

**CLEARWATER COUNTY
COUNCIL AGENDA
November 05, 2013
9:00 A.M.
Council Chambers
4340 – 47 Avenue, Rocky Mountain House AB**

DELEGATION: 10:30 A.M. Central Alberta Economic Partnership (CAEP)
PUBLIC HEARING: 11:00 Bylaw 981/13 NE 31-38-07 W5

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. AGENDA ADOPTION

C. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. October 23, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes
2. October 23, 2013 Organizational Meeting

D. MUNICIPAL

1. *Oct 23 Tabled Item* Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA) 2013 Convention
2. 2013 Christmas Greeting
3. AAMDC Fall 2013 Resolutions
4. AAMDC Bear Pit Questions

E. COMMUNITY & PROTECTIVE SERVICES

1. Parade of Lights
2. West Country Family Services (WCFS) Wheelchair Van Agreement
3. 2013 June Floods: Clearwater Campground DRP
4. Caroline HUB
5. 10:30 AM Delegation: Central Alberta Economic Partnership (CAEP)
Dale Barr, Executive Director

F. PLANNING

1. 11:00 AM Public Hearing: Bylaw 981/13 NE 31-38-07 W5
Second and Third Reading Bylaw 981/13 NE 31-38-07 W5

G. IN CAMERA

1. AAMDC Report
2. DRAFT - Lease Rates
3. Legal

H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

I. INFORMATION

1. CAO'S Report - attached
2. Public Works Director's Report
3. Councillor Remuneration
4. Councillor's Calendar: November – December 2013

J. ADJOURNMENT

TABLED ITEMS

Date **Item, Reason and Status**

04/10/12 **Arbutus Hall Funding Request**
• To allow applicant to provide a complete capital projects plan.

STATUS: Pending Information, Community and Protective Services

09/10/13 **Repair of Bridge BF01963**
• Reallocation of funds from bridge rehabilitation for the James River Bridge repair

STATUS: Pending Information, Alberta Transportation/Public Works



Agenda Item

Project: <i>October 23, 2013 Tabled Item - AUMA Convention</i>	
Presentation Date: November 5, 2013	
Department: CAO	Author: Ron Leaf
Budget Implication: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Funded by Dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation	
Strategic Area: Intergovernmental Relations	Goal:
Legislative Direction: <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Provincial Legislation (cite) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> County Bylaw or Policy (cite) _____	
Recommendation: That Council provides direction regarding attendance at the AUMA convention.	
Attachments List: N/A	

Background:

Council tabled this item at the October 23, 2013 Regular Council Meeting with the recommendation to authorize Reeve Alexander's and one newly elected member's attendance at the AB Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA) Convention on November 20 – 22 in Calgary.



Agenda Item

Project: Council Christmas Greeting Advertising - 2013	
Presentation Date: November 5, 2013	
Department: Council	Author: Christine Heggart
Budget Implication: <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Funded by Dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation	
Strategic Area: Governance and Intergovernmental Relations	Goal:
Legislative Direction: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None Provincial Legislation (cite) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> County Bylaw or Policy (cite) _____	
Recommendation: That Council direct staff in terms of preparing and publishing Christmas Greeting advertisements on their behalf.	
<p>Background:</p> <p>In the past, Council has opted to include a Christmas greeting from Council advertisement in the Mountaineer, Western Star and Sundre Round Up. The advertisement is printed in full colour, includes a photo of Council and Christmas greeting and runs for one week in all three papers. A sample advertisement from 2012 is attached for Council's information.</p> <p>The total costs for the three Christmas Greeting advertisements in 2012 was approximately \$900.00 and costs were equally divided amongst the seven Councillors.</p> <p>Staff would like to determine Council's interest in publishing a 2013 Christmas Holiday greeting in the three papers as they have in previous years.</p>	



Agenda Item

Project: AAMDC Fall Resolutions	
Presentation Date: November 5, 2013	
Department: CAO	Author: Ron Leaf
Budget Implication: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Funded by Dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation	
Strategic Area: Governance	Goal:
Legislative Direction: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Provincial Legislation (cite) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> County Bylaw or Policy (cite) _____	
Recommendation: That Council accepts recommendations as information	
Attachments List: AAMDC Fall Resolutions	

Background:

The Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties (AAMDC) is the Provincial Association that lobbies the Provincial Government on behalf of rural municipalities in Alberta. One of the principal methods that the AAMDC membership provides direction to the AAMDC Board is through the resolutions sessions held during the spring and fall conventions. Attached are the 17 resolutions that have been submitted through the AAMDC zones for consideration during the upcoming convention. I have provided an administrative perspective regarding these resolutions and will provide additional comment/background, should Council wish, on Tuesday.

In terms of voting by councillors during the resolution session, each councilor has the ability to vote individually however I suggest that there is value in Council discussing the various resolutions attached.

AAMDC Fall 2013 Resolutions

- 1-13F Basic Infrastructure Funding as a Result of Dissolution** (*Camrose County*)
 - 2-13F Reinstating Funding for Resource Roads and Local Bridges in Rural Municipalities** (*Northern Sunrise County*)
 - 3-13F Got Gravel? Strategies to Secure Gravel for Rural Municipalities** (*AAMDC*)
 - 4-13F Amend the Municipal Government Act to Provide Protection from Liability for Municipal Maintenance to the Physical Edge of Provincial Highways** (*MD of Willow Creek*)
 - 5-13F Agricultural Pests Act - Fusarium Graminearum** (*Westlock County*)
 - 6-13F Taxation of Farmed Land Zoned Heavy Industrial** (*Sturgeon County*)
 - 7-13F Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) of Transloader Facilities (a.k.a. "Pipeline on Rails")** (*MD of Big Lakes*)
 - 8-13F Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program** (*MD of Taber*)
 - 9-13F Summer Temporary Employment Program (STEP)** (*Starland County*)
 - 10-13F Provincial Grazing Leases Municipal Tax Recovery** (*County of Grande Prairie*)
 - 11-13F Marking of Meteorological and Telecommunication Towers** (*MD of Taber*)
 - 12-13F Regional Governance of Municipal Water Systems** (*Starland County*)
 - 13-13F Placement of Automatic External Defibrillators and the Required Training in All Public Facilities and Schools** (*MD of Fairview*)
 - 14-13F Use of Reclaimed Water in Private Systems** (*Vulcan County*)
 - 15-13F Provincial Funding of Locally Administered Air Shed Monitoring** (*MD of Big Lakes*)
 - 16-13F Light Up Alberta – Micro Generation Regulations** (*Starland County*)
 - 17-13F Creation of a Provincial Combative Sport Commission** (*RM of Wood Buffalo*)
- Acceptance of Emergent Resolutions (if needed)
 - Vote on Emergent Resolutions (if needed)
 - Closing of Resolution Session

Administrative Comments

Resolution 1-13F

Basic Infrastructure Funding as a Result of Dissolution

Recommendation: Support

Camrose County has a number of dissolution studies underway or pending. I understood that a financial assessment and an engineer's assessment of infrastructure is part of the practice undertaken by AB Municipal Affairs when it conducts a municipal viability review. If it is not, it should be.

Resolution 2-13F

Reinstating Funding for Resource Roads and Local Bridges in Rural Municipalities

Recommendation: Support

As discussed during Council's orientation, the bridge infrastructure deficit of Alberta rural municipalities is estimated in excess of \$4 billion. Alberta's economy is dependent on resource development or extraction which requires a transportation system capable of supporting the numerous exploration and extraction activities. The reinstatement of funding for resource roads and bridge maintenance is critical to the financial stability/viability of Alberta.

Resolution 3-13F

Got Gravel? Strategies to Secure Gravel for Rural Municipalities

Recommendation: Support

The AAMDC will be presenting a report on a program being proposed to the Provincial Government on the how to this program during the convention. Details will be forthcoming.

Resolution 4-13F

Amend the Municipal Government Act to Provide Protection from Liability for Municipal Maintenance to the Physical Edge of Provincial Highways

Recommendation: Support

I'm not aware of the specifics of the situation highlighted in the background however believe that there is value in expanding legislation to minimize the liability of municipalities in relation to municipal road maintenance within Provincial right of ways.

Resolution 5-13F

Agricultural Pests Act - Fusarium Graminearum

Recommendation: Support

There will be an interesting debate with respect to this resolution as there are significant differences of opinion within municipal councils throughout the province with respect to how to respond to the Fusarium threat. I believe that our Ag Services Board (ASB) has supported a province wide response to Fusarium.

Resolution 6-13F

Taxation of Farmed Land Zoned Heavy Industrial

Recommendation: Support

The Assessment provisions of the Municipal Government Act (MGA) are currently under review. The AB Assessors Association supports the creation of sub-classes within the "farmland" category to address the inequities associated with intensive agricultural operations. There are numerous examples of intensive agricultural operations (e.g. feedlots, poultry operations, etc.) that generate significant impacts on municipal roads or infrastructure which, under current assessment regulations, have assessments that generate \$250 - \$500 in municipal tax.

Resolution 7-13F

Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) of Transloader Facilities (a.k.a. “Pipeline on Rails”)

Recommendation: Support

The use of rail to transport petroleum products particularly “heavy oil” is increasing and creating concerns for municipalities in terms of a number of municipal responsibilities (e.g. planning, emergency management). While rail line operations are regulated by Transport Canada, my understanding is that private “sidings” are not. The involvement of the AER in reviewing and regulating these private spurs is appropriate.

Resolution 8-13F

Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program

Recommendation: Support

Same rationale as Resolution 2-13F.

Resolution 9-13F

Summer Temporary Employment Program (STEP)

Recommendation: Support

Many volunteer and service clubs have benefited from the STEP program; the Nordegg Historic Society is one example within Clearwater County. The cancellation of this program in 2013 has impacted a number of recreational, cultural and agricultural services/organizations in communities across the province affecting services to rural residents and businesses.

Resolution 10-13F

Provincial Grazing Leases Municipal Tax Recovery

Recommendation: Do not Support

The necessary regulations and policy is in place to support payment of municipal taxes. What is at issue is the enforcement by AB Environment, Sustainable Resource Development (ESRD) of these regulations. I believe the payment issue would more appropriately be addressed through a question to the Minister of ESRD regarding enforcement by her staff. Similarly, there is inconsistency in reporting by ESRD to municipalities in terms of “trappers cabins and trap lines”, which could also be raised with the Minister during the bear pit session.

Resolution 11-13F

Marking of Meteorological and Telecommunication Towers

Recommendation: Do not support

As noted in the background, regulation of large towers (i.e. over 33 meters) is the jurisdiction of the Federal Government. I am not aware of any concerns within Clearwater County regarding federally regulated towers. The proposed change would have implications nationally; as such I believe the FCM convention may be a more appropriate venue for the debate of this resolution.

Resolution 12-13F

Regional Governance of Municipal Water Systems

Recommendation: Support

This resolution is in response to the ESRD “water conversations” sessions held earlier this year. It is my view that the document was vague and, as a result, created concerns and impressions of direction that the province may be taking, which is not the case. The concept of regional governance is one example of a poorly defined term, which has led to this resolution. I recommend support as I believe passage of this resolution will, hopefully, require ESRD to revisit the *Our Water: Our Future* document and consultation process.

Resolution 13-13F

Placement of Automatic External Defibrillators and the Required Training in All Public Facilities and Schools

Recommendation: Do not support

First, the placement of AED's in schools should be a decision left to school boards. Similarly, decisions to place in "public buildings" should be left to municipal councils in consultation with the owners of public facilities. In terms of the debate on the resolution I believe the term "public building" should be clarified. While municipal buildings and schools are "public buildings" so are other buildings such as community halls, churches, and grocery stores.

Resolution 14-13F

Use of Reclaimed Water in Private Systems

Recommendation: None

I believe councillors will need more information than provided in the background to this resolution to make a decision. I am aware of a number of private organizations (e.g. golf courses) that are using municipal grey water for irrigation under the current legislation so am unclear whether the legislation has changed or if there is something unique to this situation to impose, what appears to be, a higher standard.

Resolution 15-13F

Provincial Funding of Locally Administered Air Shed Monitoring

Recommendation: Do Not support

The current funding model for air sheds draws on a combination of industries and municipalities within a region. While I support the concept that the Province shares in the responsibility for funding the work of air sheds, I believe there are higher priorities for the Province to reinstitute funding for before funding air sheds.

Resolution 16-13F

Light Up Alberta – Micro Generation Regulations

Recommendation: Support

The viability of solar in Canada as an alternate source of electricity continues to be questioned. The value in this resolution comes from the "thorough stakeholder consultation" being proposed. One of the significant limitations in all small generation (e.g. solar, co-gen, small hydro, wind, etc.) is with respect to consistent electrical supply as well as how to get the electricity into the transmission "grid".

Resolution 17-13F

Creation of a Provincial Combative Sport Commission

Recommendation: Support

There is merit in the creation of a provincial body to oversee combative sport events given the increasing popularity of MMA and related events and the need for expertise in determining what requires regulation and what does not, which is not available at the municipal level. The alternative is that the events proceed unregulated.



MEMBER BULLETIN

October 17, 2013

Resolutions for the AAMDC Fall 2013 Convention

There are 17 resolutions that will be presented at the Fall 2013 Convention and the AAMDC encourages all member municipalities to review them prior to the resolution session on November 14 to ensure the process moves along smoothly. The resolutions and the fall 2013 order paper, as determined by the Resolutions Committee, are attached.

The AAMDC's resolution process policy identifies resolution types and guidelines and the process involved in the resolution session itself. The submission and consideration of any emergent resolutions are also outlined in the policy. It is the role of the AAMDC Resolutions Committee to determine if emergent resolutions meet the definition outlined. If the resolution is deemed to be emergent in nature, it will come to the convention floor through the appropriate process. **The member bringing forward the emergent resolution must, at their own expense, provide copies for voting members in attendance, (minimum 600).**

Resolutions will be printed in the handbook and available on the convention app for reference during the resolution session.

The resolution process policy is also attached for reference.

Enquiries may be directed to:

Tasha Blumenthal
Policy Analyst
780.955.4094

Kim Heyman
Director, Advocacy & Communications
780.955.4079

Attachment

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Partners in Advocacy & Business

AAMDC Administration Policy

AAMDC Resolution Process

Policy No: 15

Date Approved: September 30, 2011

Next Review Date: Prior to March 15, 2015

Last Amendment: October 30, 2012

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to formalize the parameters involved for the resolution process used by the AAMDC to gather member direction. It includes aspects of the resolution process including oversight, guidelines, resolution types, the session itself as well as amendments and the handling of endorsed resolutions.

Policy Statement: As the primary method of deriving member direction, the resolution process is fundamental to informing the AAMDC's advocacy priorities. As such, this policy formalizes all aspects of the resolution process to provide clarity and consistency.

A. Resolution Oversight

1. The board shall establish a Resolutions Committee that comprises the five district chairs, or appointed designates, and is chaired by a board representative. The board representative is determined at the organizational meeting.
2. The board reserves the right to amend committee members as needed when extraordinary circumstances arise.
3. The Resolutions Committee shall have power to sort the resolutions according to their relative importance thus determining the order paper.
4. The Resolutions Committee will also provide accurate rulings on the type and completeness of resolutions as outlined in this policy.
5. The AAMDC and/or Resolutions Committee may:
 - a. Amend the grammar, wording or format of the resolution provided it does not change the intent
 - b. Provide comments on each resolution with regard to its background
 - c. Consolidate resolutions of similar intent or subject matter provided the sponsoring municipalities involved agree to a consolidation
 - d. Inform the sponsoring municipality(ies) where the resolution will materially change or contradict a current AAMDC position.
 - e. Refer resolutions back to the sponsoring municipality(ies) for deficiencies including but not limited to:
 - i. The criteria for resolutions as outlined in this policy are not met
 - ii. Absence of endorsement by council
 - iii. Lack of clear supporting narrative regarding the intent of the resolution

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B. Resolution Guidelines

1. Resolution may be submitted for consideration at the convention by:
 - a. A full member
 - b. A group of full members
 - c. The Board of Directors
2. Resolutions must be approved by a motion of the council(s) of the sponsoring municipality(ies).
3. Resolutions must include a title, preamble (whereas), operative clause (therefore be it resolved) and member background and shall be in the form:

WHEREAS ... ; and
WHEREAS ...;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties...(take some action)
Member Background
4. Resolutions should strive to address a topic of concern to rural municipalities throughout the province.
5. The title must provide a clear indication of the resolution's intent providing an understanding of the topic matter and desired outcome.
6. The preamble must provide clear, brief, factual context for the operative clause.
7. The operative clause must clearly set out what the resolution is meant to achieve and indicate a proposal for action. The wording should be straightforward and brief so that the intent of the resolution is clear.
8. Resolutions must be accompanied by background information outlining the following where appropriate:
 - a. the issue as it relates to the sponsoring municipality(ies)
 - b. the history of the issue
 - c. issue impacts
 - d. past or current advocacy efforts by the AAMDC or other organizations
 - e. recent incidents or developments
 - f. specific legislation linkages
 - g. other stakeholders with a vested interest
9. Resolutions must be received by the AAMDC Executive Director at least four (4) weeks prior to each convention.
10. Resolution must be submitted electronically.

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C. Resolution Types

1. Resolutions submitted by a full member or group of full members through their respective district-approved process shall be a valid resolution provided it receives endorsement at a duly constituted district meeting. These resolutions are referred to as district-endorsed.
2. Resolutions submitted by a full member or group of full members directly to the AAMDC shall be a valid resolution. These resolutions are referred to as individual resolutions.
3. Resolutions submitted by a full member or group of full members after the deadline outlined in this policy will be forwarded to the Resolutions Committee for consideration as an emergent resolution.
4. Emergent resolutions are defined as one submitted to the AAMDC after the aforementioned deadline that deals with a subject or problem that has arisen subsequent to the deadlines.
5. As determined by the Resolutions Committee, any resolution not meeting the definition of emergent will not be accepted.
6. Resolutions deemed by the Resolutions Committee to be emergent in nature will come to the convention floor and must be accepted as emergent by the membership with a simple majority vote in order to come to the convention floor for debate. The sponsoring municipality(ies) must provide and distribute copies of the emergent resolution to all full members in attendance at convention.

D. Resolution Session

1. For the purposes of the resolution session only, quorum shall be defined as representation of 50% plus one of the AAMDC full member municipalities who are eligible to vote, and are present in the room at the start of each resolution session.
2. As outlined in the AAMDC Bylaws, only elected officials of full members are eligible to vote and can only cast their individual vote.
3. Voting may be by electronic means or by show of voting credentials as determined by the AAMDC.
4. Only elected officials of full members shall be allowed to speak as of right to resolution during the resolutions session. Associate members, member administrative staff and guests may be permitted to speak upon recognition by the chair and consent of the majority of voting members, but may not move or second a resolution, or vote.
5. The resolution session shall be carried out according to Robert's Rules of Order, excepting where those rules may be in conflict with the bylaws of the AAMDC.
6. The resolution session includes the appointment of the parliamentarian, the acceptance of the order paper and the consideration of resolutions.

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7. Unless directed otherwise by the majority of members, only the title, sponsor(s), resolution type, vote required and operative clause shall be read aloud during the session.
8. Each resolution requires a mover and a seconder. The spokesperson(s) for the sponsor(s) will be allowed five (5) minutes combined to present the resolution.
9. Following the initial speaker(s), the session chair will then call for persons opposing the resolution. The speaker will have a two (2) minute time limit. If no one rises to speak in opposition to a proposed resolution, the question will be immediately called.
10. Once a person has spoken in opposition of the resolution, debate will continue with each speaker having a two (2) minute time limit. When debate ends, the chair will allow the initial spokesperson(s) two (2) minutes total to present final comments.
11. A sponsoring municipality may declare its intent to withdraw a proposed resolution when the resolution is introduced. In this event the session chair shall declare the resolution withdrawn and no further debate or comments will be allowed.
12. A simple majority vote is required to pass resolutions except where changes to legislation are explicitly involved, then a three-fifths (3/5) majority shall be required.

E. Amendments

1. Amendments excepting friendly amendments will be accepted when duly moved and seconded. Submission of amendments to the session chair in writing is encouraged.
2. Discussion of amendments follows the same guidelines and timeframes as outlined for resolution debate.
3. One amendment will be accepted at a time and only one amendment to the amendment is permitted.
4. Friendly amendments must be agreed to by the mover of the main motion and there must be no objection from voting delegates to the amendment being made on a friendly basis.
5. Friendly amendments are those that are so simple or uniformly acceptable that they are able to be adopted by unanimous consent during debate. This eliminates the necessity for formal amendment including seconding, debate, voting and incorporation back into the main motion.

F. Endorsed Resolutions

1. Resolutions passed by the voting delegates shall not be amended or modified.
2. Endorsed resolutions inform the advocacy efforts of the AAMDC. As such, relevant government ministries and other organizations are sent the relevant resolutions and asked to provide responses.
3. Concurrently, the AAMDC incorporates the positions outlined in the endorsed resolutions into the organization's advocacy strategy.

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4. Resolutions that receive the endorsement of the voting delegates shall be effective for three (3) years.
5. Twice yearly, typically following each convention, the AAMDC will advise members of what resolutions are expiring.
6. Resolutions may be renewed by being brought forward and receiving the endorsement of voting delegates according to the normal resolution procedure.
7. The AAMDC disseminates advocacy responses and updates on a regular basis.

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AAMDC Fall 2013 Resolutions

- 1-13F **Basic Infrastructure Funding as a Result of Dissolution** (*Camrose County*)
- 2-13F **Reinstating Funding for Resource Roads and Local Bridges in Rural Municipalities** (*Northern Sunrise County*)
- 3-13F **Got Gravel? Strategies to Secure Gravel for Rural Municipalities** (*AAMDC*)
- 4-13F **Amend the Municipal Government Act to Provide Protection from Liability for Municipal Maintenance to the Physical Edge of Provincial Highways** (*MD of Willow Creek*)
- 5-13F **Agricultural Pests Act - Fusarium Graminearum** (*Westlock County*)
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- 17-13F **Creation of a Provincial Combative Sport Commission** (*RM of Wood Buffalo*)

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Resolution 1-13F

Basic Infrastructure Funding as a Result of Dissolution

Camrose County

*Simple Majority Required
Endorsed by Edmonton East District*

WHEREAS the decisions taken by the Provincial Government may have significant financial impacts on local municipal governments; and

WHEREAS orderly, efficient and economic governance requires long range financial planning; and

WHEREAS basic necessity of life water and wastewater infrastructure in most smaller urban municipalities is reaching its life capacity and must be replaced; and

WHEREAS efficient, well-constructed and maintained water and wastewater infrastructure is critical to public safety and an integral part of a healthy and growing local economy; and

WHEREAS the dissolution of an urban municipality places an unfair financial burden on the receiving municipality; and

WHEREAS the funding allotment of the operating portion of the Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) is being reallocated to the Regional Collaboration Grant Program; and

WHEREAS part of the Capital-funding portion of the Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI), municipalities are required to draft a long-term capital plan and priorities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties urge Alberta Municipal Affairs to include and cover the costs of a Final Audited Financial Statement and also an Engineering Study to determine the status of water and wastewater infrastructure, which is basic necessity of life, as part of the new Viability Study under the Dissolution Process and in order that a budget be formulated for the receiving municipality; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that any effective date for a dissolution of an urban municipality into a receiving municipality be January 1 of the coming year following the Order in Council; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties initiate dialogue with Alberta Municipal Affairs, Alberta Transportation and Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development to ensure that a funding model is implemented to cover the repair or replacement of water and wastewater infrastructure, which is a basic necessity of life, as identified in the Engineering Study, for receiving municipalities as a result of the dissolution process.

Member Background

Effective November 1, 2012 the Village of New Norway (population 283 - 138 dwellings) was dissolved and incorporated as a hamlet within Camrose County. The November 1, 2013 date imposed on Camrose County had the following negative impacts:

- The day to day operations from November 1 to December 31 meant extra staff time and operational costs to the county to work through outstanding issues from the "village".
- Slight drop in County service delivery to County ratepayers because more time was spent on New Norway financial and operational outstanding issues.
- No backup financial reporting - Camrose County had to write off most of the Accounts Receivable accounts because there was no backup information to support resident claims that invoices were being paid.

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- No Provincial or Federal grant reporting made it very difficult to determine at what stages projects that were funded by grants and other funding sources were at.

A dissolution date of January 1, an audited Financial Statement completed by Municipal Affairs, a completed "Statement of Expenditures" for each Village, Provincial and Federal Grant would be a great assistance to the receiving municipality for a smooth transition.

New Norway Infrastructure Review - ISL Engineering Ltd

The dissolution component of the Regional Collaboration Grant Program allocates a total of \$50,000 for the receiving municipality as a result of the dissolution. This is all the municipality receives from the provincial government as a result of the dissolution. Camrose County retained ISL Engineering for a cost of \$48,000 to conduct this review of the basic necessity of life water and wastewater existing infrastructure. A summary of the Infrastructure Review and budget prepared by ISL Engineering dated March 28, 2013 was as follows:

- Water reservoir - the existing tower is not fit for service due to its deteriorating physical condition and the County would need to look at replacing the existing water tower with a new underground water reservoir and pumphouse
- Water distribution system - Existing distribution system cannot meet existing standards, therefore the system be upgraded to meet current standards and provide looping
- Wastewater collection and treatment - An inspection of the wastewater system was done just prior to dissolution by Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development which identified a number of deficiencies that are to be addressed, including de-sludging, rehabilitation of lagoon berms, disposal of excavated sludge material, fence repairs, lagoon signage. The sludge in the anaerobic and facultative cells be removed and normal operating flow condition restored to the anaerobic cells. The need for repair and protection of the banks of the lagoon to prevent further deterioration. Implement a monitoring program and possibly a receiving watercourse assessment required by CCME guidelines. Establish effluent discharge limits based on receiving watercourse assessment

Budget estimates to bring these deficiencies to an acceptable, basic, public safe standard are \$3,588,000 for the water reservoir and distribution system and \$2,035,500 for the wastewater treatment system for a total of \$5,623,500. This would result in a single family fire flow. Since the time of the review, Camrose County has also experienced breaks in the waterline, so the costs could be greater. Land uses in New Norway include single family residential, commercial and institutional. To include all residents, commercial and institutional, the water distribution system must be brought to the higher institutional standard would be \$6,831,000 for a total cost including wastewater of \$8,866,500.

With a budget of over \$8.8M, a Local Improvement Tax or a Special Tax to pay for these required upgrades is not feasible or sustainable for this community. Camrose County has been working with the Province of Alberta on the "direction" for repair and replacement of basic water and wastewater infrastructure in the hamlet of New Norway. In summary, the Province will have no additional money for New Norway. The provincial government's position is that if the water and wastewater replacement in New Norway is a priority of Camrose County, the county's Long Term Capital Plan under the Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) Program and the Federal Gas Tax can be changed to accommodate the New Norway Infrastructure, at the expense of other projects that have been communicated and expected by the residents of Camrose County.

During our discussions with the Province it was also noted that the Alberta Municipal Water Wastewater Partnership is not eligible for a funding source because the infrastructure in New Norway is existing, and this would be considered as maintenance.

In conclusion, as a result of the November 1, 2012 dissolution, Camrose County is now looking at a additional \$8.8M to bring the water and wastewater infrastructure in New Norway to a basic, acceptable standard, which prior to dissolution was outside Camrose County's jurisdiction. This is going to be a major issue for all rural municipalities, the basic infrastructure in these urban centers is reaching its current

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lifespan and is in need of replacing. Camrose County understands that there are a number of smaller urban municipalities currently pursuing or are in the planning stages of a Provincial Viability Study as part of the dissolution process.

AAMDC Background

The AAMDC has no active resolutions directly related to this issue.

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Resolution 2-13F

Reinstating Funding for Resource Roads and Local Bridges in Rural Municipalities

Northern Sunrise County

*Simple Majority Required
Endorsed by Northern District*

WHEREAS rural municipalities are the economic drivers of Alberta with their natural resources; and

WHEREAS resource roads and bridges in Alberta must be maintained in order to ensure the safe and efficient movement of natural resources and people; and

WHEREAS the 2013 provincial budget includes no funding for a number of grant programs essential to maintaining transportation infrastructure in rural municipalities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties lobby the Government of Alberta to reinstate funding for the Resource Road Program and the Local Road Bridge Program in the 2014 provincial budget.

Member Background

In the 2013 budget, the Government of Alberta announced that the Resource Road Program and the Local Road Bridge Program and will be zero-funded, a decision that will have a significant impact on rural transportation networks across the province.

Industry in remote areas of Alberta often require roads to be newly built or upgraded to accommodate the volume of heavy traffic that was not previously there. For the past 10 years, the province has been assisting municipalities by providing funding through the Resource Road Program. Previously funded at \$31 million, the program is now un-funded and rural municipalities are left with the bill for costs caused by industry.

Bridges across rural Alberta are at the end of their lifespan, and without funding, the only choice for rural municipalities will be to close crossings. Rural municipalities do not have the funding available to repair and maintain the 8,500 bridges for which they currently have responsibility. The Government of Alberta estimates that the current local road bridge infrastructure requires an investment of \$70 million per year for the next 10 years. The removal of the \$26 million of Local Road Bridge Program funding will result in further growth in infrastructure deficits and will have detrimental impacts across rural road networks for years to come.

AAMDC Background

4-13S: Local Road Bridge Program:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties call upon the Government of Alberta to ensure a second round of consultation is held after hearing data from the Committee.

DEVELOPMENTS: The AAMDC deems the government response to be unsatisfactory. Since this resolution was passed in spring 2013, the Local Road Bridge Program became zero-funded in the 2013-14 provincial budget. This directly shifts all of the financial burden of bridge maintenance and replacement to municipalities. Support through government funding and reduced bureaucratic process while maintaining needed safety are critical. The AAMDC is pleased to be part of a committee to review bridge design standards for local roads and will monitor the entire bridge issue holistically going forward.

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Resolution 3-13F

Got Gravel? Strategies to Secure Gravel for Rural Municipalities

AAMDC

*Simple Majority Required
Individual Resolution*

WHEREAS the AAMDC responded to member direction to examine the process of acquiring aggregate resources in Alberta through the development of a research paper; and

WHEREAS at its October 2013 meeting, the AAMDC Board of Directors approved the paper and directed that it be put before the membership for adoption as the AAMDC's official position;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that members of the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties endorse the recommendations outlined in the paper entitled *Got Gravel? Strategies to Secure Gravel for Rural Municipalities* and the supporting *Technical Report*.

Member Background

AAMDC members have expressed increasing concern with the processes required to obtain aggregate resources in the province and challenges in allocation and regulatory processes have resulted in unequal access for municipalities across Alberta. In response member direction through Resolution 15-10F, the AAMDC has developed a report entitled *Got Gravel? Strategies to Secure Gravel for Rural Municipalities*.

Gravel is a non-renewable resource that is essential for infrastructure development and maintenance. The provincial government, municipalities and industry all compete for these resources and there are currently no land planning strategies in place to manage allocation. *Got Gravel* includes an in-depth analysis of geographical locations and availability of aggregate in Alberta; a review of provincial and federal legislation and policy that have an impact on planning and allocation of gravel and aggregate resources; and a detailed overview of aggregate availability and challenged within each of the Land-use Frameworks seven planning regions.

Got Gravel includes recommendations that promote municipal interests in accessing aggregate resources and encourage proactive planning of this non-renewable resource to help balance availability with demand. Once the report is adopted by the AAMDC membership, the association will proceed with advancing positions outlined in *Got Gravel*.

AAMDC Background

15-10F: Provincial Strategy for Aggregate Resources Management:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the AAMDC encourage the Province of Alberta to develop a province wide strategy for the management of aggregate resources through the Provincial Land Use Framework; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that municipalities where the resource is located be given first priority when the Province of Alberta reviews applications for a Surface Material Exploration (SME) or Surface Material Lease (SML) on Crown Land.

DEVELOPMENTS: In responding to this resolution, Alberta Sustainable Resource Development noted that it offers municipalities the opportunity to request aggregate reserves for public works. In addition, Alberta Environment made strides towards the management of aggregate as it relates to water. However, the response lacked any indication that a province-wide strategy for the management of aggregate resources would be undertaken. After meeting with multiple government ministries since this resolution was endorsed in 2010, it became apparent that this is not a current area of priority.

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The AAMDC is undergoing a study which will outline existing legislation and policy, identify existing aggregate resource locations in Alberta and outline current management and allocation process and identify potential solutions to promote a system of more equitable access. The study is scheduled for completion in early Fall 2013 and will be shared with members and applicable stakeholders. Until such time that the Government of Alberta formally develops a provincial strategy for the management of aggregate resources, the status of this resolution will remain Unsatisfactory.

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Resolution 4-13F

Amend the Municipal Government Act to Provide Protection from Liability for Municipal Maintenance to the Physical Edge of Provincial Highways

MD of Willow Creek

*Three-Fifths Majority Required
Individual Resolution*

WHEREAS the Municipal District of Willow Creek has maintained provincial rights of way, up to the physical edge of provincial highways, since its incorporation in 1954; and

WHEREAS it has been brought to the attention of rural municipalities, through the AAMDC RiskPro Program, that there is a pending legal action, as the result of a traffic accident, against a municipality involving maintenance of the road surface (grading, graveling and snowplowing) to the physical edge of a provincial highway; and

WHEREAS the right of way owned by the Province between a municipal (local) roadway and a provincial (three digit) highway is approximately 30 to 50 meters back from the physical edge of the provincial highway, on either side of intersections; and

WHEREAS it would be impossible to ensure that the municipal road maintenance equipment would not encroach on to the provincial right of way, and it would create significant logistical problems to deliver regular road maintenance and create dangerous safety issues if the municipality left 30 to 50 meters of unplowed, ungraded or un-graveled road surface leading up to the physical edge of a provincial highway;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties lobby the Province of Alberta to amend the *Municipal Government Act*, immediately, to provide protection to rural municipalities from any and all liability associated with road maintenance, carried out by municipalities, within the provincial right of way leading up to the physical edge of provincial highways.

Member Background

There is a case winding its way through the Alberta legal system, where a serious accident took place at an intersection of a municipal gravel road and a provincial highway. The Province's legal counsel has taken the position that the County may be liable because the County is not able to prove that it contacted the Provincial contractor regarding a downed sign and further that the County was encroaching in the 30 to 50 meter provincial right of way during the course of its regular road maintenance.

The burden placed on municipalities to ensure that they do not encroach on provincial rights of way not only reduces the level of maintenance, it increases the potential for serious accidents and with that, the legal exposure municipalities would face by lifting the blades of their maintenance equipment to avoid the provincial right of way (30 to 50 meters on both sides) leaving the surface ungraded, un-graveled or unplowed. The potential for accidents and injury to the travelling public if the right of way is left in a state of disrepair or covered in ice and snow would be astronomical. There is no logical, practical or reasonable argument to be made to suspend municipal maintenance in provincial rights of way when over 100 intersections would be affected in the MD of Willow Creek, alone. Section 18 (1) of the *Municipal Government Act* may be a logical place for an amendment to address this matter

AAMDC Background

The AAMDC has a number of active resolutions requesting amendments to the MGA, however, none directly related to this issue.

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Resolution 5-13F

Agricultural Pests Act - Fusarium Graminearum

Westlock County

*Three-Fifths Majority Required
Endorsed by Pembina River District*

WHEREAS Fusarium Head Blight (*Fusarium graminearum*) is declared to be a pest under the *Agricultural Pests Act*, and

WHEREAS the presence of *Fusarium graminearum* has increased throughout the province in recent years; and

WHEREAS Alberta farmers are being denied access to newer varieties due to the non detectable level of *Fusarium graminearum* in the *Agricultural Pests Act* and it is becoming increasingly more difficult to find pedigreed seed that is non detectable for *Fusarium graminearum*; and

WHEREAS Alberta seed growers are finding it difficult to source higher generations of the newer varieties with improved *Fusarium graminearum* resistance, resorting to growing older varieties; which in turn does not facilitate the management of *Fusarium graminearum*; and

WHEREAS Alberta seed growers are at an economic disadvantage due to the non-detectable *Fusarium graminearum* category in the *Agricultural Pests Act*;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties urge the Government of Alberta to proceed with the immediate review and opening of the *Agricultural Pests Act* and not wait until 2016; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Alberta amend section 2(1) of the *Agricultural Pests Act* to include the following categories of pests: Prohibited Pest, Pest; and Nuisance;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED *Fusarium graminearum* be defined as a nuisance under the *Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation of the Agriculture Pests Act*; and add the ability to elevate and or de-elevate a pest/nuisance within a municipality.

Member Background

Fusarium head blight (Fusarium graminearum) is a declared pest under the *Agricultural Pests Act*. Though *Fusarium graminearum* has been present at low levels since the late 1980's, there have been increasing incidents in southern Alberta in recent years. In 2012, 27 of the 59 member seed cleaning plants which reported back to the Association of Alberta Co-op Seed Cleaning Plants found seed lots indicating *Fusarium graminearum* infection through the plate test method. These 27 plants are located throughout the province of Alberta excluding the Peace Region. With the increase in occurrence and infection across the province, the review and opening of the *Agricultural Pests Act* is required.

Where *Fusarium graminearum* is well established the weather is the most important factor influencing this disease. If the weather is conducive, *Fusarium graminearum* occurs resulting in yield loss, grade loss and quality loss, and produces chemicals known as mycotoxins as it is growing on and in infected plant tissue. *Fusarium graminearum* is a difficult disease to control. There are no chemicals that provide control just suppression at best. Producers are managing the risk to a certain extent, however the level and severity of *Fusarium graminearum* is largely dependent on the weather.

The Alberta Seed Growers' Association passed a resolution at their 84th Annual General Meeting requesting correspondence be sent to the Minister of Agriculture, AAMDC, Agricultural Service Boards and the *Fusarium Action Committee* asking for a change to the policy on *Fusarium graminearum* in Alberta, away from non detectable levels.

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The Association of Alberta Co-op Seed Cleaning Plants passed a motion at their 60th Annual General Meeting that they as an association give a directive to their board of directors formulating a Fusarium graminearum policy which allows the counties and MD'S of the province of Alberta to accept low levels of Fusarium graminearum infected seed to be used as seed insuring that is treated to reduce the levels of infection.

The above resolution and motion provide clear direction for the Associations to move forward and support proposed changes to the *Agricultural Pests Act*. For areas that have Fusarium graminearum already established it allows them to work with tolerance levels that are acceptable. In areas where Fusarium graminearum are rare, they may establish a policy to ensure seed being planted has been tested and found non detectable for Fusarium graminearum.

Both associations will continue to encourage all seed growers to test all seed lots for the presence of Fusarium graminearum, and will take the lead on ensuring proper communication and education on Fusarium graminearum with producers.

Municipalities would then be able to use Best Management Practises as they see fit. For areas that have Fusarium graminearum already established it will allow them to work with tolerance levels that are acceptable. In areas where Fusarium graminearum are rare, they will be able to establish a policy to ensure seed being planted has been tested and found non-detectable for Fusarium graminearum, realizing a "one size fits all" is not feasible.

The following excerpts of resolutions have been brought forward at the Agricultural Service Board Conference since 2000:

Resolution from ASB Provincial Conference 2000 Fusarium (graminearum) awareness and monitoring

Be it resolved - That Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development implement a comprehensive awareness and monitoring program to prevent the spread of Fusarium (Graminearum).

Response - Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development. Fusarium Head Blight (F. graminearum) is a declared pest under the Agricultural Pest Act. Since 1998 Alberta Agriculture Food and Rural Development has a Fusarium Head Blight Response Plan to address the risks and potential impacts of this disease. The Response Plan has a proposed list of action plans to safeguard Alberta's grain industry. The Response Plan was developed collaboratively with industry and others.

The Alberta Fusarium Committee is made up of plant pathologists and other staff from Alberta Agriculture Food and Rural Development and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, an agricultural Fieldman and industry representatives.

There is an awareness program developed and ongoing in Alberta. The program includes a fact sheet called "Fusarium head blight of barley and wheat." This is available from seed cleaning plants, industry newsletters, AAFRD district offices, ASB offices and from Alberta Agriculture's web site. A color poster on Fusarium Head Blight outlining impact, symptoms and management was developed and distributed to crop specialists, agricultural fieldmen and the seed cleaning plants.

A Fusarium Head Blight seminar was organized in Leduc in March 1999 for industry and extension to increase industry awareness. Many newsletter articles, radio interviews and presentations have been given over the last few months to increase awareness to industry and extension staff and producers. A 1999 survey was conducted in Alberta in July and August to monitor the incidence of the disease. To date, incidences of confirmed Fusarium Head Blight in Alberta, are minimal. Monitoring is continuing.

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A Prairie Fusarium Task Force made up of researchers from Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta has initiated a major research program to work on many different aspects of the disease and to incorporate disease resistance in the wheat and barley breeding programs.

Resolution from ASB Provincial Conference 2002 Fusarium head blight (f. graminearum)

Be it resolved - That all grain imported into Alberta be tested and certified Fusarium graminearum free prior to entry; and that all seed grain grown in (or offered for sale in) Alberta be tested and certified Fusarium graminearum free.

Response- Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development. Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development is concerned about the spread of Fusarium Head Blight in Alberta. The Fusarium Action Committee, in which there is Agricultural Fieldmen representation, will be developing a zero tolerance policy for Fusarium graminearum. All seed and feed grain coming into the province will have to be tested and certified free of Fusarium graminearum before allowed for use in the province. The policy should be in force by the end of May, 2002.

Resolution from ASB Provincial Conference 2003 Fusarium Graminearum Test Funding

Be It Resolved - That Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development reinstate a provincially funded Fusarium graminearum testing program that rebates the producer's costs at a rate of \$25.00 per test to a maximum of \$200.00 per farm operation.

Response- Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development: On October 1, 2002, the Alberta Fusarium graminearum Management Plan came into effect. The Plan states a zero tolerance in seed and best management practices for feed (grain, hay or straw). The zero tolerance in seed requires that all cereal grain (including corn) intended for seed, be tested and certified free of Fusarium graminearum before it can be planted. Since the use of seed free of Fusarium Graminearum is in the best interest of the producer to prevent the establishment of the pathogen, the cost of testing should be considered as a cost of doing business. Also, certified seed sold in Alberta is tested and certified free of Fusarium graminearum and requires no further testing or expense by the producer.

Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development have implemented a seed testing cost-share program for two years as awareness/education and to determine the extent of Fusarium graminearum in Alberta. It was not intended to be an ongoing program as seed testing is a cost of doing business and a direct benefit to the producer. We will continue working with both producers and Agricultural Service Boards through education and awareness efforts to prevent Fusarium graminearum from establishing in the province.

Resolution from ASB Provincial Conference 2003 Special Pest Control Program – Fusarium

Be It Resolved - That the Government in the Province of Alberta provide \$1,000,000.00 per year over the next 5 years to be distributed through the Agricultural Service Board Grant as a Special Pest Control Program to help local authorities prevent the spread of Fusarium in Alberta.

Response - Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development: Fusarium graminearum is declared a pest under the *Agricultural Pests Act*. Enforcement of this Act is the responsibility of the local municipality. As a declared pest, the municipality has the authority to enforce whatever measure it deems necessary to prevent, destroy or control the pest. The Alberta Fusarium graminearum Management Plan provides the measures necessary to manage this pest and prevent establishment in the Province.

Each municipality will have to determine its own level of enforcement based on resources available and a strategic way to be effective. Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development are unable to provide the \$1 million per year requested to support an enforcement program.

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Resolution from ASB Provincial Conference 2004 Mandatory Fusarium Graminearum testing at Alberta seed cleaning plants

Be it resolved - Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development amend the current Fusarium Graminearum Management Plan to include mandatory testing of all cereal grain prior to entering any co-op, private or mobile seed cleaning plant.

Response - Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development: In October 2002 Minister Shirley McClellan approved a Fusarium Management Plan (FSP) that required all cereal grain (including corn) intended for seed to be tested and certified free of Fusarium graminearum. Grain intended for feed does not require testing but can be used under best management practices. The FSP has been working well in containing the spread of this disease and maintaining a viable agriculture industry.

At the Alberta Seed Cleaning Plant Association's annual convention in January 2004 a resolution was passed to have all seed tested for Fusarium. The resolution for mandatory testing of all cereal grain prior to cleaning will be reviewed by the Fusarium Action Committee and considered for incorporation into the FSP

Resolution from ASB Provincial Conference 2006 Fusarium Graminearum

Be it resolved - That Alberta's Agricultural Service Boards request that Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development consider as a recommendation during the review of the current Fusarium Graminearum Management Plan, a zero percent tolerance level of Fusarium Graminearum in cereal seed samples.

Response - Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development: Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development (AAFRD) is also concerned about this potential threat to our agriculture industry. The goal of the Alberta Fusarium graminearum Management Plan (FgMP) is to delay the spread and establishment of FHB until resistant crop varieties are developed.

Recent disease surveys by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the Canadian Grain Commission are showing that Fg is becoming established in southern Alberta especially in highly susceptible durum and soft white spring wheat grown under irrigation. Seed growers in southern Alberta are starting to see some fields infected with low levels of Fg. The pathogen, however, is still rarely found in central and northern Alberta. The Alberta Fusarium Action Committee (FAC) consisting of representatives from various sectors (grain, livestock and government) of the agricultural industry is discussing various options to address the changing situation in Alberta. However, the FAC is having a difficult time coming to a resolution on this issue.

Given these circumstances and that seeding is fast approaching, AAFRD has decided to maintain, as you have requested, the zero-tolerance policy for Fg on cereal and corn seed intended for planting for the 2006 growing season. We intend to increase our monitoring and awareness campaigns this year and revisit the issue after this coming growing season.

Resolution from ASB Provincial Conference 2012 Requiring Seed Cleaning Plants to test for Fusarium

Be it resolved - that Alberta's Agricultural Service Boards request that all seed cleaning plants including mobile plants be required to obtain a certificate from the producer, for each lot of seed to be cleaned, verifying that the seed is free of Fusarium graminearum, prior to accepting the seed into the plant for cleaning.

Response - Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development; Pest Surveillance Branch: Agriculture and Rural Development (ARD) have taken numerous steps to communicate to Alberta Seed Cleaning Plants about the importance of requiring a test for Fusarium graminearum (Fg). Staff from the Pest Surveillance Branch annually give a presentation at a training day for Seed Plant Managers and

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there have been numerous meetings with the Association of Alberta Co-op Seed Cleaning Plants to discuss this issue. Communication between the Agricultural Fieldman and the local Seed Cleaning Plant is the best way to ensure that managers and their Boards understand the importance of preventing the spread of Fg in their municipality. The same can also occur with private and mobile seed cleaning plants. As a last resort, a pest inspector can always go into a local seed cleaning plant, request samples and have them tested for the presence of Fg. If Fg is found, then a notice can be issued to stop the plant from operating until it complies with the notice.

The following is an excerpt Resolution from 2013 AAMDC - Fusarium Graminearum

Be it resolved - that the AAMDC urge the Government of Alberta to continue support for zero percent tolerance for Fusarium graminearum, and maintain that it remain a pest as currently declared in the APA.

Further be it resolved - that the Government of Alberta protect the agriculture industry in Alberta by supporting mandatory testing for Fusarium graminearum prior to grains entering any seed cleaning plant or mobile cleaning unit to prevent spreading of the disease.

This resolution did not meet the three fifths majority

There are many individuals, business sectors, and government sectors involved in the FAC to date. Through countless discussions this committee has set a variety of actions for the producer, business sector and government to follow. Even still Fusarium graminearum continues to spread across the province, due to weather being the most important factor influencing this disease. Producers are managing the risk to a certain extent, however the level and severity of Fusarium graminearum is largely dependent on the weather.

The above resolution and motion provide clear direction for the Associations to move forward and support proposed changes to the *Agricultural Pest Act*. For areas that have Fusarium graminearum already established it allows them to work with tolerance levels which are acceptable. In areas where Fusarium graminearum are rare, they may establish a policy to ensure seed being planted has been tested and found non-detectable for Fusarium graminearum.

AAMDC Background

The AAMDC has no active resolutions directly related to this issue.

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Resolution 6-13F

Taxation of Farmed Land Zoned Heavy Industrial

Sturgeon County

*Three-Fifths Majority Required
Endorsed by Pembina River District*

WHEREAS land zoning was changed from agriculture to heavy industrial to enable construction of industrial projects; and

WHEREAS lands were purchased with the intention of constructing industrial projects; and

WHEREAS development has not taken place and lands are farmed and therefore must be assessed as "farm land" and

WHEREAS there is a large difference in assessed value of industrial property in comparison with "farm land";

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties urge the Government of Alberta to amend the *Municipal Government Act*, Section 297, to allow a council to divide class 3 (farm land) into sub-classes.

Member Background

Sturgeon County Council proposes the creation of an assessment sub-class for vacant or undeveloped but rezoned heavy industrial lands that would see industrial landowners pay taxes at least equal to the value of lands at the time of purchase.

If land is farmed, no matter the zoning, it must be assessed as farm land as defined in the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA) Section 297 and *Matters Relating to Assessment and Taxation Regulation* (MRAT).

Farm land is not assessed using market value but instead its productivity rating based on its agricultural use value as stated in MRAT Section 4(1). In the Farm Land Assessment Minister's Guidelines Schedule A, the maximum assessment is established at \$350 per acre on Dry Land Farm Land.

MGA Section 297 identifies the various assessment classes as:

- (a) class 1: residential
- (b) class 2: non-residential
- (c) class 3: farm land
- (d) class 4: machinery and equipment

Municipalities may set a different tax rate for Farm Land compared to other classes of assessment as allowed by MGA Section 354(1)(3). This tax rate applies to all farm land, regardless of ownership, zoning, or market value.

Conversely, Class-1 (residential) property can be split into sub-classes as stated in MGA Section 297(2) (eg: vacant; occupied; etc.). No such sub-class provision is made for Class-3 (farm land).

This resolution seeks to provide for establishment of sub-classes for lands that are farmed but zoned as Heavy Industrial and whose ownership is corporate/industrial. In this manner, the ability to establish sub-classes would not put undue economic pressure on agricultural operations and better reflect the value of Heavy Industrial zoned lands held by Industry.

Policy and Legislative References:

Municipal Government Act (MGA) Section 297(4)(a) "farm land" means land used for farming operations as defined in the "regulations".

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The “regulation” referred to is the *Matters Relating to Assessment and Taxation Regulation* (MRAT); specifically Section 1(i) “*farm operations*” means the raising, production and sale of agricultural products and includes (i) horticulture, aviculture, apiculture and aquaculture, (ii) the production of livestock as defined in the *Livestock and Livestock Products Act*, and (iii) the planting, growing and sale of sod.

MRAT Section 4(1) “*The valuation standard for a parcel of land is (a) market value, or (b) if the parcel is used for farming operations, agricultural use value*”.

In the *Farm Land Assessment Minister’s Guidelines* Schedule A, the Agricultural Use Value Base Rate is set at \$350 per acre for Dry Land Arable or Dry Land Pasture. These Agricultural Use Value Base Rates are modified by applying Final Rating Factors contained in Schedule 7 of the 1984 Alberta Assessment Manual and the Assessment Year Modifiers. Using these rates, factors and modifiers the maximum assessment on Dry Land Farm Land is \$350 per acre.

MGA Section 354(1)(3) “*The tax rate may be different for each assessment class or sub-class referred to in Section 297*”.

MGA Section 297(2) “*A council may by bylaw 9(a) divide class 1 into sub-classes on any basis it considers appropriate*”.

AAMDC Background

6-12F: Creation of a New Property Assessment Class

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties urge the provincial government to amend the *Municipal Government Act* to:

- authorize municipalities to assign a new assessment class to be levied on rural small business properties; or
- expedite the creation of a regulation which would enable municipalities to create sub-classes within the rural non-residential tax category; or
- create a special category to deal specifically with small businesses; or
- create additional/unique urban service areas around hamlets within municipalities or any other legislation that would allow a different property assessment class or sub-class for small businesses in the rural areas of a municipality.

DEVELOPMENTS: The government’s response indicates that the introduction of the Municipal Sustainability Initiative would have addressed revenue issues for municipalities; however, this does not address the resolution’s intent of diversifying tax equity to different business classes. As such, the AAMDC deems this response to be unsatisfactory. As the review of the *Municipal Government Act* continues, the AAMDC will monitor progress towards achieving this resolution.

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Resolution 7-13F

Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) of Transloader Facilities (a.k.a. “Pipeline on Rails”)

MD of Big Lakes

*Three-Fifths Majority Required
Endorsed by Northern District*

WHEREAS the regulation of petroleum based industrial facilities has historically fallen upon the Energy Resources Conservation Board (ERCB); and

WHEREAS the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) is the entity which has succeeded the ERCB; and

WHEREAS many smaller municipalities may not have the experience, resources, or familiarity with large transloader facilities to be able to effectively regulate and/or assess the suitability of the proposed operation; and

WHEREAS most larger companies active in the “Pipeline on Rail” business are familiar with and currently engaged with the AER (formerly the ERCB) on other energy sector regulator matters, and are familiar with the procedures; and

WHEREAS it is desirable to have a uniform and consistent regulatory environment in Alberta respecting “Pipeline on Rails”; and

WHEREAS the Alberta Energy Regulator does not currently regulate petroleum transloader (a.k.a “pipeline on rails”) facilities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties calls upon the Government of Alberta to consult on a priority basis with industry and municipalities to establish an appropriate set of regulatory requirements for “Pipeline on Rails” and that the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) be designated as the appropriate body to implement these regulations.

Member Background

Transloader facilities, where substantial quantities of liquid hydro-carbons are shipped via truck to rail terminals are becoming increasingly common in Alberta. These transloaders, sometimes called “Pipeline on Rails” may represent a vital link in Alberta’s economic future due to shifting global energy production patterns, market demands, and limitations of the existing pipeline infrastructure.

Currently, these transloaders are not regulated via the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) - the entity which has succeeded the Energy Resources Conservation Board (ERCB). There are several reasons why “Pipeline on Rails” facilities logically should fall under the AER, rather than being left to the local municipality, including:

- The vast majority of energy related facilities in Alberta are currently regulated by the AER. Is bringing these transloaders under AER oversight consistent with existing practice
- The issues involved in transloader facilities, such as flaring, hydrocarbon risks, environmental protection, etc., are often complex, and since the vast majority of energy related facilities already fall under the AER, the AER has existing procedures and expertise to deal with these matters. Many smaller municipalities may not currently have the knowledge base to properly regulate and evaluate these proposed developments
- As these "Pipeline on Rail" facilities evolve to potentially include additional facilities such as acceptance of product from pipelines, blending or upgrading, they would then fall under the AER. Given that future AER regulation is plausible for many of these facilities, bringing them under AER

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oversight in the first instance will ensure a seamless regulator environment that is predictable for all concerned.

The ability of the Alberta Energy sector to be able to reach any and all world markets is critical to the longer term economic viability of the industry. The "Bitumen Bubble" which has historically caused Alberta crude oil (Western Canadian Select) to trade anywhere from 15 to 40 dollars a barrel below other comparable blends, is a substantial cause of financial concern to our province. Oil shipments via "Pipeline on Rails" realize a much higher percentage of the world price, thus generating substantial additional revenues both for the energy sector and the Alberta Government, thus contributing to the future economic health of our Province.

Delays in the approval of the Keystone XL pipeline will guarantee continuing transportation bottlenecks of Alberta Oil into the US far into the future. The dramatic and rapid increase in United States energy production is likely in the medium term to require Canada to seek energy export markets into Asia and other export markets as Canadian imports are replaced by US domestic production, and Pipeline on Rails is the fastest and most flexible method of adapting to new market patterns. Both CN and CP rail have committed to dramatic expansions of capacity to facilitate "Pipeline on Rails".

AAMDC Background

The AAMDC has no active resolutions directly related to this issue.

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Resolution 8-13F

Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program

MD of Taber

Simple Majority Required

Endorsed by Foothills-Little Bow District

WHEREAS the Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program provides support for municipal capital transportation infrastructure projects including the construction and reconstruction of local rural road bridges and culvert structures and key roadway links and bridges that are impacted by resource or industry related traffic; and

WHEREAS the 2013 Provincial budget did not include funding for the Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program; and

WHEREAS there are 8500 local road bridges with an estimated replacement value of \$3.5 billion; and

WHEREAS further delays in maintenance and replacement of aging bridge infrastructure will impact the transportation of farm, oil and gas and industrial manufacturing within rural Alberta;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties call upon the Government of Alberta to restore funding to the Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program in the 2014 budget.

Member Background

The Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program provides support for municipal capital transportation infrastructure projects. Project-specific capital grant funding is provided for strategic or major municipal transportation projects, based on highest project ranking. Examples of eligible capital projects include the development and construction of major local and regional roads, construction/reconstruction of local rural road bridges and culvert structures, key roadway links and bridges that are adversely impacted by resource or industry related truck traffic, as well as community airports.

The Minister of Transportation approves individual projects. Budget allocation for 2012/13 was \$85.1 million. The Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program was not funded in the 2013 budget.

AAMDC Background

4-13S Local Road Bridge Program:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties call upon the Government of Alberta to ensure a second round of consultation is held after hearing data from the Committee.

DEVELOPMENTS: The AAMDC deems the government response to be unsatisfactory. Since this resolution was passed in spring 2013, the Local Road Bridge Program became zero-funded in the 2013-14 provincial budget. This directly shifts all of the financial burden of bridge maintenance and replacement to municipalities. Support through government funding and reduced bureaucratic process while maintaining needed safety are critical. The AAMDC is pleased to be part of a committee to review bridge design standards for local roads and will monitor the entire bridge issue holistically going forward.

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Resolution 9-13F

Summer Temporary Employment Program (STEP)

Starland County

*Simple Majority Required
Endorsed by Central District*

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta as part of Budget 2013 recently discontinued funding the Summer Temporary Employment Program (STEP); and

WHEREAS the STEP grants were vital for rural community organizations and not for profits in providing a summer workforce and taking pressure off of local volunteers; and

WHEREAS the STEP grants represent a small expense when compared to the impact it has on the not for profit and volunteer sector;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties lobby the Government of Alberta to reintroduce the STEP grants or a similar wage support program for the non-profit and volunteer sector in Alberta.

Member Background

Coming into existence in 1972 the Summer Temporary Employment Program (STEP) has been providing wage support assistance to organizations looking to hire students over the summer months. Although never representing more than a small fraction of the budget of the Human Services Department, with 2012's cost coming in at 0.6% of Department total, this program nevertheless has played an instrumental role in funding the activities of community groups and organizations that are the social pillars of rural Alberta. As they rely mostly on volunteers, the organizations that this program funds are not in the position to raise the required money to meet staffing needs like the for-profit industry is. So although the program is just a small line item to the Provincial Government, the impact of its loss will be felt disproportionately on those people who already donate their time to make our rural communities better places to live and raise a family.

As the Minister has said himself in his March 8th update on the STEP program, Alberta has one of the lowest youth unemployment rates in Canada at 7.8%. This is all the more reason to help the volunteer and not for profit sector compete with a very aggressive private sector for student workers. As many in the not for profit sector have already voiced their concerns to this government about the challenges with attracting a retaining an adequate workforce the Government of Alberta understands the scope of the challenges they face. As part of the March 8th update on the STEP program, the Minister indicated the government's willingness to work with the Voluntary and Not for Profit Sector to increase wage supports for this sector. As budget season comes around again it is important for the Government of Alberta to follow through on these words and provide the support that this sector desperately needs.

AAMDC Background

The AAMDC has no active resolutions directly related to this issue.

AAMDC FALL 2013 Resolution Package D3

Resolution 10-13F

Provincial Grazing Leases Municipal Tax Recovery

County of Grande Prairie

*Three-Fifths Majority Required
Endorsed by Northern District*

WHEREAS lands held under Provincial Grazing Leases are assessed as farmland and become taxable to the municipality in which the lands are located; and

WHEREAS Provincial Grazing Lease taxes can fall into arrears when the lease is abandoned, revoked, cancelled or expired, there is no recourse by the municipality to collect the amounts owed with the exception of Civil Enforcement (MGA 437, 438); and

WHEREAS the Province has a *Grazing Lease Stewardship Code of Practice* (December 14, 2007) which outlines roles and responsibilities of Alberta Sustainable Resource Development and grazing lease holders¹. This Code of Practice does address the grazing lease holders responsibility for upkeep and maintenance of the Provincial Grazing Lease as well as "to pay to the municipal government the property taxes assessed on grazing leases on public lands"²;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties urge the Province of Alberta create or improve existing policy for Provincial Grazing Leases to ensure unpaid municipal taxes are paid in full by the Province to the municipality in which they are owed if left unpaid by the lessee.

Member Background

The County of Grande Prairie assesses taxes owed on Provincial Grazing Leases in accordance with the *Municipal Government Act* Section 290(3) that from time to time are abandoned, expired, revoked or cancelled. The properties can have outstanding tax debt. The County of Grande Prairie cannot collect on these taxes and has no recourse, other than Civil Enforcement, to do so as the properties are Provincial Grazing Leases on Crown Lands. A municipality cannot apply outstanding amounts to the former tenants other tax rolls, a municipality cannot apply a lien to the property, nor can the municipality obtain ownership of the property or forward the taxes owing onto new tenants.

Grazing Leases are governed by the *Public Lands Act* and administered by Alberta Sustainable Resource Development Lands Division.

Definitions:

Crown: Her majesty in right of the Province (Crown Lands Act 1989)

Crown Land: All or any part of land under the administration and control of the Minister (Crown Lands Act 1989)

Endnotes:

1.http://srd.alberta.ca/LandsForests/GrazingRangeManagement/documents/GrazingLeaseStewardshipCodeofPractice_signed_Dec2014-07.pdf;

2.Grazing Lease Stewardship Code of Practice, Alberta; Page 11,n.8

AAMDC Background

The AAMDC has no active resolutions directly related to this issue.

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Resolution 11-13F

Marking of Meteorological and Telecommunication Towers

MD of Taber

*Three-Fifths Majority Required
Endorsed by Foothills-Little Bow District*

WHEREAS the number of tower structures attributable to meteorological and telecommunication uses are increasing at a substantial rate each year in rural areas of Alberta; and

WHEREAS the increasing number of meteorological and telecommunication towers within rural areas present a hazard to agricultural spray planes; and

WHEREAS many of the towers are not marked in such a way as to notify low flying aircraft of their presence; and

WHEREAS the Industry Canada approval process, as defined within the *Telecommunications Act*, for new and existing meteorological and telecommunication towers defaults the requirements for aeronautical obstruction marking to Transport Canada requirements; and

WHEREAS Transport Canada Regulation 2012-1 outlines that marking of towers by lighting, painting and with marking balls on guyed wires is only required under specific circumstances and is not required on all towers erected;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties consult with the Government of Alberta to request the Minister of Industry Canada to amend the *Telecommunications Act* to require the marking of radio communication and telecommunications towers with marking lights, aeronautical paint and balls on the guyed wires in rural areas in which agricultural spray planes operate.

Member Background

Telecommunication towers are under federal jurisdiction and regulated through the *Radio Communication Act*. Under the authority of this Act, the federal Minister of Industry has the authority to issue radio authorizations, to approve each site on which antenna systems installations may be located, and in accordance with Section 69.3(1)(d) of the act "establish technical specifications and markings in relation to telecommunications apparatus or any class of telecommunications apparatus".

CPC-2-0-03 - Radio communication and Broadcasting Antenna Systems - Appendix 2 - Industry Canada's Default Public Consultation Process - Public Notification Package (See Section 4.2) specifies that unless otherwise specified within municipal protocol the requirement to mark towers defaults to Transport Canada regulations.

Section 5 of the *Telecommunications Apparatus Regulations* (SOR/2001-532) which is administered by Industry Canada reference the requirement to mark towers in accordance with regulations.

Currently regulations within Transport Canada do not specifically require the marking of towers with aviation orange paint and guide wires with balls to delineate the location of towers except in certain circumstances as defined within Transport Canada Regulation Section 601.23 as follows:

Canadian Aviation Regulations (CARs) 2012-1

Subpart 1 - Airspace, Division III - Marking and Lighting of Obstacles to Air Navigation:

Obstacles to Air Navigation

601.23 (1) For the purposes of this Division, any building, structure or object, including any addition to it, constitutes an obstacle to air navigation if: (amended 2011/12/31)

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(a) it penetrates an airport obstacle limitation surface as calculated in Chapter 4 of the Standard entitled Aerodrome Standards and Recommended Practices, TP 312E, published by the Department of Transport;

(b) it is higher than 90 m AGL and is located within 6 km of the geographical centre of an aerodrome;

(c) it is higher than 90 m AGL and is located within 3.7 km of the centreline of a recognized VFR route, including, but not limited to, a valley, a railway track, a transmission line, a pipeline, a river and a highway;

(d) it is higher than 150 m AGL;

(e) in the case of any catenary wires crossing over a river, any portion of the wires or supporting structures is higher than 90 m AGL.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), an addition to a building, structure or object includes any vertical mast, pole, tower or other object erected on top of the building, structure or object and adding to its height. (amended 2011/12/31)

Marking and Lighting of Obstacles to Air Navigation

601.24 (1) Any person who plans to construct or modify a building, structure or object, or launch a tethered object shall notify the Minister of the proposed construction, modification or launch in accordance with the requirements of Standard 621 if the building, structure or object, or tethered object, will constitute an obstacle to air navigation. (amended 2011/12/31)

(2) A person who has responsibility for or control over a building, structure or object that constitutes an obstacle to air navigation shall: (amended 2011/12/31)

(a) mark and light the building, structure or object in accordance with the requirements of Standard 621; or

(b) use the equivalent marking and lighting approved by the Minister under subsection 601.27(2)

Other Obstacles to Air Navigation

601.25 (1) If the Minister determines that a building, structure or object, other than a building, structure or object described in section 601.23, is hazardous to air navigation because of its height or location, the Minister shall require the person who has responsibility for or control over the building, structure or object to mark and light it in accordance with the requirements of Standard 621. (amended 2011/12/31)

(2) A person who is required by the Minister to mark and light a building, structure or object under subsection (1) shall (amended 2011/12/31)

(a) do so within six months; and

(b) cause to be received at the appropriate air traffic control unit or flight service station a notice identifying the nature, location and height of the building, structure or object.

Telecommunications Act (S.C. 1993, c. 38)

MINISTER'S POWERS

69.3 (1) Subject to any regulations made under section 69.4, the Minister may, taking into account all matters that the Minister considers relevant to further the Canadian telecommunications policy objectives,

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- (a) issue technical acceptance certificates in respect of telecommunications apparatus and fix the duration and conditions of any such certificate;
- (b) change the duration and amend the conditions of certificates;
- (c) make available to the public any information set out in certificates;
- (d) establish technical specifications and markings in relation to telecommunications apparatus or any class of telecommunications apparatus;
- (e) test telecommunications apparatus for compliance with technical specifications and markings required under this Part;
- (f) require holders of, and applicants for, certificates to disclose to the Minister any information that the Minister considers appropriate respecting the present and proposed use of the telecommunications apparatus in question;
- (g) require holders of certificates to inform the Minister of any material changes in information disclosed under paragraph (f);
- (h) appoint inspectors for the purposes of this Part; and
- (i) do any other thing necessary for the effective administration of this Part.

POWERS OF GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL AND OTHERS

Regulations 69.4 (1) The Governor in Council may make regulations

- (a) respecting requirements for technical specifications and markings in relation to telecommunications apparatus or any class of telecommunications apparatus;
- (b) prescribing telecommunications apparatus, or classes of telecommunications apparatus, in respect of which a technical acceptance certificate is required;
- (c) respecting the inspection, testing and approval of telecommunications apparatus in relation to technical acceptance certificates;
- (d) prescribing the form of technical acceptance certificates or markings, or any class of certificates or markings;
- (e) prescribing the procedure governing applications for technical acceptance certificates, or any class of certificates, and the issuing of certificates by the Minister;
- (f) prescribing the conditions of technical acceptance certificates, including conditions as to the services that may be provided by the holder of a certificate;
- (g) prescribing the eligibility and qualifications of persons who may be appointed as inspectors, and the duties of inspectors;
- (h) for giving effect to international agreements, conventions or treaties respecting telecommunications apparatus to which Canada is a party;
- (i) prescribing fees for technical acceptance certificates, applications for certificates and examinations or testing in relation to certificates, and respecting interest payable on unpaid fees;
- (j) prescribing anything that by this Part is to be prescribed; and
- (k) generally for carrying out the purposes and provisions of this Part.

Telecommunications Apparatus Regulations (SOR/2001-532)

MARKING REQUIREMENTS

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5. (1) Every telecommunications apparatus shall be marked with markings established by the Minister under subsection 69.3(1) of the Act, unless markings were applied to it before the coming into force of these Regulations in accordance with the Minister's instructions.

(2) For greater certainty, subsection (1) does not preclude affixing markings for purposes other than the purposes of these Regulations.

(3) No person shall remove, replace or alter any markings that have been affixed, in accordance with subsection (1), on telecommunications apparatus.

(4) No person shall mark telecommunications apparatus in accordance with subsection (1) to indicate compliance with the applicable technical specifications unless the apparatus complies with those technical specifications.

(5) No person shall mark or label or otherwise indicate how to modify telecommunications apparatus so that it will not comply with the applicable technical specifications.

CPC-2-0-03 – Radio communication and Broadcasting Antenna Systems

Appendix 2 - Industry Canada's Default Public Consultation Process - Public Notification Package (See Section 4.2)

The proponent must ensure that at least 30 days are provided for public comment. Notification must provide all information on how to submit comments to the proponent in writing. The proponent must also provide a copy of the notification package to the land-use authority and the local Industry Canada office at the same time as the package is provided to the public.

Notification must include, but need not be limited to:

1. the proposed antenna system's purpose, the reasons why existing antenna systems or other infrastructure cannot be used, a list of other structures that were considered unsuitable and future sharing possibilities for the proposal;
2. the proposed location within the community, the geographic co-ordinates and the specific property or rooftop;
3. an attestation (<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf08781.html>) that the general public will be protected in compliance with Health Canada's Safety Code 6 including combined effects within the local radio environment at all times;
4. identification of areas accessible to the general public and the access/demarcation measures to control public access;
5. the project's status under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf08781.html>);
6. a description of the proposed antenna system including its height and dimensions, a description of any antenna that may be mounted on the supporting structure and simulated images of the proposal;
7. **Transport Canada's aeronautical obstruction marking requirements (whether painting, lighting or both) if available; if not available, the proponent's expectation of Transport Canada's requirements together with an undertaking to provide Transport Canada's requirements once they become available;**
8. an attestation that the installation will respect good engineering practices including structural adequacy;
9. reference to any applicable local land-use requirements such as local processes, protocols, etc.;
10. notice that general information relating to antenna systems is available on Industry Canada's Spectrum Management and Telecommunications website (http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/h_sf01702.html);

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11. contact information for the proponent, land-use authorities and the local Industry Canada office; and closing date for submission of written public comments (not less than 30 days from receipt of notification).

AAMDC Background

The AAMDC has no active resolutions directly related to this issue.

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Resolution 12-13F

Regional Governance of Municipal Water Systems

Starland County

*Simple Majority Required
Endorsed by Central District*

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta has recently initiated its “Water Conversation” consultation process with the aim of informing future water legislation and policy such as the *Water for Life Strategy*; and

WHEREAS contained within the background document supporting the consultation process the Government of Alberta is proposing a shift to regional management of water systems; and

WHEREAS this shift would be based on a loss of management control over the operation of municipally owned water utilities and the implementation of full cost accounting in setting water rates; and

WHEREAS the management of rural water utilities by local municipalities allows for the provision of water at subsidized rates to rural residents who would otherwise be unable to afford to connect to a treated water system;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties oppose any forced regionalization of management control over municipally owned water utilities.

Member Background

In February of 2013 the Government of Alberta released the document, *Our Water Our Future: A Conversation with Albertans*, which was the basis for a series of public input sessions that were then held around Alberta during February and March of 2013. The document identified four priority issues and put forward proposed directions for each with the goal of soliciting input as to whether or not the government should proceed with them further. Of the four priority issues identified, the proposed direction for Drinking Water and Wastewater is of particular concern to Alberta’s rural municipalities. The proposed direction involves potentially legislating the regionalization of management over the operation of municipally owned water utilities as described in page 25 of the background document. While the government’s stated goals of increased financial sustainability and improved service is admirable it has failed to take into account the benefits of local management or show that residents are ill-served by the current model of funding and operation of municipal water systems.

Contained within the government’s proposal for “geographic management” of municipal water systems are references to economies of scale in management and other management efficiencies which could be gained by a move to regional management. However; even if this is the case, there has been no study analyzing the benefits and costs of the regionalization of multiple water systems in Alberta that has been done to support the government’s assertion of cost savings at this time. Additionally, recognition that the state of local water management varies significantly within the Province of Alberta would also require that any regionalization should only occur following a detailed cost-benefit analysis at the level of the actual utilities to be regionalized. If regionalization is to occur it should be supported by detailed research and planning and not just ideology.

The report also suggests that the future role of municipalities would be to have policy influence, among other local groups and individuals, on a new governance structure that would set direction and priorities for the local geographic management entity. This combined with a proposed new provincial regulatory body which would ensure compliance with provincial standards while also being used to regulate water rates implies a near total loss of control over the provision of water to local residents by their municipalities. As some municipalities use the subsidized provision of water to local residents as a method to ensure their

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communities remain healthy and vibrant and can support future growth this loss of control could contribute to the population exodus currently afflicting much of rural Alberta.

Even in a situation whereby municipalities retain ownership over their water utilities the ability to use the provision of water as a social and economic policy tool remains important. It is not clear that in a situation where a water management utility is owned by many small municipalities what influence over rate structures and future investment any individual municipality would have. Smaller municipalities could come to be dominated by the interests of larger municipalities which would likely have differing goals for the geographic management entity. This is not to say that all municipalities would prefer not to join such an arrangement and indeed some may. However, if the Government of Alberta wants to support regional water systems it should continue to fund the voluntary regionalization of this service through the options already in place. New legislation is not required for something that already makes sense for individual communities and would instead just force the regionalization of communities for whom it does not.

AAMDC Background

6-11F: Water for Life Program Funding for Rural Water Co-ops

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the AAMDC urge the Government of Alberta to provide capital grant funding for rural water supply through the Water for Life Program to connect as many rural residents as possible to regional water lines for the provision of safe potable drinking water.

DEVELOPMENTS: The 2013-14 provincial budget included Water for Life funding being decreased nearly 50 per cent to \$74.5 million. At previous meetings with the Ministers of Transportation and Environment and Sustainable Resource Development (ESRD), the AAMDC highlighted this resolution and the issue of changes to potable water funding for small hamlets and existing small growth areas. Earlier this year, ESRD hosted a series of “water conversations” where guided discussions on key issues regarding water in Alberta took place. Rural residential access was discussed and it is anticipated that the Government will release a “What We Heard” document later this year highlighting those discussions. The AAMDC will continue to advocate on the need for increased funding for the Water for Life Program.

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Resolution 13-13F

Placement of Automatic External Defibrillators and the Required Training in All Public Facilities and Schools

MD of Fairview

*Three-Fifths Majority Required
Endorsed by Northern District*

WHEREAS ventricular fibrillation is the most common cause of cardiac arrest, and is treated with electrical shock using an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED); and

WHEREAS approximately 40,000 people in Canada experience a Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) each year, representing one SCA every 12 minutes; and

WHEREAS studies have shown that 92% of Sudden Cardiac Arrest patients may survive if shocked in the first two minutes; and

WHEREAS 75% of Sudden Cardiac Arrest deaths in children occur on school property; and

WHEREAS the *Alberta Safety Code* and the *Alberta School Act* do not legislate the placement of AED units in public facilities or schools;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties request the Government of Alberta to amend the *Alberta Safety Code* to require the installation of Automatic External Defibrillators in all public facilities and schools; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Alberta mandate that all owners and employees working in public facilities and schools maintain Basic First Aid Training to include training in use of Automatic External Defibrillators and to practice regular skill drills.

Member Background

The Council of the Municipal District of Fairview #136 has recently been presented with information regarding the importance and the lack of Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) in Alberta schools. The sudden cardiac arrest death of a local high school student while participating in a school sports function has prompted the establishment of The Project Brock Society. One purpose of the Society is to advocate for the placement of AED units in all schools in Alberta as well as all public facilities. A study of Sudden Cardiac Arrest events in the USA showed a 64% survival rate in schools with AEDs and training compared with the usual 5% survival rate. There are no statistics available for Canada. No legislation currently exists to address the placement of AED units in buildings nor to educate and train the general public in their use. To implement legislation within the *Alberta Safety Code* buildings codes and in the Alberta education system, similar to the requirements for fire extinguishers, would certainly benefit all Albertans, including our students.

AAMDC Background

The AAMDC has no active resolutions directly related to this issue.

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Resolution 14-13F

Use of Reclaimed Water in Private Systems

Vulcan County

*Three-fifths Majority Required
Endorsed by Foothills-Little Bow District*

WHEREAS water is becoming a more valuable and scarce resource; and

WHEREAS new technologies are emerging for the safe use of reclaimed water; and

WHEREAS the Province of Alberta has initiated limited acceptance of new technologies for use of reclaimed water through application of deviation from code, however, on private systems, the Province mandates that the Local Authority must be prepared to ensure maintenance and monitoring is carried out and must manage the reporting and operation of the system with the owner;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties urge the Province of Alberta to further develop legislation to accept the use of reclaimed water through the Alberta Building and Plumbing Codes for private systems, and that processes be developed that maintenance, monitoring, reporting and operation responsibilities flow from the owner of such a private system directly to the Province.

Member Background

In the spring of 2013, Vulcan County was approached by a local church camp to be part of a pilot project to consider the installation of a private system that would reclaim grey water and reuse it for toilets, urinals and irrigation.

Through the process of exploring the potential of being associated with such a project it became apparent that under current Alberta Legislation the Local Authority is required to play a significant role in such an endeavor and assume significant risk and liability for same. Provincial departments made it very clear that the deviation from current codes and the responsibility for oversight and reporting were very much part of the Local Authority's role in reclaimed water systems. While this role may be more appropriate where such a system is connected to a municipal or public water and sewer system, for private systems, it would be more suitable and in alignment with legislation on other private water and waste water systems that the owner is responsible for the system directly to the Province.

Attached are excerpts from communications on this matter with two provincial departments as well as an accredited Safety Codes Agency.

Good morning Becky;

The reclaimed water project at SABC was at the point where support from the municipality regarding the monitoring and reporting component was unavailable. The best pathway forward is to reconnect with the other partners such as the local plumbing SCO, Environment, Health, as well as the local municipality to ensure that:

- The local authority is willing to consider an alternate solutions request proposing a the diversion and installation of the reclaimed water system for toilet, urinal and subsurface irrigation (or specific application you're proposing for the end use). Please ensure that this component of the regulatory process addresses the water quality meeting or exceeding the health Canada guidelines for reclaimed water, and clearly addresses responsible parties that ensure the sustainability of the system by providing maintenance, monitoring, and reporting.
- Environment and health representatives are in agreement with the project including any specific approvals for source or management.

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- The municipality is prepared to manage the reporting, operation, of the system with the owner. (This requires that a clear understanding from the local municipality is provided to ensure the understanding of ownership/responsibility in the event of a system failure through management, operation etc. This may also include a backup plan or bypass option.)
- The request for a second alternate solution applying to equipment is submitted to the local authority having jurisdiction in plumbing for consideration and forwarded to myself for final consideration and signatures.

For your information, I have also included a link to our Fact Sheet, *Alternative Solutions Guide for Reclaimed Water Reuse* that outlines the interim processes in place to approve the use of systems on a site-by-site basis.

<http://www.municipalaffairs.alberta.ca/1171.cfm>

Thank you
Sidney Manning
Chief Plumbing & Gas Administrator
Municipal Affairs/Safety Services
16th Floor, Commerce Place
10155 ~ 102 Street
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4L4
Canada
Phone: 1-866-421~929
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Superior Plumbing and Safety
Mike Ukno
403-999-8552

After talking to Mike Ukno, he made the statement that they would not be able to sign off on the plant, due to the fact that it is not potable water. If the municipality is to go through with the application for a deviation of codes, they would take on the responsibility to apply for the plumbing deviation.

As it stands right now, their concerns are that there are no standards or guidelines in place by the province to apply toward greywater reuse. Once these standards are in place, they will have a protocol to follow for inspections.

The concerns from Superior Safety are:

- 1) With no standards to follow, they can legally only sign off on potable drinking water sources;
- 2) With no standards, they are concerned that someone might become ill;
- 3) The municipality will have to provide a Class 1 water operator to carry out the maintenance and operations in case of a malfunction;
- 4) With no standards or guidelines in place, the success of the plant is questionable due to the fact that this is new technology for the province of Alberta.

Hi Becky,

Unfortunately, Alberta Health Services will not be able to take on the responsibility of monitoring of the finished product. This is the responsibility of the operator's and/or whoever holds the approval if applicable.

As well, when the pilot project ends it is not clear as to what the Provincial laboratory of Public Health will accept. As it stands now, the lab considers this a private venture, but did agree to allow you to submit

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samples for the pilot in recognition of Alberta Health Services collaborating on the pilot project. It appears from your email that the lab is continuing to accept your samples of raw and treated effluent going into the pilot extension. That is certainly good news and I recommend you continue to take advantage of this for your pilot monitoring at this time.

And, yes, I would very much like to see the results.

Richard Steeves
Public Health Inspector
Alberta Health Services
Claresholm, Nanton, Vulcan
Office: (403) 625-8652
Fax: (403) 625-4062

With this being stated, when the final plant is installed, it will be up to Municipal Affairs and the MD of Vulcan to decide upon who will be conducting the water testing and what guidelines will need to be followed.

AAMDC Background

The AAMDC has no active resolutions directly related to this issue.

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Resolution 15-13F

Provincial Funding of Locally Administered Air Shed Monitoring

MD of Big Lakes

*Simple Majority Required
Endorsed by Northern District*

WHEREAS Alberta maintains some of the toughest air quality standards in the world; and

WHEREAS the current Provincial system of providing base funding to local air shed groups to maintain air quality monitoring, combined with provincial standards and guidance has worked well; and

WHEREAS the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties favors locally administered and direct solutions to local problems;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties calls upon the Government of Alberta to:

- **Continue to financially support the locally autonomous and self-directed air shed monitoring organizations that already exist in Alberta.**
- **Acknowledge and affirm that the current system of local stakeholders providing air quality monitoring is working well and does not require major change.**
- **Commit to providing additional funding going forward to cover 100% of any incremental costs that the Province may attempt to download upon these local groups should the Province mandate additional air quality testing, reporting, or procedural or reporting changes in the future.**

Member Background

The primary reason to endorse the status quo on this matter is that “if it isn’t broke, don’t fix it”.

Air quality varies from region to region and Alberta has adopted a flexible approach to monitoring and managing air quality. To do this, nine air shed zones have been established to date and each is managed by an independent, non-profit, multi-stakeholder organization that works in collaboration with the Government of Alberta to monitor air quality within a geographic area.

Local governments, industry, environmental organizations and the general public are common participating stakeholders. The Clean Air Strategic Alliance (CASA) also plays a role in endorsing air shed zones and providing other support.

Most air shed zones operate regional ambient air quality monitoring stations and contribute to the management of air quality through education and special projects. Air sheds have also played a lead role in the development and implementation of air quality management plans that were needed under the CASA Particulate Matter and Ozone Management Framework.

Local groups being responsible for monitoring have the following advantages:

- Having a diverse array of groups perform monitoring results in local priorities and concerns being embedded into the local testing.
- Local, provincial, and international observers are more likely to regard as credible testing data derived from a broad array of local groups rather than data from a single centralized provincial agency.
- Local state holders have a personal interest in their own air-sheds.
- A broad spectrum of state holders involved in air-shed monitoring may result in a more sophisticated perspective compared to a single provincial entity embedded within a large provincial bureaucracy.

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- Individual air-shed monitoring groups tend to be quite lean from a staff and administrative perspective. By contrast, provincial agencies tend to have more elaborated cost structures.

AAMDC Background

The AAMDC has no active resolutions directly related to this issue.

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Resolution 16-13F

Light Up Alberta – Micro Generation Regulations

Starland County

*Simple Majority Required
Endorsed by Central District*

WHEREAS the emerging solar micro-power generation industry has the potential to reduce operation costs and produce a more sustainable agricultural sector in rural Alberta; and

WHEREAS the price of solar panels has dropped dramatically in recent years and now only requires a drop in the corresponding installation and regulation costs to become competitive with traditional power generation methods over time periods of 15 years or more at today's rates; and

WHEREAS the environmental and long term economic benefits of a competitive solar industry in Alberta is not priced into the current markets rates being offered to individuals who invest in solar power for their farm or residence; and

WHEREAS the up-front costs of becoming an independent micro-generator utilizing on farm solar power are substantial; and

WHEREAS in recognition of these benefits and costs the Government of Alberta instituted the "Light Up Alberta" program which under the *Micro-Generator Regulations* enabled electricity retailers to pay private individuals with solar installations of up to 10KW 15 cents a kilowatt hour for power put back onto the grid; and

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta's "Light Up Alberta" program provided a valuable incentive for private investors in small scale solar while industry and local governments work to bring down the costs of installation and regulation; and

WHEREAS without any consultation with local governments, the micro generation industry, or private micro-generators themselves the Government of Alberta has ended this program and intends to remove the legislation which made it possible;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties support Alberta's small rural power producers by lobbying the Government of Alberta to reinstate the "Light Up Alberta" program and engage in a thorough stakeholder consultation before amending the *Micro Generation Regulations*.

Member Background

Following the 2009 passage of the *Micro Generation Regulations* which allowed for a streamlined regulatory process for the connection of solar producing installations of up to 10 kilowatts to the electricity grid, the Government of Alberta instated the "Light Up Alberta" program. Meant to build on the new regulatory approach contained in the regulations, the program offered a rate incentive for these small producers now defined as "Micro-Generators". The incentive of up to 15 cents a kilowatt hour for energy sent back to the grid could be paid to producers while any energy consumed on site or drawn from the grid would be priced at the market rate. While not enough to change the economics of private investment decision, the incentive did show the government's support for a new industry with serious potential for economic and environmental benefits in Alberta.

Since this time a number of small energy retailers have started up business with the intention of creating a market for this program by becoming the energy supplier for new micro-generators by offering them the incentive rate for energy that was put back onto the grid. Over the course of their operations these retailers

AAMDC FALL 2013 Resolution Package D3

have signed up numerous individuals to their electricity plans under the pretense that their decision to invest in solar power was being supported by the provincial government. Following the repeal of this program these individuals will no longer be able to receive this incentive which may have formed part of their basis for making their investment decision in solar.

At the same time several rural and urban municipalities have at the request of their residents pursued solar energy over the past several years as a way to show economic and environmental leadership in their communities. Through partnerships with industry and electric line operators they have been working to lower the barriers to private investment by streamlining and lowering the cost for the process for permit application, installation and start up. Until now the Government of Alberta has been a willing partner in this endeavor which is why the recent policy change is both surprising and disappointing. As the program cost is estimated at less than 1% of the cost of provincial carbon capture initiatives the reason for this policy shift is unclear and seems to contradict this government's intended aim of greening energy production in the province as is clearly stated in their climate change strategy.

In addition to the problem with the change in policy direction is how that new policy was arrived at. No stakeholder consultations were held and no advance notice was given. As the provincial government is now considering amending the *Micro Generation Regulations* to remove the clause which allows for the "Light Up Alberta" program, it is important to give those groups and individuals who are most affected the right to have their opinions heard. As the major electricity retailers in Alberta are already deeply involved in this process it is only fair the public also get a chance to comment.

Beginning in 2008 the Government of Alberta started the movement to small scale solar projects in Alberta communities and that movement has been taken up by municipal governments, private citizens and local businesses, to abandon them now would be a great disappointment.

AAMDC Background

EM5-09S: Climate Change

Climate Change was identified as an Emerging Issue by the AAMDC Board of Directors. Though there are no active resolutions related to this topic, the AAMDC is actively involved with the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre.

AAMDC FALL 2013 Resolution Package D3

Resolution 17-13F

Creation of a Provincial Combative Sport Commission

RM of Wood Buffalo

*Three-Fifths Majority Required
Endorsed by Northern District*

WHEREAS there is public interest in the operation of, attendance at and participation in combative sports events in Alberta; and

WHEREAS section 535.1 of the *Municipal Government Act* contemplates the establishment of a commission by bylaw for the sanctioning of combative sports; and

WHEREAS several communities in Alberta have established commissions; and

WHEREAS there appears to be little coordination or consistency amongst the existing commissions throughout Alberta; and

WHEREAS there are inherent risks to the operation and regulation of combative sports events that warrant a more detailed and coordinated approach; and

WHEREAS the regulation and sanctioning of combative sports is not a core local government function or service; and

WHEREAS other provinces in Canada have created commissions at the provincial level;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties urge the provincial government to create a provincial commission to sanction combative sports events throughout the Province of Alberta.

Member Background

Council for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo has received requests and statements of interest from the public, expressing desire to hold and attend combative sports events, such as mixed martial arts events. In response, municipal administration undertook significant research of this matter and notes that Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, British Columbia and the Northwest Territories all have a provincial/territorial sanctioning body in place. New Brunswick and Alberta have no provincial legislation in place, but do delegate authority to municipalities.

Alberta's *Municipal Government Act* (MGA), specifically section 535.1, makes some provision for the establishment of a municipal combative sports commission through bylaw. At the present time, there are combative sports commissions in Edmonton, Calgary, Medicine Hat, Lethbridge, Grande Prairie, Cold Lake and Penhold. The bylaws in place vary significantly from one municipality to another, which means that there is no coordination or consistency in the regulation of events throughout the province.

Despite the creation of commissions in several Alberta communities, the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo has concerns that there appears to be ongoing risk and compliance challenges to commission operations. There also appears to be little coordination or consistency amongst the existing commissions, including how information should be shared, standards on how drug testing should be undertaken, or if there should be communication amongst the commissions regarding participants who have been banned or suspended.

The Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo does not regulate or sanction any other sports and has no internal expertise in this area. It also does not consider the regulation and sanctioning of these types of events as a core local government function or service.

AAMDC FALL 2013 Resolution Package D3

The creation of a provincial commission is preferred in order to ensure standardized rules and procedures reflecting best practices are implemented consistently throughout Alberta on all matters concerning combative sports events, and specifically with respect to testing and participant suspensions.

A resolution of the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties supporting the creation of a provincial commission to sanction combative sports events throughout the Province of Alberta is critical to ensuring consistency and coordination of the regulation of events in Alberta.

AAMDC Background

The AAMDC has no active resolutions directly related to this issue.



Agenda Item

Project: Fall 2013 AAMDC Convention: Ministerial 'Bear-Pit' Questions	
Presentation Date: November 5, 2013	
Department: CPS	Author: Trevor Duley
Budget Implication: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Funded by Dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation	
Strategic Area: Council	Goal: Council will actively pursue opportunities to discuss with the Premier, Cabinet Ministers, and Deputy Ministers issues concerning provincial legislation, programs or initiatives.
Legislative Direction: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Provincial Legislation (cite) <input type="checkbox"/> County Bylaw or Policy (cite)	
Recommendation: That Council review, amend if they wish, and approve a list of questions to be asked by the Reeve or his designate during the AAMDC 'Bear-Pit' session.	
Attachments List: N/A	

Background:

The 2013 Fall AAMDC Convention takes place November 12-15 at the Shaw Conference Centre in Edmonton. As per usual with the convention, the Ministerial 'Bear-Pit' session is an opportunity for delegates to ask questions of the Premier and her Ministers in regards to municipal issues and concerns.

As Council is aware, there has been growing concern amongst rural Alberta communities that residents' needs risk becoming less of a priority for the Provincial Government, as Alberta's population becomes increasingly centered in urban areas and along the Queen Elizabeth II Highway. Given rural Alberta's contributions to the Province, and the economic benefits Alberta's cities receive as a result of industry and

services in rural communities, Staff has focused the list of questions on highlighting the Provincial Government's attention to concerns arising from these circumstances.

Due to the number of delegates at the conference and the time constraints of the session, there will be a limited opportunity to direct questions to Provincial Ministers. Staff has written a list of three (3) questions, listed in descending importance, with 1 being most important and 3 being least important, subject to Council's direction. The intent of doing so is that the higher ranked questions will have a higher probability of being asked, owing to the time limit.

The first two questions are directed towards the Premier, but alternative options are presented in descending order, pending her availability at the session. The third is addressed to the Minister of Justice and Solicitor General. The first question is reflective of concerns in the community regarding rural ambulance wait-times under Alberta Health Services' system of 'borderless dispatch,' which allows ambulances to be called in from other communities when needed. Within the last 6 months, AHS has begun to use the phrase 'acceptable delay' in regards to rural wait times, as opposed to the previous commitment of 'no deterioration in service,' when borderless dispatch was first initiated a couple years ago.

The second question refers Alberta's education property tax. Both the *Municipal Government Act* and the *School Act* have historically required municipalities in Alberta to collect education property taxes on behalf of the Province in one form or another. Each year, the Province calculates how much money each municipality must contribute towards the public education system, based on the municipality's assessment roll. The amount residents are required to pay into the education system is based on the assessed value of their property and the education tax rate established by the municipality. The municipality creates this rate to cover the amount the municipality is required to collect for the education system, based on the provincial varied equalized assessment base and the education mill rate established by the Ministers of Treasury Board and Finance, Education and Municipal Affairs. Once the municipality collects the education property tax, it is forwarded on to the Province and into the Alberta School Foundation Fund (ASFF). In 2013, the Province changed the rates at which different

kinds of property would be taxed, yet excluded Machinery and Equipment (M&E) from the review. Prior to the mid-1990s, M&E had to pay a portion of the tax as well, which the Province phased out over a three year period, at the time because Industry was supportive of removing the tax, where they argued the Province would receive greater revenues and economic benefit through job creation and infrastructure development.

The third question regards Peace Officer radio access to CPIC, which provides information on stolen vehicles and more.

The recommendation is that Council review, amend if they wish, and approve a list of questions to be asked by appointed members of Council during the AAMDC 'Bear-Pit' session.

1. For the Premier

(or the Associate Minister of Municipal Affairs)

(or the Minister of Health):

Can the Premier please define Alberta Health's new term, 'acceptable delay,' and how this differs from the previous commitment of 'no deterioration in service,' in regards to 'borderless dispatch'? What length of time is considered to be acceptable for Alberta's rural residents?

2. For the Premier

(or the Deputy Premier)

(or the Minister of Municipal Affairs):

Earlier this year, changes were made to the uniform provincial education property tax rates, which saw an increase in the gross amount collected by rural municipalities. When this change was considered for residential, non-residential and farmland properties, how come the Province did not look at including Machinery and Equipment within this change? Prior to the mid-1990s, M&E had contributed to the funding of the education system.

3. For the Minister of Justice & Solicitor General

(or the Premier)

(or the Deputy Premier):

Given that many parts of rural Alberta are prone to poor telephone reception and that the Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) is an important resource for municipal law enforcement officials and is currently only accessible by telephone, what is the Minister of Justice doing to ensure radio communication access to CPIC for Alberta's Community Peace Officers?



Agenda Item

Project: Rocky Parade of Lights	
Presentation Date: November 5, 2013	
Department: CPS	Author: Trevor Duley
Budget Implication: <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Funded by Dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation	
Strategic Area: Land & Economic Development	Goal: The County will develop an economic development plan which supports and promotes industry, business and agri-business and tourism opportunities in the County.
Legislative Direction: <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Provincial Legislation (cite) _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Bylaw or Policy (cite) <u>'Council and Board Reimbursement Policy'</u>	
Recommendation: That Council indicates members that will attend the Parade of Lights.	
Attachments List: 'Council and Board Reimbursement Policy'	

Background:

Under the 'Council and Board Reimbursement' Policy, all members of Council are authorized to attend the Rocky Mountain House Parade of Lights. This year's event takes place on December 7th at 7:00 pm. Staff is seeking Council's direction as to which Councilors will be able to attend the event and ride on the float.

County Staff are currently working with officials from the Town of Rocky Mountain House to explore the concept of a joint float entry between the Town and County, and will provide Council with an update as it becomes available.

Staff time on the Saturday is estimated at four hours, and eight hours of staff time will likely be required to decorate the float.

Clearwater County

COUNCIL AND BOARD REIMBURSEMENT

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2013

SECTION: Administration

POLICY STATEMENT:

To provide a fair and equitable means of reimbursing Council and Members at Large for their time, travel and subsistence while attending meetings, conferences, training seminars and other out of area municipal business events.

DEFINITIONS:

“Meeting”: within the context of this Policy the term meeting shall include: Council meetings, Special Council meetings, Committee meetings as well as – when requested by the CAO, or a Department Head – meetings between Councillors and County staff.

PROCEDURE:

Council Rates

1. Council remuneration will be, for time spent while traveling to or from meetings and while in attendance at a meeting on the basis of the following rates and time sections:
 - a) \$149.00 - First Four Hours
 - b) \$119.00 - Second Four Hours
 - c) \$119.00 - Third Four Hours
 - d) \$271.00 - Maximum payable for any regular Council Meeting.

For clarity, any meeting or number of meetings that include more than one portion of the above times sections (i.e. meetings in excess of four hours), a Councillor is entitled to combined remuneration for each time section involved. The maximum paid in any single day will therefore be \$390.00. Councillors are expected to exercise discretion when applying for remuneration for meetings that include one time section and extend into another time section in a minor fashion.

2. Other expenses associated with a Councillor’s attendance at meetings will be paid in accordance with Travel and Subsistence for Staff and Council Policy.
3. In addition to meeting, travel and subsistence fees, each councillor will be paid \$550.00 per month to compensate for time spent on such matters as meeting preparation, telephone calls and individual meetings with electors.
4. Council remuneration associated with convention attendance will be for time spent while traveling to or from a convention location and while in attendance during the formal convention sessions on the basis of the following rates and time sections:

- a) \$149.00 - First Four Hours
- b) \$119.00 - Second Four Hours
- c) \$119.00 - Third Four Hours

For clarity, time incurred for travel to or from the convention location and attendance at the formal convention sessions that include more than one portion of the above times sections in excess of four hours, a councillor is entitled to combined remuneration for each time section involved. However, the maximum honorarium paid in any single day to a councillor or committee member will be \$390.00.

For example, a councillor drives to a seminar in Edmonton from Rocky Mountain House leaving the night before the seminar begins as the seminar starts at 8:00 the next morning. The seminar ends at 4:00 p.m. the following day. At conclusion of the seminar the councillor would be entitled to \$149.00 associated with travel the night before the seminar. The councillor would also be entitled to another \$149.00 relating to the first four hours of his/her attendance at the seminar; another \$119.00 associated with the second four hours of the seminar; and, a third four hours associated with the return travel time to Rocky Mountain House.

5. Councillors are authorized to attend special meetings associated with a Council appointed committee without Council approval. However, to the greatest extent possible, councillors should receive prior approval of Council for attendance at any other special meeting a councillor may wish to attend (e.g. community group meeting). However, Council recognizes that situations may preclude a councillor from advising Council of a meeting prior to his or her attendance. In such cases the Councillor is to seek Council's approval for his/her attendance prior to the councillor submitting his/her remuneration sheet.
6. The Reeve and two Councillors are approved to attend the annual conference of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), Councillors attending the conference will be appointed at the annual organizational meeting preceding the conference. The intention is to provide all Councillors with the opportunity to attend one FCM Conference during their term of office. All Councillors will be permitted to attend FCM when the FCM Conference is held in Alberta.
7. Councillors and Committee members will be reimbursed for other incurred expenses in accordance with the Travel and Subsistence for Staff and Council Policy.
8. If a spouse accompanies a councillor to a convention, the Municipality will cover the spousal registration fee, banquet tickets, and approved travel expenses.

Reeve Rates

1. In addition to the above policies, it is recognized that the Reeve will receive additional requests with respect to meetings with federal, provincial, municipal and/or community organizations, representatives or officials. The Reeve is authorized to attend such meetings at his/her discretion without Council authorization and to receive remuneration in accordance with this policy for that attendance. To the greatest extent possible, the Reeve should endeavor to inform Council of these meetings prior to his/her attendance.

2. The Reeve will be paid \$850.00 per month to allow for his extra administrative duties such as cheque signing, bylaw signing, contract signing, etc.

Boards and Committee Rates

1. Members at large appointed to the municipal library boards, the Caroline Family and Community Support Services Board, and the recreation boards will be paid \$522.00 per annum as compensation for mileage and out-of-pocket expenses.
2. The member at large to the Parkland Regional Library Board will be paid \$598.00 per annum as compensation for mileage and out-of-pocket expenses.
3. The member at large to the Alberta Sports Council will be paid \$897.00 per annum as compensation for mileage and out-of-pocket expenses.
4. Member at large appointees to the Agricultural Service Board, Assessment Review Board, Municipal Planning Commission and the Environmental Subdivision and Development Appeal Board, will be paid at the councillor remuneration rates established in this policy and expense rates in the Travel and Subsistence for Staff and Council policy.

Community Event Attendance

1. All Councillors are authorized to participate in the Rocky Rodeo Parade, Caroline Rodeo Parade and Rocky Parade of Lights. In addition to this, the Reeve or designate is authorized to participate in the Ponoka Stampede Parade and Westerner Days Parade.
2. With the exception of the aforementioned parades, attendance at any other community event will be considered by Council on a case by case basis.
3. Council remuneration associated with approved community event attendance will be for time spent while traveling to or from a convention location and while in attendance during the formal convention sessions on the basis of the following rates and time sections:
 - a) \$149.00 - First Four Hours
 - b) \$119.00 - Second Four Hours

To a maximum of eight hours (or \$271.00) per day.

General

1. Per Diem sheets are to be filled out monthly by each councillor and delivered to the Finance and Admin. Manager or Payroll Administrator after the end of each month and at least three working days prior to the first Council meeting. Per Diem sheets received after this date will not be processed for payment until the following month. Administration will include copies of the completed per diem sheets in the following Council Agenda.

2. Council remuneration rate increases will correspond to the cost of living adjustments received by staff each year (rounded to the nearest dollar).
3. This policy replaces Council's policy "Meeting Rates for Council and Board Appointments"



Agenda Item

Project: WCFS Wheelchair Van Agreement	
Presentation Date: November 5, 2013	
Department: CPS	Author: Trevor Duley
Budget Implication: <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Funded by Dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation	
Strategic Area: Quality of Life	Goal: Continue to evaluate, plan and support the recreation, cultural and leisure needs within the Rocky/Caroline/Clearwater community.
Legislative Direction: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Provincial Legislation (cite) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> County Bylaw or Policy (cite) <u>N/A</u>	
Recommendation: That Council authorize the Reeve and CAO to sign the agreement between Clearwater County and West Country Family Services regarding the funding and operation of the wheelchair van as presented.	
Attachments List: Draft WCFS Wheelchair Van Agreement; Van Statistics	

Background:

Clearwater County is the registered owner of a 2006 Dodge Caravan which is equipped to provide transportation for users in wheelchairs. This van was originally purchased through a partnership between Clearwater County, the Town of Rocky Mountain House and the Rotary Club. West Country Family Services (WCFS) has acted as the van operator and booking agent since it was purchased and until 2011, the Rotary Club provided some funding for van maintenance. In addition to this, in September of 2005, Clearwater County issued a letter to WCFS offering \$7,000.00 funding annually for operating and maintenance support, \$3,000.00 funding annually for contingency spending and also funding for insurance and registration, estimated at \$1,250.00 annually. The total budgeted amount Council has historically included is thus \$11,250.00.

WCFS has only begun to access these funds the last couple of years, since prior Rotary Club was providing money for maintenance. That source of funding is no longer available.

There is not currently any formal agreement in place governing the operation of this van or the responsibilities of the parties involved. Please find attached a draft agreement

between Clearwater County and West Country Family Services for your review. This agreement serves to formalize the partnership with respect to the wheelchair van; it does not change the annual amount that Council currently budgets towards the wheelchair van.

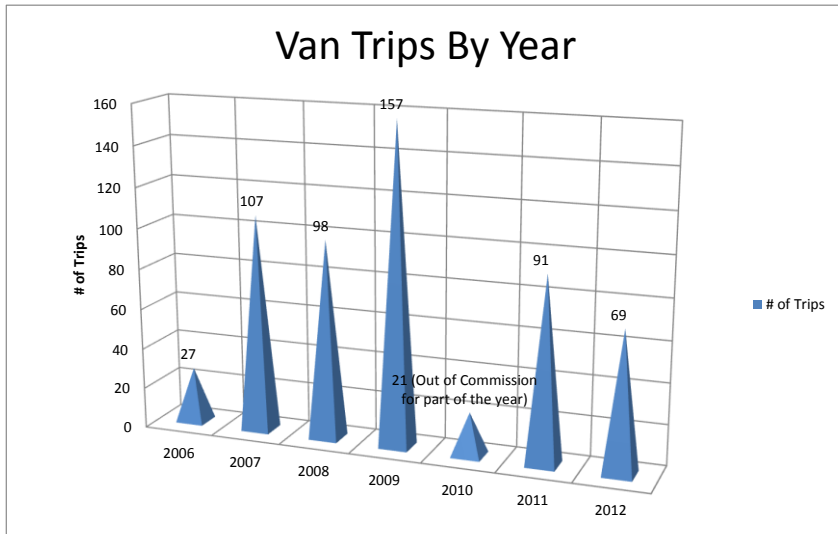
WCFS responsibilities include managing the use and operation of the van, including bookings for passengers. Clearwater County's responsibilities include providing the \$7,000.00 funding and registration costs as noted above. Should WCFS wish to access the \$3,000.00 contingency funding, those requests would be reviewed administratively on a case by case basis.

WCFS has provided some statistics on the van's usage, which are attached for Council's reference.

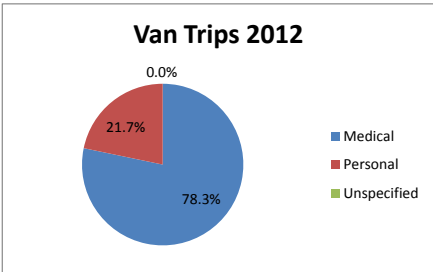
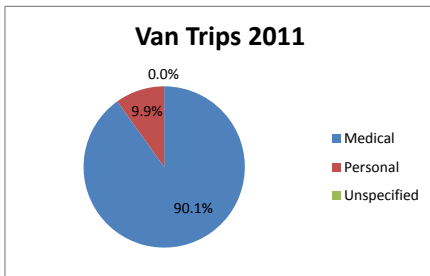
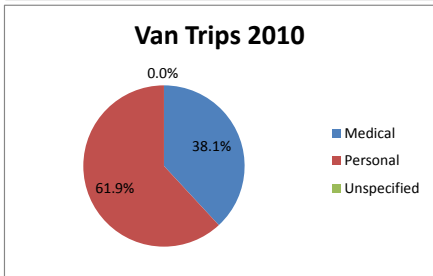
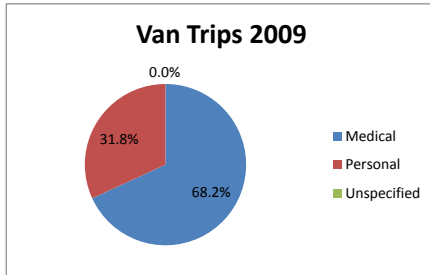
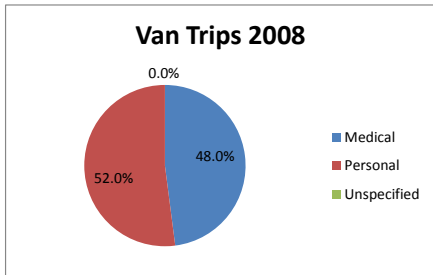
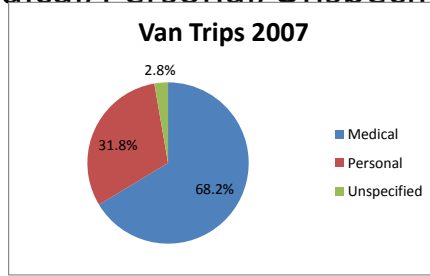
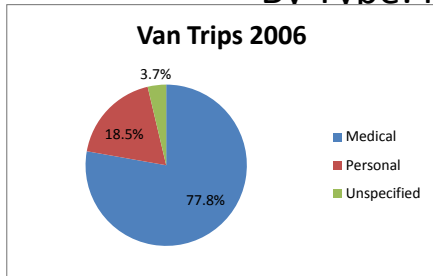
WCFS has also noted that they subsidize the cost of trips, to make them more affordable for users and to increase access. The estimated trip cost is \$22/hour while WCFS currently charges \$7.50/hour and 0.48/km for users. Without maintenance and operation funding in place, WCFS may not be able to continue managing the wheelchair van.

Should Council wish to do so, the agreement will be valid until December 31, 2023. Currently, nothing is being budgeted for the replacement of the van, and in 2023, the van will be 17 years old. The current van was purchased with a grant.

The WCFS Board has reviewed the draft agreement, and is content with proceeding as is. The recommendation is that Council approve the agreement and direct the Reeve and CAO to sign it.



By Type: Medical/Personal/Unspecified



WCFSA Wheelchair Van Stats

Year:	# of Trips	Year:	Total Trips	Medical		Personal	
2006	27	2006	27	21	77.8%	5	18.5%
2007	107	2007	107	73	68.2%	34	31.8%
2008	98	2008	98	47	48.0%	51	52.0%
2009	157	2009	157	107	68.2%	50	31.8%
2010	21	2010	21	8	38.1%	13	61.9%
2011	91	2011	91	82	90.1%	9	9.9%
2012	69	2012YTD	69	54	78.3%	15	21.7%

Unspecified

1	3.7%
3	2.8%
0	0.0%
0	0.0%
0	0.0%
0	0.0%
0	0.0%

This Agreement made in duplicate this ____ day of _____, 2013

BETWEEN:

CLEARWATER COUNTY

Box 550
Rocky Mountain House
T4T 1A4
in the Province of Alberta,
hereinafter referred to as "**the Municipality**"

OF THE FIRST PART

And

WEST COUNTRY FAMILY SERVICES ASSOCIATION

Box 646
Rocky Mountain House
T4T 1A5
In the Province of Alberta

hereinafter referred to as "**the Association**"

OF THE SECOND PART

WHEREAS the Municipality is the owner of a 2006 Dodge Grand Caravan, VIN # 1D4GP24R56B575824 (hereafter referred to as "the van") which was purchased with the intent of providing transportation for users in wheelchairs;

AND WHEREAS the intended use of the van is to provide transportation for users in wheelchairs;

AND WHEREAS the Association has managed the operation of the van for numerous years, has acted as the booking agent for users accessing the van service, and is willing to continue acting in this capacity;

NOW THEREFORE the Municipality and the Association hereby agree that the Association will be the managing body of the van subject to the conditions set out within this agreement:

1. The term of this Agreement will be from the date hereof to December 31, 2023 unless otherwise terminated by the Municipality or the Association as set forth herein.
2. The Association is hereby authorized to manage the use of the van so as to sustain and achieve a long term availability of the van for users who may wish to access it.
3. The Association will maintain the van in a neat and orderly condition, and ensure the safe operation and maintenance of the van.

6. The Association may, from time to time, set and collect such fees from users, establish rules or regulations and expend such monies as the Association deems necessary to fulfill the terms of this Agreement.
7. The Association shall provide annually to the Municipality an accounting of the usage of the van, including maintenance and operating costs and trip statistics.
8. The Association will be responsible for the safe state and operation of the van. The Association acknowledges that it is the "prime contractor" as defined in the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*. The Association assumes all the responsibilities of the "prime contractor" and shall as a condition of this Agreement implement a safety plan that will ensure compliance with the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* and regulations by other contractors and employers, as defined under the *Act*.
9. The Association indemnifies the Municipality, its councillors, employees, and agents from and against any and all losses, damages, claims, costs and expenses of every kind and nature whatsoever including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, all legal costs and expenses on a solicitor and his own client full indemnity basis and any payment made in good faith and settlement of any claim arising out of, occasioned by or in any way whatsoever related to the operation, management or the use of the van.
10. The Association shall provide the Municipality with an annual statement outlining the activity and costs associated with the van operation.
11. The Municipality shall provide adequate annual vehicle insurance for the van.
12. The Municipality shall provide the Association with \$7,000.00 annually to be used towards van operation and maintenance. The Municipality shall not be responsible for any expenses incurred by the Association over and above this amount.
13. The Municipality shall budget contingency funds of \$3,000.00 annually. The Association may request, in writing, contingency funds to cover unexpected expenses. Contingency funding shall not be guaranteed and approval of these requests shall be at the discretion of the Municipality and considered on a case by case basis.
14. Should the van be rendered inoperable due to age, collision or for any other reason, the contract shall be terminated.
15. The Association or the Municipality may terminate this Agreement upon thirty (30) days written notice, which notice shall be sent to:
 - a) For the Municipality:

Clearwater County
Box 550
Rocky Mountain House, Alberta
T4T 1A4
 - b) For the Association:

West Country Family Services Association
Box 646
Rocky Mountain House, Alberta
T4T 1A5

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have hereunto set their seals under the hands of their duly authorized officers the date and year first above written.

CLEARWATER COUNTY

Reeve

Chief Administrative Officer

WEST COUNTRY FAMILY SERVICES ASSOCIATION

Signatory

DRAFT



Agenda Item

Project: 2013 June Floods: Clearwater Campground DRP	
Presentation Date: November 5, 2013	
Department: CPS	Author: Trevor Duley
Budget Implication: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Funded by Dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation	
Strategic Area: Land & Economic Development	Goal: The County will develop an economic development plan which supports and promotes industry, business and agri-business and tourism opportunities in the County.
Legislative Direction: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Provincial Legislation (cite) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> County Bylaw or Policy (cite) _____	
Recommendation: That Council direct Staff to utilize Provincial funding and work with Clearwater Trading Post to coordinate the reconstruction of the Clearwater Campground in a new location.	
Attachments List: Email from DRP; GENIVAR Engineering Report	

Background:

As Council is aware, parts of Clearwater County sustained significant levels of flood damage during the June 2013 floods. One specific site which received a high level of damage is the Clearwater Campground, operated by Clearwater Trading Post Inc. at NW 18-36-6 W5.

This situation is particularly unique because the campground is operated on a Provincial Recreation Lease, currently held by Clearwater County. Therefore, the campground itself is the County's; its day to day operations are conducted by Clearwater Trading. After the floods, the County applied to the Province's Disaster Recovery Program (DRP) for funding to rebuild damaged municipal infrastructure. Although operated by a private company, Clearwater Campground was included in this application because the County is the current Lease holder.

Until very recently, municipalities and the Government were the only organizations eligible to hold a lease on Provincial Crown land. County Staff have been advised by Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resources (ESRD) that the municipality could look at handing over current Rec Leases to the operators themselves in the future,

through a Miscellaneous Lease transaction. The County also holds recreation leases at Cow Lake and Burnstick Lake campgrounds.

The DRP exists to provide disaster relief funding to municipalities, private business and individuals. Within this scenario, the Campground is considered municipal infrastructure. Several private businesses and individuals applied to the Province for relief funding themselves, once it was established by the DRP that individuals and businesses within the County were eligible to apply as of August 15th.

Typically, the DRP will only fund reconstruction projects to be built to their condition prior to the flood. Given the extent of the damage incurred by the Campground and the significant bank erosion experienced along the river, County Staff worked with the Province's Project Engineer to come to an initial estimate of \$300,000.00 to rebuild the site to its pre-existing condition. Given the proximity of the site to the river and water levels often experienced in the area, should it be rebuilt to pre-existing condition, the site would likely experience flooding again in the future.

County Staff has worked with Clearwater Trading, Alberta ESRD and the Provincial DRP since June to determine possible solutions for the site. ESRD has indicated that should Council wish, the lease area could be expanded East out of the flood plain, and the campground could be rebuilt in that location.

After learning this, County Staff worked with the DRP to see if the funding that could have been used to rebuild the site to pre-existing condition could instead be utilized to rebuild the site out of the flood plain. An engineering study was conducted on the site to give County and Provincial Staff a better understanding of the anticipated cost, at the request of the DRP.

Attached for Council's review is the report from GENIVAR, which provides two options:

- a) To rebuild the site at the same location to pre-flood conditions, estimated cost is \$338,000.00.
- b) To rebuild the site in a different location, estimated cost is \$240,000.00.

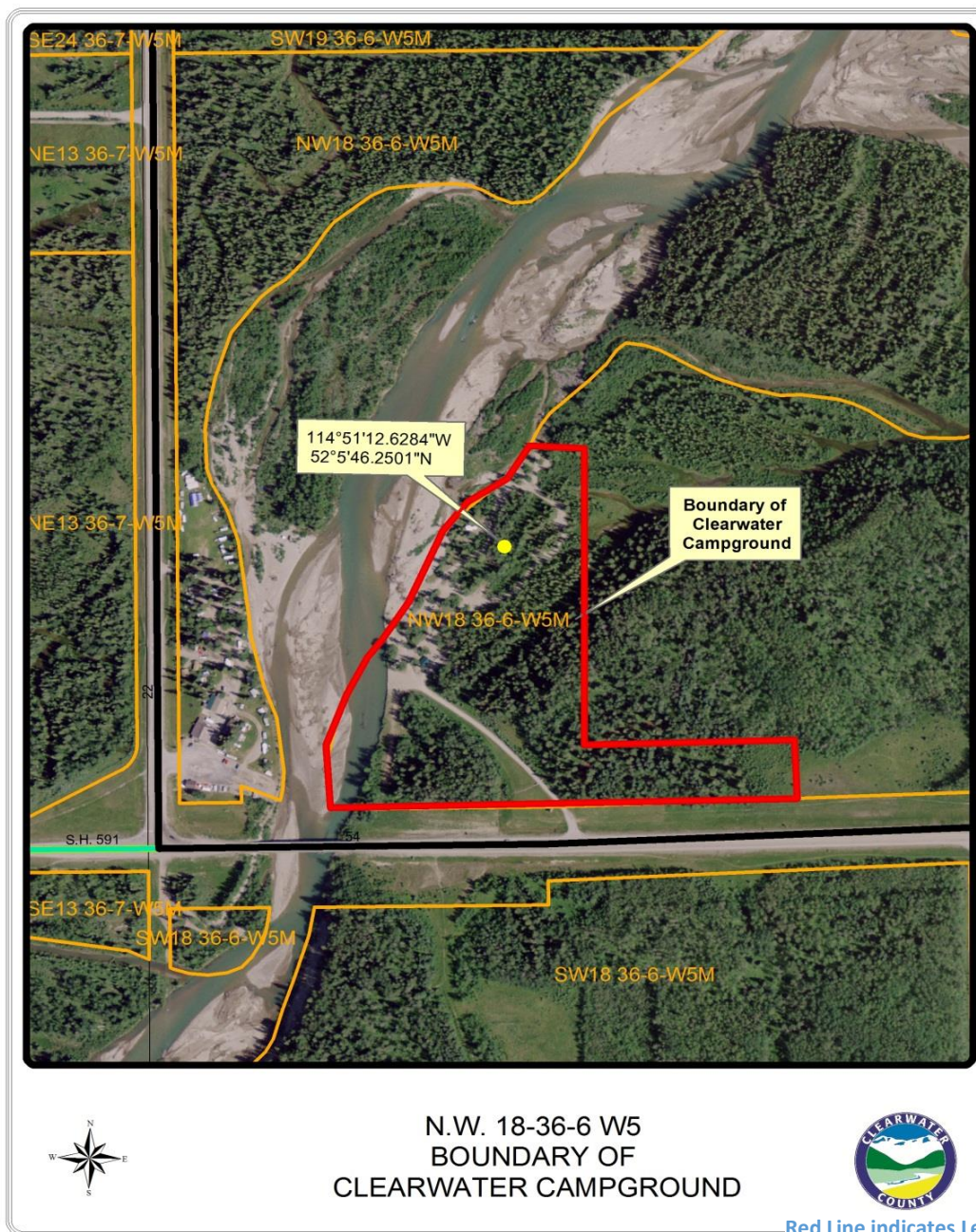
On October 15th, the County was given consent from the DRP, to utilize \$240,000.00 of Provincial dollars to build the Campground at the proposed new location, East of the current Lease, still within NW 18-36-6 W5, should Council wish to do so.

Administration is therefore seeking Council's direction as to how to proceed with this project.

Administration believes there are several options for Council's consideration:

- 1) Do not proceed with the project, and allow the lease to be terminated.

- 2) Do not proceed with the project, and utilize the lease site in a new way.
- 3) Access the Provincial dollars, and work with Clearwater Trading to rebuild at the new location, out of the flood plain. The operators would have to develop a plan for the new site, subject to County and Provincial discretion, and County Staff would hire contractors to complete the work. In doing so, County Staff would not allow the project to exceed the allotted amount of \$240,000.00. Clearwater Trading would be eligible to contribute their own funds to enhance the project, should they wish.



Trevor Duley

From: Jodi Lammers <jodi.lammers@gov-services.ca>
Sent: October-15-13 1:08 PM
To: Trevor Duley
Subject: 2013 Flood Program- Clearwater Campground

Hello Trevor,

Following discussion with our DRP engineer, John Schroder and reviewing the project summary and recommendations provided by Genivar, the Disaster Recovery Program will provide \$240,000 for option #2 to relocated the campground to a more suitable location. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Jodi Lammers
Infrastructure Coordinator
Disaster Recovery Program
Phone: 780-417-7350
Fax: 780-427-1262



September 30, 2013

Clearwater Campground M016-13
GENIVAR File No. 131-22255-00

Clearwater County
4340-47 Avenue
Rocky Mountain House, Alberta T4T 1A4

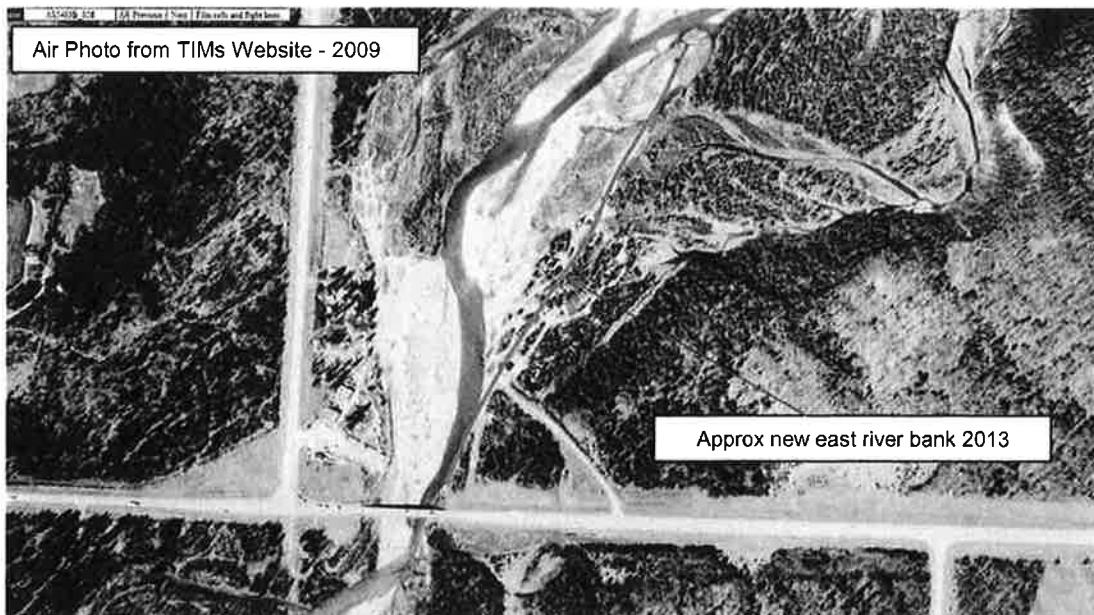
Attention: Brian Bilawchuk, Construction Supervisor

**Re: Summary and Recommendations for Flood Repairs
Clearwater Campground – M016-13 – NW 18-36-6-W5**

Following is a summary of the existing conditions at the above noted site resulting from recent high flows on the Clearwater River. Also included are brief recommendations.

Existing Conditions: This campground is located on the east side of the Clearwater River north of Highway 54. The campground is owned by Clearwater County but operated on behalf of the County by a third party. The sites are not serviced.

During the flooding in 2013, the Clearwater River overflowed its bank on the east side and flowed through the campground approximately as shown below, destroying roughly half of the sites and leaving most with silt deposits.



Item Description	Units	Quantity	Unit Price	Amount
Mobilization (~10%)	Lump Sum			\$ 29,000.00
Restore/clean existing sites	Lump Sum	1	\$10,000	\$ 10,000.00
Trim Slope For Bank Protection (Hoe*)	Hours	40	\$200	\$ 8,000.00
Supply/Place Class 3 Rock Rip Rap (Approx 60 lin.m by 5m Plus Apron)	m ³	462	\$275	\$ 127,000.00
Construct new campsites**	Lump Sum	1	\$120,000	\$ 120,000.00
			Construction Cost	\$ 294,000.00
			Engineering (15%)***	\$ 44,000.00
			Total Estimated Cost	\$ 338,000.00

*2013 ARHCA Rate - John Deere 270 w/thumb rounded to \$200/h

**Construct new campsites includes clearing, stripping, gravel roads, topsoiling/seeding, environmental, etc.

-Unit Prices are taken from Alberta Transportation Unit Price Averages where applicable, otherwise taken from previously tendered work by GENIVAR in 2013.

Option 2: Reconstruct the campsite in an entirely new location. The costs below are taken from a similar project that GENIVAR tendered in 2013 for a campground with 20 camp sites. We pro-rated the costs for reconstructing a campground with approximately 30 sites as this one appeared to have.

Item Description	Units	Quantity	Unit Price	Amount
Mobilization (~10%)	Lump Sum			\$ 21,000.00
Site Stripping/Clearing	Lump Sum	1	\$8,000	\$ 8,000.00
Grading	Lump Sum	1	\$47,000	\$ 47,000.00
Gravel Roads/Pads/Picnic Spots	Lump Sum	1	\$96,100	\$ 96,000.00
Topsoil/Seed	Lump Sum	1	\$15,500	\$ 16,000.00
Environmental (Silt Fence, etc.)	Lump Sum	1	\$4,650	\$ 5,000.00
Site Markers/Signage	Lump Sum	1	\$15,500	\$ 16,000.00
			Construction Cost	\$ 209,000.00
			Engineering (15%)***	\$ 31,000.00
			Total Estimated Cost	\$ 240,000.00

We would recommend Option 2. This option is less costly, has the lowest risk from future river flooding, and has less environmental impact (depending upon the new site chosen).

Please feel free to contact us if you require more information or have any questions.

Sincerely,



Kurt Petrica, P. Eng.
Senior Bridge Engineer

cc: Paul Maciejowski, C.E.T., GENIVAR, Rocky Mountain House
Ming Jiao, P. Eng., GENIVAR, Red Deer Bridges



Agenda Item

Project: HUB Aviva Insurance Grant Application	
Presentation Date: November 5, 2013	
Department: CPS	Author: Trevor Duley
Budget Implication: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Funded by Dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation	
Strategic Area: Land & Economic Development	Goal: The County will develop an economic development plan which supports and promotes industry, business and agri-business and tourism opportunities in the County.
Legislative Direction: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Provincial Legislation (cite) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> County Bylaw or Policy (cite) _____	
Recommendation: That Council accepts the report as information.	
Attachments List: Video Link	

Background:

As Council is aware, the Caroline HUB is looking to expand Caroline's recreation centre to include a playschool, dance studio, yoga studio, medical office and more. They have recently applied to a grant program through Aviva Insurance, which could allow them to win up to \$150,000 to go towards the project.

The HUB had to put together a video as part of the contest, and the winners are decided based upon the number of votes they receive. To vote, persons have to go to <http://www.avivacommunityfund.org/ideas/acf17248>. Persons can vote more than once, but only once a day.

The 2nd Qualifying Round ends on November 5th, but a 3rd Qualifying Round is scheduled for November 11th-November 25th. In order to move into the Semi-Finals, an entry must finish within the Top 10 list of most votes.

The link, with videos will be shown in Council for Council's reference.



Agenda Item

Project: CAEP Presentation	
Presentation Date: November 5, 2013 (10:30 AM)	
Department: CPS	Author: Trevor Duley
Budget Implication: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Funded by Dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation	
Strategic Area: Land & Economic Development	Goal: The County will develop an economic development plan which supports and promotes industry, business and agri-business and tourism opportunities in the County.
Legislative Direction: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Provincial Legislation (cite) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> County Bylaw or Policy (cite) _____	
Recommendation: That Council accepts the presentation as information.	
Attachments List: N/A	

Background:

The Central Alberta Economic Partnership (CAEP) is a regional economic alliance, comprised of representatives from industry and government officials throughout Central Alberta. The organization is one of thirteen Regional Economic Development Alliances (REDAs) in Alberta.

Clearwater County has been involved with CAEP for a number of years, and annually nominates a member of Council to represent the County at CAEP events and meetings. The County typically pays an annual fee to be a member of CAEP, based on a per capita rate. In 2013, the membership fee was \$4,911.00. The member municipalities of CAEP are indicated below, taken from CAEP's website:



Dale Barr, CAEP's Executive Director, is here today to provide information to Council on CAEP, and to answer any questions Council may have.



Agenda Item

Project: Application No. 04/13 to amend the Land Use Bylaw – Public Hearing	
Presentation Date: November 5, 2013	
Department: Planning	Author: Kim Jakowski
Budget Implication: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Funded by Dept. <input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation	
Strategic Area: N/A	Goal: N/A
Legislative Direction: <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Provincial Legislation (cite) _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Bylaw or Policy (cite) <u>Municipal Development Plan (2010)</u> <u>& Land Use Bylaw</u>	
Recommendation: Pending the results of the public hearing, it is recommended Council grant 2nd and 3rd readings to Bylaw 981/13	
Background: The subject land is located approximately 6 miles southwest of the Town of Rocky Mountain House. The Alberta Planning Board on appeal approved the subdivision to split the quarter section in half in January of 1977 to create two 81.0 acres parcels. William and Elaine Speight hold title to the east half of the NE 31-38-07-W5 containing a 60.86 acre Agriculture District “A” parcel. They also hold title to Plan 122 1041, Block 1, Lot 2 (Pt. NE 31-38-07-W5) being a 20.11 acre Intensive Agriculture District “IA” parcel. Clearwater County Council approved the rezoning of 20.11 acres to Intensive Agriculture on September 27, 2011. A subdivision application was then taken to the Municipal Planning Commission on October 13, 2011 and was approved to subdivide off the rezoned piece of property in order to allow the business, Will-O-Lane Stables and Training Centre, to have separate title. The Speight’s intention was to sell the business and property and retain their house and the remainder of the east half of the NE 31-38-07-W5. They have been unable to sell the property without having the house included in the sale. Therefore, the application is to create a 31.83 acre Intensive Agriculture parcel adjacent to Range Road 7-5 leaving the remainder to be 49.14 acres. Land Use Amendment application 04/13 is to rezone 11.72 acres of the E½ NE 31-38-07-W5 from Agriculture District “A” to Intensive Agriculture District “IA”. The proposed rezoned land would then be subdivided from the E½ NE 31-38-07-W5 and consolidated with Plan 122 1041, Block 1, Lot 2, which is the lot previously rezoned and subdivided for this use. The parcel would be surrounded on two sides by the remaining agricultural land in title. The north and east property boundaries border municipal road allowances. Schedule “A” indicates the portion of land to be redesignated and subdivided. The landowner’s reasons in support of the application are:	

- a) To simplify the boundaries of the two existing parcels
- b) To increase the effective size of the Intensive Agriculture parcel; and
- c) To add a modern residence to the Intensive Agriculture parcel to increase the value and marketability.

Planning Direction:

The application is subject to the provisions of the Municipal Development Plan (2010) and Land Use Bylaw.

The applicable sections of the Municipal Development Plan (2010) adopted in July 2010 are:

MDP Policy 4.2.3

An application to create a parcel for intensive agricultural purposes shall be evaluated by Clearwater County based on the considerations in Policy 4.2.4 and the following criteria:

- (a) the minimum parcel size is 8.1 hectares (20 acres);
- (b) applicant demonstrates to the satisfaction of the County that the proposed operation will result in lands being intensively used for commercial agricultural pursuits;
- (c) the applicant demonstrates the long term viability of the proposed operation to the satisfaction of the County;
- (d) the applicant demonstrates to the satisfaction of the County that existing farming operations around the proposed parcel will not be restricted; and
- (e) legal and physical access is available.

MDP Policy 4.2.4

In evaluating subdivision and development proposals that affect agricultural land, the agricultural quality of the land is one of a number of factors that Clearwater County shall consider. These factors are as follows:

- (a) the nature and extent of farming activities in the local area, with a focus on the immediate area;
- (b) the location, number and type of existing and planned non-farm land uses located and proposed to be located in the local area;
- (c) the predicted impact on sustainable agricultural production in the local area resulting from the proposal;
- (d) the Farmland Assessment Rating of the land within the title to be subdivided or developed;
- (e) the Farmland Assessment Rating of adjacent lands;
- (f) the proposed use of land; and
- (g) the reasonable availability of optional locations for the proposed subdivision or development.

MDP Policy 8.2.3

Clearwater County encourages the development of agri-business within the County where the following criteria are met to the satisfaction of the County:

- (a) legal and year-round physical access is available and can be developed to meet the County's road standards;
- (b) the proposed subdivision or development can be serviced on-site in

- accordance with provincial regulations;
- (c) the proposed subdivision or development is located in a manner that minimizes any potential impacts on natural capital lands and agricultural operations; and
- (d) all other applicable provisions of this Plan.

MDP Policy 12.2.4

Clearwater County will consider, where applicable, the following when evaluating an application to redesignate, subdivide or develop land:

- (a) impact on adjoining and nearby land uses;
- (b) impact on natural capital, including agricultural land;
- (c) impact on the environment;
- (d) scale and density;
- (e) site suitability and capacity;
- (f) road requirements and traffic impacts, including access and egress considerations, including Subdivision and Development Regulations related to land in the vicinity of a highway;
- (g) utility requirements and impacts;
- (h) open space needs;
- (i) availability of protective and emergency services;
- (j) FireSmart provisions;
- (k) impacts on school and health care systems;
- (l) measures to mitigate effects;
- (m) County responsibilities that may result from the development or subdivision; and
- (n) any other matters the County considers relevant.

The Clearwater County Land Use Bylaw addresses the uses allowed in the Intensive Agriculture District "IA" as follows:

The purpose of the Intensive Agriculture District "IA" is to accommodate intensive agricultural uses on parcels less than 32 hectares (80 Acres).

The Discretionary uses listed that would apply to this application would include riding or roping and livestock showing stable or arena.

Development, including any storage areas, would be required to meet the minimum yard setbacks, including a minimum of no development or storage within 50 metres (165 feet) from the centreline of the municipal road allowances. Screening may also be a requirement of any approved use.

First Reading:

At the regular Council meeting held on September 24, 2013, Council reviewed and gave first reading to Bylaw 981/13. As required by legislation, comments were invited from the adjacent landowners. Upon consideration of the representations made at the Public Hearing, Council may consider whether or not to grant second and third readings to the bylaw.



CLEARWATER COUNTY
Application for
Amendment to the Land Use Bylaw

Application No. 04/13

I / We hereby make application to amend the Land Use Bylaw.

APPLICANT: Vic T Jaxwell / For W. & E. SPEIGHT.

ADDRESS & PHONE: UNIT G, 2085, 50 AVE, RED DEER, T4R-1Z4. 403 846-1242

REGISTERED OWNER: WILLIAM & ELAINE SPEIGHT.

ADDRESS & PHONE: Box 7, Site A, RR2, Rocky Mtn. House T4T-2A2.

AMENDMENT REQUESTED:

1. CHANGE OF LAND USE DISTRICT FROM: AGRICULTURE TO: INTENSIVE AGRICULTURE

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: NE 1/4 Sec. 31 Twp. 39 Rge. 7 W5M

OR: LOT: 2 BLOCK 1 REGISTERED PLAN NO.: 122-1041

OR: CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO.: _____ (Site Plan is attached)

SIZE OF AREA TO BE REDESIGNATED: 11.72 (Hectares / Acres)

2. REVISION TO THE WORDING OF THE LAND USE BYLAW AS FOLLOWS:

CHANGE 11.72 ACRES FROM AGRICULTURE TO INTENSIVE AGRICULTURE

3. REASONS IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT:

- (A) SIMPLIFY BOUNDARIES OF 2 PARCELS.
- (B) INCREASE EFFECTIVE SIZE OF '1A' PARCEL. (LOT 2)
- (C) ADD MODERN RESIDENCE TO '1A' PARCEL AND INCREASE VALUE AND MARKETABILITY OF '1A' PARCEL (LOT 2)

DATE: Aug. 27, 20 13. APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE [Signature]

This personal information is being collected under the authority of the Municipal Government Act, Being Chapter M-26, R.S.A. 2000 and will be used to process the Land Use Bylaw amendment application. It is protected by the privacy provisions of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, Chapter F-25, RSA, 2006. If you have any questions about the collection of this personal information, please contact Clearwater County, P.O. Box 550, Rocky Mountain House AB T4T 1A4.

APPLICATION FEE OF 500⁰⁰ DATE PAID: Aug 27 / 13 RECEIPT NO. 93256

[Signature]
SIGNATURE OF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
IF APPLICATION COMPLETE

IMPORTANT NOTES ON REVERSE SIDE

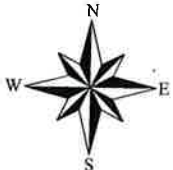
Existing Intensive Agriculture "IA" Parcel
20.11 Acres
Plan 122 1401, Block 1, Lot 2

Redistrict 11.72 acres from Agricultural "A"
to Intensive Agriculture "IA"
for the purpose of consolidation
with Plan 122 1401, Block 1, Lot 2



**Application #04/13 to Amend the Land Use Bylaw
Redistrict 11.72 acres in E1/2 NE 31-38-07-W5
From Agriculture "A" to Intensive Agriculture "IA"
To be Consolidated with Plan 122 1401, Block 1, Lot 2
Combined with Subdivision Application 21/3305
Vic Maxwell and William & Elaine Speight**

1:5000



BYLAW NO. 981/13

A Bylaw of Clearwater County, in the Province of Alberta, for the purpose of amending the Land Use Bylaw, being Bylaw No. 714/01.

PURSUANT to the Authority conferred upon it by the Municipal Government Act, Statutes of Alberta, 2000, Chapter M-26.1 and amendments thereto, and;

WHEREAS, a Council is authorized to prepare, to adopt, and to amend a Land Use Bylaw to regulate and control the use and development of land and buildings within the Municipality;

WHEREAS, the general purpose of the Intensive Agriculture District "IA" is to accommodate intensive agricultural uses on parcels of less than 32 hectares (80 acres);

NOW, THEREFORE, upon compliance with the relevant requirements of the Municipal Government Act, the Council of the Clearwater County, Province of Alberta, duly assembled, enacts as follows:

That +/- 11.72 acres of the E½ of NE 31-38-07-W5M as outlined in red on the attached Schedule "A" be redesignated from the Agriculture District "A" to the Intensive Agriculture District "IA".

READ A FIRST TIME this ____ day of _____ A.D., 2013.

REEVE

MUNICIPAL MANAGER

PUBLIC HEARING held this ____ day of _____ A.D., 2013.

READ A SECOND TIME this ____ day of _____ A.D., 2013.

READ A THIRD AND FINAL TIME this ____ day of _____ A.D., 2013.

REEVE

MUNICIPAL MANAGER

Twp Road 39-0

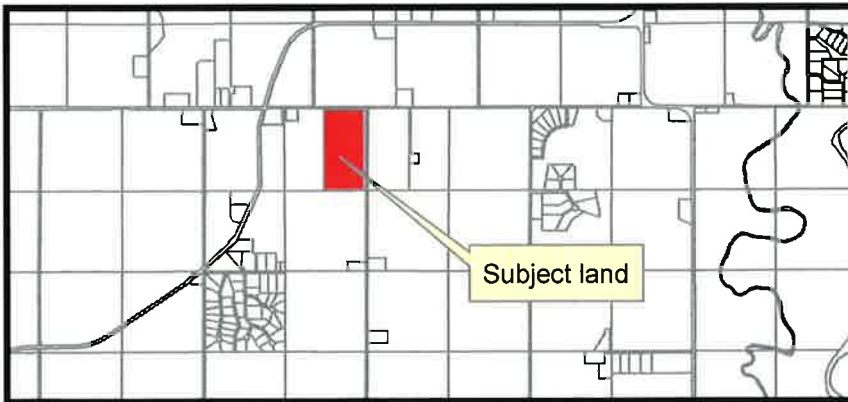
Plan 122 1401
Block 1, Lot 2
20.11 Acres

Redistrict 11.72 acres
from Agriculture "A" to
Intensive Agriculture "IA"
To be consolidated with
Plan 122 1401, Block 1, Lot 2

Range Road 7-5

E 1/2 NE 31-38-07-W5

31



**Bylaw No. 981/13
Schedule "A"**



**Application #04/13 to Amend the Land Use Bylaw
Redistrict 11.72 acres in E1/2 NE 31-38-07-W5
From Agriculture "A" to Intensive Agriculture "IA"
To be Consolidated with Plan 122 1401, Block 1, Lot 2
Combined with Subdivision Application 21/3305
Vic Maxwell and William & Elaine Speight**



November 2013

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				1	2	3
4	5 PH BYLAW 981/13 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING 9:00 AM PHOTO SESSION 1:30 PM	6 RMH Parks & Rec 7:30 pm	7	8	9	10
11 REMEMBRANCE DAY	12 AAMDC CONVENTION EDMONTON AAMDC MAYORS & REEVES MEETING	13 CRFCSS 12:00 AAMDC CONVENTION EDMONTON	14 AAMDC CONVENTION EDMONTON	15 AAMDC CONVENTION EDMONTON ASB Meeting 9:00 AM	16	17
18 Hospital Committee 9 AM Council Chambers	19 West Central Stakeholders 6 PM Lou Soppit	20 Rocky Seniors Housing Council 1:00 pm AUMA 2013 CONVENTION CALGARY	21 MPC 9:00 AM (TBC) AUMA 2013 CONVENTION CALGARY	22 AUMA 2013 CONVENTION CALGARY	23	24
25	26 REGULAR COUNCIL PAST & PRESENT COUNCILLOR LUNCH 12:00 (TBC)	27 CAEP 4:30 pm Black Knight Inn Red Deer	28	29 COUNTY/TOWN CRHISTMAS PARTY LOU SOPPIT CENTRE	30	

December 2013

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
						1
2	3	4 RMH Parks & Rec 7:30 pm	5	6	7	8
9	10 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING	11 BUDGET DISCUSSIONS 9-4 MAYORS & REEVES MEETNG 5:30 RED DEER CRFCSS 12:00	12 BUDGET DISCUSSIONS 9-4 CHRISTMAS LUNCH WITH STAFF (TBC)	13 BUDGET DISCUSSIONS 9 -4	14	15
16	17	18 Rocky Seniors Housing Council 1:00 pm	19	20 ASB Meeting 9:00 AM	21	22
23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26 BOXING DAY	27	28	29
30	31					