



Village of Stirling
September 16, 2026 - Regular Meeting of Council - 07:00 PM

- 1 Regular Council Meeting – Call Meeting to Order**
- 2 Adoption of Agenda**
- 3 Recognition**
- 4 Delegations**
 - 4.1 SouthGrow - Peter Casurella, Executive Director
 - 🔗 Village of Stirling 2026
 - 4.2 SouthGrow - Morgan Elemans, Economic Development Office
 - 🔗 CED Report
- 5 Minutes**
 - 5.1 Adoption of Council Minutes – September 2, 2026
 - 🔗 Draft Council Minutes – September 2, 2026
 - 5.2 Business Arising from the Minutes
 - 5.3 Motion Tracker
 - 🔗 Motion Tracker - September 11, 2026
- 6 Financial Items**
 - 6.1 Accounts Payable
 - 🔗 Credit Card Statement: Aug 8 - Sept 4, 2026
 - 🔗 Cheque Listing - September 14, 2026 - redacted
- 7 Items for Discussion**
 - 7.1 Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation: Bringing Hearts Home
 - 🔗 Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation: Bringing Hearts Home Cover
 - 🔗 Council Budget Report
 - 7.2 2026 ABmunis Resolutions Book
 - 🔗 2026 ABmunis Resolutions Book Cover
 - 🔗 2026 ABmunis Resolutions Book - Version 1
 - 🔗 2026 ABmunis Resolutions Council Summary
 - 7.3 Bylaw 566-26: Residential Assessment Subclasses Bylaw
 - 🔗 Bylaw 566-26 Residential Assessment Subclasses Bylaw Cover
 - 🔗 Bylaw 566-26 Residential Assessment Subclasses Bylaw
- 8 CAO Report**

 CAO Report

9 Council Committee Meeting Reports

10 Correspondence and Items for Information

10.1 Family and Community Support Services (FCSS)

 FCSS Board Minutes - June 2026

10.2 Ridge Regional Public Safety Services Commission (RRPSSC)

 August 2026 Stats

 Stirling August 2026 Stats - redacted

 Weekday August 2026 Stats

10.3 Oldman River Regional Services Commission (ORRSC)

 2027 Draft Budget Update - redacted

10.4 Chief Mountain Regional Solid Waste Services Commission (CMRSWSC)

 Minutes - August 2026

10.5 Louise ZoBell Legacy Auction

 Louise ZoBell Legacy Auction

11 Council Highlights

12 Adjournment

SOUTHGROW

REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

GROWTH • INNOVATION • PROSPERITY



Our Mission

*In **collaboration** with its members and supporters, SouthGrow will proudly **enable** economic development programs and initiatives that contribute to **growth potential** throughout the region.*



Accomplishments



Dozens of large-scale studies and reports that continue to inform investment in the region.



Numerous development tools made available for members to support municipal projects and programs.



Training sessions for councilors and municipal staff to equip communities for success.



Tens of millions of external \$\$ leveraged for regional projects and tens of millions in external investment secured.



Conclusion.

Ongoing, multi-year work that has yielded huge results for the region.

Projects informing Investments

Community Economic Development Plans – 2025-2027
Tariff Response Taskforce - 2025
Export Development Project - 2025
Supply Chain Identification Project - 2024
Tourism Collaboration - 2023
Global Agri-food Marketing – 2023 to 2025
Community Investment Readiness Profiles - 2023
Blackfoot Signage Project – 2023/24
Community Matchmaking - 2023
Grad Retention Study - 2023
Regional Supply Chain Identification - 2022
Global Agri-food Marketing Initiative – 2022
Zero Emissions Vehicle Infrastructure Project
Terragraph Technology Trial - 2021
Economic Recovery Taskforce – 2020
Regional Skills Gap Study – 2019 – 2020
Broadband Finish Line Project 2019 - 2020
Canada's Premier Food Corridor – 2019 – 2020
Community Broadband Options - 2019
Renewable Energy Impact Report - 2019
Highway 3 Twinning Development Association – 2019
Cost Benefit Analysis of Alberta Rural Broadband – 2019
CHP Technology trial on Dairy Farm - 2019
On Farm Energy Program – 2018 - 2020
Peaks to Prairies Electric Vehicle Network – 2017 - 2020
SouthGrow Community Business Retention, Expansion, and Marketing Plans – 2017
Broadband Project Master Plan - 2017
Formation of SAITI - 2016
Community Broadband Report – 2016
Investment Readiness and Attraction Review – 2015
Broadband Infrastructure in SouthGrow – 2015
Hospitality and Tourism Investment Study– 2015
Community Renewable Energy Toolkit – 2014

Investment Attraction and Lead Generation Project (MNP) - 2014
More than Enough Marketing Campaign – 2013
Community Ec Dev Strategies - 2012
Formation of RINSA – 2012
Investment Readiness Assessment - 2012
Bio Energy Opportunity Profile – 2010
Productivity Improvement – 2009
Study of SouthGrow Business Trends – 2009
Water for Economic Development – 2009
Wind Power – 2009
Carbon Credit Opportunity Profile – 2008
Innovation and Commercialization – 2008
Formation of SAAEP - 2007
Green Growth Plan – 2007
Waste to Energy Opportunity Profile – 2007
Alternative Energy – 2006
Feasibility Study – Integrated Bio-Diesel Refinery 2006
Gateway to Alberta Phase 1 and Phase 2 – 2004-2006
Ready Meals Opportunity Profile - 2004
Confectionary Opportunity Profile – 2003
Solar Energy Opportunity Profile – 2003
Agricultural Assessment - - Grow your Own – 2003
Ready Meals Opportunity Profile - 2004



2025 -2026 (Complete)

Pillar I: Strategic Collaboration

- I. Member Engagement
 - A. Annual Council Presentations
 - B. Regional Training
 - C. Government Relations
 - D. Economic Development Summit
 - E. Organizational Sustainability
- II. Build and Sustain Collaborations
 - A. Southern Alberta Alternative Energy Partnership
 - B. Southern Alberta Investment and Trade Initiative
 - C. Canada's Premier Food Corridor and Canada's Western Gateway
 - D. Highway 3 Twinning Development Association
 - E. REDA Collaboration
 - F. Regional Innovation Network of Southern Alberta
- III. Sustain or Expand Membership
 - A. Sustain Membership
 - B. Expand Associate Memberships

Pillar II: Marketing & Communications

- I. Regional Promotion
 - A. Website Improvements
- II. Internal Communications
 - A. Newsletters
 - B. Regional Sponsorships

Pillar III: Economic Development & Innovation

- I. Ag-Tech Market Development
 - A. Agri-food Scholarship Program
 - B. Agri-food Conference Representation
- II. Community Supports
 - A. Grant Advice Hot Line
 - B. Community Economic Development Plans
- III. Special Projects
 - A. EV Bus Project (Final Year)
 - B. Blackfoot Language Signage (Year 3)
 - C. Export Expansion Project
- IV. Flagship Project
 - A. SouthGrow Power Project
- V. Targets of Opportunity
 - A. Local Waste Solutions Study
 - B. Farm and Crop Conference
 - C. Labour Attraction Marketing
 - D. Energy Innovation Pilot Project with FortisAlberta



2025 Highlights!

Southern Alberta Economic Summit expanded into a two-day event and attracted more than **160 attendees**.

Community Economic Development Planning advanced with nearly **300 stakeholder interviews** completed across the region.

SouthGrow's international investment attraction efforts helped support a **\$500 million biofuel investment in Alberta**.

SAITI earned a **fourth consecutive Economic Developers Alberta marketing award**.

SouthGrow secured a leadership role in the **Regional Innovation Network of Southern Alberta (RINSA)** for the next three years.

The **Grant Hotline** provided support and funding advice to **26 communities and community organizations**.

The **Blackfoot Language Signage Project** surpassed **200 signs installed** across Southern Alberta.

The **Agri-food Scholarship Program** awarded **\$7,500 in scholarships** to support future industry leaders.

SouthGrow represented the region through trade and investment missions in **Japan, Singapore, Mexico, China, and Europe**.

The **SouthGrow Power Project** completed its high-level feasibility study and advanced into detailed engineering.

SouthGrow secured **\$60,000** in funding for a regional biofuel opportunity assessment.

The **Export Expansion Project** identified new international opportunities through market research and industry engagement.

Additional sections of the **Highway 3 Twinning Project** received formal funding approvals.

SouthGrow completed implementation of its long-term **Organizational Sustainability Plan**.

Regional training exceeded annual targets with **seven professional development sessions delivered**.

SouthGrow expanded its network to **15 associate and reciprocal members**.

SouthGrow supported the advancement of the **Milk River Waterline Project** through engagement and government relations efforts.

SouthGrow helped position Southern Alberta for future growth through emerging initiatives in agriculture, labour attraction, and energy innovation.

Council engagement activities exceeded targets, with presentations delivered to more than **40% of member communities**.

SouthGrow continued to represent the interests of **29 communities and more than 180,000 residents** across Southern Alberta.

2026 -2027

PILLAR I: STRATEGIC COLLABORATION

I. Partnership Projects

- i. Southern Alberta Alternative Energy Partnership (SAAEP)
- ii. Southern Alberta Investment and Trade Initiative (SAITI)
- iii. Canada's Premier Food Corridor (CPFC) & Canada's Western Gateway (CWG)
- iv. Highway 3 Twinning Development Association (H3TDA)
- v. REDA Collaboration
- vi. Border Wall Roadside Attraction

II. Administrative Projects

- i. Annual Council Presentations
- ii. Membership Retention and Expansion
- iii. SouthGrow Power Project
- iv. RINSA Fiscal Management
- v. RINSA Marketing

PILLAR II: MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

I. Events

- i. Monthly Lunch and Learns
- ii. Southern Alberta Economic Summit
- iii. Ag Producer Conference

II. Communications and Marketing

- i. Newsletters
- ii. Website Improvements
- iii. Government Relations
- iv. Sponsorships
- v. Agri-food Scholarship Program
- vi. Global Awareness Marketing

PILLAR III: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & INNOVATION

I. Community Economic Development

- i. Grant Advice Hotline
- ii. Community Economic Development Plans
- iii. South Saskatchewan Trans Canada Trail Connection Project
- iv. EV Bus Project (Final Year)
- v. Blackfoot Language Signage (Year 4)
- vi. Economic Development for Elected Officials Training
- vii. Regional Business License Project

II. Investment and Export Development

- i. Trade Mission Participations
- ii. Japan Industry Mission
- iii. IEDC Attendance
- iv. FDI Strategic Plan
- v. FDI Training – Business Investment & Attraction (EDA)

III. Research and Policy Development

- i. SouthWest Alberta Labour Profile Project
- ii. Biofuel Supply Chain Study

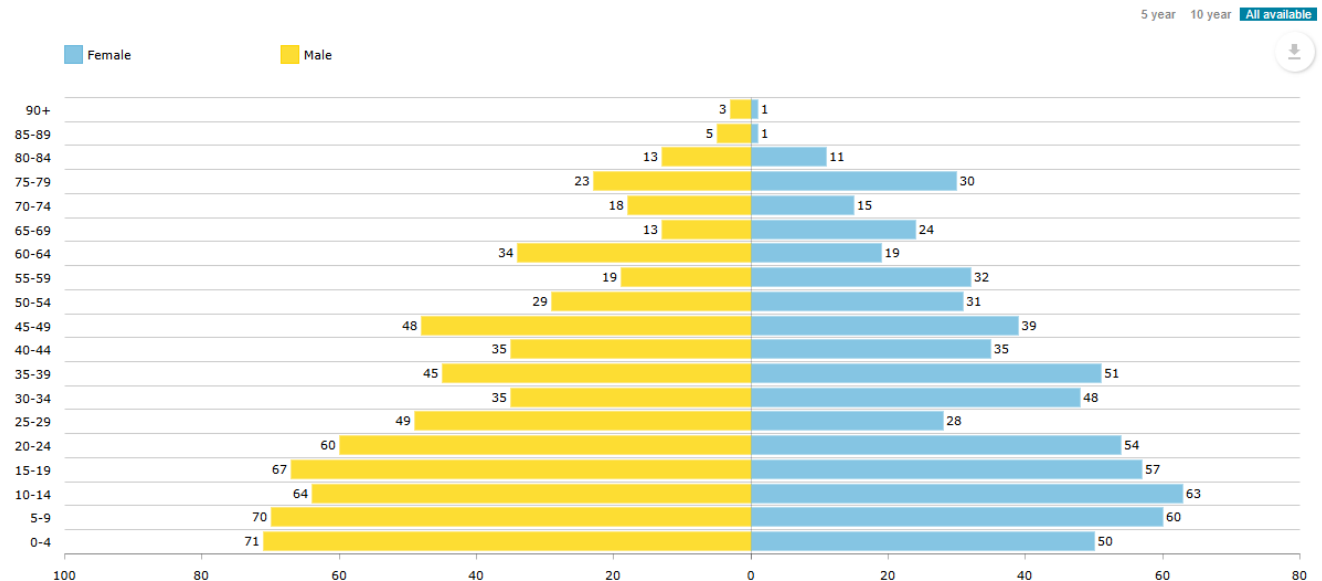
IV. Targets of Opportunity

- i. FortisAlberta Virtual Power Plant Pilot



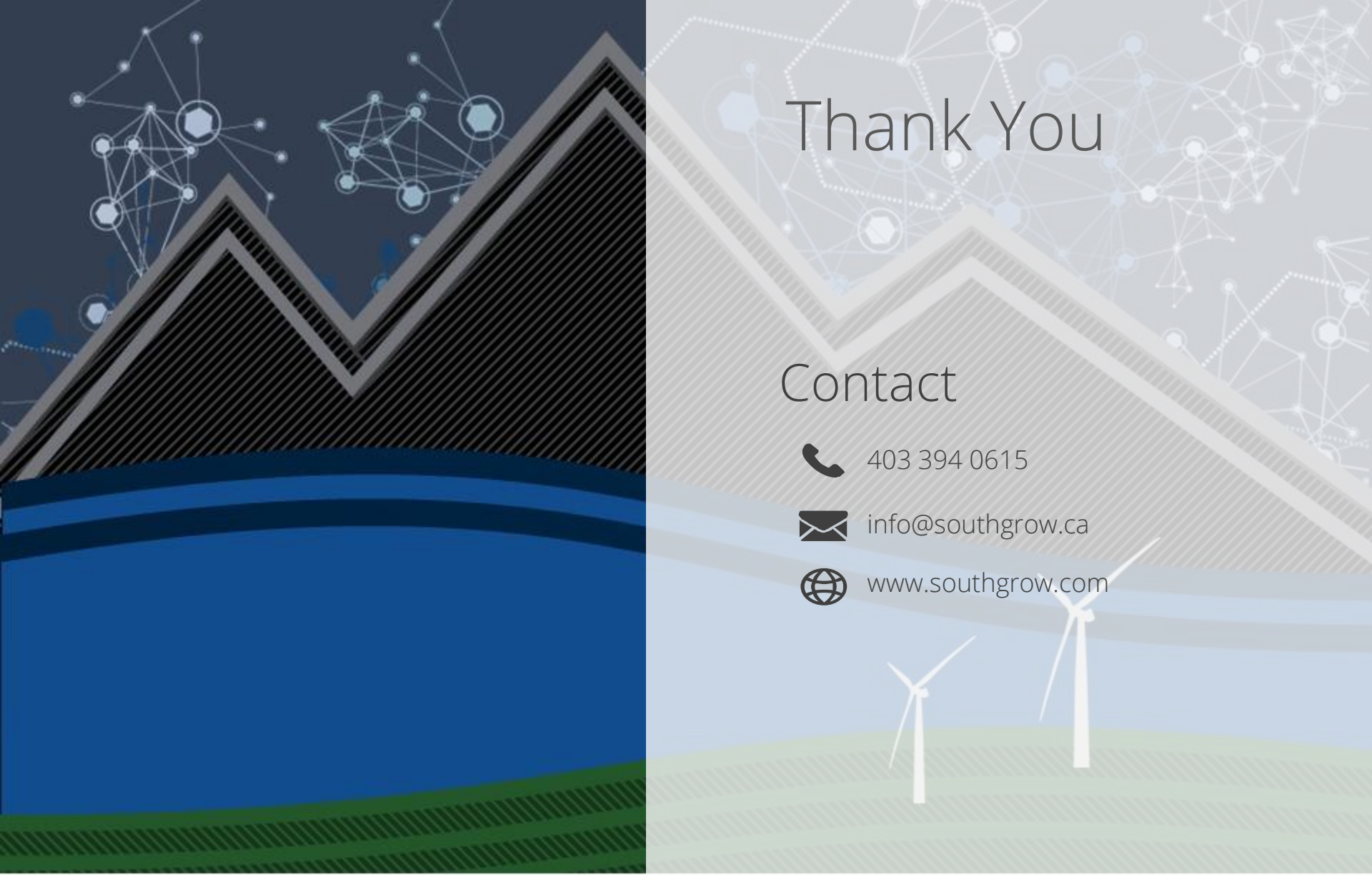
Opportunities

- Economic Development Plan Action Items
- Grant Supports
- Non-residential Assessment Growth



Conclusion.

Stirling has been doing everything right. Progressive and realistic Ec Dev projects, incremental service and retail gains, cost mitigations. The biggest gap is to enable industrial assessment growth so that more locals can work where they live. Your age pyramid is a global envy.



Thank You

Contact



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SOUTHGROW
REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
GROWTH • INNOVATION • PROSPERITY





2026 Community Economic Development Plan

Village of Stirling

March 27, 2026

Prepared by: SouthGrow Regional Initiative

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1.0 Background and Introduction

In early 2025, SouthGrow Regional Initiative (SGRI) received funding to create a strategic Community Economic Development (CED) Plan for each of its member communities. This funding was provided by a grant from the Government of Alberta's Northern and Regional Economic Development (NRED) Program in the sum of \$128,000. The reports will include data-driven, actionable strategies for business retention and expansion, investment attraction and readiness, and infrastructure planning.

The purpose of this project is to:

1. Help smaller communities who have limited resources get clarity on their community's economic development landscape
2. Provide each community with a custom-tailored and data-driven report. The report will include actionable, bite-sized projects that can be implemented within their capabilities over the course of 5-10 year to produce tangible change for their community;
3. Execute SGRI goals in accordance with the Board's strategic direction to helping at the community level;
4. Re-visit old CED plans, as further discussed below.

The timeline of the CED project was spread out over three years, in the following manner:

- Year 1 (2025): Gather community data
- Year 2 (2026): Write and present report
- Year 3 (2027): Provide coaching, quarterly check-ins, and assistance with implementation

During the fall and winter of 2025, each participating community took the following steps to assist with the "Gathering Data" stage:

1. The community's lead representative for the project attended a strategic facilitation session with the SGRI Economic Development Officer to discuss the general economic landscape and activities of the community;
2. Municipal members, including council, administration, and/or economic development staff, participated in the situational analyses research process, which included completing stakeholder interviews and providing or discussing municipal documents, past projects, and areas of strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities.
3. The lead representative reviewed and validated the outcomes from the facilitation process, and;
4. The municipality reviewed and finalized the community economic development plan.

Previously, this Community Economic Development Plan project was completed in 2012 for all SGRI member communities at that time. This is a continuation of that initiative.

We would like to acknowledge and thank council, staff, and community members for their participation in the project.

2.0 Project Form

2.1 Data Gathering Methodology

The CED Plans were designed to be data-driven, using local input, municipal documents, community history, and SouthGrow's long-standing knowledge of the region to recommend projects. As such, a six-step approach was used to understand each community's current economic position and identify practical steps for growth:

1. Introductory Meeting and Document Sharing

To begin, the SouthGrow Economic Development Officer held an introductory meeting with the community's CAO or lead contact. This meeting provided information about the community's general economic landscape, current activities, and any past work that might shape future planning. From here, the municipality shared key documents such as strategic plans, municipal development plans, land use bylaws, studies, project updates, grant applications, and other reports. Reviewing these materials provided an understanding for strengths, gaps, and opportunities, which was utilized within the literature review. It also showed where local resources are being used, what work has already been done, and how ready the community is for different types of development.

2. Stakeholder Engagement

A proportionate sample of community stakeholders were interviewed by phone and transcript, or online form. Typical stakeholder groups included council members, the CAO, chambers of commerce, and, when needed, local business owners. These conversations were used to capture real, well-informed experiences from people who work, lead, or do business in the community every day.

3. Desktop Research

SouthGrow reviewed internal files, past SouthGrow projects, and public information found online. This was used to identify themes, compare the community to regional trends, understand what may be affecting future opportunities, confirm local trends, and fill in any missing information.

4. Business Retention and Expansion (BR&E) Survey

SouthGrow provided each municipality with an optional BR&E survey. This survey was offered for completion at the community's discretion and was only included in the final findings if responses were received. The BR&E survey takes time and local effort to complete, so it was not required; however, communities that were able to gather responses benefited from added insight into their business climate.

5. Withstanding Municipal Knowledge

Finally, each CED Plan includes the insight and practical knowledge SouthGrow has gained through many years of supporting the community. This includes understanding local nuances, long-term challenges, and past efforts that may affect future economic development work. This knowledge

was combined with local input, documents, and research that allowed us to create a clear, realistic, and community-focused plan for long-term economic success.

6. Literature Review

All of the above information—documents, interviews, meetings, and research—was brought together to complete a literature review, as discussed in Section 4.0. This review compiled the data to give a clear picture of long-term patterns, community readiness, what has been done, what still needs to be done, and possible partnerships or opportunities for future development. The literature review shaped the key findings and recommendations in the report.

2.2 Methodology Rationale

2.2.1 Approach Rationale

The above approach was chosen to gather clear, ground-level insight while working within the limited time and resources available to both SouthGrow and member communities. Smaller municipalities often have few staff, busy schedules, and many competing priorities. Because of this, the project prioritized a method that would collect strong, meaningful information without placing a heavy burden on local capacity, which was evident in it being:

- Practical
- Respectful of community time
- Able to produce high-quality insight even in small or rural settings
- Supportive of SouthGrow's goal of creating plans that are realistic, community-focused, and easy for municipalities to use moving forward.

In return, the process showed a great understanding of what is happening in the community from the people who experience it every day, thus creating a balanced picture of local strengths, challenges, and opportunities.

2.2.2 Stakeholder Rationale

Stakeholder interviews were focused on people who know the community well and could speak confidently about its economic landscape. This included council members, administrative staff, chambers of commerce, and, when needed, business owners or residents with deep local knowledge. These individuals often have direct experience with community issues, ongoing projects, and local decision-making, which makes their insight especially valuable.

The people we spoke with were chosen because they meet three main criteria:

- They understand the community's day-to-day reality, not just broad ideas.
- They have long-standing experience or direct involvement in local work, business, or decision-making.
- They represent different parts of the community, helping create a well-rounded view.

Because the process started with trusted, well-informed contacts, reliable information was gathered quickly, and the list of interview participants was then expanded through a snowball

approach. This method helped ensure that voices with strong knowledge of the community were included, while still keeping the process efficient. It also leaves room for continuously mixing in additional opinions as they may be later collected.

Anonymity was respected in all interviews to encourage open and honest feedback, especially in small communities where people often know each other personally. This helped participants share concerns, ideas, and opportunities more freely.

3.0 Global Context

Economic Development realities for Southern Alberta are also shaped by large-scale global forces that influence labour supply, infrastructure pressures, investment readiness, and long-term competitiveness. Understanding these forces provides essential context for local decision making and ensures that community strategies align with the realities shaping rural economies across Canada and around the world. Here we summarize some of the high-level global themes which are shaping the economic landscape in 2025 which local work needs to take into consideration.

Global Theme One: Demographic Shifts and Workforce Realignment

Across the world, aging populations and declining rural birth rates are creating sustained workforce shortages. Rural Alberta is experiencing these same pressures as industries compete for a shrinking pool of workers and younger households increasingly concentrate in larger urban areas. At the same time, new migration patterns and remote work flexibility have created opportunities to attract families and entrepreneurs seeking affordability, safety, natural amenities, and community belonging. Communities that actively position themselves as livable, family-centred, and opportunity-rich are best placed to benefit from this shift.

Global Theme Two: Resilient and Sustainable Supply Chains

Global supply chain disruptions, rising transportation costs, and geopolitical uncertainty are pushing countries to secure more localized and resilient food, energy, and manufacturing systems. Southern Alberta's agricultural base, proximity to major transportation corridors, and strong role in national food production position rural communities to benefit from nearshoring trends. However, this also increases pressure on water infrastructure, logistics systems, labour availability, and broadband capacity. Communities that maintain reliable utilities and service-ready industrial land become preferred locations for new investment tied to resiliency and domestic production.

Global Theme Three: Technological Acceleration and the Digital Divide

Rapid global digitalization is changing how businesses operate, how services are delivered, and how people work. Broadband access has become a basic economic requirement rather than a luxury. Rural regions that cannot offer stable, high-capacity internet risk exclusion from emerging economic activity such as remote work, e-commerce, digital agriculture, and cloud-based service industries. Conversely, improvements in rural broadband open doors for entrepreneurship, small-scale manufacturing, home-based businesses, and professional workers who no longer need to live in

urban centres. Digital infrastructure now directly impacts economic competitiveness.

Global Theme Four: Climate Transition and Resource Pressures

Worldwide efforts to reduce emissions, adopt renewable energy, and manage climate-related risks are reshaping the cost structure and investment patterns of rural industries. Agriculture faces increasing variability in weather patterns and rising costs tied to insurance, irrigation, and environmental compliance. Energy producers and utilities are transitioning to lower-carbon systems while exploring new technologies such as hydrogen, biofuels, and advanced battery storage. Communities that plan for resilient infrastructure, diversified economic bases, and opportunities within the clean-energy transition will be better positioned for long-term stability.

Global Theme Five: Housing Affordability and Rural Migration Trends

Around the world, families and young professionals are moving out of large cities in search of affordability and quality of life. Southern Alberta's combination of lower housing costs, strong social cohesion, and access to natural amenities aligns well with these global migration patterns. Communities that can provide serviced lots, developable land, modern amenities, and clear pathways for new residents will remain competitive. This trend also reinforces the need for proactive long-term planning in water, wastewater, recreation amenities, and local services.

Summary

Global economic forces are reshaping the opportunities and risks facing rural communities. Southern Alberta's strengths in agriculture, energy, tourism, and logistics align well with worldwide trends toward resilient supply chains, digital transformation, and livable communities. However, these opportunities are only realized when municipalities plan ahead, maintain reliable infrastructure, address workforce challenges, and position themselves as attractive places to live and invest. The strategies and projects recommended in this plan respond directly to these global pressures and local realities.

4.0 Key Themes: Literature Review

A review of Stirling's municipal documents and stakeholder interviews show a small, safe, and family-focused community with strong local pride, clear long-term goals, and real assets for growth. There are also notable limits in land, housing, infrastructure, and services.

Across the documents and interviews, Stirling is described as a bedroom community with a strong sense of belonging. People value the quiet lifestyle, large lots, safety, K to 12 school, recreation assets, and short drive to Lethbridge. The community's National Historic Site status, net-zero identity, broadband service, and strong volunteer culture are also seen as important strengths. These help set Stirling apart, supporting its image as a good place to live with a strong quality of life. This gives Stirling a story that is different from other small, nearby communities, which helps attract families and home-based worker.

At the same time, the review shows that Stirling's economy is still limited. Stakeholders and municipal documents both point to a weak local business base and few commercial services, lacking a hardware store, grocery options, restaurants, gas services, and senior housing. It was also noted that there is a heavy reliance on Lethbridge and nearby centres for work, shopping, and amenities such as healthcare, banking, restaurants, entertainment, and specialized retail.

Additionally, several sources also show that Stirling's tax base is heavily residential, which puts pressure on homeowners and makes it harder for the Village to fund growth and infrastructure. With limited commercial development, the community has fewer and less diverse sources of tax revenue, making it more difficult to support municipal services and long-term investment.

Further, a major theme across all sources is that land is one of Stirling's biggest barriers. The Village has limited commercial and industrial land, in addition to floodplain and flood fringe constraints. While the community is defined by its historic pattern of large lots, these also present a challenge. They use more land, reduce development efficiency, and increase the need for future expansion. While smaller lots could accommodate more growth within the existing footprint, they may not align with the community's desired character and long-term vision. Interviews show strong interest in annexation to the north, east, and toward Highway 4 to create more room for commercial, industrial, tourism, and residential growth. There is also repeated interest noted in infill development, especially on larger existing lots, but this appears to be slowed by tax concerns, land ownership patterns, and the pace of private development.

Alongside land, housing is another major gap. The housing review and stakeholder interviews both show that Stirling needs more choice in housing, not just more units. The current stock is mostly single-family homes. There is very limited rental housing, very little multi-family housing, and very few options for lower-income households, people wanting to downsize, or seniors. Senior housing is particularly one of the clearest and most repeated needs in the interviews. It stands out as both a social need and an economic development opportunity.

Infrastructure is also a central issue. Municipal plans and stakeholder input both point to aging water and sewer systems, road upgrades, stormwater concerns, and the high cost of maintaining infrastructure in a small community. Some upgrades are already underway, which shows progress, but infrastructure still shapes what Stirling can support and how fast it can grow. In this way, infrastructure is both a challenge and a condition for future opportunity.

The strongest opportunities appear to be practical and staged. In the short term, Stirling is well placed to support home-based business, small local business growth, infill housing, senior housing, and better use of existing tourism and recreation assets such as the Michelsen Farmstead, reunion centre, campground, events, and heritage identity. In the longer term, annexation, serviced land, and highway-oriented commercial or logistics development could create broader growth. The main gap is not a lack of ideas. It is the need to turn known priorities into coordinated action that can balance growth, heritage, infrastructure limits, and community readiness.

5.0 Situational Analyses

Competitive advantages emerges when strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats can be identified and utilized in planning. These terms are defined as:

- A strength has potential to be leveraged into a larger, meaningful economic development result
- A weakness, or challenge, is a current limitation to the municipality, but can become an economic development opportunity when successfully confronted and overcome
- A threat is any factor that, without consideration in planning, may thwart the best-laid plans
- An opportunity, or idea, are initiatives that may develop into a practical and effective economic development strategies.

In broad terms, economic development activities are often considered to be: industrial development, favourable tax rates, limited regulation and access to trained workers, infrastructure projects, or expanded professional services. Small communities, however, cannot afford to stop there. Rural economic development is more than industry and jobs; it includes anything that strengthens and improves a rural community. Given the community specific value proposition, economic development assets must be defined in a much more broad framework, which has resulted in the following situational analyses for Stirling:

Strengths:

- Strong small-town feel and community pride
- Safe, family-friendly place to live
- K-12 school and good recreation facilities
- Close to Lethbridge for jobs and services
- National Historic Site status gives a unique identity
- Fiber broadband supports remote work and small business
- Net-zero and sustainability image
- Active volunteers and local groups help run events and programs
- Large lots and quiet lifestyle attract families
- Established tourism assets such as Michelsen Farmstead, community events, and the campground, with room for further growth and use

Weaknesses:

- Limited local business and services
- Heavy reliance on Lethbridge for work, shopping, and healthcare
- Small tax base, mostly residential, limits revenue
- Lack of commercial and industrial land
- Housing options are very limited. Most homes are single-family with few rentals or smaller units
- No senior housing, making it hard for older residents to stay
- Aging infrastructure like water, sewer, and roads
- Limited development-ready land slows growth
- Infill is slow due to lot size, ownership, and cost barriers
- Limited municipal capacity to take on large projects

Opportunities:

- Expand housing types, especially senior and rental housing
- Support home-based businesses and small local entrepreneurs
- Improve and grow tourism using heritage and events
- Continued marketing of Stirling's history, net-zero story, and lifestyle
- Annex land for future residential, commercial, and industrial growth
- Develop highway-oriented business opportunities
- Use broadband to attract remote workers and new residents
- Strengthen regional partnerships with nearby communities
- Improve use of existing assets like campground, recreation, and events
- Attract small service businesses to meet local needs

Threats:

- Continued reliance on nearby city may limit local growth
- Rising infrastructure costs could delay development
- Lack of housing choice may push people to leave or not move in
- Competition from larger centres for business and investment
- Limited land supply restricts future growth options
- Aging infrastructure may fail or become too costly to maintain
- Economic downturns could impact small population base more strongly
- Volunteer burnout could weaken community programs over time
- Slow development pace may reduce investor interest
- Losing seniors or youth to other communities due to lack of services and housing

6.0 Municipal Strategy

6.1 Strategy Areas

1. Housing and Land Readiness

Stirling needs more housing types and more land to grow. Right now, most homes are single-family, and there are few options for seniors, renters, or smaller households. This area focuses on adding housing choice and preparing land for future development.

2. Local Business and Services Growth

The Village has very few local services, and many people leave town to shop or work. This area focuses on supporting small businesses, filling service gaps, and growing a stronger local economy. A stronger business base will also help balance the tax load.

3. Infrastructure and Servicing Capacity

Infrastructure like water, sewer, and roads is aging and limits growth. Growth cannot happen without reliable and updated systems. This area focuses on planning, upgrading, and aligning infrastructure with future development.

4. Tourism and Community Identity

Stirling has strong heritage, events, and a unique identity, but there is room to increase their impact on tourism and the local economy. This area focuses on better use and promotion of tourism assets. It also supports local pride and helps attract visitors and new residents.

5. Regional Positioning and Attraction

Stirling benefits from being close to Lethbridge but must clearly define its role, focusing on what it is, what it is not, and where it can best compete and grow. This area focuses on attracting residents, remote workers, and select businesses that fit the community. It also includes working with regional partners to support growth.

6.2 Proposed projects

The following projects have been identified for your municipality to implement, addressing the gaps, opportunities, threats, while utilizing the strengths your municipality.

1. Housing and Land Readiness

- a. Review zoning to allow more flexible housing types like duplexes, suites, and small multi-unit buildings.
- b. Create a “housing needs snapshot” update every 2–3 years to track demand for seniors, rentals, and family housing.
- c. Work with a non-profit or developer to explore a small seniors housing pilot project (5–15 units). This fills a key gap and can be grant-supported.
- d. Identify and map all vacant and underused lots, then create a short list of “ready to build” sites to promote.
- e. Begin early-stage annexation planning and land discussions with neighbours for long-term growth (5–10 years).

2. Local Business and Services Growth

- a. Create a business inventory using the Village's business licensing program, identify service and business gaps, and develop a Business Opportunity List to share with entrepreneurs, investors, and regional partners, ensuring there is an ability to capture and track home-based businesses.
- b. Create a business inventory using the Village's business licensing program, identify service and business gaps, and develop a Business Opportunity List to share with entrepreneurs,

investors, and regional partners.

- c. Work with groups like Community Futures to launch a small business support program with workshops on permits, financing, and marketing.
- d. Implement metric tracking on the “Business Supports and Resources” page to understand its current performance and utilization. Add a form to directly ask questions on the page and update it with an FAQ section and other clear steps and contacts.
- e. Work with regional partners to attract 1–2 key, yet realistic, service businesses (ex: food, trades, fuel) over 3–5 years.
- f. Examine land availability surrounding the municipality and determine the best land for commercial growth.

3. Infrastructure and Servicing Capacity

- a. Create a simple, public-facing infrastructure roadmap that shows what upgrades are planned and when. This builds confidence for developers.
- b. Prioritize “growth-ready” servicing areas and align infrastructure upgrades to those zones first.
- c. Apply for provincial and federal grants to support water, sewer, and road upgrades tied to growth.
- d. Complete a basic cost-of-growth model to understand how new development can help pay for infrastructure.
- e. Explore shared service agreements with nearby communities to reduce costs and improve efficiency.

4. Tourism and Community Identity

- a. Continue promoting Stirling’s tourism brand, focusing on it’s story tied to heritage, net-zero, and rural lifestyle. Ensure proper metric tracking is in place to focus on best-performance efforts.
- b. Create 1–2 new annual events over the next 3 years (ex: heritage festival, harvest event) to draw visitors and support local business.
- c. Upgrade and promote the campground and recreation assets as a regional destination.
- d. Improve the Visitor / tourism section on the website with maps, itineraries, and local highlights or a more modern layout.
- e. Partner with regional tourism groups to include Stirling in travel routes and marketing campaigns.

5. Regional Positioning and Attraction

- a. Launch a targeted digital campaign to attract remote workers and young families (focus on lifestyle, affordability, broadband).
- b. Create a “Move to Stirling” package with housing info, school details, and community highlights.
- c. Work with employers in Lethbridge to promote Stirling as a place to live for their workforce.

- d. Develop simple investment marketing materials that highlight available land, business gaps, and incentives.
- e. Build stronger ties with regional economic development groups to share leads and opportunities.
- f. Track and report on new residents, businesses, and development activity each year to guide decisions.

7.0 Performance Measures

The following example performance measures may be utilized by your municipality to track your project's progress alongside the goals. We provide these here as instructive examples to help you action metrics around each project. If you choose to, you may also take these measures as they are.

1. Housing and Land Readiness
 - a. The community will review their housing and land inventory and update infill opportunities, vacant residential land, redevelopment opportunities, and priority housing needs. The inventory should be reviewed every two years to track housing supply, affordability, and development opportunities as community needs change.
 - b. The community will update planning policies, zoning, or development processes to encourage a wider range of housing types, including duplexes, townhomes, secondary suites, rental housing, accessible housing, and seniors housing. Success will be measured by increased development interest, new applications, or completed projects, with progress reviewed annually.
 - c. The community will complete early-stage planning for future growth land, including clear direction on annexation or expansion areas, and secure at least one funding source or partner to support servicing or planning work. This goal may depend on grants or partnerships and will be updated as opportunities arise.
2. Local Business and Services Growth
 - a. The community will complete a current inventory of local businesses using the Village's business licensing program, including home-based businesses where possible, identify priority business and service gaps, and publish a Business Opportunity List to support business attraction. Progress is reviewed annually, with the inventory updated each year to track business growth, closures, and emerging opportunities.
 - b. The community will launch at least one ongoing local market or vendor event and see participation from 10–20 vendors or businesses per year. Success is measured through participation, sales activity, and community feedback.
 - c. The community will attract or support at least 1–2 key service businesses (such as food, retail, or trades). Success will be measured by business retention, event participation, and increased local spending, with annual review.

3. Infrastructure and Servicing Capacity
 - a. The community will complete a simple infrastructure roadmap that aligns growth areas with servicing needs and apply to at least 2–3 grant programs to support upgrades, utilizing support from Regional Partners like SouthGrow for writing assistance and reporting as needed. Progress is measured by funding secured and projects advanced.
 - b. The community will complete planning or design work for at least 1–2 priority infrastructure projects that support growth areas, with at least partial external funding identified. Progress is reviewed annually.
 - c. The community will complete or begin construction on at least one major infrastructure upgrade that supports new development, such as water, sewer, or roads. Success is measured by improved servicing capacity and readiness for growth.
4. Tourism and Community Identity
 - a. The community will launch a clear tourism brand, improve signage, update online tourism content, and run small cost social media campaigns to promote key attractions and day trips from Lethbridge, with the goal of increasing visits to key sites by 10–20%. Progress is measured through visitor counts and event attendance.
 - b. The community will expand or establish 1–2 annual signature events or activities and grow attendance to by 10% y/y through small scale digital marketing campaigns. Examples could include: farmer’s market, summer kid’s club, etc) Success is measured through attendance, local participation, and business impact.
 - c. The community will complete at least one moderate tourism or recreation upgrade, such as campground or facility improvements, supported by grants where possible, and increase overnight stays or visitor use by 15–25%. Progress is reviewed annually.
5. Regional Positioning and Attraction
 - a. The community will launch a “Move to Stirling” attraction campaign and monitor impact.
 - b. Generate 10 investor and business opportunity leads through digital and regional promotion. Progress is reviewed annually and refined based on results.
 - c. The community will see small, yet steady growth, in new residents and small businesses expansions, with a target of 5–15 new households and 2–4 new businesses offerings, supported by regional partnerships and marketing efforts. Progress is tracked yearly and adjusted based on economic conditions and opportunities.

8.0 Informing Next Steps

8.1 How to Use This Document

This Community Economic Development Plan is designed to be a practical, flexible tool that supports long-term decision making for your municipality. It is not intended to replace your Municipal Development Plan, capital plans, or strategic priorities. Instead, it provides a structured set of

projects and strategy areas that can be woven into your existing planning cycles in a way that fits local capacity, budgets, and council direction.

Municipalities should use this document as a reference guide to help:

- Identify clear, achievable projects that align with local needs and opportunities.
- Prioritize actions based on available resources, urgency, and long-term impact.
- Strengthen internal planning by integrating economic development considerations into capital planning, budgeting, and service delivery.
- Provide council, staff, and community partners with a common understanding of economic goals and why these goals matter.
- Track progress through the performance measures in Section 7.0 and adapt actions as conditions change.

Each strategy area and proposed project is intentionally written to be modular. Municipalities can adopt projects at their own pace, sequence them, or expand them based on new capacity, partnerships, or funding opportunities. The plan is meant to evolve alongside your community.

8.2 Moving from a Plan to Action

Successful economic development happens when communities take consistent, incremental steps over time. This document provides a roadmap for those steps. Municipal staff and council can begin by identifying:

1. Immediate actions that can be started with existing resources.
2. Medium-range projects that may require planning, grant funding, or partnerships.
3. Long-term initiatives that depend on future infrastructure, land availability, or larger investments.

SouthGrow encourages municipalities to choose one or two manageable actions to begin with, establish internal champions for each project, and revisit progress annually. This helps maintain momentum while preventing staff overload.

8.3 Coaching and Support from SouthGrow

These plans were developed through research, stakeholder consultation, and SouthGrow's long-standing knowledge of regional trends. However, the real value emerges through implementation. SouthGrow is available to assist municipalities by:

- Helping refine project ideas into clear, measurable goals.
- Supporting the development of SMART objectives linked to council priorities.
- Coaching staff on how to move projects from concept to operational planning.
- Reviewing proposed initiatives to ensure alignment with economic development best practices.
- Providing guidance on grant opportunities, partnerships, and sequencing.
- Offering quarterly or on-request check-ins to track progress and troubleshoot challenges.

This coaching model ensures that communities are not left to execute the plan alone. SouthGrow

remains an active partner in helping municipalities understand why each project matters, how to implement it effectively, and how to measure success over time.

Importantly, SouthGrow has a Regional Economic Development Officer employed through 2028 to work directly with your council and staff on these coaching activities.

8.4 Adapting the Plan Over Time

Economic conditions, resources, and community priorities change. Municipalities should revisit this plan annually and after major events such as infrastructure funding announcements, development proposals, or leadership changes. As new opportunities arise, projects can be added, removed, or adapted. The plan is designed to be a living document that grows with your community. SouthGrow is here with our expertise to help and advise on how you can pivot and change over time.

8.5 The Path Forward

By combining clear project ideas, community-informed insights, and ongoing coaching, this plan provides a practical framework for sustainable community growth. Municipalities that use the document consistently and collaboratively will be better positioned to improve service readiness, attract investment, diversify their economy, and enhance quality of life for residents.

SouthGrow looks forward to working alongside your municipality as you move from planning to action.



Village of Stirling

Meeting Minutes

September 2, 2026 - Regular Meeting of Council - 07:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Council of the Village of Stirling was held in the Council Chambers, located at the Stirling Community Centre/Lions Hall at 409 - 2 Street, on Wednesday, September 2, 2026, commencing at 7:00 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Scott Barton, Deputy Mayor Stacey Maynes, Councillors Justin Davis, Matthew Foss, and Nikole Norris

Chief Administrative Officer, Scott Donselaar
Senior Administrative Assistant, Aletta Lightfoot

1. **Regular Council Meeting – Call Meeting to Order**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2026-220

2. **Adoption of Agenda**

Moved By: Councillor Davis

That the agenda be adopted as amended to include:

- Delegation Item 4.1: RCMP Raymond/Magrath Detachment
- Discussion Item 7.9: Council Courses

Carried

3. **Recognition**

Council welcomed all students back for the start of the new school year and wished them a successful year ahead.

Council thanked everyone who spent time at the Stirling Swimming Pool this summer and helped make it an enjoyable season. Council also extended its appreciation to the pool staff for their hard work and dedication throughout the summer. The pool's final day of operation will be Monday, September 7, 2026.

4. **Delegations**

4.1 **RCMP Raymond Magrath Detachment**

Sgt. Brad Noss reviewed stats for the last quarter, including:

- Traffic concerns in town
 - The RCMP logged certain hours in town
 - One of the main areas of concern was along 4 Avenue
 - The average speed of vehicles was 45-50km/hr during that time frame
 - There were no calls of speeding vehicles during that specific time.
- All six positions have been filled
 - Cst. Rodriguez will be starting before winter
- Please contact the RCMP about scheduling any upcoming events, workshops, or learning opportunities

- o Fall Festival will be Saturday, September 19

4.2 Marianne Fox

Marianne brought forward three main concerns with regard to the indoor riding arena currently being built on the northwest side of Stirling:

1. Visual impact
2. Notification process
3. Land Use Bylaw - specifically gaps in agriculture section

Administration was present and did confirm that the Senior Planner from ORRSC had been contacted for verification, confirmed that the development met all the required bylaws, and that the proper process was followed.

Marianne respectfully requested a review notification process as per section 39 of the Land Use Bylaw, and if there was any recourse under the Municipal Government Act (MGA).

4.3 Trevor Lewington - Ridge Utilities

Trevor Lewington presented the Ridge Utilities 2025 Annual Report. Ridge Utilities continued to grow in 2025, with a 30% increase in customer accounts, exceeding its 28% target. Net revenue increased by 37.4% to \$199,738, while customer turnover and bad debt rates continued to improve.

The company also fully repaid the startup loan provided by the Village of Stirling and increased funds held to meet its financial obligations. Ridge Utilities met its 2025 contract performance requirements with no performance shortfall.

5. Minutes

2026-221

5.1 Adoption of Council Minutes – August 12, 2026

Moved By: Councillor Foss

That the minutes of the regular meeting of Council held on August 12, 2026 be approved as amended.

Carried

5.2 Business Arising from the Minutes

Please add the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation: Bringing Hearts Home Cardiac Campaign to the September 16, 2026 Council Agenda.

5.3 Motion Tracker

6. Financial Items

2026-222

6.1 ATB Credit Card Statement

Moved By: Councillor Norris

That Council request the ATB credit card statement brought forward monthly and be added to the Accounts Payable discussion item.

Carried

2026-223

6.2 Accounts Payable

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Maynes

That accounts payable:

- Cheque #20260072 to Cheque #20260078
- EFT #20266758, EFT #20266797 to EFT #20266863

be approved.

Carried

2026-224 **6.3 Bank Reconciliation: July 2026**

Moved By: Councillor Davis

That the Bank Reconciliation for July 2026 be approved.

Carried

2026-225 **6.4 Budget Report**

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Maynes

That the Budget Report dated August 28, 2026 be accepted as information.

Carried

7. Items for Discussion

2026-226 **7.1 Council Delegation - Marianne Fox**

Moved By: Councillor Foss

That Council direct Administration to review the current notification process and bring the matter forward to the October 7, 2026 Municipal Planning Commission meeting for further discussion.

Carried

2026-227 **7.2 Municipally Controlled Corporation - Annual Financial Statements**

Moved By: Mayor Barton

That Council receive the 2025 annual financial statements submitted by Ridge Utilities Ltd. as information in compliance with Section 75.2 (1) of Alberta's Municipal Government Act with respect to municipally controlled corporations. Further moved that Council also accept the accompanying operations report of the corporation as information.

Carried

2026-228 **7.3 Municipally Controlled Corporation - Annual Shareholder Resolution**

Moved By: Councillor Davis

That Council, acting in its capacity as the sole shareholder of Ridge Utilities Ltd. (a municipally controlled corporation) approve the Resolution of the Sole Shareholder as proposed and ratify the appointment of the Board of Directors contained therein. Further moved that the Mayor and Deputy Mayor be authorized to sign the same.

Carried

2026-229 **7.4 Bylaw 586-26: Amending Bylaw 490-20 Intermunicipal Development Plan**

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Maynes

To give first reading to Bylaw 586-26: Amending Bylaw 490-20 Intermunicipal Development Plan.

Carried

2026-230 **7.4.1 Set Public Hearing for Bylaw 586-26: Amending Bylaw 490-20 Intermunicipal Development Plan**

Moved By: Mayor Barton

To set a public hearing for October 7, 2026 to be held at 7:00 pm, in the Village of Stirling and further direct Administration to advertise and provide notifications as required by legislation.

Carried

2026-231 **7.5 Subdivision Referral 2026-0-116**

Moved By: Councillor Foss

To direct administration to communicate with the Oldman River Regional Services Commission that we require an easement for our rural water infrastructure in the form as found in the applicant's rural water agreement.

Carried

2026-232 **7.6 2027 ATCO Franchise Fee**

Moved By: Councillor Davis

To direct Administration to advise ATCO Gas the 2027 Franchise Fee will remain at the 12% valuation.

Carried

2026-233 **7.7 2027 Fortis Franchise Fee**

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Maynes

To direct Administration to advise Fortis the 2027 Franchise Fee will remain at the 12% valuation.

Carried

2026-234 **7.8 2026 ABmunis Resolutions Book**

Moved By: Mayor Barton

To table the 2026 ABmunis Resolutions and bring back to the September 16, 2026 Council agenda for discussion.

Carried

2026-235 **7.9 Council Courses**

Moved By: Councillor Foss

To approve expenses related to Deputy Mayor Maynes to attend the AB Munis Officials training program for September and November 2026 courses, and further direct Administration to craft a policy in relation to elected official education expenses.

Carried

2026-236 **8. CAO Report**

Moved By: Councillor Foss

That the CAO Report be accepted as information.

Carried

9. Council Committee Meeting Reports

Councillor Davis left the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

Councillor Davis returned to the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Mayor Scott Barton:

- August 15: Attended the Meet & Greet BBQ with MP Glen Motz

Deputy Mayor Stacey Maynes:

- August 15: Attended the Meet & Greet BBQ with MP Glen Motz
- Community Events Committee
 - Fall Festival - Sept 19

Councillor Justin Davis:

- Nothing to report

Councillor Matthew Foss:

- Nothing to report

Councillor Nikole Norris:

- Family and Community Support Services (FCSS)
 - New housing program grant
 - Helped 17 individuals since April

2026-237

10. Correspondence and Items for Information

Moved By: Deputy Mayor Maynes

That the following correspondence be accepted as information:

Carried

10.1 Oldman River Regional Services Commission (ORRSC)

10.2 Family and Community Support Services (FCSS)

10.3 Chief Mountain Regional Solid Waste Services Commission (CMRSWSC)

10.4 Chinook Arch Library Regional System (CARLS)

10.5 Canadians For Safe Technology

10.6 National Police Federation (NPF)

2026-238

11. Council Highlights

Moved By: Councillor Norris

To highlight the following from this Council Meeting for immediate public release:

- RCMP presentation:
 - Completed traffic assessment related to speeding in town (received zero complaints while performing the assessment)
 - Will continue to monitor
 - Encourage people to call in to report
- Review of the Agricultural Zoning in the Land Use Bylaw
- School is back in! School zones are in effect!
- Ridge Utilities Ltd. presented the 2025 financial report and paid back the financial commitment to Stirling

Carried

12. Closed Session: Section 19 of the Access to Information Act, Statutes of Alberta, 2024, Chapter A-1.4 Privacy Act

2026-239

12.1 Motion to Enter into Closed Session

Moved By: Councillor Davis

To enter into Closed Session as per Section 19 of the Access to Information Act, Statutes of Alberta, 2024, Chapter A-1.4 Privacy Act at 8:25 p.m.

Carried

12.2 Personnel

2026-240

12.3 Motion to Come Out of Closed Session

Moved By: Mayor Barton

To come out of Closed Session at 9:30 p.m.

Carried

2026-241

12.4 Motion from Closed Session

Moved By: Councillor Foss

That Council approve to adjust CAO Donselaar's performance incentive pay for June 2025 - June 2026 for earning his CLGM designation in line with the performance incentive matrix, and for Mayor Barton to provide CAO Donselaar with a response regarding Council's interpretation of performance incentive pay in the CAO Employment Agreement.

Carried

2026-242

13. Adjournment

Moved By: Councillor Davis

That the agenda matters have been concluded and that the meeting be adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

Carried

These minutes to be approved on the 16th day of September 2026.

Mayor - Scott Barton

CAO - Scott Donselaar

Stirling Council Motion Tracker 2026

Number	Topic	Motion	Status	Details
2025-170	Motion from Closed Session	MOVED by Councillor Bikman to direct Administration to further explore feasible stormwater management options and engage with landowners to gather information as discussed during the Closed Session period, and report back to Council with an update.	In Progress	Working on options and proceeding.
2026-134	Stirling Lions Club Delegation	MOVED by Councillor Norris that Administration proceed with the condition assessment as outlined in the Lions Club Presentation, to be undertaken by FWBA Architects in coordination with the Village's Public Works team, local electrical trades, and other specialists as required.	In Progress	Working with David Cocks on the evaluation.
2026-198	Organizational Review and Strategic Audit Initiative	MOVED by Councillor Davis WHEREAS Council of the Village of Stirling is committed to sound governance, continuous organizational improvement, and evidence-based strategic planning; and WHEREAS Council recognizes the importance of conducting a comprehensive organizational review to assess the Village's current capacity, performance, risks, opportunities, and long-term sustainability; and WHEREAS the Village of Stirling Strategic Planning Framework provides for the completion of both an External Audit and an Internal Audit to identify organizational strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) and to establish a foundation for future strategic direction; and WHEREAS the External Audit shall examine economic, social, demographic, environmental, political, legal, technological, and competitive factors affecting the Village and its operations; and WHEREAS the Internal Audit shall evaluate the Village's management, human resources, finance, operations, stakeholder relations, information systems, innovation capacity, and overall organizational effectiveness; and WHEREAS the results of the External and Internal Audits will be integrated into a SWOT Analysis and used to identify strategic issues, establish priorities, and establish Council's strategic planning process. NOW, THERE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: 1. Council authorizes the completion of a comprehensive Organizational Review of the Village of Stirling, consisting of both an External Audit and an Internal Audit in accordance with the Village of Stirling Strategic Planning Framework. 2. Mayor Scott Barton and Chief Administrative Officer Scott Donselaar are hereby appointed as the responsible leads for coordinating, conducting, and overseeing the Organizational Review process. 3. The Organizational Review shall include: • An assessment of internal strengths and weaknesses across all major functional areas; and	In Progress	Currently being developed
2026-201	20260706 IDP Brief Package	MOVED by Deputy Mayor Maynes that Council accept the 20260706 IDP Briefing Package as information, and further direct Administration to coordinate with the County of Warner to schedule the Joint Use Planning Hearing.	In Progress	Shawn will have a date for the public hearing proposed on September 1st.
2026-202	Joint Use Planning Agreement with Westwind School Division	MOVED by Councillor Foss that Council direct Mayor Barton to sign the Joint Use Planning Agreement, as amended, with Westwind School Division, following approval and execution of the Agreement by Westwind School Division.	In Progress	Waiting on Westwind to sign and return.
2026-235	Council Courses	MOVED by Councillor Foss to approve expenses related to Deputy Mayor Maynes to attend the AB Munis Officials training program for September and November 2026 courses, and further direct Administration to craft a policy in relation to elected official education expenses.	In Progress	

** Motions to approve agendas, minutes, accounts payable or other purely administrative matters are excluded from the tracker.



MONTHLY STATEMENT

AUG 08 to SEP 04, 2026

VILLAGE OF STIRLING *
Account Number:
Alberta BusinessCard®

We'd like to help you:
atb.com
1-800-332-8383

YOUR ACCOUNT SUMMARY

Statement date: September 04, 2026

PREVIOUS CHARGES AND PAYMENTS

Your previous balance	\$14,954.20
Payments made from Aug 08 to Sep 04 - Thank you	-\$14,954.20
Credits	\$0.00
Total payments and credits	-\$14,954.20

NEW CHARGES

Purchases and returns	\$12,186.57
Cash advances and cheques	\$0.00
Fees and adjustments	\$35.00
Interest charges	\$0.00
Total new charges	\$12,221.57
Your new balance	\$12,221.57

MINIMUM PAYMENT AND CREDIT LIMIT

Minimum payment due	\$367.00	Your credit limit	\$20,000.00
Payment due date	September 25, 2026	Available credit on Sep 04	\$7,778.43



Payment Slip

If you're paying by mail, please send this remittance slip with your cheque to:

ATB Financial
P.O. Box 21063
Calgary, AB T2P 4H5

Account number:

Your new balance :	\$12,221.57
Minimum payment due:	\$367.00
Payment due date:	September 25, 2026
Amount enclosed:	\$

PFDATEXH

VILLAGE OF STIRLING *
PO BOX 360
STIRLING AB T0K 2E0

PAYMENTS AND CREDITS

Any payments you made that we received after September 04, 2026 will appear on your next statement.

Date Posted	Description	Amount (\$)
Aug 14	PAYMENT - THANK YOU	-14,954.20
Total payments and credits		-\$14,954.20

PURCHASES AND RETURNS

Date Charged	Date Posted	Description	Amount (\$)
Aug 06	Aug 08	CANADIAN TIRE #634 LETHBRIDGE AB	169.67
Aug 09	Aug 09	TARGET T-2404 HENDERSON NV US DOLLAR 108.38 X 1.44408562	156.51
Aug 20	Aug 20	CANADIAN TIRE #634 LETHBRIDGE AB	105.35
Aug 24	Aug 24	REAL CDN. WHOLESALE #6 LETHBRIDGE AB	24.14
Aug 24	Aug 24	AWWOA EDMONTON AB	425.25
Aug 25	Aug 25	PAYPAL * AMSA 4029357733 AB	800.00
Aug 25	Aug 25	PAYPAL * AMSA 4029357733 AB	800.00
Aug 25	Aug 25	AWWOA EDMONTON AB	425.25
Aug 26	Aug 26	REAL CDN. WHOLESALE #6 LETHBRIDGE AB	311.23
Aug 26	Aug 26	CANADIAN TIRE #634 LETHBRIDGE AB	98.07
Aug 26	Aug 26	LSP*MODERN CHINESE NIC LETHBRIDGE AB	276.73

(continued on next page)



You have made a foreign currency transaction.

For further details on how we calculated this currency conversion, please see the "Other Items For Your Attention" page of your statement.

You can make your payment by:

- Autopay (pre-authorized Debit)
- ABM
- Telephone banking
- Internet banking
- Mail, to the address alongside
- At any ATB branch

Please allow enough time for your payment to reach us by the due date.

Mail your payments and enquiries to:

ATB Financial
P.O. Box 21063
Calgary, AB T2P 4H5



MONTHLY STATEMENT

AUG 08 to SEP 04, 2026

VILLAGE OF STIRLING *
Account Number:
Alberta BusinessCard®

PURCHASES AND RETURNS (continued)

Date Charged	Date Posted	Description	Amount (\$)
Aug 27	Aug 27	COSTCO WHOLESALE W160 LETHBRIDGE AB	94.68
Aug 31	Aug 31	WAL-MART # 3048 LETHBRIDGE AB	35.94
Sep 01	Sep 01	RAYMOND MERCANTILE CO. RAYMOND AB	150.00
Sep 01	Sep 01	REAL CDN. WHOLESALE #6 LETHBRIDGE AB	276.24
Sep 01	Sep 01	COSTCO WHOLESALE W160 LETHBRIDGE AB	88.68
Sep 01	Sep 01	WAL-MART # 3048 LETHBRIDGE AB	29.68
Sep 01	Sep 01	THE HOME DEPOT #7170 LETHBRIDGE AB	483.69
Sep 02	Sep 02	BARTLE & GIBSON LETHBRIDGE AB	666.11
Sep 03	Sep 03	REAL CDN. WHOLESALE #6 LETHBRIDGE AB	42.11
Sep 03	Sep 03	WAL-MART # 3048 LETHBRIDGE AB	38.88
Total			\$5,498.21

Date Charged	Date Posted	Description	Amount (\$)
Aug 10	Aug 10	ADOBE SAN JOSE CA	162.70
Aug 11	Aug 11	AMZN MKTP CA*5H61I4JG0 TORONTO ON	34.53
Aug 11	Aug 11	AMAZON.CA*5H0JZ7ZL2 TORONTO ON	11.20
Aug 11	Aug 11	AMAZON.CA*5H57C4EG1 TORONTO ON	18.60
Aug 13	Aug 13	AMZN MKTP CA*5H8WF5B32 TORONTO ON	16.04
Aug 15	Aug 15	VISTA RADIO LTD. - WES COURTENAY BC	1,312.50
Aug 15	Aug 15	VISTA RADIO LTD. - WES COURTENAY BC	420.00
Aug 15	Aug 15	VISTA RADIO LTD. - WES COURTENAY BC	420.00
Aug 15	Aug 15	VISTA RADIO LTD. - WES COURTENAY BC	1,050.00
Aug 24	Aug 24	AMZN MKTP CA*5O0MX7PN1 TORONTO ON	26.58
Aug 24	Aug 24	AMAZON.CA*5O5529VB1 TORONTO ON	19.99
Aug 27	Aug 27	AMZN MKTP CA*5O1UP2YU1 TORONTO ON	31.49
Aug 27	Aug 27	MICROSOFT#G180407975 MISSISSAUGA ON	26.93

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PURCHASES AND RETURNS (continued)

Date Charged	Date Posted	Description	Amount (\$)
Aug 29	Aug 29	AMZN MKTP CA*5Q8CT1P31 TORONTO ON	31.17
Sep 03	Sep 03	AMAZON.CA*5333F9EW1 TORONTO ON	37.74
Total			\$3,619.47

Date Charged	Date Posted	Description	Amount (\$)
Aug 10	Aug 10	REAL CDN. WHOLESALE #6 LETHBRIDGE AB	219.67
Aug 10	Aug 10	COSTCO WHOLESALE W160 LETHBRIDGE AB	112.20
Aug 10	Aug 10	THE HOME DEPOT #7170 LETHBRIDGE AB	232.30
Aug 11	Aug 11	RAYMOND MERCANTILE CO. RAYMOND AB	240.00
Aug 11	Aug 11	WHITECAPSUPPLYCANADA#2 LETHBRIDGE AB	345.87
Aug 13	Aug 13	REAL CDN. WHOLESALE #6 LETHBRIDGE AB	94.02
Aug 13	Aug 13	WHITECAPSUPPLYCANADA#2 LETHBRIDGE AB	178.48
Aug 18	Aug 18	THE HOME DEPOT #7170 LETHBRIDGE AB	265.60
Aug 19	Aug 19	ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES EDMONTON AB	446.25
Sep 03	Sep 03	ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES EDMONTON AB	908.25
Sep 03	Sep 03	ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES EDMONTON AB	26.25
Total			\$3,068.89
Total purchases and returns			\$12,186.57

FEES AND ADJUSTMENTS

Date Posted	Description	Amount (\$)
Sep 03	ANNUAL FEE	35.00
Total fees and adjustments		\$35.00

INTEREST CHARGES

Balance Type	Interest Charged (\$)	Annual Interest Rate (%)
Purchases	0.00	4.45 (v)
Cash advances and cheques	0.00	4.45 (v)
Total interest charges	\$0.00	

(v) - Variable (f) - Fixed



MONTHLY STATEMENT

AUG 08 to SEP 04, 2026

VILLAGE OF STIRLING *
Account Number:
Alberta BusinessCard®

▶ OTHER ITEMS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

The following summarizes key terms and conditions of the business account that appear on your statement. For the complete terms and conditions, please check your Cardholder Agreement.

Find an error?

Review your statement carefully. If you find an error, give us a call or drop by a branch. We'll work with you to resolve it.

Interest Grace Period

If you pay your entire new balance (not only the minimum payment due) by the payment due date shown on this statement, we won't charge interest on new purchases or fees that appear on this statement for the first time (meaning they were not on your previous statement).

If we don't receive payment of your entire new balance by the payment due date, you will be charged interest on new purchases and fees starting on the transaction date, as well as on any other charges that appear on this statement that weren't previously paid (including all previously accumulated interest), until you do pay off your entire new balance.

There is no interest-free grace period for cash advances (this includes cheques, balance transfers, money orders, gambling, cryptocurrency and investment transactions, and some other things – see the "Legal Definitions" section of your Cardholder Agreement).

The way we apply your payments is explained in your Cardholder Agreement in the section "How We Apply Payments".

Paying off your new balance

On page 1 we've estimated how long it will take you to pay off your new balance. This is based on your new balance shown on this statement and we have assumed that:

- you will make only your minimum payment due, on or before each payment due date, and
- your current interest rates (including any Promotional Rates) will stay the same.

Missed Payments

You are required to make at least the minimum monthly payment due by the payment due date, as shown on your statement. Missing payments (which includes not paying at least the minimum payment due by the payment due date) will affect your interest rates. Please refer to the **Summary of Rates, Fees and Disclosures** for the specific rates that will apply.

Foreign Currency Transactions

If you used your card for a transaction in a currency that is different from Canadian dollars (**Foreign Currency**), we will still bill you in Canadian dollars for all transactions. For Foreign Currency transactions, we converted the amount of the transaction to Canadian dollars using the Mastercard International Incorporated (Mastercard) rate of exchange that was applicable at the time we presented the transaction to Mastercard for processing, and we added a fee of 2.9% to the converted amount. The converted amount in Canadian dollars plus the fee is what is showing on your statement. Since the fee is included in the transaction amount calculation, it does not show separately in the "Fees and Adjustments" section of your statement. See the "Using Your Card for Transactions that are in a Different Currency" section of your Cardholder Agreement for more information on Foreign Currency transactions.

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How to contact us

Statement and account inquiries

Canada & the US: Call toll-free 1-877-541-4456
Automated Service: 1-800-224-3979

Lost and stolen cards 24 hrs/day – 7 days/week

In Canada & the USA: 1-800-247-4623

Emergency replacement cards

In Canada & the USA: 1-800-307-7309

If you are outside Canada & the USA, please call 001-403-245-8110 for all inquiries.

Rewards Program website atbmybusinessrewards.com

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VILLAGE OF STIRLING

Page 1 of 1

Cheque Listing For Council

2026-Sep-14
5:24:51PM

Cheque		Vendor Name	Invoice #	Invoice Description	Invoice Amount	Cheque Amount
Cheque #	Date					
20260079	2026-09-14	ATB FINANCIAL	237	AUGUST EXPENSES	12,221.57	12,221.57
20260080 20260080	2026-09-14	JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	P52160 W58044	LAWN SWEEP REPAIRS	20.60 1,017.67	1,038.27
20260081	2026-09-14	KOST FIRE PLUS SAFETY SOLUTIONS	1787	EXTINGUISHERS/EQUIP	2,491.46	2,491.46
20260082	2026-09-14	PETTY CASH	2026-09-14	FALL FESTIVAL - DINNER	150.00	150.00
20260083	2026-09-14	WORKERS COMPENSATION BOARD	29312559	INSTALLMENT	4,140.00	4,140.00
20260084	2026-09-14	CARRIER MCGILL ENTERPRISES LTD.	12704	FLUSH MAINT.	3,824.63	3,824.63
20260085	2026-09-14	EPCOR	12705	POWER	81.01	81.01
(EFT) 20266902	2026-09-14	ACTIVE LOCK & SAFE	39658	KEYS	29.93	29.93
(EFT) 20266903	2026-09-14		1344553	FIRST AID/LSI/NLS/MILEAGE	1,158.25	1,158.25
(EFT) 20266904	2026-09-14	AMSC - UTILITIES	156	NATURAL GAS	2,122.48	2,122.48
(EFT) 20266905 (EFT) 20266905	2026-09-14	ANNE'S WINDY POPLARS INC., o/a STREET SIDE M,	1029-0731 26-	JULY EXPENSES JUNE EXPENSES	1,106.80 231.80	1,338.60
(EFT) 20266906	2026-09-14	CANOE PROCUREMENT GRP, DIVISION OF RMA	709263001663	REPAIR KITS	1,042.89	1,042.89
(EFT) 20266907	2026-09-14	CHINOOK ARCH REGIONAL LIBRARY	923824	MEMBERSHIP JUL-DEC 2026	2,077.74	2,077.74
(EFT) 20266908	2026-09-14	CHINOOK EQUIPMENT LTD.	01-59219	BCA COVER/SHIELD CLAMP	229.92	229.92
(EFT) 20266909 (EFT) 20266909 (EFT) 20266909	2026-09-14	ELDORADO PETROLEUM SERVICE LTD.	780470 780472 780473	GASOLINE GASOLINE GASOLINE	309.75 324.54 633.05	1,267.34
(EFT) 20266910	2026-09-14	FREDDIES PAINT	00773512	STONINGTON GREY/PRIMER/WHITE	753.46	753.46
(EFT) 20266911	2026-09-14	JENEX CONTRACTING	4782	NEW SVC	7,014.00	7,014.00
(EFT) 20266912	2026-09-14	LAPP	491	PP #18	3,664.65	3,664.65
(EFT) 20266913	2026-09-14	QUADIENT CANADA, DPOC	2290708260831	POSTAGE METER	497.28	497.28
(EFT) 20266914	2026-09-14	RAYMOND AUTO PARTS	83586	GROMMET	6.01	6.01
(EFT) 20266915	2026-09-14	RECORDXPRESS, DIVISION STORAGVAULT CDN	1344659	SHREDDING	38.21	38.21
(EFT) 20266916	2026-09-14	RIDGE WATER SERVICES COMMISSION	1112	AUGUST WATER	36,312.00	36,312.00
(EFT) 20266917	2026-09-14	RONA INC	619-26768281	DRYWALL	183.32	183.32
(EFT) 20266918	2026-09-14	SCHAFFER PLUMBING & HEATING LTD	7041	MISC	2,637.40	2,637.40
(EFT) 20266919	2026-09-14	SOUTHWEST CONCRETE PRODUCTS LTD.	104341	4 AVE & 4A ST	483.95	483.95
(EFT) 20266920	2026-09-14	TELUS COMMUNICATINS INC.	523	PHONES	530.51	530.51
(EFT) 20266921	2026-09-14	THE LITTLE VILLAGE BAKERY	1139	HOT DOG BUNS	7.98	7.98
(EFT) 20266922	2026-09-14	TRIPLE W NATURAL GAS	148414	NATURAL GAS	69.67	69.67
(EFT) 20266923	2026-09-14	UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA	SOINV9478911	ROUNDUP	77.50	77.50

Total 85,490.03

*** End of Report ***



STIRLING

Council Meeting – September 16, 2026

Agenda Item: Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation Request

Strategic Alignment:

Build Community: Infrastructure & Amenities 	 Celebrate Community: ?  Engagement & Pride	Enhance Community:  Development & Economy
 Financial Sustainability: \$ Responsible Financial Management		

Background Information:

Returned to Council as per motion 2026-114: "MOVED by Deputy Mayor Maynes that Council table the delegation discussion from the Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation to a September 2026 Council meeting, and direct Administration to gather additional information from AB Munis and surrounding municipalities for further consideration."

<https://crhfoundation.ca/cardiaccare/index.php>

The question outstanding from the presentation was related to if Council wished to provide a donation towards the construction of a cardiovascular clinic at the Chinook Regional Hospital.

Administration notes their website indicates they have raised \$644,000.00 of their thirty million dollar goal, based off the information found on their website.

Informal conversations with CAO's from the area, during the time the foundation was presenting did not seem to indicate many of the councils were signing on as donors, or if those Councils felt a clear need to address the issue.

Administration has not reviewed the ABmunis resolutions, but these are on the agenda for Council, as Council was to have reviewed them for this meeting; Administration would suggest any resolution being presented to address matters related to healthcare management or administration of healthcare, should be resolutions that Council discusses to ascertain if the wish to support them.

Administration would also note healthcare and provision of healthcare is solely the responsibility of the province and the province has complete management and control over any and all healthcare initiatives. Administration would question the province if it is prepared to fund in perpetuity a clinic of this nature operationally upon its creation, or if the creation will lead to more private donation funding to maintain its services.

As donation requests are managed from the Council other expenses; along with a variety of other Council expenses, Administration would suggest caution in how much Council wishes to donate, provided the costs for the upcoming ABmunis conference have not been allocated into the budget.



STIRLING

Administration would note Council already has a three year commitment made to STARS for \$1,169.00 of an annual donation.

Recommendation:

Administration has no recommendation on this matter.

Proposed Motion(s):

Motion to be determined by the discussion at Council.

VILLAGE OF STIRLING
COUNCIL EXPENSE REPORT
REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

General Ledger	Description	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2026 Budget	2026 Actual
EXPENSE TOTAL					
2-11-00-110	COUNCIL - FEES & HONORARIUMS	15,000.00	16,354.70	20,000.00	15,587.00
2-11-00-130	COUNCIL - EMPLOYER CONTR	100.00	183.80	150.00	233.23
2-11-00-211	COUNCIL-COMMITTEE EXPENSE	3,000.00	6,380.62	3,000.00	1,130.79
2-11-00-212	COUNCIL - SEMINAR & CONVENTION	4,000.00	10,452.20	8,000.00	1,955.95
2-11-00-213	COUNCIL - MILEAGE	1,500.00	1,115.45	3,000.00	64.57
2-11-00-215	COUNCIL - LEGISLATIVE (RECRUITMENT)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-11-00-220	COUNCIL TRAVEL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-11-00-510	COUNCIL-OTHER EXPENSE	18,000.00	4,358.23	5,000.00	2,551.46
* EXPENSE TOTAL		41,600.00	38,845.00	39,150.00	21,523.00

*** End of Report ***



STIRLING

Council Meeting – September 2, 2026

Agenda Item: ABmunis 2026 Resolution Book

Strategic Alignment:

Build Community: Infrastructure & Amenities 	 Celebrate Community: ?  Engagement & Pride	Enhance Community:  Development & Economy
Financial Sustainability: \$ Responsible Financial Management		

Background Information:

Mayor Barton requested this be added to the agenda for Council Consideration.

Recommendation:

Proposed Motion(s):

Council Meeting – September 16, 2026

Updated Background Information:

Per Council Motion 2026-234 Moved by Mayor Scott Barton:

“To table the 2026 ABmunis Resolutions and bring back to the September 16, 2026 Council agenda for discussion.”

This item has been brought back for Council discussion on how Council would like to vote on the proposed resolutions.

Updated Recommendation:

That Council discuss any resolutions they feel should be directly voted for or against and pass motions directing such if they feel it is necessary.

2026 Resolutions Book



 **Alberta
Municipalities**
Strength
In Members

Version 1: July 29, 2026

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About Resolutions

Alberta Municipalities (ABmunis) conducts an annual resolutions process. This enables Regular Members¹ to bring forward common issues and solutions and seek member approval. Approved resolutions direct ABmunis' Board of Directors advocacy positions on those issues, opening conversations with the Government of Alberta or other organizations and governments.

ABmunis' resolution process is guided by our [Resolutions Policy](#).

How to use this Resolutions Book

Each elected official of a Regular Member municipality who registers for ABmunis' Convention has the right to vote on each resolution at ABmunis' Convention. If one or more members of your council are attending this year's [Convention & Trade Show](#) in Edmonton on September 23 - 25, 2026, then we encourage you to:

1. Read this book to understand how the resolution session will run at Convention.
2. Review each resolution before you attend Convention and seek clarity if needed.
3. Make time to discuss each resolution with your council colleagues so that your elected delegates at Convention understand your councils perspectives when debating, and voting in the resolution session.

Note: During the Convention resolution session, each elected official votes individually. Therefore, your council member(s) can choose to vote in accordance with the majority position of your council or their own personal view, if different.

What process led to these resolutions being presented at ABmunis' Convention?

All Regular Members had the opportunity to submit a resolution to ABmunis before May 31, 2026. The municipality was responsible for writing the resolution and having it approved by their council and approved by a second council from a municipality of a different population size.

Each resolution was reviewed by ABmunis' Municipal Governance Committee and Board of Directors to ensure each resolution met the criteria outlined in our [Resolutions Policy](#). For example, a resolution must:

- Address a concern affecting municipalities on a regional or provincial level,
- Not involve a conflict between individual municipalities, citizens, or promote individual businesses,
- Not direct one or more municipalities to take a specific course of action, and
- Not create a perception that ABmunis is partisan or create potential risks for ABmunis.

If a resolution met the criteria of our Resolution Policy, it has been published in this Resolutions Book for all Regular Members to consider and vote on at ABmunis' 2026 Convention.

¹ A [Regular Member](#) is any city, town, village, summer village, specialized municipality, or other designated municipality in Alberta that has an active membership with ABmunis. References to 'member' generally refers to Regular Members.

Can we still submit a resolution?

Yes, but only for emergent issues that:

1. Arose just prior to, or after May 31, 2026, such that members could not submit the resolution in time; and
2. Have a critical aspect of concern to municipalities that must be addressed before the 2027 Convention.

Emergent resolutions must be submitted before 12:00 p.m. on September 22, 2026. If you are considering an emergent resolution, please consider submitting as early as possible to help ensure a smooth process for ABmunis and all members during Convention. [Instead of submitting an emergent resolution](#), ABmunis' members may also consider bringing forward issues at ABmunis' Spring 2027 Municipal Leaders' Caucus or request action by contacting ABmunis' Board of Directors. Any questions about emergent resolutions may be emailed to resolutions@abmunis.ca.

How do I participate in the Resolution Session?

The 2026 resolution session will take place on Thursday, September 24, 2026, as part of ABmunis [2026 Convention & Trade Show](#). The session will follow the process set out in sections 36 to 63 of the [Resolutions Policy](#).

Who can speak to a resolution?

Elected representatives of a Regular Member municipality can speak to resolutions. A representative of an Associate Member (e.g. municipal districts and counties) may speak to a resolution if there is a motion from the floor, or at the discretion of the Chair.

How to speak to a resolution

After each resolution is introduced by the mover, the Chair will call for a speaker who wishes to speak in opposition, seek clarification, or propose an amendment.

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. Speakers will have ninety (90) seconds to speak. Except for the mover of the resolution, a representative may not speak more than once on each resolution.

If no member rises to speak in opposition, seek clarification, or propose amendment, the Chair will declare debate closed and the spokesperson from the moving municipality will be allowed one (1) minute to close debate.

How to propose an amendment to a resolution

ABmunis will only consider amendments to the active clause of the resolution (*It is therefore resolved that...*). If you are concerned that information in the whereas clauses or background section of a resolution is incorrect, please email resolutions@abmunis.ca with relevant sources that ABmunis can use to verify the correct information.

To support an efficient resolution process, members are encouraged to propose an amendment to a resolution only when it materially changes the intent or direction given to ABmunis. Please avoid proposing amendments that deal with minor issues like grammar, tone, or sentence structure. ABmunis will understand the primary intent of each resolution and will adjust our advocacy as needed.

Notifying the Mover and ABmunis

ABmunis encourages members to discuss the proposed amendment with the moving municipality² prior to Convention, or as early as possible and notify ABmunis (resolutions@abmunis.ca) at the same time. This is a courtesy to the mover and enables ABmunis to be prepared to present the proposed amendment visually on the screen to help all attendees during the voting process and avoid delays in the Convention schedule.

² The contact information for the moving municipality is listed at the end of each resolution in this Resolutions Book.

Seconders for an Amendment

Unless it is deemed a “friendly amendment” the mover of the amendment must have a seconder from another municipality.³

Submitting an Amendment

Members are strongly encouraged to submit the proposed amendment in writing at least one day prior to the resolution session. It must be presented with your name, title, municipality, and the resolution title, along with the exact wording of the proposed amendment.

If prior to the Resolutions Session

Email resolutions@abmunis.ca.
This helps avoid delays during the resolution session.

If during the Resolutions Session

Hand-deliver your proposed amendment in writing to both the ABmunis staff sitting in the audio booth at the back of the room and to the Resolution Session Chair on stage.

How to vote

Approximately one week prior to Convention, elected officials from Regular Member municipalities who are registered for Convention will receive an email with voting credentials from Data on the Spot. This email should be saved for use during Convention.

The email from Data on the Spot will be similar to this:

You are registered to vote during the ABmunis Convention, taking place September 23-25. Below, you will find your login instructions 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://www.dataonthespot.app/>.

Then enter:

Registered email - *****

Password - *****

Please note that these are only the voting credentials. Further information will be sent out by Alberta Municipalities prior to Convention.

Regards,
Alberta Municipalities

When you receive this email from Data on the Spot, 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 elections of ABmunis' Board of Directors.

If you do not receive an email from Data on the Spot on the Spot by September 18, 2026, please check your email's junk folder first and then email credentials@dataonthespot.com with your name and municipality.

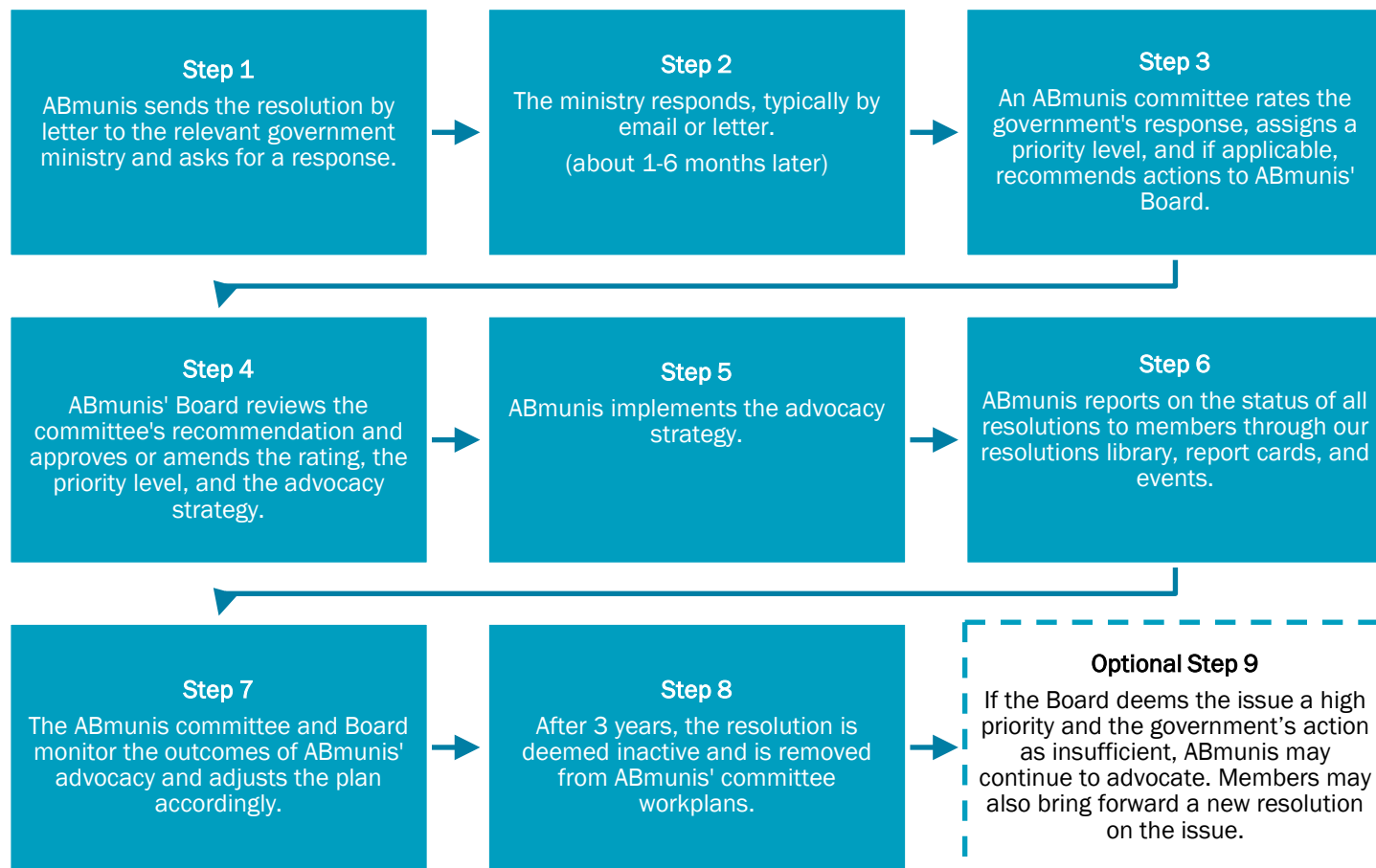
³ Per section 4 of ABmunis' Resolutions Policy, a “friendly amendment” is defined as an amendment that is so simple or uniformly acceptable that it can be adopted by unanimous consent during debate. This eliminates the necessity for a formal amendment process including seconding, debating, and voting.

Bring an electronic device to vote

Bring a laptop, smartphone, or other device that is internet enabled to the resolution session. You will be asked to log in to the Data on the Spot website to vote. When instructed by the Resolution Session Chair, you will follow the steps on your device to vote. After you have cast your vote, you will receive confirmation that your vote has been counted. Once the vote result is posted, we will move on to the next resolution.

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

What happens after members adopt a resolution?



Are some resolutions given more priority?

Yes. ABmunis assigns a low, medium, or high priority to each resolution based on the criteria in our [Advocacy Prioritization Policy](#). The priority level assigned to a resolution will determine the level of effort ABmunis takes to advocate on the issue.

ABmunis' Actions

Send a letter(s)
Monitor outcomes
Collaborate with other organizations
Conduct research
Meet with a minister(s) or senior official
Strike an ad hoc working group
Meet with the Premier
Engage media
Conduct a social media campaign
Support members to take specific actions
Other initiatives

Low Priority	Medium Priority*	High Priority*
✓	✓	✓
✓	✓	✓
	✓	✓
	✓	✓
	✓	✓
		✓
		✓
		✓
		✓
		✓
		✓

*may involve a combination of the listed actions

Status of previous resolutions

Since 2009, ABmunis has posted all member resolutions in our online [Resolutions Library](#), which shows:

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

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

Tips from past councils

- When voting on a resolution, consider the following questions:
 - Is this issue important enough that ABmunis should invest its time and resources on the issue?
 - Is ABmunis the best organization to add value to this issue?
 - If the issue doesn't apply to my community, can I still support it because municipalities in Alberta will generally benefit if ABmunis is successful in its advocacy?
 - Would advocacy on this issue have unintended consequences for municipalities?
- If you plan to speak to a resolution, take time to practice your remarks to be under 90 seconds so your microphone isn't cut off during your address. The timer starts as soon as you introduce yourself at the microphone.
- Each resolution has been brought forward by a council of your peers. If you don't agree with the resolution, keep an open mind as to why they brought it forward and focus your energy on questioning the policy, without criticizing the council bringing it forward, or the people it impacts.

2026 RESOLUTIONS

Category B: Issues Related to ABmunis' Strategic Initiatives

B1: Balancing Incentives Between Locum and Community-Based Physicians & Other Healthcare Workers to Support Family Practice

Moved by: Town of Hinton
Seconded by: Town of Swan Hills

WHEREAS timely and reliable access to primary health care is essential to the health, safety, and well-being of all Albertans, and the absence of stable primary care contributes to increased emergency department use and poorer health outcomes;

WHEREAS Alberta's healthcare workforce includes both locum and community-based physicians and other healthcare workers, with locums providing important short-term coverage but not intended to replace ongoing, continuous primary care;

WHEREAS locum physicians are provided with flexible, short-term practice opportunities without long-term service commitments, while community-based physicians provide ongoing clinical services, manage administrative responsibilities and maintain continuity of care, creating differences that can discourage permanent community-based practice;

WHEREAS municipalities across Alberta, particularly in rural and remote regions, continue to face challenges recruiting and retaining committed family physicians and other healthcare workers, resulting in service disruptions, clinic instability and increased reliance on locum coverage;¹

WHEREAS ongoing recruitment and retention challenges increasingly require municipalities to divert limited local resources to physician attraction and retention initiatives;² and

WHEREAS strengthening incentives for physicians and other healthcare workers willing to commit to rural residents could increase attraction and retention, therefore supporting workforce stability, continuity of care and the long-term sustainability of local health systems.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to review and amend physician and other healthcare worker incentive frameworks to reduce disparities between locum and community-based physicians and other healthcare workers.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to support community-based family physician practice in rural and underserved communities, to strengthen continuity of care and ensure stable access to primary health services for all Albertans.

BACKGROUND:

Access to stable primary health care is fundamental to the health, safety, and economic sustainability of Alberta communities. Family physicians provide longitudinal care that supports prevention, chronic disease management, and appropriate use of emergency and acute care services. When residents are unable to access a regular family physician, pressures shift to emergency departments and neighbouring communities, increasing system strain and undermining public confidence in essential services.

Alberta's healthcare workforce includes both locum and community-based physicians and other healthcare workers, each serving an important role. Locum healthcare workers provide critical short-term coverage during periods of absence or transition. However, locum practice is designed to be temporary and does not require long-term patient

¹ Alberta Medical Association, [AB's Family Medicine Crisis](#)

² Alberta Municipalities, [Attraction and Retention Strategy for Rural Health Care Professionals \(2024\)](#)

attachment, clinic management responsibilities, or sustained community presence.³ In contrast, permanent, community-based physicians provide ongoing clinical care, -long-term patient relationships, oversee administrative responsibilities, and ensure clinic continuity. These roles support continuity of care and health system stability, but they also involve greater workload, risk and long-term commitment.

Current incentive structures can unintentionally make short-term locum practice more attractive by offering flexibility without equivalent incentives for sustained community-based practice. Evidence suggests that comprehensive, community-based care is increasingly perceived as unrewarded and unsustainable and further suggests that without a course correction, we risk creating a healthcare system in which continuity is the exception rather than the norm.⁴ Alberta municipalities continue to. ⁵

The Government of Alberta has invested in physician recruitment, training and compensation, including more than \$7 billion in the 2026–27 budget⁶. The province has also offered the Rural and Remote Family Medicine Resident Physician Bursary, which is now fully allocated. However, the bursary was not limited to permanent, community-based practice; recipients could commit to a single community, move between communities or practise as locums in eligible communities.⁷

Incentives for physicians and other healthcare workers fall under provincial jurisdiction as part of health service delivery. However, municipalities are increasingly compelled to respond to local physician shortages. Across Alberta, smaller and more remote communities are increasingly offering municipally funded subsidies and incentives for physicians.⁸ These expenditures place pressure on local budgets and property taxpayers, divert resources from core municipal responsibilities, and result in misaligned incentives between municipalities to attract and retain permanent, community-based physicians.

To keep incentives fair and sustainable, Alberta should review and amend physician and other healthcare worker incentive frameworks to reduce disparities between locum and community-based physicians. Where locum physicians receive benefits including no overheads paid for weekend coverage, travel honoraria, and accommodations⁹, community-based physicians could be incentivized by general reduced overhead costs and relocation and accommodation subsidies. Additionally, the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences suggests that financial incentives could be part of a larger, comprehensive strategy to improve the attractiveness of rural practice settings ¹⁰.

Addressing these disparities aligns with provincial objectives to strengthen primary care, improve patient attachment, and reduce avoidable pressure on emergency services. It also aligns with Alberta Municipalities' strategic priorities related to community well-being, sustainable service delivery, and appropriate alignment of responsibilities between orders of government.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

While ABmunis does not currently have a position on the specific issues raised in this resolution, access to health care is one of ABmunis' strategic priorities. It further aligns with a [2024 resolution](#) on the attraction and retention strategy for rural health care professionals.

³ Alberta Medical Association, [Information for Locum Physicians](#)

⁴ Okpalauwaekwe et al. BMC Primary Care, [To stay or leave: an integrative review of factors, personas, and recommendations for retaining family physicians in Canada](#)

⁵ CBC, [Hinton ER doctor shortage puts strain on region, local leaders say](#)

⁶ CTV, [Alberta government announces \\$7.7B investment into physician recruitment in 2026-27 budget](#)

⁷ Rural and Remote Family Medicine Resident Physician Bursary, [Rural and Remote Family Medicine Resident Physician Bursary](#)

⁸ Alberta Municipalities, [ABmunis in the News: Q3, 2024](#),

⁹ Alberta Medical Association, [Information for Locum Physicians](#)

¹⁰ Canadian Academy of Health Sciences, [Canada's Health Workforce: Pathways Forward](#)

If this resolution is approved, it will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response. Further advocacy will be determined by ABmunis' Board based on input from ABmunis' relevant policy committee within the context of ABmunis' priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

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

Fuchsia Dragon
Legislative & Corporate Initiatives Manager
Town of Hinton
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B2: Further Strengthening Governance and Funding Models for Seniors' Lodge Accommodations

Moved by: City of Edmonton
 Seconded by: Town of Rocky Mountain House

WHEREAS municipalities have a legislated mandate under the *Alberta Housing Act* to fund the annual deficit for the previous fiscal year and capital and operating reserve requisitions of Housing Management Bodies (HMBs) providing seniors' lodge accommodations;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta's Seniors Lodge Program Review Panel Final Report (2025) identified systemic issues including aging infrastructure, significant deferred capital maintenance, and inconsistent funding models that threaten the long-term sustainability of seniors' housing;

WHEREAS the amendments through Bill 28 Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act to the Alberta Housing Act as well as the concurrent amendments to the local Ministerial Orders have collectively eroded municipal oversight, specifically by removing mandatory financial reporting and budget approval mechanisms, while maintaining municipal funding obligations and the resulting fiscal impacts unaddressed;

WHEREAS without strengthened legislative mechanisms for municipalities to approve budgets and align them with local requirements, both orders of government face increased financial risk, potentially leaving taxpayers as the sole backstop for escalating HMB deficits that municipalities can no longer effectively monitor;

WHEREAS the Rural Municipalities of Alberta have identified similar concerns regarding insufficient provincial funding leading to increased requisitions on the municipal property tax base for both operational and capital costs; and

WHEREAS previous Alberta Municipalities resolutions regarding affordable housing funding models and capital support are set to expire, necessitating a renewed and aligned advocacy effort to address the growing deferred maintenance and financial pressures on municipalities.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities:

1. Advocate to the Government of Alberta to ensure that regulations and Ministerial Orders resulting from the 2026 legislative amendments mandate meaningful municipal governance participation on seniors' lodge boards, including the formal right to review and approve HMB operating and capital budgets before requisitions are finalized;
2. Advocate to the Government of Alberta to provide an update on the negotiation of a new province-wide funding agreement that ensures the mandatory capital and operating reserves required by the amended *Alberta Housing Act* are not funded primarily through municipal requisitions, but through a sustainable provincial contribution that reflects the Province's primary responsibility for social housing; and
3. Explore opportunities to align advocacy efforts with the Rural Municipalities of Alberta to ensure a unified municipal voice in addressing the shared challenges of HMB requisitions and the long-term viability of the seniors' lodge system.

BACKGROUND:

In July 2025, the Government of Alberta released the [Seniors Lodge Program Review Panel Final Report](#), emphasizing the need for predictable, long-term capital funding streams and stronger municipal-provincial alignment. While the 2026 amendments to the *Alberta Housing Act* actioned structural recommendations from the review panel's report regarding mandatory capital reserves (Recommendation 4), critical recommendations regarding the reform of funding models to target an equitable share of costs based on the respective fiscal capacity of other orders of government to prevent the shifting of greater deficits onto municipalities (Recommendation 3) and the establishment of a transparent three-year rolling capital plan (Recommendation 5) remain largely unaddressed.

Consequently, these legislative changes modernized the requirement for reserves without establishing the commensurate municipal oversight authority or the provincial funding levels necessary to manage the resulting fiscal impacts. This has created a mandate gap where municipalities are obligated to fund reserves and deficits without a formal legislative right to approve the budgets that drive those costs.

Recent municipal budget data shows a sharp rise in mandatory HMB requisitions for operating and capital funding across communities of all sizes, illustrating that this is a systemic provincial challenge rather than a localized one. For instance, the City of Edmonton's 2026 budget discussions highlight that Greater Edmonton Foundation Seniors Housing identified a \$4.7 million capital funding shortfall for high-priority projects that could not be met by existing reserves. Similar pressures are seen in mid-sized and smaller communities across Alberta.

A [November 2024 Auditor General report](#) found over \$1 billion in deferred maintenance across the province's affordable housing portfolio. The [Alberta Seniors & Community Housing Association \(ASCHA\)](#) has repeatedly warned that chronic capital underfunding places the financial sustainability of the entire program at risk and threatens the safety of vulnerable seniors. While recent provincial commitments toward lodge modernization are appreciated, they address only a fraction of the total need identified by housing providers.

This resolution seeks to reinforce the 2025 Review Panel's recommendations by ensuring that "equitable funding" and "good governance" are translated into legislative protections. By strengthening the ability of municipalities to vet budgets and align them with local growth, this advocacy aims to support our seniors' housing partners in securing a stable, transparent financial future that does not place an undue burden on the municipal property tax base.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

This resolution aligns with ABmunis strategic priority of affordable housing and homelessness, and ABmunis position on the recommendations in the Senior's Lodge Program Review Panel's final report and recommendations. If this resolution is passed, it will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response. Further advocacy will be determined by ABmunis' Board based on input from ABmunis' relevant policy committee within the context of ABmunis' priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

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

Sharon Wadi
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B3: Derelict Non-Residential Tax Subclass

Moved by: City of Edmonton
Seconded by: Town of Peace River

WHEREAS derelict non-residential properties impose increased costs on municipalities due to factors such as higher demands on bylaw enforcement, public safety risks, and the potential for arson;

WHEREAS the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA) currently restricts the ability of municipalities to create a non-residential derelict tax subclass, preventing them from using a property tax lever to encourage remediation of these properties;

WHEREAS some municipalities have authority to create derelict non-residential tax subclasses, but the utility of this authority is limited by the requirement that properties must be unoccupied for a year before being assessed as derelict, and by the constraint of the 5:1 tax rate ratio, which may disallow a tax rate high enough to motivate owners to act; and

WHEREAS expanding subclassing authority to all municipalities through an MGA amendment would provide a valuable tax tool to address derelict properties and aligns with the goals of Alberta Municipalities' Property Taxes Reimagined initiative.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to amend Sections 297 and 358.1 of the *Municipal Government Act* to allow all municipalities the option to create a derelict subclass under Class 2 Non-Residential property.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT such an amendment include an exemption from the 5:1 tax rate ratio limit, or include a higher ratio limit, for a derelict non-residential tax subclass, to ensure municipal councils have the necessary flexibility to set a deterrent tax rate.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to remove the requirement that a property be unoccupied for a year before it can be assessed into a derelict non-residential tax subclass.

BACKGROUND:

Derelict non-residential properties are properties that contain a fully or partially constructed non-residential improvement, where the improvement shows serious signs of neglect, is dilapidated, falling into significant disrepair, or is unusable for its intended purpose, but does not include properties that are actively undergoing renovation, construction or demolition. Municipalities that can currently create a derelict non-residential subclass are permitted to define "derelict" for their own purposes.

Derelict non-residential properties have a direct impact on municipal costs, since these properties typically require higher levels of service from bylaw enforcement, fire rescue, and other municipal services. For example, fires often begin in derelict buildings as the unhoused population seek shelter and warmth in unmonitored structures with no utilities. In Edmonton, there have been several fires started in derelict buildings, causing significant property damage to the derelict structure as well as neighbouring structures.

Derelict properties also reduce quality of life for residents living nearby. In presentations to Edmonton's City Council, residents have described living in a state of fear and heightened tension due to concern about the risks of fire and illegal activities in nearby derelict structures. A survey conducted in 2024 found that 83 per cent of Edmontonians strongly agreed that the presence of derelict properties negatively affects the overall quality of life in a neighbourhood. Surrounding non-residential properties are also impacted as the dereliction discourages patronage of their businesses.

Tax subclasses have been an effective tool to address dereliction. In 2023, Edmonton created a derelict tax subclass for residential properties that has demonstrated significant success. Of the 202 properties identified as derelict in the first year of the subclass, 62 were demolished or remediated by the end of the year. Several other municipalities have also created derelict residential tax subclasses, including the City of Wetaskiwin and the Town of Ponoka.

The *Municipal Government Act* currently prevents municipalities from creating a non-residential derelict tax subclass, restricting the use of property tax as a lever to encourage remediation. While Edmonton and Calgary do have authority to establish derelict non-residential subclasses, this authority is unnecessarily constrained by the requirement that properties must be unoccupied for a year before they can be assessed as derelict. This requirement makes it difficult to administer a derelict non-residential subclass, since a property owner may be able to demonstrate a minimal degree of occupation without addressing the dereliction, thereby largely defeating the objectives of the subclass.

The success of a derelict subclass depends on a municipality's ability to impose a higher tax rate on derelict properties. Section 358.1 of the MGA sets a maximum tax rate ratio of 5:1 (highest non-residential rate to lowest residential rate), which limits the ability of some municipalities to impose a high enough tax rate on derelict non-residential properties to incentivize the owner to address the dereliction.

This resolution aligns with the core principles of Alberta Municipalities' Property Taxes Reimagined initiative, which advocates for a fairer fiscal framework and more effective tax tools for local governments. By establishing a derelict non-residential tax subclass, municipalities can better address the mismatch between responsibilities and revenues by creating a targeted mechanism to disincentivize urban blight and encourage the redevelopment of underutilized properties. This approach supports Alberta Municipalities' ongoing advocacy for increased municipal autonomy and targeted fiscal tools to address municipal priorities, including community safety.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

As mentioned in the background section, this resolution aligns with ABmunis' broader work on [Property Taxes Reimagined](#) to ensure municipalities have adequate financial tools to address local needs. If this resolution is passed, it will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response. Further advocacy would be recommended to the ABmunis' Board by the relevant policy committee(s) within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

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

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B4: Modernization of Municipal Investment Authorities Under the Municipal Investment Regulation

Moved by: City of Grande Prairie
 Seconded by: Village of Duchess, City of Lacombe

WHEREAS Alberta municipalities are authorized under the Municipal Government Act to invest in accordance with provincially prescribed regulations;

WHEREAS the Municipal Investment Regulation¹ establishes a prescriptive investment framework that limits the range of eligible investment instruments available to most municipalities, effectively restricting portfolios to fixed-income investments and limiting opportunities to enhance long-term investment returns in support of municipal financial sustainability;

WHEREAS many municipalities in Alberta have developed significantly in financial capacity, governance maturity, and access to professional investment management, including:

- Established investment policies;
- Oversight by senior financial officers and committees; and
- Access to external advisors and institutional investment services;

WHEREAS modern public sector investment practices increasingly emphasize a “prudent investor” approach, which enables diversification within a strong governance and risk management framework rather than relying solely on a prescriptive list of allowable investments²; and

WHEREAS enhancing investment flexibility for municipalities can support long-term financial sustainability and reduce reliance on property taxation.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to amend the Municipal Investment Regulation to expand investment authorities available to municipalities by implementing a scalable, capacity-based framework that includes:

- **Direct Governance-Based Authority:** Extending broader investment eligibility to municipalities that demonstrate independent capacity through a prudent-investor policy, professional oversight, and robust risk-reporting practices;
- **Pooled and Collaborative Authority:** Permitting municipalities to access expanded, diversified asset classes for a policy-defined portion of municipal funds without extensive internal administrative requirements, provided such investments are made through approved, municipally geared pooled funds, collaborative arrangements, or institutional services; and
- **An Opt-In Mechanism:** Providing a clear designation process subject to Ministerial approval or defined criteria that allows municipalities to choose the tier of investment authority that best matches their local governance capacity, financial needs, and strategic goals.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT any amendments to the Municipal Investment Regulation maintain appropriate safeguards to ensure:

- preservation of capital,
- prudent risk management, and
- transparency and accountability to Council and the public.

¹ [Alberta Regulation 149/2022 – Municipal Investment Regulation](#)

² [Municipal Government Act Section 250 – Investments](#)

BACKGROUND:

Under the *Municipal Government Act*, the Municipal Investment Regulation³ governs how Alberta's municipalities may invest public funds. While the regulation was modernized in recent years, it continues to apply a largely prescriptive approach for most municipalities, limiting investments primarily to highly conservative instruments.

At the same time, the regulation provides expanded investment authority to select large municipalities, including the City of Calgary, City of Edmonton, and the City of Medicine Hat, allowing access to a broader range of asset classes and investment strategies. This has created an uneven regulatory environment across the province.

Even a limited exposure to equities, real assets, and pooled, diversified portfolios has been shown to produce materially higher long-term returns than portfolios focused exclusively on AAA-rated fixed-income investments^{4,5}. Over extended time horizons, equities have historically outperformed government bonds, real assets such as real estate have outperformed bonds on a risk-adjusted basis, and blended portfolios have consistently outperformed fixed income alone. Evidence indicates that even a modest allocation of total municipal reserves to diversified investments can outperform a fully fixed-income, AAA-focused portfolio over the long term, typically generating an additional 2–3 percentage points in annual returns. Higher long-term returns support improved fiscal sustainability, reduce pressure on property taxation, and strengthen overall municipal financial positions.

Canadian public-sector pension plans provide a well-established example of how long-term public funds can be responsibly managed through diversified investment portfolios. Rather than relying exclusively on low-risk, fixed-income instruments, these plans invest across a broad mix of asset classes, including equities and real assets, within strong governance frameworks to achieve sustainable long-term returns while managing risk. This diversified approach has been essential to maintaining fiscal sustainability over multi-decade horizons and mitigating inflation risk. The experience of public-sector pensions demonstrates that appropriate governance, oversight, and pooling of funds can allow public institutions to prudently enhance returns beyond those achievable through AAA-rated investments alone.

In Saskatchewan, recent legislative and policy changes have enabled municipalities to improve the management of municipal reserves through pooled and diversified investment structures⁶. In partnership with the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association, Saskatchewan municipalities may now invest a limited portion of unappropriated reserves through SUMAInvest, a provincially approved pooled investment program overseen by professional investment managers. This framework allows municipalities to access diversified portfolios, including equities, real assets, and fixed income, while maintaining governance safeguards, investment limits, and transparency requirements. Saskatchewan's approach demonstrates that limited, well-governed diversification of municipal reserves can be implemented without replacing provincial funding programs or compromising fiscal oversight.

Most municipalities now operate with significantly greater financial complexity than when earlier regulatory frameworks were established. Many manage substantial reserve balances and capital funds, supported by experienced finance teams, robust governance structures, and access to professional investment expertise.

The current regulatory limitations:

- constrain diversification opportunities,
- expose municipalities to inflationary erosion of reserve values, and
- limit the ability to achieve risk-adjusted returns comparable to institutional standards.

³ [Alberta Regulation 149/2022 – Municipal Investment Regulation](#)

⁴ [CESifo Working Papers 11634-2025 January 2025 \(Private Investment and Public Investment: Total Rates of Return and Global Balances in the OECD\)](#)

⁵ [CIBC Asset Management – 2025 Long-term Annualized Capital Market Expected Returns](#)

⁶ [SUMAInvest Booklet April 2026](#)

Modernizing the regulation to reflect a governance- and capacity-based model, rather than a size-based distinction, would align Alberta with leading public sector investment practices. Such an approach would allow municipalities to responsibly enhance investment performance while maintaining strong safeguards for public funds.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS

This resolution aligns with ABmunis' broader work on [Property Taxes Reimagined](#) to develop solutions for municipalities to have adequate revenue streams and tools to address local needs. If this resolution is passed, it will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response. Further advocacy would be recommended to the ABmunis' Board by the relevant policy committee(s) within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

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

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City of Grande Prairie
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B5: Provincial Alternative Revenue Optimization Program to Support Productivity, Workforce Readiness, and Industrial Competitiveness

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

WHEREAS Alberta municipalities of all sizes and types are experiencing sustained infrastructure cost escalation, significant capital delivery pressures and labour competition and challenges driven by inflation, population and industry growth, and increased demands on core municipal services regardless of the municipal assessment mix;

WHEREAS municipalities play a direct role in enabling provincial economic outcomes by providing the infrastructure, land use planning, housing readiness, utilities, roads, and emergency services that support multiple industries, such as agriculture, forestry, energy development, manufacturing, and workforce mobility;

WHEREAS the municipal property tax system remains the primary revenue tool for local governments, despite being designed to fund local services rather than to efficiently reflect regional or province-wide economic activity and productivity benefits;

WHEREAS productivity-enabling infrastructure and services often generate economic and fiscal benefits beyond municipal boundaries, including benefits to provincial revenues, trade activity, labour force participation, and investment attraction;

WHEREAS the Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF) and other existing municipal funding programs alone cannot address all structural fiscal pressures arising from municipalities' role in enabling provincial economic productivity and growth across regions; and

WHEREAS continued reliance on property taxation to support these outcomes risks increasing residential tax pressure, constraining investment readiness, and exacerbating regional tensions between communities with differing assessment compositions.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to explore and collaboratively develop an additional, provincial revenue optimization program, separate from and in addition to the Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF) and existing municipal revenue sources, that:

- a) Supports Alberta's economic productivity and competitiveness, including agriculture, forestry, energy, manufacturing, logistics, and workforce participation, through investments in trade-enabling, housing-enabling, and workforce-supporting municipal infrastructure and services;
- b) Aligns funding to municipalities and regions where there is demonstrated economic activity, service demand, or productivity outcomes that extend beyond municipal boundaries or are not fully reflected within local tax bases;
- c) Recognizes municipalities as delivery partners for provincial economic objectives, including labour force attraction and retention, housing enablement, transportation connectivity, utilities, and public safety, where municipal investment is required to support provincial growth and competitiveness;
- d) Provides predictable, transparent, and formula-based funding, allowing municipalities to incorporate revenues into long-term capital planning, asset management, and service sustainability; and
- e) Is developed collaboratively with Alberta Municipalities, Mid-sized Mayors Caucus, rural municipal partners, and the Government of Alberta, ensuring regional equity, economic neutrality, and alignment with Alberta's provincial productivity and economic development priorities.

BACKGROUND:

Alberta municipalities of all sizes and geographies are experiencing sustained financial and operational pressures arising from inflationary cost escalation, population change, labour competition and challenges, and aging municipal

infrastructure. These pressures affect urban, rural, and specialized municipalities alike, regardless of assessment composition or growth trajectory.

Municipalities play a critical role in enabling Alberta's economic productivity by providing the infrastructure, services, and land use outcomes that support industry, agriculture, forestry, energy development, manufacturing, logistics, and the mobility and retention of the provincial workforce.

- Transportation corridors, local roads, and bridges that connect regional supply chains, trade routes, and work sites;
- Utilities, servicing capacity, and land-use readiness that enable housing delivery, industrial development, and workforce mobility;
- Emergency services, policing, fire protection, and transit systems that support workforce participation and community safety;
- Community and social infrastructure—such as recreation facilities, health-adjacent services, and social supports—that underpin labour attraction, retention, and regional livability.

These investments generate economic and fiscal benefits that extend beyond municipal boundaries, contributing to provincial productivity, competitiveness, and revenue growth, while the associated costs remain largely borne at the municipal level.

At present, the municipal property tax system remains the primary revenue tool available to local governments. While property taxation is appropriate for funding local services, it was not designed to efficiently capture or reflect the broader economic benefits generated by productivity-enabling infrastructure and services that extend beyond municipal boundaries. Continued reliance on property taxation alone risks increasing residential tax pressure, constraining investment readiness, and reinforcing regional tensions between municipalities with differing assessment bases. Even with population and assessment growth expanding municipal revenues over time, the type, timing and pace of growth often does not align with the infrastructure and service costs required to enable provincial economic activity. Municipalities must fund roads, utilities, emergency services, housing-enabling infrastructure, and community supports in advance of or disproportionately to revenue realization, frequently resulting in sustained fiscal pressure even in growing communities.

British Columbia provides an example of a long-standing, productivity-focused funding model through the Peace River Agreement¹, which evolved from the original Fair Share Agreement established in 1994. Under this negotiated, multi-year framework, the Province of British Columbia reinvests a portion of provincial resource revenues into municipalities and regional districts that provide infrastructure and services supporting economic activity occurring largely outside municipal boundaries. The Peace River Agreement recognizes the role of local governments as service delivery partners for provincial resource development and economic growth, while providing predictable, formula-based funding that supports long-term capital planning, infrastructure investment, and community sustainability without reallocating municipal tax capacity.

Many municipal investments that support workforce participation, trade corridors, industrial operations, and regional service provision generate provincial and regional benefits that are not fully aligned with municipal revenue capacity. Addressing these structural challenges through alternative, productivity-focused revenue mechanisms could strengthen Alberta's economic competitiveness while maintaining regional equity and municipal fiscal sustainability.

Crucially, this proposed program is not designed to redistribute existing wealth or create competitive imbalances between neighboring communities. Rather, it recognizes that industrial growth creates localized and regional cost pressures that do not align neatly with municipal borders. By establishing a provincial revenue-sharing mechanism to fund these pressures, the Province can ensure that no municipality is forced to subsidize provincial economic growth through local residential property tax increases. This approach fosters regional collaboration by removing the fiscal friction often caused by mismatched service-delivery and tax-assessment boundaries.

¹ [Peace River Agreement | City of Fort St. John](#)

There is an opportunity for the Government of Alberta and municipalities to collaboratively explore alternative revenue optimization approaches that focus on value creation, economic growth, and shared outcomes for all Alberta Municipalities.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES' COMMENTS:

This resolution generally aligns with ABmunis work on municipal finances and infrastructure funding. For example, the current phase of the Property Taxes Reimagined project is to identify and develop solutions for municipalities to have adequate revenue streams and tools to address local needs. If this resolution is passed, it will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response. Further advocacy would be recommended to the ABmunis' Board by the relevant policy committee(s) within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

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

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City of Grande Prairie
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B6: Budget Surplus and Municipal Infrastructure Investment

Moved by: City of Airdrie, City of Leduc, City of Lethbridge, Town of Cochrane, Town of Okotoks

Seconded by: Town of Coalhurst, Town of Crossfield, Town of Grimshaw, Town of Hinton, Town of Nanton, Town of Vegreville, Village of Duchess

WHEREAS municipalities across Alberta face critical infrastructure challenges including aging water and wastewater systems, deteriorating roads, bridges and community facilities, and insufficient capacity to accommodate population and economic growth, while operating with limited revenue tools and constrained capital budgets;

WHEREAS infrastructure project costs continue to rise due to inflation, further eroding municipal capital budgets and making it increasingly difficult for municipalities to address infrastructure needs through traditional funding mechanisms;

WHEREAS infrastructure is a shared responsibility between provincial and municipal governments, with municipalities owning and maintaining close to 60 per cent of Alberta's public infrastructure¹, including essential systems that support the province's economic prosperity and community sustainability;

WHEREAS water and wastewater infrastructure, roads, bridges, recreation and other community facilities require substantial capital investment to ensure public health, safety, economic development, and quality of life with many Alberta communities facing immediate needs for system upgrades, capacity expansion, and asset replacement;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta has recorded a year-end surplus in 13 of the last 25 provincial budgets², creating opportunities for strategic one-time investments in municipal infrastructure without compromising ongoing program funding or fiscal sustainability; and

WHEREAS Alberta's current *Sustainable Fiscal Planning and Reporting Act*³ legislates that 50 per cent of surpluses must be used towards debt repayment and allows for the remaining 50 percent to be applied to debt repayment, the Heritage Savings Trust Fund or to one-time initiatives, at the sole discretion of the province.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to commit to creating a framework, used during provincial surpluses, to allocate a portion of the surplus to critical municipal infrastructure projects.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the framework prioritizes projects based on demonstrated need and readiness for construction, with funding distributed through a transparent application process, and in alignment with provincial and municipal strategic priorities.

BACKGROUND:

Infrastructure challenges affect municipalities of all sizes across Alberta, from major urban centers experiencing rapid population growth to smaller rural communities managing aging systems and facilities with limited tax bases. During budget surplus years, a commitment to additional funding for municipal infrastructure investment would mean more support for critical projects that may have otherwise been deferred. Since 2000, Alberta has recorded a year-end surplus in 13 provincial budgets⁴, demonstrating recurring opportunities to establish a pathway for one-time investments, in addition to the funding already provided to municipalities by the province.

¹ ABmunis website (2026, April). [Infrastructure](#).

² Government of Alberta website (2026, April). [Budget documents](#).

³ Government of Alberta Open Data Resources (2026, April). [Sustainable Fiscal Planning and Reporting Act](#).

⁴ Government of Alberta website (2026, April). [Budget documents](#).

A legislated portion of budget surplus addresses diverse needs by creating a funding mechanism that responds to provincial fiscal capacity while supporting both provincial and municipal infrastructure priorities in a meaningful way. With municipalities owning and maintaining almost 60 per cent of Alberta's public infrastructure, the need for sustainable capital funding is critical. Large urban centers face pressure to expand water and wastewater treatment capacity and build new roads to accommodate population increases. Medium-sized municipalities experience similar growth pressures while managing aging infrastructure that require replacement and adding new community amenities. Smaller rural communities struggle to maintain basic infrastructure systems and facilities with limited tax bases. **Allocating a portion of budget surpluses to municipal infrastructure investment would ensure that periods of strong economic performance translate directly into improved public assets across all community types.**

Even modest surpluses could generate substantial investment in one-time municipal infrastructure initiatives. For example, with a provincial budget surplus of \$1 billion, a 25 per cent allocation would yield approximately \$250 million for one-time infrastructure projects. Alberta's actual 2023–24 surplus of \$4.3 billion, could have generated approximately \$1.075 billion for infrastructure projects and the 2024–25 surplus of \$8.3 billion, approximately \$2.075 billion, using the same 25 per cent allocation. These amounts demonstrate meaningful contributions to addressing Alberta's growing infrastructure deficit, enabling municipalities to undertake major shovel-ready projects that could otherwise require decades of incremental funding accumulation.

A focus on one-time investments in near-term, municipal capital budget approved projects, in addition to existing funding programs, enables municipalities to address high priority capital needs. Quick allocation of funding to shovel-ready projects ensures economic stimulus benefits and timely infrastructure improvements. This resolution directly supports many of the Government of Alberta's objectives by ensuring that infrastructure capacity is well-maintained and keeps pace with growth and economic activity and the change could be easily incorporated within the current fiscal framework legislation.

The resolution also aligns with Alberta Municipalities' strategic priorities by advocating for sustainable infrastructure funding mechanisms that enable municipalities to maintain and expand essential services while reducing reliance on property taxation for major capital projects.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

This resolution generally aligns with ABmunis work on municipal finances and infrastructure funding. For example, the current phase of the Property Taxes Reimagined project is to identify and develop solutions for municipalities to have adequate revenue streams and tools to address local needs. If this resolution is passed, it will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response. Further advocacy would be recommended to the ABmunis' Board by the relevant policy committee(s) within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

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

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B7: Broadening Scope of Off-Site Levies

Moved by: Town of Cochrane
 Seconded by: Town of Penhold

WHEREAS section 648 of the *Municipal Government Act* authorizes municipalities to impose off-site levies on new development to recover a portion of growth-related infrastructure costs;

WHEREAS the scope of infrastructure eligible for off-site levies remains limited and does not fully reflect the capital infrastructure required to support growth and complete communities;

WHEREAS population growth creates demand for additional municipal capital infrastructure, including but not limited to outdoor recreation amenities, municipal operations facilities, and transit infrastructure required to deliver services to expanding communities;

WHEREAS when growth-related infrastructure costs cannot be recovered through off-site levies, municipalities must rely on general taxation or other funding sources, resulting in existing taxpayers subsidizing infrastructure required for new development; and

WHEREAS municipalities require flexible and modern legislative tools to ensure that growth-related infrastructure costs are shared fairly, transparently, and in a manner that supports desired and livable communities.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to amend the *Municipal Government Act* to broaden the scope of infrastructure eligible for off-site levies to better reflect the full range of growth-related infrastructure required to support new development, where municipalities can demonstrate a clear connection between growth and the infrastructure required, in a manner that maintains transparency, predictability, and fairness for municipalities, developers, and residents.

BACKGROUND:

Municipalities across Alberta are experiencing sustained growth and increasing demand for infrastructure to support new communities. Off-site levies have, and continue to be, a key tool that allow municipalities to recover a portion of growth-related capital costs. However, under the current framework in the *Municipal Government Act*, the scope of infrastructure eligible for recovery remains too restrictive.

While the *Municipal Government Act* enables recovery of core infrastructure such as water, wastewater, stormwater, roads, transportation infrastructure, community recreation facilities, fire halls, police stations, and libraries, it does not fully capture the range of infrastructure required to support growth.

As communities expand, municipalities must invest in additional infrastructure to deliver services and support complete communities. This includes:

- outdoor recreation infrastructure (e.g. sports fields, courts, and community-use amenities);
- transit infrastructure (e.g. fleet storage, transit hubs, and supporting facilities);
- municipal operations facilities (e.g. public works yards and fleet maintenance facilities); and
- other capital infrastructure required to deliver municipal services to growing communities.

These investments are often directly driven by growth. Where growth-related infrastructure falls outside current off-site levy eligibility, municipalities must fund these investments through general taxation, reserves, or other sources. As a result, existing taxpayers often bear a disproportionate share of the costs required to support new development, effectively subsidizing growth. This misalignment can create financial pressure for municipalities and undermine the principle that growth should contribute to the infrastructure it necessitates. Expanding eligibility would help correct this imbalance by better aligning costs with the drivers of growth.

This challenge affects municipalities across Alberta, particularly those experiencing sustained or rapid growth. Municipalities experiencing growth face increasing pressure to align infrastructure funding with development while maintaining financial sustainability.

ABmunis previously raised this issue through [a resolution](#) calling on the Government of Alberta to expand the scope of off-site levies. While subsequent amendments have broadened eligibility in certain areas, the current framework still does not fully reflect the range of infrastructure required to support growth.

Broadening the scope of off-site levy eligibility would provide municipalities with a more complete tool to align infrastructure funding with growth. It supports a “growth pays for growth” approach and improves transparency in how costs are allocated.

Municipalities would continue to demonstrate a clear connection between development and the infrastructure being funded, ensuring levies remain appropriate and justifiable, while expanded eligibility would provide greater flexibility within a framework that maintains accountability.

This approach aligns with provincial objectives to support housing and community growth. Providing municipalities with effective infrastructure funding tools supports timely development, reduces long-term financial pressures, and helps build desirable, livable communities across Alberta.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

As noted in the background section, ABmunis has long advocated for an expanded scope of off-site levies to enable municipalities to recover growth-related infrastructure costs. Over the past 18 months, ABmunis has actively engaged with the Government of Canada to ensure the integrity of the off-site levy framework is respected in federal funding programs and has secured support from the Government of Alberta in advancing this position. ABmunis has also advocated against the introduction of regulatory restrictions on off-site levy provisions within the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA). While limited restrictions were introduced through Bill 28, they did not go as far as initially proposed. In addition, ABmunis is currently developing a tool and guide to support municipalities in the effective use of off-site levies. Overall, this resolution aligns with ABmunis’ ongoing advocacy efforts to strengthen the off-site levy model and supports our broader commitment to protecting and enhancing municipal autonomy.

If this resolution is passed, it will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response. Further advocacy would be recommended to the ABmunis’ Board by the relevant policy committee(s) within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

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

Christine Raves
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Town of Cochrane
christine.raves@cochrane.ca

B8: Expanded Grant Eligibility for Water Infrastructure

Moved by: Town of Stettler
Seconded by: City of Camrose

WHEREAS the costs associated with the construction, maintenance, and upgrading of municipal water systems in Alberta have risen significantly due to inflation, material costs, and labor shortages;

WHEREAS municipalities face limited fiscal capacity and a constrained property tax base, making it increasingly difficult to fund large-scale water projects without provincial and federal government support;

WHEREAS many municipalities function as regional hubs for essential services such as hospitals, schools, libraries, commercial amenities, and recreation, resulting in increased infrastructure demand beyond what is support by their local tax base;

WHEREAS growth pressures, including annexation and development of previously unserved areas, are further increasing demand for municipal water infrastructure and associated financial responsibilities;

WHEREAS municipalities are required to comply with evolving provincial and federal regulatory standards and are increasingly impacted by climate-related pressures, including drought, necessitating significant and ongoing investment in water supply, storage, and system resilience;

WHEREAS current water funding programs do not consistently reflect these cumulative pressures and may limit eligibility based on project structure rather than demonstrated regional service demand and opportunities to maximize return on investment; and

WHEREAS more predictable and inclusive eligibility for provincial water funding would support proactive, long-term infrastructure planning and reduce reliance on reactive or emergency investments.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the expansion of eligibility criteria under the Water for Life funding framework, or successor water infrastructure programs, to include single municipalities that function as regional service hubs and provide services to populations that extend beyond their municipal tax base.

BACKGROUND:

Municipalities across Alberta face ongoing challenges of securing sufficient funding to provide, maintain, and upgrade essential water services. Current challenges are being further impacted due to growing drought concerns, inflationary costs, increased demand, and [population](#). The current criteria of Water for Life funding risks limiting the impact by prioritizing projects based on technical eligibility rather than the broader project benefit and the ability to implement proactive infrastructure solutions before crisis occurs. A careful review of eligibility, allocation, and the criteria used to determine priorities is needed to ensure the existing water and wastewater funding truly support projects that maximize public value and benefit.

Impacts of Rising Costs

Due to rising inflation, local governments are constantly exploring ways to minimize the financial burden on taxpayers, frequently relying on grant funding to help offset costs. From 2020 to 2025 the Town of Stettler saw a 25% increase in asphaltting tenders and a 40% increase in 150 mm watermain replacement tenders from 2021 to 2024. Stettler isn't isolated in these figures. Municipalities across Alberta are facing the same reality of steadily increasing demand for services alongside rapidly rising capital and operating costs. Inflation in construction material, utilities, and labour has significantly outpaced growth in municipal revenues, meaning the municipal tax dollar now delivers substantially less purchasing power than in previous years.

At the same time, Alberta's accelerated population growth has not been matched by proportionate provincial funding. In 2009 municipalities were receiving approximately \$635 in [provincial funding](#) per person, compared to about \$327 per person (adjusting for inflation) in 2023.

Regional Hubs

The current structure of Water for Life funding, which requires multi-municipal partners or regional system participation, presents a barrier for municipalities that independently serve as a regional service hub. In Minster Dreeshen's response to the Rural Municipalities of Alberta's [Resolution 9-25S](#) he said that the Water for Life funding "reflects a strategic focus on sustaining Alberta's regional water and wastewater systems, ensuring long term resiliency, and access to safe, reliable water services" and that the focus is to "allocate limited funding toward projects which provide the greatest return on investment for entire regions". The structure of the program currently neglects to address communities that act as regional hubs, providing services for a population that far exceeds their municipal tax base.

While Stettler's population during the 2021 federal census was 5,695 a [growth study](#) completed in 2007 establishes a market population of 42,000, stretching from Lacombe all the way to the Saskatchewan border. Further, in Stettler's most recent [Commercial Market Analysis](#), it was noted that while the Town of Stettler only accounts for 47.9% of the population in the immediate trade area, 80% of jobs are within the Town of Stettler municipal borders and serviced by municipal water systems.

Risks of Disruption

Municipalities are working to act proactively, rather than reactively, but the available funding and programs offered by the Government of Alberta include strict eligibility criteria preventing funding for projects that would deliver the highest long-term value and return on investment for Albertans. This challenge is underscored by high-profile water main failures in the last 5 years in communities across Alberta including Calgary, Beiseker, Cochrane, and Three Hills.

Drought and water scarcity lead to further challenges for municipalities. While municipalities are expected to proactively protect their water systems and prepare for droughts, the reality is that capital projects to address these challenges are often high-cost, high-risk, and time sensitive.

This is further compounded by the challenges municipalities face in bringing annexed lands up to full urban community standards. Where previously unserved areas are incorporated into municipal boundaries, significant investment is required to extend water infrastructure. This work is critical not only for equitable service delivery, but also for public safety, including reliable emergency response through hydrant access for fire protection.

Ensuring funding is accessible allows municipalities to implement critical projects when needed rather than deferring them due to budgetary constraints, protecting both the municipality and the border region they serve.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not have a position and has not previously considered a resolution specifically advocating for changes to grant eligibility criteria for water infrastructure funding. However, numerous past resolutions have consistently called for increased availability, predictability, and sustainability of funding for municipal water and wastewater infrastructure, for example, the [2023 resolution](#) for adequate provincial infrastructure funding.

The current resolution aligns with these established concerns, particularly regarding funding pressures, growth-related demand, and the need for long-term planning certainty. If this resolution is passed, it will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response. Further advocacy will be determined by ABmunis' Board based on input from ABmunis' relevant policy committee within the context of ABmunis' priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

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

Maddie Standage
Legislative Services Coordinator
Town of Stettler
mstandage@stettler.net

B9: Limiting the Use of Fresh Water in Hydraulic Fracturing

Moved by: Town of Rimbey
Seconded by: Town of Sylvan Lake

WHEREAS the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) and Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (EPA) currently permit the use of fresh water for hydraulic fracturing operations;

WHEREAS Alberta Environment and Protected Areas' mandate is to protect and enhance Alberta's environment and ecosystems to ensure a sustainable future for all Albertans;

WHEREAS the AER is issuing Temporary Diversion Licences (TDLs) for the withdrawal and use of fresh water by industry;

WHEREAS existing water allocation and priority frameworks under the *Water Act* do not consistently account for cumulative effects, local water security risks, or drought conditions when TDLs are issued for industrial activities, creating concerns for municipalities and agricultural water users; and

WHEREAS TDLs are not subject to appeal, and opportunities for public input, including Statements of Concern, are not consistently available prior to water withdrawals occurring.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to review current policies and regulatory frameworks governing the use of fresh water in hydraulic fracturing, with the goal of reducing reliance on fresh water sources in drought stressed regions.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Alberta work with industry, municipalities, and other stakeholders to support and accelerate the development and adoption of alternative water sources for hydraulic fracturing, including saline water and recycled produced water.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Alberta evaluate the current roles and responsibilities of the Alberta Energy Regulator and Alberta Environment and Protected Areas with respect to water allocation decisions under the *Water Act*, to ensure clarity, transparency, and alignment with water management objectives.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Alberta improve transparency in the Temporary Diversion License approval process by ensuring that supporting information used in decision-making is publicly accessible and that opportunities for municipal and public awareness and input are enhanced.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Alberta assess opportunities to strengthen oversight and consistency in the application of legislation, policy, and directives related to Temporary Diversion Licences, including those involving alluvial aquifers.

BACKGROUND:

Water is a finite and increasingly stressed resource in Alberta, particularly during periods of drought and low precipitation that have become more frequent in recent years. Municipalities across the province are responsible for ensuring reliable access to potable water for residents, as well as supporting agricultural producers who depend on consistent water supplies for food production and economic sustainability.

Hydraulic fracturing operations can require significant volumes of water, a portion of which is sourced from fresh surface water and shallow groundwater systems through Temporary Diversion Licences (TDLs). While TDLs are intended to be short-term in nature, their cumulative impact on watersheds, particularly in smaller or already stressed basins, can be substantial. Municipalities have raised concerns regarding the lack of transparency, limited

public engagement, and absence of an appeal mechanism associated with TDL approvals.

Currently, the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) is authorized to issue TDLs for energy resource activities under the *Water Act*. This dual role, both regulating industry and making water allocation decisions, has raised concerns among municipalities regarding the adequacy of environmental oversight and the prioritization of water use. Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (EPA), as the department mandated to manage and protect water resources, may be better positioned to provide independent and consistent oversight of water allocation decisions.

Municipal governments are increasingly expected to manage the local impacts of water scarcity, including implementing water restrictions, investing in infrastructure, and responding to public concerns about water security. At the same time, municipalities have limited authority to influence industrial water use decisions made at the provincial level.

In addition, advances in technology and industry practices have demonstrated that alternatives to the use of fresh water in hydraulic fracturing, such as the use of saline water, recycled produced water, or other non-potable sources, are viable and increasingly common. Encouraging or requiring a transition to these alternatives would reduce pressure on freshwater systems while allowing resource development to continue.

Ensuring that water allocation decisions are transparent, science-based, and prioritize essential human and agricultural needs is critical to maintaining public trust and long-term sustainability. Providing opportunities for public input and access to information used in decision-making would further strengthen accountability.

For these reasons, municipalities are seeking changes to provincial policy and legislation to better protect freshwater resources, improve transparency in water allocation decisions, and ensure that the governance framework reflects the importance of water as a shared and essential resource.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not have an established position on limiting the use of fresh water in hydraulic fracturing, and no previous resolutions have directly addressed this issue. However, ABmunis has identified related concerns around water security, cumulative effects, and transparency in water allocation decisions in our water management policies and 2025 submission to the province on water availability.

If this resolution is passed, it will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response. Further advocacy will be determined by ABmunis' Board based on input from ABmunis' relevant policy committee within the context of ABmunis' priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

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

Craig Douglas
Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Rimbey
craig@rimbey.com

Rick Pankiw
Mayor
Town of Rimbey
rick.pankiw@rimbey.com

B10: Police Fines and Penalties Revenue Sharing

Moved by: Town of Mundare
 Seconded by: Town of Hanna

WHEREAS section 162(2) of the Traffic Safety Act states: “Subject to subsection (4), fines and penalties imposed under this Act in respect of contraventions occurring in a municipality for which policing services are required to be provided under section 4(5) or (6) of the *Police Act* belong to the municipality that is required to provide the policing services”;

WHEREAS section 162(3) of *Traffic Safety Act* states: “Subject to subsection (4), fines and penalties imposed under this Act in respect of contraventions for which informations are laid or violation tickets are issued under the Provincial Offences Procedure Act or notices of administrative penalty are issued under the Provincial Administrative Penalties Act by peace officers employed by a municipality belong to that municipality”;

WHEREAS as of April 1, 2020, municipalities/municipal districts/counties receiving policing services under the Provincial Police Services Agreement (PPSA) are required to pay a portion of policing costs;

WHEREAS the changes to the Police Funding Model (PFM) will cause a financial burden on the PPSA municipalities;

WHEREAS the intent of Section 162 of the *Traffic Safety Act* is that fines should be distributed on the basis of who pays for the policing; and

WHEREAS despite the intent of the *Traffic Safety Act*, PPSA Municipalities do not receive a share of the fines and penalties.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to amend section 162 of the *Traffic Safety Act*, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter T-6 to distribute fines and penalties under the Act to those municipalities receiving policing services under the Provincial Police Services Agreement at the same percentage that these municipalities pay for policing.

BACKGROUND:

Prior to October 31, 2005, Section 162 of the *Traffic Safety Act* stated:

Disposition of fines and penalties (*in effect prior to October 31, 2005*)

162(1) Subject to subsection (2), any fine or penalty imposed under this Act belongs to the Crown in right of Alberta.

(2) Any fine or penalty imposed under this Act in respect of an offence occurring in

- (a) a municipality that is an urban area, belongs to that municipality,
- (b) a municipal district or Metis settlement, other than on a highway designated as a primary highway pursuant to the *Public Highways Development Act*, belongs to the municipal district or Metis settlement, and
- (c) an Indian reserve, other than on a highway designated as a primary highway or a highway designated as a secondary road pursuant to the *Public Highways Development Act*, belongs to the band.

- (3) For the purposes of subsection (2)(c), “band” and “reserve” mean a band and reserve as defined in the *Indian Act* (Canada).

After October 31, 2005, the *Traffic Safety Act* was changed so that traffic fines were distributed based on the “who pays for policing model”.

Municipalities that are not policed under the PPSA, and municipalities that pay for a community peace officer, receive 60% of the specified fines/penalties that are issued in the municipality under the *Traffic Safety Act*, whereas the province receives 40%.

This proposed resolution, as of 2030-2031, would mean PPSA municipalities receive 18% of total fines and penalties collected in their boundaries, whereas the province would receive 72%.

There are 278 municipalities included in the PPSA. These municipalities are paying a portion of the policing costs but do not receive any portion of the fines/penalties issued in the municipality.

Based on estimates received from the Government of Alberta:

- The Town of Mundare (population 858) will see a 188% increase from 2025-2026 (\$43,500) to 2030-2031 (\$125,500).
- The Town of Hanna (population 2,394) will see a 157% increase from 2025-2026 (\$173,112) to 2030-2031 (\$443,838).

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

This resolution aligns with ABmunis strategic priority related to policing and the ongoing advocacy on the Police Act regulations and the renewed police funding model. It is a renewal of a 2022 resolution calling for the same actions.

If this resolution is passed, it will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response. Further advocacy will be determined by ABmunis' Board based on input from ABmunis' relevant policy committee within the context of ABmunis' priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

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

Colin Zyla
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2026 RESOLUTIONS

Category C: Other Issues of Potential Interest to Municipalities

C1: Regulation of Personal Micromobility Devices (i.e. e-scooters) through the Alberta Traffic Safety Act

Moved by: City of Spruce Grove
 Seconded by: Village of Irma

WHEREAS the *Alberta Traffic Safety Act* provides the legislative and regulatory framework governing the use of motorized vehicles on roadways, sidewalks, and pathways in Alberta;

WHEREAS personal micromobility devices, including e-scooters, electronic skateboards, hoverboards, e-bikes, and segways, are increasingly used as a mode of transportation within municipalities;

WHEREAS the Province of Alberta has enabled the operation of commercial/rental e-scooter share programs through regulatory exemptions, and several municipalities have implemented pilot programs to authorize and manage their use;

WHEREAS the *Traffic Safety Act* does not currently establish a clear legal framework for the operation of privately owned micromobility devices on public infrastructure, limiting municipalities' ability to effectively regulate their use;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta has the authority to establish regulations under the *Traffic Safety Act* and has undertaken consultation regarding the regulation of personal micromobility devices; and

WHEREAS the absence of a defined provincial framework creates challenges related to enforcement, public understanding, and safety, including concerns related to speed limits, age restrictions, mandatory helmet use, particularly for youth, and clear definitions of where devices can operate.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to amend the *Traffic Safety Act* and its associated regulations to establish a clear and consistent provincial framework for the operation and use of personal micromobility devices, while providing municipalities with autonomy for bylaw enforcement within their jurisdiction as needed.

BACKGROUND:

The *Traffic Safety Act* establishes the legislative framework governing the use of vehicles on roadways, sidewalks, and pathways across Alberta. However, the Act has not kept pace with the rapid emergence and adoption of personal micromobility devices (PMDs), such as e-scooters, e-bikes, hoverboards, and other small electric mobility options.

Municipalities across Alberta have participated in provincially authorized pilot programs for shared e-scooter services. Through these pilots, municipalities have developed a range of approaches to managing these programs, including designated parking areas, speed restrictions, operating zones, and safety requirements, reflecting local priorities and infrastructure considerations. While these programs have demonstrated the benefits of micromobility, they have also highlighted gaps in the current legislative framework, particularly with respect to privately owned devices.

As personal micromobility devices become more widely available for individual purchase, safety and enforcement challenges are increasing. Key considerations include how to regulate speed, ensure helmet use, and clearly define where PMDs are permitted to operate. While shared fleet operators have the ability to implement technological controls such as speed limiting and geofencing, no comparable mechanisms exist for privately owned devices. This creates inconsistent enforcement environments and increases the risk of unsafe or non-compliant use.

The absence of a clear, province-wide regulatory framework has also resulted in varied approaches across municipalities. While this reflects local flexibility, it may also contribute to confusion among users regarding acceptable practices and expectations as they move between communities.

The Government of Alberta has been engaging stakeholders on the regulation of personal micromobility devices, beginning late-2025. This work is expected to inform potential amendments to the *Traffic Safety Act* and associated regulations, with legislation anticipated as early as fall 2026. As a participant in this process, Alberta Municipalities has expressed support for enabling PMDs (based on the existing [resolution](#) from the City of Calgary that expires in fall 2026) and emphasized the importance of ensuring that any new regulatory framework both enhances safety and respects municipal autonomy.

As part of this work, there is an opportunity for the province to provide greater clarity while maintaining local flexibility. The development of a provincial best-practices guide could support municipalities in implementing consistent and effective approaches to PMD regulation. Such a guide could outline recommended speed limits, helmet requirements, and appropriate riding zones, enabling municipalities to adopt approaches suited to their local context while promoting safe and consistent use across Alberta.

A coordinated provincial framework, supported by best practices and developed in collaboration with municipalities, would help ensure that PMDs are used safely, consistently, and in alignment with local needs and priorities.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

As noted above, ABmunis has previously provided feedback to the Province on stakeholder engagement related to this issue and has emphasized the importance of clear regulatory frameworks that enable municipalities to determine whether and how PMDs operate within their communities. This resolution aligns with the advocacy advanced through the City of Calgary's resolution, which is set to expire in 2026, and would support the continuation of that work. While the issue does not currently align with ABmunis priority strategic initiatives, it is consistent with ABmunis' support for municipal autonomy, local decision-making, and the ability of municipalities to address community needs through appropriate regulatory tools.

If this resolution is passed, it will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response. Further advocacy would be recommended to the ABmunis' Board by the relevant policy committee(s) within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

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

Kristin Lewis
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C2: Family Support for Children with Disabilities Transparency and Timely Access

Moved by: Town of Sylvan Lake
 Seconded by: Town of Nanton

WHEREAS the Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) program is intended to provide timely, needs based supports to children with disabilities and their families across Alberta;

WHEREAS families across Alberta report prolonged wait times for FSCD services and limited communication regarding application status and anticipated timelines;

WHEREAS extended delays in accessing FSCD supports can contribute to employment disruption, financial hardship, missed developmental opportunities for children, and increased strain on families;

WHEREAS timely FSCD supports help children participate more fully in community life while supporting family stability and parental workforce participation;

WHEREAS in 2022, the Government of Alberta discontinued routine public reporting of FSCD wait list data that had shown how many approved or eligible families were awaiting services; and

WHEREAS transparency, timely communication, and accessible information are fundamental to equitable and accountable public service delivery.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to improve transparency, communication, and timeliness within the Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) program by:

1. Reinstating routine public reporting on FSCD wait list volumes and average wait times at key stages of the process;
2. Ensuring families awaiting FSCD supports receive clear, proactive communication regarding application status and expected next steps;
3. Allocating targeted, time-limited resources to reduce existing FSCD backlogs so approved supports can be accessed within reasonable timelines; and
4. Establishing transparency and timeliness as core operational standards within the FSCD program.

BACKGROUND:

Municipal leaders across Alberta hear from families facing significant delays and limited communication within the FSCD program. While municipalities do not administer FSCD, the effects of delayed access are felt locally through reduced workforce participation, increased pressure on community-based supports, and broader impacts on community wellbeing.

A 2024 Inclusion Alberta survey of 746 families across 81 electoral divisions reported that families waited an estimated three years after applying to access the full range of FSCD services, including average waits of approximately 7.5 months for an eligibility decision and a further 10 months before initial supports began. The same survey reported that 58 percent of families experienced negative impacts while going without required supports, including employment disruption, financial hardship, and missed developmental opportunities.

The discontinuation of routine public reporting on FSCD waitlist data in 2022 reduced transparency and made it more difficult for families, municipalities, and communities to understand system pressures and anticipated timelines.

This resolution does not prescribe a specific service delivery model. It focuses on practical governance level improvements to transparency, communication, and timeliness that would improve accountability and reduce uncertainty for families while broader system improvements are pursued.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this specific issue. If this resolution is approved, it will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response. Further advocacy will be determined by ABmunis' Board based on input from ABmunis' relevant policy committee within the context of ABmunis' priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

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

Anna Cooper-Abel
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Town of Sylvan Lake
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C3: Alignment of Municipal Fiscal Year with Provincial and Federal Budget Cycles

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

WHEREAS municipalities rely on funding, grants, and policy direction from provincial and federal governments to support municipal operations, infrastructure, and service delivery;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta and Government of Canada operate on a fiscal year of April 1 to March 31, which differs from the fiscal calendar used by municipalities;

WHEREAS differences in fiscal year timing create challenges for municipalities in financial planning, budgeting, forecasting, reporting, and aligning priorities with other orders of government; and

WHEREAS aligning municipal fiscal years with provincial and federal fiscal calendars would improve coordination, transparency, responsiveness to funding opportunities, and long-term financial planning.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to amend relevant legislation and regulations to change the municipal fiscal and budget cycle to align with the provincial and federal fiscal calendar of April 1 to March 31.

BACKGROUND:

Municipalities operate within a broader intergovernmental environment where provincial and federal funding programs, policy decisions, and budget cycles influence local planning and service delivery.

The proposed resolution identifies fiscal year alignment as a potential mechanism to improve coordination between municipalities and other orders of government. The differences in fiscal timing may contribute to:

- challenges in aligning approved municipal budgets with funding announcements;
- the need for mid-year budget adjustments and reforecasting; and
- timing pressures in implementing funded programs and capital projects.

These potential benefits form the basis of the proposed resolution and reflect a broader interest in improving coordination across orders of government. Aligning municipal fiscal years with provincial and federal budget cycles (April 1 to March 31) may offer benefits, including:

- improved ability to align budgets with confirmed funding announcements;
- enhanced multi-year financial planning; and
- greater coordination across shared priorities and programs.

A recent 2024 study published by the C.D. Howe Institute further highlights the importance of fiscal alignment and long-term financial coordination across governments. The report notes that timing differences between municipal and senior government budget cycles can create planning inefficiencies, reduce predictability for local governments, and complicate the implementation of infrastructure and funding programs. The study also emphasizes the increasing financial pressures municipalities face in managing infrastructure, service delivery, and long-term capital planning within an evolving intergovernmental funding environment. While municipalities across Canada operate under different legislative and fiscal structures, the report identifies improved fiscal coordination and planning alignment as important considerations in supporting sustainable municipal financial management.¹

¹ C.D. Howe Institute, Mind the Gap: Canada's Municipal Infrastructure Challenge, April 2025. Available at: https://cdhowe.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Commentary_681-1.pdf

The proposed resolution is intended to support further discussion and advocacy regarding fiscal coordination between municipalities and other orders of government. As municipalities continue to manage increasingly complex financial and infrastructure responsibilities, improved alignment of fiscal and budget cycles may contribute to more effective long-term planning, coordination, and implementation of shared priorities and funding programs.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have an established policy position on this issue.

Changing the timing of the fiscal year for municipalities would impact other processes such as assessment valuation dates, tax deadlines for Albertans and businesses, and provincial reporting systems. It would also impact time demands on professions like assessors, engineers, and auditors. Research would be required to determine the costs associated with changing both municipal and provincial processes and systems, which could be significant. In turn, this research would require an investment of time and resources by ABmunis. If this resolution is approved, ABmunis would have to consider our ability, in relation to other priorities, to effectively engage the Government of Alberta, municipalities and related professionals to understand the benefit and costs.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

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

Ryan Veldkamp
Executive Advisor, Enterprise Strategy, Alignment & Governance
City of Red Deer
ryan.veldkamp@reddeer.ca

C4: Strengthening Auditor Reporting of Financial Irregularities in Municipal Financial Statements

Moved by: Town of Penhold
 Seconded by: Town of Sylvan Lake

WHEREAS municipal councils rely on audited financial statements as a primary accountability tool to support transparent decision-making, public trust, and sound stewardship of municipal funds;

WHEREAS auditors may identify financial irregularities during municipal audits, such as unexplained variances, misclassifications, procurement or contract anomalies, weak internal controls, or unusual reserve transactions, that are not always clearly, consistently, or plainly communicated to municipal councils or the public;

WHEREAS current Canadian auditing standards and practices may result in such irregularities being communicated in highly technical language or dispersed throughout audit documents, making it difficult for elected officials and the public to readily understand potential financial risk or governance implications; and

WHEREAS clearer, more standardized, and plain-language reporting of significant audit findings would improve transparency, strengthen financial oversight, reduce long-term financial risk, and reinforce public confidence in municipal governance.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities urge the Government of Alberta to work with the appropriate professional bodies, including the Chartered Professional Accountants of Alberta (CPA Alberta), to strengthen professional standards, guidance, and training requirements so that auditors clearly and explicitly report significant financial irregularities identified during municipal audits.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities requests the Government of Alberta encourage CPA Alberta to develop a standardized, plain-language Municipal Audit Executive Summary to accompany municipal audited financial statements, outlining key information for council and public understanding, including but not limited to:

- the municipality's overall financial position;
- observations related to investments and major infrastructure assets;
- the status and flexibility of municipal reserves;
- findings related to fraud risk, compliance, and internal controls;
- identification of material financial or governance risks; and
- comments on the municipality's financial health.

BACKGROUND:

Municipalities are often the largest financial organizations within their communities, managing significant public funds, major infrastructure assets, complex procurement processes, and long-term debt and reserve strategies. Despite this responsibility, many municipalities, particularly small and mid-sized ones, operate with limited financial staff, constrained internal controls, and increasing exposure to financial complexity and risk.

External audits play a critical role in supporting municipal accountability and governance. However, auditors only may identify financial irregularities, such as unexplained variances, questionable journal entries, procurement anomalies, reserve movements, or control weaknesses, that do not meet the strict threshold of a "material misstatement" but still represent meaningful governance, compliance, or risk concerns. When these matters are not clearly disclosed, councils may lack timely and complete information needed to identify issues early and take corrective action.

All Alberta municipalities are impacted, as every municipality is required to obtain an annual external audit. A clear, consistent, and plain-language reporting format from audit firms will restore confidence, with clarity on the financial health of their community.

This in turn will prevent that brave council representative from having to ask the question, “So...is our municipality in a good financial position?”.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have a position on this particular issue.

If this resolution is passed, it will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response. Further advocacy would be recommended to the ABmunis’ Board by the relevant policy committee(s) within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

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

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Town of Penhold
rbinnendyk@townofpenhold.ca

C5: Door-to-Door Solar Sales

Moved by: City of St. Albert

Seconded by: Town of Jasper, Town of Rocky Mountain House, Town of Westlock

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta's Clean Energy Improvements Regulation enables municipalities to establish Clean Energy Improvement Programs (CEIP) that provide for the financing of specific residential and commercial energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades, including insulation, heating and cooling systems, and solar photovoltaic panels (solar PV);

WHEREAS CEIP participation is contingent upon compliance with specific program requirements, including the use of approved contractors and eligible energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades and products;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta introduced consumer protection measures in 2017 to restrict door-to-door sales of specific "household energy products," including furnaces, water heaters, windows and air conditioners;

WHEREAS these restrictions do not include solar PV systems, resulting in solar PV contractors being exempt from the door-to-door sales prohibitions that apply to other contractors that deliver CEIP-financed products for Albertans; and

WHEREAS this regulatory gap has contributed to misinformation being shared regarding CEIP eligibility and financing terms, contributing to consumer confusion and financial misunderstanding, and placing additional administrative burden on municipalities delivering CEIP programs.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to enhance regulatory oversight for door-to-door solar PV sales, and to engage with Alberta Municipalities and the solar PV industry to protect consumers from misinformation regarding municipal CEIP programs.

BACKGROUND:

The Government of Alberta's Clean Energy Improvements Regulation came into force in January 2019, which allowed for the implementation of Alberta Municipalities' Clean Energy Improvement Program (CEIP). CEIP is an innovative financing tool that enables residential and commercial property owners in municipalities that pass a clean energy improvement tax bylaw to access long-term financing to fund energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades, and to pay it off over long-term through their property tax bill.

As of 2026, 29 municipalities are running active CEIP programs across Alberta, with over 1,000 projects being completed and \$125 million in financing being made available. Upgrades such as insulation, windows/doors, heat pumps, and solar PV installations are some of the eligible products covered by CEIP. This injection of funding into the home upgrade market has boosted economic activity and financial opportunities in the home contracting trades; over 675 Albertan contractors have been designated as "CEIP Qualified Contractors," which include electricians, plumbing & HVAC contractors, and solar PV contractors among others.

However, regulatory gaps within the Consumer Protection Act have created an uneven playing field among CEIP contractors and increased the risk of misinformation regarding program eligibility and financing terms. Of particular relevance is the fact that certain door-to-door sales activities were banned by the Government of Alberta in 2017, however this ban only applied to the following specific "household energy products":

- Furnaces
- Natural gas and electricity energy contracts
- Water heaters

- Windows
- Air conditioners
- Energy audits

Although this ban covers the majority of contractors that deliver CEIP upgrades, it does not cover solar PV contractors, meaning these contractors do not have the same restrictions and can engage in door-to-door sales activities.

In addition to the consequences of creating an uneven playing field for CEIP contractors, this regulatory gap also creates financial strain on municipalities, as many municipalities with CEIP programs have needed to direct more staff resources to handling resident inquiries and complaints regarding information provided to them by solar PV contractors performing unsolicited door-to-door sales.

This resolution seeks to ensure solar PV contractors are subject to comparable consumer protection standards as other home energy contractors participating in CEIP programs. This will protect Alberta consumers, support fair market conditions, and reduce associated administrative burdens on municipalities that must correct misinformation on CEIP program criteria and eligibility.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not currently have an established policy position on this issue.

If this resolution is passed, it will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response. Further advocacy would be recommended to the ABmunis' Board by the relevant policy committee(s) within the context of related priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

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

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

C6: Restoring Provincial Support for Perpetual Conservation Easements

Moved by: Town of Cochrane
 Seconded by: Town of Innisfail

WHEREAS conservation easements have historically been used in Alberta as a voluntary land stewardship tool to protect ecologically significant areas, agricultural lands, and natural heritage features;

WHEREAS perpetual conservation easements provide long-term certainty for landowners, municipalities, and conservation organizations seeking to preserve lands with environmental, agricultural, or cultural value;

WHEREAS municipalities rely on long-term land-use planning to manage growth, infrastructure, and environmental stewardship, which benefits from tools that provide lasting certainty on the use of land;

WHEREAS recent shifts in provincial policy, through the newly created Private Land Conservation Program, have reduced support for perpetual conservation easements based on the principle that land should remain available for future use; and

WHEREAS time-limited conservation tools can provide flexibility in land use but may not be suitable in all circumstances, particularly where long-term or permanent conservation outcomes are desired.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to restore policy support under the Private Land Conservation Program for perpetual conservation easements as a voluntary land stewardship tool, ensuring municipalities, landowners, and conservation organizations have access to this option where locally supported and aligned with environmental, agricultural, or community planning objectives.

BACKGROUND:

Perpetual conservation easements have long been used in Alberta as a mechanism to conserve lands of environmental, agricultural, and cultural importance. These easements are voluntary agreements between landowners and qualified organizations that restrict certain types of development in order to protect identified values on the land.

A change to the Land Trust Grant Program, now known as the [Private Land Conservation Program](#), has reduced support for perpetual easements, based on a preference for maintaining future land-use flexibility. While this approach emphasizes adaptability by allowing for term easements of up to 50 years, it may limit the ability of municipalities and landowners to secure long-term conservation outcomes where there is strong local support to do so.

Perpetual conservation easements would be voluntary and landowner-initiated. They would not restrict options on other properties. This resolution is about preserving choice for municipalities. Time-limited easements provide flexibility, while perpetual easements provide certainty. Municipalities and landowners should have access to both tools to reflect local priorities and the nature of the land being protected.

For municipalities, conservation easements can support broader land-use planning objectives, including protecting natural areas, maintaining agricultural viability, and preserving community character. They can also complement growth management by directing development to appropriate areas while conserving lands that provide ecological or cultural benefits.

Restoring provincial support for perpetual conservation easements does not require mandating their use. Rather, it would ensure that municipalities, landowners, and conservation partners retain access to this tool as one option among many. This approach respects local decision-making and property rights while enabling communities to pursue conservation outcomes that reflect their priorities.

This issue is relevant to municipalities across Alberta, particularly those experiencing growth pressures alongside the need to protect natural and agricultural landscapes. Providing access to a full suite of voluntary land-use tools supports balanced, locally informed decision-making.

The proposed resolution aligns with Alberta Municipalities' broader interests in supporting responsible land-use planning, environmental stewardship, and ensuring municipalities have the tools needed to manage growth effectively.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis does not have an established policy position specific to restoring provincial support for perpetual conservation easements, and no previous resolutions have directly addressed this issue.

If this resolution is passed, it will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response. Further advocacy will be determined by ABmunis' Board based on input from ABmunis' relevant policy committee within the context of ABmunis' priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

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

Christine Raves
Senior Advisor, Intergovernmental Relations
Town of Cochrane
christine.raves@cochrane.ca

C7: Remediation of Contaminated Properties

Moved by: Town of Vermilion
Seconded by: Village of Marwayne

WHEREAS there are numerous contaminated and derelict properties throughout Alberta which are left abandoned by property owners each year, often accompanied by unpaid property taxes;

WHEREAS contaminated and derelict properties negatively affect property owners and municipalities;

WHEREAS previous grant funding from the Government of Alberta was not adequate to remediate properties and is no longer available;

WHEREAS applicable acts and regulations do not properly distinguish between current owners and original polluters, and further do not completely prevent the original polluter from evading their remediation responsibilities; and

WHEREAS municipalities face the dilemma of either seizing these properties through unpaid taxes and therefore inheriting the liability; or allowing the continued contamination of lands and accumulation of unpaid taxes.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to review relevant legislation to enable the differentiation between current and former owners with respect to liability for contaminated properties; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to reinstate an adequately funded grant program to facilitate the remediation of contaminated properties.

BACKGROUND:

The Town of Vermilion, along with many neighbouring municipalities, continues to face a growing and significant challenge related to contaminated and environmentally compromised properties. In many cases, property owners have failed or refused to take responsibility for the remediation and cleanup of these sites, while also neglecting to pay municipal property taxes associated with the properties.

Despite enforcement efforts by Alberta Environment and Protected Areas, including the issuance of Environmental Protection Orders, municipalities are finding that compliance remains extremely limited. Property owners are either unwilling to undertake the required remediation work or, in some instances, cannot be located at all. As a result, contaminated properties are being left abandoned within communities, creating ongoing environmental, financial, and public safety concerns.

This issue places an increasingly unfair burden on municipalities and local taxpayers, who are left to manage the long-term impacts of derelict and contaminated sites without the necessary authority, resources, or financial support to adequately address them.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis has considered issues related to contaminated properties and brownfield redevelopment through previous resolutions, including the [2012 resolution](#) on abandoned energy infrastructure and the [2021 resolution](#) on creating jobs through remediating and redeveloping brownfields. These recognize the financial and regulatory challenges municipalities face in addressing contaminated sites.

If this resolution is passed, it will be forwarded to the Government of Alberta for response. Further advocacy will be determined by ABmunis' Board based on input from ABmunis' relevant policy committee within the context of ABmunis' priorities and positions.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

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

Shannon Harrower
Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Vermilion
sharrower@vermilion.ca

C8: Equitable Provincial Charitable Gaming Model

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

WHEREAS charitable organizations provide a valuable service across Alberta and their sustainability is of utmost importance to Alberta society;

WHEREAS charitable organizations that experience financial instability may impact municipalities through increased requests for funding, or subsequent community reliance on municipalities to provide services that can no longer be sustainably delivered by charitable organizations;

WHEREAS Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis (AGLC) helps to ensure the sustainability of charitable organizations through revenue generation made possible by volunteer charitable casino events, known as Alberta's Charitable Gaming Model¹;

WHEREAS Alberta's Charitable Gaming Model was responsible for over \$422.8 million in revenue raised by thousands of Alberta charitable organizations in 2024-25²;

WHEREAS previous reviews of Alberta's Charitable Gaming Model conducted by the Government of Alberta and AGLC have articulated that an inequitable model for the disbursement of casino revenues to charities currently exists, and that the frequency of revenue generating opportunities varies greatly based on location;

WHEREAS the AGLC initiated a charitable gaming review in 2019-2021 and published a "What We Heard Report"³ Since, then no substantive action has been taken to address the issues identified in the review.

WHEREAS Since the latest review, the gaming landscape has evolved with the introduction of the province's iGaming Strategy for online gaming⁴ and Play Alberta.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta and AGLC to implement mechanisms to improve the sustainability of charities, including but not limited to, a more equitable and transparent provincial Charitable Gaming Model, funding from online gaming, or funding from other AGLC-administered sources.

BACKGROUND:

Under Alberta's current Charitable Gaming Model⁵, adopted in 2003, charitable groups may be licensed by the AGLC to conduct charity casinos in coordination with licensed private casino facilities as a revenue generating opportunity. These revenues are critical for charitable organizations' sustainability and ability to provide services to communities across Alberta.

There are 19 casino facilities⁶ located throughout Alberta, each of which belongs to a "casino region." Charities are generally assigned to their nearest casino facility. While charities located within Edmonton and Calgary and charities that provide province-wide services are permitted to receive a license for a casino event in Edmonton or Calgary casino facilities.

¹ <https://aglc.ca/gaming/charitablegaming/albertas-charitable-gaming-model>

² <https://aglc.ca/gaming/charitablegaming/albertas-charitable-gaming-model>

³ https://aglc.ca/sites/aglc.ca/files/aglc_files/CGR-What_We_Heard.pdf

⁴ <https://www.alberta.ca/albertas-igaming-strategy>

⁵ <https://aglc.ca/gaming/charitablegaming/albertas-charitable-gaming-model>

⁶ <https://aglc.ca/about-us/publications/quick-facts>

In a 2010 MLA Advisory Report⁷ on “Eligible Organizations’ Access to and Distribution of Proceeds from Licensed Casino Events,” it was identified that inequities exist because:

- There is a long waiting period to hold casino events across the province because there are more charitable organizations than there are possible casino events—waiting times vary from 16 months to 34.5 months depending on the region.
- Amongst casino regions, charitable proceeds can vary among regions, from an average high of \$77,486 to \$18,011.

Despite this report, inequities continued to persist over the subsequent decade. From 2019 through to 2021, AGLC surveyed over 3,800 organizations and conducted targeted stakeholder engagement with 90 charitable organizations and casino representatives as part of their Charitable Gaming Review. Input consistently showed concern that the current charitable gaming model results in regional disparities in wait times for casino events and the amount of proceeds earned from those events, and that these disparities are exaggerated by higher costs for rural charities such as increased transportation costs. There were a wide variety of recommendations looking at what types of organizations should have access to casino revenue, how revenues should be distributed and how regional boundaries could be adjusted.

Since this report was published, neither AGLC nor the Government of Alberta have implemented policy changes to action any of the above-mentioned recommendations.

Furthermore, the landscape of gaming has changed since this report; in 2020, AGLC launched Play Alberta, a provincially-regulated online gaming platform. Play Alberta generated \$37 million in revenue its first year, and has now grown to generate \$270 million in revenue for 2025. This new revenue stream did not exist when AGLC conducted the Charitable Gaming Review referenced above and serves as an example that while the gaming industry has evolved and changed, Alberta’s Charitable Gaming Model has not.

The increased emphasis on this issue in recent years – reflected in two historic resolutions approved by Alberta Municipalities members (with 88% member support in 2018, and 92% member support in 2022)⁸ as well as resolutions approved by Rural Municipalities of Alberta⁹ – creates a strong foundation for Alberta Municipalities to continue advocating on this issue to the Government of Alberta and AGLC with the support of a diverse range of municipalities.

The City of St. Albert hopes that this advocacy will advance the long-standing recommendations for a more equitable and transparent provincial Charitable Gaming Model, that improves access to revenues for charities throughout Alberta. Since last bringing forward this resolution in 2022, online gaming has grown significantly, and this may present alternative revenue sources to sustainably fund Alberta charitable organizations as well.

⁷ <https://doczz.net/doc/1097736/proceeds-to-charities-from-licensed-casino-events>

⁸ AB Munis Resolutions:

- <https://www.abmunis.ca/advocacy-resources/resolutions-library/gamingcasino-funds>
- <https://www.abmunis.ca/advocacy-resources/resolutions-library/equitable-provincial-charitable-gaming-model>
- <https://www.abmunis.ca/advocacy-resources/resolutions-library/equitable-provincial-charitable-gaming-model-0>

⁹ RMA Resolutions:

- <https://rmalberta.com/resolutions/18-02f-casino-opportunities-for-charitable-organizations/>
- <https://rmalberta.com/resolutions/20-16f-casino-opportunities-for-charitable-organizations/>
- <https://rmalberta.com/resolutions/13-17f-aamdc-advisory-committee-to-support-the-alberta-gaming-and-liquor-commission-in-reviewing-charitable-gaming-in-alberta/>
- <https://rmalberta.com/resolutions/12-23s-casino-opportunities-for-charitable-organizations/>

The following table outlines the wait times and revenues each casino-region received as of December 31, 2024¹⁰.

Casino Region	2024 Wait Time for Key Events (Months)	2024 Annualized Return (product of wait times and proceeds)
Calgary	20	\$49,281
Calgary-Rural	36	\$21,494
Camrose	40	\$ 5,760
Edmonton	22	\$42,730
Fort McMurray	17	\$20,852
Grande Prairie	28	\$16,459
Lethbridge	33	\$12,898
Medicine Hat	17	\$12,967
Red Deer	34	\$10,484
St. Albert	31	\$ 7,379

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS

Members passed similar resolutions in 2009, 2018, and 2022, ABmunis does not currently have a position on this issue.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

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

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

¹⁰ <https://aglc.ca/gaming/charitable-gaming/distribution-revenue>

C9: Strengthening Alberta Municipalities' voice to the Province by Increasing the Resolution Voting Threshold

Moved by: Town of Penhold
Seconded by: Strathcona County

WHEREAS the Alberta Municipalities' (ABmunis) Resolutions Policy No. AP002 sets the process for members resolutions during the annual ABmunis convention.

WHEREAS the Resolutions Policy currently requires a simple majority of votes cast (50% plus one) for a resolution to be adopted;¹

WHEREAS resolutions adopted with narrow margins may not clearly represent the collective position of Alberta's members, which can reduce the effectiveness and credibility of ABmunis' advocacy with provincial and federal governments; and

WHEREAS increasing the voting threshold for resolutions would ensure that only those resolutions with substantial and demonstrable member support are advanced, thereby strengthening ABmunis' advocacy focus and improving alignment with its strategic priorities;

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities conduct member engagement on Resolution Policy No. AP002 to identify areas for improvement to the resolution process, including exploring the potential benefits of increasing the voting threshold required for the adoption of resolutions from a simple majority (50% plus one) to a two-thirds (66%) majority of votes cast, representing at least two-thirds of its members.

BACKGROUND:

The ABmunis' Resolution Policy No. AP002 is intended to establish a clear and consistent process for resolutions that align with ABmunis broader advocacy initiatives. ABmunis mission is to be the voice of urban municipalities and provide visionary leadership, solutions-based advocacy, and service excellence on behalf of over 260 municipalities who are facing a variety of complex issues.

The Resolution Policy sets out the process for:

- The call of resolutions,
- Requirements of movers and seconders,
- Researching, writing, and submitting resolutions,
- The process for emergent resolutions,
- ABmunis Review of resolutions,
- The process of the resolution session during convention, including the introduction and debate of resolutions, amendments, and voting, and
- The action on adopted resolutions following convention.

To ensure clarity in the Resolutions Policy, member engagement is important to gain insights on where the resolution process could be improved. For example, the Resolution Policy establishes the voting threshold for resolutions to be approved as a simple majority (50% plus one of votes cast).

¹ [Alberta Municipalities, Resolutions Policy No. AP002, approved December 19, 2024.](#)

According to ABmunis, between 2017 and 2025, its members adopted 162 votes on resolutions based on the 50% plus one threshold. If a two-thirds majority were required for those votes to be successful, it would have reduced the number of successful resolutions to 146.

Raising the voting threshold would ensure that ABmunis resolutions reflect strong, broad-based member support. This would result in fewer endorsed resolutions and provide clearer direction to the Board, staff, and provincial and federal decision-makers on where there is true municipal consensus.

A review of other provincial municipal associations shows that approaches to resolution voting thresholds vary, with some organizations maintaining a simple majority while others employ higher or supermajority requirements to strengthen mandate clarity:

Association	Voting Threshold	Relevant Policy
ABmunis	50%+1	abmunis.ca/resources/policies
Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA)	60%	rmalberta.com/advocacy/resolutions/
Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA)	50%+1	suma.org/advocacy/resolutions
Union of BC Municipalities	50%+1	ubcm.ca/resolutions/resolutions-process

Provincial municipal associations take differing approaches to resolution voting, with most using a simple majority while some implement higher thresholds to reinforce stronger consensus and mandate clarity.

ALBERTA MUNICIPALITIES COMMENTS:

ABmunis uses the [Advocacy Prioritization Policy](#) to establish a process that engages and serves our members in addressing priority issues within ABmunis capacity. The policy is used to assign a level of priority to each resolution, which determines the level effort ABmunis invests in advocating on the issue.

If this resolution passes, ABmunis will engage with members to provide information, review and make any required amendments to the Resolutions Policy. This engagement will be a significant undertaking, requiring additional ABmunis resources to engage with members and outline options for consideration.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

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

Rick Binnendyk
Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Penhold
rbinnendyk@townofpenhold.ca

2026 RESOLUTIONS

Emergent Resolutions



E1: Investing in Prevention: Strengthening FCSS and Community Well-Being

Moved by: City of Red Deer
Seconded by: Alberta Municipalities Board

WHEREAS Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) was established in April 1966 and has, for 60 years, operated through a unique 80/20 cost-sharing partnership between the Government of Alberta and municipalities, expanding to include Métis Settlements in 1981;

WHEREAS FCSS supports more than 200 programs in over 300 municipalities and Metis settlements across Alberta and is often the only community-based social serving agency physically present in rural, small and remote communities;

WHEREAS FCSS is locally driven and focused on prevention, addressing social challenges before they escalate into crisis, yet stagnant provincial funding, increasing complexity and population growth along with changes within Alberta's broader social service and income support systems have left these programs struggling to meet demand and responding to needs that fall outside their traditional mandate;¹

WHEREAS on June 2, 2026, the Government of Alberta moved FCSS from the Ministry of Assisted Living and Social Services (ALSS) to the Ministry of Arts, Culture, and the Status of Women creating potential challenges for alignment with Alberta's broader preventative social services system;

WHEREAS the former Minister of ALSS had encouraged and facilitated discussions across the ministry from Preventative Community Services to Continuing Care to explore complementary community prevention programming that could help address the increasing complexity and demands, and the ministry transfer may hinder progress on these discussions;

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

- long-term, sustainable, needs-based funding for complementary community prevention services to expand access to early intervention and practical community supports; and
- continued collaboration between FCSS and the broader social service and prevention systems to ensure a strong and effective continuum of care.

BACKGROUND:

Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) is Alberta's primary community-based prevention program. For 60 years, it has helped municipalities and Métis Settlements address social challenges before they become crises. However, communities are facing growing and more complex needs while provincial FCSS funding has remained relatively unchanged for the past decade. For example, between 2022 and 2024 homelessness in the City of Red Deer grew by 235 percent, and in 2024 one in nine of the calls that the City's social diversion team responded to was for a lack of access to basic needs.² Many rural, remote, and smaller communities have limited access to provincially funded social services, requiring residents to travel to neighbouring communities or regional centres for support. This can increase demand on service providers and municipal supports in those communities, while highlighting broader gaps in Alberta's prevention and social service system. As a result, municipalities are increasingly being asked to respond to needs that fall outside FCSS's mandate and available resources.

Communities across Alberta are experiencing increased demand for social supports and more complex social challenges. FCSS programs report growing needs related to housing instability, mental health, addictions, social isolation, food insecurity, and financial pressures. Many individuals and families require support for multiple issues

¹ See: Alberta Municipalities, June 2026, [FCSS Advocacy Toolkit](#).

² Red Deer & District FCSS, [Trends in Review 2025: A Review of Social Trends in the Red Deer and District Area](#), p. 2-10.

at the same time, increasing pressure on local service providers and municipalities. Examples from both rural and urban communities show significant increases in demand for FCSS services, referrals, and support requests. For example, in 2023 the Kneehill Regional FCSS noted a general increase in referrals to Alberta Supports and local food, clothing and furniture banks, housing supports and mental health supports³ and in 2024 provided 23,795 service hours which is about a 22 percent increase over their benchmark.⁴ The City of Edmonton found in 2024 individuals accessing supports were facing multiple challenges at once: mental health, addiction, instable housing and financial difficulties which required more intensive and integrated support.⁵ Based on discussions among municipalities, these specific examples represent the experience of many communities throughout Alberta.

Municipalities' concerns about changes to Alberta's social and income support systems reflect broader concerns about growing service gaps, growing demand for local supports, and the resulting pressure on municipalities and community-based programs such as FCSS. FCSS programs are increasingly being asked to help residents navigate gaps in Alberta's broader social service system. In many communities, FCSS has become the first-place residents turn when they cannot access other supports.⁶ While FCSS plays an important prevention role, many of these needs fall outside its mandate or require services that FCSS is not permitted to fund directly.⁷ Transportation, case management, hands on service coordination, outreach, and practical supports are common examples of services that can prevent crises but may not fit within existing FCSS funding rules.

Municipalities and FCSS programs have identified opportunities for additional needs-based, prevention-focused investments that would complement, rather than replace, FCSS. Expanding access to practical community supports and early intervention⁸ services could help address emerging needs before they escalate, improve residents' quality of life, and reduce pressure on more costly health and social service systems. One potential model is [Healthy Aging Alberta](#), which has demonstrated success in providing early intervention and community-based supports for older adults. Similar complementary programming could be adapted to serve Albertans of all ages and help address prevention-related gaps that municipalities and FCSS programs have consistently identified.

ABmunis is advocating for additional provincial investment in FCSS (See: [ABmunis FCSS Advocacy Toolkit](#)). During discussions with the former Minister of ALSS, opportunities were identified to explore complementary prevention programming that could address gaps not currently met through FCSS while strengthening outcomes for Albertans.

The Government of Alberta's June 2026 transfer of FCSS to the Ministry of Arts, Culture and Status of Women has created uncertainty about how these discussions and FCSS connections to Alberta's broader prevention and social service systems will continue. Municipalities remain committed to FCSS's locally driven prevention model and believe continued collaboration across ministries, service systems, municipalities, and community organizations is essential to ensure Albertans can access the right support at the right time.

This issue is being raised as an emergent resolution because the transfer of FCSS occurred after the resolutions deadline. There is a risk that momentum toward increased FCSS funding, recognition of FCSS's role within Alberta's continuum of care, and exploration of complementary prevention programming could be lost if this issue is not addressed urgently.

³ Kneehill Regional FCSS, [Annual Report 2023](#), p. 3.

⁴ Kneehill Regional FCSS, [Counselling Report to Municipalities 2025](#), p. 3.

⁵ City of Edmonton, [2024 Family and Community Support Services Annual Report](#), p. 9.

⁶ See: University of Alberta and RMA, 2023, [Understanding and Responding to the Challenges Faced by FCSS Programs in Rural Alberta](#), pp. 1-37.

⁷ University of Alberta and RMA, 2023, p. 12.

⁸ The definition of early intervention in the Government of Alberta often means addressing an issue at an early stage, after the issue has surfaced or presented itself, but before full blown crisis. These interventions tend to be intensive and directed at specific individuals experiencing significant adversity. See: Government of Alberta, March 2019, [Well-being and Resiliency: A Framework for Supporting Safe and Healthy Children and Families](#), p. 22.

RESOLUTION CONTACT:

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

Ryan Veldkamp
Executive Advisor, Enterprise Strategy,
Alignment & Governance
City of Red Deer
Ryan.veldkamp@reddeer.ca

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2026 Alberta Municipalities Resolutions — Council Review Summary

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Category	Resolution	Title	Moved By	Seconded By	Active Clause(s)	Council Position	Council Rationale / Comments	Delegate Direction	Source Pages	Review Status
B	B1	Balancing Incentives Between Locum and Community-Based Physicians & Other Healthcare Workers to Support Family Practice	Town of Hinton	Town of Swan Hills	IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to review and amend physician and other healthcare worker incentive frameworks to reduce disparities between locum and community-based physicians and other healthcare workers. FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to support community-based family physician practice in rural and underserved communities, to strengthen continuity of care and ensure stable access to primary health services for all Albertans.				pp. 7-9	Not Reviewed
B	B2	Further Strengthening Governance and Funding Models for Seniors' Lodge Accommodations	City of Edmonton	Town of Rocky Mountain House	IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities: - Advocate to the Government of Alberta to ensure that regulations and Ministerial Orders resulting from the 2026 legislative amendments mandate meaningful municipal governance participation on seniors' lodge boards, including the formal right to review and approve HMB operating and capital budgets before requisitions are finalized; - Advocate to the Government of Alberta to provide an update on the negotiation of a new province-wide funding agreement that ensures the mandatory capital and operating reserves required by the amended Alberta Housing Act are not funded primarily through municipal requisitions, but through a sustainable provincial contribution that reflects the Province's primary responsibility for social housing; and - Explore opportunities to align advocacy efforts with the Rural Municipalities of Alberta to ensure a unified municipal voice in addressing the shared challenges of HMB requisitions and the long-term viability of the seniors' lodge system.				pp. 10-11	Not Reviewed
B	B3	Derelict Non-Residential Tax Subclass	City of Edmonton	Town of Peace River	IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to amend Sections 297 and 358.1 of the Municipal Government Act to allow all municipalities the option to create a derelict subclass under Class 2 Non-Residential property. FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT such an amendment include an exemption from the 5:1 tax rate ratio limit, or include a higher ratio limit, for a derelict non-residential tax subclass, to ensure municipal councils have the necessary flexibility to set a deterrent tax rate. FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to remove the requirement that a property be unoccupied for a year before it can be assessed into a derelict non-residential tax subclass.				pp. 12-13	Not Reviewed
B	B4	Modernization of Municipal Investment Authorities Under the Municipal Investment Regulation	City of Grande Prairie	Village of Duchess; City of Lacombe	IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to amend the Municipal Investment Regulation to expand investment authorities available to municipalities by implementing a scalable, capacity-based framework that includes: - Direct Governance-Based Authority: Extending broader investment eligibility to municipalities that demonstrate independent capacity through a prudent-investor policy, professional oversight, and robust risk-reporting practices; - Pooled and Collaborative Authority: Permitting municipalities to access expanded, diversified asset classes for a policy-defined portion of municipal funds without extensive internal administrative requirements, provided such investments are made through approved, municipally geared pooled funds, collaborative arrangements, or institutional services; and - An Opt-In Mechanism: Providing a clear designation process subject to Ministerial approval or defined criteria that allows municipalities to choose the tier of investment authority that best matches their local governance capacity, financial needs, and strategic goals. FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT any amendments to the Municipal Investment Regulation maintain appropriate safeguards to ensure: - preservation of capital, - prudent risk management, and - transparency and accountability to Council and the public.				pp. 14-16	Not Reviewed

2026 Alberta Municipalities Resolutions — Council Review Summary

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Category	Resolution	Title	Moved By	Seconded By	Active Clause(s)	Council Position	Council Rationale / Comments	Delegate Direction	Source Pages	Review Status
B	B5	Provincial Alternative Revenue Optimization Program to Support Productivity, Workforce Readiness, and Industrial Competitiveness	City of Grande Prairie	Town of Crossfield	IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to explore and collaboratively develop an additional, provincial revenue optimization program, separate from and in addition to the Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF) and existing municipal revenue sources, that: a) Supports Alberta’s economic productivity and competitiveness, including agriculture, forestry, energy, manufacturing, logistics, and workforce participation, through investments in trade-enabling, housing-enabling, and workforce-supporting municipal infrastructure and services; b) Aligns funding to municipalities and regions where there is demonstrated economic activity, service demand, or productivity outcomes that extend beyond municipal boundaries or are not fully reflected within local tax bases; c) Recognizes municipalities as delivery partners for provincial economic objectives, including labour force attraction and retention, housing enablement, transportation connectivity, utilities, and public safety, where municipal investment is required to support provincial growth and competitiveness; d) Provides predictable, transparent, and formula-based funding, allowing municipalities to incorporate revenues into long-term capital planning, asset management, and service sustainability; and e) Is developed collaboratively with Alberta Municipalities, Mid-sized Mayors Caucus, rural municipal partners, and the Government of Alberta, ensuring regional equity, economic neutrality, and alignment with Alberta’s provincial productivity and economic development priorities.				pp. 17-19	Not Reviewed
B	B6	Budget Surplus and Municipal Infrastructure Investment	City of Airdrie; City of Leduc; City of Lethbridge; Town of Cochrane; Town of Okotoks	Town of Coalhurst; Town of Crossfield; Town of Grimshaw; Town of Hinton; Town of Nanton; Town of Vegreville; Village of Duchess	IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to commit to creating a framework, used during provincial surpluses, to allocate a portion of the surplus to critical municipal infrastructure projects. FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the framework prioritizes projects based on demonstrated need and readiness for construction, with funding distributed through a transparent application process, and in alignment with provincial and municipal strategic priorities.				pp. 20-21	Not Reviewed
B	B7	Broadening Scope of Off-Site Levies	Town of Cochrane	Town of Penhold	IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to amend the Municipal Government Act to broaden the scope of infrastructure eligible for off-site levies to better reflect the full range of growth-related infrastructure required to support new development, where municipalities can demonstrate a clear connection between growth and the infrastructure required, in a manner that maintains transparency, predictability, and fairness for municipalities, developers, and residents.				pp. 22-23	Not Reviewed
B	B8	Expanded Grant Eligibility for Water Infrastructure	Town of Stettler	City of Camrose	IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the expansion of eligibility criteria under the Water for Life funding framework, or successor water infrastructure programs, to include single municipalities that function as regional service hubs and provide services to populations that extend beyond their municipal tax base.				pp. 24-26	Not Reviewed
B	B9	Limiting the Use of Fresh Water in Hydraulic Fracturing	Town of Rimbey	Town of Sylvan Lake	IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to review current policies and regulatory frameworks governing the use of fresh water in hydraulic fracturing, with the goal of reducing reliance on fresh water sources in drought stressed regions. FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Alberta work with industry, municipalities, and other stakeholders to support and accelerate the development and adoption of alternative water sources for hydraulic fracturing, including saline water and recycled produced water. FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Alberta evaluate the current roles and responsibilities of the Alberta Energy Regulator and Alberta Environment and Protected Areas with respect to water allocation decisions under the Water Act, to ensure clarity, transparency, and alignment with water management objectives. FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Alberta improve transparency in the Temporary Diversion License approval process by ensuring that supporting information used in decision-making is publicly accessible and that opportunities for municipal and public awareness and input are enhanced. FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Alberta assess opportunities to strengthen oversight and consistency in the application of legislation, policy, and directives related to Temporary Diversion Licences, including those involving alluvial resources.				pp. 27-28	Not Reviewed
B	B10	Police Fines and Penalties Revenue Sharing	Town of Mundare	Town of Hanna	IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate for the Government of Alberta to amend section 162 of the Traffic Safety Act, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter T-6 to distribute fines and penalties under the Act to those municipalities receiving policing services under the Provincial Police Services Agreement at the same percentage that these municipalities pay for policing.				pp. 29-30	Not Reviewed

2026 Alberta Municipalities Resolutions — Council Review Summary

Active clauses reproduced from the 2026 Resolutions Book, Version 1 (July 29, 2026). Council decision fields are provided for local review.

Category	Resolution	Title	Moved By	Seconded By	Active Clause(s)	Council Position	Council Rationale / Comments	Delegate Direction	Source Pages	Review Status
C	C1	Regulation of Personal Micromobility Devices (i.e. e-scooters) through the Alberta Traffic Safety Act	City of Spruce Grove	Village of Irma	IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to amend the Traffic Safety Act and its associated regulations to establish a clear and consistent provincial framework for the operation and use of personal micromobility devices, while providing municipalities with autonomy for bylaw enforcement within their jurisdiction as needed.				pp. 32-33	Not Reviewed
C	C2	Family Support for Children with Disabilities Transparency and Timely Access	Town of Sylvan Lake	Town of Nanton	IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to improve transparency, communication, and timeliness within the Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) program by: 1. Reinstating routine public reporting on FSCD wait list volumes and average wait times at key stages of the process; 2. Ensuring families awaiting FSCD supports receive clear, proactive communication regarding application status and expected next steps; 3. Allocating targeted, time-limited resources to reduce existing FSCD backlogs so approved supports can be accessed within reasonable timelines; and 4. Establishing transparency and timeliness as core operational standards within the FSCD program.				pp. 34-35	Not Reviewed
C	C3	Alignment of Municipal Fiscal Year with Provincial and Federal Budget Cycles	City of Red Deer	Town of Penhold	IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to amend relevant legislation and regulations to change the municipal fiscal and budget cycle to align with the provincial and federal fiscal calendar of April 1 to March 31.				pp. 36-37	Not Reviewed
C	C4	Strengthening Auditor Reporting of Financial Irregularities in Municipal Financial Statements	Town of Penhold	Town of Sylvan Lake	IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities urge the Government of Alberta to work with the appropriate professional bodies, including the Chartered Professional Accountants of Alberta (CPA Alberta), to strengthen professional standards, guidance, and training requirements so that auditors clearly and explicitly report significant financial irregularities identified during municipal audits. FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities requests the Government of Alberta encourage CPA Alberta to develop a standardized, plain-language Municipal Audit Executive Summary to accompany municipal audited financial statements, outlining key information for council and public understanding, including but not limited to: • the municipality's overall financial position; • observations related to investments and major infrastructure assets; • the status and flexibility of municipal reserves; • findings related to fraud risk, compliance, and internal controls; • identification of material financial or governance risks; and • comments on the municipality's financial health.				pp. 38-39	Not Reviewed
C	C5	Door-to-Door Solar Sales	City of St. Albert	Town of Jasper; Town of Rocky Mountain House; Town of Westlock	IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to enhance regulatory oversight for door-to-door solar PV sales, and to engage with Alberta Municipalities and the solar PV industry to protect consumers from misinformation regarding municipal CEIP programs.				pp. 40-41	Not Reviewed
C	C6	Restoring Provincial Support for Perpetual Conservation Easements	Town of Cochrane	Town of Innisfail	IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to restore policy support under the Private Land Conservation Program for perpetual conservation easements as a voluntary land stewardship tool, ensuring municipalities, landowners, and conservation organizations have access to this option where locally supported and aligned with environmental, agricultural, or community planning objectives.				pp. 42-43	Not Reviewed
C	C7	Remediation of Contaminated Properties	Town of Vermilion	Village of Marwayne	IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to review relevant legislation to enable the differentiation between current and former owners with respect to liability for contaminated properties; and FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta to reinstate an adequately funded grant program to facilitate the remediation of contaminated properties.				pp. 44-45	Not Reviewed

2026 Alberta Municipalities Resolutions — Council Review Summary

Active clauses reproduced from the 2026 Resolutions Book, Version 1 (July 29, 2026). Council decision fields are provided for local review.

Category	Resolution	Title	Moved By	Seconded By	Active Clause(s)	Council Position	Council Rationale / Comments	Delegate Direction	Source Pages	Review Status
C	C8	Equitable Provincial Charitable Gaming Model	City of St. Albert	Town of Edson	IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta and AGLC to implement mechanisms to improve the sustainability of charities, including but not limited to, a more equitable and transparent provincial Charitable Gaming Model, funding from online gaming, or funding from other AGLC-administered sources.				pp. 46-48	Not Reviewed
C	C9	Strengthening Alberta Municipalities' voice to the Province by Increasing the Resolution Voting Threshold	Town of Penhold	Strathcona County	IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities conduct member engagement on Resolution Policy No. AP002 to identify areas for improvement to the resolution process, including exploring the potential benefits of increasing the voting threshold required for the adoption of resolutions from a simple majority (50% plus one) to a two-thirds (66%) majority of votes cast, representing at least two-thirds of its members.				pp. 49-50	Not Reviewed
E	E1	Investing in Prevention: Strengthening FCSS and Community Well-Being	City of Red Deer	Alberta Municipalities Board	IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Alberta Municipalities advocate to the Government of Alberta for: • long-term, sustainable, needs-based funding for complementary community prevention services to expand access to early intervention and practical community supports; and • continued collaboration between FCSS and the broader social service and prevention systems to ensure a strong and effective continuum of care.				pp. 52-54	Not Reviewed

COUNCIL BRIEFING SHEET

2026 Alberta Municipalities Resolutions

Meeting Date:

Prepared For:

Council

Prepared By:

Administration

Purpose:

To review the active clauses of the 2026 Alberta Municipalities resolutions and establish Council direction for voting delegates.

Recommended Process

1. Review each active clause on the Council Review sheet.
2. Select a Council Position and record the rationale or concerns.
3. Confirm Delegate Direction where Council wishes to provide direction.
4. Update Review Status to track completion.

Source

2026 ABmunis 2026 Resolutions Book — Version 1, July 29, 2026 (source document supplied by the user).

Review Progress

Total Resolutions	20	Council Reviewed	0	Direction Confirmed	0
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STIRLING

Council Meeting – April 15, 2026

Agenda Item: Bylaw 566-26 Residential Assessment Sub-Classes Bylaw

Strategic Alignment:

Build Community: Infrastructure & Amenities 	 Celebrate Community: ?  Engagement & Pride	 Grow Community:  Development & Economy
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Background Information:

Administration is bringing forward Bylaw 566-26 Residential Assessment Sub-Classes Bylaw based off of the following Council Motion:

2025-326: “MOVED by Councillor Davis that Council establish a multi-family residential mill rate, with the municipal portion set at 5%, and direct Administration to include this rate in the 2026 Tax Rate Bylaw.”

Administration has done research into what would be required to create the noted Mill Rate and Council first has to pass a Bylaw permitting the creation of this residential sub-class, which is permitted by the Municipal Government Act. (MGA)

Administration would note this rate was requested by a developer who has a project proposed which would add approximately four to six million dollars in assessed value for a large multi-unit complex. The motion was needed for the developer to secure financing to proceed with the project, as the standard residential tax rate, made rent on the units untenable for the rates needed to be charged and what reasonable rental rates were considered to be by their financial lender.

In consultation with the developer this rate structure would not be necessary until 2027; as the development would not be complete and certified until 2027. This means we are able to proceed as normal with the 2026 Tax Rate Bylaw with just the one residential mill rate.

Administration will note there are only two parcels of land which are 4 dwelling units or greater in the Village, which will also benefit from the lower multifamily rate of 5% municipal mill rate. The total affected assessment that would move to this rate (Based off the 2025 Tax Assessment) is \$1,167,650.00. Taxes on this amount under the current residential mill rate would amount to \$10,00.35 annually and would change in 2027, with the proposed mill rate adjustment to \$5,838.25. This would not be practical should the project not proceed, but in the event the project proceeds the adjusted value (Based off of 2025 assessment numbers) would be anywhere between \$5,167,650.00 to \$7,167,650.00 meaning an annualized tax allocation of \$25,838.25 to \$35,838.23.

The mill rate following the agreed upon 5%, should the project proceed would be subject to any Council’s discretion for setting beyond that date.



STIRLING

Upon the passing of Bylaw 566-26 the Village will create the sub-class of multi-family residential, but should the project not proceed no change to the mill rate will be required. Administration sees this bylaw as something that may allow Council and Administration another tool when looking at potential proposals from a multi-family developer, but also allows us to be able to action the motion from 2025 should the current proposed development proceed.

2026-102: "MOVED by Councillor Davis to provide First Reading to Bylaw 566-26: Residential Assessment Sub-Classes Bylaw, as presented."

Recommendation:

Council should consider passing first reading of Bylaw 566-26 Residential Assessment Sub-Classes Bylaw. The passing of the Bylaw will only have the subclasses take effect for the 2027 Tax Roll.

Proposed Motion(s):

Moved by _____ to provide second reading to Bylaw 566-26 Residential Assessment Sub-Classes Bylaw.

**VILLAGE OF STIRLING
IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
Bylaw No. 566-26
RESIDENTIAL ASSESSMENT SUB-CLASSES BYLAW**

A BYLAW TO CREATE RESIDENTIAL ASSESSMENT SUB-CLASSES WITHIN THE TAX ASSESSMENT ROLL.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sections 297 and 313 of the Municipal Government Act, R.S.A. 2000, c. M-26, City Council may pass a bylaw setting the assessment sub-classes for residential property authorizing the assessor to assign these sub-classes in preparing the assessment and supplementary assessment of property.

AND WHEREAS pursuant to s. 325.1 of the Act, bylaws enacted under section 297 or 313 remain in force after the year in which they are enacted and apply in respect of subsequent years until they are repealed.

NOW THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LETHBRIDGE ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

PART I -TITLE, PURPOSE AND DEFINITIONS

- 1 (1)** This Bylaw may be cited as the "Residential Assessment and Supplementary Assessment Sub-Class Bylaw"

Purpose

- 2 (1)** The purpose of this Bylaw is to establish assessment sub-classes for residential property in accordance with s. 297(2) of the Act.

Definitions

- 3 (1)** In this Bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:
- (a) "Act" means the Municipal Government Act, R.S.A. 2000, c. M-26;
 - (b) "Assessed Property" means assessed property as defined in Section 284 of the Act;
 - (c) "Assessment Roll" means assessment roll as described in Section 303 of the Act;
 - (d) "Dwelling Unit" means one or more rooms operated or capable of being operated as a residence for a household containing cooking, sleeping and sanitary facilities.
 - (e) "Manufactured Home" means manufactured home as defined in Section 284(1)(m) of the Act;
 - (f) "Manufactured Home Community" means manufactured home community as defined in Section 284(1)(n) of the Act;
 - (g) "Multi-family Residential" means
 - (i) all residential property other than Single Family Residential Property;
 - (ii) boarding houses with more than three sleeping rooms;
 - (iii) vacant residential property zoned for the development of four or more dwelling units under the City's Land Use Bylaw; and,
 - (iv) a Manufactured Home Community;

- (h) "Non-Residential Assessment Class Property" means non-residential property as defined in Section 297(4)(b) of the Act;
 - (i) "Residential Assessment Class Property" means residential property as defined in Section 297(4)(c) of the Act;
 - (j) "Single Family Residential Property" means
 - (i) property where the total number of Dwelling Units on the parcel of land, whether contained in a single building or more than one building, does not exceed three Dwelling Units together with any other buildings located on the site that are ancillary to the use of the Dwelling Unit;
 - (ii) a residential unit and associated parking unit, if any, established under the same condominium plan;
 - (iii) a Manufactured Home located on a site in a Manufactured Home Community and any other improvements located on the site owned and occupied by the person occupying the Manufactured Home;
 - (iv) vacant residential property zoned for the development of three Dwelling Units or less under the City's Land Use Bylaw;
 - (v) vacant residential property subdivided under a registered condominium plan and intended for the development of a residential unit and associated parking unit, if any;
 - (k) "Supplementary Assessment" means an assessment made pursuant to Section 314 of the Act;
 - (l) "Supplementary Assessment Roll" means a supplementary assessment roll as defined by Section 315 of the Act.
- 4 (1) For the purposes of Assessment and Supplementary Assessment Rolls prepared for taxation, all Residential Assessment Class Property within the Village of Stirling is hereby divided into the following assessment sub-classes:
- (a) Single Family Residential;
 - (b) Multi-family Residential.
- 5 (1) This Bylaw shall come into force and effect on April 1, 2026.

Read a first time this 1 day of April 2026.
Read a second time this 15 day of April 2026.
Read a third time and passed this ___ day of April 2026.

Scott Barton, Mayor

Scott Donselaar, CAO



Chief Administrative Officer Report Village of Stirling



STIRLING

Purpose of a Municipality – MGA Section 3

3. The purposes of a Municipality are

- (a) to provide good government,
 - (a.1) to foster the well-being of the environment,
 - (a.2) to foster the economic development of the municipality,
- (b) to provide services, facilities or other things that, in the opinion of Council, are necessary or desirable for all or a part of the Municipality,
- (c) to develop and maintain safe and viable communities, and
- (d) to work collaboratively with neighboring municipalities to plan, deliver and fund intermunicipal services.

Our Mission

To facilitate the things, that in the opinion of Council, are necessary or desirable for all or part of the Municipality and to maintain a safe, vibrant and welcoming community.

Council's Strategic Vision

Our plan focuses on these main themes:

Pillar 1: Financial Sustainability

Action Item 1.1 Review of External Boards, Commissions and Agencies

May 20, 2026 – provided a review of solid waste management which included the Chief Mountain Regional Solid Waste Services Commission, providing a break down of revenues; expenses and potential forecasting on future expenses and options.

Action Item 1.2 Internal Audit – Operational Review

Materials and data have been collected and will be correlated for submission during June Council Meetings.

June 3rd I put together a report providing a direct comparison of the Village in way of staffing; finance; and mill rates. The report also looked at growth in the Village and inflation factors in relation to budget as compared to the Audited financial statements and census details.

Action Item 1.2 Internal Audit – Operational Review

I have been working on constructing the detailed audit review to report into Council. The report is following the pillars identified by Council and is utilising academic findings; scientific research; legislative requirements; and best practice documents in its construction.

Action Item 1.2 Internal Audit – Job Descriptions

Materials have been provided on Policy HR02-24 Payroll and Benefits Policy, along with the job descriptions for each position currently with the Village whether filled or unfilled. Policy

recommendations were tabled around the operating hours requested by Council on the June 17th, 2026 meeting.

Pillar 2: Build Community

Action Item 2.5 Decisions on Underutilized Assets

I have engaged David Cocks to provide draft conceptual designs for the entirety of the building which houses FCSS. The direction was to make the space able to be utilized by two groups with as even split as possible of the space. Design plans for the current layout were provided to Cocks for reference.

Pillar 3: Celebrate Community

Pillar 4: Enhance Community

Operational Priorities 2026

Capital Priorities 2026

Potable Water Project – Tender for phase one (Collapsing water treatment plant; construction of new building to house equipment necessary for distribution; repairs to reservoir) to be issued February 13, 2026. Work to commence by May 2026.

- Contractor Bid Meeting Occurred February 24, 2026 – Acting Operations Director Barton was present and reported no significant questions n project scope were raised.
- March 18th the contract was awarded to Porter Tanner for Phase one of the project – Water treatment plant relocation and Potable Water Reservoir Upgrades
- April 16th Contractor Start up meeting held with Village of Stirling; MPE and Porter Tanner. Construction at the reservoir site to occur early May.
- June 2026 Porter Tanner has started construction work at the reservoir site.
- August 2026 Porter Tanner has the new treatment facility in place and is preparing for bypassing water to address the reservoir. The Village will be on direct pressure when this occurs.
- Tentative commissioning of the facility with reservoir is slated for October 20026.
- Valve replacement on the mainline will commence in 2026 and be completed spring of 2027.

Matters not related to Council's Strategic Plan

- **Water Meters**
 - We are moving towards a cellular read water meter, which we have been informed will reduce our failure rate of the older readers, enable them to be

read by activating the reader at the office, and provide more accurate reads as the mechanical components which fail are no longer used to provide the reading. We will be making the changes to meters as they age out or fail.

- The first install has occurred and the meter is reading accurately. We can get data by the minute off the program interface.

Meetings Attended

- ✓ August 31st I attended a virtual demo from Catalyst Systems on their GIS and Asset management Systems. License pricing has been provided.
- ✓ September 3rd I had a meeting with Davis Yawney to discuss multifamily development opportunities.
- ✓ September 3rd I met with Director of Operations Still and Porter Tanner at the Water Reservoir site to have a project meeting update.
- ✓ September 8th I met with Davis Yawney to review draft plans for potential development.
- ✓ September 9th I met with Mayor Barton to review the agenda and provide an update on the internal audit.
- ✓ September 10th I met with Director of Operations Still to discuss the schedule for winterising lines and facilities.

Barons-Eureka-Warner Family & Community Support Services (FCSS)
Minutes of Board Meeting – Wednesday, June 3, 2026
Coaldale Hub (2107-13th Street)

Attendance

In-person

Degenstein, Dave – Town of Milk River, Board Chair
Chapman, Bill – Town of Coaldale, Vice-Chair
Firth, Carly – Town of Taber
Foster, Missy – Village of Barnwell
Glendinning, Ian – Village of Warner
Heggie, Jack – County of Warner
Norris, Nikole – Village of Stirling
Prince, Kyle – Village of Barons
Sayers, Mark – Lethbridge County
Stewart, Pam – Town of Raymond

Staff:

Morrison, Zakk – Executive Director
DeBow, Petra – Manager
Florence-Greene, Evelyn – Finance and HR Coordinator

Online

Feist, Teresa – Town of Picture Butte
Harasem, Lori – Town of Coalhurst
Jensen, Melissa – Town of Nobleford
Payne, Megan – Village of Coutts

Absent

Deleeuw, Shelley – Town of Vauxhall
Torrie, David – M.D. of Taber

Call to Order

D. Degenstein called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

1. Approval of Agenda

M. Sayers moved the Board to approve the agenda as presented.

Carried

K. Prince entered the meeting at 4:33

2. Delegation

a) Community Needs Assessment Update – Dr. Lars Hallstrom, Prentice Institute

Dr. Lars Hallstrom presented the final Community Needs Assessment report.

B. Chapman entered the meeting at 4:43.



The Board discussed the information provided.

The Board thanked Dr. Lars Hallstrom for the presentation.

M. Fedunec left the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

P. Stewart moved the Board to accept the Community Needs Assessment presentation for information.

Carried

Dr. Lars Hallstrom left the meeting at 5:13 p.m.

b) Community Volunteer Income Tax Program Update – Becky Fitton, Community Services Supervisor

B. Fitton provided an update on the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program.

The Board discussed the information provided.

The Board thanked B. Fitton for the presentation.

B. Chapman moved the Board to accept the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program Update presentation for information.

Carried

Becky Fitton left the meeting at 5:27 p.m.

3. Minutes

J. Heggie moved the minutes of May 6, 2026, FCSS Board meeting be approved as presented.

Carried

4. Correspondence

a) Correspondence Received

The following correspondence was presented for information:

- May 4, 2026 – FCSSAA Board Meeting Highlights.

C. Firth moved the Board to receive the correspondence as presented for information.

Carried

5. Reports

a) Executive Director

Z. Morrison reviewed the Executive Director's report.

The following was highlighted:

- Summer Priority
 - Information Management Policies



- Reports
 - FRN Annual Activity Report is due on June 30, 2026.
 - FRN Final Activity Report is due on July 31, 2026.
 - FRN Annual Financial Statement is due on June 30, 2026.
 - FRN Annual Audited Financial Statement is due on June 30, 2026.

The Board discussed the Executive Director Report.

K. Prince moved the Board to approve the Executive Director's Report as presented.

Carried

b) Financial Report

Z. Morrison reviewed the Financial Report.

The Board discussed the Financial Report.

I. Glendinning moved the Board to approve the April 2026 Financial Report including:

- Financial statement – April 2026;
- Monthly accounts – April 1-30, 2026;
- ATB Financial Mastercard April 14, 2026, to May 12, 2026.

Carried

6. **New Business**

a) Proposed BEW FCSS Budget 2026

**Barons-Eureka-Warner FCSS
Budget
2026**

REVENUE

Provincial FCSS funding	1,493,200
Municipal Requisitions	467,151
Interest Income	40,000
Revenue Other	64,466
Family Resource Network (Children's Services)	658,500
RDN - Reaching Home Grant	99,980
Project Grant Funding	9,900
TOTAL	2,833,197

EXPENDITURES

Child & Caregiver Support	705,945
Community Development	170,994
Community Events	169,236
Community Outreach	305,394
Information & Referrals	173,729
Mental Health Promotion	420,241
Administration	119,277
Family Resource Network (Children's Services)	658,500
RDN - Reaching Home Grant	99,980
Project Grant Funding	9,900
TOTAL	2,833,197



The Board discussed the proposed 2026 Budget for Barons-Eureka-Warner FCSS.

B. Chapman moved the Board to approve the proposed 2026 Barons-Eureka-Warner FCSS Budget as presented.

Carried

Closed Session

B. Chapman moved the Board move in-camera, based on the Governance Policies Board Meeting in Absence of the Public, at 5:37p.m.

Carried

Evelyn Florence-Greene and Petra DeBow left the meeting at 5:37 p.m.

J. Heggie moved the Board back to regular session at 5:58 p.m.

Carried

M. Sayers moved the Board approve a retro-active 2% salary grid increase, effective April 1, 2026, applicable solely to permanent employees who were employed as of April 1, 2026. This increase shall exclude the position of Executive Director.

Carried

b) Executive Director Annual Evaluation – Evaluation Committee

The evaluation committee requires the Board Chair and three Board members to form a committee.

J. Heggie moved the Board to appoint D. Degenstein (Board Chair), K. Prince, M. Sayers and B. Chapman (Board Vice Chair) to the Executive Director Evaluation Committee.

Carried

The Executive Director Evaluation Committee will meet on Wednesday September 2, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. prior to the regular Board meeting.

D. Degenstein will send out the information to the Committee prior to the meeting.

c) Signing Authority

Z. Morrison requested that the Board authorize Becky Fitton, Community Services Supervisor, to be granted cheque signing authority in accordance with Administrative and Finance Policies, Section 6.6.

P. Stewart moved the Board to authorize the addition of Becky Fitton, Community Services Supervisor for signing authority effective June 3, 2026.

Carried



7. Round Table

The Board shared municipal updates.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next regular Board meeting will be September 2, 2026, at the Coaldale HUB (2107 – 13th St.) in person and online (via Teams) starting at 4:30 p.m.

9. Adjournment

J. Heggie moved the meeting to adjourn at 6:21 p.m.

Carried

D. Degenstein moved the meeting back into session at 6:22 p.m.

Carried

M. Sayers moved the meeting to adjourn at 6:23 p.m.

Carried

Chairperson

Executive Director

Date

Date

Cases by Offence



RRCPO

Date Range 08/01/26 00:00:00 - 08/31/26 23:59:59

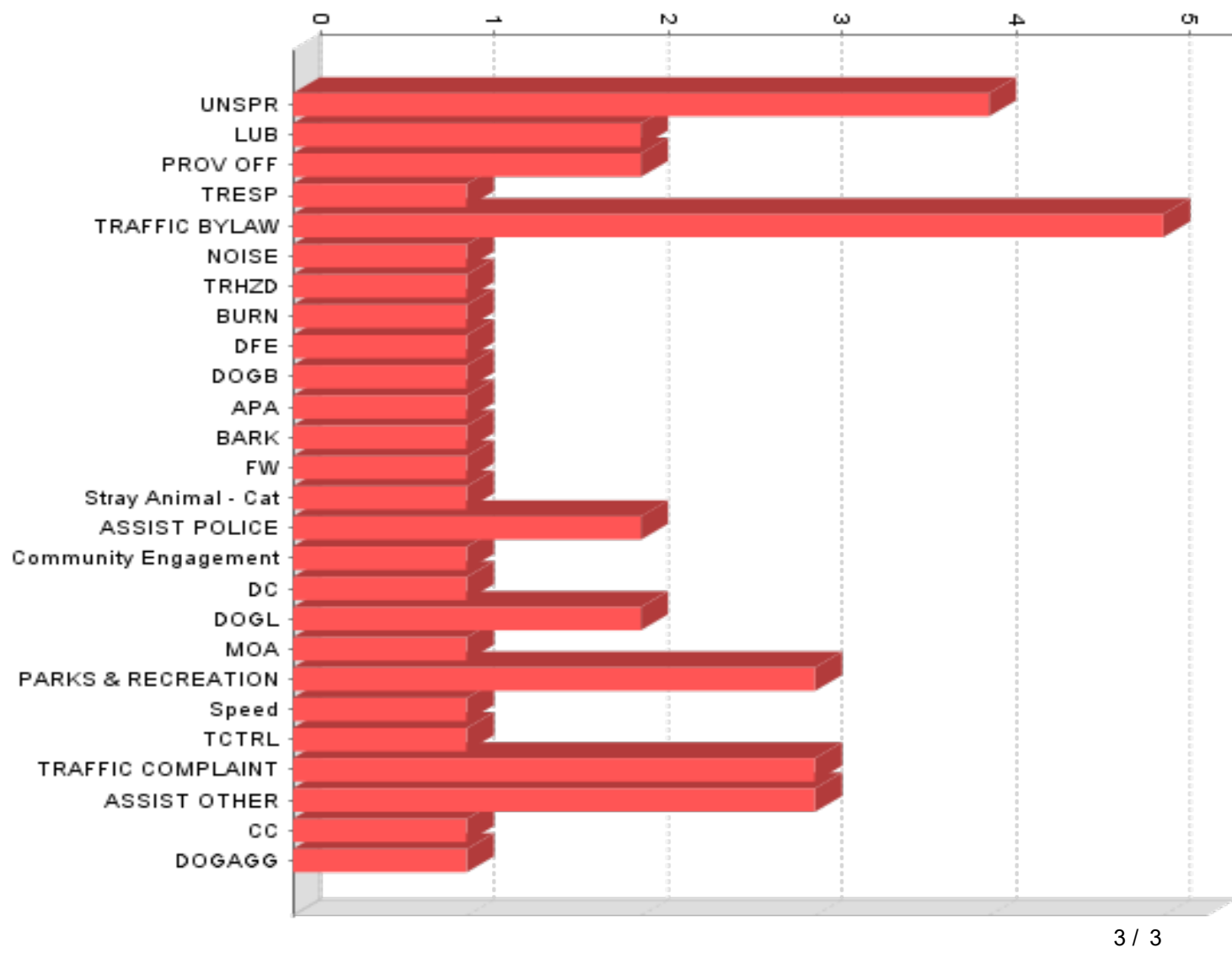
Print Date 09/08/26 08:31:17 TZ: Canada/Mountain

RRCPO / RRPSS

Offence ID	Offence Description	Community	Total
UNSPR	UNSIGHTLY PREMISES		1
LUB	LAND USE BYLAW	CARDSTON COUNTY	2
PROV OFF	PROVINCIAL OFFENCES	CARDSTON COUNTY	1
TRESP	TRESPASS ONTO PROPERTY	CARDSTON COUNTY	1
TRAFFIC BYLAW	TRAFFIC BYLAW	COALHURST	1
NOISE	NOISE COMPLAINT	COUTTS	1
TRESP	TRESPASS ONTO PROPERTY	COUTTS	1
UNSPR	UNSIGHTLY PREMISES	COUTTS	6
TRHZD	TRAFFIC HAZARD	LETHBRIDGE COUNTY	1
BURN	BURNING BYLAW	MAGRATH	1
DFE	DOG FECES	MAGRATH	1
DOGB	DOG BITE	MAGRATH	1
LUB	LAND USE BYLAW	MAGRATH	2
TRAFFIC BYLAW	TRAFFIC BYLAW	MAGRATH	1
APA	ANIMAL PROTECTION ACT	MILK RIVER	1
BARK	DOG BARKING	MILK RIVER	4
DFE	DOG FECES	MILK RIVER	1
FW	FIREWORKS	MILK RIVER	1
STRAY ANIMAL -	STRAY ANIMAL	MILK RIVER	1
TRAFFIC BYLAW	TRAFFIC BYLAW	MILK RIVER	1
UNSPR	UNSIGHTLY PREMISES	MILK RIVER	2
APA	ANIMAL PROTECTION ACT	NO 5 COUNTY	1
ASSIST POLICE	ASSIST POLICE	NO 5 COUNTY	2
COMMUNITY	COM ENG	NO 5 COUNTY	1
DC	DOG CHASE AFTER VEHICLE	NO 5 COUNTY	1
DOGB	DOG BITE	NO 5 COUNTY	1
DOGL	DOG AT LARGE	NO 5 COUNTY	5
MOA	MOTORIST ASSIST	NO 5 COUNTY	1
PARKS &	PARKS	NO 5 COUNTY	3
PROV OFF	PROVINCIAL OFFENCES	NO 5 COUNTY	2
SPEED	SPEEDING	NO 5 COUNTY	1
TCTRL	TRAFFIC CONTROL	NO 5 COUNTY	1
TRAFFIC	TRAFFIC	NO 5 COUNTY	3
			1 / 3
ASSIST OTHER	ASSIST	RAYMOND	3

BARK	DOG BARKING	RAYMOND	1
CC	CRIMINAL CODE	RAYMOND	1
NOISE	NOISE COMPLAINT	RAYMOND	1
TRAFFIC BYLAW	TRAFFIC BYLAW	RAYMOND	5
UNSPR	UNSIGHTLY PREMISES	RAYMOND	1
DOGAGG	DOG (AGGRESSIVE)	STIRLING	1
DOGL	DOG AT LARGE	STIRLING	2
BARK	DOG BARKING	WARNER	1
STRAY ANIMAL -	STRAY ANIMAL	WARNER	1
UNSPR	UNSIGHTLY PREMISES	WRENTHAM	4
			Total 75
			2 / 3

RRCPO / RRPSS



Cases by Offence



RRCPO

Date Range 08/01/26 00:00:00 - 08/31/26 23:59:59

Print Date 09/08/26 08:35:47 TZ: Canada/Mountain

RRCPO / RRPSS

Offence ID	Offence Description	Community	Total
DOGAGG	DOG (AGGRESSIVE)	STIRLING	1
DOGL	DOG AT LARGE	STIRLING	2
Total			3

Cases by Offence Audit

Case #	Incident Dispo	Location
RR-26-0371	Closed	
RR-26-0379	WARNING	

1 / 2

RRCPO / RRPSS



2 / 2

Events by Hour Comparison



Date Range 08/01/26 00:00:00 - 08/31/26 23:59:59

Print Date 09/08/26 08:42:49 TZ: Canada/Mountain

Day Of Week

Hour	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
0000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
0100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
0200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
0300	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
0400	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
0500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
0600	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
0700	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	
0800	1	0	2	0	3	1	1	
0900	0	2	0	1	2	3	0	
1000	0	2	3	6	9	4	4	
1100	5	5	5	8	6	4	2	
1200	7	6	2	3	7	5	3	
1300	5	4	3	2	1	3	2	
1400	6	3	1	1	1	0	9	
1500	4	2	1	2	3	2	3	
1600	7	1	5	0	1	0	3	
1700	6	0	0	1	0	0	4	
1800	1	0	1	3	1	0	4	
1900	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	
2000	3	0	0	2	0	0	4	
2100	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2300	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

From:
To:

Cc:
Subject: ORRSC 2027 Draft Budget Update
Date: [Wednesday, September 9, 2026 12:10:02 PM](#)
Attachments: [image.png](#)

Good afternoon,

Following ORRSC's presentation of the draft 2027 budget to the Board of Directors last week, I wanted to provide a quick update on the proposed membership fee changes.

As part of the three-year financial stabilization plan that commenced in 2025, the 2027 budget was originally projected to require an overall membership fee increase of approximately 7%. Through the work undertaken over the past two years, including adjustments to the membership funding floor and ceiling, we have been able to reduce the required overall increase to 5% for 2027.

It is important to note that the 5% is the overall increase across the full membership. Individual membership fees are calculated using the annual Alberta Equalized Assessments, which are released in late October or early November. As a result, the actual increase for each municipality will vary, with some municipalities seeing an increase above 5% and others below 5%, depending on changes to their equalized assessment.

The draft budget also proposes adjustments to the annual membership funding floor and ceiling:

- Ceiling: Increase from \$118,795.41 to \$122,359.27, an increase of \$3,563.86 annually.
- Floor: Increase from \$5,700.00 to \$7,500.00, an increase of \$1,800.00 annually.

These adjustments are intended to help keep individual municipal increases at the 5% level or below where possible, while also making the funding model more reflective of how ORRSC services are actually being used.

In particular, increasing the minimum annual membership fee recognizes that even our smallest municipalities access a broad range of ORRSC services and supports. Bringing the floor more in line with the level of service being provided helps distribute the overall

cost more fairly across the membership and reduces some of the pressure on the larger municipalities.

Another change beginning in 2027 is the inclusion of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board (SDAB) and Assessment Review Board (ARB) fees within the overall annual membership fee for municipalities that have signed the new ORRSC Membership Services Agreement. For those municipalities, there will no longer be separate SDAB or ARB agreements or separate fees for these services. The SDAB and ARB fees will instead be included in the annual membership fee, resulting in an overall reduction in the amount municipalities will pay for these services compared to the current separate fee structure. This also provides a simpler and more streamlined approach to ORRSC's membership billing.

Overall, the approach is intended to balance the continued financial stabilization of ORRSC with keeping membership increases reasonable and predictable for municipalities. Reducing the projected 7% increase to an overall 5% increase, while also reducing the separate SDAB and ARB costs through their inclusion in the membership fee, represents a positive step for the membership.

Once the 2027 Alberta Equalized Assessments are released, Administration will be able to calculate the actual membership fees for each municipality.

I just wanted to provide this update following last week's presentation, as I know each municipality will be looking ahead to its own 2027 budget process.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Thanks,



Tracy Thomas

Chief Administrative Officer

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Cell: 403-380-7854

Email: cao@orrsc.com

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MINUTES OF THE CHIEF MOUNTAIN REGIONAL SOLID WASTE SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING
HELD

August 12, 2026, AT THE TOWN OF MAGRATH.

Members Present:

Wayne Harris — Cardston County
Randy Taylor — County of Warner (Zoom)
Tyler Lindsay — Village of Warner
Brian Wickhorst — Village of Glenwood

Travis Seaborn — Town of Magrath
Tanya Smith — Village of Coutts (Zoom)
Larry Liebelt — Town of Milk River
Mike Hegedus — Village of Hill Spring

Others Present:

Marian Carlson — SEO
Suzanne Pierson — Secretary/Treasurer

Lee Beazer — Operator
Peter Houweling — Western Waste Solutions

Commenced at 4:33 pm

Larry Liebelt in the Chair.

AGENDA

Wayne Harris moved to approve the agenda.

Carried

MINUTES

Travis Seaborn moved that the minutes of June 10, 2026, board meeting be adopted as presented.

Carried

NEW BUSINESS

Delegation

Peter Houweling from Western Waste Solutions presented a shredding opportunity to help with airspace at the Landfill.

Mike Hegedus moved to file the presentation for information.

Carried

Peter Houweling excused at 5:00 p.m.

SEO Report

The SEO reported that a committee assigned to the Raymond Transfer Station redevelopment have met three occasions. Topics that they discussed are location, design, funding, and pre-diversion at site.

Randy Taylor spoke regarding the last meeting which was focused mostly on the site location. It appears
MINUTES CMRSWSC MEETING AUGUST 12, 2026

there is a possibility of leaving the Transfer Station at the current location and the Town of Raymond will work on this project.

The SEO advised that the skid steer has been purchased.

The SEO reported that the loan has been received to pay for the semi-truck.

The SEO reported that a deposit for the trailer has been sent. The price has increased due to the price of aluminum going up due to tariffs, but it is anticipated that the overall price will fit within the approved motion.

The SEO advised that the 2027 budget is being worked on and a draft will be prepared for the Finance Committee to review in early September.

Wayne Harris moved to approve the SEO's report.

Carried

Operator Report

The Operator reported that 1,037.315 tonnes of waste were delivered to Landfill in June 2026 and 1,011.875 tonnes were delivered in July 2026.

The Operator advised that the wood pile was burnt and another large pile has been started.

The Operator reported that the new semi-truck is expected to arrive around August 25, 2026.

The Operator advised that the new trailer should arrive late December or early January.

The Operator reported that the tarp system on the new trailer has been working well.

Tyler Lindsay moved to approve the Operator's report.

Carried

Financial Statement

The Financial Statements for June 30, 2026, and July 31, 2026, were reviewed.

Wayne Harris moved to accept the June 30, 2026, and July 31, 2026, Financial Statements.

Carried

Approval of Bills

Bills for June and July 2026 were reviewed.

Brian Wickhorst moved to approve the bills for June and July 2026.

Ca rried

Policy

The SEO presented Policy F 9A Fees — Landfill Wood Waste.

26-24 Randy Taylor moved to approve Policy F 9A Fees — Landfill Wood Waste with the suggested change. Carried

The board would like a policy written to accept concrete at the Landfill.

A letter will be sent to all municipalities regarding the new policy F 9a and notification of the fee.

26-25 Brian Wickhorst moved to charge \$45/tonne for the wood waste. Carried

CORRESPONDENCE

Alberta CARE Conference is September 2-4, 2026, in Fort McMurray, Alberta.

Travis Seaborn moved to file for information the Alberta CARE Conference. Carried

A letter from the Cardston County regarding the Glenwood/Hill Spring Transfer Station. The staff has been spoken to, and better communication will be worked on for the future.

Wayne Harris excused at 5:40 p.m.

Mike Hegedus moved to file correspondence for information. Carried

Randy Taylor suggested emails be sent to Alberta Environment instead of a phone call for proper documentation.

ADJOURNMENT

Travis Seaborn moved the meeting to be adjourned.

Adjournment at 5:43 p.m.

The next Commission board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 9, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. in the Town of Magrath.



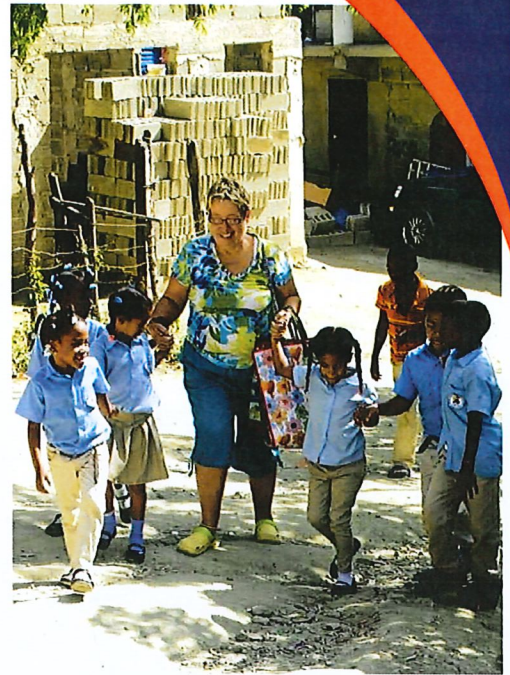
Chairman

Louise ZoBell Legacy Auction

On February 8, 2026, Louise ZoBell of Stirling, AB passed away due to complications following a fall and hip surgery in the Dominican Republic while on a humanitarian service trip.

Louise referred to herself as a "professional beggar" and even before her role as the first Executive Director of the Dominican Starfish Foundation which became a registered charity in 2012, she raised money for Dominicans in need. Louise helped provide housing, education, food, clothing, and medical support to thousands while giving many volunteers the opportunity to serve locally and abroad.

Every year, Louise dedicated countless hours to hosting an online charity auction to raise money for helping those less fortunate in the Dominican Republic. All year long she gathered items in preparation and invited local businesses to participate by donating items or gift cards. This would have been her 10th online charity auction.



Louise's family and friends are continuing her important work by hosting

Louise's Legacy

1st Annual Charity Auction for the Dominican Republic

We invite you to participate in this worthy cause!
Here are three options where you can help make a difference:

- ✱ **Donate a gift card**
- ✱ **Donate an item for the auction**
- ✱ **Make a cash donation**

* As a registered Canadian Charity, charitable tax receipts will be issued for the value of the items received as well as cash donations. This auction will take place in November, 2026.

For more information, or to donate, please contact:

Marina ZoBell – Executive Director

403-634-5272 | marina@dominicanstarfish.org

