



TOWN OF DIDSBURY AGENDA
Regular Council Meeting

Tuesday, May 14, 2024, 6:00 pm
Council Chambers 1606 14 Street

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12.1 Draft Land Sale Policy - as per Section 23 of the FOIP Act	
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12.3 2500 15 Avenue and Shantz Land Sale Agreements - as per Section 23, 24, and 27 of the FOIP Act	

12.4 Final Stretch Refresher Workshop - as per Section 23 and 24 of the FOIP Act

12.5 Governance Interface - as per Section 23 and 24 of the FOIP Act

13. RECONVENE

14. ADJOURNMENT



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

MEETING DATE: May 14, 2024
SUBJECT: Didsbury Curling Club
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Legislative Services

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

Didsbury Curling Club President, Ryan Mierke, and Gord Leeson have requested to speak to Council about an initiative of the Didsbury Curling Club.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

The delegation will be presenting a proposal to Council on a monument for the curling club which will be presented at the Council Meeting.

As this item could be considered under Community Partnership Projects Policy CS 002 (see attached) which is currently with the Policy and Governance Committee for review and recommendation, Administration is recommending this item be brought back to the May 28, 2024 Regular Council Meeting for consideration and recommendation.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

2. Vibrant & Connected Character Community
3. Strong & Resilient Local Economy

RECOMMENDATION

To thank Didsbury Curling Club President Ryan Mierke and Gord Leeson for their presentation and accept it as information.

AND

To bring back the Curling Club request for consideration and recommendation to the May 28, 2024 Regular Council Meeting.

OR

A motion at Council's discretion.



TOWN OF DIDSBURY POLICY INDEX	
Policy Number:	CS 002
Policy Title:	Community Partnership Projects
Approval Date:	May 14, 2019
Date to be Reviewed:	2021
Responsible Department:	Community Services
Related Bylaws:	N/A

Policy Statement:

The Town of Didsbury will consider public recreation, parks and cultural partnership opportunities that enhance current infrastructure and services, and are consistent with the Didsbury Recreation and Culture Master Plan. Projects may be capital and/or operational in nature, and shall fall into two streams: Large Community Projects and Small Community Projects. Through this policy, the Town of Didsbury will establish a standardized process of application and review for all Community Partnership Projects. Community Partnership Project proposals will be assessed through an application process that will be open, transparent, fair and consistent with Town of Didsbury business practices to determine overall benefit to the community and value to the residents.

1. Definitions:

For the purpose of this policy:

“Community Partnership Project” is any NEW infrastructure implemented on Town of Didsbury public lands that is intended for public recreation, parks and cultural enjoyment. Examples include, but are not limited, to: spray parks, gymnasiums, playgrounds, sportsfields, tree plantings or outdoor rinks.

“Didsbury planning documents” are those guiding documents and plans approved by Council, and revised from time to time, that prioritize the development of recreation and culture facilities and projects within Didsbury. This includes, but is not limited to, the Didsbury Recreation and Culture Master Plan, Town of Didsbury Strategic Plan, and the Didsbury Memorial Complex Outlying Plan.

“Large Community Projects” are those with an estimated project cost of \$50,000 or more, and require land allocation and ongoing maintenance costs. Examples could include: gymnasium, splash park, tennis courts.

“Partnership” is two or more organizations working together towards a joint interest, where there is:

- Definition of authority and responsibility among partners
- Joint contribution of input costs (eg time, funding, expertise, information)
- Sharing of risk among partners
- Mutual or complementary benefits and goals
- On-going relationship and an interest in working together



“Small Community Projects” are those with an estimated project cost of less than \$50,000 and require little or no land allocation and minimal maintenance costs. Examples could include: community garden, art displays, memorial displays.

2. Guidelines:

The purpose of this policy is to review and evaluate Community Partnership Projects and weigh them against the priorities set forth in Town of Didsbury planning documents. This policy will ensure these projects align with master plans, strategic plans, recreational strategies, other Community Partnership Projects, business plans and priorities.

Partnerships may involve third party organizations including community not-for-profit groups, other public sector groups and private groups.

Collaborations between the Town of Didsbury and partners will:

- Meet community needs.
- Protect public interests in the short and long term.
- Provide opportunities that are open and accessible to all citizens of Didsbury.
- Align with Town of Didsbury strategic plans, strategies, standards and priorities.
- Demonstrate trustworthiness, mutual respect, and high standards of ethical and professional conduct.
- Demonstrate a clear understanding of respective roles and responsibilities including cost, risk and benefits.

3. Application Process:

Application – Phase One (both Large and Small Projects)

- Applications for Community Partnership Projects (Large and Small) shall be accepted on an ongoing basis.
- Applications for both Large and Small projects shall only be accepted on the approved Community Partnership Project Application Form, Schedule A.
- Applications shall be reviewed by a committee consisting of three members of Council and two members of the Town of Didsbury Leadership Team. This committee shall rank the applicants based on the following criteria: community benefit, risk management, strength of partnership, linkages to current Town of Didsbury planning documents, cost, land requirements, maintenance plans and projected timelines.
- Applications that do not meet Town of Didsbury criteria and/or community needs would not be considered.
- Applications that are selected for further consideration shall move to the next phase of the process, dependent on the size of the project (see below).

Application – Phase Two: Small Community Projects:

- Applicants would be required to submit a Project Plan that would include the following information:
 - Project justification



- Site factors/ considerations
- Complete project budget
- Financial resources
- In-kind resources
- Proposed project schedule
- Implementation plan
- Project Plan would be evaluated against standardized evaluation criteria and if approved, would enter the budget process, based on Council priorities and project timelines
- Applications that do not meet Town of Didsbury criteria and/or community needs would not move forward.

Application – Phase Two: Large Community Projects:

- Applicants would be required to develop a comprehensive Business Case for their project. This Business Case would be more in-depth than the information required for the Small Community Projects.
- Information to be included:
 - Detailed project outline – what needs are being met?
 - Identification of potential issues and proposed solutions
 - Impact on residents’ quality of life as a result of the project
 - How is project supported through current Town of Didsbury mandate and planning documents?
 - Community Needs Assessment to include: statistics, identification of other area amenities, projected user-ship, service trends, operating costs
 - Comprehensive project budget to include all costs associated with project, both capital and operational, funding sources and in-kind funding
- Business Case would be evaluated against standardized evaluation criteria and if approved, would enter the budget process, based on Council priorities and project timelines
- Applications that do not meet Town of Didsbury criteria and/or community needs would not move forward.

Evaluation Criteria:

- Demonstrated public support for project (letters of support, needs assessments, additional partnerships)
- Revitalization of existing infrastructure considered before new construction
- Consideration of project viability, environmental impacts, cost-benefit analysis, long-term sustainability
- Project accessibility to all residents of Didsbury – population served, barrier-free, accessibility
- Alignment with current Town of Didsbury planning documents, priorities and policies
- Cost-sharing plans, both capital and operational. Potential for grant applications.

End of Policy



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

MEETING DATE: May 14, 2024
SUBJECT: Didsbury Fire Department
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Legislative Services

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

Fire Chief Curtis Mousseau will be speaking to Council regarding the use of the new Heavy Rescue Unit as a showcase item at the Fire Chiefs Conference and Trade Show in Calgary at the end of May.

Please find attached a letter from Robert Ross of Rocky Mountain Phoenix INC officially making the request.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

1. Strategically Managed Infrastructure

RECOMMENDATION

To thank the Fire Chief Mousseau for attending the Council Meeting.

AND

To approve the Didsbury Fire Department's use of the new Heavy Rescue Unit as a showcase item at the Alberta Fire Chiefs Association Conference and Trade Show in Calgary on May 26 and 27, 2024.

OR

To accept his presentation and the letter of request as information.



Dear Didsbury Mayor and Council,

I am writing on behalf of Rocky Mountain Phoenix to request the display of Didsbury Fire Department's Heavy Rescue Unit at the upcoming Alberta Fire Chiefs Conference in Calgary, Alberta. We believe that showcasing this custom rescue unit, along with highlighting the department that acquired it, would be a valuable addition to the conference.

We respectfully request the presence of the Didsbury Fire Department's Heavy Rescue Unit from the morning of Saturday, May 25, until late afternoon on Monday, May 27, 2024. The unit will be housed inside the BMO Center with 24-hour security measures in place, ensuring its safety. Our team from Rocky Mountain Phoenix will also be present to assist in showcasing the unit during the trade show.

We believe that the display of the Didsbury Fire Department's Heavy Rescue Unit will provide conference attendees with valuable insights into the capabilities and innovations in modern firefighting equipment. We are confident that its presence will contribute to the overall success of the conference.

Thank you for considering our request, and we look forward to the opportunity to showcase your unit.

Warm regards,
Robert Ross
403-886-5522
Rocky Mountain Phoenix INC

Request for Didsbury Fire Department Heavy Rescue Display at Alberta Fire Chiefs Conference

6415 Golden West Avenue, Red Deer, AB T4P 3X2	T: 403-347-7045	800-494-4210	Fax: 403-347-7049
#103 – 2285 Queen Street, Abbotsford, BC V2T 6J3	T: 604-864-7303	888-815-0500	Fax: 604-864-4938
320 Logan Road, Bridgewater, NS B4V 3J8	T: 902-298-0415	844-530-4003	Fax: 403-347-7049



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

MEETING DATE: May 14, 2024
SUBJECT: April 23, 2024 Regular Council Meeting
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Legislative Services

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

The Minutes of the April 23, 2024 Regular Council Meeting are being presented to Council for their review and approval.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

Council can adopt the Minutes as presented or amended.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

5. Governance & Organizational Excellence

RECOMMENDATION

To adopt the April 23, 2024 Regular Council Meeting Minutes as presented.



**Minutes of the Town of Didsbury Regular Council Meeting held on
April 23, 2024 in Council Chambers 1606 14 Street
Commencing at 6:00 p.m.**

Council Members Present Mayor Rhonda Hunter
Deputy Mayor Curt Engel
Councillor Joyce McCoy
Councillor Dorothy Moore
Councillor Ethan Williams
Councillor Bill Windsor

Council Member(s) Absent Councillor John Baswick

Administration Present ACAO/Chief Financial Officer, Amanda Riley
Director of Community Services, Nicole Aasen
Director of Engineering & Infrastructure, Craig Fox
Economic Development Officer, Alexandra Ross
Development Officer, Lee-Ann Gaudette
Planner, Tracey Connatty
Manager of Legislative Services/Recording Officer, Luana Smith
Municipal Intern, Jocelyn Baxter

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hunter called the April 23, 2024 Regular Council Meeting to Order at 6:00 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Remove: 12.1 Administrative Update and renumber the rest of the Closed Meeting Items

Move: 8.1 to 12.6 Special Purpose Committee with Confidential Evaluations

Rename: 12.1 2134 - 22nd Street to 2128 - 21st Avenue Offer to Purchase

Rename: 12.2 Rosebud Health Foundation Dr. Loan (Bylaw 2007-18)

Rename: 12.3 Mountain View Regional Water Services Commission – Agreement Update

Add: 12.4 Final Stretch Workshop Update

Res. 268-24

MOVED by Councillor Windsor

To adopt the April 23, 2024 Regular Council Meeting Agenda as amended.

Motion Carried

3. DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1 April 9, 2024 Regular Council Meeting

Res. 269-24

MOVED by Councillor Williams

To adopt the April 9, 2024 Regular Council Meeting Minutes as presented.

Motion Carried

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

5.1 Bylaw 2024-04 Creekside ASP Redesignation

Mayor Hunter called to Order the Public Hearing for Bylaw 2024-04 Creekside Area Structure Plan Redesignation at 6:05 p.m.

The Public Hearing is for Bylaw 2024-04 to update the Land Use Bylaw 2019-04 to reflect the redesignation of the property from UR: Urban Reserve to R1: Residential District– Single Detached, R2: Residential District – General, I1: Industrial District – General and REC: Recreation/Open Space District.

Mayor Hunter closed the Public Hearing for Bylaw 2024-04 Creekside Area Structure Plan Redesignation at 6:49 p.m. and resumed the Regular Council Meeting.

6. REPORTS

6.1 Council Reports for April 23, 2024

Res. 270-24

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Engel

To accept the Council Reports for April 23, 2024 as information.

Motion Carried

6.2 Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Report for April 23, 2024

Res. 271-24

MOVED by Councillor Moore

To accept the Chief Administrative Officer Report for April 23, 2024 as information.

Motion Carried

7. BYLAWS & POLICIES

7.1 Bylaw 2024-04 Creekside ASP Redesignation

Res. 272-24

MOVED by Councillor Moore

To grant second reading of Bylaw 2024-04 Creekside ASP Redesignation.

Motion Carried

Res. 273-24

MOVED by Councillor Moore

To grant third and final reading of Bylaw 2024-04 Creekside ASP Redesignation.

Motion Carried

7.2 2024 Tax Rate Bylaw 2024-05 Second Reading

Res. 274-24

MOVED by Councillor Moore

That Council grant second reading to Tax Rate Bylaw 2024-05, a bylaw to establish the rates of taxation for the 2024 Taxation Year and that it be referred to the Financial Planning Committee for review and recommendation.

Motion Carried

7.3 COUN 011-24 Hiring Policy

Res. 275-24

MOVED by Councillor Williams

To refer Hiring Policy COUN 011-24 to the Policy & Governance Committee for review and recommendation.

Motion Carried

7.4 Service Group Funding Policy COUN 012-24

Res. 276-24

MOVED by Councillor Moore

To refer Policy COUN 012-24 Service Group Funding to the Policy & Governance Committee for review and recommendation.

Motion Carried

8. BUSINESS

8.1 Special Purpose Committee

This item moved to Closed Meeting item 12.6 as per section 19 and 24 of the FOIP Act

8.2 Electronic Participation Process

Res. 277-24

MOVED by Councillor Williams

To refer Procedural Bylaw 2023-11 to the Policy and Governance Committee for review and recommendation to Council.

Motion Carried

8.3 Setting Date for Economic Development Workshop

Res. 278-24

MOVED by Councillor Windsor

To set May 27, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. for an Economic Development Workshop.

Motion Carried

8.4 Setting Municipal Development Plan Workshop Date

Res. 279-24

MOVED by Councillor McCoy

To set the Municipal Development Plan Workshop for Monday, June 24, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

Motion Carried

8.5 2024 Council Meeting Schedule Revision

Res. 280-24

MOVED by Councillor McCoy

To amend the 2024 Council Meeting Schedule to remove the August 13, 2024 Regular Council Meeting.

Motion Carried

8.6 Didsbury Curling Rink - Brine Line Repair

Res. 281-24

MOVED by Councillor McCoy

To approve Option 2 for the Curling Rink Brine Line repair project, valued at \$70,000 to be funded from the Didsbury Memorial Complex Reserve and that the 2024 Capital Budget be amended accordingly.

Motion Carried

8.7 Maple Leaf Programme - 2025 Miki Town Visit

Res. 282-24

MOVED by Councillor Windsor

To support the Miki Town Maple Leaf Exchange Programme taking place in March 2025, and approve \$5000 to be used towards this event with funds from the Economic Development Japanese Delegation budget.

Motion Carried

9. CORRESPONDENCE & INFORMATION

- Camrose County/Central Alberta Economic Partnership – Invitation to Event

Res. 283-24

MOVED by Councillor Moore

To accept the correspondence items presented as information.

Motion Carried

10. COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Maple Leaf Programme 2025 Miki Town Visit
- Bylaw 2024-04 Creekside Area Structure Plan Redesignation
- Curling Rink Brine Line Repair
- Setting date for Economic Development Workshop
- Amendment to the 2024 Council Meeting Schedule
- Tax Rate Bylaw 2nd Reading

11. QUESTION PERIOD

12. CLOSED MEETING

Res. 284-24

MOVED by Councillor Moore

To go into Closed Meeting at 8:17 p.m. for the following items:

12.1 2134 – 22 Street & 2128 - 21 Avenue Officer to Purchase Section 16 and 25 of the FOIP Act

12.2 Rosebud Health Foundation Dr. Loan (Bylaw 2007-18) Section 16 and 17 of the FOIP Act

12.3 Mountain View Regional Water Services Commission Agreement Update - Section 21 of the FOIP Act

12.4 Final Stretch Workshop Update –Section 23 and 24 of the FOIP Act

12.5 Corporate Review Update - as per Section 23 and 24 of the FOIP Act

12.6 Confidential Evaluations and Special Purpose Committee as per Section 19 and 24 of the FOIP Act

Motion Carried

13. RECONVENE

Res. 285-24

MOVED by Councillor Moore

To return to Open Meeting at 9:44 p.m.

Motion Carried

Res. 286-24

MOVED by Councillor McCoy

To reconvene the April 23, 2024 Regular Council Meeting on Tuesday, April 30, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. to address items 12.1 - Offer to Purchase 2134 – 22 Street and 2128 – 21 Avenue and 12.5 – Corporate Review Updates.

Motion Carried

Res. 287-24

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Engel

To accept the Rosebud Health Foundation Dr. Loan (Bylaw 2007-18) as information.

Motion Carried

Res. 288-24

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Engel

To refer Bylaw 2007-18 Dr. Loan to the Policy and Governance Committee for review recommendation to Council.

Motion Carried

Res. 289-24

MOVED by Councillor Williams

To accept the Mountain View Regional Water Services Commission Agreement Update as information.

Motion Carried

Res. 290-24

MOVED by Councillor Windsor

That Mayor Hunter discuss with the Chief Administrative Officer the list of participants in the Final Stretch Workshop, to include the director team members.

Motion Carried

Res. 291-24

MOVED by Councillor Williams

To establish an Ad Hoc Committee titled Special Purpose Committee consisting of Deputy Mayor Engel, Councillor Williams, and Councillor Windsor, and that this Committee be established as of April 9, 2024, to undertake the assignments delegated by Council on this date.

Motion Carried

Res. 292-24

MOVED by Councillor Windsor

To approve the Terms of Reference of the Special Purpose Committee as discussed in closed meeting.

Motion Carried

Res. 293-24

MOVED by Councillor Williams

To authorize the Special Purpose Committee to retain legal counsel to provide advice to the Special Purpose Committee.

Motion Carried

Res. 294-24

MOVED by Councillor Windsor

That the Special Purpose Committee have a budget of up to \$15,000 for legal fees to be funded from the Strategic Initiatives and Contingency Reserve and that should the legal fees exceed \$15,000, the Committee shall return to Council for further direction.

Motion Carried

Res. 295-24

MOVED by Councillor Williams

To approve the claim of any expenditure incurred by any member of the Special Purpose Committee doing committee business and that any claim exceeding \$300 shall require approval by motion of Council.

Motion Carried

14. ADJOURNMENT

Res. 296-24

MOVED by Councillor Moore

To adjourn the April 23, 2024 Regular Council Meeting at 9:51 p.m.

Motion Carried

Reconvening of April 23, 2024 Regular Council Meeting on April 30, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Council Members Present Mayor Rhonda Hunter
Deputy Mayor Curt Engel
Councillor John Baswick
Councillor Dorothy Moore
Councillor Ethan Williams
Councillor Bill Windsor

Council Member(s) Absent Councillor Joyce McCoy

Administration Present Director of Community Services, Nicole Aasen
Manager of Legislative Services/Recording Officer, Luana Smith

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hunter Reconvened the April 23, 2024 Regular Council Meeting on April 30, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

2. CLOSED MEETING

Res. 297-24

MOVED by Councillor Williams

To go into Closed Meeting at 6:00 p.m. for the following items:

12.1 2134 -22 Street & 2128 - 21 Avenue Offer to Purchase as per Section 16 and 25 of the FOIP Act

12.5 Corporate Review Update as per Section 23 and 24 of the FOIP Act

Motion Carried

3. RECONVENE

Res. 298-24

MOVED by Councillor Williams

To return to Open Meeting at 6:49 p.m.

Motion Carried

Res. 299-24

MOVED by Councillor Williams

That Administration bring back the information regarding 2134 -22 Street & 2128 - 21 Avenue Offer to Purchase as discussed.

Motion Carried

Res. 300-24

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Engel

To postpone the Corporate Review Update discussion until the work of the Special Purpose Committee and the final stretch refresher workshop are completed.

Motion Carried

14. ADJOURNMENT

Res. 301-24

MOVED by Councillor Moore

To adjourn the April 23, 2024 Reconvened Regular Council Meeting on April 30, 2024 at 6:52 p.m.

Motion Carried

Mayor - Rhonda Hunter

Chief Administrative Officer- Ethan Gorner



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

MEETING DATE: May 14, 2024
 SUBJECT: Council Reports
 ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Legislative Services

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

Council Members will each provide a verbal and/or written report on any business or committee activity in which they have participated.

COUNCIL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & EVENT ATTENDANCE FOR MAY

Mayor Hunter: 2024 Didsbury High School Graduation May 24 & 25

COUNCIL REPORTS (Attachments):

Councillor McCoy: Economic Developers of Alberta Conference April 10 to 12, 2024

First Quarter Council Professional Development :

	Budget	Spent	AB Muni	TOTAL	Remaining
Mayor Hunter	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 1,099.00	\$ 810.64	\$ 1,909.64	\$4,590.36
Deputy Mayor Engel	\$ 4,500.00			\$ -	\$4,500.00
Councillor Baswick	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 1,099.00	\$ 1,214.80	\$ 2,313.80	\$2,186.20
Councillor McCoy	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 696.50	\$ 1,193.56	\$ 1,890.06	\$2,609.94
Councillor Moore	\$ 4,500.00		\$ 1,185.30	\$ 1,185.30	\$3,314.70
Councillor Williams	\$ 4,500.00			\$ -	\$4,500.00
Councillor Windsor	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 1,099.00		\$ 1,099.00	\$3,401.00

First Quarter Council Remuneration:

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	TOTAL
Mayor Hunter	\$ 3,317.60	\$ 3,340.99	\$ 4,691.82	\$ 11,350.41
Deputy Mayor Engel	\$ 1,807.07	\$ 1,763.85	\$ 2,228.60	\$ 5,799.52
Councillor Baswick	\$ 1,543.87	\$ 1,628.29	\$ 3,029.78	\$ 6,201.94
Councillor McCoy	\$ 1,722.47	\$ 1,918.77	\$ 4,573.00	\$ 8,214.24
Councillor Moore	\$ 1,581.47	\$ 1,976.86	\$ 3,139.34	\$ 6,697.67
Councillor Williams	\$ 1,769.47	\$ 1,589.56	\$ 2,247.97	\$ 5,607.00
Councillor Windsor	\$ 1,944.14	\$ 2,213.22	\$ 2,519.08	\$ 6,676.44
				\$ 50,547.22

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

5. Governance & Organizational Excellence

RECOMMENDATION

To accept the Council Reports for May 14, 2024 as information.

EDA Conference

I love the work that EDA does. It was their 50th anniversary. The ideas that you learn here are so great.

Last year I attended on my own dime...and would happily do it again. The staff and board are incredible. Last year, I was the first person to pay my membership to EDA. I received a reward for my work...my membership for EDA for 2024 was free.

My favourite part was Sundre, MVC and Didsbury winning another award for the Mountain View Regional Film office. I am so proud of the two Economic Developers, one from Sundre, Jon Allan and one from Didsbury, Alexandra Ross, as well as Christopher Atchison from MVC. They pulled all this together. Amazing job! Sundre has become known for Indie films, a great result of this collaboration.

Didsbury continues to shine with the recent return of Wynona Earp. They had finished their series, or so they thought when a large group of online people from New York and other communities in the USA became vocal. They wanted another film. They spoke so loud, they influenced the film company and they did a new Wynona Earp! Later this year an unexpected group of "Earpers" will be spending a day in Didsbury to see where the films were made. They want to see many places from the film including "Shorties Saloon" aka "Ulla La". Our EDO, Alexa has done an amazing job growing this business for Didsbury. Way to go girl.



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

MEETING DATE: May 14, 2024
SUBJECT: CAO Report
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Legislative Services

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

Please see attached information for the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Report for May 14, 2024.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

During the CAO Report, Council will have the opportunity to ask questions to the CAO and to make motions for information they would like Administration to bring back to a future Council meeting.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

5. Governance & Organizational Excellence

RECOMMENDATION

To accept the Chief Administrative Officer Report for May 14, 2024 as information.



CAO Report –May 14, 2024

1. Development Permits Issued (Planning & Development)

Please find attached the Development Officer Issued Permits and the MPC Approval of Permits as of May 8, 2024.

2. Municipal Development Plan Updated (Planning & Development)

The in-person workshop for Council to review the MDP has been set for June 24, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. Administration and Urban Systems are finalizing the draft that will be presented at the workshop. After the workshop, any amendments that are needed will be completed and then public open houses will be scheduled over the summer. Upon completion of the public consultation, the final draft will be prepared for consideration of adoption. It is targeted for public hearing for adoption in the fall of this year.

3. 2024 Community Clean-up (Corporate Services)

Community Cleanup week, running June 3 – June 8, 2024, offers residents affordable solutions for disposing unwanted household items and appliances to kick-start spring cleaning.

From **June 3 – June 8, 2024**, residents can use their pre-purchased landfill tickets to dispose of their items at the landfill for a flat rate of \$10/ticket.

Appliance Day on Tuesday, June 4, 2024 residents can use their pre-purchased appliance day tickets to set appliances curbside for the Town to collect and haul to the landfill for \$10/appliance. Seniors and persons with disabilities can access this service for free, but must register (sponsored by FCSS).

Curbside Pickup Day on Wednesday, June 5, 2024 enables seniors and persons with disabilities to set their unwanted household items curbside for the Town to collect and haul to the landfill for free (sponsored by FCSS).

All participants must register online at <https://didsbury.ca/p/community-garage-sale-and-community-clean-up> or in person at the Town Office. The deadline to apply is Wednesday, May 29, 2024.

4. Economic Developers of Alberta – Xperience Conference (DEDAC Members)

Please find attached a report from Brooke Mierke and Dawn Stewart who attended the Economic Developers of Alberta Xperience Conference April 10 to 12, 2024 in Kananaskis, AB.

CAO Report: Planning & Development

The Town of Didsbury has authorized the conditional issuance of the following permits

Development Officer (Permitted Use) Decisions:

PERMIT #	ADDRESS	TYPE	APPLICANT/OWNER	DECISION DATE
DP 24-015	2409 – 16 Street	Signage (Fascia) Vip’s Café & Bakery	Bandara, Mahendra Vipala (a) 2276769 Alberta Ltd. (o)	April 11, 2024
DP 24-016	1413 – 22 Avenue	Accessory Building, Garage	Mathers, George Alton (a/o)	April 29, 2024
DP 24-017	2102 – 23 Avenue	Front Yard Deck & Stairs	Zoschke, Georgia (a/o)	May 1, 2024
DP 24-018	1514 – 22 Avenue	Canvas Shelter Greenhouse	Meier, Ardell Patrick (a/o)	May 1, 2024
DP 24-019	2105 – 16 Avenue	Addition & Deck w/ Stairs	Seven Day Permits (a) Anderson, Wes & Bobbi (o)	May 1, 2024
DP 24-020	#52, 1190 – 15 Avenue	Dwelling, Manufactured	Ross, Lori (a) 1113816 Alberta Ltd. (o)	May 6, 2024

Economic Developers of Alberta – Xperience Conference 50ties Anniversary

April 10 -12, 2024 at the Kananaskis Mountain Lodge

DEDAC Members Experience Report

Brooke Mierke

This year I had the extreme pleasure of attending the economic development conference in the beautiful Kananaskis country. I have attended this in a previous year and I am still amazed at how well this conference is coordinated. The conference does not only provide a lot of information, but the amount of networking and the amount of people one meets is truly inspiring.

I was asked to attend the conference last minute as a fill-in. Therefore, I was not able to attend any sessions on the Wednesday, but I managed to arrive in time for the awards dinner.

I find it incredible that so many communities are capable of doing such amazing things. I would also like to congratulate Alexandra and Jon for winning an award for the Mountain View Regional Film Office.

I attended the sessions on Thursday, one of them was about AI and how the application of AI works for your business. I found this session particularly interesting, because being a small business owner in Didsbury I have struggled with finding people to employ. My favourite session was the session that included Alexa about the Mountain View Regional Film Office. There were so many things that I had not taken into consideration when filming happens in these small towns. Of course, the obvious such as road closures, alerting businesses, alerting the public, but so many other things that I had not considered. I think it is incredible that our town has hosted so many great movies and shows. The amount of our work that the Town's administration, council and mayor put into making this happen is incredible.

I particularly liked the format of the conference this year. I felt that each session included more panel discussion, which I really appreciated. It is nice to engage with some of the speakers rather than just listening to what they have say and taking notes.

The conference ended Friday around noon, Friday morning sessions were very informative as well, with great speakers, including the Economist from ATB, plus we had the pleasure of an indigenous singer that closed out the conference.

It amazes me and I can't believe all that economic development encompasses from trade to agriculture to agri-food, topic such as business retention, and expansion, and how to make your community thrive and grow.

It is always interesting to hear what other communities are doing and to bounce ideas off one another. Thank you so much for giving me this opportunity again. Brooke

Dawn Stewart

EDA Xperience 2024 (April 10-12th) I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the opportunity to attend this worthwhile conference. Primarily I expected to obtain a deeper understanding of Economic Development and potential opportunities and programs that could adapt to Didsbury. What I ended up obtaining was so much more. I walked away with a better awareness of actual, projected and trends within the province and potential applications and implications. Additionally, I saw where some of the gaps for our region are. For example, I took in a talk about Talent and Jobs – Keys to Alberta’s Future. I found the research, data and subsequent programs were largely skewed to higher population centers like Calgary and Edmonton, with very little practical use for smaller ones such as ours. Other panels, such as the ones for Funding Economic Development, spoke of projects from all scales, from small town single project initiatives to large scale diverse projects in a population zone comparable to Toronto, but the concepts were universally applicable. The most eye opening and frankly, quite intimidating talk, was Leveraging Technology to Significantly Enhance Economic Development. The panel was very informative about the usefulness of AI already but also pointed out security lagging behind implementation of AI. At the rate it is growing and ‘learning’, it will be interesting to see where AI goes in just the next few years. It was rewarding to be able to see our local, award-winning experts panel. All were well spoken, concise and informative. Definitely leaders among leaders and a highlight of the conference for me. The overall caliber of presenters and attendees was top notch, and very friendly so networking was easy, even if it doesn’t come naturally to you. The venue, food, opening and closing ceremonies and sessions were all excellent. The app used for the conference made networking quick and easy, in addition to asking questions of presenters and taking notes. Some of the boardrooms were spread out so it was a bit challenging for a first timer. Once a map was uploaded to the app, it made navigation to the various rooms much easier. Advice I would give to future attendees is as follows: there is very little downtime so spend time becoming familiar with the app in plenty of time prior, i.e. bookmark topics of interest and map that out; also bookmark people as you meet them; read through the Q&A after the talks to see what you missed; make notes often, it gets hard to keep things straight but knowing the livestreams will be available within a couple of weeks after certainly helps. Oh, and, don’t eat for a week before you go. They seem to feed you constantly and it is all delicious. Best Regards, Dawn Stewart



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

*Vision: The Place to Grow.
Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.*

MEETING DATE: May 14, 2024
 SUBJECT: 2024 Tax Rate Bylaw 2024-05
 ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Corporate Services

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

Section 353(1) of the *Municipal Government Act* states that, “council must pass a property tax bylaw annually.” The property tax bylaw authorizes Council to impose a tax in respect of property in the Town of Didsbury to raise revenue to be used toward payment of expenditures and transfers set out in Didsbury’s approved budget and requisitions from Alberta Education, Mountain View Seniors’ Housing, and Designated Industrial Property.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

The Financial Planning Committee reviewed the bylaw after second reading to address any changes in assessment which occurred. There were minor, insignificant changes to the linear and vacant residential assessment classes; however, the committee continues to recommend that the split be 85.15% residential and 14.85% non-residential, which is a slight increase to non-residential compared to the prior year which was split 85.6% residential and 14.4% non-residential. The following chart shows the impact of the proposed tax split/rate on sample properties in the Town:

Tax Split: 85.15% Residential; 14.85% Non-Residential										
Tax Rate: Residential: 7.156; Non-Residential: 8.811										
		ASSESSMENT				MUNICIPAL TAXES				
		2023	2024	\$ Increase	% Increase	2023	2024	\$ Increase per year	\$ Increase per month	% Increase
RESIDENTIAL	House 1	173,870	180,170	6,300	3.6%	\$ 1,293	\$ 1,289	\$ (4)	\$ (0)	-0.3%
	House 2	248,190	261,790	13,600	5.5%	\$ 1,846	\$ 1,873	\$ 28	\$ 2	1.5%
	House 3	281,870	297,170	15,300	5.4%	\$ 2,096	\$ 2,127	\$ 30	\$ 3	1.5%
	House 4	293,650	304,550	10,900	3.7%	\$ 2,184	\$ 2,180	\$ (4)	\$ (0)	-0.2%
	House 5	397,780	418,380	20,600	5.2%	\$ 2,958	\$ 2,994	\$ 36	\$ 3	1.2%
	House 6	390,640	410,940	20,300	5.2%	\$ 2,905	\$ 2,941	\$ 36	\$ 3	1.2%
	House 7	509,540	530,840	21,300	4.2%	\$ 3,790	\$ 3,799	\$ 9	\$ 1	0.2%
	House 8	725,790	768,890	43,100	5.9%	\$ 5,398	\$ 5,503	\$ 105	\$ 9	1.9%
NON-RESIDENTIAL	Property 1	125,570	127,790	2,220	1.8%	\$ 1,096	\$ 1,126	\$ 30	\$ 2	2.7%
	Property 2	373,280	374,260	980	0.3%	\$ 3,259	\$ 3,298	\$ 39	\$ 3	1.2%
	Property 3	387,230	390,740	3,510	0.9%	\$ 3,380	\$ 3,443	\$ 63	\$ 5	1.9%
	Property 4	550,240	554,510	4,270	0.8%	\$ 4,803	\$ 4,886	\$ 83	\$ 7	1.7%
	Property 5	667,710	668,520	810	0.1%	\$ 5,829	\$ 5,891	\$ 62	\$ 5	1.1%
	Property 6	830,890	826,340	(4,550)	-0.5%	\$ 7,253	\$ 7,281	\$ 28	\$ 2	0.4%
	Property 7	1,272,675	1,281,880	9,205	0.7%	\$ 11,110	\$ 11,295	\$ 185	\$ 15	1.7%
	Property 8	2,607,150	2,622,020	14,870	0.6%	\$ 22,760	\$ 23,104	\$ 344	\$ 29	1.5%

The resulting tax rates are 7.156 for residential and farm land, and 8.811 for non-residential properties. In 2023, the rates were 7.437 for residential and 8.730 for non-residential.



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

Both a clean and marked up version of the bylaw are attached for Council's review, with the following changes:

- The clause listing the values of each assessment class and total assessment was changed to reflect only taxable assessment after a recommendation from a representative at Municipal Affairs.
- Linear and Residential – vacant values were updated to agree to the revised assessment. Tax rates were altered slightly due to these changes in assessment values.
- DIP requisition was reduced from \$705 to \$703 due to the change in value of linear assessment.

The committee is recommending third and final reading of the tax rate bylaw.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

5. Governance & Organizational Excellence

RECOMMENDATION

To grant third and final reading to Tax Rate Bylaw 2024-05, a bylaw to establish the rates of taxation for the 2024 Taxation Year.

**TOWN OF DIDSBURY
BYLAW NO. 2024-05
2024 TAX RATE BYLAW**

A BYLAW OF THE TOWN OF DIDSBURY TO AUTHORIZE THE RATES OF TAXATION TO BE LEVIED AGAINST ASSESSABLE PROPERTY WITHIN THE TOWN OF DIDSBURY FOR THE 2024 TAXATION YEAR.

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 353 of the *Municipal Government Act*, R.S.A. 2000, c.M-26 (the “MGA”) Council must pass a property tax bylaw annually authorizing Council to impose a tax in respect of property in the municipality to raise revenue to be used toward the payment of the expenditures and transfers as set out in the budget of the municipality, and the requisitions;

AND WHEREAS, section 297 of the MGA allows Council to divide the residential and non-residential assessment classes into sub-classes;

AND WHEREAS, section 369 of the MGA provides that Council must pass a supplementary property tax bylaw to authorize the levying of supplementary property tax in respect for which supplementary assessments have been made;

AND WHEREAS, pursuant to section 369.1 of the MGA Council has passed the Supplementary Assessments Bylaw, a continuous bylaw for supplementary assessment and taxation;

AND WHEREAS, pursuant to section 357(1) of the MGA the tax rate bylaw may specify a minimum amount payable as property tax;

AND WHEREAS, the assessed value of all taxable property in the Town of Didsbury, ~~including exempt assessment~~, as shown on the assessment roll is:

Residential	\$	610,757,140	
Farm land	\$	6,809,390	
Vacant Residential	\$	5,887,080	<u>5,624,580</u>
Non-Residential	\$	86,179,200	<u>271,581,700</u>
Vacant Non-Residential	\$	1,943,690	
Machinery and Equipment	\$	183,600	
Total Assessment	\$	711,760,100	<u>896,900,100</u>

AND WHEREAS, the Town of Didsbury has prepared and adopted detailed estimates of the municipal revenue and expenditures as required, at the Council meeting held on March 26, 2024;

WHEREAS, the estimated municipal expenditures and transfers set out in the 2024 budget for the Town of Didsbury total \$13,159,126;

WHEREAS, the estimated municipal revenues from all sources other than taxation is estimated at \$7,919,264 and the balance of \$5,239,862 is to be raised by general municipal taxation;

AND WHEREAS, the requisitions pursuant to section 359(1) are:

Education	\$	1,828,694	
Mountain View Seniors Housing	\$	266,373	
Designated Industrial Property	\$	703,705	

NOW THEREFORE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF DIDSBURY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

PART 1 – TITLE, PURPOSE AND DEFINITIONS

1. Title

This bylaw may be referred to as the “2024 Tax Rate Bylaw”.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this bylaw is to authorize the levying of a tax upon all taxable property shown on the assessment roll and a supplementary property tax in respect for which supplementary assessment roll has been prepared.

3. Definitions

3.1 In this bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires, definitions in the Act shall apply.

Vacant Non-Residential means a sub-class of property classified as Class 2 – non-residential, as set out in Section 297 of the MGA, that contains vacant non-residential land held for the development of non-residential property.

Vacant Residential means a sub-class of property classified as Class 1 – residential, as set out in Section 297 of the MGA, that contains vacant residential land held for the development of residential property.

PART II - ASSESSMENT CLASSES AND TAX RATES

4. Assessment Classes and Sub-Classes

4.1 For the purpose of the 2024 tax levy and supplementary tax levy, all assessed property within the Town of Didsbury is hereby divided into one of the following assessment classes and subclasses:

a. Residential

i. Vacant Residential

b. Non-Residential

i. Vacant Non-Residential

~~b-c.~~ Farm land

~~e-d.~~ Machinery and Equipment

5. Allowance for non-collection of Taxes

Pursuant to Section 359(2) of the MGA, for the 2024~~3~~ tax levy and supplementary tax levy there may be an allowance for the non-collection of taxes at a rate not exceeding the actual rate of taxes uncollected from the previous year’s tax levy as determined at the end of the year.

6. Levy of Tax Rates

The Chief Administrative Officer is hereby authorized to levy the tax rates set out in Schedule “A” on the assessed value of all taxable property shown on the current assessment roll and supplementary assessment roll and classified according to this bylaw.

PART IV – GENERAL

7. Minimum Tax

7.1 That the minimum amount payable per tax roll as property tax for general municipal purposes shall be \$~~8075~~.00.

8. Effective Date

9.1 This bylaw comes into force on the day it is passed.

Read a first time on the 9th day of April 2024.

Read a second time on this 23rd day of April, 2024

Read a third and final time on this ___ day of May, 2024

Mayor – Rhonda Hunter

Chief Administrative Officer – Ethan Gorner

BYLAW 2024-05
SCHEDULE "A"
TAX RATES

2024 MUNICIPAL TAX RATES

Assessment Class	Tax Levy	Taxable Assessment	Tax Rate
Residential	\$ 4,370,880 2,722	\$ 610,757,140	0.00715 649 951
Farmland	\$ 48,731 52	\$ 6,809,390	0.00715 649 951
Vacant Residential	\$ 42,131 0,269	\$ 5,887,080 624,580	0.00715 649 951
Non-Residential	\$ 759,375 9	\$ 86,179,200 99,000	0.0088 1158 0960
Vacant Non-Residential	\$ 17,127 3	\$ 1,943,690	0.0088 1158 0960
Machinery & Equipment	\$ 1,618 7	\$ 183,600	0.0088 1158 0960
TOTAL TAX LEVY	\$ 5,239,862	\$ 711,760,100 517,400	

2024 EDUCATION TAX RATES

(Requisitions by Alberta School Foundation and Red Deer Catholic Region)

Assessment Class	Tax Levy	Taxable Assessment	Tax Rate
Residential/Farmland	\$ 1,521,059	\$ 623,453,610 191,110	0.0024 3973 4076
Non-Residential	\$ 306,533	\$ 86,677,010 96,810	0.00353 651 570
TOTAL TAX LEVY	\$ 1,827,592	\$ 710,130,620 09,887,920	
Includes an Over Levy	\$ 1,102		

2024 MANAGEMENT BODIES TAX RATES

(Requisitions by Mountain View Seniors' Housing)

Assessment Class	Tax Levy	Taxable Assessment	Tax Rate
Residential/Farmland	\$ 233,600 581	\$ 623,453,610 191,110	0.000374 69 81
Non-Residential	\$ 32,545 64	\$ 86,860,610 880,410	0.000374 69 81
TOTAL TAX LEVY	\$ 266,145	\$ 710,314,220 071,520	
Includes an Over Levy	\$ 228		

2024 DESIGNATED INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY REQUISITION TAX RATE

(Property assessment and tax rate are set by the Provincial Assessor)

Assessment Class	Tax Levy	Taxable Assessment	Tax Rate
Non-Residential	\$ 7035	\$ 9,189,620 209,420	0.0000765
TOTAL TAX LEVY	\$ 7035	\$ 9,189,620 209,420	

**TOWN OF DIDSBURY
BYLAW NO. 2024-05
2024 TAX RATE BYLAW**

A BYLAW OF THE TOWN OF DIDSBURY TO AUTHORIZE THE RATES OF TAXATION TO BE LEVIED AGAINST ASSESSABLE PROPERTY WITHIN THE TOWN OF DIDSBURY FOR THE 2024 TAXATION YEAR.

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AND WHEREAS, section 297 of the MGA allows Council to divide the residential and non-residential assessment classes into sub-classes;

AND WHEREAS, section 369 of the MGA provides that Council must pass a supplementary property tax bylaw to authorize the levying of supplementary property tax in respect for which supplementary assessments have been made;

AND WHEREAS, pursuant to section 369.1 of the MGA Council has passed the Supplementary Assessments Bylaw, a continuous bylaw for supplementary assessment and taxation;

AND WHEREAS, pursuant to section 357(1) of the MGA the tax rate bylaw may specify a minimum amount payable as property tax;

AND WHEREAS, the assessed value of all taxable property in the Town of Didsbury as shown on the assessment roll is:

Residential	\$ 610,757,140
Farm land	\$ 6,809,390
Vacant Residential	\$ 5,887,080
Non-Residential	\$ 86,179,200
Vacant Non-Residential	\$ 1,943,690
<u>Machinery and Equipment</u>	<u>\$ 183,600</u>
Total Assessment	\$ 711,760,100

AND WHEREAS, the Town of Didsbury has prepared and adopted detailed estimates of the municipal revenue and expenditures as required, at the Council meeting held on March 26, 2024;

WHEREAS, the estimated municipal expenditures and transfers set out in the 2024 budget for the Town of Didsbury total \$13,159,126;

WHEREAS, the estimated municipal revenues from all sources other than taxation is estimated at \$7,919,264 and the balance of \$5,239,862 is to be raised by general municipal taxation;

AND WHEREAS, the requisitions pursuant to section 359(1) are:

Education	\$ 1,828,694
Mountain View Seniors Housing	\$ 266,373
Designated Industrial Property	\$ 703

NOW THEREFORE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF DIDSBURY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

PART 1 – TITLE, PURPOSE AND DEFINITIONS

1. Title

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2. Purpose

The purpose of this bylaw is to authorize the levying of a tax upon all taxable property shown on the assessment roll and a supplementary property tax in respect for which supplementary assessment roll has been prepared.

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PART II - ASSESSMENT CLASSES AND TAX RATES

4. Assessment Classes and Sub-Classes

4.1 For the purpose of the 2024 tax levy and supplementary tax levy, all assessed property within the Town of Didsbury is hereby divided into one of the following assessment classes and subclasses:

- a. Residential
 - i. Vacant Residential
- b. Non-Residential
 - i. Vacant Non-Residential
- c. Farm land
- d. Machinery and Equipment

5. Allowance for non-collection of Taxes

Pursuant to Section 359(2) of the MGA, for the 2024 tax levy and supplementary tax levy there may be an allowance for the non-collection of taxes at a rate not exceeding the actual rate of taxes uncollected from the previous year’s tax levy as determined at the end of the year.

6. Levy of Tax Rates

The Chief Administrative Officer is hereby authorized to levy the tax rates set out in Schedule “A” on the assessed value of all taxable property shown on the current assessment roll and supplementary assessment roll and classified according to this bylaw.

PART IV – GENERAL

7. Minimum Tax

7.1 That the minimum amount payable per tax roll as property tax for general municipal purposes shall be \$80.00.

8. Effective Date

9.1 This bylaw comes into force on the day it is passed.

Read a first time on the 9th day of April 2024.

Read a second time on this 23rd day of April, 2024

Read a third and final time on this ____ day of May, 2024

Mayor – Rhonda Hunter

Chief Administrative Officer – Ethan Gorner

BYLAW 2024-05
SCHEDULE "A"
TAX RATES

2024 MUNICIPAL TAX RATES

Assessment Class	Tax Levy	Taxable Assessment	Tax Rate
Residential	\$ 4,370,880	\$ 610,757,140	0.00715649
Farmland	\$ 48,731	\$ 6,809,390	0.00715649
Vacant Residential	\$ 42,131	\$ 5,887,080	0.00715649
Non-Residential	\$ 759,375	\$ 86,179,200	0.00881158
Vacant Non-Residential	\$ 17,127	\$ 1,943,690	0.00881158
Machinery & Equipment	\$ 1,618	\$ 183,600	0.00881158
TOTAL TAX LEVY	\$ 5,239,862	\$ 711,760,100	

2024 EDUCATION TAX RATES

(Requisitions by Alberta School Foundation and Red Deer Catholic Region)

Assessment Class	Tax Levy	Taxable Assessment	Tax Rate
Residential/Farmland	\$ 1,521,059	\$ 623,453,610	0.00243973
Non-Residential	\$ 306,533	\$ 86,677,010	0.00353651
TOTAL TAX LEVY	\$ 1,827,592	\$ 710,130,620	
Includes an Over Levy	\$ 1,102		

2024 MANAGEMENT BODIES TAX RATES

(Requisitions by Mountain View Seniors' Housing)

Assessment Class	Tax Levy	Taxable Assessment	Tax Rate
Residential/Farmland	\$ 233,600	\$ 623,453,610	0.00037469
Non-Residential	\$ 32,545	\$ 86,860,610	0.00037469
TOTAL TAX LEVY	\$ 266,145	\$ 710,314,220	
Includes an Over Levy	\$ 228		

2024 DESIGNATED INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY REQUISITION TAX RATE

(Property assessment and tax rate are set by the Provincial Assessor)

Assessment Class	Tax Levy	Taxable Assessment	Tax Rate
Non-Residential	\$ 703	\$ 9,189,620	0.0000765
TOTAL TAX LEVY	\$ 703	\$ 9,189,620	



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

MEETING DATE: May 14, 2024
SUBJECT: Budget at a Glance
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Corporate Services

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

The Budget at a Glance informational document was referred to the Financial Planning Committee (FPC) for the purpose of ensuring the content of the document aligns with Council's vision for communicating key parts of the 2024 budget and resulting tax impact.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

The document outlines key capital projects, operating projects, and payments to community organizations. It also explains the tax impact on an average household for 2024 compared to 2023.

The document will be printed and included with every 2024 tax notice. It will also be available on the Town's website.

As the document is still in its draft format and not yet published, it will be provided to Council as a separate attachment.

The FPC has recommended that the Budget at a Glance document be approved.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

5. Governance & Organizational Excellence

RECOMMENDATION

To approve the 2024 Budget at a Glance document as presented.



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

MEETING DATE: May 14, 2024
SUBJECT: 2025-2029 Multi-Year Capital Plan
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Corporate Services

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

Under the Municipal Government Act (MGA), it is mandatory to develop a Multi-Year Capital Plan (MYCP) outlining the Town's anticipated capital additions for a period of five years following the current year. The MYCP must include a brief description of the project, the anticipated year of the project, and the project funding sources. It is not required that the Plan balances; this offers valuable insight into financial deficits and serves as a guide for the annual budgeting process. Council is required under the legislation to review the MYCP annually.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

Since the budget meeting, the following updates have been made to the Multi-Year Capital Plan:

- 2024 Capital Budget non-approved items pushed to 2025:
 - Bobcat Attachment – Alley & Greenspace Conditioner
 - End Dump Trailer
- Pedestrian Connectivity Master Plan top action items added
- Memorial Complex LED lighting upgrades added to 2025
- Complex Main Lobby Washroom upgrades pushed from 2025 to 2026
- Radiant Heater upgrades pushed from 2025 to 2028
- Aquatics HVAC Replacement pushed from 2026 to 2029

Once approved, the Plan continues to work as a planning tool and starting point for the upcoming annual budgeting process. The projects on the Plan will only go ahead if and when approved as part of an annual capital budget.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

1. Strategically Managed Infrastructure

RECOMMENDATION

To approve the 2025-2029 Multi-Year Capital Plan as presented.

Planned Capital Additions	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Protective Services - Machinery & Equipment					
Thermal Imaging Camera	18,000	-	18,000	-	18,000
E-draulic Rescue Tools	-	-	-	18,000	-
Public Works & Utilities - Machinery & Equipment					
Bobcat Attachment - Alley & Greenspace Conditioner	15,000	-	-	-	-
End Dump Trailer (Load, haul & dump material & tracked Bobcat transport)	22,000	-	-	-	-
Street Sweeper Replacement	400,000	-	-	-	-
Bobcat Attachment - 600mm Asphalt Planer (Milling Machine)	28,000	-	-	-	-
Backhoe Replacement	-	130,000	-	-	-
Grader (End of Lease & Buy-out Option)	-	180,000	-	-	-
Sanitary Sewer Flusher Replacement	-	-	150,000	-	-
Engineering and Infrastructure					
18th Avenue Mill and Overlay					
20th Street to 23rd Street	250,000	-	-	-	-
15th Avenue Mill and Overlay					
24th Street - Westpoint Drive	-	175,000	-	-	-
Westpoint Drive - Westridge Drive (Includes 220m sidewalk replacement on north side)	-	-	275,000	-	-
7th Avenue West Mill & Overlay					
Phase 1 - 850 m	300,000	-	-	-	-
Phase 2 - 850 m	-	300,000	-	-	-
Highway 582 - 20th Street Intersection Improvement					
Phase 1 - Design	200,000	-	-	-	-
Phase 2 - Construction	-	800,000	-	-	-
Highway 582 - 19th Street Intersection Improvement					
Phase 1 - Design	-	-	-	-	250,000
21st Avenue Extension (20th Street to 21st Street & 21st Street - 21st Ave to 20th Ave) Water, Wastewater and Surface Works					
Phase 1-Design & Tender Package	200,000	-	-	-	-
Phase 2-Construction	-	1,500,000	-	-	-
16th Street Connector (21st Avenue to 15th Avenue) Water, Wastewater and Surface Works					
Phase 1- Design & Tender Package	-	-	450,000	-	-
Phase 2- Construction (21st Avenue to 19th Avenue)	-	-	-	1,500,000	-
Phase 3- Construction (19th Avenue to 15th Avenue)	-	-	-	-	1,500,000
20 Avenue (20 St - 23 St) Surface works and Beautification					
Phase 1 Design/Tender	-	-	-	-	225,000
Southridge Crescent Deep Utility and Surface Works					
Phase 1 Design	-	70,000	-	-	-
Phase 1 Construction	-	-	930,000	-	-
Butte Water Tower					
Reservoir Lining & Operational Integration Improvements	-	-	750,000	-	-
Morris Meadows Lift Station Improvements					
Phase 1 Design	-	-	-	-	40,000
Westhill Drive & 23rd Street Stormwater Pipe Replacement	180,000	-	-	-	-

Streetlight Improvement Program					
20th Street 17th Ave to 18th Ave					
Phase 2 Construction	80,000	-	-	-	-
19th Ave 20th Street to 21st Street					
Phase 1 Design	15,000	-	-	-	-
Phase 2 Construction	-	120,000	-	-	-
20th Street 20th Ave to 22nd Ave					
Phase 1 Design	-	15,000	-	-	-
Phase 2 Construction	-	-	120,000	-	-
South East Stormwater management					
20th Avenue 18th Street to 20th Street (Coordinated with 20 Avenue (20 St - 23 St) Surface works and Beautification)					
Phase 1 Design	-	-	-	-	8,000
Traffic Signals					
20th Avenue At 19th Street & 20th Street - Overhead Traffic Signals					
Phase 1 Traffic Impact Assessment	-	-	7,500	-	-
Phase 2 Design	-	-	-	-	20,000
Electronic Speed Sign	50,000	-	-	-	-
Information Technology					
Website renewal	-	40,000	-	-	-
VMware Virtual Host Server	-	-	-	-	18,000
Recreation & Parks - Buildings & Land Improvements					
Playground Replacement Program	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	-
Refinish pool basin	100,000	-	-	-	-
Main lobby washroom upgrades	-	40,000	-	-	-
Radiant heater upgrades	-	-	-	60,000	-
Curling Rink Brine Line Replacement					
HVAC replacement [Aquatics]	-	-	-	-	400,000
Soccer Pitch Upgrades [Westheights Park]	-	25,000	-	-	-
Waterslide Tower	-	250,000	-	-	-
Curling lower lobby floor replacement	-	-	50,000	-	-
Ice Plant Cooling Tower	-	-	350,000	-	-
Recoat Curling Rink Roof	-	-	160,000	-	-
Recoat Arena Roof	-	-	-	250,000	-
Kitchen Upgrades	-	-	-	100,000	-
Memorial Complex LED Lighting Upgrade	30,000	-	-	-	-
Digital Town Entrance Sign	50,000	-	-	-	-
Recreation & Parks - Machinery & Equipment					
Mower Replacements	-	80,000	-	35,000	-
Floor Cleaning Machine	-	-	-	12,000	-
Didsbury Memorial Complex Jet's Park Plan					
Multi-Court System (Tennis, Pickleball, Basketball, Volleyball)	260,000	-	-	-	-
Complex Parking Lot Drainage & Surface					
Design	35,000	-	-	-	-
Construction	-	400,000	-	-	-

Additional parking (north side)	-	80,000	-	-	-
4 Season Washroom/Picnic Shelter	-	150,000	-	-	-
Asset Management					
Fleet Vehicle Replacement Plan					
Public Works	79,568	-	84,413	86,946	-
Parks	-	163,909	-	-	-
Municipal Enforcement	79,568	-	-	-	89,554
Pedestrian Continuity Network Improvement Program					
Valarosa Link - Pathway					
Phase 2 - Construction	175,000	-	-	-	-
17 St Memorial Complex Connector [20th Ave - 21 Ave]	30,000	-	-	-	-
Signalized Pedestrian Crosswalk [20 Ave & 14 St]	40,000	-	-	-	-
15 Ave Multi-use pathway [23 St - CPR corridor] & Pedestrian Crossing at 20 St	-	215,000	-	-	-
23 St Pedestrian Connections [Hwy 582 - 7 Ave]	-	-	350,000	-	-
12 Ave Sidewalk [23 St & CPR Corridor]	-	-	-	410,000	-
Deer Coulee Sidewalk gap	-	-	-	-	70,000
Pedestrian Connectivity Annual Renewal	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Asset Management Software	150,000	-	-	-	-
Total Planned Capital Additions	3,052,135	4,998,909	3,959,913	2,736,946	2,838,554
Funding Sources					
	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Reserves	744,568	1,555,000	1,840,000	1,212,000	1,190,000
Grants	1,294,951	1,250,876	1,250,876	1,250,876	1,250,876
Internal Loan/User Fees	-	-	-	-	-
External Transfers	9,000	-	9,000	9,000	9,000
Annual Tax Levy (operating budget)	98,880	101,846	104,902	108,049	111,290
Borrowing	-	-	-	-	-
Total Planned Capital Additions	2,147,398	2,907,722	3,204,778	2,579,925	2,561,166
Unfunded projects	904,737	2,091,187	755,135	157,021	277,388



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

MEETING DATE: May 14, 2024
SUBJECT: Write Off of Uncollectible Accounts Receivable
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Corporate Services

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

Town of Didsbury Policy FIN 005 - Accounts Receivable requires Council approval to write off amounts over \$300.

When an account is left unpaid, the Finance department and the department head work collaboratively to attempt to collect the outstanding balances. The balance may be sent to a collection agency if deemed appropriate by the department head. A balance can stay with a collection agency for up to six years and, afterwards, would be deemed non-collectible by the agency.

The following items remain unpaid and Administration considers the collection efforts exhausted:

1. Desjardins Insurance, 2021 Fire call - \$2,205.00

The insurance company was invoiced for a motor vehicle accident that occurred in February 2021 that was attended by the Didsbury Fire Department. The insurance company states that the policy information obtained from the call was not in their system. Multiple follow up attempts remain unanswered. Due to the inability to obtain correct information, this would not be sent to a collections agency and efforts for collection are deemed exhausted.

2. Amante Organics, 2022 Bulk Water Sales - \$3,681.49

In 2022, Amante was granted credit to obtain bulk water; however, the accounts from that year remain unpaid. This Company is currently under Court ordered sale and collections efforts are deemed exhausted.

3. Terra Sar Developments, 2020 Interest charge - \$1,002.36

The Town has an agreement with Terra Sar Developments related to interest charged on the value of a wastewater pipe that was installed by the Town. Due to unclarity in how the interest was to be charged, and the associated land has been sold; this amount is deemed uncollectible.



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

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4. DOSCA fees, \$2,185.19

There are three individual accounts over the threshold of \$300 which remain in default. DOSCA invoices must be paid by the 14th of the month following service. If the amount remains unpaid past that date, services are denied until it is paid in full. Individual names related to an account may not be disclosed under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. The account holders no longer use DOSCA services nor have DOSCA-aged children and collection efforts are deemed exhausted.

- Account 51952 \$ 871.00
- Account 52246 \$ 493.08
- Account 52329 \$ 476.58

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

Administrative efforts to collect the above outstanding accounts have been unsuccessful; therefore, Administration is recommending that the amounts be approved to be written off.

If payments are eventually received, they would be considered new revenue in the year of collection.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

5. Governance & Organizational Excellence

RECOMMENDATION

To approve the write off of the following accounts:

- Desjardins Insurance 2021 Fire Call for \$2,205;
- Amante Organics 2022 Bulk Water Sales for \$3,466.14;
- Terra Sar Developments 2020 interest charge for \$1,002.36;
- DOSCA account 51952 for \$871.00;
- DOSCA account 52246 for \$493.08; and
- DOSCA account 52329 for \$476.58.



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

MEETING DATE: May 14, 2024
 SUBJECT: 2024 Roadworks Award Recommendation
 ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Engineering & Infrastructure

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

Council approved three capital roadworks projects. Administration combined the activities under one tender with three schedules.

Project Name	Approved Budget	Funding	Tender Schedule	Tender Value
20 Avenue Mill and Overlay (CPR to 21 St)	\$150,000	CCBF	A	\$ 525,000
15 Avenue Mill and Overlay (23 St to 24 St)	\$150,000	CCBF	B	
Co-op Road Surface Works (15 Ave to 19 St)	\$225,000	MSI	C	

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

Administration released the tender on Alberta Purchasing Connection and notified contractors of the posting. A site meeting was held and participants toured the work areas to ensure the scope of services was understood. Tender closed May 7, 2024.

At the closing of the public tender process, Administration reviewed three (3) tenders.

Bidder	Verified Tendered Price (not including contingency)	Variance from Low Bid
Border Paving Ltd.	\$ 429,573.15	
Ruby Rock Asphalt Works Ltd.	\$ 534,408.69	73%
Professional Excavators & Construction Inc.	\$ 810,747.20	295%

Due to the discrepancy in the submissions, a unit rate review was conducted to determine if the Town is exposed to financial risk. The review identified a broad range of unit rate items, which were lower in Border Paving's bid. It also identified a few rates which were higher than the second place bid. The high unit rate items included landscaping rehabilitation and tree removal. Administration will monitor these units closely during construction to minimize potential for overages.

Border Paving Ltd is well known for its ability to perform all the necessary activities to be successful in its delivery of this project.



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

Bid & Project Budget Breakdown

Project Name	Bid	Contingency	Engineering	Total (rounded to the nearest thousandth)	Budget	Variance
20 Avenue	\$155,639.00	\$15,563.90	\$10,501.50	\$ 181,704.40	\$150,000	\$ (32,000)
15 Avenue	\$ 67,307.75	\$ 6,730.78	\$ 10,501.50	\$ 84,540.03	\$150,000	\$ 65,000
Co-op Road	\$206,626.40	\$20,662.64	\$21,003.00	\$ 248,292.04	\$225,000	\$ (24,000)
TOTAL	\$429,573.15	\$42,957.32	\$42,006.00	\$ 514,536.47	\$525,000	\$ (9,000)

The verified tender price plus contingency totals \$472,530.47, yielding a lower than approved combined capital roadworks funding; two of the schedules have slight overages above budget estimates.

The revised budgets for each project are rounded up to the nearest thousandth for simplicity of making a budget amendment. Therefore, Administration is recommending amended budgets of \$182,000 for 20 Avenue, \$85,000 for 15 Avenue, and \$249,000 for Co-op Road.

The increase over budget is largely due to additional concrete work on 20 Avenue to improve sidewalks, curbs and drivability, and Co-op Road includes minor improvements to the storm collection system to preserve the asphalt investment.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

1. Strategically Managed Infrastructure

RECOMMENDATION (two motions)

To approve the 2024 Roadworks Contract to Border Paving Ltd for \$472,530.47 consisting of 20 Avenue Mill and Overlay for \$171,202.90, 15 Avenue Mill and Overlay for \$74,038.53, and Co-op Road Surface Works for \$227,289.04.

AND

To approve amending the 2024 Capital Budget as follows: increase the 20 Avenue Mill and Overlay project to \$182,000 funded from CCBF, decrease the 15 Avenue Mill and Overlay project to \$85,000 funded from CCBF, and increase the Co-op Road Surface Works project to \$249,000 funded from MSI.



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

MEETING DATE: May 14, 2024
SUBJECT: MAP Funds Allocation to Reserves
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Corporate Services

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

At the March 12, 2024 Regular Council Meeting, Council was presented with a letter from Mountain View County's Reeve Aalbers regarding the Municipal Area Partnership. (MAP).

At the time, MAP included the Towns of Carstairs, Didsbury, Olds, and Sundre, the Village of Cremona, and Mountain View County. Reeve Aalbers' letter informed members that the County had made the decision to step back from the committee.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

Council made the following motion and sent a letter to Reeve Aalbers with Council's decision:

Res. 159-24

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Engel to approve the dissolution of the Municipal Area Partnership (MAP) Committee and that the remaining funds of \$23,917.21 in the MAP account be distributed based on the same ratio contributions were made to the fund.

As all the members of MAP agreed to dissolve the committee, the MAP funds have been dispersed, resulting in Didsbury receiving \$3,587.58. The funding is minimal; therefore, Administration is recommending that this amount be reserved in the Strategic Initiatives and Contingency Reserve Fund for future Council driven initiatives.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

5. Governance & Organizational Excellence

RECOMMENDATION

To approve to transfer the Municipal Area Partnership disbursement funds of \$3,587.58 to the Strategic Initiatives and Contingency Reserve.



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

MEETING DATE: May 14, 2024
SUBJECT: Bill 20 – Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2024
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Office of the Mayor

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

Alberta Municipalities (ABmunis) held a webinar on May 8, 2024 regarding the proposed *Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2024* two key pieces of municipal legislation: the *Local Authorities Election Act (LAEA)* and the *Municipal Government Act (MGA)*.

During the webinar, ABmunis conducted a poll where 76% of those representing ABmunis member municipalities voted that ABmunis should advocate for Bill 20 to be rescinded. Based on that input, ABmunis responded by releasing a News Release on May 8, 2024.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

To help strengthen the call for Bill 20 to be rescinded, ABmunis is asking municipalities to:

- Talk to your MLA
- Write a letter to Premier Smith, Minister McIver, and/or your MLA
- Pass a motion in council (see attachment for an optional template)
- Contact your local media
- Talk with your residents about Bill 20

ABmunis has provided the following materials and website links to help speak to the concerns with Bill 20:

1. ABmunis' May 8 webinar presentation on Bill 20 (attached)
2. Key messages and proposed council motion on Bill 20 (attached)
3. [ABmunis' Preliminary Analysis of Bill 20](#)
4. Visit [Keep Local Elections Local](#) webpage for videos of media conferences and resources
5. [Bill 20: Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act](#)

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

5. Governance & Organizational Excellence

RECOMMENDATION

To approve Mayor Hunter to send a letter on behalf of Council to Premier Danielle Smith, and Minister of Municipal Affairs, Ric McIver, and MLA Nathan Cooper asking that the Government of Alberta rescind Bill 20, the *Municipal Statutes Amendment Act*, due to the extensive concerns raised by municipal leaders across Alberta, including the Town of Didsbury council, and that the Government of Alberta engage municipal governments through a collaborative and trust-based consultation process to update the *Local Authorities Election Act* and *Municipal Government Act* to assist municipal governments to effectively govern in the interests of their residents and deliver on the future needs of each community in Alberta.



NEWS RELEASE

ABmunis calls Bill 20 a power grab by provincial government

April 29, 2024

EDMONTON – Alberta Municipalities (ABmunis) President Tyler Gandam presented the association’s perspective on the provincial government’s controversial Bill 20 at virtual news conference earlier today.

The following statement closely resembles President Gandam’s initial remarks at [this afternoon’s media event](#):

Bill 20 is an attempt by the provincial government to grab more power and wield more control over how people choose to live in their own communities. If passed, the proposed legislation will fundamentally redraw the blueprint of our local democracy and alter how people’s local needs are met and who represents them.

The bill reduces the autonomy and authority of a recognized order of government – your local government. It also undermines the power of the local voter. Alberta Municipalities is concerned that the bill will intimidate and even silence legally elected officials who dare to criticize the provincial government.

If passed, Bill 20 will allow corporations and unions to fund candidates of their choice. The bill does almost nothing to improve transparency regarding financial donations to individual candidates and the money being raised and spent by third-party advertisers. Independent candidates risk being outspent and drowned out by party candidates who enjoy the financial backing of corporations and unions.

If the bill passes in its current form, local government elections will end up being about what influential corporations and unions want, not about what voters want. Essentially, Bill 20 puts local governments up for sale to the highest bidder. We know this doesn’t sit well with Albertans, who have repeatedly said that “big money” has no place in local politics.

Bill 20 would allow the provincial government to remove councillors and repeal bylaws it doesn’t like based on backroom cabinet decisions made without public scrutiny or accountability. The fact that cabinet decisions are confidential means that the public can never truly know why these decisions were made. Our association is speaking out about this because some of our members fear repercussions if they disagree openly with the provincial government. The possibility of a locally elected official being removed at any time, for any reason, is deeply unsettling and likely to have a “chilling effect” on councillors who might otherwise speak out against the provincial government.

Our question to the Premier and the provincial government is: Who stands to benefit from Bill 20? We ask because local governments and most Albertans have not been calling for these changes. Time and again, Albertans have said they do not want political parties at the local level. Who is the government listening to if it isn't Albertans? We call on the provincial government to answer these questions and explain its rationale for introducing Bill 20.

To date, the provincial government's reasons for introducing it have been flimsy. It has freely admitted that 70 per cent of Albertans don't want to see political parties in local elections. It says that 98 per cent of communities won't see it, as Calgary and Edmonton are the only places where the idea will be piloted. In truth, this "pilot project" will affect more than 2.4 million Albertans – half of all Albertans.

We've reviewed Bill 20 and we don't see how it will make local elections any more transparent, free or fair. Local government decisions are made in public. By contrast, Bill 20 would allow decisions to dismiss councillors and repeal bylaws to be made by provincial cabinet ministers in secret.

Bill 20 is an attempt by the government to centralize, strengthen and tighten the provincial government's hold on power. Bill 20 does not improve the lives of Albertans, it does not build up our province, and it does not make it easier for our communities to grow in unity and harmony.

The entire unedited [online media event](#) can be viewed here.

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From the smallest village to the largest city, across every region of the province, Alberta Municipalities (ABmunis) represents the communities where over 85% of Albertans live. ABmunis was founded in 1905 to provide urban and rural-region communities with a united voice. Alberta Municipalities now serves more than 260 of Alberta's 334 municipalities making it the province's largest municipal group.

We work with elected and administrative leaders of Alberta's summer villages, villages, town, cities, and specialized municipalities to advocate for solutions to their common issues.

And we help them build resilient and thriving communities by providing valuable services. We use our members' combined purchasing power to negotiate the best possible value and competitive pricing on employee benefits, insurance, energy, and other services needed to run an effective and efficient municipality.

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NEWS RELEASE: Alberta Municipalities responds to Bill 20

April 25, 2024

EDMONTON – *The following official statement is issued on behalf of the Alberta Municipalities Board of Directors:*

Today the provincial government announced its changes to the *Local Authorities Election Act* (LAEA) and the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA). It will take some time to properly analyze Bill 20, but it appears to fundamentally redraw the blueprint for local democracy in Alberta.

For the last eight months, Alberta Municipalities has repeatedly said that the introduction of political parties in local elections is a bad idea that most Albertans do not want. In the absence of any consultation, we have publicly offered sound ideas to strengthen local elections, boost turnout rates, and limit the influence of affluent donors – all the issues that Premier Smith identified as concerns.

Albertans have been clear: they do not want political parties in their local elections. The provincial government has ignored them, too, deaf to the voices of Albertans and blinded by their incessant fighting with the federal government.

Alberta's local governments have no interest in fighting with the province. Nor do they want to be caught in the middle of an Alberta-Ottawa "forever war." Our members want to be respected by the provincial government as a democratically elected order of government and allowed to focus their attention and energy on providing the services their residents expect and deserve.

Alberta Municipalities will have more to say on Bill 20 early next week, once we have had time to digest and consider its long-term effects on local democracy.

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NEWS RELEASE

ABmunis: Meaningful consultation on all aspects of Bill 20 desperately needed

May 3, 2024

EDMONTON – The following statement is issued on behalf of Alberta Municipalities President Tyler Gandam and the association’s Board of Directors:

It has been gratifying to see Albertans – the voting public – speak up and voice their concerns about the provincial government’s controversial Bill 20 since it was introduced in the Legislature on April 25.

Albertans clearly cherish their local democracy, and they have been quick to call out the provincial government for its attempted power grab through Bill 20. They were unwilling to sit back and let Alberta’s blueprint for local democracy be redrawn.

Yesterday’s news release was significant in one respect – it publicly acknowledged that Albertans, municipalities, and associations like ours have succeeded in getting the provincial government’s attention on Bill 20. It mentioned that the powers to recall legally elected local officials and repeal bylaws by Cabinet that were presented in the draft legislation were open to discussion with municipal leaders and could be amended. That’s a good start, but there’s much more that needs to be discussed and amended.

Alberta Municipalities has listened to Albertans, including many of their municipal leaders, and determined that they do not want:

- Political parties at the municipal level
- Corporations and unions influencing municipal elections through political donations
- The ability for cabinet to repeal bylaws and remove councillors out of the public eye.

We want meaningful changes made to Bill 20 that reflect what Albertans want.

To date, we have not received an invitation to meet with provincial government officials to discuss potential amendments. We are not aware of any broad consultation between municipal leaders and the provincial government, either.

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NEWS RELEASE

ABmunis calls on provincial government to scrap Bill 20

May 8, 2024

EDMONTON – *The following statement is issued on behalf of Alberta Municipalities (ABmunis) President Tyler Gandam and the association's Board of Directors:*

From the moment Bill 20 was introduced on April 25, ABmunis has strenuously objected to the provincial government's attempted power grab and repeatedly signaled its eagerness to sit down with Minister Ric McIver and his team.

We have sought to discuss our members' many valid concerns and work together to find solutions that actually improve transparency and governance in local politics. As it now stands, Alberta Municipalities calls for Bill 20 to be rescinded.

Our members are especially concerned about the many unintended consequences that may arise from Bill 20. For example, it might tilt Alberta's political playing field in favour of candidates who enjoy the financial backing of corporations and unions. It might disqualify otherwise eligible voters from exercising their democratic right to vote. It might even negatively affect communities' efforts to build affordable housing projects.

Bill 20 is vast and extremely complicated. Because no consultation occurred, this provincial government seems unaware of or unconcerned about the long-term ramifications of this hurriedly constructed bill. ABmunis would welcome nothing more than the opportunity to present these shortcomings to the minister.

Despite our best efforts and reassurances from Minister McIver a week ago that the Government of Alberta would consult with associations like ours, as well as with municipal leaders and others on amendments to Bill 20, we are still waiting to hear from Minister McIver's office and the ministry.

We followed today's affordable housing announcement by Minister Jason Nixon and Minister McIver with interest. The changes made in Bill 20 to help accelerate affordable housing projects appear beneficial, but they could have been even better if the provincial government had consulted the experts – local governments. With input from municipal representatives, the provincial government could have done more and made further improvements.

The provincial government's silence and clear reluctance to meaningfully consult with us speaks volumes. Here's what it says to us – The Government of Alberta is still not listening to Albertans. Instead, it is blindly ploughing ahead regardless of what many Albertans think, want, and need, and

without thought to the greater impacts of the bill. When it comes to knowing what Albertans need and want, it acts like it knows better than Albertans themselves.

Albertans expect their local governments to conduct meaningful consultations whenever they're proposing major changes to their communities that require public support. Consultation, collaboration, co-operation and compromise are key components of democracy. Alberta Municipalities expects nothing less from the provincial government.

Alberta Municipalities calls on the Government of Alberta to scrap Bill 20 and go back to the drawing board. It cannot be salvaged. Bill 20 is rushed, deeply flawed, and full of half-baked changes that do not withstand scrutiny.

We ask Premier Danielle Smith and Minister McIver to abandon this misguided bill and work with municipal leaders from across Alberta to write legislation that reflects what most Albertans are saying they want and need.

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Key Messages and Proposed Council Motion on Bill 20: Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act

May 9, 2024

Key Messages for ABmunis' members:

The **NAME OF MUNICIPALITY** recommends that the Government of Alberta rescind Bill 20, the *Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act*, due to concern that Bill 20's proposed legislative amendments will:

- Increase divisiveness within council and our community instead of encouraging collaborative decision-making to solve the future challenges our community faces.
- Prioritize the interests of the provincial cabinet over the interests of the residents of **MUNICIPALITY**.
- Increase the influence of corporations and unions in municipal government through political donations to local candidates, which will drown out the interests of everyday Albertans who cannot afford to donate large sums of money to political campaigns.
- Create tax inequities between individuals and corporations as it relates to donations to municipal candidates.
- Give power to the provincial cabinet to remove a councillor without clear criteria, which creates an environment where councillors will become more accountable to provincial government leaders instead of our local residents.
- Increase costs for property taxpayers by forcing a hand count of election results instead of allowing the use of proven and more cost-effective electronic equipment.
- Increase costs for property taxpayers by forcing our municipality to create and regularly maintain a permanent electors register.
- Allow councillors to claim that they have a perceived conflict of interest and avoid making politically challenging decisions in council.
- Remove our council's ability to determine what studies are needed for each type of development. Without the power to ask developers for that information, our municipality will be forced to fund those studies ourselves and pass the cost onto all existing residents instead of new development paying for itself.
- Fail to address the fundamental flaws of the current recall rules, which has destabilized the local political environment.
- Fail to give municipalities the option to require candidates to file financial disclosures prior to election day.
- Lead to unforeseen consequences because of the short window, without full input from municipal governments, in which Bill 20 was developed.

Messages that are more specific to smaller and more rural municipalities:

- Forces the **NAME OF MUNICIPALITY** to conduct online public hearings on planning and development which is not possible due to a lack of high-speed internet in our municipality.
- Increases costs for property taxpayers by forcing our municipality to purchase audio and video equipment that will enable residents to participate in public hearings through an online format.

Proposed Council Motion

Municipalities may consider passing a motion in council to communicate your council's view of Bill 20. The following is a template that municipalities may use or consider developing your own motion based on your council's views.

*That the **NAME OF MUNICIPALITY** send a letter to the Premier that recommends that the Government of Alberta rescind Bill 20, the Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, due to the extensive concerns raised by municipal leaders across Alberta, including **MUNICIPALITY** council, and that the Government of Alberta engage municipal governments through a collaborative and trust-based consultation process to update the Local Authorities Election Act and Municipal Government Act to assist municipal governments to effectively govern in the interests of their residents and deliver on the future needs of each community in Alberta.*

Background

- In fall 2023, the Government of Alberta conducted an online survey on a wide scope of issues related to the *Local Authorities Election Act* and *Municipal Government Act*.
- On April 25, 2024, the Government of Alberta introduced Bill 20, the Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act.
 - [Bill 20](#)
 - [Government of Alberta's Summary Sheet on Bill 20](#) – April 25, 2024
- On April 29, 2024, ABmunis hosted a [media conference](#) to respond to proposals in Bill 20.
- On May 2, 2024, Minister McIver [announced](#) that the province will introduce amendments to clarify aspects of Bill 20 based on concerns raised.
- On May 3, 2024, ABmunis published a [preliminary analysis report](#) on Bill 20.
- On May 8, 2024, ABmunis hosted webinar for municipalities and sought member input on ABmunis' position on Bill 20. Based on a webinar poll with 221 responses, 76 per cent of members want Bill 20 to be rescinded and 8 per cent don't have an opinion yet.
- As of May 9, 2024, Bill 20 is at second reading.
- The spring legislative session is scheduled to end May 30, 2024.

ABmunis' Resources and News Releases on Bill 20

- Visit ABmunis' [Keep Local Elections Local](#) webpage to access our analysis, videos, and resources.
- [April 25, 2024](#) news release
- [April 29, 2024](#) news release
- [May 8, 2024](#) news release

Bill 20: Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act

Townhall with municipalities

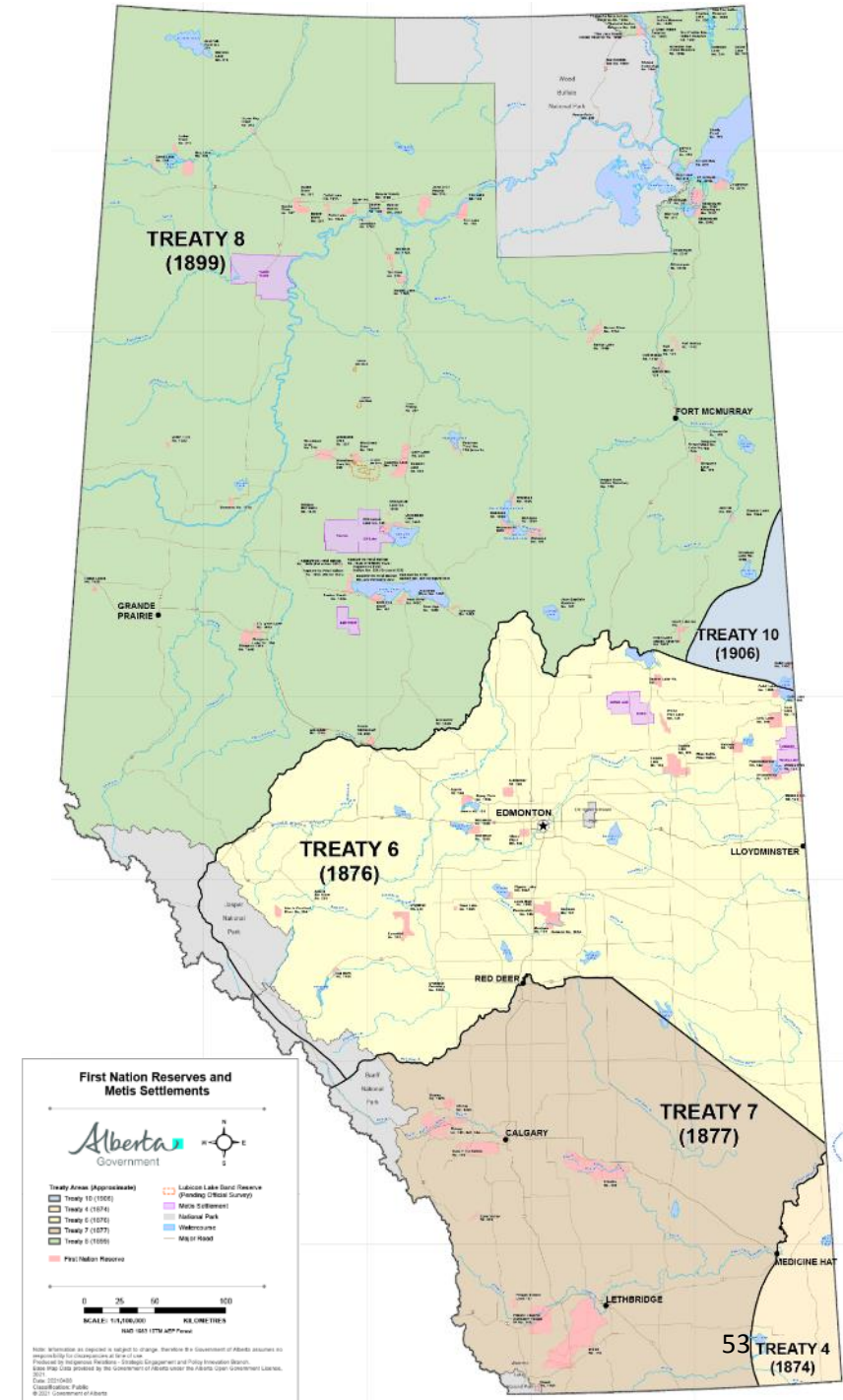
May 8, 2024



Land acknowledgement

Alberta Municipalities respectfully acknowledges that we live, work, and play on the traditional and ancestral territories of many Indigenous, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples. We acknowledge that what we call Alberta is the traditional and ancestral territory of many peoples, presently subject to Treaties 4, 6, 7, 8 and 10 and Six Regions of the Métis Nation of Alberta.

We acknowledge the courageous and resilient community leadership of Indigenous leaders, of all ages, Knowledge Keepers, and Elders who are still with us today and those who have gone before us. We make this acknowledgement as an act of reconciliation, gratitude, and commitment to pursuing an inclusive, collaborative, and respectful path towards building strong communities.



Purpose of this webinar

1. Overview of ABmunis' recent advocacy
2. Inform you of key changes that are proposed to the:
 - Local Authorities Election Act (LAEA), and
 - Municipal Government Act (MGA)
3. How you can help in advocacy
4. Questions

Participation in today's webinar

1. Set your screen name to first name, last name, municipality.
2. Ask questions by posting them to the Q&A box.
3. Share your ideas and concerns in the chat box. Our staff is monitoring to capture your thoughts.
4. Only regular members of ABmunis should answer the poll questions.

Note

All references to “councillors” includes any member of council including mayors, reeves, and councillors.



Timeline

2020	Former Minister of Municipal Affairs (Madu) proposes the idea of political parties.
Summer 2023	ABmunis continues to hear potential interest in municipal political parties.
Aug 2023	Poll by Janet Brown Opinion Research indicates that 68% of Albertans are opposed to local political parties (9% not sure).
Sep 2023	At ABmunis' Convention, Premier Smith states that local political parties would increase voter turnout in municipal elections and that her government was exploring options to add political parties to local election ballots.
Nov 2023	Government of Alberta conducts public survey on possible changes to the MGA and LAEA.
Jan 2024	Results of the province's survey are FOIPed and the survey results show that 70% of respondents do not support the introduction of local political parties.
Mar 2024	At ABmunis' Spring Municipal Leaders' Caucus, Premier Smith and Minister McIver confirm that legislation will be introduced in spring 2024 that would set out rules for how municipal political parties can operate.
Apr 25, 2024	Bill 20: Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act is introduced in the legislature.
May 2, 2024	News release from Minister McIver announces that the government will amend Bill 20 based on concerns raised.

Status of Bill 20

- Introduced on April 25, 2024
- Currently at second reading
- Expected to complete the legislative process – including any amendments – by May 30



Summary of Proposed Changes under Bill 20

Municipal Government Act

- If “in the public interest”, provincial cabinet may remove a councillor or order the CAO to conduct a referendum where residents can vote on whether the councillor should be removed.
- Provincial cabinet is enabled to require a municipality to amend or repeal any bylaw.
- Allow councillors to recuse themselves for real or perceived conflicts of interest.
- Give cabinet authority to direct a municipality to take specific action to protect public health and/or safety.
- Responsibility for validating signatures for a recall petition will change from the CAO to the Minister of Municipal Affairs.
- Mandate that all councillors attend orientation training.
- A councillor’s seat is automatically vacant upon disqualification.
- Enable regulations regarding criteria and exemptions for joint use planning agreements with schools.
- Require municipalities to offer digital requirements for public hearings on planning and development.
- Restrict municipalities from holding extra hearings when not required.
- Fully exempt non-profit subsidized affordable housing from property taxes.
- Enable multi-year residential property tax incentives.
- Limit municipalities from requiring non-statutory studies as a requirement for building and development permits.

Local Authorities Election Act

- Enable regulations to define local political parties, with this piloted in Calgary and Edmonton in the 2025 election.
- Corporations and unions will be allowed to contribute to local election campaigns (\$5,000 per year per municipality).
- Reduce donations to third-party advertisers from \$30,000 to \$5,000 per election period.
- Allow donations outside the local election year and require annual reporting of donations.
- Require issue-based advertisers to register and report finances.
- Require municipalities to prepare a permanent electors register and align that information with Elections Alberta.
- Expand the use of special ballots and update processes.
- Limit vouching to only apply to someone’s address.
- Prohibit automated vote counting equipment.
- Require recounts if requested by the candidate and the vote margin is in 0.5% of total votes.
- Enable regulation to define powers and circumstances for when a local election can be postponed in emergencies.
- Enable municipalities to require candidates to submit a criminal record check at nomination.
- Repeal the ability for a candidate’s official agent or scrutineer to object to an elector.
- Clarify rules and streamline processes for scrutineers.

Major Concerns with Bill 20

- Brings big money and tax inequities into local elections.
- Increases partisanship instead of fostering respect.
- Increases accountability to political parties instead of residents.
- Increases councillor accountability to provincial cabinet instead of accountability to local residents.



Proposed changes to LAEA

Brings big money and tax inequities into local elections

- Corporations and unions can now contribute to local election campaigns (\$5,000 per year per municipality)
- Maintains the contribution limit for individuals at \$5,000, which creates an environment where the interests of more wealthy Albertans may take priority
- The province hasn't considered the tax consequences of donations to candidates.
 - Corporations can benefit from writing off a contribution, but individuals receive no tax benefit.
 - Candidates with their own corporation may gain a notable tax advantage if self-funding their campaign.



Proposed Changes to LAEA

Increases partisanship, instead of fostering respect and increases accountability to parties, not residents

- Political parties will be piloted in Calgary and Edmonton in the 2025 election
- Potential to expand political parties to all municipalities in the 2029 election
- The politics in Calgary and Edmonton generate significant media attention, which will influence the public view of politics in most municipalities





Proposed Changes to LAEA

Increases costs and other impacts for municipalities

Oppose

- Prohibit automated vote counting equipment

Oppose as written

- Require municipalities to prepare a permanent electors register and align that information with Elections Alberta
- Limit vouching to only apply to someone's address

More review needed

- Allow donations outside the local election year and require annual reporting of donations
- Repeal the ability for a candidate's official agent or scrutineer to object to an elector
- Clarifying rules and streamlining processes for scrutineers

Proposed Changes to LAEA

ABmunis supports with qualifications



- Enables the Minister to create a regulation to define powers and circumstances for when a local election can be postponed in emergencies such as natural disasters
- Enable municipalities to require candidates to submit a criminal record check at nomination
- Require issue-based advertisers to register and report finances
- Reduce donations to third-party advertisers from \$30,000 to \$5,000 per election period
- Expand the use of special ballots and update processes
- Require recounts if requested by the candidate and the vote margin is in 0.5% of total votes

Proposed changes to MGA

Increases accountability to provincial cabinet instead of accountability to local residents

- If viewed to be “in the public interest”, provincial cabinet may remove a councillor or order the CAO to conduct a referendum where residents can determine whether the councillor should be removed
- Provincial cabinet is enabled to require a municipality to amend or repeal any bylaw
- Give cabinet authority to direct a municipality to take specific action to protect public health and/or safety



Proposed changes to MGA

Recusal from decisions and changes for planning and development

- Allow councillors to recuse themselves for real or perceived conflicts of interest
- Require municipalities to offer digital requirements for public hearings on planning and development.
- Restrict municipalities from holding extra hearings when not required.
- Limit municipalities from requiring non-statutory studies as a requirement for building and development permits.

More review needed

- Fully exempt non-profit subsidized affordable housing from property taxes.



Proposed Changes to MGA

ABmunis supports with qualifications

- Responsibility for validating signatures for a recall petition will change from the CAO to the Minister of Municipal Affairs
- Mandates that all councillors attend orientation training after their election
- Councillor's seat is automatically vacant upon disqualification
- Minister may create regulations regarding criteria and exemptions for joint use planning agreements with schools
- Enable multi-year residential property tax incentives.



How you can help

1. Talk to your MLA
2. Write a letter
3. Pass a council motion
4. Help your local media craft a story
5. Talk with residents
6. Be united in our messaging

ABmunis Key Messages

- Keep big money out of local elections
- Foster respect instead of partisanship party politics
- Respect the decisions of duly elected local officials



Question: Scope of Mandatory Councillor Training

Before or at the organizational meeting:

- a. Role of municipalities in Alberta
- b. Municipal organization and function
- c. Your municipality's code of conduct
- d. Roles and responsibilities of council and councillors
- e. Roles and responsibilities of the CAO and staff

Prior to, or on the same day, as the first regular council meeting or can be extended by up to 90 days by council resolution

- f. Key municipal plans, policies and projects
- g. Budgeting and financial administration
- h. Public participation

Want to see changes?
Type your suggestion
in the chat box.

Poll Question

Engagement with your MLA

Have you talked/written to your MLA about your concerns with Bill 20?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) No, but I plan to

Voting is limited to cities, towns, villages, summer villages, and specialized municipalities

Poll Question

Engagement with Media and Residents

Have you communicated to your local media and/or residents about your concerns with Bill 20?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) No, but I plan to

Voting is limited to cities, towns, villages, summer villages, and specialized municipalities

Media Exposure

Since Bill 20 was introduced (April 25), ABmunis has advocated publicly & achieved extensive news coverage:

- Issued multiple news releases and official statements
- Livestreamed media events
- 1,250 news article mentions across Alberta & Canada
- 1.2 million readers of print news

Social media posts across X (Twitter), Facebook, & LinkedIn:

- 105,000 impressions
- 16,000 video views

Digital advertising:

- 5 different ads on YouTube
- 500,000 impressions to date



Poll Question

ABmunis' Public Approach to Bills 18 and 20

What is your view of ABmunis approach on municipal political parties and Bill 18 and Bill 20 over the last six months?

- a) Too weak in your criticism of the provincial government's latest bills
- b) Just right
- c) Too strong in your criticism of the provincial government's latest bills

Voting is limited to cities, towns, villages, summer villages, and specialized municipalities

Poll Question

ABmunis position on Bill 20

Do you support ABmunis taking the position that Bill 20 be rescinded rather than amended?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Voting is limited to cities, towns, villages, summer villages, and specialized municipalities



**CELEBRATION HILL
and GAZEBO**

BIRD'S EYE VIEW

The Gazebo is located on the top of Celebration Hill - a perfect outdoor space to view the entire historic Celebration and Treadwell Meadows. Surrounding the Gazebo are over 1,000 perennials, approximately more than 30 ornamental grasses, plants varying in size, texture and bloom times throughout the year.

Emphasis is placed on plants that provide winter interest and food for local bird species. Ornamental grasses add texture and movement throughout the year.



Please visit the website and homepage of our website and contact us. See us in the historic nature of the garden. For more information on the garden, please contact Celebration Garden (907-482-1111).
www.oldscollege.ca/landscapegardens

Questions

Next Steps

1. Talk to your MLA
2. Write a letter
3. Pass a council motion
4. Help your local media craft a story
5. Talk with residents
6. Share our webpage – **Keep Local Elections Local**
www.abmunis.ca/advocacy-resources/keep-local-elections-local

Thank you

Send questions or input to
advocacy@abmunis.ca

300, 8616 51 Avenue NW
Edmonton, AB T6E 6E6

abmunis.ca

hello@abmunis.ca

310-MUNI



 **Alberta
Municipalities**
Strength
In Members



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

MEETING DATE: May 14, 2024
 SUBJECT: Invitation to CAEP Event on May 23, 2024
 ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Office of the Mayor

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

The Centra Alberta Economic Partnership (CAEP) is inviting Council to celebrate economic development in the CAEP Region by joining Premier Danielle Smith and many Ministers and Members of the Legislative Assembly on May 23, 2024 at Westerner Park in Red Deer.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

The event starts at 5:30 p.m. and features the following dignitaries:

- Premier Danielle Smith
- Honourable Matt Jones - Jobs, Economy & Trade
- Honourable Devin Dreeshen, Transportation and Economic Corridors
- Honourable Adriana LaGrange - Health
- Honourable RJ Sigurdson - Agriculture & Irrigation
- Honourable Nathan Cooper - Speaker
- MLA Jason Stephan - Red Deer South
- MLA Jennifer Johnson - Ponoka-Lacombe

There will be live music, a live auction, a delicious meal, and ample time to network with the Ministers and MLAs who serve our constituencies.

Cost to attend this event:

CAEP Members	Non-Members
Single Ticket: \$120	Single Ticket: \$150
Table: \$800	Table: \$1000

Council may wish to book a table if there is enough interest in attending. It is being recommended that the costs to attend the event be covered from the Council budget, however not to expense time or mileage for attendance.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

3. Strong & Resilient Local Economy

RECOMMENDATION

To approve the purchase of a table for the CAEP event taking place on May 23, 2024 in Red Deer, Alberta in the amount of \$800 from the Council Professional Development budget.

OR

To approve to purchase ___ tickets for the CAEP Event taking place on May 23, 2024 in Red Deer, Alberta in the amount of \$120 per ticket from the Council Professional Development budget.

Central Alberta Economic Partnership

Invites you to

Economic Development in Central Alberta

Featuring Premier Danielle Smith, Minister Matt Jones & more! We will showcase a "hot stove lounge" discussion.

MAY 23, 2024

Westerner Park | Harvest Center
5:30pm

Tickets Available

An evening of community, connection, networking, and learning about the economic opportunities in our Central Alberta Region.



CAEP is so excited to [Invite You](#) to celebrate Economic Development in the CAEP Region by joining Premier Danielle Smith and many outstanding Ministers and MLA's [May 23rd at Westerner Park!](#) We are thrilled to welcome the following dignitaries:

- Premier Danielle Smith
- Honorable Matt Jones ~ Jobs, Economy & Trade
- Honorable Devin Dreeshen ~ Transportation & Economic Corridors
- Honorable Adriana LaGrange ~ Health
- Honorable RJ Sigurdson ~ Agriculture & Irrigation
- Honorable Nathan Cooper ~ Speaker
- MLA Jason Stephan ~ Red Deer South
- MLA Jennifer Johnson ~ Ponoka-Lacombe



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

MEETING DATE: May 14, 2024
SUBJECT: Council Summer Events
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Legislative Services

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

The Community Services Department is in the process of planning events for June, July, and August 2024. Council is invited to attend all of the events.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

Below is a list of events that will be happening this summer in Didsbury; it would be appreciated if Council would participate in/attend as many as they are able:

Seniors' Week June 4 to 6, 2024

- **Seniors' Showcase:** June 4, 2024 at 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Multi Purpose Room
Council is being asked to **sponsor and serve a pancake breakfast** for attendees of the Seniors' Showcase (similar to *Showcase Didsbury*, but for seniors' resources).
- **Seniors' Lunch:** June 6, 2024 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Multi Purpose Room
The event will run from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Lunch will be served from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. with speeches at 12 p.m., followed by entertainment. Council is invited to attend and the Mayor is asked to make a welcome speech at the event.

Note: Mayor Hunter and Councillors McCoy and Windsor are not available from June 6 to 9, 2024; therefore, the Deputy Mayor or alternate Deputy Mayor are asked to bring greetings (speech) on June 6, and the remaining Council members are asked to participate in the Seniors' Week events if available.

- **Canada Day:** July 1 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Museum
This event is in partnership with the Didsbury & District Historial Society and is taking place at the Didsbury Museum and, tentatively, on the *Old High School field* across from Ross Ford. The event will run from 1 to 4 p.m. on Monday, July 1.
- **August Sunday Funday:** August 25 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the the Complex
Sunday Funday is being held at the Complex this year. There will be a bouncy castle, food, music, and games. Council is asked to set up a table to hand out Town of Didsbury swag and collect names for a draw.

FCSS Coordinator, Ryan Shokoples, is asking that members of Council please confirm their attendance at these events so he is able to finalize plans accordingly, as well as provide more details to attendees.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

2. Vibrant & Connected Character Community

RECOMMENDATION

To approve Council's participation at the *Seniors' Week events, Canada Day celebration and Sunday Funday* and that members of Council inform Administration of their availability to participate.



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

MEETING DATE: May 14, 2024
SUBJECT: DEDAC Member Appointment
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Economic Development & Strategic Operations

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

The Didsbury Economic Development Advisory Committee (DEDAC) is recommending the appointment of a new member to the Committee for Council's consideration.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

The Economic Development Officer received an application for the DEDAC from Chris Overwater.

Mr. Overwater's application was reviewed by the DEDAC members, and Chris is considered a great asset, complementing the current members of the committee as he brings the experience of land development as well as heavy industrial industry to DEDAC.

Chris has been an area resident for more than 55 years. He has been a business owner in the Didsbury area for over 20 years, and also owns industrial as well as residential land in town. He has a solid understanding of business and operations, as well as area structure plans, development, and planning.

He has a vested interest in Didsbury and genuinely cares for the community he lives in with his family.

Chris's background will provide a great asset to the DEDAC by providing insights of two industries about which Didsbury is experiencing a tremendous increase in inquiries.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

3. Strong & Resilient Local Economy

RECOMMENDATION

To appoint Chris Overwater to the Didsbury Economic Development Advisory Committee.



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

MEETING DATE: May 14, 2024
SUBJECT: 2024 Marketing Plan
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Economic Development & Strategic Operations

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

The Economic Development Department has drafted a Marketing Plan for 2024 and is requesting a budget to undertake several advertising opportunities and marketing initiatives.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

The 2024 Marketing Plan outlines a multifaceted approach to position Didsbury as a thriving destination for investment, businesses, residents, and visitors alike. By leveraging collaboration, fostering creativity, embracing technology and innovation, and enhancing the quality of life, Didsbury aims to attract a diverse range of investors, entrepreneurs, visitors, and residents and, with that, a skilled and talented workforce to establish itself as a vibrant, dynamic, inclusive and diverse community.

The key objectives are catering to three goals:

1. Business retention
2. Showcase Didsbury (as the place to live a quality life, visit, work, do business and invest)
3. Unique tourism destination (a place to visit and revisit)

Didsbury's strategic focus on collaboration, creative industries and our key industries, tourism, technology, innovation, and quality of life enhancements presents a compelling proposition to investors, businesses, residents, and visitors. By implementing targeted marketing strategies and initiatives, Didsbury can position itself as a collaborative hub of innovation, creativity, and quality living—driving economic prosperity and community well-being in the years to come.

Attached is the 2024 Marketing Plan, including advertising opportunities and budget of \$40,030. There is currently \$128,797 in the Economic Development Reserve, some of which is comprised of previously unused marketing funds from previous years. It is recommended that Council approve the plan and allocate funds from the Economic Development Reserve to implement the plan.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

3. Strong & Resilient Local Economy

RECOMMENDATION

To approve the 2024 Marketing Plan and provide \$40,030 from the Economic Development Reserve fund for the initiatives outlined.

OR

Another motion at the discretion of Council.

Marketing Plan 2024 – Didsbury Economic Development Department

Didsbury: A Collaborative Hub of Innovation, Creativity, Opportunity and Quality Living

Executive Summary:

This marketing plan outlines a multifaceted approach to position Didsbury as a thriving destination for investment, businesses, residents, and visitors alike. By leveraging collaboration, fostering creativity, embracing technology and innovation, and enhancing the quality of life, Didsbury aims to attract a diverse range of investors, entrepreneurs, visitors, residents and with that talent and a skilled workforce to establish itself as a vibrant, dynamic, inclusive and diverse community.

Key Objectives:

1. **Stimulate Collaboration:** Foster partnerships among local businesses, educational institutions, regional collaboration, and community organizations to drive innovation and economic growth collaboratively.
2. **Promote Creative Industries:** Cultivate a supportive environment for creative industries such as arts, design, media, and technology, fostering entrepreneurship, job creation, and cultural enrichment.
3. **Promote Health & Wellness Sector:** Promote Didsbury as a supportive community of the health and wellness sector. To attract more, complement, enhance our current medical services and motivate expansion.
4. **Promote industry:** Enhance and grow our commercial, manufacturing and processing industry. As well as industry that states value added to agriculture, resource and greening industry.
5. **Boost Tourism:** Showcase Didsbury's unique attractions, cultural heritage, and natural beauty to attract tourists, stimulate local businesses, and generate revenue for the community. Develop and implement unique tourism products and events that will position Didsbury as innovative. Capitalize on film tourism.
6. **Embrace Technology and Innovation:** Invest in digital solutions, and innovation ecosystems to enhance efficiency, sustainability, and residents' quality of life.
7. **Enhance Quality of Life:** Maintain and enhance recreational amenities, healthcare, services such as youth and seniors programs, promote environmental sustainability, making Didsbury an attractive place to live, work, and visit.

Key Objectives are catering to Top 3 Goals:

1. Business Retention
2. Showcase Didsbury (as the place to live a quality life, visit, work, do business and invest)
3. Unique Tourism Destination (a place to visit and revisit)

Marketing Strategies:

1. **Tourism Promotion Campaigns:** Develop targeted marketing campaigns and innovative tools highlighting Didsbury's attractions, cultural events, outdoor activities, and unique experiences to attract tourists from neighboring regions and afar. Focus on Film Tourism & Earptopia event.
2. **Tech project Initiatives:** Implement digital tourism infrastructure, mobility solutions, energy efficiency, and sustainability to enhance the town's livability and attract tech-savvy residents and businesses.

Marketing Plan 2024 – Didsbury Economic Development Department

3. **Quality of Life:** Capitalize on our major advantages as a small community, including but not limited to educational facilities, childcare, green spaces, recreational facilities, healthcare services, and affordable housing initiatives. Point out inclusive and welcoming community.
4. **Digital Marketing and Content Creation:** Utilize digital marketing channels, social media platforms, and content creation to showcase Didsbury's unique offerings, success stories, and opportunities for investment and business development.
5. **Capitalize on Assets & Advantages:** Affordability in comparison; land availability; location; hospital; schools; child and senior services; recreational amenities – indoor and outdoor; events; diversity and inclusion.
6. **Collaborative Networking Events:** Organize networking events, workshops to facilitate collaboration, knowledge sharing, and business partnerships among stakeholders.
7. **Advertising Campaigns:** print, digital and transit campaigns to cater to business retention, tourism and to showcase Didsbury to attract the various levels of our target market.
8. **Attend Events:** to promote Didsbury and the Mountain View Regional Film Office.

Target Market & Key Value messages:

- Calgary & Region, AB: Affordability, availability and opportunities.
Value proposition: safety, inclusivity; medical services, child minding; recreational amenities, housing including rentals; support to creative industry, a unique place to visit.
 - **RELOCATE:** Residential growth **EXPAND** or **RELOCATE:** Business & Investment VISIT
- National & International: Affordability of land and housing for workforce and multi generation families. Innovation, including technology. Value Proposition: Proximity to major transportation arteries, airports and greater urban areas. Easy to navigate processes. Inclusive, Innovative, Diverse, a unique place to visit.
 - **VISIT, RE-VISIT, MOVE HERE**

Advertising Opportunities:

1. Business Retention

Radio Airdrie:

- Discover Didsbury Landing Page
- Summer Cruiser Campaign - All summer beginning May long weekend until September long weekend.

Event: Days of Yore

2. Showcase Didsbury - Focus of campaign depending on media source and locations

- **Media outlets:** Pattison Outdoors; National Post; Invest Alberta Magazine

Events: Banff International Media Festival; Days of Yore; Earptopia

3. Unique Tourism Destination

- **Pattison Outdoors**
- Blue Highway Sign Program (TBA)
- Digital film tourism tools

Events: Banff International Media Festival; Days of Yore; Earptopia; Country Christmas

Marketing Plan 2024 – Didsbury Economic Development Department

Budget Allocation:

• Radio Airdrie:	\$6,280	Goal 1
• Pattison Outdoors Calgary Campaign: (transit campaign)	\$2,500	Goal 1 & 2
• National Post – Innovate Canada: (website, article, video, ½ page content)	\$11,250	Goal 2
• <i>Invest Alberta Magazine: (2024)* Deposit for 2025</i>	\$1,500	Goal 2
• Graphic Design, Theme & Content for all campaigns:	\$8,000	Goal 1 – 3
• Earptopia Convention (Graphic Design, brochure, scavenger hunt; swag material)	\$7,500	Goal 2
• Mountain View Regional Partnership	\$3,000	Goal 1 & 2

Approximate Total Advertising Budget for 2024: **\$40,030**

*(total Invest AB 2025: \$4,200 - calculated 2024 deposit \$1,500)

Work Plan

1. Book space: Digital, print, event
2. Graphic design and content development
3. Digital content development
4. **Initiative Rollout:** Launch marketing campaigns, to promote collaboration, creativity, tourism, technology, innovation, what we are looking for and quality of life enhancements.
5. **Monitoring and Evaluation (Ongoing):** Monitor key performance indicators, gather feedback from stakeholders, and conduct regular evaluations to measure the effectiveness of implemented strategies and make necessary adjustments.

Evaluation Metrics:

- Number of investments and new businesses/ entrepreneurs
- Increase of revenues for businesses (percentage)
- Number of film productions & increased economic impact
- Growth and diversity of our key industries and startups
- Residential Growth
- Increase in tourist arrivals, visitor spending, and hospitality revenues (museum numbers)
- Residents' satisfaction with quality of life enhancements and services (survey)
- Engagement levels on digital platforms and community feedback mechanisms
- Business satisfaction survey 2025

Conclusion:

Didsbury's strategic focus on collaboration, creative industries and our key industries, tourism, technology, innovation, and quality of life enhancements presents a compelling proposition to investors, businesses, residents, and visitors. By implementing targeted marketing strategies and initiatives, Didsbury can position itself as a collaborative hub of innovation, creativity, and quality living, driving economic prosperity and community well-being in the years to come.



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

MEETING DATE: May 14, 2024
SUBJECT: Correspondence & Information
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Legislative Services

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

Correspondence received from other agencies, which may be of importance and of interest is being provided for Council's review and information.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

Please find attached:

- New RCMP Collective Bargaining Agreement
- Eckville Parade

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

5. Governance & Organizational Excellence

RECOMMENDATION

To accept the correspondence provided as information.



New RCMP Collective Bargaining Agreement

From: **Tyler Gandam** <president@abmunis.ca>
Date: Wed, Apr 24, 2024 at 11:10 AM
Subject: New RCMP Collective Bargaining Agreement
To: Rhonda Hunter <rhunter@didsbury.ca>

Dear Municipal Colleagues:

I am writing to inform you that arbitration has concluded on a new collective agreement for the RCMP. You should have also received an email last week directly from Public Safety Canada on this matter.

As you may recall, in 2015, the Supreme Court ruled that RCMP members have the right to an independent and meaningful collective bargaining process. The first ever agreement negotiated between the federal government and an RCMP union, the National Police Federation (NPF), was finalized in 2021. That six-year agreement included five years of retroactive salary increases and expired on March 31, 2023.

Negotiations on a new collective bargaining agreement began in December 2022 and proceeded to mediation in 2023, then arbitration in 2024. The arbitration board released [its decision](#) on April 16, which awards RCMP union members an 8% increase in wages over two years, as follows:

- 4% increase retroactive and effective for April 1, 2023 (3% economic increase + 1% market adjustment)
- 4% increase retroactive and effective for April 1, 2024 (2% economic increase + 2% market adjustment)

This contract is a two-year agreement that applies to the 2023-24 and 2024-25 years (April 01 to March 31). There will be other items included in the agreement that the parties agreed to in the course of negotiations. Complete details on collective agreement will be shared directly with you by Public Safety Canada.

The wage increase is slightly over the 3.5% estimate that Treasury Board Canada advised municipalities to use in planning their 2023 and 2024 budgets. The RCMP will invoice contract partners as part of regular billing cycles outlined in the Police Service Agreements. The amount owing for the period of retroactivity will be included in a future invoice; the timing of invoicing will depend on when the payments are processed. Furthermore, this retroactive amount will not impact the prior retroactive amount owing from the first round of collective bargaining (2017 to 2021) as this has either been paid in full or due to be paid in full no later than March 31, 2025. We will continue to share information with you as we receive it from our federal partners.

Alberta Municipalities recognizes that rising police costs are intensifying the economic pressures municipalities currently face and we are developing tools to mobilize our membership and support advocacy on this topic. Please stay tuned to The Weekly for further updates.

As always, feel free to reach out to me directly if you have other questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Tyler Gandam

Tyler Gandam | President

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TOWN OF ECKVILLE

ECKVILLE PARADE

On behalf of the Town of Eckville, this invitation is being extended to you or a member of your Council to be a Guest of Honor in the Annual Eckville Parade on Saturday, June 8, 2024

You are invited to gather with us before the parade at the Eckville Town Office @ 10:00 am for refreshments and light brunch

The staging area for the parade is at the Eckville Elementary School located at 4948-54A Avenue starting at 11:00 a.m. The parade begins at 12:00 noon.

Please complete the following and reply by fax to (403) 746-2900 or email to info@eckville.com by May 21, 2024 to confirm your attendance.

	Municipality / Organization:	
	Dignitary(s) Attending:	
	Telephone:	
	Fax:	
	Email:	
Will you be entering a float?		
Will you have another type of entry?		
Will you be bringing a guest?		

We hope you are able to participate and look forward to seeing you on June 8th! If you have any questions or comments, please give us a call at 403-746-2171.

Mayor Colleen Ebdon
Town of Eckville

P.O. Box 578, 5023-51st Avenue, Eckville, AB T0M 0X0
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