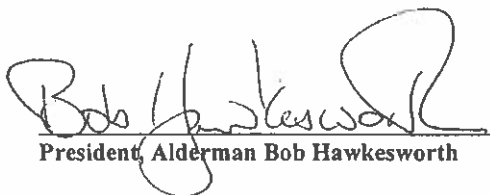
Members of this Council agree to uphold these guidelines and to govern actions accordingly.

Adopted by resolution this _____ day of _____, AD _____

Mayor

Municipal Secretary or City Clerk

	Date	Minute Page Number
Approved	24/02/05	3
Amended		
Amended		


President, Alderman Bob Hawkesworth


Chief Executive Officer, John McGowan

**DELEGATION APPLICATION**

Box 220 | 5018 Waghorn Street
 Blackfalds, AB | T0M 0J0
 www.blackfalds.ca | 403.886.4677

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name:	Date:
Address	
Phone:	Email:

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE)

Name:
Phone:
Email:

MEETING INFORMATION

Date Requested:	Number Attending:
Name(s) of Presenter(s):	
Do you need to use your own presentation equipment? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

SUBJECT YOU WANT TO PRESENT**DETAILS OF THE SUBJECT - Include specific requests you have of Council**

Please note if a Delegation wishes to make a presentation to Council, the Delegation must submit this request form and all pertinent background information to the Office of the CAO **no later than noon on the Wednesday prior to the Council meeting.**

Delegations are limited to 15 minutes at a Regular Council Meeting, unless at Council's discretion, longer time is required.

All written presentations will become a matter of public record, unless you inform this office otherwise, or it is deemed confidential.

I acknowledge that only the above matter will be discussed during the delegation. I further acknowledge that this meeting may be audio/video recorded, published online, and broadcast on television.

Applicant Signature:	Date:
----------------------	-------

1. Town of Blackfalds Public Hearing Process**1.1 Definitions**

- 1.1.1 "Chairman" refers to the Presiding Officer officiating the Public Meeting.
- 1.1.2 "Secretary" refers to the CAO or his/her designate.

1.2 Advertising

- 1.2.1 Advertising for all public hearings must meet the requirements of Section 606 of the MGA and will include:
 - a. Inclusion in a local newspaper once a week for two consecutive weeks ahead of the Public Hearing date.
 - b. Posted on the public notice board located in the lobby of the Civic Cultural Centre (Town Office).
 - c. Posted on the Town's website for the time period provided for print media notice.
 - d. Forwarded to parties determined to have a direct or significant impact by the matter.

1.3 Public Comments

- 1.3.1. 1.3.1 Public comments as outlined in the Public Hearing notice are to be forwarded electronically to info@blackfalds.ca.
- 1.3.2. Public comments in hard copy can be mailed to: Town of Blackfalds, Box 220, 5018 Waghorn Street, Blackfalds AB, T0M 0J0 The Office of the CAO, c/o Executive & Legislative Coordinator,
- 1.3.3. All written comments must be received by 12:00 p.m. Noon on the Wednesday prior to the following scheduled Regular Council Meeting where the Public Hearing has been scheduled.

1.4 Public Hearing Procedure Template (attached)

DATE
TIME
BYLAW

INTRODUCTION & PROCEDURES

- 1 (Chairman)** *"The following Public Hearing is held pursuant to the Municipal Government Act"*
- 2 (Chairman)** *"The following rules of conduct will be followed during the Public Hearing:*
- *Presentation should be brief and to the point*
 - *The order of presentation shall be:*
 - *Entry of written submission*
 - *Comments from the Planning Dept*
 - *Those supporting the By-law*
 - *Those opposing the By-law*
 - *Any other person deemed to be affected by the Bylaw*
 - *The Public Hearing purpose is " (-----)*
- I hereby declare the Public Hearing relating to Bylaw # (-----) open".*
- 3 (Secretary)** *"The purpose of Bylaw (-----) is (-----)- as shown on the attached Schedule A*
- First Reading was given to Bylaw (-----) on (-----)*
- Notice of this Public Hearing was advertised (-----)*
- The following written comments have been received to date (-----)*
- 4 (Chairman)** *"Are there any late written submissions relating to the Bylaw?" (-----)*
- (Note: If there are any, the secretary to read letter into record)**
- "Comments from the Planning Department"*
- "Is there anyone who supports the Bylaw and wishes to speak?"*
- "Is there anyone who opposes the Bylaw and wishes to speak?"*
- "Is there anyone deemed to be affected by the Bylaw and wishes to speak?"*
- 5 (Chairman)** *"Are there any further comments from the Planning Dept."*
- 6 (Chairman)** *"Do the Councilors have any further questions"*
- 7 (Chairman)** *"If nothing further then, I hereby declare this Public Hearing relating to Bylaw (-----) be closed and will accept a motion to adjourn this Public Hearing.*

Motion to adjourn: _____

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

GUIDELINE TO MATTERS WHICH CAN BE DISCUSSED IN CAMERA MEETINGS

Section 197 of the *Municipal Government Act* provides that Councils and council committees must conduct their meetings in public, however, they may close all or part of their meetings to the public if a matter to be discussed is within one of the exceptions to disclosure in Division 2 of Part 1 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. These exceptions are:

1. Information such as trade secrets or commercial, financial, labour relations, scientific or technical information of a third party, supplied in confidence, the disclosure of which would be harmful to the business interests of a third party must be discussed *in camera* (unless there is an overriding public interest). (Section 16)

Examples:

Information regarding the monetary resources of a third party, such as the third party's financial capabilities and assets and liabilities, including financial forecasts, investment strategies, budgets, profit and loss statements.

Third party insurance policies, pricing structures, market research, business plans and customer records.

Operating manuals containing scientific and technical information.

2. Information the disclosure of which would be an unreasonable invasion of personal privacy must be discussed *in camera* except in those circumstances where disclosure is considered not to be an unreasonable invasion of privacy. (Section 17)

"Personal information" means recorded information about an identifiable individual, including the individual's name, home or business address or home or business telephone number, the individual's race, national or ethnic origin, colour or religious or political beliefs or associations, the individual's age, sex, marital status or family status, an identifying number, symbol or other particular assigned to the individual, the individual's fingerprints, other biometric information, blood type, genetic information or inheritable characteristics, information about the individual's health and health care history, including information about a physical or mental disability, information about the individual's educational, financial, employment or criminal history, including criminal records where a pardon has been given, anyone else's opinions about the individual, and the individual's personal views or opinions, except if they are about someone else.

A disclosure of personal information is not an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy if any of the conditions listed under section 17(2) of the FOIP Act are met; items of this nature can be discussed in open session.

Examples:

The person has consented to it being discussed in open session;

The information relates to financial and other details of a contract to supply goods and services to the municipality;

The information is about a permit relating to real property, ie. a development permit, which was granted to an individual by the municipality and the disclosure is limited to the name of the party and the nature of the permit.

3. Information the disclosure of which would be harmful to individual or public safety may be discussed *in camera* if the disclosure of that information could reasonably be expected to threaten anyone else's safety or physical or mental health or interfere with public safety. (Section 18)

Examples:

Information relating to individuals fleeing from a violent spouse, a victim of sexual harassment or an employee who has been threatened in the course of a work dispute.

Information which could reasonably be expected to hamper or block the functioning of an organization or structure that ensures the safety and well-being of the public.

If the information cannot be reasonably expected to threaten anyone's safety, physical or mental health or interfere with public safety, it should be discussed in open session.

4. Information relating to confidential evaluations or opinions, such as employments references, may be discussed *in camera*. (Section 19)

The personal information must be contained in a confidential evaluation or opinion provided to the municipality, and compiled about an individual in order to assess his or her suitability for employment, the awarding of contracts or other benefits. This may involve information on his or her personal strengths or weaknesses, eligibility or qualifications.

Examples:

A verbatim transcript of a reference check of an employment candidate, supplied in confidence

A summary of a mix of telephone and written reference checks compiled by an official

5. Information, the disclosure of which may be harmful to law enforcement, may be discussed *in camera*. In order for the exception to apply, it is necessary to ensure that specific authority to investigate exists and that the investigation can lead to a penalty or sanction being imposed. Three types of investigations are included: police, security and administrative investigations. (Section 20)

Examples:

Information about a police investigation, including a special constable, or by a person responsible for investigating offences under the Criminal Code or Traffic Safety Act.

Information about a security investigation relating to the security of the organization and its clients, staff, resources or the public.

Information about an administrative investigation to enforce compliance or remedy non-compliance with standards, duties and responsibilities defined under an Act, regulation or bylaw.

6. Information, the disclosure of which may be harmful to intergovernmental relations, may be discussed *in camera*. This exception has two parts; one deals with harm to relations and the other deals with information given in confidence. (Section 21)

(a) In order to apply the harm to intergovernmental relations exception, the municipality must demonstrate that the conduct of intergovernmental relations of the Government of Alberta, or other municipality, or Federal Gov't, and not just those of the municipality, would be harmed by disclosure.

Example:

Notes of a private discussion between municipal officials, officials of a 'twinning' municipality in a developing country, the province and the country concerned, where no agreement has been reached between the parties to make their discussions public.

(b) In order to apply the information exception, the information must have been supplied in circumstances that clearly place an obligation on the municipality to maintain confidentiality.

Example:

Negotiating strategies relating to a federal, provincial and municipal infrastructure program.

7. Local public body confidences may be discussed *in camera*. This includes information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to reveal a draft of a resolution, bylaw or other legal instrument by which the municipality acts. (Section 23)

Drafts of resolutions, bylaws or other legal or formal written documents which relate to the internal governance of the municipality or the regulation of the activities over which it has jurisdiction are covered by this exception, however, final versions of a bylaw, resolution or other legal instrument are not. Similarly, if a draft of a resolution, bylaw or other legal instrument has already been considered in a meeting open to the public, this exception cannot be applied.

8. Advice from officials may be discussed *in camera*. This exception is intended to protect the deliberative process involving senior officials and heads of public bodies, and their staff, as well as among officials themselves. This exception also protects the deliberative process involving senior officials, heads of public bodies and the governing authorities of local public bodies. (Section 24)

A rule permitting public access to all records relating to policy formulation and decision-making processes in public bodies would impair the ability of those bodies to discharge their responsibilities in a manner consistent with the public interest. This exception is intended to provide a 'deliberative space' for those involved in providing advice, carrying on consultations and making recommendations, so that records may be written with candour and cover all options. This 'deliberative space' is especially important for those involved in the policy-making process. Senior officials and heads of local public bodies may accept or reject the advice and recommendations of those advising them.

Examples:

Information, including proposed plans, policies or projects, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to result in disclosure of a pending policy or budgetary decision

The contents of a formal research or audit report

Plans relating to the management of personnel

9. Information, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to be harmful to the economic and other interests of a public body, may be discussed *in camera*. (Section 25)

This exception applies to information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to harm the economic interest of a public body or the Government of Alberta, or the ability of the government to manage the economy. It recognizes that a public body may hold significant amounts of financial and economic information that is critical to the financial management of the public sector and the provincial economy.

Examples:

Trade secrets, such as software developed by a public body or special testing equipment which has been kept secret or confidential.

A proprietary interest in geographical information systems mapping data or statistical data.

Financial forecasts, investment strategies, budgets and profit and loss statements.

The exception does **not** cover the results of product or environmental testing carried out by or for a public body.

10. Information relating to testing procedures, tests and audits may be discussed *in camera*. This exception provides protection for the procedures and techniques involved in testing and auditing as well as details relating to specific tests to be given or audits to be conducted where disclosure would invalidate the results. (Section 26)

Examples:

Environmental testing, staffing examinations, personnel audits, financial audits and program audits.

11. Information that is subject to a legal privilege, or relates to the provision of legal services or the provision of advice or other services by a lawyer may be discussed *in camera*. (Section 27)

Examples:

A letter, fax, e-mail or other correspondence from the municipality's lawyers, including any record attached to correspondence from a lawyer.

A note documenting legal advice given by a lawyer or a statement of account from a lawyer detailing the services provided.

Information relating to an existing or contemplated lawsuit.

12. Information, the disclosure of which may be expected to result in damage to or interfere with the conservation of any historic resource or any rare, endangered, threatened or vulnerable form of life, may be discussed *in camera*. (Section 28)

Examples:

Information regarding designated municipal historic resources.

Information regarding any species of flora or fauna that is of concern because it is naturally scarce or likely to become threatened as a result of disclosure of specific information about it.

13. Information that is or will be available to the public may be discussed *in camera*. This exception covers information that is available for purchase by the public or that is to be published or released to the public within 60 days, but does not cover information that is already available to the public. (Section 29)

**GUIDELINE TO MATTERS WHICH CAN BE
DISCUSSED IN CAMERA MEETINGS UNDER FOIP ACT**

SEC. #	DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION:	EXAMPLES:
16	Trade secrets of a third party	Monetary resources, investment strategies, market research, manuals containing scientific, technical information.
17	Harmful to personal privacy	Recorded information about an identifiable individual – name, address, phone number, race, health, education. See s. 17(2) for exceptions.
18	Harmful to individual or public safety	Information relating to individuals threatened with violence, abuse or harassment, interfere with public safety.
19	Confidential evaluations	Reference checks.
20	Harmful to law enforcement	Police, security and administrative investigations.
21	Harmful to intergovernmental relations	Private discussions between municipal officials and officials of another municipal, provincial or federal government.
23	Local public body confidences	Drafts of resolutions or bylaws, legal or formal written documents.
24	Advice from officials	Proposed plans, policies, projects, budgetary decisions, research or audit reports, personnel management plans.
25	Economic interests of the municipality	Trade secrets, in-house developed software, proprietary interest in GIS mapping or statistical data, financial forecasts, investment strategies.
26	Testing procedures, tests and audits	Environmental testing, staffing exams, personnel, financial or program audits.
27	Legal privilege	Correspondence from municipality's lawyers, legal opinions
28	Historic sites or vulnerable life forms	Municipal historic resources, rare flora or fauna likely to be threatened by disclosure of information about it.
29	Information available or to be available to the public	Information that is available for purchase or that will be published within 60 days.

BEING A BYLAW OF THE TOWN OF BLACKFALDS, IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA TO REGULATE THE PROCEEDINGS AND CONDUCT OF COUNCIL AND COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

WHEREAS the *Municipal Government Act*, S.A. 2000, Chapter M-26, as amended, provides that a Council may pass Bylaws in relation to the procedure and conduct of Council, and Committees established by Council, and may regulate the conduct of Councillors and Members of Committees established by Council;

AND WHEREAS Council has deemed it necessary to regulate the procedure and conduct at meetings of Council and Committees established by Council;

AND WHEREAS Council has deemed it necessary to regulate procedures for receiving and responding to communications and submissions to Council;

NOW THEREFORE, THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLACKFALDS, IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, DULY ASSEMBLED, HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

PART 1 - TITLE

- 1.1 That this Bylaw may be cited as the "**Council Procedural Bylaw**" of the Town of Blackfalds.
- 1.2 That Appendix A, B, C, and D, attached to this Bylaw, shall form part of this Bylaw.

PART 2 - DEFINITIONS

- 2.1 In this Bylaw:
 - a) "**Act**" means the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA or the Act), as amended.
 - b) "**Administration**" means the collective of the Officers as outlined in this Bylaw.
 - c) "**Agenda**" means the order of business items for any meeting of Council or Committee.
 - d) "**Business**" shall mean any matter appearing on an Agenda that requires a decision of Council or direction of a Committee.
 - e) "**Bylaw**" means a Municipal Bylaw of the Town.
 - f) "**CAO**" means the Chief Administrative Officer appointed for the Town.
 - g) "**Chairperson**" means the Member elected from among the Members of a Committee to preside at all meetings of the Committee.
 - h) "**Committee**" means a committee, board, commission, authority, task force, ad-hoc working group or any other public body established by Council pursuant to this Bylaw established in accordance with the Act.
 - i) "**Consent Agenda**" means a group of items which are not expected to require discussion and/or debate and may be adopted by a single (omnibus) Motion.
 - j) "**Council**" means the elected officials, being the Mayor and Councillors of the Town of Blackfalds.
 - k) "**Council Committee Meeting**" means a meeting of Council of the Whole and referred to specifically as the Standing Committee of Council.
 - l) "**Council Meeting(s)**" are regularly scheduled or Special Meetings that require the attendance of Council.
 - m) "**Delegation**" shall mean one or more persons who have formally requested or have been requested to appear before Council at a Council or Standing Committee Meeting, in accordance with this Bylaw.
 - n) "**Deputy Mayor**" means the Member of Council appointed pursuant to this Bylaw to act as Mayor in the absence or incapacity of the Mayor.
 - o) "**Extenuating Circumstances**" means circumstances or situations that diminish the capability of a Member to attend a Council or Committee Meeting in person.

- p) **"FOIP"** means the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* of Alberta.
- q) **"General Municipal Election"** means an election held in the Town to elect the Mayor and Councillors as described in the *Local Authorities Elections Act* and any amendments thereto.
- r) **"Inaugural Meeting"** means the Organizational Meeting immediately following a General Municipal Election.
- s) **"In-Camera"** means a part of the meeting closed to the public at which no Resolution or Bylaw may be passed, except a Resolution to recommend to Council or revert to a meeting held in public.
- t) **"Live Streaming"** means to transmit or receive live video and audio coverage of (an event) over the Internet.
- u) **"Majority of Council"** means fifty (50%) plus 1 of those present, unless Council provides otherwise in this Bylaw;
- v) **"Mayor"** means the Chief Elected Official of the Town of Blackfalds duly elected.
- w) **"Media Representatives"** shall mean an employee or agent of a Licensed Broadcaster, a member of the Alberta Weekly Newspaper Association or a member of the Alberta Press Council.
- x) **"Member(s)"** means a member of Council duly elected and continuing to hold office, or a member of a Committee duly appointed by Council.
- y) **"Minutes"** means the record of decisions of a Council or Committee Meeting.
- z) **"Motion"** means a question that has been placed before Council, but which has not yet been subject to a vote by Council.
- aa) **"Notice of Motion"** is the means by which a Member of Council brings business before Council.
- bb) **"Omnibus Motion"** means a Motion to place on the floor and adopt, approve, or accept, without debate, two (2) or more items.
- cc) **"Organizational Meeting"** shall mean the meeting held for the purpose of scheduling Council Meetings and to make Council appointments to Committees of Council, to be held annually no later than the 2nd Regular Council meeting in October.
- dd) **"Officer"** means the Chief Administrative Officer, Director of Community Services, Director of Corporate Services, Director of Infrastructure and Property Services, or their delegates, all of whom shall be recorded in official Minutes if their attendance is required.
- ee) **"Pecuniary Interest"** means any matter that could monetarily affect a Council Member or an employer of the Council Member, or the Council Member knows or should know that the matter could monetarily affect the Council Member's family in accordance with Section 170 (1) of the MGA.
- ff) **"Point of Information"** means a request or statement directed to the Presiding Officer, or through the Presiding Officer to another Member or to the Administration, for or about information relevant to the business at hand, but not related to a Point of Procedure;
- gg) **"Point of Order"** means the raising of a question by a Member with the view of calling attention to any departure from this Bylaw or the customary proceedings in debate or in the conduct of Council's business.
- hh) **"Point of Privilege"** means all matters affecting the rights and exemptions of Council collectively or the propriety of the conduct of individual Members and includes but is not limited to, the following.
 - i. the organization or existence of Council;
 - ii. the comfort of Members;
 - iii. the conduct of Administration or members of the public in attendance at the meeting, and the reputation of Members or Council as a whole.

- ii) **"Point of Procedure"** means a question directed to the Presiding Officer to obtain information on a matter of parliamentary law or the rules of Council to assist a Member to:
 - i. make an appropriate Motion;
 - ii. raise a Point of Order;
 - iii. understand the procedure; or
 - iv. understand the effect of a Motion.
- jj) **"Presiding Officer"** shall mean the Mayor or the Deputy Mayor or, in the absence of the two (2), any other Member of Council appointed by Council to preside at the Meeting from those Members of Council present.
- kk) **"Postpone"** means the Motion by which action on a pending question can be put off, without limits, to a definite day, meeting, or hour or until after a certain event.
- ll) **"Public Hearing"** means a meeting of the Council, or that portion of a meeting of Council during which Members of the public make representations to Council in accordance with the Act.
- mm) **"Question of Privilege"** means raising of a question which concerns a Member, or Council collectively, when a Member believes that another Member has spoken disrespectfully towards them or Council, or when they believe their comments have been misunderstood or misinterpreted by another Member;
- nn) **"Quorum"** means the majority of Members, fifty (50%) plus 1 (one) of those present, unless Council provides otherwise in this Bylaw;
- oo) **"Rescind"** means the Motion by which is referred to by declaring a previous resolution or Motion null and void; however, a Motion to Rescind will not undo any actions which have already been taken as a result of the Motion previously passed.
- pp) **"Recorded Vote"** means at the request of a Member, the vote is recorded, and the Minutes must show the names of the Members present and whether each Member voted for or against the proposal or abstained.
- qq) **"Regular Council Meeting"** means a Council Meeting scheduled at the annual Organizational Meeting held in accordance with the Act.
- rr) **"Resolution"** means a Motion passed by a Majority of Council.
- ss) **"Round Table Reports"** means a Council Member summary report of meetings, events and activities using the template provided, will take place only at the second Regular Council Meeting each month,
- tt) **"Special Council Meeting"** means a Council Meeting called by the Mayor pursuant to the Act;
- uu) **"Standing Committee of Council"** is a meeting of Council as a whole.
- vv) **"State of Emergency"** means an order of the Lieutenant Governor in Council may, at any time when the Lieutenant Governor in Council is satisfied that an emergency exists or may exist, make an order for a declaration of a state of emergency relating to all or any part of Alberta.
- ww) **"Terms of Reference"** means those terms pertinent to the establishment and mandate of a Committee and which are in addition to or beyond the parameters of this Bylaw.
- xx) **"Town"** means the municipal corporation of the Town of Blackfalds.
- yy) **"Video"** means the recording, reproducing or broadcasting of moving visual images and audio made either digitally or on videotape.

PART 3 – APPLICATION

3.1 This Bylaw applies to:

- a) Inaugural Meetings;
- b) Organizational Meetings;
- c) Regular Council Meetings
- d) Special Council Meetings; and

- e) Council Committee Meetings, except:
 - i. when Council has granted permission to a Committee to establish its own procedures.
- 3.2 The precedence of the rules governing the procedure of Council is:
 - a) The Act;
 - b) Other Provincial legislation;
 - c) This Bylaw; and
 - d) Council Code of Conduct Bylaw.
- 3.3 Subject to the appeal process set out in Section 19.3 of this Bylaw, the Presiding Officer or Chairperson shall interpret the procedure of meetings.
- 3.4 In the absence of a statutory obligation, any provision of this Bylaw may be temporarily altered or suspended by an affirmative vote of 2/3 of all Members present. A Motion to temporarily alter or suspend this Bylaw is not debatable or amendable.

PART 4 - GENERAL

- 4.1. Motions of Members and any questions of parliamentary procedures shall be dealt with in the manner set out in this Bylaw.
- 4.2. The table of contents is attached hereto as *Appendix A*.
- 4.3. A breach of any Section of the Bylaw by any Member of Council may place the Member of Council in the position of censure by Council.
- 4.4. A Council Member who has a Pecuniary Interest in a matter before Council shall disclose the general nature of the Pecuniary Interest before the meeting has begun and abstain from discussing the matter or voting on the matter and leave the room until discussion and voting on the matter are concluded, as prescribed in the Act.
- 4.5. Council Meetings will be recorded and broadcast through live streaming over the internet and through Town of Blackfalds media channels, as prescribed through applicable Town Bylaws and Policies and in accordance with legislation.

PART 5 - NOTICE OF MEETINGS

- 5.1 For all Council and Committee Meetings, notice must be:
 - a) Issued a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting date;
 - b) In writing and specify the time, date, location and purpose of the meeting;
 - c) Electronically distributed via email to each Council or Committee Member;
 - d) Posted at the Town Office – at the Civic Cultural Centre; and
 - e) Given any other notification as requested by Council or the Committee.

PART 6 - QUORUM

- 6.1 When a Quorum is present at the time set for the commencement of a Council or Committee Meeting, the Presiding Officer or Chairperson shall call the meeting to order.
- 6.2 If there is a Quorum present at the time set for the commencement of a Council or Committee Meeting, but the Mayor and Deputy Mayor or Chairperson are absent, the CAO or delegate shall call the meeting to order and shall call for a Presiding Officer or Chairperson to be chosen by Resolution.
- 6.3 If a Quorum is not constituted within fifteen (15) Minutes from the time set for the commencement of a Council or Committee Meeting, the CAO or designate shall record the names of all the Members present and adjourn the meeting.
- 6.4 If a Council or Committee Meeting is adjourned for:
 - a) Failure to constitute a Quorum; or
 - b) Due to loss of Quorum as a result of a Member leaving the meeting;

The Agenda delivered for that Council or Committee shall be considered at the next meeting of Council or Committee unless:

- a) A Special Council Meeting is conducted to complete such business.

PART 7 - INAUGURAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS

- 7.1 The Organizational Meeting immediately following a General Municipal Election shall be called the **"Inaugural Meeting"** and shall be held no later than two (2) weeks after each General Municipal Election.
- 7.2 The Mayor and each Councillor shall take the prescribed Oath of Office as the first order of business at the Inaugural Meeting as prescribed by the *Oaths of Office Act*.
- 7.3 Until the Mayor has taken the Oath of Office, the CAO shall chair the Inaugural Meeting.
- 7.4 Council shall hold an annual Organizational Meeting each year no later than the 2nd Regular Council Meeting in October in accordance with the Act.
- 7.5 Subject to Section 7.2, the order of business for Inaugural and Organizational Meetings shall be at the discretion of the CAO.
- 7.6 The CAO shall set the time and place for the Organizational Meeting, with the business of the meeting being limited to:
- a) Appointments of Members to Committees which Council is entitled to make, both internal and external;
 - b) Roster of Deputy Mayors for the Council term;
 - c) Regular Council Meeting dates for Council from October to October; and
 - d) any other business required by the Act or which Council or the CAO may direct.
- 7.7 Appointments of Council Members to Committees shall be for a term of one (1) year unless otherwise specified.
- 7.8 Councillors shall each serve an eight (8) month rotation as Deputy Mayor, rotating in the manner as agreed upon by Council.

PART 8 – REGULAR MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

- 8.1. Regular Council Meeting shall be held in the Council Chambers unless notice is given in accordance with the Act and this Bylaw that the Regular Council Meeting will be held elsewhere in the Community.
- 8.2. Regular Council Meetings shall be held on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month.
- 8.3. If a Regular Council Meeting falls on a Statutory Holiday, the meeting will take place on the day chosen by Council at the Organizational Meeting.
- 8.4. Regular Council Meetings shall commence at 7:00 p.m.
- 8.5. A Regular Council Meeting may be cancelled:
- a) By a Majority of Council at a previously held meeting; or
 - b) Written consent of a Majority of Council, providing twenty-four (24) hours' notice is provided to Members and the public; or
 - c) Written consent of two-thirds (2/3) of the whole Council if twenty-four (24) hours' notice is not provided to the public.

PART 9 – SPECIAL MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

- 9.1. The Mayor may call a Special Council Meeting and notice of such Special Council Meeting shall be given in accordance with the provisions of the Act and this Bylaw.
- 9.2. The Mayor must call a Special Council Meeting if an official written request is made for the meeting from a Majority of Members within fourteen (14) days of which the request was made.
- 9.3. Despite Section 9.2, the Mayor may call a Special Council Meeting on shorter notice without giving notice to the public, provided two-thirds (2/3) of the whole Council give written consent to holding the Meeting before the Meeting begins.
- 9.4. The Notice of a Special Council Meeting shall be provided in accordance with Section 194 of the Act, as amended from time to time. It shall include the time, date and place

at which the Special Council Meeting is to be held and state the general nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting shall be provided to each Member of Council and to the public.

- 9.5. A Special Council Meeting may be held with less than twenty-four (24) hours' notice to all Members of Council and without notice to the public if at least 2/3 of the whole Council agrees to this, in writing, before the beginning of the meeting. A Special Meeting, called under the initiative of the Mayor, may be cancelled:
- a) By the Mayor if twenty-four (24) hours written notice is provided to all Members and the public; or
 - b) If less than twenty-four (24) hours' notice is provided, the Mayor may cancel with the written consent of two-thirds (2/3) of the whole Council.
- 9.6. No business other than that stated in the notice shall be conducted at any Special Council Meeting unless all the Members of Council are present, in which case, by unanimous consent, any other business may be transacted.

PART 10 – REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

- 10.1 Agendas shall list the items and order of business for the meeting.
- 10.2 The standard order of business on the Regular Council Meeting Agenda shall be as follows unless Council otherwise determined by a majority vote a change in order:
- a) Call to Order
 - b) Land Acknowledgement
 - c) Adoption of Agendas
 - d) Delegation
 - e) Public Hearing
 - f) Business
 - g) Notices of Motion
 - h) Confidential
 - i) Adjournment
- 10.3 Agendas shall be prepared in the form agreed upon by the Mayor and CAO.
- 10.4 The CAO shall ensure copies of the Agenda are:
- a) Available online to the public no later than 4:00 p.m. on the Friday prior to the day on which the Regular Council meeting is held; and
 - b) Electronically distributed and available to all Members of Council and Officers who are entitled to receive copies.
- 10.5 The CAO shall make the Agenda and all reports and supplementary materials (unless they must or may be withheld under the Act or any other statute dealing with access to information) available on the municipal website to the media and public.
- 10.6 All Regular Council Meeting Agenda submissions shall be received by the CAO no later than 4:30 p.m. on the Wednesday prior to Agenda posting.
- 10.7 Only material which has been received in accordance with Section 10.6 of this Bylaw shall be considered at the meeting for which the Agenda is prepared.
- a) If an emergent or time-sensitive matter needs to be brought before Council at any meeting, the item shall:
 - i) be accompanied by a brief explanation from an Officer indicating the reasons for and the degree of urgency of the item; and
 - ii) be permitted to be added by the Presiding Officer considered as an addendum to the Agenda upon a majority vote of Council.
- 10.8 Consent Agenda may include, but is not limited to:
- a) Declaration of No Interest (*conflict of duty and interest, pecuniary or other*);
 - b) Adoption of Minutes;
 - c) Round Table Reports;
 - d) Administrative Reports;
 - e) Board, Committee and Commission Minutes and/or Reports;
 - f) Information, includes items of interest to Council Members;
 - g) Correspondence that is addressed to Mayor and/or Council, and all content shall be subject to the *Freedom of Information and Privacy Act*.

- 10.9 Consent Agenda must not include proposed Bylaws or briefing notes that have been prepared for Public Hearings.
- 10.10 Round Table Reports will take place only at the second Regular Council Meeting each month, and Council will provide Administration, by the 16th of each month, with a summary report of meetings, events and activities using the template provided and included in the Consent Agenda.
- 10.11 The CAO Report will include monthly administrative activities and will be included on the Consent Agenda at the second monthly Regular Council Meeting.
- 10.12 Delegations shall be registered in accordance with Section 14.1.
- 10.13 Public Hearings shall be conducted in accordance with Part 15.
- 10.14 Business items include templated reports from Administration for items requesting a decision from Council or direction from the Standing Committee of Council:
 - a) Request for Decision items include a recommendation by Administration and a request for a decision by Council, at which time Council may:
 - i) Vote on the recommended Motion; or
 - ii) Refer back to Administration for further consideration; or
 - iii) Vote on an amended Motion as determined through debate and presented by a Member of Council.
- 10.15 Notices of Motion shall be in accordance with Part 29 of this Bylaw.
- 10.16 Where a Confidential matter is included on the Agenda, the section of FOIP and a description that allows information to be protected from disclosure will be cited on the Agenda and reflected in the Minutes, as set out in *Appendix D – Guideline to Matters Which can be Discussed In Camera Meetings*”.

PART 11 – CONSENT AGENDA

- 11.1 Consent Agenda items are a group of items which are not expected to require discussion and/or debate and may be adopted by a single Omnibus Motion.
- 11.2 Council must review the items on both the Regular Council Agenda and the Consent Agenda, and prior to the Motion being made, the Mayor shall ask if any Council Member wishes to exempt an item from the Consent Agenda.
- 11.3 If a Council Member wishes to debate an item included in the Consent Agenda, the Council Member may exempt any item.
- 11.4 All exempt Consent Agenda items shall be moved from the Consent Agenda and added under Business.
- 11.5 Subject to the above, the only time that an item should be removed from the Consent Agenda is if it is determined that action, a decision, or significant further discussion is needed.
- 11.6 Adoption of the Consent Agenda means approval or acceptance of all the items contained within the Consent Agenda and shall be done by one Omnibus Motion.
- 11.7 In the event that a Council Member declares a Pecuniary Interest on an item that is included in the Consent Agenda, that item shall be exempted from the Consent Agenda and added under Business.
- 11.8 Council must vote to adopt or amend the Regular Agenda prior to carrying out any business and adopt or amend the Consent Agenda prior to carrying out any business.

PART 12 – MINUTES

- 12.1 The CAO or designate shall ensure that the Minutes are prepared and included in the Agenda package distributed to each Member for the next meeting.
- 12.2 Minutes shall be available to the public, including on the Town's website, on the same week as to when they were approved by Council.

- 12.3 Any Member of Council may exempt the Minutes from the Consent Agenda and add them under Business.
- 12.4 Minor changes may be made to the Minutes to correct errors in grammar, spelling and punctuation or to correct the omission of a word necessary to the meaning or continuity of a sentence. No change shall be allowed which would alter the actual decision made by Council or the Committee.
- 12.5 Minor amendments may include spelling, grammar and any changes that do not affect the context of an item or a Motion of Council.
- 12.6 Major amendments to the Minutes must be amended and brought forward to the next Council Meeting for adoption.

PART 13 - COMMUNICATIONS

- 13.1 When a letter or correspondence is addressed to Council, it shall be directed through the CAO and shall:
 - a) Be on paper or in a printable form;
 - b) Be placed on an Agenda as appropriate; and
 - c) Properly placed within the Town's filing system.
- 13.2 Follow-up on the correspondence may include:
 - a) Discussion on the item under Business;
 - b) Directive to Administration to provide a response to the item of correspondence.
- 13.3 In situations where the CAO considers correspondence to be libellous, impertinent or improper, the CAO will summarize the content of the communication verbally and inform Council that it is being withheld.

PART 14 – DELEGATIONS

- 14.1 If a delegation wishes to make a presentation to Council the Delegation must submit a written request in the form of a Delegation Application to the Legislative Coordinator no later than noon (12:00 p.m.) on the Wednesday prior to a Regular Council Meeting. The Delegation Application is provided as *Appendix B*.
- 14.2 Delegations are limited to fifteen (15) Minutes at a Regular Council Meeting unless, at Council's discretion, a longer time is required.
- 14.3 Delegations shall not address Council on the same subject matter more than once every six (6) months.
- 14.4 All written presentations will become a matter of public record unless the Delegation informs the office of the CAO or it is deemed confidential.

PART 15 – PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 15.1 Council shall hold Public Hearings in accordance with the Act.
- 15.2 Public Hearings, when required by the Act or requested by Council, will be held prior to the second reading of a Bylaw.
- 15.3 Council may direct Administration through a Resolution of Council to hold a non-statutory Public Hearing.
- 15.4 Public Hearings shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures set out in *Appendix C*.
- 15.5 All written submissions from the public must be received at least ten (10) days prior to a Public Hearing for inclusion in the Council Agenda. Any written submissions from the public that are received after this date must be provided to the CAO or designate who will advise Council that a late submission has been received during the Public Hearing and include the submission in the Public Hearing record.

PART 16 – ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION AT MEETINGS IN EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES

- 16.1 Should a State of Emergency or Extenuating Circumstances where restrictive measures are required occur, electronic participation may be allowed by a Member of Council or Committee; participating electronically will be counted in determining whether a Quorum of Members is present and may participate electronically in a meeting.
- 16.2 A Members shall be permitted to attend a meeting using electronic communication if that location is able to support its use, ensuring that all Members participating in the meeting are able to communicate effectively.
- 16.3 A Member attending a meeting via electronic communications is deemed to be present at the meeting for whatever period of time the connection via electronic communications remains active.
- 16.4 The Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Presiding Officer or Chairperson shall announce to those in attendance at the Council or Committee Meeting that a Member is attending the meeting by means of electronic communications.
- 16.5 Where the rules of procedure conflict with the need to facilitate electronic participation, the Mayor, in consultation with the CAO, shall have the authority to modify the rules of procedure to ensure Members can effectively participate in the meeting.
- 16.6 When a Council Member attends a Closed Session, they will be required to confirm that they are attending the Closed Session alone.
- 16.7 The CAO, in consultation with the Mayor, shall establish practices and procedures for electronic participation.
- 16.8 Members must notify the CAO or designate a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting of their intention to participate electronically.
- 16.9 The CAO or designate may provide for the electronic participation of staff, including that of the CAO.

PART 17 – CLOSED SESSIONS

- 17.1 Confidential items are those items that are discussed as per Section 197(2) of the Act “In Camera” or “Closed Sessions” and are confidential items of discussion between Council, Administration and invited persons. No Minutes, notes, or recordings of the discussions will take place, and any reports provided to Council will be returned to the CAO.

PART 18 - ADJOURNMENT

- 18.1 Council Meetings shall adjourn no later than 10:00 p.m. unless: if in session at that time, except to conclude the matter under discussion, and Council shall recess and reconvene at 6:00 p.m. on the next business day unless:
- a) A matter under discussion has not concluded;
 - b) Otherwise directed by Council; or
 - c) Council, by Resolution of a majority vote, taken as soon before 10:00 p.m. as the business permits, agree to an extension of the meeting beyond 10:00 p.m.
- 18.2 If adjournment takes place and unfinished business remains, these items will be carried over to the next regular meeting of Council, or Council can call a Special Council Meeting on a specified day and time to attend to the unfinished business.
- 18.3 When all items of an approved Agenda have been dealt with, the Presiding Officer may adjourn the meeting without requiring a Motion or vote by Council.

PART 19 – CONDUCT DURING MEETINGS

- 19.1 Council Meetings will be held in public, and no person may be excluded except for:
- a) Improper conduct; or
 - b) Council may, by Resolution, meet In-Camera to discuss any matter if a statute authorizes the holding of that meeting in the absence of the public.

- 19.2 The Presiding Officer shall preserve order, decorum, and decide questions of procedure subject to an appeal of Council; and the decision of the Presiding Officer shall be final unless reversed by a majority vote of the Members present, without debate.
- 19.3 A Member called to order by the Presiding Officer shall immediately cease further comment and may appeal the call to order to the Council or Committee. The Council or Committee, if appealed to, shall decide on the case without debate and by way of a majority vote of the Members present. If there is no appeal, the decision of the Presiding Officer shall be final.
- 19.4 No Member of Council shall:
- a) Speak without first being recognized by the Presiding Officer and being granted the floor.
 - b) Speak twice to the same item after a Motion on any Agenda item, without the leave of Council, until every Member of Council has an opportunity to speak, except to make an inquiry or an explanation that may have been misconstrued.
 - c) Speaking twice does not include asking questions or subsequent questions on an item, as this information is gathered by Council Members to make informed decisions. Speaking refers to when a Council Member debates a Motion.
- 19.5 The Presiding Officer shall give each Member of Council who wishes to speak on a matter on the Council Agenda an opportunity to do so before calling the question.
- 19.6 When a Member or Officer wishes to speak at a Council meeting, they shall obtain the approval of the Presiding Officer before doing so.
- 19.7 Every Member of Council, and every member of Administration present at the meeting, in speaking to any question or Motion, shall address themselves only to the Presiding Officer.
- 19.8 When any Point of Order, Point of Procedure, or Question of Privilege arises, it shall be immediately taken into consideration.
- 19.9 When the Presiding Officer is called upon to decide a Point of Order, Point of Procedure, or Question of Privilege, the point shall be stated succinctly, and the Presiding Officer shall, when giving their decision on the point, cite the rule or authority applicable to the same.
- 19.10 When a Point of Information is raised, the Presiding Officer shall answer the question or direct the question to the appropriate Member of Council, or Administration.
- 19.11 When a Point of Privilege arises, the Presiding Officer shall rule upon the admissibility of the question and if the Presiding Officer rules favourably, the Member of Council who raised the Point of Privilege shall be permitted to pursue the point.
- 19.12 When the Presiding Officer wishes to debate or make a Motion, they shall vacate the Chair and request another Member to take the Chair, in the following order:
- a) Deputy Mayor
 - b) Any other Member of Council.
- 19.13 If no other Member of Council is willing to accept the Chair, the Presiding Officer will continue as Chair; however, will be allowed to make a Motion and/or debate under the same rights and restrictions as other Members.
- 19.14 When a Member or Officer is addressing the Presiding Officer every other Member or Officer shall:
- a) Remain quiet and seated;
 - b) Not interrupt the speaker except on a Point of Order, Point of Procedure or Question of Privilege; and
 - c) Not carry on a private conversation.
- 19.15 When a Member is addressing Council, the Member shall:
- a) Not speak disrespectfully of others;
 - b) Not shout, raise their voice or use offensive language;
 - c) Not reflect on any vote of Council except when moving to Rescind it and shall not reflect on the motives of the Members who voted on the Motion, or the mover of the Motion;

- d) Assume personal responsibility for any statement quoted to Council or upon request of Council shall give the source of the information.
- 19.16 When a Member wishes to leave the Council Chambers while a Meeting of Council is in progress, they must indicate their intention and await the Presiding Officer's permission prior to leaving.
- 19.17 The arrival and departure of Council Members will be recorded in the official Minutes.

PART 20 – CONDUCT OF PUBLIC DURING MEETINGS

- 20.1. A person who is not a Member or Officer shall not address Council unless they first obtain permission from the Presiding Officer.
- 20.2. Members of the public gallery during a Council Meeting:
 - a) Shall not address Council without permission;
 - b) Shall maintain order and quiet; and
 - c) Shall not applaud or otherwise interrupt any speech or action of the Members, or any other person addressing Council.
- 20.3. The Presiding Officer may, in accordance with the Act, expel and exclude any person who creates a disturbance or acts improperly.

PART 21 – MOTIONS

- 21.1 A Council Member who wishes to submit a Motion in excess of twenty-five (25) words shall do so in writing to the Presiding Officer and Recording Secretary.
- 21.2 After a Motion has been moved, and prior to any vote, it is the property of Council and may not be withdrawn without the consent of a majority of Council.
- 21.3 Every Motion or Resolution shall be stated or read by the mover.
- 21.4 Any Motion made in the negative shall be ruled out of order.
- 21.5 A request may be made to have the Recording Secretary read back the Motion, as made, for clarity prior to being put to vote.
- 21.6 Council or Committees may act on a Motion pertaining to a subject which is not on the Agenda with unanimous consent only.
- 21.7 When moved, a Motion will be open for discussion and debate. The Presiding Officer will determine if a Member can speak twice to the same issue prior to other Members and Officers having the opportunity.
- 21.8 The mover of a Motion may speak and vote for or against the Motion.
- 21.9 No Motion other than an amending Motion or Motion to table or refer shall be considered until the Motion already before Council has been disposed of.
- 21.10 Where the Town has a contractual liability or obligation, Council shall not reconsider, vary, revoke, or replace any Resolution except to the extent that it does not avoid or interfere with such liability or obligation.
- 21.11 The following Motions are not debatable by Members:
 - a) To take a recess;
 - b) Question of Privilege;
 - c) Point of Order;
 - d) To limit debate on a matter before Members;
 - e) To table the matter; and
 - f) Adjournment.
- 21.12 A Motion to adjourn is not subject to debate and is voted on immediately.

PART 22 – RECESS

- 22.1 Any Member may move that Council recess or break for a specific period. After the recess, business will be resumed at the point when it was interrupted. This Motion may not be used to interrupt a speaker.
- 22.2 A Motion to recess may be amended only as to length of time, but neither the Motion nor the amendment is debatable.
- 22.3 If no speaker is addressing Council, the Presiding Officer may call a recess for a specific period.

PART 23 – MOTION TO AMEND

- 23.1 There shall be a maximum of three (3) Motions on the floor at a time, the main Motion and up to two (2) amending Motions.
- 23.2 Amending Motions are those Motions where word(s) or paragraphs are inserted or struck out of the original Motion and can be made by any Member and must be in agreement with the Member originating the Motion.
- 23.3 Amendments shall be voted on in reverse order to that in which they have been moved, and all amendments shall be decided on or withdrawn before the original Motion is put to a vote.

PART 24 – MOTION TO RESCIND

- 24.1 A Motion to Rescind a previous Motion may be accepted by the Chair, and if passed by a majority vote of Council present, the previous Motion referred to would be declared null and void; however, a Motion to Rescind will not undo any actions which have already been taken as a result of the Motion previously passed.

PART 25 – MOTION TO REFER

- 25.1 To refer a Motion is to state which Committee or Administrative department is to receive the Motion for research and/or further information and shall include terms, timelines, and other relevant information.

PART 26 – MOTION TO POSTPONE

- 26.1 A Motion to Postpone any matter shall include in the Motion:
- a) A specific time to which the matter is postponed; or
 - b) Provision that the matter is to be postponed indefinitely.
- 26.2 When a Motion is Postponed without being settled, no similar or conflicting Motion which would restrict action on the first Motion may be introduced or adopted.
- 26.3 A Motion to Postpone a matter is amendable and debatable.
- 26.4 Any matter that has been postponed to a particular date, or indefinitely, shall not be considered by Council before the date set, except on a majority vote of the Members present.

PART 27 – MOTION TO TABLE

- 27.1 A Motion to table allows a matter without debate to be set aside and brought back at a later date.
- 27.2 To take a matter from the table requires a Motion, that Council take from the table.

PART 28 – MOTIONS FOR INFORMATION

- 28.1 A Motion to accept for information means that Council accepts the information, and it is then placed in the Town's record for reference.
- 28.2 A Motion to receive for information means Council or Committee acknowledges the information with no further action taken.

PART 29 – NOTICE OF MOTIONS

- 29.1 A Notice of Motion is made to serve notice of intent and must give sufficient detail so that the subject of the Motion and any proposed action can be determined, it must state the date of the meeting at which the Motion will be made and must meet the following requirements:
- 29.2 Any Member of Council may make a Motion introducing any new matter of municipal business provided that the Notice of Motion has been brought forward at a meeting of Council held at least seven days before the meeting at which time the Motion will be debated, or Council passes a Motion by majority vote dispensing of the period of notice.
- a) A Council Member who submits a written Notice of Motion to the CAO to be read at a Regular Council Meeting need not be present during the reading of the notice.
 - b) When notice has been given, the CAO will include the proposed Motion in the Agenda of the meeting for the date indicated in the Notice of Motion.
 - c) If the Council Member is not present for the indicated date, the Motion will be deferred to the next Regular Council Meeting. If the Council Member is not present at the next Regular Council Meeting, the Motion will be removed from the Agenda and may only be made by a new Notice of Motion.
- 29.3 If a Motion is defeated, a Member of Council can reintroduce it as a new business item at a Regular Council Meeting by way of a Notice of Motion. It shall be substantially new wording and conditions of the original Motion, subject to the provisions set out in Section 30.12.

PART 30 - VOTING ON MOTIONS

- 30.1 When debate on a Motion is closed, the Presiding Officer shall put the Motion to a vote, and this decision shall be final unless overruled by a majority vote of the Members present at the meeting.
- 30.2 No Member shall leave the Council Chamber after a question is put to a vote and before the vote is taken.
- 30.3 If any Member of Council wishes to have a Recorded Vote, the request for a recorded vote must be made prior to the vote being taken and recorded in the meeting Minutes pursuant to Section 185 of the Act.
- 30.4 Where a Motion is not carried unanimously by those Members present, then the names of those who voted for and against a Motion shall be entered upon the Minutes for Motions that are carried or defeated.
- 30.5 Votes on all Motions must be taken as follows:
- a) The Presiding Officer must declare the Motion and call for the vote.
 - b) Members must vote by a show of hands.
 - c) The Presiding Officer must declare the result of the vote.
- 30.6 After the Presiding Officer declares the result of the vote, Members may not change their vote for any reason.
- 30.7 A Motion shall be declared lost when it:
- a) Does not receive the required majority of votes; or
 - b) Receives an equal division of votes.
- 30.8 Each Member present shall vote on every Motion as prescribed by the Act, unless the Act or other provincial or federal enactment requires or permits the Member to abstain, in which case the Member shall cite the legislative authority for abstaining, and the CAO shall record the abstention and reasons in the Minutes.
- 30.9 Council Members who abstain from voting during Closed Sessions are subject to the provision above, unless they are abstaining for a reason that is considered confidential under the *Freedom of Information and Privacy Act*.

- 30.10 A Member shall not vote on a matter if they are absent from the Council Chambers when the matter has been heard, and the vote is called.
- 30.11 The outcome of every vote shall be incorporated into the official Minutes.
- 30.12 Once a subject matter has been voted on, and that particular meeting is adjourned, it may not be raised again for six (6) months from the date of the vote unless Council is unanimous in raising the subject matter sooner and the unanimous approval to raise the matter may be included in the main Motion that is under consideration by Council.

PART 31 – BYLAWS & POLICIES

- 31.1 Draft Bylaws and Council policies shall be prepared by the appropriate Administration member and shall be reviewed at a meeting of the Standing Committee of Council before being presented at a Regular Council Meeting.
- 31.2 When a Bylaw is presented to Council for enactment, the CAO shall publish the number and title of the Bylaw in the Agenda.
- 31.3 The CAO shall provide a copy of the Bylaw in full and include it in the Agenda package.
- 31.4 Every Bylaw shall have three (3) distinct readings in accordance with the Act.
- 31.5 Only the title or identifying number may be read at each reading.
- 31.6 A Bylaw shall be introduced for first reading by a Motion that the Bylaw be read a first time.
- 31.7 Prior to first reading, a Member may ask questions of clarification concerning the Bylaw.
- 31.8 Council shall vote on the Motion for first reading of a Bylaw without amendment or debate.
- 31.9 A Bylaw shall be introduced for second reading by a Motion that it be read a second time.
- 31.10 After a Member has made a Motion for second reading of a Bylaw, Council may:
- a) Debate the substance of the Bylaw; and
 - b) Propose and consider amendments to the Bylaw.
- 31.11 A Bylaw shall not be given more than two (2) readings at one (1) meeting unless the Members present unanimously consent that the Bylaw may be presented to Council for third reading.
- 31.12 When Council unanimously consents that a Bylaw may be presented for third reading:
- a) Motion for third reading of the Bylaw shall be made;
 - b) Council shall vote on the Motion without amendment or debate;
- 31.13 A Bylaw shall be passed when a majority of the Members voting on third reading vote in favor, provided some other applicable Provincial Statute or Bylaw does not require a greater majority.
- 31.14 In conformance with the Act:
- a) If a Bylaw does not receive a third reading within two (2) years from the date of the first reading, the previous readings are deemed to have been Rescinded; and
 - b) If a Bylaw is defeated on second or third reading the previous readings are deemed to have been Rescinded.
- 31.15 Upon being passed, a Bylaw shall be signed by the Presiding Officer of the meeting at which it was passed as well as the CAO and then shall have the Town's corporate seal applied.
- 31.16 Copies of all Bylaws and Policies will be maintained and will be provided as public information on the Town's official website.

- 31.17 Bylaws which require approval from the Province of Alberta, shall receive two (2) readings prior to submission of a certified copy to the Provincial authorities. The third reading will take place only after the signed approval of the Provincial Authority is received.
- 31.18 Bylaws come into effect as soon as they are passed unless they contain a deferred date for implementation.
- 31.19 Policies shall be presented for discussion and passed by a simple majority at one (1) sitting and shall come into effect as soon as they are passed unless they contain a deferred date for implementation.
- 31.20 Upon being passed, a Policy shall be signed by the Presiding Officer of the meeting at which it was passed as well as the CAO.

PART 32 - COMMITTEES

- 32.1 Council may establish Committees as are necessary or advisable for the orderly and efficient handling of the affairs of the Town through Bylaw and established Terms of Reference for said Boards & Committees.

PART 33 – STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

- 33.1 Standing Committee of Council is hereby established and considered to be Committee of the Whole with membership comprised of all Members of Council.
- 33.2 Standing Committee of Council typically takes place on the third Monday of every month.
- 33.3 The Deputy Mayor will chair or be the Presiding Officer for the Standing Committee of Council.
- 33.4 Standing Committee of Council shall commence at 7:00 p.m.
- 33.5 Quorum of the Standing Committee of Council is a majority of Council Members.
- 33.6 The Standing Committee of Council may:
- a) Receive delegations and submissions;
 - b) Receive updates on major capital projects and initiatives;
 - c) Meet with other municipalities and other levels of government;
 - d) Recommend appointments of members of the public to Council Committees and other external committees, and other bodies on which the Town is entitled to have representation; and
 - e) Receive updates from Council Committees.
- 33.7 The standard order of business on a Committee Agenda shall be as follows unless Council otherwise determines by a majority vote a change in order:
- a) Call to Order
 - b) Land Acknowledgement
 - c) Presentations
 - d) Business
 - e) Confidential
 - f) Adjournment
- 33.8 All Standing Committee of Council Agenda submissions shall be received by the CAO no later than 4:30 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to Agenda posting.
- 33.9 Only material which has been received in accordance with Section 33.8 of this Bylaw shall be considered at the meeting for which the Agenda is prepared.
- a) If an emergent or time-sensitive matter needs to be brought before the Committee at any meeting, the item shall:
 - i) be accompanied by a brief explanation from an Officer indicating the reasons for and the degree of urgency of the item; and
 - ii) be permitted to be added by the Presiding Officer considered as an addendum to the Agenda upon a majority vote of the Committee.

- 33.10 If a presenter wishes to make a presentation to the Standing Committee of Council the presenter must submit a written request in the form of a Delegation Application to the Legislative Coordinator no later than noon (12:00 p.m.) on the Tuesday prior to a Committee Meeting. The Delegation Application is provided as *Appendix B*.
- 33.11 Presentations are limited to fifteen (15) Minutes at a Committee Meeting unless, at the Committees discretion, a longer time is required.
- 33.12 All written presentations will become a matter of public record unless the presenter informs the office of the CAO or it is deemed confidential.
- 33.13 The CAO shall ensure copies of the Standing Committee of Council Agenda are available online to the public no later than 4:00 p.m. on the Thursday prior to a Standing Committee meeting or any Council meeting held on a Monday.
- 33.14 Procedures in Standing Committee of Council only differ from Council's in that:
- a) A Member of Council may speak more than once, provided that all Council Members who wish to speak to the matter have been permitted to speak;
 - b) A Member of Council may speak even though there is no Motion on the floor, but if there is a Motion on the floor, a Council member shall only address that Motion;
 - c) The only Motions permitted are:
 - i) To direct items to a future Regular Council Meeting for consideration or to refer matters to Administration or to a Committee.
 - ii) To receive items for information;
 - iii) To move to meet In-Camera and subsequently to revert to a meeting held in public; and
 - iv) To Recess
- 33.15 The operation of the Standing Committee is purposely kept informal to encourage deliberation of information and ideas. The Committee has no powers to commit funds. Matters requiring further direction will be forwarded as a recommendation to Council.

PART 34 - REPEAL

- 34.1 That Bylaw 1265.22 is hereby repealed upon this Bylaw coming into effect.

PART 35 - DATE OF FORCE

- 35.1 That this Bylaw shall come into effect, upon the date on which it is finally read and passed.

READ for the first time this _____ day of _____, A.D. 20__.

(RES.)

MAYOR JAMIE HOOVER

CAO KIM ISAAK

READ for the second time this _____ day of _____, A.D. 20__.

(RES.)

MAYOR JAMIE HOOVER

CAO KIM ISAAK

READ for the third and final time this _____ day of _____, A.D. 20__.

(RES. _____)

MAYOR JAMIE HOOVER

CAO KIM ISSAK

DRAFT

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APPENDIX B – DELEGATION FORM



DELEGATION APPLICATION

Box 220 | 5018 Waghorn Street
Blackfalds, AB | T0M 0J0
www.blackfalds.ca | 403.886.4677

APPLICANT INFORMATION	
Name:	Date:
Address	
Phone:	Email:
ORGANIZATION INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE)	
Name:	
Phone:	Email:
MEETING INFORMATION	
Date Requested:	Number Attending:
Name(s) of Presenter(s):	
Do you need to use your own presentation equipment? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
SUBJECT YOU WANT TO PRESENT	
DETAILS OF THE SUBJECT - Include specific requests you have of Council	

Please note if a Delegation wishes to make a presentation to Council, the Delegation must submit this request form and all pertinent background information to the Office of the CAO **no later than noon on the Wednesday prior to the Council meeting.**

Delegations are limited to 15 minutes at a Regular Council Meeting, unless at Council's discretion, longer time is required.

All written presentations will become a matter of public record, unless you inform this office otherwise, or it is deemed confidential.

I acknowledge that only the above matter will be discussed during the delegation. I further acknowledge that this meeting may be audio/video recorded, published online, and broadcast on television.	
Applicant Signature:	Date:

APPENDIX C - PUBLIC HEARING PROCESS AND TEMPLATE**1. Town of Blackfalds Public Hearing Process****1.1 Definitions**

- 1.1.1 "Chairman" refers to the Presiding Officer officiating the Public Meeting.
- 1.1.2 "Secretary" refers to the CAO or his/her designate.

1.2 Advertising

- 1.2.1 Advertising for all public hearings must meet the requirements of Section 606 of the MGA and will include:
 - a. Inclusion in a local newspaper once a week for two consecutive weeks ahead of the Public Hearing date.
 - b. Posted on the public notice board located in the lobby of the Civic Cultural Centre (Town Office).
 - c. Posted on the Town's website for the time period provided for print media notice.
 - d. Forwarded to parties determined to have a direct or significant impact by the matter.

1.3 Public Comments

- 1.3.1. 1.3.1 Public comments as outlined in the Public Hearing notice are to be forwarded electronically to info@blackfalds.ca.
- 1.3.2. Public comments in hard copy can be mailed to: Town of Blackfalds, Box 220, 5018 Waghorn Street, Blackfalds AB, T0M 0J0 The Office of the CAO, c/o Executive & Legislative Coordinator,
- 1.3.3. All written comments must be received by 12:00 p.m. Noon on the Wednesday prior to the following scheduled Regular Council Meeting where the Public Hearing has been scheduled.

1.4 Public Hearing Procedure Template (attached)

INTRODUCTION & PROCEDURES

(Chairman) *"The following Public Hearing is held pursuant to the Municipal Government Act"*

2 (Chairman) *"The following rules of conduct will be followed during the Public Hearing:*

- *Presentation should be brief and to the point*
- *The order of presentation shall be:*
 - *Entry of written submission*
 - *Comments from the Planning Dept*
 - *Those supporting the Bylaw*
 - *Those opposing the Bylaw*
 - *Any other person deemed to be affected by the Bylaw*
- *The Public Hearing purpose is " (-----)*

I hereby declare the Public Hearing relating to Bylaw # (-----) open".

3 (Secretary) *"The purpose of Bylaw (-----) is (-----)- as shown on the attached Schedule A*

First Reading was given to Bylaw (-----) on (-----)

Notice of this Public Hearing was advertised (-----)

The following written comments have been received to date (-----)

4 (Chairman) *"Are there any late written submissions relating to the Bylaw?" (-----)*

(Note: If there are any, the secretary to read letter into record)

"Comments from the Planning Department"

"Is there anyone who supports the Bylaw and wishes to speak?"

"Is there anyone who opposes the Bylaw and wishes to speak?"

"Is there anyone deemed to be affected by the Bylaw and wishes to speak?"

5 (Chairman) *"Are there any further comments from the Planning Dept."*

6 (Chairman) *"Do the Councilors have any further questions?"*

7 (Chairman) *"If nothing further then, I hereby declare this Public Hearing relating to Bylaw (-----) be closed and will accept a motion to adjourn this Public Hearing.*

Motion to adjourn: _____

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

APPENDIX D – GUIDELINES FOR IN CAMERA

**GUIDELINE TO MATTERS WHICH CAN BE
DISCUSSED IN CAMERA MEETINGS**

Section 197 of the *Municipal Government Act* provides that Councils and council committees must conduct their meetings in public, however, they may close all or part of their meetings to the public if a matter to be discussed is within one of the exceptions to disclosure in Division 2 of Part 1 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. These exceptions are:

1. Information such as trade secrets or commercial, financial, labour relations, scientific or technical information of a third party, supplied in confidence, the disclosure of which would be harmful to the business interests of a third party must be discussed *in camera* (unless there is an overriding public interest). (Section 16)

Examples:

Information regarding the monetary resources of a third party, such as the third party's financial capabilities and assets and liabilities, including financial forecasts, investment strategies, budgets, profit and loss statements.

Third party insurance policies, pricing structures, market research, business plans and customer records.

Operating manuals containing scientific and technical information.

2. Information the disclosure of which would be an unreasonable invasion of personal privacy must be discussed *in camera* except in those circumstances where disclosure is considered not to be an unreasonable invasion of privacy. (Section 17)

"Personal information" means recorded information about an identifiable individual, including the individual's name, home or business address or home or business telephone number, the individual's race, national or ethnic origin, colour or religious or political beliefs or associations, the individual's age, sex, marital status or family status, an identifying number, symbol or other particular assigned to the individual, the individual's fingerprints, other biometric information, blood type, genetic information or inheritable characteristics, information about the individual's health and health care history, including information about a physical or mental disability, information about the individual's educational, financial, employment or criminal history, including criminal records where a pardon has been given, anyone else's opinions about the individual, and the individual's personal views or opinions, except if they are about someone else.

A disclosure of personal information is not an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy if any of the conditions listed under section 17(2) of the FOIP Act are met; items of this nature can be discussed in open session.



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Examples:

The person has consented to it being discussed in open session;

The information relates to financial and other details of a contract to supply goods and services to the municipality;

The information is about a permit relating to real property, ie. a development permit, which was granted to an individual by the municipality and the disclosure is limited to the name of the party and the nature of the permit.

3. Information the disclosure of which would be harmful to individual or public safety may be discussed *in camera* if the disclosure of that information could reasonably be expected to threaten anyone else's safety or physical or mental health or interfere with public safety. (Section 18)

Examples:

Information relating to individuals fleeing from a violent spouse, a victim of sexual harassment or an employee who has been threatened in the course of a work dispute.

Information which could reasonably be expected to hamper or block the functioning of an organization or structure that ensures the safety and well-being of the public.

If the information cannot be reasonably expected to threaten anyone's safety, physical or mental health or interfere with public safety, it should be discussed in open session.

4. Information relating to confidential evaluations or opinions, such as employments references, may be discussed *in camera*. (Section 19)

The personal information must be contained in a confidential evaluation or opinion provided to the municipality, and compiled about an individual in order to assess his or her suitability for employment, the awarding of contracts or other benefits. This may involve information on his or her personal strengths or weaknesses, eligibility or qualifications.

Examples:

A verbatim transcript of a reference check of an employment candidate, supplied in confidence

A summary of a mix of telephone and written reference checks compiled by an official

5. Information, the disclosure of which may be harmful to law enforcement, may be discussed *in camera*. In order for the exception to apply, it is necessary to ensure that specific authority to investigate exists and that the investigation can lead to a penalty or sanction being imposed. Three types of investigations are included: police, security and administrative investigations. (Section 20)



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Examples:

Information about a police investigation, including a special constable, or by a person responsible for investigating offences under the Criminal Code or Traffic Safety Act.

Information about a security investigation relating to the security of the organization and its clients, staff, resources or the public.

Information about an administrative investigation to enforce compliance or remedy non-compliance with standards, duties and responsibilities defined under an Act, regulation or bylaw.

6. Information, the disclosure of which may be harmful to intergovernmental relations, may be discussed *in camera*. This exception has two parts; one deals with harm to relations and the other deals with information given in confidence. (Section 21)

(a) In order to apply the harm to intergovernmental relations exception, the municipality must demonstrate that the conduct of intergovernmental relations of the Government of Alberta, or other municipality, or Federal Gov't, and not just those of the municipality, would be harmed by disclosure.

Example:

Notes of a private discussion between municipal officials, officials of a 'twinning' municipality in a developing country, the province and the country concerned, where no agreement has been reached between the parties to make their discussions public.

(b) In order to apply the information exception, the information must have been supplied in circumstances that clearly place an obligation on the municipality to maintain confidentiality.

Example:

Negotiating strategies relating to a federal, provincial and municipal infrastructure program.

7. Local public body confidences may be discussed *in camera*. This includes information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to reveal a draft of a resolution, bylaw or other legal instrument by which the municipality acts. (Section 23)

Drafts of resolutions, bylaws or other legal or formal written documents which relate to the internal governance of the municipality or the regulation of the activities over which it has jurisdiction are covered by this exception, however, final versions of a bylaw, resolution or other legal instrument are not. Similarly, if a draft of a resolution, bylaw or other legal instrument has already been considered in a meeting open to the public, this exception cannot be applied.



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8. Advice from officials may be discussed *in camera*. This exception is intended to protect the deliberative process involving senior officials and heads of public bodies, and their staff, as well as among officials themselves. This exception also protects the deliberative process involving senior officials, heads of public bodies and the governing authorities of local public bodies. (Section 24)

A rule permitting public access to all records relating to policy formulation and decision-making processes in public bodies would impair the ability of those bodies to discharge their responsibilities in a manner consistent with the public interest. This exception is intended to provide a 'deliberative space' for those involved in providing advice, carrying on consultations and making recommendations, so that records may be written with candour and cover all options. This 'deliberative space' is especially important for those involved in the policy-making process. Senior officials and heads of local public bodies may accept or reject the advice and recommendations of those advising them.

Examples:

Information, including proposed plans, policies or projects, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to result in disclosure of a pending policy or budgetary decision

The contents of a formal research or audit report

Plans relating to the management of personnel

9. Information, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to be harmful to the economic and other interests of a public body, may be discussed *in camera*. (Section 25)

This exception applies to information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to harm the economic interest of a public body or the Government of Alberta, or the ability of the government to manage the economy. It recognizes that a public body may hold significant amounts of financial and economic information that is critical to the financial management of the public sector and the provincial economy.

Examples:

Trade secrets, such as software developed by a public body or special testing equipment which has been kept secret or confidential.

A proprietary interest in geographical information systems mapping data or statistical data.

Financial forecasts, investment strategies, budgets and profit and loss statements.

The exception does **not** cover the results of product or environmental testing carried out by or for a public body.



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10. Information relating to testing procedures, tests and audits may be discussed *in camera*. This exception provides protection for the procedures and techniques involved in testing and auditing as well as details relating to specific tests to be given or audits to be conducted where disclosure would invalidate the results. (Section 26)

Examples:

Environmental testing, staffing examinations, personnel audits, financial audits and program audits.

11. Information that is subject to a legal privilege, or relates to the provision of legal services or the provision of advice or other services by a lawyer may be discussed *in camera*. (Section 27)

Examples:

A letter, fax, e-mail or other correspondence from the municipality's lawyers, including any record attached to correspondence from a lawyer.

A note documenting legal advice given by a lawyer or a statement of account from a lawyer detailing the services provided.

Information relating to an existing or contemplated lawsuit.

12. Information, the disclosure of which may be expected to result in damage to or interfere with the conservation of any historic resource or any rare, endangered, threatened or vulnerable form of life, may be discussed *in camera*. (Section 28)

Examples:

Information regarding designated municipal historic resources.

Information regarding any species of flora or fauna that is of concern because it is naturally scarce or likely to become threatened as a result of disclosure of specific information about it.

13. Information that is or will be available to the public may be discussed *in camera*. This exception covers information that is available for purchase by the public or that is to be published or released to the public within 60 days, but does not cover information that is already available to the public. (Section 29)



GUIDELINE TO MATTERS WHICH CAN BE DISCUSSED IN CAMERA MEETINGS UNDER FOIP ACT		
SEC. #	DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION:	EXAMPLES:
16	Trade secrets of a third party	Monetary resources, investment strategies, market research, manuals containing scientific, technical information.
17	Harmful to personal privacy	Recorded information about an identifiable individual – name, address, phone number, race, health, education. See s. 17(2) for exceptions.
18	Harmful to individual or public safety	Information relating to individuals threatened with violence, abuse or harassment, interfere with public safety.
19	Confidential evaluations	Reference checks.
20	Harmful to law enforcement	Police, security and administrative investigations.
21	Harmful to intergovernmental relations	Private discussions between municipal officials and officials of another municipal, provincial or federal government.
23	Local public body confidences	Drafts of resolutions or bylaws, legal or formal written documents.
24	Advice from officials	Proposed plans, policies, projects, budgetary decisions, research or audit reports, personnel management plans.
25	Economic interests of the municipality	Trade secrets, in-house developed software, proprietary interest in GIS mapping or statistical data, financial forecasts, investment strategies.
26	Testing procedures, tests and audits	Environmental testing, staffing exams, personnel, financial or program audits.
27	Legal privilege	Correspondence from municipality's lawyers, legal opinions
28	Historic sites or vulnerable life forms	Municipal historic resources, rare flora or fauna likely to be threatened by disclosure of information about it.
29	Information available or to be available to the public	Information that is available for purchase or that will be published within 60 days.



MEETING DATE: September 18, 2023

PREPARED BY: Preston Weran, Director of Infrastructure and Property Services

PRESENTED BY: Preston Weran, Director of Infrastructure and Property Services

SUBJECT: **EV Charging Station Project Update**

BACKGROUND

Administration proposed the initial phase of the EV charging station program to include the installation of one level 3 charging station at the Civic Centre, as well as one level 2 charging station at the Blackfalds Motor Inn. This site is easily accessible from Highway 2A with the power supply readily accessible as well. A large portion of this project is funded by the approved grant through the Municipal Climate Change Action Plan.





At the March 14th, 2023, Regular Council meeting the following motion was passed:

064/23 Councillor Stendie moved That Council moves to accept the recommendation of Administration to install a level 3 and level 2 charging station at the Civic Centre and on Town owned lands at the SW corner of Park Street and Highway 2A (*beside the Town digital sign along Highway 2A- Blackfalds Motor Inn*)

CARRIED

Since this time, both the EV “Flo” stations, level 2 and level 3 (DC) have been received, the electrical contractors have been engaged and the site investigations have been completed. Drivers who want to use these stations will be required to download the Flo app or purchase the Flo refillable cards. The Town gets to set the rates per hour for each station. Average rates for level 2 stations are \$1-2 per hour, with the level 3 stations being \$20 per hour. Further, the Flo Stations, once commissioned, will be visible on most major EV charging maps. See information regarding level (type) 2 and level (type) 3 capabilities from their website, as per link below:

<https://www.flo.com/en-ca/>

			
Understanding the 3 Levels of charging EV charging comes with choices in re-charge speeds: slower, faster, & fastest. Which is right for you? Hint: They all are. Read more ➔	Level 1 The slowest option. An AC adapter that plugs into a standard 120V wall outlet which can add 3 to 8 kms of range per hour*. A full recharge can take 24 hours or more**. Ideal when a Level 2 charger is not available. Learn more ➔	Level 2 The faster option. Uses a 208 or 240V hardwired or plug-in connection that provides a larger energy delivery which can add 20 to 50km of range per hour*. A full recharge can take between 8-12 hours**. For residential use and publicly available. Learn more ➔	DC Fast The fastest option. These chargers deliver Direct Current which bypass the on-board AC converter for the fastest energy delivery to the vehicle battery. Ability to recharge battery life from 0-80% within 40 mins or less**. Publicly available. Learn more ➔

DISCUSSION

The site location for the level 2 EV charger along the Highway has progressed well, with the installation of the Type 2 charger, associated wiring, and concrete base completed with the commissioning planned to happen over the next couple of weeks. This level 2 charger will be a FLO unit with two charging heads, about the size of a digital self-serve parking meter. The installation will segregate two parking stalls from this location, but do not impact the BMI business parking stall requirements, as there are a number of extra stalls within this parking lot above the Land Use Bylaw requirements.

The site location for the level 3 (DC) EV charger at the Civic Centre needs to be modified due to existing utilities and the larger size of this unit. With the planned installation of the level 3 charger happening soon, there are some parking considerations to be addressed. This level 3 charger will be a FLO unit with two charging heads, about the size of a gasoline pump. The best location for this unit, to minimize trenching and installation will be on the northeast corner of the existing old FCSS building. This charging station will segregate two parking stalls from this location, impacting the Town building parking stall requirements, as there are very limited number of extra stalls within this parking lot.

To mitigate this impact, the Town will be reconfiguring the existing stalls along the north side of the FCSS building and removing the small island. See attached plan for the new yellow stall boundaries. This plan will allow the EV charging station to be installed and the additional two stalls added will be a condition of the Development Permit to minimize this impact.

During this review, it was noted that there is also the ability to add additional parking stalls through the removal of another section of island area and landscaping directly west of the two buildings, as shown on the plan in orange labeled as 6 Extra Stalls. Upon consultation with our Parks Foreman, it was determined that the trees within this area are in poor health/condition which poses as a safety concern as the trees are gradually losing their structural integrity. Removal of this landscaped area will provide an additional 6 parking stalls as shown in the attached photos. If these two revisions to this site are approved, the trees will be removed ahead of the Migratory Bird Act, with the remaining work to be completed by Public Works forces in the summer of 2024.

Further, we would like direction on the rate to be charged for the two new stations. We would propose that the rate be set at \$0 to \$2 dollars for the level 2 station, and \$0 to \$20 for the level 3 station.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The costs for the supply and installation of the asphalt, painting, and associated gravel as well as the removal and curb rebuilding will be done in-house. We are confident that these costs can be absorbed in the Streets operational budget for 2024. The cost of the smaller bump-out behind the old FCSS building will be approximately \$1,500 and the larger extra stalls shown on the west side of the parking lot will cost \$3,000 in materials.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

1. That Standing Committee of Council provide direction to Administration to move forward with the EV charging station revised location and the expanded parking lot areas as per the plan.

2. That Standing Committee of Council provides direction to Administration to set the level 3 charging station rate at \$20 per hour and the level 2 charging station at \$2 per hour.

ALTERNATIVES

- a) That Standing Committee of Council refer this item back to Administration for more information or amendments.

ATTACHMENTS

- *Civic Centre EV Site plan*
- *EV Type 3 (DC) station drawings*
- *Photos of small bump out and 6 extra stall location*

APPROVALS



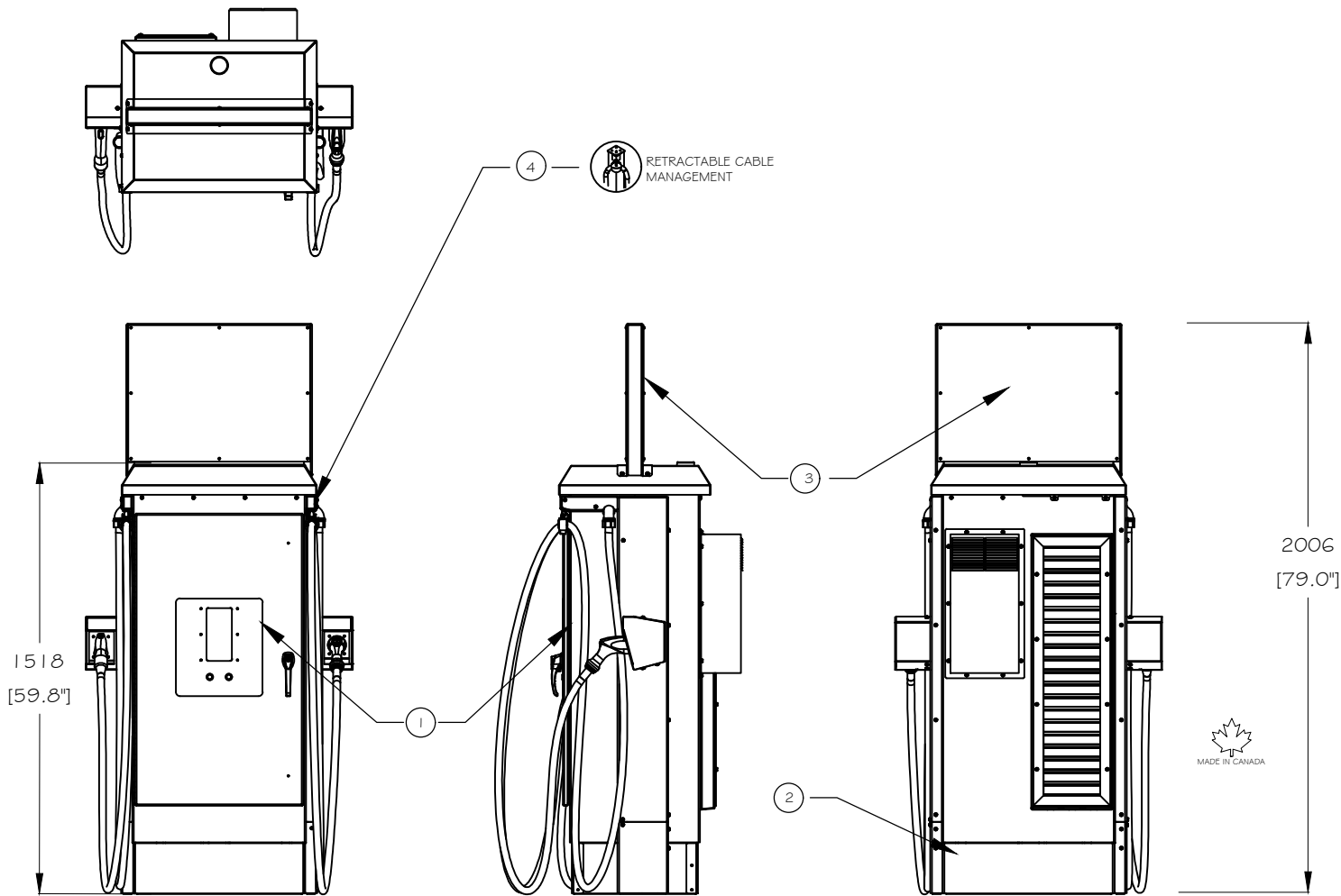
Kim Isaak,
Chief Administrative Officer



Department Director/Author







(ID: SDC-50-S-PAD-CM) 50KW DCFC WITH CABLE MANAGEMENT, EVSE ASSEMBLY BUILD OF MATERIALS	
1	SMARTDC VERSION 3, 50 KW , 480 VOLTS, SAE & CHADEMO CHARGING CONNECTORS, LCD DISPLAY, RFID READER, NETWORK READY - FLO - NRRV, CAT# DCCH501AN1-FL-PO3
2	SMART DC - PAD MOUNTING BASE, CAT# MED50346
3	SMART DC - SIGN, CAT# MED50382
4	CABLE MANAGEMENT FOR SMARTDC, SAE & CHADEMO CHARGING CONNECTORS - BLCE, CAT# SDC-CM-BLCE
5	1 YEAR GLOBAL MANAGEMENT SERVICE: REAL-TIME TELECOMMUNICATIONS, ROAMING SERVICES, OWNER WEB PORTAL, PROACTIVE MONITORING, INTEGRATED PAYMENT SYSTEM, 24/7 DRIVER SUPPORT, ACCESS CONTROL, ONLINE PRESENCE AND NETWORK GATEWAY RENTAL.

- 1.0 BASIS-OF-DESIGN PRODUCT: 50KW DCFC (DIRECT CURRENT FAST CHARGE) EVSE, PEDESTAL MOUNT CONFIGURATION, ON THE FLO CHARGING NETWORK, CABLE MANAGEMENT, ALUMINUM NEMA 3R, -40°C TO +50°C OPERATING TEMPERATURE, 480VAC, 65A, 60HZ. 50 KW. ALPHA NUMERIC DISPLAY TO BE EASY TO READ IN DIRECT SUNLIGHT IN BOTH ENGLISH OR FRENCH. DRIVER IS PAY-PER-USE OR BY OWNER CONTROL AND TRANSACTIONS TO BE PCI COMPLIANT IN CANADIAN DOLLARS.
- 2.0 REFERENCE STANDARDS
- 2.1 CANADIAN STANDARDS ASSOCIATION (CSA)
- A. CSA-C22.2 NO. 0 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS - CANADIAN ELECTRICAL CODE, PART II
- B. CSA C22.2 NO. 280 STANDARD FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLE SUPPLY EQUIPMENT
- C. CSA C22.2 NO. 281.1 PERSONNEL PROTECTION SYSTEMS FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV) SUPPLY CIRCUITS: GENERAL REQUIREMENTS
- D. CSA C22.2 NO. 281.2 PERSONNEL PROTECTION SYSTEMS FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV) SUPPLY CIRCUITS: PARTICULAR REQUIREMENTS FOR PROTECTION DEVICES FOR USE IN CHARGING SYSTEMS
- E. CSA C22.2 NO 282 PLUGS, RECEPTACLES, AND COUPLERS FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES
- 2.2 SOCIETY OF AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEERS (SAE): SAE J1772 SAE ELECTRIC VEHICLE AND PLUG IN HYBRID ELECTRIC VEHICLE CONDUCTIVE CHARGE COUPLER
- 2.3 INNOVATION, SCIENCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CANADA (ICES) - ICES-003: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT (INCLUDING DIGITAL APPARATUS) - LIMITS AND METHODS OF MEASUREMENT
- 2.4 CHADEMO ASSOCIATION
- 3.0 DEFINITIONS
- A. EV: ELECTRIC VEHICLE
- BEV: BATTERY ELECTRIC VEHICLE - BEV USES POWER FROM BATTERY PACKS AND ELECTRIC MOTOR(S) FOR PROPULSION.
- B. PHEV: PLUG-IN HYBRID ELECTRIC VEHICLE - PHEV USES BOTH ELECTRIC MOTOR(S) AND INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE FOR PROPULSION.
- C. EVSE: ELECTRICAL VEHICLE SUPPLY EQUIPMENT
- 4.0 MANUFACTURERS
- A. APPROVED MANUFACTURER: ADDÉNERGIE TECHNOLOGIES INC, 2800, RUE LOUIS LUMIÈRE, SUITE 100, QUÉBEC (FQ), QC, CANADA, G1P 0A4; T: 877-505-2674, F: 855 505-2674; EMAIL: INFO@ADDENERGIE.CA ; WEB: HTTPS://ADDENERGIE.COM/EN/
- B. ALTERNATE MANUFACTURES SHALL HAVE A MINIMUM 10 YEARS IN THE CANADIAN MARKET AND OPERATE A CANADIAN NATIONAL NETWORK WITH A MINIMUM OF 50,000 TRANSACTIONS A MONTH ACROSS CANADA.
- 5.0 NETWORK AND COMMUNICATIONS
- 5.1 CELLULAR COMMUNICATION SHALL BE:
- A. VIA WIRELESS GATEWAY THAT IS A SEPARATE UNIT FROM THE CHARGING STATION OR OTHERWISE ON-SITE REPLACEABLE TO ALLOW FOR EFFICIENT REPLACEMENT IN AN EVENT OF FAILURE
- B. ALLOW FOR EFFICIENT UPGRADES TO THE LATEST COMMUNICATION STANDARDS IN FUTURE.
- C. COMMISSIONED BY MANUFACTURER AT THEIR PLANT AND FINALIZED BY THE INSTALLER BY CONTACTING THE MANUFACTURER AT THE PHONE NUMBER PROVIDED ON THE CHARGING STATION TO CONFIRM THE CONNECTION TO THE FLO NETWORK
- D. THE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM SHALL STORE COLLECTED DATA ON A CANADIAN SERVER AND BE COMPATIBLE WITH THE FLO EV CHARGING NETWORK
- E. TRANSACTIONS MUST BE IN CANADIAN CURRENCY, BE PCI COMPLIANT AND ADHERE TO THE LOCAL TAX REQUIREMENTS
- 5.2 OWNERS THROUGH A SINGLE WEB PORTAL LOGIN SHALL:
- A. SET DRIVER TRANSACTION RATES PER HOUR, SESSION OR A GRADUATED PAYMENT BY TIME AND MUST NOT CONDUCT TRANSACTIONS BY KWH UNIT OF MEASURE
- B. SET OR MODIFY MAXIMUM OUTPUT CURRENT
- C. MONITOR OUTPUT VOLTAGE AND CURRENT WITH REVENUE GRADE SENSORS
- D. MONITOR STATION TEMPERATURE, STATUS FOR THE POWER MODULES
- E. ACTIVATE OR DEACTIVATE THE CHARGING STATION
- F. UPDATE THE EMBEDDED SOFTWARE AND FIRMWARE OF THE CHARGER.
- G. ADD OR DELETE THE CHARGING STATIONS AND SITES WITH ONE OR MORE CHARGING STATION(S) UNDER MANAGEMENT
- H. ADD, CONFIGURE OR DELETE SOME PROFILES FOR SPECIFIC INDIVIDUALS (EX: OWNER, USER, SITE MANAGER, ETC.).
- I. ISSUE OR DELETE PUBLIC OR PRIVATE ACCESS CARD NUMBERS
- J. MONITOR MULTIPLE QUANTITY OF CHARGING STATIONS UNDER MANAGEMENT, INCLUDING FUTURE LOCATIONS WITH ONE LOGIN
- K. HELP EFFICIENTLY DIAGNOSE ANY PROBLEM RELATED TO THE CHARGING SOLUTION, THE EQUIPMENT UNDER MANAGEMENT OR THE COMMUNICATION NETWORK BY MONITORING CRITICAL STATUSES AND READINGS
- 5.3 DRIVERS THROUGH AN APP COMPATIBLE WITH ANDROID AND IOS:
- A. START OR STOP A CHARGING SESSION.
- B. IDENTIFY CHARGING STATION AND SYSTEM STATUS FROM A DISTANCE BY FLASHING THE COLOUR CODED LED ON THE CHARGING STATION USING THE MOBILE APP
- C. ACCESS SUPPORT VIA A TOLL-FREE ASSISTANCE NUMBER THAT IS LEGIBLY PRINTED ON THE FRONT OF THE CHARGING STATION OFFERING 24/7 SUPPORT.

SUBMITTAL / SHOP DRAWING

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- ☐ APPROVED
- ☐ REJECTED
- ☐ REVISE & RE-SUBMIT
- ☐ BY MARK or STAMP BELOW

DC FAST CHARGER - 50KW PAD MOUNT

D.A.D. SALES
P 877-230-9201 | E SOLUTIONS@DADSALES.COM

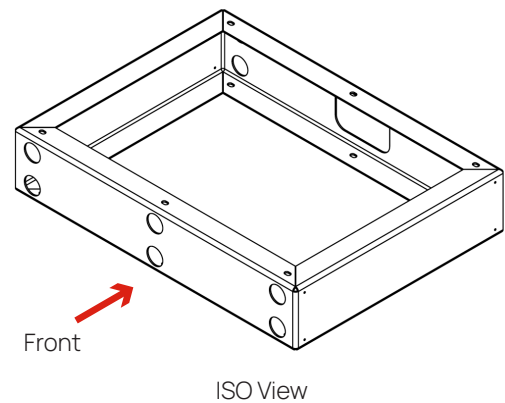
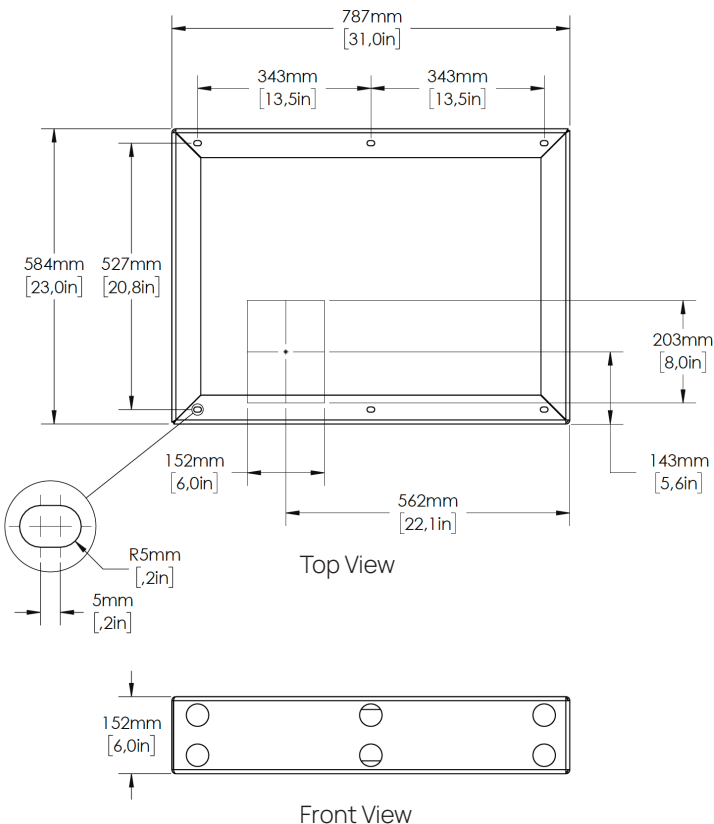
DRAWN BY BDW	CHECKED NH	PROJECT DATE 10.11.2022	SCALE (PAPER SIZE B) 3/8" = 1"	PD ID
DEDICATED POWER		SDC-50-S-PAD-CW		
		E-FLO-SHOP-11-22		REV 0

6.2 Site Preparation

Follow the steps below to prepare the site:

1. The station must be installed on a concrete slab.
2. The surface of the concrete slab must be large enough to allow for the installation of the station and the concrete bollards, while leaving enough space for user traffic. The figure below shows the ideal dimensions and distances to be respected.
3. The soil under the slab must be properly drained and stabilized (according to specific needs) so that it is not affected by frost.
4. An electrical conduit that complies with local regulations and is of appropriate diameter (depending on the wire size) should run the electrical cable under the perimeter of the station, preferably in the front left area under the station perimeter.
5. The anchors and conduit must be positioned to allow for the mounting of the base of the charging station.

NOTE: Refer to the site assessment requirements and the anchor supplier's recommendations for anchor selection.

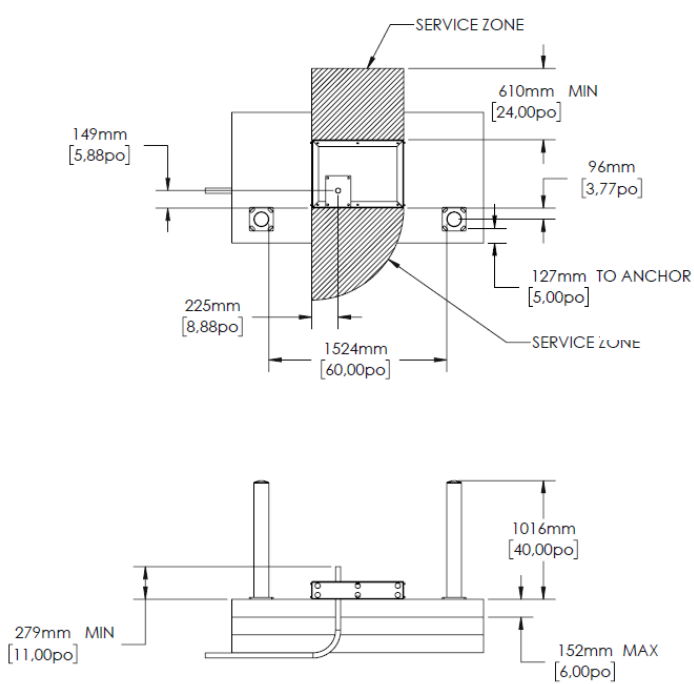


NOTE: The wiring conduit must be sealed to prevent moisture penetration.

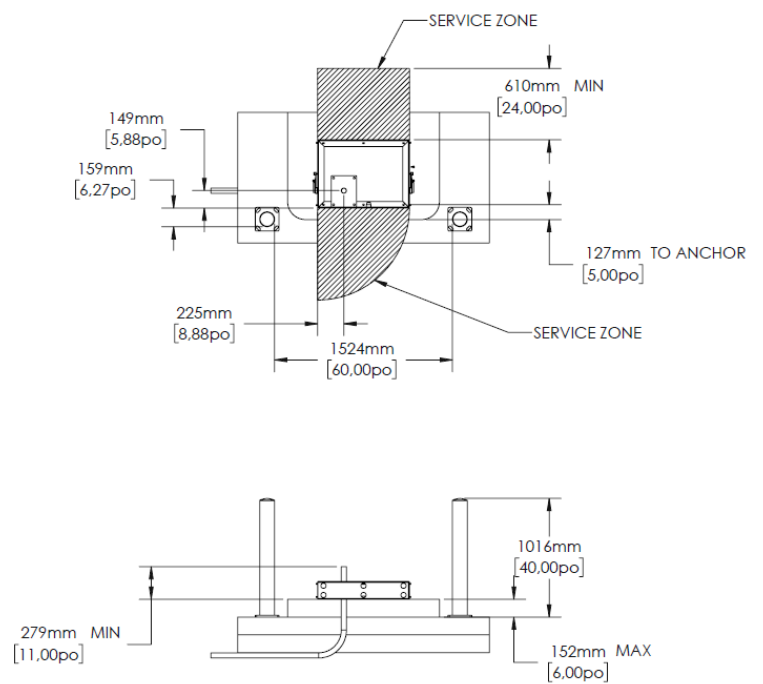
IMPORTANT: If there is a wall behind the charging station, a minimum spacing of 24 inches (609.6 mm) must be maintained between the charging station and the wall.

IMPORTANT: For indoor installation, make sure that the sticker with the following warning is visible to the user:
"WARNING: THIS UNIT IS DESIGNED ONLY FOR CHARGING VEHICLES THAT DO NOT REQUIRE VENTILATION WHILE CHARGING"

OPTION 1 : BOLLARDS ON THE CONCRETE BASE

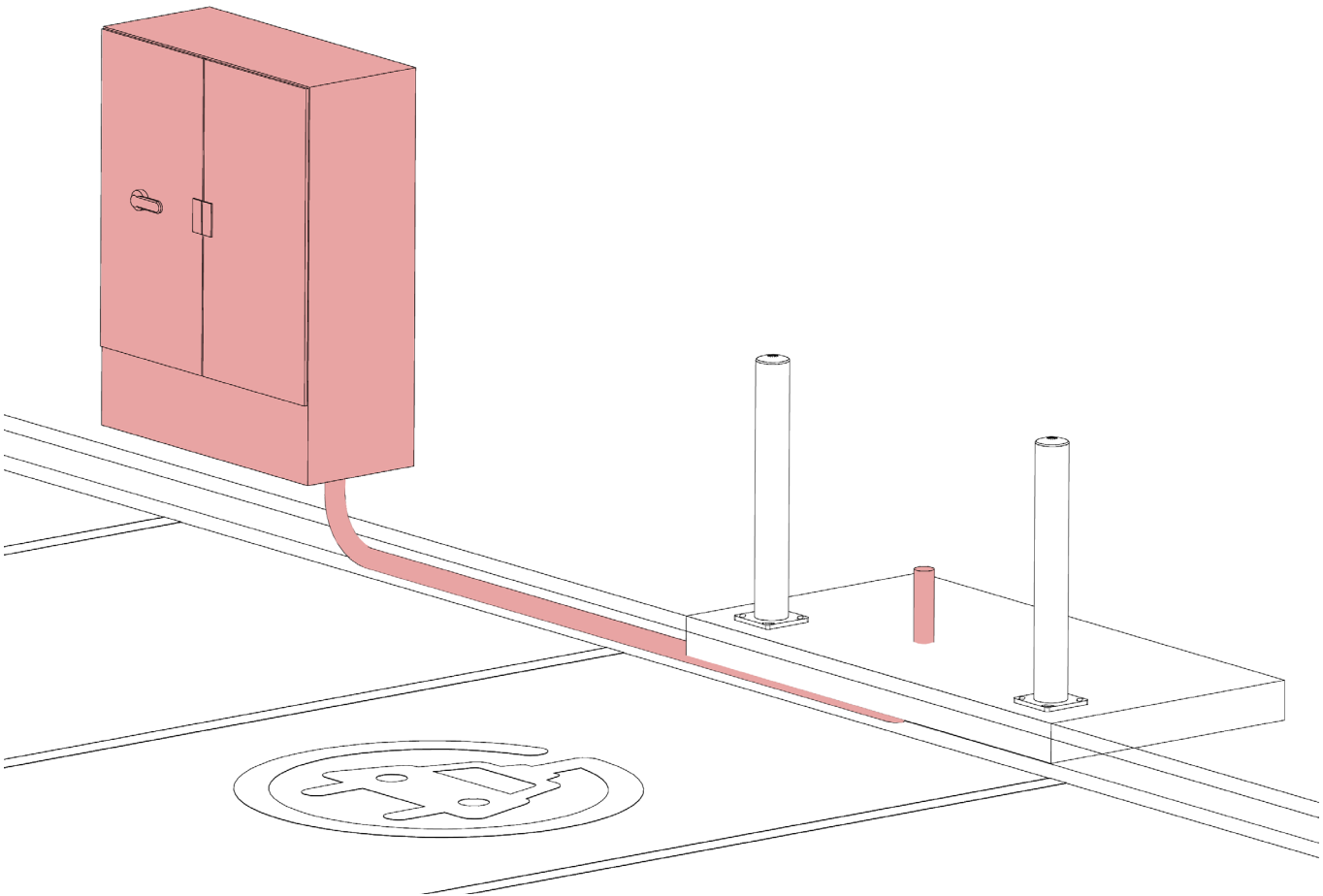


OPTION 2 : BOLLARDS BESIDE THE CONCRETE BASE



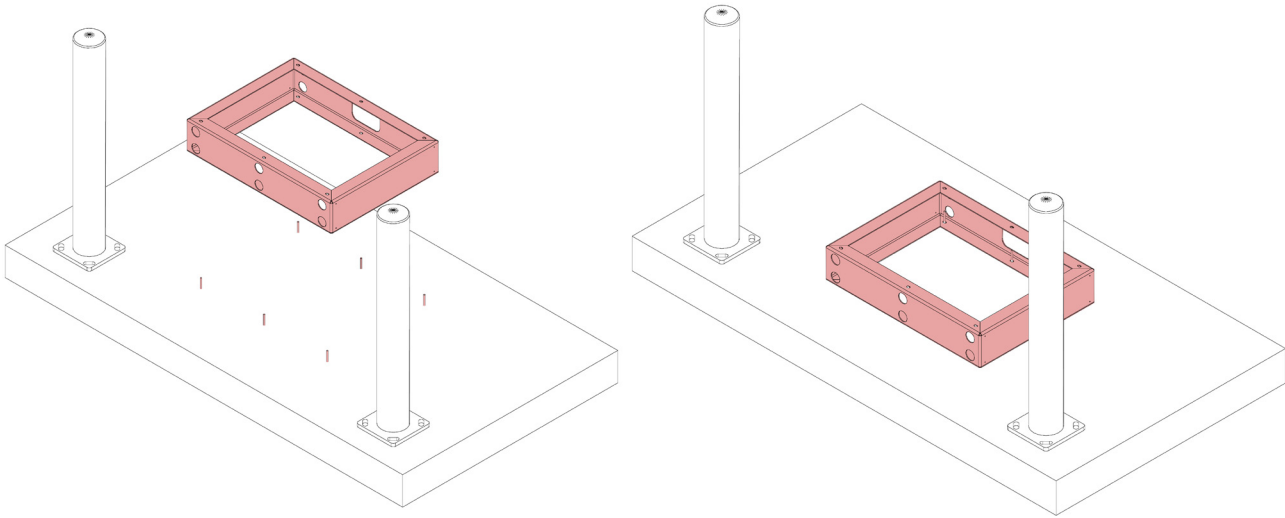
6.3 Safety Measures

1. Ensure that the upstream disconnect is in the open position and follows workplace electrical safety procedures, as required by the local jurisdiction.



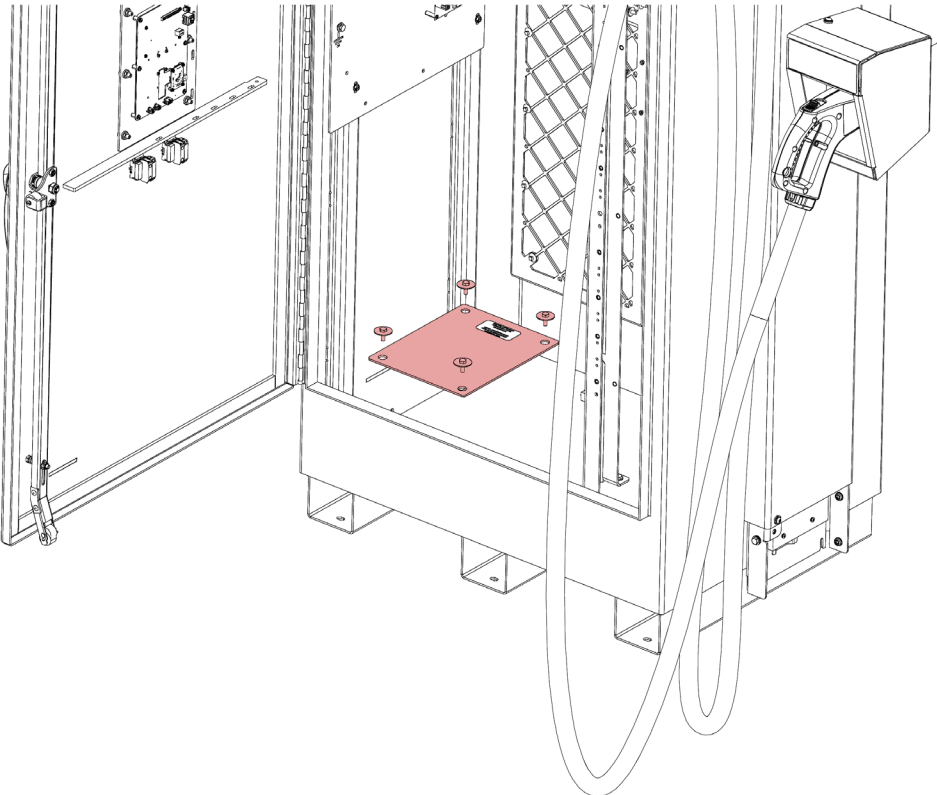
6.4 Installation of the Base on the Concrete Slab

Align the SmartDC base with the recessed anchors and tighten the bolts to secure the base to the ground.

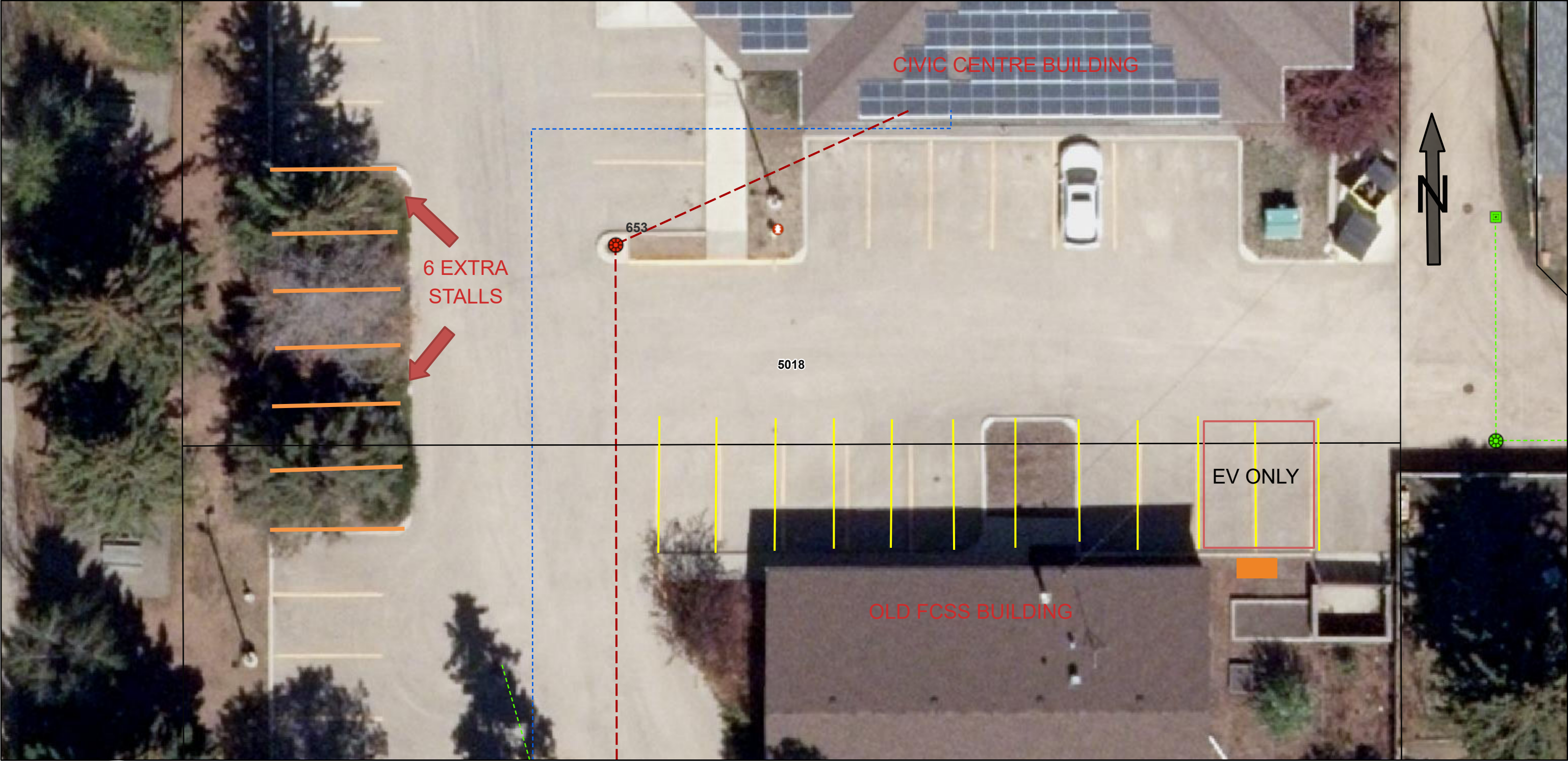


6.5 Installation of the Station on the Base

1. Remove the access plate to allow the power cable to pass through.



2023 09 12 EV LOCATION



EV DC
STATION



STALL REVISIONS



PROPOSED EXTRA
STALLS
(NOT REQ FOR EV PROJECT)



Parcels



Sanitary Manhole



Catch Basin



Storm Manhole



Storm Line



Fire Hydrant

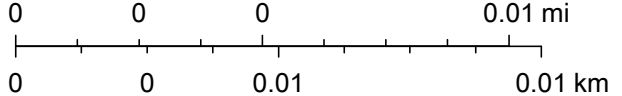


Water Line



Gravity Main

1:282



MEETING DATE: September 18, 2023

PREPARED BY: Kim Isaak, Chief Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: **Alberta Municipalities 2023 Resolutions**

BACKGROUND

The Alberta Municipalities Conference is being held from September 27-29, 2023, in Edmonton. As part of the annual conference, the resolution session will be held on September 28, 2023. Resolutions put forward by the sponsoring municipalities are based on a topic of concern that affects municipalities on a regional and provincial level. Each resolution put forward requests that advocacy be taken on the topic by the Alberta Municipalities. Each member of Council attending the resolution session will be permitted to vote on all resolutions.

DISCUSSION

Administration has reviewed the 2023 resolution book and provided the following recommendations on the proposed resolutions based on how the topic affects the municipality and relationship to the Municipal Sustainability Plan (MSP).

B1: Protection for Vulnerable Residential Tenants Support

This topic falls in line with both the Community and Economy pillar of the MSP. As the Town has recently applied for the Rural Renewal Stream to attract new residents into the community to assist with the labour shortages, it will be more important to ensure that affordable housing is available.

B2: Enhanced funding for the Rent Assistance and Temporary Rent Assistance Benefits Support

This topic falls in line with both the Community and Economy pillar of the MSP. The Lacombe Foundation provides subsidized rental housing to low-income families, senior citizens and individuals with special needs who cannot afford private sector accommodation. They partner with the Bethany Group to manage the Rent Assistance Benefit in the Lacombe area.

B3: Homelessness and Associated Social Needs in Rural Communities Support

This topic falls in line with both the Community and Economy pillar of the MSP. As per the recently released *Understanding and Responding to the Challenges Faced by FCSS Programs in Alberta* document that was prepared for Rural Municipalities of Alberta, there is an unprecedented demand to meet the basic needs of residents. In particular, since emerging from the pandemic, rural FCSS have noted an increase in the levels of

homelessness. Although Blackfalds has only seen a minor impact, this is a growing concern.

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

This topic falls in line with both the Community and Economy pillar of the MSP. Addictions, homelessness and mental health concerns have emerged from the pandemic. In some respects, Blackfalds is fortunate to be close to a major center that has support services available, but access to receiving support remains a struggle due to high demand. FCSS continues to see more residents at the front counter requesting support related to the issues above.

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

This topic falls in line with both the Community and Economy pillar of the MSP. The Lacombe Foundation provides safe and affordable housing to seniors and families in Lacombe County. The Lacombe Foundation partners with the Bethany Group to manage these properties.

B6: Capital Funding Support for Housing Management Bodies

The Lacombe Foundation is working towards receiving funding for a seniors housing complex in Blackfalds. Understanding that many existing facilities are in need of repair in our area alone, the hope is that additional funding will be provided by the province to build new facilities. In Blackfalds, we have 4 seniors' units that have an extensive waitlist. Providing more affordable units will allow seniors to remain close to family in Blackfalds.

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

This topic falls under the Community pillar of the MSP. Peace Officers are often the first at scenes of car accidents, fires, etc. Peace Officers provide valuable assistance to Police and Fire at scenes and calls and as a result, they often encounter some very serious incidents which can have long-term effect on their mental health. While Peace Officers have access through health care programs it is often not enough when the cumulative effects take a toll and interferes with the Peace Officer's ability to work and impacts their personal life. Coverage through WBC will provide the compensation and treatment that other first responders receive for serving their communities.

B8: Provincial funding for Medical First Response Support

This topic falls in line with the Community pillar of the MSP.

The Town of Blackfalds Fire Department responded to 27 medical calls in 2021, 30 in 2022 and to date in 2023 17 calls for medical response. The Fire Department responds to Delta and Echo calls as well and a few “lift assist” calls yearly. All members are currently trained to respond to these calls but receive no remuneration for these calls which take a significant amount of time. Responding to these calls is an essential part of emergency response to ensure the health and safety of our residents.

**B9: Integration of Nurse Practitioners into the Alberta Healthcare System
Support**

This topic falls in line with the Community pillar of the MSP. As the Town of Blackfalds along with other municipalities across the province struggle with the attraction and retention of physicians, the option of nurse practitioners into the healthcare system can help to address the medical gap.

**B10: Expand Capacity to Train Combined Laboratory and X-Ray Technologies for Rural Alberta
Support**

This topic falls in line with the Community Life pillar of the MSP. As we are all aware the medical system within the Province is in crisis and anything that can be done to ease the growing concerns is a benefit to all Blackfalds residents and all Albertan's.

**B11: Maintaining Non-Partisan Municipal Elections
Support**

This topic falls in line with the Leadership and Engagement pillar of the MSP. Ensuring that municipal elections remain non-partisan will keep the residents engaged in the local government process as Municipal Council's will remain accountable to the residents and not to a particular political party or view.

**B12: Inclusion of Libraries in Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks (ICF's)
Support**

This topic falls in line with the Economy, Infrastructure and Buildings and Leadership and Engagement pillars of the MSP. Libraries have become more than just a service for residents as neighboring counties and municipalities enjoy the many benefits that the public library offers. In keeping with ensuring that cost follows benefits it would be beneficial to include the cost sharing of libraries within the scope of the ICF Agreements. Cost sharing will increase revenues that will help to offset expenditure.

**B13: Provincial Funding for Growing Municipalities
Support**

The Town, like all municipalities, received reduced amounts of MSI Capital funding over the past 4 years. This reduction of MSI has taken has had a negative impact on our capital planning. Drawing from our own reserves to fund any difference or delaying projects. The

Town was one of the communities that has had substantial growth and should be fully in support of this resolution. The LGFF formula should be more suited to high growth municipalities in the future.

B:14 Provincial Lending Rates to Municipalities
Support

Given the close relationship to the Province of Alberta, preferential rates should be given to Municipalities opposed to market rates. The pressure of both capital plans and inflation will make it harder for municipalities to complete capital projects without borrowing. Once funding is borrowed, the debt servicing restricts the ability to limit tax increases or increase services levels etc.

B:15 Infrastructure Servicing and Construction Costs of School Sites
Support

This topic falls in line with the Infrastructure and Buildings pillar of the MSP. Currently the Town of Blackfalds would need to cover the costs up front with funds being drawn from reserves. In the event of unavailable reserves borrowing may be required. All of this affects the funding that the Town would have to provide to address community needs. If the developer pays for the cost up front it affects the lot prices which can in turn, make development unaffordable. Education is a provincial mandate and should ensure that they have funding in place to cover the servicing for school sites.

B:16 Provincial Support for Downtowns, Business District and Mainstreets
Support

This topic falls in line with the Economy pillar of the MSP. Many downtown businesses have been affected negatively by the movement of businesses into the larger box store areas in addition to the most recent impacts of COVID 19. Mainstreets are the focal point of the Community and need to be retained.

B:17 Changes to Clean Energy Improvement Program
Support

This topic falls in line with the Infrastructure and Buildings pillar of the MSP. Clean energy initiatives are critical to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Funding for clean energy initiatives should be expanded through the Provincial Government to make it more accessible for both the Municipality and residents to access funding.

C:1 Sustainable Community Hospice Model
Support

This topic falls in line with the Community pillar of the MSP. Funding for this type of service will aid the residents and family members who wish to remain in their home and community for end-of-life care.

**C2: Review of Vehicle Collision Reporting Damage Threshold
Support**

This topic falls under the Economy pillar of the MSP. Motor Vehicle collisions are a huge time constraint on our detachment Police Officers and Clerks. The requirement of reporting collisions at the current threshold of \$2,000 is antiquated when you look at the current costs associated to “minor” collisions resulting in property damage only. With new vehicles being much more complex, the \$2,000 threshold is reached very quickly, and increases the number of accidents which are reportable, resulting in taxing our already overworked police departments.

**C3: E-Scooters and Modernizing the Alberta Traffic Act (TSA) for Personal Use
Support**

This topic falls in line with the Community pillar of the MSP. The Town of Blackfalds has seen an increase in the use of E-Scooters within the town over the past few years. In 2022 the town began a pilot project with an E-Scooter company that received an exemption from the province to operate within the town. Currently E-Scooters are regulated under the TSA, and there is no provision to allow the use of them off private property. Enforcement Services has seen an increase in the use of private usage within the community as well as the public rental company. E-Scooters, E-bikes and such are readily available for purchase through many vendors, which has resulted in residents owning and operating their own personal ones on the streets within the town. Currently the use of E-Scooters and E-Bikes could be enforced under the TSA as they are not permitted to operate from private property. Enforcement Services is reviewing the Town of Blackfalds Traffic Bylaw to ensure it meets the needs of the community which will include provision of the use of E-Scooters, E-Bikes and E-Skateboards if the TSA is modernized to allow for the use of personal devices.

**C4: Use of Golf Carts on Designated Municipal Roads
No Position****C5: Access to Mobile Wireless (Cellular) Services
Support**

While this particular resolution does not directly apply to the Town of Blackfalds there are many areas within rural Alberta that it does. Administration recommends that Council lend support to this motion as a member of the Alberta Municipalities to help advocate along with the Rural Municipalities of Alberta to ensure that Albertans across the Province have access to mobile wireless services.

**C6: Capital Budget Disclosures Negatively Impacting Procurement Processes
Support**

The requirement to post capital budgets publicly indicates the project's expected value, which eliminates an element of the competitive bid process. Council should support this initiative as it may help drive better bids for projects.

**C7: Trade Agreement Impacts on Municipal Procurement Process
Support**

Streamlining the process and having just the Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) would be beneficial for the Town. The allowable limits are higher within this agreement, and it would remove the restrictive measures that will allow more friendly local procurement.

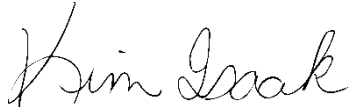
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None

ATTACHMENTS

- *Alberta Municipalities Resolution Book*

APPROVALS



Kim Isaak,
Chief Administrative Officer

Department Director/Author

2023 Resolutions Book



 **Alberta
Municipalities**
Strength
In Members

Version 1: July 2023

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About Resolutions

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

As set out in ABmunis' [Resolutions Policy](#), a resolution must address a topic of concern affecting municipalities on a regional or provincial level, and must be approved by the council of the sponsoring municipality and seconded by an additional municipal council. A resolution must not direct one or more municipalities to adopt a particular course of action or policy but must be worded as a request for consideration of an issue, including a call for action by Alberta Municipalities.

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

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

How to participate in the Resolutions Session

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

Who can speak to a resolution?

As outlined in the Resolutions Policy, elected representatives of Regular Members can speak to resolutions. In addition, upon a motion from the floor, or at the discretion of the Resolutions Chair, a representative of an Associate Member, which are municipal districts and counties, may also speak to a resolution.

How to speak to a resolution

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

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

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

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

How to propose an amendment

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

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

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

Note that all amendments must be moved and seconded.

How to vote

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

The email from Simply Voting will look something like this:

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

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

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

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

Then enter:

Elector ID - *****

Password - *****

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

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

Regards,
Alberta Municipalities

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

Please bring to convention a laptop, phone or other device that is internet enabled. Once we get to the resolutions portion of our event, you will be asked to log in to the Simply Voting website. Once a resolution is called to vote, you will hit the “next vote” button at the top of the page to see the current resolution available to vote on. After you have cast your vote, you will receive confirmation that your vote has been counted. Once the final vote result is posted, we will move on to the next resolution.

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

2023 RESOLUTIONS

Category B - Issues Related to Alberta Municipalities Strategic Initiatives

B1: Protection for Vulnerable Residential Tenants

Moved by: Municipality of Jasper

Seconded by: Town of Edson

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this specific issue; however, this resolution aligns with past advocacy on affordable housing and homelessness. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

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

Moved by: City of Airdrie

Seconded by: City of Grande Prairie

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this specific issue; however, this resolution aligns with past advocacy on affordable housing. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

B3: Homelessness and Associated Social Needs in Rural Communities

Moved by: Town of Rocky Mountain House

Seconded by: Town of Edson

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

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

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

Moved by: Town of Grimshaw

Seconded by: Town of Peace River

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

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

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

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

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

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

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

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

Moved by: City of Edmonton

Seconded by: City of Grande Prairie

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

The first clause of this resolution aligns with previous ABmunis advocacy on affordable housing. With respect to the second clause, ABmunis has not taken a position on exempting non-profit affordable housing providers from paying municipal taxes. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

B6: Capital Funding Support for Housing Management Bodies

Moved by: Town of Wembley

Seconded by: Town of Sexsmith

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this specific issue; however, this resolution aligns with past advocacy on affordable and seniors' housing. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

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

Moved by: Town of Drayton Valley

Seconded by: City of Edmonton

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

covered under the Act.

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

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

Heroes’ Compensation Act

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this specific issue; however, this resolution aligns with past advocacy on mental health supports for first responders. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis’ Board by the Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

B8: Provincial funding for Medical First Response

Moved by: City of Grande Prairie

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

This resolution aligns with past advocacy on compensating municipalities that participate in the Medical First Response program. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

B9: Integration of Nurse Practitioners into the Alberta Healthcare System

Moved by: Town of Wembley

Seconded by: Town of Sexsmith

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

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

This resolution aligns with ABmunis priority initiative, Access to Health Care Outside of Metropolitan Areas. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Small Communities Committee in the context of related priorities and positions.

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

Moved by: Town of Sundre

Seconded by: Town of Olds

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this specific issue; however, this resolution aligns with past advocacy on access to medical imaging. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis’ Board by the Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

B11: Maintaining Non-Partisan Municipal Elections

Moved by: City of Brooks

Seconded by: Village of Duchess

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

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

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

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

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

This resolution aligns with ABmunis Local Election Principles (approved by members on June 18, 2020) which emphasize that candidates are elected to represent and be accountable to municipal residents, not a political party. These [principles have guided ABmunis advocacy on amendments to the LAEA](#) and they will be a foundation for future advocacy as ABmunis presses the province to complete a full-scale review of the LAEA. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Municipal Governance Committee.

B12: Inclusion of Libraries in Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks

Moved by: Town of Cardston

Seconded by: Town of Magrath

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

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

The MGA

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

Section 708.27 of the MGA confirms that ICFs are intended:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Libraries Act

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

“Municipal board

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

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

“Budget

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

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

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

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

“In 2018:

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

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

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

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

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

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

This resolution aligns with advocacy related to funding for municipal libraries, ongoing research and advocacy guided by the Future of Municipal Government project, as well as change management related to the province's reviews of the *Municipal Government Act*, with the most current review being focused on ICF legislation. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Municipal Governance Committee.

B13: Provincial Funding for Growing Municipalities

Moved by: City of Airdrie

Seconded by: City of Leduc

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

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

B14: Provincial Lending Rates to Municipalities

Moved by: City of St. Albert

Seconded by: City of Airdrie

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

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

B15: Infrastructure Servicing and Construction Costs of School Sites

Moved by: City of Lethbridge

Seconded by: Town of Okotoks

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

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

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

This resolution aligns with ABmunis' Municipal Finance strategic initiative, as well as with the Infrastructure Committee's priority initiative, Forthcoming Federal/Provincial Infrastructure Funding Programs. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Infrastructure Committee. The Municipal Governance Committee would also be asked for input on the approach to advocating for the requested capital funding allocations.

Appendix 1

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

Proposed Resolution

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

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

RATIONALE

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

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

Section 53.1 of the Education Act requires school boards to enter into joint use and planning agreements (JUPAs) with municipalities under section 670.1 of the Municipal Government Act.

In April 2023, Alberta Municipal Affairs Minister extended the deadline for JUPAs to June 10, 2025.

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

B16: Provincial Support for Downtowns, Business Districts and Mainstreets

Moved by: City of Edmonton

Seconded by: City of St. Albert

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

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

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

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this specific issue; however, this resolution aligns with past advocacy on community building and community safety. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Economic Strategy Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

B17: Changes to the Clean Energy Improvement Program

Moved by: City of Edmonton

Seconded by: City of Lethbridge and Town of Athabasca

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

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

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

A few lessons were learned through this pilot, including:

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

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

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

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on these proposed CEIP amendments. However, ABmunis has previous resolutions advocating for additional financing options for micro-generation. This resolution also aligns with past advocacy on expanding the financing tools available to municipalities. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Sustainability and Environment Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

2023 RESOLUTIONS

CATEGORY C – OTHER ISSUES OF POTENTIAL INTEREST TO ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES

C1: Sustainable Community Hospice Funding Model

Moved by: Town of Rocky Mountain House

Seconded by: Town of Penhold

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this issue. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Safe and Healthy Communities Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

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

C2: Review of Vehicle Collision Reporting Damage Threshold

Moved by: City of Airdrie

Seconded by: City of St. Albert

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

Alberta Municipalities does not currently have a position on this issue. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Infrastructure Committee.

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

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

Moved by: The City of Calgary

Seconded by: The City of Edmonton

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

What is micromobility?

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

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

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

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

Benefits of shared micromobility programs

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

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

Personal e-Scooter use not allowed in Alberta

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

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

Shared E-Scooter Operations and Restrictions

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

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

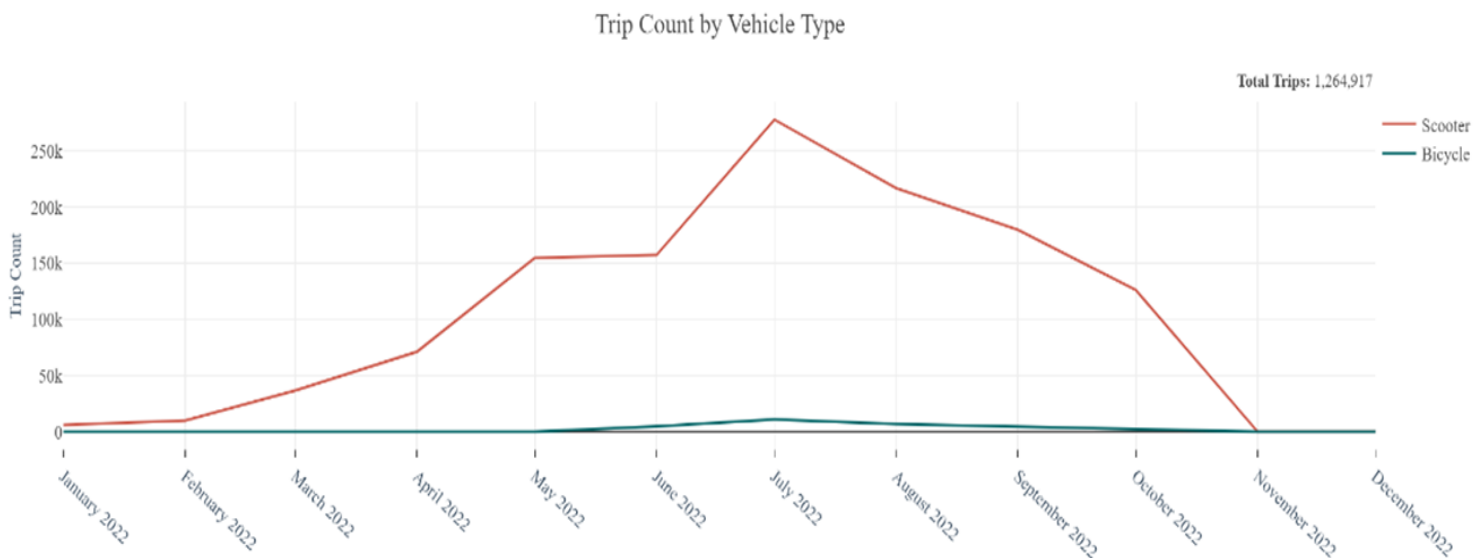
E-Scooter and Micro-mobility in Alberta

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

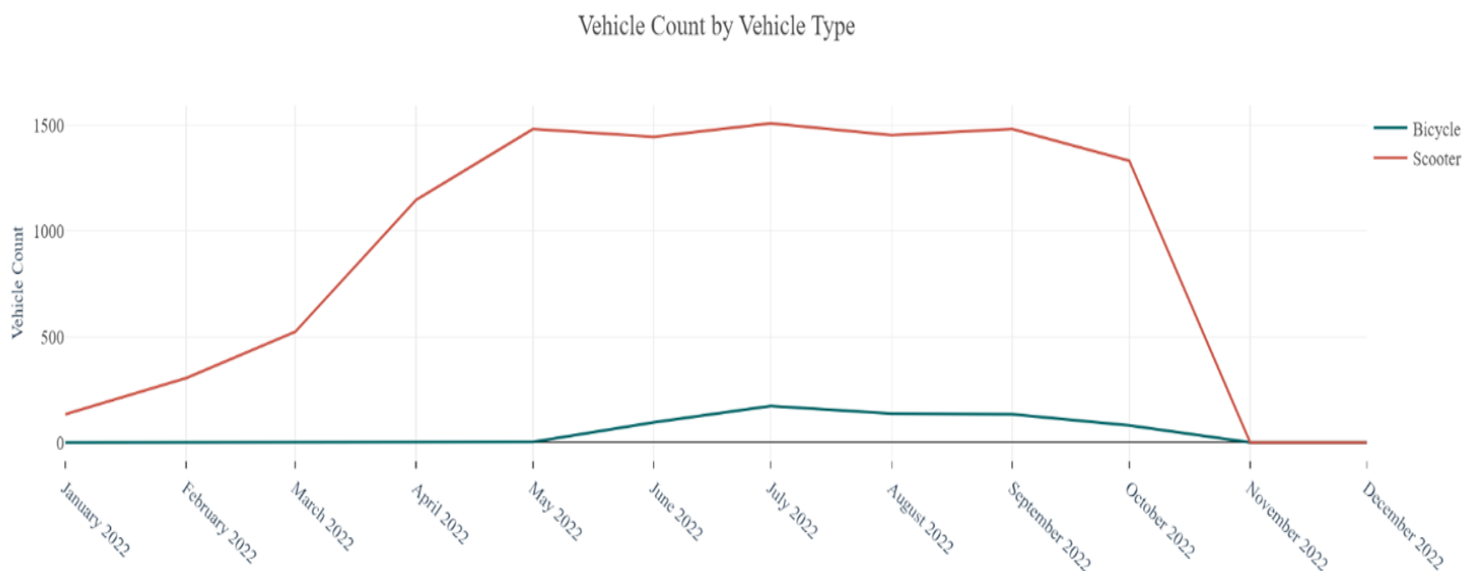
In 2018, the City of Calgary and the City of Edmonton received permission and permits from the Government of Alberta to be able to conduct pilot projects in 2019 (and subsequently 2021, 2022 and 2023) that allowed e-Scooter and e-Bike companies to operate within these municipalities, such as Bird, Spin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

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

City of Calgary 2022 Micromobility Trip data.



City of Calgary 2022 Micromobility Operators fleet numbers.



ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

Alberta Municipalities does not currently have a position on this issue. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Infrastructure Committee.

C4: Use of Golf Carts on Designated Municipal Roads

Moved by: Summer Village of Half Moon Bay

Seconded by: Village of Delburne

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

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

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

Saskatchewan

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

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

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

British Columbia

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

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

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

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

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

Ontario

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

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

Electric Scooters

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

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

Alberta Municipalities does not currently have a position on this specific issue. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Infrastructure Committee. The Small Communities Committee would also be asked for input on the approach to advocating for the requested legislative change.

C5: Access to Mobile Wireless (Cellular) Services

Moved by: Alberta Municipalities Board of Directors

Seconded by: N/A

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

Alberta Municipalities has no active resolutions directly related to this issue. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis’ Board by the Small Communities Committee. The Infrastructure Committee would also be asked for input on the approach to advocating for the requested policy change. ABmunis would also seek opportunities for joint advocacy with RMA.

C6: Capital Budget Disclosures Negatively Impacting Procurement Processes

Moved by: Town of Okotoks

Seconded by: City of Airdrie

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

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

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

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this issue. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Municipal Governance Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

C7: Trade Agreement Impacts on Municipal Procurement Processes

Moved by: Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo

Seconded by: Town of Lac La Biche

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

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

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

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

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

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this specific issue. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the Economic Strategy Committee within the context of related priorities and positions.

2023 RESOLUTIONS

CATEGORY E - EMERGENT RESOLUTIONS

About Emergent Resolutions

Criteria

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

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

Submission

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

Seconding

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

Notification

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

More Information

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

E1: Enhancing Amusement Ride Safety

Moved by: Town of Stony Plain

Seconded by: Alberta Municipalities Board of Directors

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BACKGROUND:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this specific issue. If this resolution is passed, it would be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response and further advocacy would be recommended to ABmunis' Board by the standing committee within the context of related priorities and positions.



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