



TOWN OF DIDSBURY AGENDA
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
Held by ZOOM Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
3. DELEGATION/ PRESENTATIONS
4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES Pg. 2
 - 4.1 April 27, 2021 Regular Council Meeting
5. PUBLIC HEARINGS- *No public hearings*
6. BYLAWS & POLICIES – *No bylaws or policies*
7. BUSINESS
 - 7.1 Utility Charges Pg. 9
 - 7.2 2021 Operating Budget Pg. 12
 - 7.3 Didsbury RCMP Detachment Multi Year Financial Plan Pg. 20
 - 7.4 Memorial Park Pedestrian Connectivity Project Pg. 30
 - 7.5 Awarding of 20th Street Stormwater & Surface Revitalization Project Pg. 31
 - 7.6 Disaster Recovery Plan Pg. 32
 - 7.7 Outstanding Workshop Items Pg. 33
8. REPORTS
 - 8.1 COVID Update Pg. 34
 - 8.2 CAO Report Pg. 35
 - 8.2.1 Library Project Update
 - 8.3 Council Reports Pg. 38
9. CORRESPONDENCE & INFORMATION Pg. 39
 - 9.1 Jan. 13 and Feb.10, 2021 Municipal Planning Commission Meeting Minutes Pg. 40
 - 9.2 Letters from Multiple Municipalities in Support of RCMP Pg. 45
 - 9.3 Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Notes – April 20, 2021 Pg. 52
 - 9.4 Policy & Governance Committee Meeting Notes - April 21, 2021 Pg. 53
 - 9.5 Invitation to the Bowden Daze Parade Pg. 54
 - 9.6 Red Deer River Municipal Users Group Handbook Pg. 56
10. COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS (Roundtable) Pg. 73
11. QUESTION PERIOD
Public Gallery / Press Gallery
12. CLOSED MEETING (in accordance with Division 2 of the *FOIP Act*)
 - 12.1 Sec.23, 24 (Local body confidences; advice from officials)
 - 12.2 Sec. 24 (Advice from Officials)
13. ADJOURNMENT



**Meeting Minutes of the Town of Didsbury
Regular Council Meeting
April 27, 2021
Held through ZOOM Meetings**

The regular meeting of Council for the Town of Didsbury was held through ZOOM Meetings on Tuesday, April 27, 2021 commencing at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor R. Hunter
Deputy Mayor B. Windsor
Councillor J. Baswick
Councillor E. Poggemiller
Councillor M. Crothers
Councillor C. Engel
Councillor D. Moore

Staff: Chief Administrative Officer, E. Gerner
Assistant CAO/Chief Financial Officer, A. Riley
Director of Community Services, N. Aasen
Director of Engineering & Infrastructure, C. Fox
Strategic Assistant to the CAO, P. Boucher
Manager of Legislative Services/Recording Officer, L. Smith

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hunter called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Move 9.7 to 7.12 - Credit Card Application Fee Waiver (letters)

Res. 179-21 MOVED by Deputy Mayor Windsor to approve the agenda as amended.

Carried

DELEGATION

BDO Canada LLP – Auditors

The Auditors from BDO Canada LLP presented the 2020 Audited Financial Statements.

Res. 180-21 MOVED by Councillor Moore to thank the representatives from BDO Canada LLP for the 2020 Audited Financial Statement presentation.

Carried

Helen Hafke – Didsbury & District Chamber of Commerce

Res. 181-21 MOVED by Deputy Mayor Windsor to thank Helen Hafke of the Didsbury and District Chamber of Commerce for attending the Council meeting and for all they are doing.

Carried

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Res. 182-21 MOVED by Deputy Mayor Windsor to approve the April 13, 2021 Regular Council Meeting Minutes as amended.

Carried

BYLAWS & POLICIES

Supplementary Assessment Bylaw 2021-05

Res. 183-21 MOVED by Councillor Crothers that Council grant second reading to Supplementary Assessment Bylaw 2021-05.

Carried

Res. 184-21 MOVED by Councillor Crothers that Council grant third and final reading to Supplementary Assessment Bylaw 2021-05.

Carried

BUSINESS

2020 Audited Financial Statements

Res. 185-21 MOVED by Councillor Engel that Council approve the 2020 Audited Financial Statements as presented.

Carried

Write Off to Uncollectable Accounts

Res. 186-21 MOVED by Councillor Engel that Council authorize Administration to write off the outstanding receivables in the amount of \$7,187.22.

Carried

Community Signage Project

Res. 187-21 MOVED by Deputy Mayor Windsor that Council rescind resolution 164-21 Community Signage Project.

Councillor Poggemiller and Deputy Mayor Windsor requested a recorded vote

Mayor Hunter - For
Councillor Baswick - Opposed
Councillor Crothers - Opposed
Councillor Engel - For
Councillor Moore - Opposed
Councillor Poggemiller - Opposed
Deputy Mayor Windsor - For

Defeated

Res. 188-21 MOVED by Councillor Moore that the entire \$70,000 noted in resolution 164-21 be put back into the Economic Development Reserve.

Councillor Poggemiller requested a recorded vote.

Mayor Hunter - For
Councillor Baswick - For
Councillor Crothers -For
Councillor Engel -For
Councillor Moore -For
Councillor Poggemiller -For
Deputy Mayor Windsor - For

Carried

Support for the 2021 Census

- Res. 189-21 MOVED by Councillor Engel, be it resolved that the Town of Didsbury Council supports the 2021 Census, and encourages all residents to complete their census questionnaire online at www.census.gc.ca. Accurate and complete census data support programs and services that benefit our community.

Carried

Power to 20th Avenue Poles

- Res. 190-21 MOVED by Councillor Engel that this be referred back to the Performance Evaluation Committee to further explore other options.

Carried

- Res. 191-21 MOVED by Deputy Mayor Windsor to direct Administration to bring an update on the Strategic Plan items that are due.

Carried

Didsbury Curling Club Financial Relief

- Res. 192-21 MOVED by Deputy Mayor Windsor to approve financial relief of \$9,887 for the Didsbury Curling Club for their lease and utility costs from December 1, 2020 to March 5, 2021, and further that this relief be funded with proceeds of the MOST grant with no budgeted tax impact from the approval of this item.

Carried

Form of Ballot 2021 Municipal Election

- Res. 193-21 MOVED by Councillor Baswick that Council refer the Form of Ballot 2021 questions to the Strategic Planning Committee for a more in-depth review.

Carried

Municipal Utility Relief for Restaurants

- Res. 194-21 MOVED by Deputy Mayor Windsor to accept this report as information.

Defeated

- Res. 195-21 MOVED by Councillor Engel that this be referred to the Policy and Governance Committee for further review and recommendation.

Carried

CLOSED MEETING

- Res. 196-21 Moved by Deputy Mayor Windsor to go into closed meeting at 8:18 p.m.

Defeated

Levels of Service Budget Recommendations

- Res. 197-21 MOVED by Councillor Poggemiller to approve the level of service adjustments with items 2 to 5 as presented and that the draft budget be amended accordingly.

Councillor Poggemiller requested a recorded vote

Mayor Hunter - For
Councillor Baswick -For
Councillor Crothers -For
Councillor Engel - For
Councillor Moore - For
Councillor Poggemiller - For
Deputy Mayor Windsor - For
Carried

- Res. 198-21 MOVED by Deputy Mayor Windsor to direct Administration to return draft 2 of the budget showing revenue from tax \$4,652,793 representing a 0.5% decrease from 2020 and to return a draft 3 of the budget showing revenue from tax of \$4,652,793 representing a 0% decrease from 2020.

Defeated

A 2-minute break was taken at 8:58 p.m. and resumed at 9:01 p.m.

Cyber Security Change in Level of Service

- Res. 199-21 MOVED by Councillor Baswick to approve the change in the level of service for IT services and approve the addition of \$15,000 to the 2021 Operating Budget for cyber security services.

Carried

Didsbury Economic Development Marketing Plan Review

- Res. 200-21 MOVED by Councillor Moore to accept the Didsbury Economic Development Marketing Plan with the Didsbury Economic Development Advisory Committee comments as information, and thank the committee for the work they did on this document and refer it to the Economic Development Department.

Carried

Credit Card Administration Fee Waiver

- Res. 201-21 MOVED by Deputy Mayor Windsor to rescind Res. 154-21 Credit Card Administration Fee Waiver.

Carried

REPORTS

COVID-19 Update

- Res. 202-21 MOVED by Councillor Crothers to accept the COVID-19 update for April 27, 2021 as information.

Carried

CAO Report

Res. 203-21 MOVED by Councillor Crothers to accept the Chief Administrative Officer's Report for April 27, 2021 as information.

Carried

Res. 204-21 MOVED by Deputy Mayor Windsor to have Administration bring back a report showing the impact of \$500,000 reserve transfer on water rates and fees and the corresponding impact on wastewater rates and fees.

Carried

Council Reports

Res. 205-21 MOVED by Councillor Engel that Council give their report updates at the next Regular Council Meeting.

Carried

CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION

- Policy & Governance Committee Meeting Notes for March 31, 2021
- Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Notes for April 7, 2021
- Performance Evaluation Committee Meeting Notes for March 18, 2021
- DEDAC Meeting Notes March 15, 2021
- Chinook's Edge School Division Board of Trustees
- Letter from Minister Schweitzer response to Mayor Hunter on Virtual Town Halls

Res. 206-21 MOVED by Councillor Moore to accept the items presented as information.

Carried

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Res. 207-21 MOVED by Councillor Moore that Council deferred the Council Highlights to the Legislative Services Department.

Carried

QUESTION PERIOD - deferred to next meeting.

CLOSED MEETING

Res. 208-21 MOVED by Councillor Baswick to go into closed meeting in accordance with Division 2 Sections 16, 23, 24 and 25 of the *FOIP Act* at 9:39 p.m.

Carried

The following staff attended the closed meeting session with Council:

E. Gerner, Chief Administrative Officer

A. Riley, Assistant CAO/Chief Financial Officer

L. Smith, Manager of Legislative Services

RECONVENE

Res. 209-21 MOVED by Deputy Mayor Windsor to come out of closed meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Carried

Res. 210-21 MOVED by Councillor Baswick to reconvene the Regular Council Meeting of April 27, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. to April 28, 2021.

Carried

ADJOURNMENT

Res. 211-21 MOVED by Councillor Baswick to adjourn the meeting Regular Council Meeting for April 27, 2021 at 10:00 p.m.

Carried

RECONVENE / CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hunter called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. on April 28, 2021.

Present: Mayor R. Hunter
 Deputy Mayor B. Windsor
 Councillor C. Engel
 Councillor D. Moore

Regrets: Councillor J. Baswick
 Councillor E. Poggemiller
 Councillor M. Crothers

Administration: Chief Administrative Officer, E. Gerner
 Assistant CAO/Chief Financial Officer, A. Riley
 Manager of Legislative Services/Recording Officer, L. Smith

CLOSED MEETING

Res. 212-21 MOVED by Councillor Engel to go into closed meeting in accordance with Division 2 Sections 16, 23, 24 and 25 of the *FOIP Act* at 6:01 p.m.

Carried

The following staff attended the closed meeting session with Council:
Chief Administrative Officer, E. Gerner
Assistant CAO/Chief Financial Officer, A. Riley
Manager of Legislative Services, L. Smith

RECONVENE

Res. 213-21 MOVED by Councillor Moore to come out of closed meeting at 6:53 p.m.

Carried

Res. 214-21 MOVED by Deputy Mayor Windsor that Council grant extension to Shantz Village Land Corp for Lot 1 until May 1, 2022.

Carried

Res. 215-21 MOVED by Councillor Engel that Council approve Mayor Hunter sending a letter to the Friends of the Didsbury Library on behalf of Council as a follow up to the meeting that was held with them.

Carried

ADJOURNMENT

Res. 216-21 MOVED by Councillor Moore to adjourn the meeting April 27, 2021 Regular Council Meeting at 6:54 p.m. on April 28, 2021.

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.

COUNCIL MEETING DATE	MAY 11, 2021
SUBJECT	UTILITY CHARGES CALCULATION
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT	ACAO/CFO
AGENDA ITEM	7.1

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

The Utility charges for 2021 have been calculated based on the framework outlined in the Utility Charges Bylaw which has received first and second reading.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

Because the budgets have increased year over year there is an overall increase in fees expected. The fees based on the proposed budget are in the attachment to this document. Adjustments to the fees can be made by way of budget adjustment to the utility departments.

RECOMMENDATION

As directed by Council.

Utility Charges Calculation

1. Fees required in 12 month based on current proposed budget

Utilities Fees - over a 12 month period			
	Current Monthly Fee	Monthly Fee Proposed	Monthly Savings (cost)*
Solid Waste Fee	23.05	19.50	3.55
Water Fixed Fee	14.00	28.50	(14.50)
Water Variable Fee	2.50	3.60	(13.20)
Wastewater Fixed Fee	15.00	9.10	5.90
Wastewater Variable Fee	1.96	1.10	10.32
TOTAL	105.57	113.50	(7.93)
* Based on 12 cubic metres consumption per month			

2. Due to the fees set for the first 5 months of 2021, implementation of the new fees for the remainder of the year will cause there to be an over-collection of Wastewater revenue and under-collection of Water revenue. Administration recommends that the over collection of Wastewater revenue be allocated to the under collection of Water revenue and the difference be adjusted by reducing the current year transfer to reserves.
3. If this approach is not taken, there will be a situation that the user fees drastically swing one way or the other (higher or lower, depending on department). Followed by rate changes in the following year to adjust back to the normalized rates. In order to collect the proper amount of revenue for the remainder of the year, beginning June 1, 2021, the fees require would be as follows:

Utilities Fees - remainder of year			
	Current Monthly Fee	Monthly Fee Proposed	Monthly Savings (cost)*
Solid Waste Fee	23.05	16.00	7.05
Water Fixed Fee	14.00	37.60	(23.60)
Water Variable Fee	2.50	4.30	(21.60)
Wastewater Fixed Fee	15.00	3.70	11.30
Wastewater Variable Fee	1.96	0.50	17.52
TOTAL	105.57	114.90	(9.33)
* Based on 12 cubic metres consumption per month			

Inconsistent Fees			
	Current Monthly Fee	Option 2	Option 1
Solid Waste Fee	23.05	16.00	19.50
Water Fixed Fee	14.00	37.60	28.50
Water Variable Fee	2.50	4.30	3.60
Wastewater Fixed Fee	15.00	3.70	9.10
Wastewater Variable Fee	1.96	0.50	1.10
TOTAL	105.57	114.90	113.50

4. Per Council resolution 204-21, impact of water reserve transfer on current year rates:

Impact of Reserve Transfers			
	Includes \$500,000 water reserve transfer	Does not include water reserve transfer	Includes \$250,000 water reserve transfer
Water Fixed Fee	28.50	8.90	18.65
	Does not include wastewater reserve transfer	Includes \$455,000 wastewater reserve transfer	Includes \$250,000 wastewater reserve transfer
Wastewater Fixed Fee	9.10	26.70	18.75
TOTAL	37.60	35.60	37.40



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: *The Place to Grow.*

Mission: *Creating the Place to Grow.*

COUNCIL MEETING DATE	May 11, 2021
SUBJECT	2021 Operating Budget
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT	CAO & ACAO/CFO
AGENDA ITEM	7.2

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

The first draft of the 2021 Operating Budget was presented to Council during their Operating Workshop held on March 27, 2021. At the April 13, 2021 Regular Council Meeting, Council referred the budget to the Performance Evaluation Committee review service levels and make recommendations for revisions in consideration of various suggestions.

At their meeting on April 15, 2021 the Performance Evaluation Committee undertook this task and identified some level of service changes that they recommended Council make. These along with other proposals from Council and Administration were considered during the Regular Council meeting held on April 27, 2021. At this meeting Council approved various initiatives, which are now reflected in the updated draft of the 2021 Operating Budget, which is attached below for Council's consideration.

It should be noted that the revenues required from taxation were reduced last year by 3.3% while our neighbors all required an increase. Also, the per capita amount of these proposed revenues for 2021 are the lowest amongst all of the municipalities in the region. See the comments and data below with regards to regional comparisons.

DISCUSSION/CONSIDERATIONS

Budget Considerations – Levels of Service

A budget is a reflection of the levels of service (or generally level of service) a municipality provides to the public with regards to all areas, ranging from large, hard services at public facilities to small things like the supplies staff use to assist in providing the various levels of service. Every dollar of a budget is representative of a level of service and usually any increase or decrease to a level of service represents a change to the budget.

Council's role with regards to the Operating Budget is to give direction on those levels of service, which Administration then implements by revising the budget accordingly. As Council gives direction to increase or decrease a level of service, Administration then adjusts the budget accordingly to provide that level of service.

Attached below is a chart that illustrates the proposed tax revenues required to fund this proposed budget in conjunction with the last five years (including also the first draft presented on March 27, 2021). It should be noted that 2020, as illustrated and discussed last year, was an atypical year due to very unique circumstances from the global pandemic that abnormally impacted our operational level of service and therefore the budget.

Council may consider additional level of service changes. Attached below are options, where Council may adjust various levels of service with regards to Council initiatives, general operational level of services or even adjust how much is set aside into reserves to find additional budget savings. It should be noted however that the larger the adjustments made to the budget will potentially cause difficulties with the development of future budgets due to the larger increases that will then be required to account for inflation and the return to normal levels of service after the pandemic-related shutdowns.

A Note About Inflation

It should also be noted that as the cost of providing a specific level of service increases then the funds required to provide that service increases, simply to keep the level of service steady. The economic term for this is inflation.



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

According to analysis provided on April 21, 2021 by the Government of Alberta:

"On a year-over-year basis, Albertans paid 1.9% more in March 2021 for the goods and services that comprise the Consumer Price Index (CPI) than in the same month a year ago, while the national average CPI was up 2.2%. In Alberta, nearly all commodity categories increased, with Energy (+28.6%) increasing the most."

Changes to the Consumer Price Index for Alberta over the last 5 years are as follows (January of each year):

2017	2.5%	2020	3%
2018	1.4%	2021	0.8%
2019	1.2%		

This information can be found at:

<https://economicdashboard.alberta.ca/ConsumerPriceIndexChange#alberta>

A Note about Assessment and Tax Rates

The operating budget informs us as to the amount of revenues required to be raised through taxation. Property assessments are the assessed value of a given property. Tax revenues are collected by dividing up the budget revenues required, by the property assessments in the town, which informs what the required tax rates are to raise those revenues. Tax revenues needed to fund the budget then are calculated using assessments and the associated tax rate. If property assessments go down, then this requires a higher tax rate to collect those required revenues. If assessments go up, then a lower tax rate will be needed to collect those same revenues.

Regional Comparisons

Regionally, our neighbors have been wrestling with these same decisions that we have over these past 5 years and especially during the difficult circumstances brought about by the global pandemic and associated provincial restrictions. The following chart shows the past five years of tax revenues collected by our regional neighbors. The numbers marked in red denote increases in tax revenues collected from the year before, and green represents a reduction. We've also calculated the percentage change from this year's amounts in comparison with 2019 (the last regular year prior to the global pandemic). Note that we are the only municipality in the region with a proposed 2021 operating budget that requires less tax revenues from 2019, even though inflation has increased since then.

MUNICIPALITY	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Δ 2019	per capita
CARSTAIRS	\$4,037,087	\$4,198,674	\$4,258,385	\$4,367,480	\$4,397,528	3%	\$1,079
OLDS	\$8,803,823	\$9,069,408	\$9,497,406	\$9,813,008	\$9,659,239	2%	\$1,052
SUNDRE	\$3,241,208	\$3,336,996	\$3,491,851	\$3,647,933	\$3,522,512	1%	\$1,291
MVC	\$28,709,878	\$29,004,339	\$29,324,961	\$29,460,641	\$29,811,656	2%	\$2,280
DIDSBURY	\$4,836,472	\$4,896,590	\$4,837,046	\$4,676,174	\$4,727,454	-2%	\$897

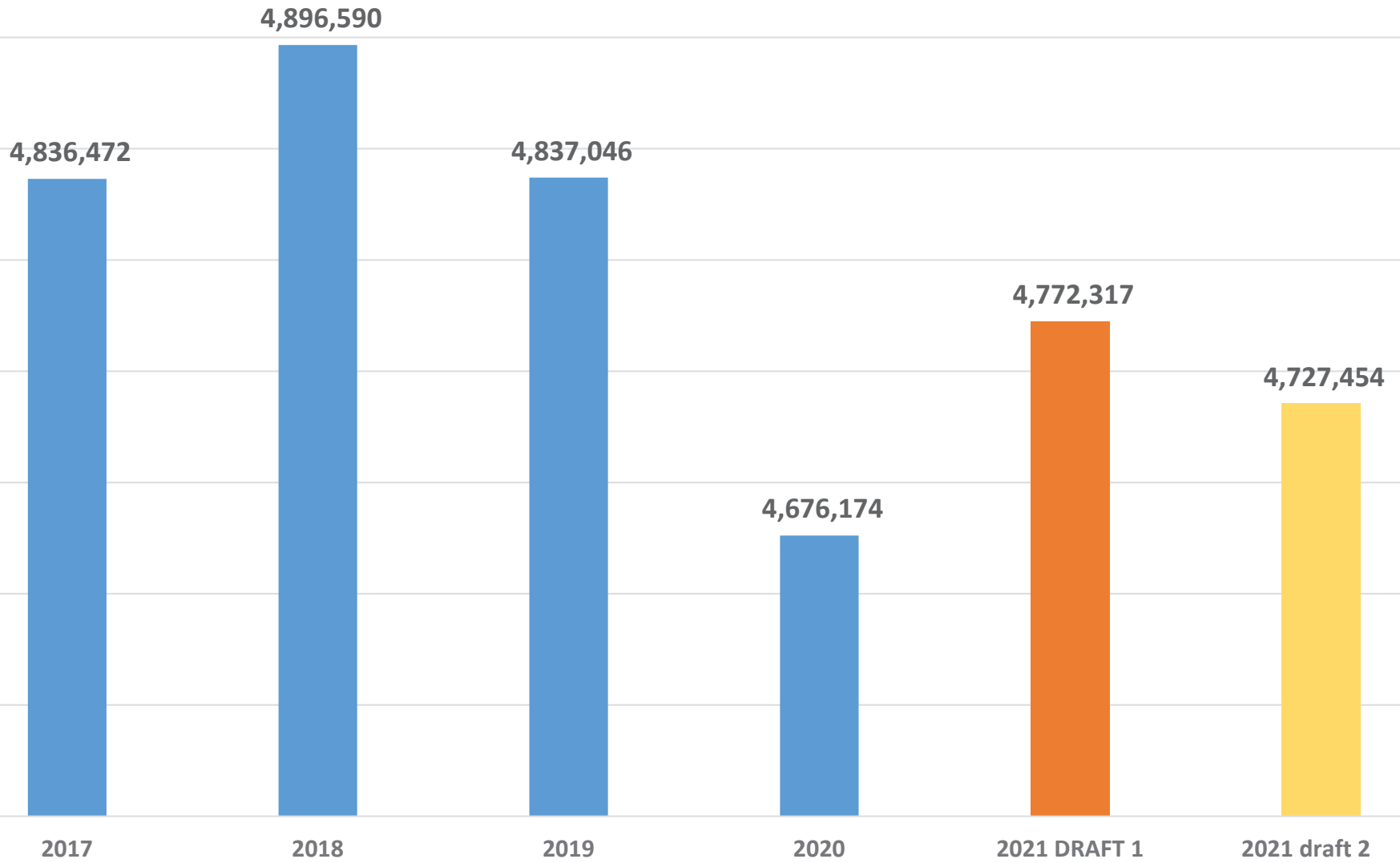
RECOMMENDATION

That Council move to approve the 2021 Operating Budget as presented.

OR

That Council approve further revisions to the level of service (see the attached document below) and approve the 2021 Operating Budget accordingly.

TOWN OF DIDSBURY TAX REVENUE 5 YEAR COMPARISON



TOWN OF DIDSBURY
2021 Operating Budget - by division

	2020 Budget	2021 Budget DRAFT 1 March 27, 2021	Community Grant Program (April 13, 2021)	Credit Card Admin Fee (April 27, 2021)	Curling Club Relief (April 27, 2021)	Cyber Security (April 27, 2021)	PEC recommendations (April 27, 2021)	2021 Budget DRAFT 2 May 11, 2021	\$ Change from 2020 Budget	\$ Change from DRAFT 1 Budget
<i>Revenues - by division</i>										
General Municipal Revenue	860,000	1,192,332	-	-	(9,887)	-	-	1,182,445	322,445	(9,887)
Council and Election	-	-	30,000	-	-	-	-	30,000	30,000	30,000
General Government	171,574	144,000	-	2,000	-	-	-	146,000	(25,574)	2,000
Community Services										
FCSS	174,384	174,984	-	-	-	-	-	174,984	600	-
DOSCA	201,000	201,000	-	-	-	-	-	201,000	-	-
Didsbury Neighborhood Place Programming	39,298 8,750	37,298 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	37,298 -	(2,000) (8,750)	- -
	423,432	413,282	-		-	-	-	413,282	(10,150)	-
Recreation Services										
Arena	391,082	400,298	-	-	-	-	-	400,298	9,216	-
Aquatics	396,482	369,548	-	-	-	-	-	369,548	(26,934)	-
Ice Plant	101,900	97,200	-	-	-	-	-	97,200	(4,700)	-
Curling Rink	43,920	43,920	-	-	-	-	-	43,920	-	-
Parks	10,475	18,543	-	-	-	-	-	18,543	8,068	-
MPR	17,000	10,500	-	-	-	-	-	10,500	(6,500)	-
Concession	3,575	5,000	-	-	-	-	-	5,000	1,425	-
Train Station	10,000	7,500	-	-	-	-	-	7,500	(2,500)	-
Memorial Complex	-	30,500	-	-	-	-	-	30,500	30,500	-
Campground	25,000	32,000	-	-	-	-	-	32,000	7,000	-
	999,434	1,015,009	-		-	-	-	1,015,009	15,575	-
Communications/Marketing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Culture										
Museum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Library	114,022	114,334	-	-	-	-	-	114,334	312	-
Other Community Facilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	114,022	114,334	-		-	-	-	114,334	312	-

TOWN OF DIDSBURY
2021 Operating Budget - by division

Protective Services										
RCMP	366,725	361,767	-	-	-	-	-	361,767	(4,958)	-
Fire Department	228,935	234,974	-	-	-	-	-	234,974	6,039	-
Municipal Enforcement	83,450	69,500	-	-	-	-	-	69,500	(13,950)	-
Emergency Management	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	679,110	666,241	-		-	-	-	666,241	(12,869)	-
Planning and Development										
Planning and Development	62,000	58,000	-	-	-	-	-	58,000	(4,000)	-
Economic Development	50,000	45,000	-	-	-	-	-	45,000	(5,000)	-
Subdivision	390,595	240,595	-	-	-	-	-	240,595	(150,000)	-
	502,595	343,595	-		-	-	-	343,595	(159,000)	-
Public Works										
Roads and Streets	114,900	107,900	-	-	-	-	-	107,900	(7,000)	-
Cemetery	23,800	17,800	-	-	-	-	-	17,800	(6,000)	-
	138,700	125,700	-		-	-	-	125,700	(13,000)	-
Utilities										
Water Utility	1,375,020	1,977,955	-	-	-	-	-	1,977,955	602,935	-
Wastewater Utility	1,053,801	638,749	-	-	-	-	-	638,749	(415,052)	-
Solid Waste Utility	530,000	510,000	-	-	-	-	-	510,000	(20,000)	-
	2,958,821	3,126,704	-		-	-	-	3,126,704	167,883	-
Total Operating Revenue	6,847,688	7,141,197	30,000	2,000	(9,887)	-	-	7,163,310	315,622	22,113

TOWN OF DIDSBURY
2021 Operating Budget - by division

		Approved Communit y Grant Program (April 13,	Credit Card Admin Fee	Item 7.6 Curling Club Relief (April 27, 2021)	Item 7.10 Cyber Security	Item 7.9 Budget recom.	2021 Budget w/ April 27, 2021 proposed changes	\$ Change from 2020 Budget	\$ Change from DRAFT 1 Budget	
	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	(April 13,	Admin Fee	27, 2021)					
<i>Expenditures - by division</i>										
Council and Election	250,184	271,110	30,000	-	-	-	(11,750)	289,360	39,176	18,250
General Government	868,226	894,850	-	(6,000)	-	15,000	-	903,850	35,624	9,000
Community Services										
FCSS	220,470	263,943	-	-	-	-	-	263,943	43,473	-
DOSCA	201,000	201,000	-	-	-	-	-	201,000	-	-
Didsbury Neighborhood Place	39,298	37,298	-	-	-	-	-	37,298	(2,000)	-
Programming	59,886	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(59,886)	-
	520,654	502,241	-		-	-	-	502,241	(18,413)	-
Recreation Services										
Arena	627,363	665,551	-	-	-	-	-	665,551	38,188	-
Aquatics	747,015	688,635	-	-	-	-	-	688,635	(58,380)	-
Ice Plant	101,900	97,200	-	-	-	-	-	97,200	(4,700)	-
Curling Rink	128,160	131,019	-	-	-	-	-	131,019	2,859	-
Parks	279,576	301,635	-	-	-	-	-	301,635	22,059	-
MPR	40,840	40,725	-	-	-	-	-	40,725	(115)	-
Concession	2,000	2,500	-	-	-	-	-	2,500	500	-
Train Station	40,595	39,775	-	-	-	-	-	39,775	(820)	-
Memorial Complex	184,708	237,803	-	-	-	-	-	237,803	53,095	-
Campground	55,561	49,450	-	-	-	-	-	49,450	(6,111)	-
	2,207,718	2,254,293	-		-	-	-	2,254,293	46,575	-
Communications/Marketing	97,850	181,900	-	-	-	-	-	181,900	84,050	-
Culture										
Museum	31,650	31,650	-	-	-	-	-	31,650	-	-
Library	317,572	303,183	-	-	-	-	-	303,183	(14,389)	-
Other Community Facilities	9,919	10,370	-	-	-	-	-	10,370	451	-
	359,141	345,203	-		-	-	-	345,203	(13,938)	-

TOWN OF DIDSBURY
2021 Operating Budget - by division

Protective Services										
RCMP	725,705	789,975	-	-	-	-	-	789,975	64,270	-
Fire Department	582,020	592,645	-	-	-	-	-	592,645	10,625	-
Municipal Enforcement	332,636	330,357	-	-	-	-	(50,000)	280,357	(52,279)	(50,000)
Emergency Management	20,265	32,695	-	-	-	-	-	32,695	12,430	-
	1,660,626	1,745,672	-		-	-	(50,000)	1,695,672	35,046	(50,000)
Planning and Development										
Planning and Development	227,016	222,615	-	-	-	-	-	222,615	(4,401)	-
Economic Development	116,325	154,500	-	-	-	-	-	154,500	38,175	-
Subdivision	390,595	240,595	-	-	-	-	-	240,595	(150,000)	-
	733,936	617,710	-		-	-	-	617,710	(116,226)	-
Public Works										
Roads and Streets	1,756,684	1,849,861	-	-	-	-	-	1,849,861	93,177	-
Cemetery	60,022	73,970	-	-	-	-	-	73,970	13,948	-
	1,816,706	1,923,831	-		-	-	-	1,923,831	107,125	-
Utilities										
Water Utility	1,375,020	1,977,955	-	-	-	-	-	1,977,955	602,935	-
Wastewater Utility	1,053,801	638,749	-	-	-	-	-	638,749	(415,052)	-
Solid Waste Utility	530,000	510,000	-	-	-	-	-	510,000	(20,000)	-
	2,958,821	3,126,704	-		-	-	-	3,126,704	167,883	-
Contingency	50,000	50,000	-		-	-	-	50,000	-	-
Total Operating Expenditures	11,523,862	11,913,514	30,000	(6,000)	-	15,000	(61,750)	11,890,764	366,902	(22,750)
Tax Support	(4,676,174)	(4,772,317)	-	8,000	(9,887)	(15,000)	61,750	(4,727,454)	(51,280)	44,863
			<i>no impact</i>	<i>decrease</i>	<i>increase</i>	<i>increase</i>	<i>decrease</i>		<i>increase</i>	<i>decrease</i>
<i>Percent Increase (decrease) from previous year's budget</i>	<i>-3.33%</i>	<i>2.06%</i>						<i>1.10%</i>		



2021 OPERATING BUDGET

Levels of Service

"Management is doing things right; Leadership is doing the right things" – Peter F. Drucker

1. 2021 OPERATING BUDGET – LEVELS OF SERVICE / FUNDING DISCUSSIONS

a. COUNCIL

- i. Community Supports / Sponsorship Programs
 - 1. Community Services Facility Discount [5k]
 - 2. Community Sponsorship [4k]
 - 3. New Community Support Funding [30k]
- ii. Professional Development Allowance [12k]
- iii. Christmas Party [7.5k]
- iv. Community events – Block Party/Canada Day [5]
- v. Christmas
 - 1. Garland [2.5k]
 - 2. Lights [5k]

b. LEVEL OF SERVICE

- i. Repairs & Maintenance (R&M) – last year's budgeted amount's shown in brackets
 - 1. Roads [200k]
 - 2. Sidewalks [80k]
 - 3. Trails [40k]
- ii. Beautification Funds [12,500]
- iii. CPO Level of Service [50k]
- iv. After Hours Service / On-call [50k]
- v. Public & Political Events / Communications [50k]
- vi. Snow Clearing [45k]
- vii. Curling Club [50k]
- viii. Museum [31k]
- ix. 5-0 Club [10k]
- x. Train Station [40k] – serves the chamber & essentials

c. RESERVE TRANSFERS [700K]

- i. General Government [45k]
- ii. Community Services Capital [318k]
- iii. Protective Services Capital [100k]
- iv. Protective Services Operating [5k]
- v. Public Works Capital [207k]



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

COUNCIL MEETING DATE	May 11, 2021
SUBJECT	Didsbury RCMP Detachment Multi-Year Financial Plan
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT	ACAO/CFO & Legislative Services
AGENDA ITEM	7.3

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

The Town of Didsbury in consultation with Operations Strategy Branch, Alberta RCMP has prepared a Multi-Year Financial Plan for April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2027 for the Didsbury Municipal Detachment.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

Please find attached the plan, which is a reflection of the ongoing cooperation between the RCMP and the Town of Didsbury to ensure adequate and effective municipal policing is provided in the Town of Didsbury pursuant to the Municipal Police Service Agreement (MSPA).

The plan includes:

- i. A listing of MSPA positions
- ii. A listing of resources required to support the Service,
- iii. Forecast of future year costs.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council move to accept the Didsbury RCMP Detachment Multi-Year Financial Plan for April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2027 in principle.



Didsbury Municipal Detachment Multi-Year Financial Plan

**For the Period
April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2027**

Prepared for:	The Town of Didsbury
Prepared by:	Didsbury Detachment
In Consultation With:	Operations Strategy Branch, Alberta RCMP

Introduction

This Multi-Year Financial Plan (MYFP) has been prepared by the Alberta Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), in consultation with the Town of Didsbury, pursuant to Article 17.1 of the Municipal Police Service Agreement (MPSA). This plan is for the fiscal year starting on April 1, 2022, and covers a period of five years.

This plan is a reflection of the ongoing cooperation between the RCMP and the Town of Didsbury to ensure adequate and effective municipal policing is provided in the Town of Didsbury, pursuant to the MPSA. The safety and security of the citizens of the Town of Didsbury and the police officers serving within the Municipal Police Service (MPS) remains the ultimate goal.

This plan updates the projected Municipal Police Service Agreement costs for the fiscal years of 2022 to 2027, and has been prepared by the Didsbury Detachment Commander, in consultation with Alberta RCMP Operations Strategy Branch, Southern Alberta District and the RCMP's Corporate Management Branch.

This plan includes:

- i) A listing of MPSA positions,
- ii) A listing of resources required to support the Service,
- iii) Forecast of future year costs.

Overview

- The 2020 Police to Population Ratio for Didsbury Municipal Detachment was 1,390 persons per Member (Municipal Detachment average for populations Less than 10,000 was 659 persons per Member).
- The 2020 Criminal Code cases per Member for Didsbury Municipal Detachment was 74.5 (Municipal Detachment average for populations Less than 10,000 was 86 Criminal Code cases per Member).
- Total Criminal Code Offences for Didsbury Municipal Detachment **decreased by 6%** between 2019 and 2020.
 - Person Crimes **increased by 10%** between 2019 and 2020; primarily due to an increase in Uttering Threats (71%, from 17 to 29).
 - Property Crime **decreased by 18%** between 2019 and 2020; primarily due to decreases in Mischief to Property (-30%, from 109 to 76) and Fraud (-37, from 60 to 38).
 - Other Criminal Code **increased by 21%** between 2019 and 2020.
 - Mental Health Act files **increased by 18%** (from 71 to 84).

Demographics

According to the 2016 Federal Census, the Town of Didsbury had a population of 5,268 residents. The area of Didsbury is 1,537 hectares, with 2,030 dwellings. The Town proves to be growing at a steady pace.

Economy

The Town of Didsbury's top ten industries include construction, health care and social services, retail trade, transportation, educational services, professional services, oil and gas, public and other service administration, manufacturing. These industries support hundreds of jobs in trades, transportation, sales and service, education, law and social, community and government services, management and health occupations, natural resources, agriculture, production occupations, and art, culture, recreation, and sport. Didsbury is home to the Didsbury and District Health Services hospital facility and elementary, middle, and high schools.

Didsbury Municipal Detachment Resources

Table 1

Function	Officers	S/Sgt.	Sgt.	Cpl.	Cst.	Total
General Duty				1	3	4
Total				1	3	4

Table 1 illustrates the established positions for Didsbury Municipal Detachment

Table 2

Function	Total
Municipal Clerk	1
Total	1

Table 2 illustrates the currently established positions for Didsbury Municipal Detachment Admin personnel.

Anticipated Increases to Resources

Table 3

Police Service Agreement	Category of Employee Rank/Group & Level	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Didsbury MPSA	Regular Member	1			1	
	Regular Member Cost	\$ 118,592			\$ 119,925	
	Municipal Employee		1			
	Municipal Employee Cost		\$50,315			

**Per capita rate (cost per member) 70%*

The last pay raise for members was processed in 2017/18 and no additional increases or adjustments to police officer pay have been made since that time. Financial projections for an increase to regular member pay have been estimated within the financial tables at an increase of 2.5% per year, compounded annually. Estimates will incorporate prior year final salary amounts, overtime and pension costs, and have not been billed in quarterly invoices at this point in time. The average cost per member indicated in the table above does not include any potential pay raise.

One of the goals of the RCMP is to promote safe communities. The public expects a high level of police service which includes quality and timely investigations, support through the court process, visibility throughout the community, regular appearances in schools and traffic enforcement. As populations increase, so will the requests for more staff to complete these tasks. The police to population ratio for the Town of Didsbury is estimated at one Member per 1,390, while the municipal average for Detachments with similar population size is one member per 659 people. We will work together to move closer towards the above average.

The court process has been increasingly onerous on police agencies for several years. We will be moving towards an e-disclosure process where all investigative documents will be submitted to the courts electronically. This process will cause significantly more work for support staff.

Accommodation

The RCMP utilizes a wide variety of facilities in Alberta. These facilities include:

- Federally owned buildings used by RCMP federal policing units;
- Federally owned buildings in which space is leased by RCMP PPSA resources, RCMP MPSA, or a combination of both;
- Municipally owned buildings in which space is leased to RCMP PPSA units; and
- Buildings owned by corporations in which space is leased to RCMP PPSA units.

The Detachment building in Didsbury is owed by the municipality. The building is 662 m² in size and the RCMP leases PPSA space in the Detachment. The current agreement will expire in March 2021 with one additional five-year option remaining. The building is in good condition and there is no scheduled renovation at this time.

Equipment

To ensure operational effectiveness and the safety of all members and the communities we serve, appropriate equipment and technology is required. Officers face varied incidents that can result in injury or damage to persons or equipment, such as intentional contact with police cars or assaults with a weapon. These incidents can impact the required types of equipment and information technology to ensure public and member safety. While the known equipment costs will be included within overall financial projections, there are often opportunities for more effective and efficient equipment that may emerge unexpectedly, such as data storage or body worn cameras. Ensuring our members are properly equipped to manage and respond to incidents is critical to the safety of our citizens and their communities.

The forecast for equipment purchases is based on the five-year Operational Equipment Plan, the Technology Equipment Plan and the Fleet Plan. Items identified within each of the plans are required to support the existing and expanding needs of the Alberta RCMP. In some cases, equipment will be purchased to replace older or outdated equipment, such as the life-cycling of computer equipment. The Alberta RCMP is also bound by regulatory requirements to ensure members are properly trained and appropriately equipped, and equipment purchases are planned to meet these necessities.

For municipalities under a population of 15,000, an economy of scale does not exist individually to create systematic year-by-year cost certainty. For billing and forecasting purposes, a “basic average cost per member” is determined by pooling the bulk of costs for all municipalities under 15,000 and dividing this total by the total number of working members (FTE’s) within those municipalities. This basic average cost per member rate is then used in billing for all municipalities under 15,000 and is multiplied by each municipality’s working members to determine the costs for each location. This pooled rate benefits municipalities with a smaller population and in turn smaller spending targets, as large-scale purchases that occur in a single year could have significant financial impact on the municipality. This pooled rate assists in smoothing the costs from year to year and minimizing drastic financial effects from one year to the next.

Due to the ever changing police environment, the Alberta RCMP needs to have ongoing discussions about future equipment to ensure the safety of our members and the public we serve. Future equipment needs that may impact future budgets, are listed below.

Body Worn Cameras - In the Government of Canada's Fall Economic Statement (November 30, 2020) funding was provided to implement a National Body Worn Camera program for frontline RCMP officers to improve transparency and accountability and respond to concerns about policing from racialized and Indigenous communities. Canada has agreed to fund the first 3 years of the rollout in order to provide contract partners with time to factor this into future Multi Year Financial Plans. At this time, the RCMP is still engaged in the procurement process for BWCs. The RCMP will share any financial details with the CMC once they are available.

Pistol Modernization – National Use of Force, the National Armourer Program and Materials and Assets have been reviewing the requirement to replace the current 9mm Smith and Wesson duty pistols which have been in use since 1994 and have not been commercially manufactured since 1999. A variety of issues have arisen suggesting the current pistol does not meet the needs of Alberta RCMP members. Industry advancements have been made resulting in the availability of lighter weight pistols which allow for attachments of lights, improved ergonomics and increased reliability.

At the same time, a more thorough review of the Alberta RCMP long guns has also been conducted. The review indicated that efficiencies in training, member annual recertification compliance and maintenance can be achieved by eliminating some firearms and upgrading the existing carbine with some additional accoutrements. A longer term proposal would involve the elimination of one or two long guns and a calibre conversion for the existing carbines. Further review is required before a decision will be made.

Portable Ballistic Shields – The RCMP has identified that Portable Ballistic Shields (PBS) can provide an extra measure of safety to RCMP members in some highly dangerous situations. The PBS will supplement soft and hard body armour when the need arises for frontline officers to deploy as additional ballistic protection. The cost per PBS is estimated to be \$8,000 to \$10,000 each. A new standard from the National Institute of Justice specific to ballistic shields was released in 2019. RCMP National Use of Force has reviewed the new standard and amended the specifications that will be forwarded for approval to RCMP Senior Management at Contract and Indigenous Policing. It has not yet been determined if the PBS will be a mandatory piece of equipment for every RCMP detachment, nor has it been determined what the minimum number of PBS would be for each Detachment.

Breaching Equipment – As part of Immediate Action Rapid Deployment (IARD) training, members are introduced to the use of breaching equipment. There is currently no approved breaching equipment for general duty members. The breaching tool is designed to be stored in a marked police vehicle in order to deal with IARD type incidents. National Use of Force unit researched and evaluated nine different types of breaching tools, ranging in price from \$160 to \$2,000 per tool. A decision is still pending on whether the tools will be mandatory. Policy and training are under development and will be finalized once the tool is selected.

Extended Range Impact Weapon (40mm – less lethal) – A pilot project on the use of the 40mm Extended Range Impact Weapon (ERIW) by General Duty members is on-going. The project is working to assess the usage and effectiveness of this less lethal option. The one-year general duty pilot officially commenced June 1, 2018 and ended May 31, 2019. Work is underway for a new standing offer and roll-out plan for 40mm ERIW munitions.

Hard Body Armour (HBA) – For several months, National Use of Force has been reviewing the RCMP's current HBA. Industry advancements have been made resulting in the availability of lighter weight HBA plates and plates of different sizes to allow a better fit for several different body shapes. A review is in progress of the current product description for HBA. Once the review is completed, the product description for HBA will be amended to seek lighter weight and multiple sized HBA rifle plates for future procurement contracts. The RCMP is exploring the option of issuing HBA to all regular members as part of the personal issued kit. This proposal is still under development.

Situational Awareness (ATAK) – The RCMP is currently performing ongoing testing of a situational awareness software that would allow for members' location to be posted for awareness when on duty. The system currently being tested, referred to as Android Team Awareness Kit (ATAK), allows for GPS tracking of members to ensure they can be located by front-line supervisors, Critical Incident Commander (CIC), Operational Communications Centres (OCC), Division Emergency Operations Centres (DEOC) and/or the National Operations Centre (NOC). The ATAK system requires that each member be issued an android phone. A project proposal is currently being advanced for system implementation throughout the RCMP, with ongoing testing in place within Alberta and other locations with positive results. Test results have been shared with the Contract Management Committee, and Alberta continues to plan for the implementation of ATAK in conjunction with the National Project team lead by Contract and Indigenous Policing (C&IP).

In Car Digital Video System (ICDVS) – The life cycle management of ICDVS equipment is aligned with the vehicle replacement schedule. These systems were formerly provided by WatchGuard, and as a result of the recent bidding process, Panasonic is now the provider of this equipment. There are some challenges with changing providers, as the systems can only be installed at initial vehicle fit-up. The Panasonic back-end infrastructure is not compatible with the Watchguard infrastructure. As a result, the Alberta RCMP will remain using the Watchguard system until the back-end infrastructure is updated, which could take up to five years.

AFRRCS – Full implementation of the AFRRCS system is complete and in the operations phase of equipment lifecycling. Based on the current lifespan of the radios, the IT plan has been adjusted to phase replacement over 7 years as an ongoing program. The Alberta RCMP is now in a position to decommission radio towers that are no longer of service.

Conclusion

This Multi-Year Financial Plan is presented in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Police Service Agreement. The RCMP remains committed to the sound stewardship of public resources in balance with operational requirements in a complex and evolving landscape.

The continuing investment in the municipal police service, particularly in building front line resources, will better equip the RCMP in Didsbury to meet the challenges that accompany prosperity and growth.

Agreement in Principle

S/Sgt. Chad Fournier
Detachment Commander
Didsbury Detachment

Date:

I acknowledge receipt of this Multi-Year Financial Plan that has been prepared as required under the Municipal Police Service Agreement. This MYFP, including the proposed budget and any changes to the number of personnel, is approved “in principle” only and will be considered as part of the Municipal annual budget development process. At the conclusion of our budget process, we will supply the Detachment Commander a budget letter, which will include confirmation of any changes in the number of Members and Support Staff for the Municipal Police Service, and an explanation for any differences between the most recent projected budget figure and the approved budget, including any suggestions for addressing the difference.

Rhonda Hunter
Mayor
Town of Didsbury

Date:



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

COUNCIL MEETING DATE	May 11, 2021
SUBJECT	Memorial Park Pedestrian Connectivity
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT	Infrastructure & Engineering
AGENDA ITEM	7.4

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

As part of the 2020 Capital budget, Council approved a the 'Pedestrian Connectivity – Memorial Park' project to improve the pedestrian crossing at 16th Street & Highway 582. The project is budgeted for \$74,000 to be funded from grants. The project has been stalled due to results of consultation with Alberta Transportation in 2020 and the project is currently outstanding.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

To move this project forward, Administration recommends engaging a consultant to conduct a traffic study for the intersection with a focus on providing solutions for the pedestrian crossing. A focused study will provide the recommendations necessary for good investment decisions. This engagement is estimated at \$7,500 which would be funded from the Public Works operating budget.

Alternatively, Council may consider removing the project from the 2020 capital budget, which would terminate the project.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

Strategic Priority – Health Living

RECOMMENDATION

That Council move that Administration, acquire a traffic study for the intersection of 16th Street & Highway 582 and to return the results to the Strategic Planning Committee to develop a recommendation on the capital project.



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

COUNCIL MEETING DATE	May 11, 2021
SUBJECT	Awarding 20 th Street Stormwater & Surface Revitalization Project
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT	Engineering & Infrastructure
AGENDA ITEM	7.5

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

As part of the 2021 Capital budget, Council approved the '20th Street Stormwater and Surface Revitalization' project. Bids were released publically on April 13th and closed May 5th, 2021.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

ISL received six (6) bids in total. Technical evaluations were conducted to ensure all aspects of the contract were understood by each bidder. Following a few clarifications and reference checks it was clear we had six highly competent general contractors. Each contractor has direct experience within the Town of Didsbury, either directly or through the use of local contractors. Ultimately, following the technical evaluation, the deciding factor is fiscal.

Table 1: Bid Rank

Contractor	Bid (Tender Total & Contingency)	Rank
Kaon Infrastructure	\$ 454,891.03	1
Professional Excavators	\$ 494,169.78	2
Ruby Rock Asphalt Works Ltd.	\$ 497,951.73	3
Netook Construction Ltd.	\$ 516,426.90	4
Urban Dirtworks Inc.	\$ 531,407.69	5
Unsurpassable Construction Ltd.	\$ 563,158.75	6

Table 2: Project Values

Kaon Infrastructure	20th Street Storm & Surface Revitalization
Project Schedule Totals	\$ 344,119.30
Contractual Requirements	\$ 69,418.00
Contingency (10%)	\$ 41,353.73
Tender Award Values	\$ 454,891.03
Engineering	\$ 61,101.00
Project Total	\$ 515,992.03
Approved 2021 Capital Budget	\$ 626,202.00

RECOMMENDATION

That Council move to award the 20th Street Stormwater and Surface Revitalization Project for a total of \$454, 891.03 to Kaon Construction.



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

COUNCIL MEETING DATE	May 11, 2021
SUBJECT	Disaster Recovery Program
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT	Legislative Services
AGENDA ITEM	7.6

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

Council was presented with an update from the Provincial Government on the Disaster Recovery Program at the April 13, 2021 meeting.

Council passed a resolution requesting that a summary report be brought back on the changes and the potential impacts to residents of the Town of Didsbury.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

Due to the very costly disasters that have happened in Alberta over the last number of years the Province is attempting to provide additional framework for such future funding in an attempt to rein in these costs and put some additional responsibility on municipalities and home owners.

The changes to the program are as follows:

Funding is now 90/10 split between province and applicant

- Applicants for Disaster Recovery funds will now have funding responsibilities (10%) related to any funds applied for, whether the applicant is a municipality or a home owner. Therefore, any one qualifying for such recovery funds will only receive 90% of what they qualify for.

\$500,000 funding cap per property address. Once there is a payout, regardless of the dollar amount, there is no other funding for that property.

- \$500,000 funding cap and a one-time cap on any assistance to an affected property.
- It is not cumulative and it runs with the property. Therefore, no matter who the homeowner is, a property that has received disaster monies in any amount will not be eligible for further disaster funding.
- Properties that have received disaster funding will be publicly posted online, which could impact property values.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council move to accept the update on Disaster Recovery Program as information.



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

COUNCIL MEETING DATE	May 11, 2021
SUBJECT	Outstanding Workshop Items
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT	OCAO
AGENDA ITEM	7.7

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

Council has previously considered some draft strategic items that require further direction. These are as follows:

1. Housing Needs Review
2. Governance of Public Art
3. Perpetual Care Cemetery Fees

CONSIDERATIONS

1. **Housing Needs Review** – administration acknowledges the need for such a review and assessment and would like to explore this issue further along with possible options to bring back for Council's consideration.
2. **Governance of Public Art** – there are two approaches that can be taken with this: either a policy-driven, administrative approach or a governance committee approach. During previous strategic discussions a preference was expressed for a policy-driven, administrative approach and therefore it is recommended that this be referred to the Policy & Governance Committee for their review and recommendation with regards to a policy framework.
3. **Perpetual Care Cemetery Fees** – this requires a legislative framework and it is recommended that this be referred to the Policy & Governance Committee for their review and recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION *(Two motions are required)*

That it be MOVED that the issue of housing needs and an assessment be referred to administration for further exploration and a recommendation to be brought back to Council.

AND

That it be MOVED that the Governance of Public Art and Perpetual Care Cemetery Fees be referred to the Policy & Governance Committee for their review and recommendation.



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

COUNCIL MEETING DATE	May 11, 2021
SUBJECT	COVID Update
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT	Legislative Services
AGENDA ITEM	8.1

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

Administration will provide an update on COVID-19.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council accept the COVID-19 update for May 11, 2021 as information.



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

COUNCIL MEETING DATE	May 11, 2021
SUBJECT	Chief Administrative Officer's Report
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT	Legislative Services
AGENDA ITEM	8.2

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

The Chief Administrative Officer provides Council with a regular report for Council's review and information.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

Please see attached.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

Strategic Priority 2. An Informed & Engaged Community

RECOMMENDATION

That Council move to accept the Chief Administrative Officer's report for May 11, 2021 as information.



CAO Report – May 11, 2021

1. Change in Compost Pick Up Schedule (ACAO/CFO)

The Town's residential waste contractor approached the Town to change the date of the green bin pick up to align with black bin pick up dates, in order to reduce contamination to the recycling. The solid waste level of service will not be impacted. The Town will be advertising through multiple means including newspaper, radio, utility bills, town hall news and bulk mail out of revised magnet schedules.

Your Waste Collection Schedule is CHANGING!

EFFECTIVE ON JULY 6, 2021 - Your **GREEN** compost bin will now be picked up on the same day as your **BLACK** waste bin. Your **BLUE** recycling bin will be picked up on alternating weeks by itself.

For more information and updated schedules, visit our website at **DIDSBURY.CA/P/WASTE-COLLECTION-INFO**



2. Community Clean-up (ACAO/CFO)

Didsbury's Community Cleanup is scheduled for the week of June 7 – 12, 2021. Appliance Day is June 8th, Curbside Pick Day is June 9th and landfill days are June 7th to 12th.

New to our community clean up this year are Pitch-In Kits. To encourage households to participate with community clean-up while following Covid-19 guidelines, households can register for a free pitch-in kit (detailed below) and can drop off their collected garbage at the town shop. Bags that are provided by the Town to pick up waste in the community can be dropped off at the Shop and will be disposed of by the Town. Households can pick their own area to tidy, or may be assigned an area of town needing attention. Employees are also encouraged to participate with members of their own households.



APPLIANCE DAY

Tuesday, June 8, 2021

Have an old, no longer functioning appliance you'd like to get rid of with no way to haul it to the landfill? Set it out curbside, and our Public Works Crew will pick it up for you! Register for your appliance ticket (\$5.00 - \$15.00) online at:

didsbury.ca/p/community-cleanup

LANDFILL DAYS

June 7 to June 12, 2021

Bring your unwanted household items to the landfill on the above listed days for a flat rate of \$10.00 per unit! A combination of a truck and utility trailer is considered one unit, as well as a single vehicle.

Register for your landfill tickets (\$10.00) online at:

didsbury.ca/p/community-cleanup

The Didsbury Landfill is located 2 km northwest of Didsbury. Take Range Rd 20 north of Didsbury and turn left onto Township Rd 314. Follow the signs.
Their hours of operation are
Monday to Saturday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

CURBSIDE PICK-UP DAY

For seniors or persons with disabilities

Wednesday, June 9, 2021

Those requiring assistance may be eligible for curbside pick up! Register, and place your items on your curb and we'll pick it up and take it to the landfill for you! Register for your curbside ticket (\$10.00) online at:

didsbury.ca/p/community-cleanup

Free Pitch-In Kits!

Do you and members of your household want to Pitch-In and clean up an area of the community? Register online for your Pitch-In Kit and participate in the 2021 Community Clean up! Once you're done the clean up, drop your full garbage bags off at the Public Works shop during business hours!

EACH KIT INCLUDES:

- Safety Sheets
- Garbage Bags
- Protective Gloves
- Sanitizer and wipes
- Colouring sheets for the kids



Property Owners may register for their tickets online.

However, tenants/renters must purchase their tickets directly at the Town Office (located at 1606 14th Street, Didsbury). Registered tickets will be added to your June utility bill which you will receive in July.

The deadline for ticket registration is FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 2021, at 4:30 pm.

For more information:

Go online at [Didsbury.ca/p/Community-Cleanup](https://didsbury.ca/p/Community-Cleanup)

or contact Kelsey Hawkins at 403-335-0648 or email khawkins@didsbury.ca





REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

COUNCIL MEETING DATE	May 11, 2021
SUBJECT	Council Reports
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT	Legislative Services
AGENDA ITEM	8.3

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

Council members will give a verbal and/or written report on any business or committee activity they have participated in.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

Strategic Priority 2. An Informed & Engaged Community

RECOMMENDATION

That Council move to accept the Council Reports for May 11, 2021 as information.



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

COUNCIL MEETING DATE	May 11, 2021
SUBJECT	Correspondence & Information
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT	Legislative Services
AGENDA ITEM	9

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

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

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

Please find attached:

- January 13 and February 10, 2021 Municipal Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
- Letters from Multiple Municipalities Supporting the RCMP:
 - Town of Magrath – Letter of Support for RCMP
 - County of Paintearth – Letter of Support for RCMP
 - Town of Morinville – Letter of Support for RCMP
 - Town of Edson – Letter of Support for RCMP
- Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Notes – April 20, 2021
- Policy & Governance Committee Meeting Notes - April 21, 2021
- Invitation to the Bowden Daze Parade – July 17, 2021 (if COVID-19 Restrictions have been lifted)
- Red Deer River Municipal Users Group Handbook

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

Strategic Priority 2. An Informed & Engagement Community

RECOMMENDATION

That Council move to accept the items presented as information.

**Minutes of the Town of Didsbury
Municipal Planning Commission Meeting
January 13, 2021**



Present: Chair S. Madge
Vice-Chair K. Phillips
Councillor M. Crothers
Councillor J. Baswick
Member-at-Large C. Dahl
Development Officer K. Pickett
Recording Officer D. Porath

Absent: Member-at-Large D. Loades,

Guests: Mayor R. Hunter, E. Gorner, TOD CAO, C. Fox, TOD Manager Public Works, A. Novello, Evolve Inc., J. McCoy

The meeting was held via Zoom Meeting with the general public able to be involved via audio/visual conferencing.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Call to order by Chair Madge at 4:31 PM.

2. AGENDA

The agenda was presented for the Commission's approval:

Remove page 70 from the agenda package.

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Crothers that the January 13, 2021 Municipal Planning Commission Meeting agenda be accepted as amended.

Carried

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Crothers that the minutes of the December 9, 2020 Municipal Planning Commission Meeting be approved as presented.

Carried

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.a) Development Permits issued

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Crothers that the report on Development Permits Issued be accepted as information.

Carried

6.b) DP 20-077

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Crothers that the Municipal Planning Commission approves DP 20-077 for Accessory Structure- Communication Structure, subject to the following conditions:

- 1) That the nature of the development conforms to the approved site plan, design and specifications set forth in the application.
- 2) That the Communication Structure be installed and operated in compliance with

Health Canada's Safety Code 6, as may be amended from time to time, for the protection of general public including any combined effects of nearby installations within the local radio environment.

- 3) That the Communication Structure be constructed using the standards of the National building code and that the applicant obtains any other applicable safety codes permits (i.e. building, electrical, plumbing, gas) in accordance with the Safety Codes Act.
- 4) That the proponents be willing to minimize the visual impact of the Communication Structure by disguising or camouflaging the structure to be unobtrusive and inconspicuous as possible as it is adjacent to a residential neighborhood.
- 5) That the use of landscaping on and around the equipment compound associated with the Communication Structure be used to blend in with the surrounding environment.
- 6) That an Alberta One Call be made prior to construction of the Communication Structure.
- 7) Applicant shall apply industry standard best practices for construction activities. This includes but is not limited to noise, dust, environmental practices, erosion, sediment and spill containment.

Carried

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Crothers that January 13, 2021 Municipal Planning Commission meeting be adjourned at 4:56 PM.

Carried


Chair S. Madge


Recording Officer, D. Porath

Minutes of the Town of Didsbury
Municipal Planning Commission Meeting

February 10, 2021



Present: Chair S. Madge
Vice-Chair K. Phillips
Member-at-Large D. Loades
Member-at-Large C. Dahl
Development Officer K. Pickett
Recording Officer D. Porath

Absent: Councillor M. Crothers
Councillor J. Baswick

Guests: None

The meeting was held via Zoom Meeting with the general public able to be involved via audio/visual conferencing.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Call to order by Chair Madge at 4:30 PM.

2. AGENDA

The agenda was presented for the Commission's approval.

MOTION: Moved by Member C. Dahl that the February 10, 2021 Municipal Planning Commission Meeting agenda be accepted as presented.

Carried

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOTION: Moved by Cheryl Dahl that the minutes of the January 13, 2021 Municipal Planning Commission Meeting be approved as presented.

Carried

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.a) Development Permits issued

MOTION: Moved by Member K. Phillips that the report on Development Permits Issued be accepted as information.

Carried

6.b) HO 21-001

MOTION: Moved by Member K. Phillips that the Municipal Planning Commission approves HO 21-001 for a Home Occupation-Massage Therapy subject to the following conditions:

1. That the applicant notifies the Town of Didsbury if there is any change in the business practice (i.e.: change of business, intensification of use, storage of materials, etc.). A change in the business practice, as deemed by the Development Authority, may require a review of the original application, a requirement for a new application, or possible revocation of the existing permit;
2. That approval does not exclude the need and/or requirements of the permit

holder to obtain any and all other permits as may be required by this or any other legislation, bylaws or regulations;

3. There shall be no more than two (2) persons employed in a home occupation activity of which one (1) person shall be a resident of the principal dwelling on the lot in which the home occupation is being carried out.
4. That all customer parking be off-street as per the submitted parking plan;
5. That Business License Bylaw 2012-08 as amended by adhered to;
6. That this permit is only valid for 5 Westhill Drive. If the owner/applicant moves to another location within Didsbury and/or continues to do business within the Town of Didsbury, a new application will be required;
7. That approval does not exempt the applicant from the requirement to comply with public health orders and legislation applicable to the Covid 19 pandemic.

Carried

6.c) HO 21-002

MOTION: Moved by Member D. Loades that the Municipal Planning Commission approves HO 21-002 for a Home Occupation-Soap Maker subject to the following conditions:

1. That the applicant notifies the Town of Didsbury if there is any change in the business practice (i.e.: change of business, intensification of use, storage of materials, etc.). A change in the business practice, as deemed by the Development Authority, may require a review of the original application , a requirement for a new application, or possible revocation of the existing permit;
2. That approval does not exclude the need and/or requirements of the permit holder to obtain any and all other permits as may be required by this or any other legislation, bylaws or regulations;
3. There shall be no more than two (2) persons employed in a home occupation activity of which one (1) person shall be a resident of the principal dwelling on the lot in which the home occupation is being carried out.
4. That all customer parking be off-street as per the submitted parking plan;
5. That Business License Bylaw 2012-08 as amended by adhered to;
6. That this permit is only valid for 1708-16th Street. If the owner/applicant moves to another location within Didsbury and/or continues to do business within the Town of Didsbury, a new application will be required;
7. That approval does not exempt the permit holder from adhering to all Alberta Health Services rules and regulations in regards to COVID-19.

Carried

6.d) DP 21-003

MOTION: Moved by Member D. Loades that the Municipal Planning Commission approves DP 21-003 for one (1) fascia signage and one (1) freestanding signage, located at 204 - 2034 19th Avenue, subject to the following conditions:

- 1) That the nature of the development conforms to the approved site plan, signage design and specifications set forth in the application.
- 2) That the Development Officer may, by notice in writing, suspend a Development Permit where development has occurred in contravention to the terms and conditions of the permit and/ or Land Use Bylaw.
- 3) That if the development authorized by this development permit is not completed as per the requirements of the Land Use Bylaw such permit approval ceases and the permit is deemed void, expired and without effect, unless an extension to this period has been previously granted.

Carried

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Member Phillips that February 10, 2021 Municipal Planning Commission meeting be adjourned at 4:51 PM.

Carried


Chair S. Madge


Recording Officer, D. Porath

April 27, 2021

Honourable Kaycee Madu
Minister of Justice and Solicitor General
424 Legislature Building
10800-97 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2B6

RE Town of Magrath Support for the RCMP

Dear Minister Madu,

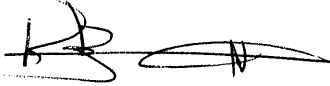
The Magrath Town Council is disappointed by the Province of Alberta's reluctance to accept the results of its own consultative process by pressing forward with an agenda that appears to want to replace the RCMP with an Alberta Provincial Police Service. Given such, we seek to add our support to the letters sent by the Municipality of Crowsnest Pass, the Town of Morinville, and the County of Paintearth No. 18.

While we are confident that through the hard work of those employed either option would provide high quality police services to Albertans, we are more than a little concerned about the bureaucratic transitional costs that would be needed to complete such a change. Our RCMP detachment serves our community's needs, is consultative with our Council, and is recognizable within our community.

It is not the RCMP, but the downloaded costs from the Province's own initiatives for the Rural Crime Initiative and Police Funding model that are having negative impacts on our municipal services. Ultimately, these provincial invoices will require additional taxation on to municipal residents just to be able to pay back the Province. In such uncertain and challenging economic times our Council feels it is unwise for you to press forward with this plan. It would show leadership for your government to, at the minimum, step back and take a pause.

Preferably, now is the time to listen to the respondents of the Fair Deal Panel's consultations, scrap this idea entirely and refocus your efforts on the issues which are of significant concern to Albertans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Russ Barnett', with a stylized, elongated horizontal stroke at the end.

Russ Barnett
Mayor

CC: The Honourable Jason Kenney, Premier
Rachel Notley, Leader of the Opposition
Joseph Schow, MLA
Irfan Sabir MLA Critic for Justice and Solicitor General
AUMA Members
RMA Members

April 21, 2021

Honourable Kaycee Madu
Minister of Justice and Solicitor General
424 Legislature Building
10800-97 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6

Dear Minister, Madu:

Re: County of Paintearth's Support for the RCMP

Our Council wishes to advise they are also not in support of the Government of Alberta's initiative to replace the RCMP with an Alberta Provincial Police Service (APPS) as affirmed in Mayor Turner's letter from the Town of Morinville.

Council agrees that by revising the *Police Act*, the outcomes as identified through the review can be achieved such as improving the public's trust in policing, ensuring an effective complaint process, and having a more harmonious relationship between the police and all communities within Alberta.

Council too has concerns with the province establishing an APPS despite 65% of respondents indicating non-support. The costs of transitioning to an APPS are unknown and the increased operating costs will undoubtedly be borne by the municipalities. The municipalities are currently bearing a substantial amount of policing costs and are not willing to accept unknown additional increases that will be inevitable from a transition to an APPS. This simply cannot be done within a short time frame to offer the expertise and services currently provided to Albertans by the RCMP.

Our County has developed a collaborative relationship with our local RCMP detachment over many years and is satisfied with the level of service and degree of responsiveness received and their involvement with the communities located in the County. Council echoes and encourages the Government of Alberta to abandon the transition study and redouble efforts to work with the RCMP to achieve better outcomes.

Yours truly,

COUNTY OF PAINTEARTH NO. 18



Stan Schulmeister
Reeve

cc: The Honourable Jason Kenney, Premier
MLA Nate Horner, Drumheller- Stettler
MP Damien Kurek, Battle River-Crowfoot
Mr. Curtis Zablocki, Commanding Officer for Alberta, RCMP
AUMA Members
RMA Members



April 16, 2021

The Hon. Kaycee Madu
Minister of Justice and Solicitor General
424 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
EDMONTON, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Minister Madu:

Re: Town of Morinville Support for RCMP

Our Council is not supportive of the Government of Alberta's initiative to replace the RCMP with an Alberta Provincial Police Service (APPS). Our opinion is that there are other, more effective ways to achieve the outcomes identified through the *Police Act* review. Indeed, improving the public's trust in policing, ensuring an effective complaint process, and improving Indigenous peoples' relationships are important objectives.

There are, however, several considerations that cause justifiable concern:

- The Fair Deal Panel recommends establishing an APPS despite 65% of respondents indicating non-support;
- The necessity for a new model is unclear when there is little substantiated dissatisfaction with the RCMP but rather some areas for improvement have, rightfully, been identified;
- Transition costs are poorly understood, and ongoing operating costs will inevitably rise. Municipalities currently bear the majority of policing costs and are not able or willing to accept any additional increases. As you know, municipalities have limited means to increase revenues, receiving only 8-10 cents for every tax dollar collected. Continuing to do more with less is untenable.

There has not been compelling evidence that an APPS would result in better outcomes, particularly with the expected increase in costs. The Town of Morinville has a collaborative relationship with the local RCMP detachment and is satisfied with the level of service and degree of responsiveness received. As such, Council encourages the Government of Alberta to abandon the transition study and redouble efforts to work with the RCMP to achieve better outcomes.

Sincerely,

Barry Turner
Mayor

An Alberta Capital Region Community

...2

CC The Honourable Jason Kenney, Premier
Dale Nally, MLA for Morinville-St. Albert
Dane Lloyd, MP for Sturgeon River-Parkland
Curtis Zablocki, Commanding Officer for Alberta, RCMP
AUMA Members
RMA Members



TOWN OF EDSON

Office of the Mayor

605 – 50th Street
P.O. Box 6300
Edson, AB T7E 1T7
www.edson.ca

May 5, 2021

VIA EMAIL: ministryofjustice@gov.ab.ca

Office of the Minister
Justice and Solicitor General
424 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Attention: Honourable Kaycee Madu

Dear Honourable Madu:

Re: Letter in support of the RCMP

Please accept this letter as Edson Town Council's support for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and in opposition of the Provincial Government's recent proposal of an Alberta Police Force.

While the Province suggests that the switch from the RCMP to an Alberta Provincial Police Service (APPS) will not cost municipalities more financially, we do not believe this is realistic. Who will bare the cost of this service? Currently, Edson RCMP operate out of a Federally owned building. Should there be a switch to an APPS, who would assume the cost of a new detachment? Not to mention all of the other infrastructure that would be required to build an APPS. It does not seem feasible that these costs would not end up being borne by the municipality and their residents and that these would not exceed the current costs of providing RCMP services, given the significant investments that would be required and the loss of Federal Funding.

Currently, the RCMP is our largest budgetary item, and this cost only keeps growing as the Provincial Government takes away sources of revenue and downloading additional costs to us. The Province has recently decreased the percentage of revenue from fines that municipalities receive. This money was used by the Town to directly offset the cost of policing. Further, just this year we received a bill from the Provincial Government for the provincial portion of Biology Casework Analysis Agreements expenses. A cost that was not the responsibility of a municipality in the past and was given to us with little to no notice. These cuts and downloads increase costs

to our Town by ~\$350,000-\$400,000; equating to a 3.5%-4% tax increase for our residents. Given this, what protections would be in place to ensure municipalities are not continuously charged more under an APPS model? It seems more realistic that it would only be a matter of time before more costs were downloaded to municipalities for operation of the APPS.

We have worked hard as a municipality to build a strong working relationship with our local RCMP Detachment. They are our partners and an integral part of our community. We are happy with the level of service our RCMP provide and their participation within our community.

We strongly encourage the Provincial Government to use the funds dedicated to researching an APPS, towards building stronger relationships with the RCMP and the Federal government to achieve desired outcomes. The Province repeatedly encourages municipalities to work with each other and come up with new and collaborative ways to provide programs and services to our residents in a cost-effective manner. We implore your Government to do the same and work with your Federal counterparts to achieve the Province's goals related to the RCMP and Policing and to emulate the principles in which they ask of municipal governments within the Province.

Yours truly,

TOWN OF EDSON

Per:



Mayor Kevin Zahara
/krp

cc: The Honourable Jason Kenney, Premier
The Honourable Ric McIver, Minister of Municipal Affairs
Mr. Martin Long, MLA West Yellowhead
Mr. Gerald Soroka, MP Yellowhead
Mr. Curtis Zablocki, Commanding Officer for Alberta, RCMP
AUMA Members
RMA Members



Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Notes
April 20, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.
Held through ZOOM Meeting

Present:

Deputy Mayor Windsor (Chair)
Councillor Dorothy Moore (Vice-chair)
Mayor Hunter

Administration

Ethan Gorner, Chief Administrative Officer
Amanda Riley Assistant CAO/Chief Financial Officer
Nicole Aasen, Director of Community Services
Luana Smith, Recording Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Mayor Windsor called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

The committee through consensus accepted the agenda as presented.

3. REVIEW OF MEETING NOTES

The committee through consensus approved the meeting notes from the April 7, 2021 Strategic Planning Committee as presented.

CLOSED MEETING – in accordance with Section 23 and 24 of the FOIP Act.

The committee through consensus went into closed meeting at 1:05 p.m.

4. STANDING BUSINESS

4.1 Financial Planning

4.1.1 [055-21] Curling Club relief request

4.2 Review of Development of Facilities and Infrastructure – Nothing to report

4.3 Review of Planning Documents and Plans – Nothing to report

4.4 Development and Review of an Asset Plan – Nothing to report

4.5 Prioritize Performance Based Budgeting – Nothing to report

RECONVENE

The committee through consensus returned to open meeting at 2:10 p.m.

The committee through consensus recommend to Council the curling club relief be funded through the MOST Grant in the amount of \$9,887 and that this item does not add to revenue required for taxation.

5. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

5.1 [Admin] CAO Report on Committee Agenda

The committee agreed this item be presented with Council as a whole.

6. OUTSTANDING ITEMS

- [133-21] Taxation Rates (to be finalized after budget is approved)
- Memorial Connectivity – outstanding in capital budget
- Shantz Crossing – lighting projects and pedestrian cross-walk
- Asphalt repair (testimonials)

7. NEXT MEETING

May 5, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

RECONVENE

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Strategic Planning Committee adjourned the meeting at 2:57 p.m.



Policy and Governance Committee Meeting Notes
April 21, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.
Held through ZOOM Meeting

Present:

Councillor Moore (Chair)
Councillor Crothers (Vice-chair)
Deputy Mayor Windsor

Staff:

Ethan Gorner, Chief Administrative Officer
Amanda Riley Assistant CAO/Chief Financial Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Moore called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

The committee through consensus accepted the agenda as presented.

3. REVIEW OF MEETING NOTES

The committee through consensus approved the meeting notes of March 31, 2021 as presented.

4. BYLAW REVIEW

4.1 Utility Rates & Fees bylaw 2021-03

The committee reviewed the bylaw and made changes. Administration will bring back information on item 5.7 non-residential water services in relation to wastewater fees.

4.2 Supplemental Assessment Bylaw 2021-05

The committee reviewed the bylaw and agreed with it as presented.

The committee by consensus agreed to have Supplemental Assessment Bylaw 2021-05 go to Council for second and third reading.

5. UPCOMING ON DOCKET ITEMS

- Code of Conduct Bylaw
- Wastewater Bylaw 2020-01
- Water Bylaw 2019-07
- Utility Policy 001
- Utility Policy 002

6. NEXT MEETING

May 5, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

7. AJOURNMENT

The Policy & Governance Committee adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

Mayor Rhonda Hunter
Box 790
Didsbury, Alberta
T0M 0W0



Dear Mayor Hunter,

RE: Bowden Daze Parade July 17, 2021

THIS IS BASED ON IF COVID19 RESTRICTIONS HAVE BEEN LIFTED

Yee Haw! On behalf of the Mayor and Council, we invite you to help The Town of Bowden celebrate its annual Bowden Daze Rodeo Weekend coming up July 17 – 18, 2021. This year our theme is "Salute to Everyday Heroes" to celebrate the local heroes within our community. We encourage participants to incorporate the parade theme into their entry and attire.

If you are unable to attend personally, your designated representative would be most welcome. This year we are asking dignitaries to supply their own vehicles. If you have magnets or signage we encourage you to bring them as well. The Town of Bowden permits the dispensing of wrapped candy along the parade route. You must provide your own candy.

The parade will marshal at Bowden Grandview School, 2238 – 21 Avenue between 9:30 – 10:30 am, and will start at 11:00 sharp. If your community has a parade float or any other unique business representation, we would be delighted to have it in the parade as well. There is a Bowden Daze Parade registration form accompanying this letter for use with additional entry.

To assist with our planning, please RSVP by June 21, 2021 if you are able to participate. We look forward to having you join us!

Warm regards,
Alison Fieguth & Jen Masching
Bowden Daze Parade Coordinators
Town of Bowden
reception@bowden.ca
PH-403-224-3395 FAX-403-224-2244

Bowden Daze

"SALUTE TO EVERYDAY HEROES"

PARADE REGISTRATION

SATURDAY, JULY 17, 2021

NAME OF PARTICIPANT/BUSINESS: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____ PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____ MAILING ADDRESS: _____

ENTRY TYPE (PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

☐ BUSINESS

☐ ANTIQUE VEHICLE/ ANTIQUE TRACTOR

☐ COMMUNITY

☐ HORSE/ HORSE & BUGGY

☐ KIDS

☐ SPORTS

☐ OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY _____)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ENTRY _____

If horses or other livestock are part of your entry, please advise parade directors if you need special placing. (Away from loud music, flags, etc.)

Marshalling will take place at Bowden Grandview School (2238 - 21 Avenue) between 9:30am and 10:30am. Judging begins at 10am sharp. All floats must be assembled by 10am to be judged.

The parade starts at 11am sharp!

We encourage all participants to incorporate the parade theme into their entry through costume or decoration. Candy is allowed to be thrown from the floats.

Please complete this form and return it to the Town of Bowden office, 2101-20 Ave.
Phone: 403-224-3395 Fax: 403-224-2244 Email: reception@bowden.ca

Red Deer River MUNICIPAL USERS GROUP

(RDRMUG)

April 13, 2021

Mayor and Council,
Town of Didsbury
Box 790
Didsbury, Ab. T0M 0W0

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please find enclosed a copy of the Red Deer River Municipal Users Group's Handbook – "Looking Back – Moving Forward". This is the latest report/document in the RDRMUG Action Plan.

This document contains a "look back" with a brief history of RDRMUG and most importantly plans and directions to deal with current water related issues that face municipalities within the Red Deer River Basin in "moving forward". It is hoped that this document will provide a resource to your Councils, Administration and Staff into the work, projects and issues that RDRMUG is focused on in pro-actively bringing forward the Municipal perspective on water issues to all levels of Government.

It is also anticipated that this Handbook will provide valuable information to new members of Council after this year's municipal elections.

Please feel free to provide any feedback either directly or through your Council Representative to RDRMUG.

Contact execdir@rdrmug.ca if you would like additional "hard copies" or you can access electronic copies at www.rdrmg.ca.

Thank you for your interest and continued support to the Red Deer River Municipal Users Group.

Keith Ryder



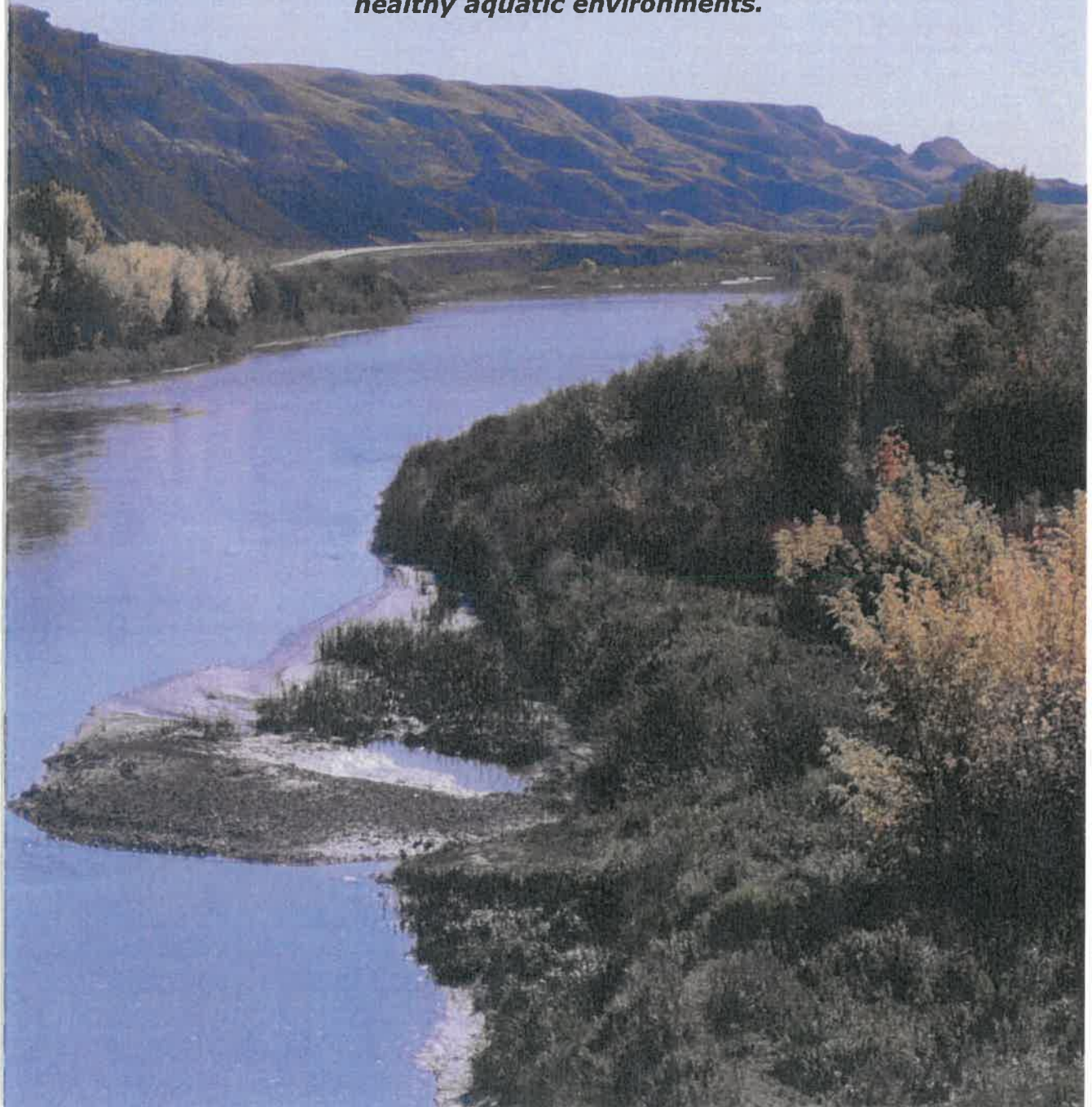
Executive Director,
Red Deer River Municipal Users Group
403-740-3185
execdir@rdrmug.ca

RED DEER RIVER MUNICIPAL USERS GROUP

LOOKING BACK - MOVING FORWARD

2006 – 2020 2021 – 2025

*An enduring healthy Red Deer River system with sufficient flows
through all seasons to sustain communities, the economy and
healthy aquatic environments.*



INTRODUCTION: WATER IS VITAL

As noted by the United Nations, *“Water is at the core of sustainable development and is critical for socio-economic development, energy and food production, healthy ecosystems and for human survival itself.”* In short, water is vital to life and well-being.

In the same way, water is vital to the well-being and sustainability of municipalities, their residents, businesses and many diverse environmental features. Recognizing that water is the lifeblood of communities, municipalities served by the Red Deer River formed the Red Deer River Municipal Users Group (RDRMUG or MUG) to address the present and future use and conservation of their lifeblood - the Red Deer River. There are 74 rural and urban municipalities located wholly or partly within the Red Deer River watershed. While some of the 74 exclusively

source groundwater, a number of communities not within the watershed are served by regional water systems that extend beyond the boundaries of the watershed. In total, there are 53 municipalities that use the Red Deer River as their water source.

Because municipalities recognize water as a strategically important natural asset, a main intention of the RDRMUG is to advance municipal interests in water. But in doing so, MUG recognizes the needs of other water use sectors and, as such, encourages collaboration among all sectors with respect to the use and conservation of water and the Red Deer River watershed,

Alberta’s Water for Life Strategy states: “In Alberta, our quality of life, and life itself, depends on having a healthy and sustainable water supply for the environment, for our communities and for our economic well-being.”

HANDBOOK PURPOSES, PERSPECTIVES AND CONTENT

PURPOSES

- Serve as an introduction to MUG’s interests in water
- Provide water related background information to municipalities and other interested parties
- Guide MUG’s activities related to water management priorities
- Encourage collaboration and partnerships among water users and other interest groups.

PERSPECTIVES: The handbook has two basic perspectives. The first is to spotlight key municipal interests and roles in the use, conservation and management of water. The second focusses primarily on flowing waters (i.e. the Red Deer River and its tributaries). However, groundwater and standing water (lakes, ponds, wetlands) are not overlooked, being key natural assets important to watershed conservation and source water protection.

CONTENT: The first part of this handbook provides an overview of the Red Deer River Municipal Users Group. The second provides an overview of the health of the Red Deer River watershed and the supply, quality and management of water. The third part addresses priority water challenges identified by MUG in 2020.

RED DEER RIVER MUNICIPAL USERS GROUP

VISION: An enduring healthy Red Deer River system with sufficient flows through all seasons to sustain communities, the economy and healthy aquatic environments.

FORMATION: In 2006 municipalities from throughout the Red Deer River watershed began to meet regarding the long-term availability of water to municipalities. Three factors prompted these meetings:

1. The 2006 *South Saskatchewan Water Management Plan* set an allocation limit of 550,000 dam³ from the Red Deer River (less than expected, being only about 1/3 of its mean volume)
2. Interests in new water licences, including a very large licence for agricultural and related uses
3. Recognition growing and competing demands for water will continue.

PURPOSES: The purposes of the [Red Deer River Municipal Users Group](#) are:

- A forum to discuss water supply, use and quality
- An advocate of municipal interests in the supply, availability, use, delivery and quality of water
- Foster collaboration among stakeholders to achieve desired and common goals to protect, conserve and wisely use water resources
- Undertake studies and reports that encourage the vision, goals and objectives of the RDRMUG to be attained.

Water is the lifeblood of municipalities. It is vital for municipal sustainability, including economic viability, environmental integrity, social well-being and cultural vibrancy.

Red Deer River Municipal Users Group

HOW TO GET THERE: Collaborative partners and stakeholders implementing purposeful, practical plans and policies for integrated watershed management and integrated water management.

GOALS: The goals of MUG are those of the *Alberta Water for Life Strategy*:

- Safe secure supply of drinking water for all residents
- Reliable quality water supplies for a sustainable economy
- Healthy aquatic ecosystems.

OBJECTIVES: Some objectives of MUG are:

- Inform and update municipalities on water matters and concerns
- Ensure that reliable clean water supplies are available for a sustainable economy and environment throughout the watershed
- Encourage watershed conservation and source water protection
- Promote the efficient and effective use of water
- Support integrated watershed management planning through the Red Deer River Watershed Alliance
- Promote the integrated management of the waters of the Red Deer River system.

MUG'S PRIMARY ROLES

- Advocate
- Collaborate
- Undertake
- Educate.

LOOKING BACK: ACTIONS TO DATE

Actions include:

- Encourage municipalities to conserve and effectively use water



- Assist the Red Deer River Watershed Alliance - Red Deer River Watershed Atlas, provide municipal perspectives information for [Blueprint Phase 1 – Water Quality](#), make presentations at forums and promoting watershed and water conservation
- Support the interbasin transfer of Red Deer River water to areas as far east as Consort and Acadia Valley and north to Lacombe, Ponoka and Bashaw
- Submission to the Province in support of floodproofing highly prone reaches of the Red Deer River



- Successfully opposed the interbasin transfer of water to CrossIron Mills which is located in the Bow River Basin
- Input to the WaterSmart report [Adaptation Roadmap for Sustainable Water Management in the South Saskatchewan River Basin](#)
- Input to the WaterSmart [report Room for the River in the Red Deer River Basin](#)
- Input to the Alberta Water Council report on source water protection
- Conduct municipal workshops and seminars in locations throughout the watershed on the importance of water, watershed conservation and source water protection



- Input to the [Special Areas Water Supply](#) project – questioned the large volume of water originally proposed, then generally favored a revised project requesting a smaller volume of water
- Input to the ten-year review of the [South Saskatchewan River Basin Water Management Plan](#)
- Input to the Province's 2013 "[Water Conversations](#)"
- Raise the future need of additional water storage within the basin.

LOOKING BACK: MAJOR REPORTS

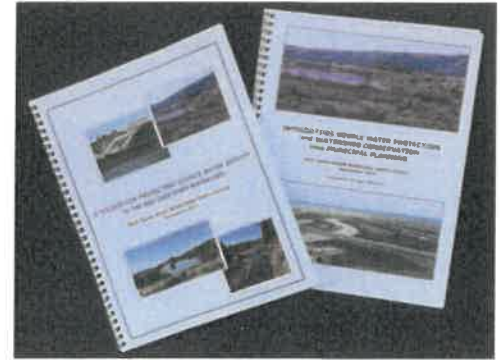
The RDRMUG has prepared a number of reports related to municipal roles in the use, management and conservation of water and related natural resources. While rural and urban municipalities are the primary audience, the reports also are intended for use by other water use sectors, groups and the general public interested in water and watersheds.

[Water Assurance Study](#) - provides a number of proactive approaches aimed at securing water for municipalities, including reserving water for municipal use, net diversion licencing and return flow credits.

[Source Water Quality Primer](#) – includes background information on water availability in the Red Deer River basin and serves as an introduction of the importance of source water quality to communities and the economy.



[Toolkit for Protecting Source Water Quality in the Red Deer River Watershed](#) - describes threats to water quality and municipal roles in water and watershed management. A key provision is a list of 'tools' to use in protecting the availability of good quality source water for communities and other water users throughout the watershed, and beyond.



[Integrating Source Water Protection and Watershed Conservation into Municipal Planning](#) - this report stresses the importance of addressing in community plans, through strategies and policies, the conservation of water and the watershed.

Municipalities are “encouraged to integrate source water protection and watershed conservation into the DNA of municipal statutory plans.” RDRMUG

[Natural Assets – A Statutory Plan Guide](#) - provides a comprehensive list of policy guides to meaningfully address, through optional planning approaches, the conservation and use of arable land, water, air and environmentally significant areas.



WATER: VITAL IMPORTANCE and MUNICIPAL ROLES THEREIN

VITAL IMPORTANCE: Water is vital to the sustained well-being of municipalities, both rural and urban.

“No water, no municipality. Water is the lifeblood of municipalities” AUMA

The [Alberta Urban Municipalities Association](#) (AUMA) pointedly advises “water is essential to all five elements of municipal sustainability, both urban and rural:

- Economic viability . . .
- Environmental integrity. . .
- Social well-being . . .
- Cultural vibrancy. . .
- Governance.”



KEY WATER RELATED MUNICIPAL ROLES:

The [Rural Municipalities of Alberta](#) (RMA) emphasizes two key municipal roles in water management and protecting water quality.

- “Municipalities are responsible for land-use planning and environmental decisions where water bodies or wetlands are factors.
- Municipalities play a role in managing water systems that impact residents, business and industry.”

The AUMA supports these views in stating: “One of the most important ways that we can effectively manage our water is to change the way we manage our land. Land use has many impacts on our watersheds . . . ”

Thus, municipalities play key roles in water conservation and water quality protection:

1. drinking water management and wastewater management
2. environmental conservation (e.g. wetland, riparian land and aquatic habitat protection)
3. management of land use impacts (e.g. point and non-point source pollution)
4. land use planning, and
5. the promotion of land stewardship.

It is vitally important to combine land use management with watershed management to ensure that both our land and water are protected. AUMA

Municipalities, and especially municipalities working collaboratively and with other partners, can do much to protect water and manage water use within a watershed.



RED DEER RIVER WATERSHED AND ITS HEALTH

RED DEER RIVER WATERSHED: The Red Deer River watershed has an area of 49,650 km² (19,170 sq. miles). A small portion of the watershed lies within Banff National Park, while the eastern portions extends just inside the Province of Saskatchewan where the Red Deer River enters the South Saskatchewan River. The Red Deer River traverses 740 km

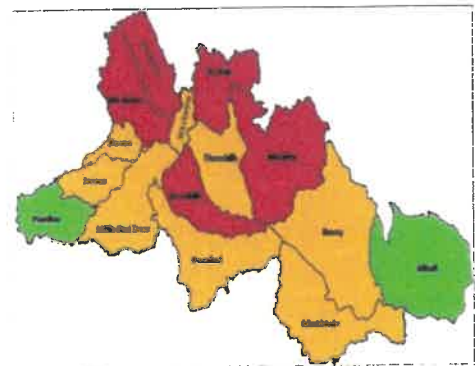
(460 miles) from the Drummond Glacier to the confluence with the South Saskatchewan River. The watershed has a diversity of landscapes and ecosystems as it contains five natural regions - the Rocky Mountain, Foothills, Boreal, Parkland and Grassland natural regions within which there are 12 sub-regions.



WATERSHED HEALTH: The [Red Deer River Watershed Alliance](#) has meaningfully addressed the state of the watershed in its [2009 State of the Watershed Report](#).

The water quality of the Red Deer River is the report card of the health of the watershed.

Watershed health in 15 sub-watersheds was measured in terms of water quality using 20 indicators. The health (see map) of only two sub-watersheds was rated as good (green). Eight reaches were rated as fair (yellow) and five (red) as poor. Main contributors to poor ratings were linear development densities, resource exploration, extraction activities, nutrient concentrations in surface water and land conversion activities.



RED DEER RIVER WATER SUPPLY AND WATER QUALITY

WATER SUPPLY: Annual precipitation in the Red Deer River watershed varies considerably, yielding a wide range in annual river flow volumes. While the mean annual flow of the Red Deer River is 1,666,000 dam³, volumes 2.5 times higher (over 4,000,000 dam³) have been recorded, while the record low at Red Deer of 660,100 dam³ is only 37% of the mean flow. As such, within the watershed there are very dry years exhibiting drought conditions and very wet years often accompanied by floods. In the 97 years between 1912 and 2009 there were eleven years of annual flow close to or higher than the 2005 flood year

(about 2,600,000 dam³), thus averaging about one every ten years. During the same time there were 23 years when the annual flow was less than 1,000,000 dam³ (drought conditions), or about one every five years. Thus, dry years which lead to drought conditions are much more frequent than wet years which may produce major floods. Drought conditions are more evident when dry years occur consecutively. Five times low flows occurred in two consecutive years. Twice it happened in three consecutive years (75/76/77; 2000/01/02).

WATER QUALITY: In *Blueprint*, the RDRWA reports, from background study information, that water quality in the Red Deer River generally deteriorates as the river flows downstream. Some of the causes of deterioration are natural (e.g. sedimentation) while others are caused by human activities (e.g. point source pollution). The four river reaches upstream from the Highway 21

crossing (Nevis) have water quality ratings ranging between excellent, good-to-excellent and good. The three reaches downstream have ratings ranging from good-to-fair and fair. While none of the reaches have marginal or poor ratings, each reach has one or more conditions that exceed general standards or guidelines.

The health of our waters is the principal measure of how we live on the land. Luna Leopold.

Low winter flows in the Red Deer became very problematic in the '60s and 70s. Aquatic health was being impacted by low oxygen levels, while concerns arose about abnormally low flows impacting the ability to withdraw water from the river. Government responses included higher standards for wastewater returns, funding to upgrade sewage treatment plants and to develop storage on the Red Deer River, primarily to augment low winter flows. In determining the required storage volume of [Dickson Dam](#), the desired minimum winter flow at Red Deer was set at 16.0 m³/s. This was subsequently recognized by the

Province in 2007 when water conservation objectives (WCOs) were adopted by regulation for all Southern Alberta rivers.



WATER MANAGEMENT AND AVAILABILITY

A fundamental tenant of the [*Approved Water Management Plan for the South Saskatchewan River Basin \(Alberta\)*](#) is the interprovincial sharing of the waters of the South Saskatchewan River among Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. A general principle of the [*1969 Master Agreement on Apportionment*](#) is that the waters of the South Saskatchewan River are to be divided equitably between Alberta and Saskatchewan. Even though the Red Deer River flows into Saskatchewan on its own, Alberta has opted to consider the Red Deer and to be an integral part of the South Saskatchewan for purposes of apportionment calculations. This opened the option of the Red Deer basin not being entitled to have 50% of its water allocated for use within the basin.

The 2006 *Approved Water Management Plan for the South Saskatchewan River Basin* set the amount of water that can be licenced for withdrawal from rivers. For the much larger Bow and Oldman Rivers the allocation limits were set at approximately 70% based on existing licences, such that these rivers were deemed 'closed' (no new licences). The allocation limit for the Red Deer was set at 550,000 dam³, just 33% of the mean annual flow. This limit was seen as a way to regularly meet water conservation objectives.

Of the 550,000 dam³ limit, 55% or 300,000 dam³ has been allocated. Total municipal allocations, including regional water systems, are about 81,000 dam³, or 27% of total allocations. Of the 250,000 dam³ remaining to be allocated, proposed agricultural and irrigation projects in the Special Areas and Acadia Valley may take 90,000 dam³, leaving 160,000 dam³ for other water use sectors. When the allocation limit of 550,000 dam³ is

approached, the Province is to review the health of the river. If conditions warrant, the allocation limit may be increased to 600,000 dam³.

The 2006 *Approved Water Management Plan for the South Saskatchewan River Basin* also set [*Water Conservation Objectives*](#) (WCOs) for the southern rivers and their tributaries. WCOs address the need to protect aquatic environments and other in-stream uses of water. They have the affect of water licences. The regulation for the Red Deer River established all licences dated after May 1, 2005 are junior licences to the WCOs. Many regional water systems in the Red Deer basin are junior to the WCO. As shown in the table below, even with Dickson Dam augmenting winter flows, the WCO frequently is not met, being situations whereby the Government can choose to require junior licence holders to cease or restrict water withdrawals so the WCO can be met.

% of days WCO not met: 2005-13

Month	Red Deer	Bindloss
Jan	30%	48%
Feb	35%	40%
March	4%	10%
Nov	4%	5%
Dec	13%	36%

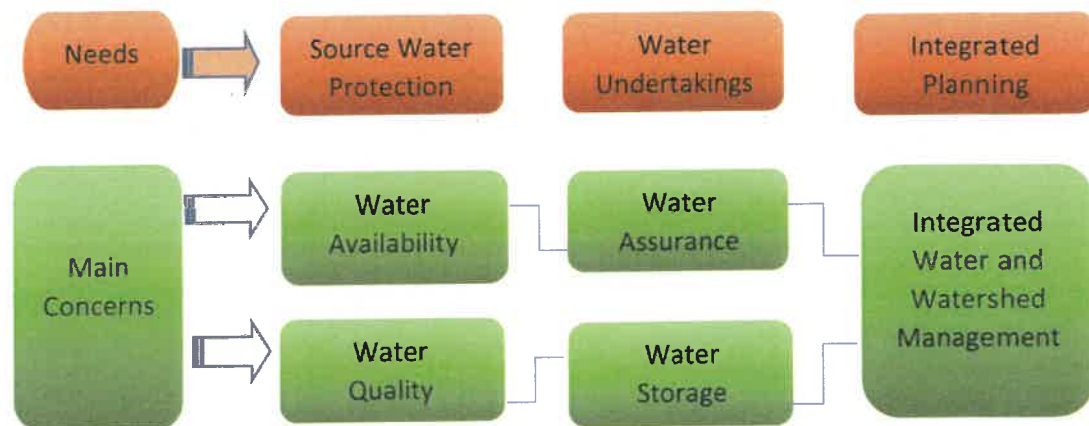
Also worthy of note, the majority of water licences in the Red Deer River watershed are junior to the senior irrigation water licences in southern Alberta. In periods of major droughts across the entire South Saskatchewan River basin, junior licences in the Red Deer watershed are subject to use limitations in favor of the senior licences to provide them water assurances.

PRIORITY WATER CONCERNS

ISSUES: Early in 2020 MUG members rated water issues. The top five issues were: (1) water security; (2) water quality; (3) drought; (4) water assurance; and (5) water storage. The next three were: (6) water resource management; (7) watershed impacts; and (8) flooding. Subsequent research reflected on the issue of water security as defined by UNESCO. This definition enunciates three core aspects of water security: adequate **quantities** of water, acceptable water **quality** and effective **protection**. Security infers each of

Water security is "the capacity of a population to safeguard access to adequate quantities of water of acceptable quality for sustaining human and ecological health on a watershed basis, and to ensure efficient protection of life and property against water-related hazards such as floods, landslides, land subsidence and droughts." UNESCO

these three **aspects** are ensured, thus requiring planning and management. This led MUG to address five main concerns in the scope of three broad needs – (1) source water protection, (2) water undertakings and (3) integrated planning.



These five main concerns address all top eight issues. While not specifically evident, drought and flooding can be addressed within water resource management and water storage, while watershed impacts can be addressed under water resource management and water quality.

"There is no one simple solution for adapting the water management systems in the Red Deer River Basin as the economic base grows, environmental considerations evolve, and the climate changes."
Alberta WaterSmart

ISSUE ACTION FRAMEWORK: To address the issues, the following pages provide a framework for MUG actions in the coming years. The directions outlined could change as life unfolds in the Red Deer River watershed and Alberta (environmentally, economically and socially). While the concerns are addressed from a municipal perspective, it is recognized there a host of other perspectives at play. The action framework identifies the various roles MUG should play. In doing so it recognizes other agencies need to perform lead roles and, above all, collaboration among water sector users and other interest groups is crucial.

CONCERN 1: WATER AVAILABILITY

Water Availability: adequate supplies of water through all seasons.

Essential Message: Water availability is essential for any municipality's security and hope for the future.

Desired Key Outcome

- Adequate stream flow in all seasons to ensure the availability of water for the operation and sustainable growth of municipalities, a viable economy and healthy aquatic environments.

Goals

- Year-round availability of sufficient water for municipalities, and other water use sectors
- An Increase the water allocations allowable from the Red Deer River
- During periods of low flows in the South Saskatchewan River basin, water licences in the Red Deer sub-basin are not disproportionately impacted
- Collaborative strategies and actions by key partners working together.

Some Basic Matters

- Ensuring the primary purpose in the management of the Eastern Slopes and other headwater areas is source water protection
- Municipal statutory plans address source water protection and watershed conservation
- A commitment by the Provincial Government to review the limit placed on allocations from the Red Deer River

- The [Intrabasin Water Coordinating Committee](#) addresses when the sharing of water may be required during times of water shortages in all or parts the South Saskatchewan River basin, the manner of apportioning water would not disproportionately impact junior water licences in the Red Deer River sub-basin
- Appropriate infrastructure in place to meet future needs for water.

Key Actions:

- Protection of headwaters
- Review of Red Deer River water allocation limit
- Updated report: Red Deer River water supply, uses, demands, allocations and future needs.

Lead Roles:

- [Alberta Environment and Parks](#)
- RDRMUG

MUG's Roles

- Meet with Alberta Environment and Parks to discuss key water availability issues: headwater protection; adequate stream flow (water volume) in all seasons and Red Deer River allocation limits
- Continue to encourage municipalities to support source water protection and watershed conservation through beneficial land use
- Apprise and update the Red Deer River Watershed Alliance.

Other Partners

- [Red Deer River Watershed Alliance](#).

CONCERN 2: WATER QUALITY

Essential Message:

- Reliable clean water is significantly beneficial to municipalities and other water users, and is a reflection of the health of the watershed.

Desired Key Outcomes

- Reliable access by municipalities and other water users to clean water
- Updated Water Quality Study for the Red Deer River
- Surface Water Quality Management Framework for the Red Deer River Watershed.

Goals

- Secure clean drinking water
- Avoid water contamination, especially source water for drinking
- A better understanding of contamination threats, especially close to drinking water sources
- A surface water quality framework for the Red Deer River watershed, which includes a review of WCO requirements
- Prepare and implement source water protection plans in support of drinking water safety plans
- Beneficial land use practices
- Collaborative strategies and actions by key partners working together.

Some Basic Matters

- Reduce, and where possible eliminate, point and non-point water polluting impacts.
- Prepare source water protection plans
- Encourage municipalities to support source water and water quality protection through beneficial land use practices and watershed conservation

- Gaining a clear understanding of how WCOs were determined and how they impact the water allocation limit for the Red Deer River
- Collaborative input to the Surface Water Quality Management Framework
- Promote wider community education and engagement of actions to protect water quality.

Key Actions:

- Develop a Surface Water Quality Management Framework
- An updated water quality study
- Initiate and encourage actions to maintain and improve water quality.

Lead Roles:

- Alberta Government (re: [Alberta Land Stewardship Act](#)): Surface Water Quality Management Framework
- Red Deer River Watershed Alliance: encourage actions to maintain and improve surface water quality
- Municipalities: statutory plans guide source water protection and watershed conservation through beneficial land use planning and practices.

MUG's Roles

- Provide input into the development of a Surface Water Quality Management Framework
- Continue to encourage municipalities to incorporate and implement beneficial management practices
- Input into a review of WCOs

Other Partners

- Municipalities, watershed stewardship groups, water and wastewater utility providers.

CONCERN 3: WATER ASSURANCE

Essential Message:

- Without sufficient supplies of good quality water, the long term economic, social and environmental viability and sustainability of communities will be in doubt.

Desired Key Outcome

- Municipalities have very long-term water supply licences (and/or reservations) within a water allocation system that is mindful of other water use sectors.

Goals

- Better understanding of water supply, uses and needs, both current and future
- Productive dialogue with Alberta Environment and Parks regarding long term municipal water security
- Gain commitments to allocate water to municipalities to meet very long-term municipal needs
- Municipalities promote water conservation through the effective and efficient use of water
- Collaborative strategies and actions by key partners working together.

Some Basic Matters

- Meetings with Alberta Environment and Parks to:
 - Explore water allocation options, including a Crown Reservation
 - discuss the future re-assessment of Red Deer River allocation limits.
- Review [Water Assurance Study](#)
- Addressing periodic water shortages.

- Municipalities implementing water conservation plans to foster the efficient and effective use of water
- Consider supporting the Intrabasin water transfer to areas where viable options for demonstrated water needs are not available.

Key Actions:

- Review 2009 South Saskatchewan River Water Supply Study and other related reports
- Report on very long-term municipal water needs
- Report that guides achieving municipal water assurance, while recognizing the future needs of other water use sectors.

Lead Role:

- Red Deer River Municipal Users Group.

MUG's Roles

- New report on very long-term municipal water needs
- Gaining assistance from Alberta Environment and Parks to explore and evaluate options, including a Crown Reservation, that will provide an assured very long-term supply of water for municipalities
- Inform, update and involve, when appropriate, municipalities throughout the watershed and the Red Deer River Watershed Alliance.

Other Partners

Alberta Environment and Parks, Red Deer River Watershed Alliance, municipalities, [Intrabasin Water Coordinating Committee](#).

CONCERN 4: WATER STORAGE

Essential Messages:

- A strategic need is additional water storage to provide a range of long-term benefits, including to ameliorate droughts, upgrade flood protection and meet WCO requirements.

Desired Key Outcomes

- A report that addresses the need for additional water storage, including options, benefits, impacts, and recommendations
- A water storage strategy and action plan for the Red Deer River basin.

Goals

- Appropriate infrastructure in place to meet future water demands, maintain a healthy river and minimize the impacts of droughts and floods
- Assist in meeting Water Conservation Objectives, and thus aquatic health
- Provincial Government confirmation of the need to prioritize the provision of additional water storage infrastructure in the Red Deer River sub-basin.

Some Basic Matters

- [AMEC](#) – reports high variability in annual natural flows indicates that storage development . . . would be helpful to better match available supply with demand on both a seasonal and annual basis . . . In light of projections of 2030 deficits, investigation of new storage opportunities . . . is prudent
- [WaterSmart](#) - in the future the Red Deer sub-basin will require an additional 72,500 dam³ of storage to meet Water Conservation Objectives

requirements in view of increasing water demands

- Improve understanding of water storage requirements in relation to future water use needs, climate variability and periods of drought
- Explore the benefits of increased storage, such as greater flexibility to manage surface water runoff and supplies to meet water user needs and water conservation objectives; assist water quality and aquatic systems management; assist in alleviating the impacts of floods and droughts.

Key Action:

- Preparation of a Water Storage Strategy Report.

Lead Partner:

- Red Deer River Municipal Users Group

MUG's Roles

- Review previous studies and reports
- Prepare a terms of reference for the preparation of a Water Storage Strategy Report
- Establish a Steering Committee representing a number of key stakeholders
- Engage a consultant to produce the Water Storage Strategy Report
- Present the report to the Provincial Government and encourage action.

Other Partners

- Alberta Environment and Parks, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, Red Deer River Watershed Alliance, Special Areas/Acadia Valley, other major water users.

CONCERN 5: INTEGRATED WATER AND WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

Essential Messages:

- Water resource management for the Red Deer River can be significantly advanced through two complementary plans: Integrated Water Management Plan and Integrated Watershed Management Plan (IWMP). These plans will encourage, guide and support strategies and actions to manage land and water resources significantly advance environmental, economical and social sustainability.

Desired Key Outcomes

- A Red Deer River Integrated Water Management Plan
- An Integrated Watershed Management Plans for the Red Deer River Watershed
- Dynamic collaborative relationships among basin stakeholders and the provincial government to work together to amplify and sustain the environmental, economic, community and social benefits of water and land resources throughout the watershed.

Goals

- Effective watershed wide perspectives, partnerships, strategies and actions
- Integration of land use planning, water resource management and watershed conservation
- Comprehensive river basin planning
- Water security (i.e. sufficient quantity of clean water in all seasons)
- Water sharing strategies and actions
- Collaborative engagement by many partners working together
- Increased water and watershed literacy.

Key Action:

- Gain commitments to build upon WaterSmart reports to the Province re: integrated water management and the RDRWA's *Blueprint* (IWMP).

Lead Roles:

- Alberta Environment and Parks - Red Deer River Integrated Water Management Plan
- Red Deer River Watershed Alliance - Integrated Watershed Management Plan for the Red Deer River Watershed.

MUG's Roles

- Encourage Alberta Environment and Parks to prioritize the preparation of a Red Deer River Integrated Water Management Plan to foster water security for municipalities and other water users, including the environment
- Encourage the Red Deer River Watershed Alliance to prioritize the completion of the Integrated Watershed Management Plan for the Red Deer River Watershed
- Participate in the preparation of a Red Deer River Integrated Water Management Plan and Integrated Watershed Management Plan
- Support positive collaborative relationships among water stakeholders within and outside the Red Deer River watershed.

Partners

- Municipalities, various Provincial Government Departments, major water use sectors, water stewardship groups.

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RDRMUG MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES (2021)

Cities - Red Deer

Towns – Blackfalds, Bowden, Carstairs , Coronation, Crossfield, Didsbury, Drumheller, Hanna, Innisfail, Olds, Oyen, Stettler, Sundre, Sylvan Lake, Three Hills, Trochu

Villages - Acme, Alix, Big Valley, Consort, Delburne, Donalda, Halkirk

Counties – Clearwater, Kneehill, Lacombe, Mountain View, Newell, Red Deer, Paintearth, Starland, Stettler

Special Areas

MD of Acadia Valley

CONTACT INFORMATION

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River pictures: Bill Shaw.



REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Request for Decision (RFD)

Vision: The Place to Grow.

Mission: Creating the Place to Grow.

COUNCIL MEETING DATE	May 11, 2021
SUBJECT	Council Highlights Roundtable
ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT	Legislative Services
AGENDA ITEM	10.1

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

Council members will identify items that were significant to them from the meeting to be included in the Council Highlights.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES

These highlights will be used by Administration to be included in the Council Highlights document that is placed on the Town of Didsbury website for public review and released to the public.