

Town of Bowden - Regular Council Meeting

AGENDA

A Regular Council Meeting of the Town of Bowden
to be held in Council Chambers, at 2101 – 20 Avenue, Bowden,
on **Monday 9 June 2025**,
immediately following Special Events & Culture Board Meeting

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA & ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**
- 3. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**
 - 3.a** May 26, 2025, Regular Council Meeting.
- 4. PUBLIC HEARING**

None scheduled.
- 5. DELEGATION**

No delegation.
- 6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**
 - 6.a** Council Resolutions Follow Up Action.
 - 6.b** Key Dates.
- 7. BYLAWS & POLICIES**
 - 7.a** Municipal Emergency Management Bylaw 06 / 2025.
- 8. NEW BUSINESS**
 - 8.a** Library Board appointments.
 - 8.b** Bowden Pioneer Museum Canada Day Celebration
 - 8.c** Municipal Election 2025 Update – Pre Election Disclosures
- 9. FINANCIAL**

No agenda item
- 10. CORRESPONDENCE**
 - 10.a** Red Deer County Protective Services May Report
- 11. REPORTS**
 - 11.a** CAO's Report.
 - 11.b** Council Committee Reports.
 - 11.c** Society & Other Reports.
- 12. CLOSED SESSION OF COUNCIL**
 - 12.a** Personnel (Confidential). **CLOSED SESSION**

This closed meeting of Council is permitted by section 197 of the MGA.
An exception to disclose under Division 2 of Part 1 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, RSA2000, Chapter F-25 (as amended over time) therefore applies on the basis of:
Section 27 "deemed to be privileged information".
- 13. MEETING ADJOURNMENT**



**Town of Bowden – Regular Council Meeting
held on Monday May 26, 2025
at Town of Bowden Council Chambers.**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Robb Stuart called the meeting to order at 7:10pm.

PRESENT

Mayor	Robb Stuart
Councillor	Paul Webb
Councillor	Deb Coombes
Councillor	Randy Brown
Councillor	Sandy Gamble
Councillor	Marie Flowers
Councillor	Wayne Milaney

ABSENT

ADMINISTRATION

CAO

Arno Glover

2. ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA & ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion 2.a

Moved by Councillor Randy Brown that Council adopts the agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion 3.a.

Moved by Councillor Sandy Gamble that Council adopts the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of May 12, 2025, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. PUBLIC HEARING

There was no public hearing.

5. DELEGATION

Agenda item 5.a Keith Bailey, President Bowden Agricultural Society.

Keith provided Council with an overview of the events planned for the summer season at the Bowden Agricultural Grounds.

The Bowden Daze CPRA Pro Rodeo event will take place over the period of July 11 -13, 2025.

Keith stated that the Ag Society now has a new web site and can now provide online ticket sales.

A request was made to Council for sponsorship donation for the event.

Council appreciates the mutual partnership and support that exists between the Town and the Ag Society, and the request was approved as per the amount budgeted within the 2025 Operating Budget.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Agenda item 6.a Council Resolutions Requiring Follow Up Action

Administration provided Council with a summary of Council resolutions that remain as work in progress / ongoing.

Motion 6.a

Moved by Councillor Marie Flowers that Council accepts agenda item 6.a as information.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Agenda item 6.b Key Dates

Administration provided Council with forthcoming key dates.

Motion 6.b

Moved by Councillor Marie Flowers that Council accepts agenda item 6.b as information.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Agenda item 6.c Property Updates

Administration provided Council with an update on developments with regard to the former Bowden Hotel site and the Land Annexation.

Motion 6.c

Moved by Councillor Paul Webb that Council accepts agenda item 6.c as information.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. BYLAWS & POLICIES

There was no agenda item.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Agenda item 8.a Letter to Alberta Government

Mayor Robb Stuart requested that Council submit correspondence to the Premier of the Alberta Government outlining the Town's position with regard to the proposed changes in provincial government legislation which are due to have a direct impact on Alberta Municipalities.

Mayor Robb Stuart outlined the subject matter for inclusion in the letter.

Council requested that a draft of the letter be submitted for review prior to mailing.

Motion 8.a

Moved by Councillor Randy Brown that Council accepts as information agenda item 8.a

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Agenda item 8.b CAEP Membership

Administration submitted to Council CAEP membership renewal information for review.

Additional information was provided on the appointment of the new Executive Director.

Council discussed the benefits of CAEP membership.

Motion 8.b

Moved by Councillor Randy Brown that Council renews CAEP membership for the Town of Bowden.

MOTION CARRIED

Agenda item 8.c Alberta Police Funding Model Review

Mayor Robb Stuart submitted to Council an email dated May 14, 2025 received from an independent consulting practice (MNP) commissioned by the Government of Alberta to gather feedback on the Police Funding Model.

Council reviewed and discussed the matter. Mayor Robb Stuart requested that each member of Council consider providing feedback.

Motion 8.c

Moved by Councillor Paul Webb Brown that Council accepts the email received from MNP as information.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Agenda item 8.d Regular Council Meetings – Agenda Items

Mayor Robb Stuart and Administration provided Council with an overview of procedures regarding the compilation and inclusion of subject material for Council meeting agendas.

It was requested that lengthy reports be condensed down to only provide shorter more concise and relevant pages.

Motion 8.d

Moved by Councillor Sandy Gamble that Council accepts agenda item 8.d as information.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Agenda item 8.e Municipal Election 2025 Update

The Returning Officer provided Council with an update on:

- The omission of the requirement for candidates to submit a criminal record check from the Election Bylaw passed in December 2024.
- Progress made to date.
- Clarification as to the purpose and distinction between the Notice of Intent Form and the Candidate Nomination Form #4.
- Advance Voting.
- Proposed dates for Advanced Voting.
- Proposed date for Physical Disability Voting.

The Returning Officer requested that Council by resolution approve the proposal for the provision of Advanced Voting days and a date for the provision of a date for Physical Disability Voting.

Motion 8.e.i

Moved by Councillor Paul Webb that Council grants approval for the Returning Officer to hold an Advance Vote for the 2025 Municipal General Election on Friday October 10, 2025 (from 9:00am until 4:00pm) and Saturday October 11, 2025 (from 9:00am until 1:00pm) at the Town of Bowden Administration Office.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion 8.e.ii

Moved by Councillor Randy Brown that Council grants approval for the Returning Officer to provide for Physical Disability Voting at the Advance Vote day of Friday October 10, 2025 (by prior appointment only from 9:00am until 4:00pm).

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. FINANCIAL

Agenda item 9.a Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF)

Administration provided Council with correspondence confirming the LGFF funding for 2025.

Motion 9.a

Moved by Councillor Randy Brown that Council accepts agenda item 9.a as information.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items of correspondence

11. REPORTS

Agenda item 11.a CAO's Report

CAO Arno Glover provided Council with an overview (and update) on the items included within the CAO's report.

Motion 11.a

Moved by Councillor Marie Flowers that Council accepts the submitted CAO report as information.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Agenda item 11.b Council Committee Reports

No reports submitted.

Agenda item 11.c Society & Other Reports

- i. Parkland Regional Library System Financial Statements Year 2024,
- ii. Bowden Grandview School Council Meetings,
- iii. FCSS Report (May, 2025),
- iv. Mountain View Regional Water Services Commission (Meeting May 14, 2025),
- v. CAEP Annual General Meeting (May 15, 2025),
- vi. Bowden Agricultural Society (Meeting May 20, 2025),
- vii. Alberta Counsel Session Summary (April 12 to May 14, 2025),
- viii. Alberta Counsel News (May, 2025).

Motion 11.c

Moved by Councillor Sandy Gamble accepts agenda items 11.c.(i) to 11.c (viii) as information.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mayor Robb Stuart called for a brief recess at 8:40 p.m.

Mayor Robb Stuart called the meeting back to order at 8:49 p.m.

Mayor Robb Stuart requested that Council move into closed session.

12. CLOSED SESSION OF COUNCIL

Agenda item 12.a MVRWSC (Confidential). CLOSED SESSION

Section 197(4) of the MGA applies: Exception to disclose under Division 2 of Part 1 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, RSA2000, Chapter F-25 (as amended over time) on the basis of: Section 27 "is deemed to be privileged information".

Motion 12.a

Moved by Councillor Marie Flowers at 8:49 p.m. that Council moves to an "in-camera" session as per section 27 of the FOIP Act.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion 12.b

Moved by Councillor Deb Coombes at 9:01 p.m. that Council return to an "open meeting" of Council.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

There was no motion made with regard to Agenda Item 12.a

13. MEETING ADJOURNMENT**Motion 13.a**

Moved by Councillor Marie Flowers at 9:01 pm to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes signed by:

Mayor
Robb Stuart

CAO
Arno Glover

Regular Council Meeting: June 9, 2025.	Agenda Item: 6.a
Prepared by: Arno Glover	Approved by: Mayor Robb Stuart
Report Type: Information	Attachment(s): 1 Council Resolutions Follow Up

Matters arising from past minutes.

6.a Council Resolutions Requiring Follow Up Action

A summary of past Council resolutions that require follow up action is attached.

Administration submits the revised document for Council to review.

Town of Bowden

COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS REQUIRING FOLLOW UP ACTION

(new comments in red - updated 6 June 2025)

Meeting Date	Resolution	Action By Whom	Date back to Council
24 Apr 23	Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Motion 8.a ICF to be delayed for 2 years pending Provincial Government guidelines Municipal Services Agreement (planning services) with RDC expires 31 December 2025 ICF changes to be introduced into the MGA reference Bill 50. Current ICF expired in December 2022 – the provincial government 2-year moratorium expired in December 2024. Email sent to CAO of RDC to commence planning / discussions. No response to date. Awaiting MGA amendment reference Bill 50.	Council / CAO	progress
26 Aug 24	Firehall Flag Poles Motion 8.c Administration to liaise with RDC Protective Services No further progress	CAO	progress
27 Jan 25	Municipal Emergency Management Bylaw Motion 8.e an updated bylaw is to be submitted to Council Revised bylaw submitted during RCM June 9, 2025	CAO	completed
10 Mar 25	Elected Officials Orientation Training Council requested that Administration investigate the possibility of other options for the required training. Olds Event cancelled due to lack of interest A meeting of the local Returning Officers in Innisfail may lead to a development. No further progress CAO to attend meeting in Innisfail on June 10, 2025.	CAO	ongoing

Agenda item 6.a Council Resolutions (continued)**Recommended Motion:**

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council accept agenda item 6.a as information.

Regular Council Meeting: June 9, 2025.	Agenda Item: 6.b
Prepared by: CAO Arno Glover	Approved by: Mayor Robb Stuart
Report Type: Information	Attachment(s):

6.b Key Dates *(for information)***JUNE****June 12**

**Alberta Municipalities
Summer Municipal Leaders Caucuses (Town of Drumheller)
Councillors Deb Coombes and Sandy Gamble**

June 23

**Special Events Meeting (6:30pm Council Chambers)
Regular Council Meeting (7:00pm Council Chambers)**

June 26

**Alberta Municipalities
Summer Municipal Leaders Caucuses (Town of Devon)
Councillor Paul Webb / CAO Arno Glover**

JULY**July 12**

Bowden Daze Rodeo Parade

July 15

Annexation Public Hearing

**July 21 to 25
July 28**

**CAO on vacation (Council agenda to be prepared by Administration)
Regular Council Meeting (7:00pm Council Chambers)**

**November 12
November 14**

**Alberta Municipalities Convention and Trade Show
(Calgary TELUS Convention Centre)**

**Hotel reservations have been made for 7 Councillors for the nights of
Tuesday 11th November to Thursday 13th November (3 nights)
Hyatt Regency Calgary**

December 5

Christmas Special Event Igloo Arena (tbc)

Recommended Motion:

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council accepts agenda item 6.b as information.

Regular Council Meeting: June 9, 2025.	Agenda Item: 7.a.
Prepared by: Arno Glover	Approved By: CAO
Report Type: RFD	Attachment(s): 1. Municipal Emergency Management Bylaw 06 / 2025

7.a Municipal Emergency Management Bylaw 06 / 2025

7.a.i

Background:

The attached draft Municipal Emergency Management Bylaw is submitted to Council as a Request for Decision.

This bylaw repeals Municipal Emergency Management Bylaw 03 / 2023.

7.a.ii

Legislative Requirement

a
The Emergency Management Act and the Local Authority Emergency Management Regulation sets out provisions for emergency management regulation.

Section 3 of the Local Authority Emergency Management Regulation requires that a local authority shall, *"establish the local authority's emergency management agency by bylaw"*.

b

With specific regard to an emergency management agency the regulation states (amongst other things) that the bylaw must:

- i. set out the responsibilities of the agency,
- ii. appoint a person as the director of emergency management,
- iii. indicate, if an agency is acting as the agent of more than one local authority, which local authorities the agency is acting as an agent for,
- iv. state that the agency is responsible for the administration of the local authority's emergency management program.

7.a.iii

Amendments to the Municipal Emergency Management Bylaw 03 / 2023

a
The major revision within the new bylaw is to remove the provision set out in schedule A that states that the Director of Emergency Management is the Chief Administrative Officer.

b

Other amendments have made to bring the bylaw up to date as a process of continuous review of completeness and relevancy to ensure that the bylaw remains appropriate and meaningful.

Amendments made within the revised bylaw are highlighted in yellow on the attached document.

7.a.iv**Alternative Actions:**

That Council by resolution:

- i. adopt Municipal Emergency Management Bylaw 06 / 2025.
- or
- ii. makes recommendations to Administration on any amendments as deemed necessary.

7.a.v**Recommended Action:**

That Council:

- i. grants first reading to Municipal Emergency Management Bylaw 06 / 2025 as presented,
- ii. grants second reading to Municipal Emergency Management Bylaw 06 / 2025,
- iii. after second reading unanimously vote in favour of allowing a third reading,
- iv. adopt Municipal Emergency Management Bylaw 06 / 2025.



Town of Bowden
Box 338, 2101 20th Ave
Bowden, Alberta, T0M 0K0

Town of Bowden – Province of Alberta MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BYLAW 06 /2025

Whereas the Municipal Government Act, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter M-26 provides that a Council of a Municipality may pass bylaws for municipal purposes respecting the safety, health and welfare of people and the protection of people and property,

And whereas the Council of the Town of Bowden is responsible for the direction and control of its emergency response, and is required under the Emergency Management Act, RSA2000, Chapter E-6.8 to appoint an Emergency Advisory Committee and to establish and maintain a Municipal Emergency Management Agency,

And whereas it is desirable in the public interest, and in the interests of public safety, that such a committee be appointed, and such an agency be established and maintained to carry out Council's statutory powers and obligations under the Emergency Management Act,

And whereas, Council of the Town of Bowden wishes to establish regulations and procedures to meet the obligations of the municipality under the Emergency Management Act and the Local Authority Emergency Management Regulation,

Now therefore, the Municipal Council of the Town of Bowden hereby enacts as follows.

1 SHORT TITLE

This bylaw may be known as, and cited as, the "Emergency Management Bylaw".

2 PURPOSE

This bylaw provides directions on emergency management roles and responsibilities in accordance with the requirements of Provincial legislation, including but not limited to the:

- i. Emergency Management Act, RSA2000, Chapter E-6.8
- ii. Local Authority Emergency Management Regulation 203 / 2018
and the,
- iii. Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Partnership Agreement.

3 DEFINITIONS

In this bylaw the following definitions apply:

Act

Means the Emergency Management Act, RSA2000, Chapter E-6.8.

Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA)

Means the Provincial Government Agency charged with the administration of the Emergency Management Act and the Local Authority Emergency Management Regulation.

Authorized Person

Means any person appointed by the CAO to act on behalf of the Town of Bowden.

Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

Is the person appointed by Council into the position of Chief Administrative Officer for the Town of Bowden in accordance with the MGA and is the administrative head of the Municipality, and includes any person given designated responsibilities by the CAO.

Council

Means the duly elected Municipal Council of the Town of Bowden.

Director of Emergency Management (DEM)

Means the person appointed by Council acting as liaison between Council, the Town and the Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Agency.

Disaster

Means an event that results in serious harm to the safety, health or welfare of people or in widespread damage to property or the environment.

Emergency

Means an event that requires prompt co-ordination of action or special regulation of persons or property to protect the safety, health or welfare of people or to limit damage to property or the environment.

Emergency Advisory Committee

Means the Council Committee established under the Act and by Town bylaw.

Emergency Management Team

Means personnel designated to respond to and manage emergencies within the Municipality.

MGA

Means the Municipal Government Act, RSA2000, Chapter M-26.

Municipality (or Local Authority)

Means the Town of Bowden.

Person

Means any of the following:

- a) an individual
- b) a legal entity or business entity, including a firm, developer, contractor, association, partnership, society, or corporation.

Regulation

Means the Local Authority Emergency Management Regulation 203 / 2018.

Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Agency

Means an agency consisting of the **members** from each of the municipalities within the Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Partnership.

Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Partnership

Means those municipalities who have entered into the Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Partnership Agreement for the purpose of organizing integrated emergency planning, training, assistance, and emergency operations programs.

Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Plan

Means the integrated emergency management plan, prepared by the Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Partnership to coordinate a response to a **regional** emergency or disaster.

State of Local Emergency

Means a declaration of a state of local emergency, made by resolution of the Municipality declared in accordance with the provisions of the Act and pursuant to this bylaw.

Town

Means the municipal corporation of the Town of Bowden.

Words (interpretation)

- i. "may" is to be interpreted as permissive (allowed but not obligatory, optional).
- ii. "must" is to be interpreted as imperative (obligatory, mandatory, required, unavoidable).
- iii. "shall" is to be interpreted as "must".
- iv. "should" is to be interpreted as a recommended (desirable, not required to conform).
- v. "including but not limited to" means when listing a number of items, does not limit the bylaw term to only those words or those items listed.

4 GOVERNING BODIES & RESPONSIBILITIES**4.1 Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA)****4.1.1**

This is the Alberta Government Agency charged with the administration of the Emergency Management Act and the Local Authority Emergency Management Regulation.

4.1.2

The Minister or his / her representative may declare a State of Emergency relating to all or any part of Alberta, if satisfied that an emergency exists, in accordance with the provisions of the Emergency Management Act.

4.2 Emergency Advisory Committee**4.2.1**

The Emergency Advisory Committee is established by the Town of Bowden Council Committee Bylaw in accordance with the requirement of the Municipal Government Act and section 11 of the Emergency Management Act.

4.2.2

The purpose of the Emergency Advisory Committee is to:

- i. ensure that the Town provides resources to satisfy the requirements of the Emergency Management Act RSA2000, Chapter E-6.8,

- ii. review the Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Plan at least once a year and make recommendations to Council of any proposed changes to the plan or emergency programs or services,
- iii. liaison with the Director of Emergency Management in matters relating to the direction and control of duties and responsibilities and to ensure that emergency plans and programs are prepared, tested, and implemented in accordance with any Provincial statute or regulation, or agreement,
- iv. review the appointment of the Director of Emergency Management and make recommendations as to the appointment of a new Director of Emergency Management as / when required.

4.2.3

Council may on the advice of the Emergency Advisory Committee:

- i. borrow, levy, appropriate and make expenditures, outside of budget, any sums required for the operation of a municipal emergency plan or the Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Plan,
- ii. enter into an agreement with, and make payments to, persons or organizations for the provision of essential services for the ongoing development and maintenance of a municipal emergency plan or the Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Plan.

4.2.4

Members of the Emergency Advisory Committee Councillors shall complete any training as prescribed and in accordance with the requirements of any enactment or agreement regarding emergency management or directive issued by the Alberta Emergency Management Agency.

4.2.5

Meetings of the Emergency Advisory Committee will be chaired by the Mayor or in his / her absence the Deputy Mayor.

4.2.6

All meetings of the Emergency Advisory Committee will include the Director of Emergency Management (DEM) and any other persons, organizations and representatives as required or deemed necessary.

4.2.7

The Emergency Advisory Committee will meet as a minimum once every calendar year or as required or deemed necessary.

4.3 Director of Emergency Management

4.3.1

The Director of Emergency Management (DEM) will:

- i. liaise with the Alberta Emergency Management Agency (and any other regulatory body),
- ii. liaise with the Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Agency and its appointed representatives,
- iii. liaise with representatives of any other agency or organization that assists in the development or implementation of the Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Plan,
- iv. attend any meetings and complete any courses prescribed by the Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Agency as required.
- v. ensure that the Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Plan meets with current Alberta Government legislation,
- vi. prepare the Municipal Emergency Plan and regional programs specific to the Town of Bowden,
- vii. conduct a regular review of risks specific to the Town of Bowden and continue to participate in the Regional Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA),
- viii. conduct a tabletop exercise at least once a year,
- ix. conduct a functional exercise at least once every 4 years,
- x. appoint persons to the Emergency Management Team as required.

4.3.2

The DEM has the responsibility for implementing and putting into operation emergency operations in accordance with:

- i. the Emergency Management Act, Regulation or Ministerial directives,
- ii. the direction of the municipal Emergency Advisory Committee,
- iii. the direction of the Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Agency,
- iv. this authority provided by this bylaw and any other part of any applicable or relevant Town bylaw, regulation, or policy.

The DEM will direct, control, and coordinate all emergency services and other resources used in an emergency or disaster.

4.3.3

The DEM will must complete all courses as required by the Alberta Emergency Management Agency within 18 months of appointment. This currently includes:

- Basic Emergency Management,
- ICS 100
- ICS 200
- ICS 300
- DEM Course.

4.3.4

The DEM may delegate powers to other authorized persons, organizations, contractors, inspectors or employees of the Town or neighbouring municipalities as deemed appropriate or necessary.

4.3.5

Without limitation, the DEM is empowered to make decisions, acting responsibly and in good faith, concerning any matter or thing which is necessary or appropriate for emergency management including the implementation and putting into effect:

- i. this bylaw,
- ii. the Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Plan,
- iii. any action as deemed necessary, or appropriate, that may not be stated but which fulfills the general provisions of this bylaw, and which is in the best interest of the community.

4.4 Emergency Management Team

4.4.1

The Emergency Management Team are persons appointed by the DEM to manage, assist, or respond to an emergency or disaster.

4.4.2

The DEM will appoint a Deputy Director(s) of Emergency Management (DDEM) to the Emergency Management Team.

The DDEM(s) will carry out the responsibilities of the DEM in that person's absence.

4.4.3

Any employee of the Town assigned responsibilities in respect to the implementation of the Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Plan must attend any meetings and complete any courses / training prescribed by the Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Agency as required or deemed necessary.

4.5 Emergency Management Agency

4.5.1

Subject to section 11 of the Act this bylaw hereby establishes an emergency management agency whose purpose is to, *"subject to the regulations to act as the agent of the local authority in exercising the local authorities' powers and duties under this Act"*.

The emergency management agency is the Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Agency.

4.5.2

The Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Agency shall:

- i. utilize the command, control and coordination system as prescribed by the Managing Director of the Alberta Emergency Management Agency in accordance with the Act,
- ii. and conduct those responsibilities as outlined in the Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Partnership agreement (as amended over time).

5 GENERAL PROVISIONS ON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

5.1 Joint Municipal Emergency Plan

The Town will collaborate with the other partnering communities within the Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Partnership to develop a joint Emergency Management Plan.

5.2

The Director of Emergency Management is responsible for the content and update of the Emergency Management Plan as appropriate and relevant to the Town.

5.3

The content of the emergency management plan must satisfy the requirements of section 4 of the Local Authority Emergency Management Regulation 203 / 2018. These provisions include:

- i. a description of the administration of the local authority's emergency management program,
- ii. the procedures for implementing the emergency plan during an emergency or exercise response,
- iii. the local authority's plan for preparedness, response, and recovery activities,
- iv. a hazard and risk assessment,
- v. emergency management program exercises that the local authority will engage in,
- vi. the local authority emergency management agency's plan for regular review and maintenance of the local authority's emergency plan,
- vii. the local authority emergency management agency's plan for the review and maintenance of the local authority's emergency plan after an exercise, emergency, or disaster,
- viii. how the command, control and coordination system prescribed by section 3(3) will be used by the local authority's emergency management agency,
- ix. the assignment of responsibilities to local authority employees and elected officials, by position, respecting the implementation of the local authority's emergency plan,
- x. a training plan for staff assigned with responsibilities under the local authority's emergency plan,
- xi. the mechanisms that will be used to prepare and maintain an emergency management staff contact list for employees and elected officials who have been assigned responsibilities respecting the implementation of the local authority's emergency plan,
- xii. the local authority's plan for communications, public alerts and notifications during exercises, emergencies and disasters, and the local authority's plan for providing emergency social services during an emergency or disaster.

5.4 Activation of an Emergency Plan

An emergency management plan may be activated in part or whole:

- i. on declaration of a Provincial State of Emergency in accordance with the Emergency Management Act,
- ii. on order by the Minister or the Regional Health Authority of a declaration of a state of public health emergency in accordance with the Public Health Act,
- iii. by the Director of Emergency Management when an emergency situation occurs that requires a coordinated and controlled response by the Town or municipal agencies,
- iv. on declaration of a State of Local Emergency in accordance with the procedures contained within this bylaw.

5.5

The Director of Emergency Management is responsible for the direction and control of the municipal emergency response unless the Government of Alberta (or other agency) assumes direction and control under the Emergency Management Act, the Public Health Act or any other enactment or agreement.

5.6

When an emergency plan is activated, coordination of emergency response is delegated to the:

- i. **Director of Emergency Management**
The Director or designate will act on behalf of the Mayor as the coordinator of all emergency services and resources used in the emergency.
- ii. **Incident Commander**
The Director of Emergency Management may appoint an Incident Commander who will establish an Incident Command Post (ICP) to manage and coordinate the overall emergency response operations.
- iii. **Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC)**
An ECC may be established under the management of the Director of Emergency Management.

5.7

The Emergency Management Team may fill roles in either the ECC or ICP based upon the requirements of the emergency, in accordance with the principles of the Incident Command System.

6 STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY

6.1 Declaration

The Town may, at any time when it is satisfied that an emergency exists, or may exist within municipality, by resolution make a declaration of a State of Local Emergency relating to all or any part of the municipality in accordance with Section 21 of the Act.

6.2 Requirements under the Act

A declaration, renewal or cancellation of a State of Local Emergency shall be made in accordance with the Act, and specifically:

- i. the declaration, renewal or termination must be made by resolution for which notice under sections 194 to 196 of the Municipal Government Act is not required,
- ii. all members of Council shall be notified of the declaration, renewal. or termination as soon as practicable,
- iii. the declaration must identify the nature of the Emergency and the area of the Town in which it exists,

- iv. the details of the declaration shall be published immediately by such means of communication considered most likely to make known to the majority of the population of the area affected by the contents of the declaration,
- v. notification of the declaration must be given to the Alberta Emergency Management Agency and the Minister.

6.3 Authority to make a Declaration

The Mayor acting alone constitutes a quorum of the Emergency Advisory Committee for the purpose of making a decision to declare, renew or cancel a State of Local Emergency or expand or reduce the part of the municipality to which a State of Local Emergency applies.

If the Mayor is not available or incapacitated, then the Deputy Mayor acting alone may exercise this authority.

If no delegation of authority exists, then any two (2) Council members acting together may exercise this authority and by resolution make a declaration of a State of Local Emergency.

6.4 Action

Upon declaration of a State of Local Emergency, the local authority is responsible for the co-ordination and implementation of the necessary plans or programs prepared in accordance with the Act, this bylaw and other enactment or agreement, including:

- i. exercise any power given by the Minister in relation to the part of the municipality affected by the declaration,
- ii. putting into effect any emergency plan or operation,
- iii. acquiring and / or utilizing any real or personal property considered necessary to prevent, combat or alleviate the effects of an emergency or disaster,
- iv. authorizing or requiring any person to render aid of a type he or she is qualified to provide,
- v. controlling or prohibiting travel to or from any area of the Town,
- vi. providing for the restoration of essential facilities and the distribution of essential supplies and provide, maintaining and coordinating emergency medical, welfare and other essential services in any part of the Town,
- vii. evacuating persons and / or livestock or personal property from any area of the Town that is or may be affected by a disaster and making arrangements for the adequate care and protection of those persons or livestock and personal property,
- viii. authorizing the entry into any building or on any land, without warrant, by any person in the course of implementing an emergency plan or program,
- ix. removing any trees, structures or crops if the removal is necessary or appropriate in order to reach the scene of a disaster, or to attempt to forestall its occurrence or to combat its progress,
- x. procuring and / or fixing prices for food, clothing, fuel, equipment, medical supplies, or other essential supplies and the use of any property, services, resources or equipment within the Town for the duration of the state of emergency,
- xi. authorizing the conscription of persons needed to meet an emergency,
- xii. authorizing any persons at any time to exercise, in the operation of any emergency plan and related plans or programs, any power specified in (ii) to (x) in relation to any part of the municipality affected by a declaration of a state of local emergency.

6.5 Ending a State of Local Emergency

When, in the opinion of the local authority declaring the state of local emergency, an emergency no longer exists in relation to which the declaration was made, the local authority shall, by resolution, terminate the declaration.

A declaration of a state of local emergency is considered terminated and ceases to be of any force or effect when:

- i. a resolution is passed,
- ii. a period of seven days has lapsed since it was declared, unless it is renewed by resolution,
- iii. the Lieutenant Governor in Council makes an order for a state of emergency under the Act, relating to the same area,
- iv. the Minister cancels the state of local emergency.

When a declaration of a state of local emergency has been terminated, the local authority who made the declaration shall cause the details of the termination to be published immediately by such means of communication considered most likely to notify the population of the area affected.

7 LIMITS OF LIABILITY

7.1

No action may be taken against the Town, or any Designated Officer, or any member of Council or the Director of Emergency Management or any person acting under the Town's direction or authorization for anything done or omitted to be done in good faith while carrying out a power, obligation or duty under the Act, this bylaw, or the Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Plan (including exercising any powers during a declared state of local emergency).

7.2

Any penalty or order issued under this bylaw shall not affect or remove in full or part any liability for claims or damages that may arise under a civil action brought to a Court in relation to an offence committed under this bylaw or any other enactment.

7.3 Right of Appeal

Any person who considers themselves to be aggrieved by a decision of the CAO (or a Designated Officer) made under this bylaw may appeal the decision to Council, in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Council Procedural Bylaw 04 / 2025.

The Council's decision in respect of an appeal will be final and binding.

8 APPLICABILITY

8.1

This bylaw applies to all persons resident or present within the Town of Bowden municipal boundaries.

8.2

No person shall obstruct, hinder, or interfere with any person while exercising or performing their duties or powers pursuant to the provisions of this bylaw, or any other enactment.

8.3

Exceptions (either permanent or temporary) to any provision within this bylaw:

- i. are at the discretion of the CAO, due to special circumstances, arrangements or need,
- ii. are as stated in this bylaw,
- iii. may apply to any Designated Officer or person acting under authority, or agreement or in the normal course of their official duties, for example: The Director of Emergency Management, Peace Officers, RCMP, Fire Department.

8.4

Nothing in this bylaw relieves a person from:

- i. complying with the provision of any federal, provincial, municipal law or regulation,
- ii. any requirement of any lawful permit, order, or licence,
- iii. any fine, charge, fee or rate charge made by any other federal or provincial legislation or regulatory body.

Any person who contravenes any provision of this bylaw, by doing any act or thing which is prohibited, or by failing to do any act or thing that is required, is guilty of an offence in accordance with this bylaw.

8.5

All references in this bylaw to an act, statute, regulation, or other bylaw refer to the current version of that enactment, as amended or replaced from time to time including all successor legislation.

8.6

All schedules attached to this bylaw form part of this bylaw.

9 SEVERABILITY

Every provision of this bylaw is independent of all other provisions. If any provision of this bylaw is declared invalid for any reason by a Court of competent jurisdiction, all other provisions of this bylaw shall remain valid and enforceable.

Nothing in this bylaw relieves a person from complying with any provision of any Federal, Provincial, or municipal law or regulation or any requirement of any lawful permit, order, or licence.

10 BYLAW PRECEDENCE

This bylaw supersedes and takes precedence over all previously passed bylaws that refer to municipal emergency management, emergency planning and appointed positions, persons or bodies.

Bylaw **03 / 2023** and all amendments thereto are hereby repealed.

Schedules attached to this bylaw:

Schedule A Appointments.

This bylaw and the attached schedule will come into effect on the final day of passing and signature thereof.

Read a first time in open council this 9th day of June 2025,

Read a second time in open council this 9th day of June 2025,

and finally passed by unanimous consent of the Councillor's present.

Read a third time in open council this 9th day of June 2025.

Robb Stuart, Mayor

Arno Glover, Chief Administrative Officer

Municipal Emergency Management Bylaw SCHEDULE A Appointments, Committees & Agencies

A1

Director of Emergency Management (DEM)

The person appointed by resolution of Council.

A2

Deputy Director of Emergency Management (DEM)

The person appointed by the Director of Emergency Management.

A3

Emergency Advisory Committee

The Emergency Advisory Committee established by bylaw consists of:

All members of Town Council

A4

Emergency Management Agency

The partnership body established under this bylaw and appointed by Council is the Red Deer Regional Emergency Management Partnership consisting of the following municipalities:

**City of Red Deer
Red Deer County
Town of Bowden
Town of Sylvan Lake
Town of Penhold
Town of Innisfail
Village of Delburne
Village of Elnora**

and other organizations and representatives as required, including but not limited to:

**Alberta Emergency Management Agency
Alberta Environment
Red Deer County Protective Services
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Emergency Medical Services Providers
School Divisions
Utility Providers
Canadian Red Cross**

7.a Municipal Emergency Management Bylaw 06 / 2025 (continued)**7.a.vi****Motions:****Proposed Motions:**

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council gives first reading to Municipal Emergency Management Bylaw 06 / 2025.

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council gives second reading to Municipal Emergency Management Bylaw 06 / 2025.

Moved by Councillor _____ that Council unanimously considers a third reading of Municipal Emergency Management Bylaw 06 / 2025.

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council give third and final reading to Municipal Emergency Management Bylaw 06 / 2025 and is adopted accordingly and made effective once duly signed.

or,

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council give first reading to Municipal Emergency Management Bylaw 06 / 2025.

Moved by Councillor _____ that Council direct Administration to make amendments to Municipal Emergency Management Bylaw 06 / 2025 to include _____

7.a.vii**Future Action:**

- i. Upon adoption of the bylaw, Administration to publish a copy of the bylaw on the Towns' website.
- ii. Administration to provide the Director of Emergency Management with a copy of the bylaw.
- iii. Administration to submit the revised bylaw for inclusion within the Joint Municipal Emergency Plan.

Regular Council Meeting: June 9, 2025.	Agenda Item: 8.a
Prepared by: Arno Glover	Approved by: Mayor Robb Stuart
Report Type: RFD	Attachment(s):

Content:**8.a Library Board Appointments****8.a.i Board Membership (extract from Council Committee Bylaw)**

Membership of the Bowden Public Library Board will consist of:

- i. a minimum of one, and no more than two, appointed Councillors,
- ii. no fewer than 5 and no more than 10 members appointed by Council,
- iii. members will appoint a chairperson and other officers annually at the Organizational Meeting.
- iv. the chairperson cannot be a member of Town Council,
- v. the Board shall decide on the date of appointment of all members and submit this to Council for approval by resolution,
- vi. **a member of the Board is eligible to be reappointed for only 2 consecutive terms of office, unless at least 2/3rds of Council passes a resolution stating that the member may be appointed as a member for more than 3 consecutive terms.**
- vii. all persons appointed to the Public Library Board should attend all meetings in accordance with the provisions contained within the Libraries Act.
A person is disqualified from remaining a member of the Board if the person fails to attend, without authorization 3 consecutive regular meetings of the Board.
- viii. Council may at any time review the membership of the Board and may for any reason it considers appropriate revoke the appointment of any member.
- ix. a person who is an employee of the Public Library Board is not eligible to be a member of the Board but is entitled to attend Public Library Board meetings and provide input and advice on matters as deemed necessary.

The current library board has 5 members and two appointed Councillors.

8.a.ii

The Bowden Public Library Board has requested that Council approve by resolution the reappointment of the following members to the board.

Shawna MacDonald
Justina Klassen-Fehr

Recommended Motion

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council approves the appointment of Shawna MacDonald and Justina Klassen-Fehr for a 2-year term effective November 1, 2025 until October 31, 2027.

Regular Council Meeting: June 9, 2025.	Agenda Item: 8.b
Prepared by: Arno Glover	Approved by: Mayor Robb Stuart
Report Type: Information	Attachment(s): 1 Bowden Pioneer Museum.

Content:**8.b Bowden Pioneer Museum Canada Day Celebration**

The Bowden Pioneer Museum has requested that members of Council attend the event if possible.
(refer to attached poster).

Recommended Motion:

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council accept agenda item 8.b as information.

CELEBRATE CANADA DAY

AT THE BOWDEN PIONEER MUSEUM
TUESDAY, JULY 1 @ 1:00 P.M.



VISIT THE MUSEUM FOR CAKE, COFFEE & CELEBRATE BOWDEN'S HISTORY,
AND ALL THAT MAKES OUR LITTLE TOWN GREAT ON CANADA DAY.
TAKE A TOUR OF ITS GENERAL STORE, CHECK OUT THE CLASSIC FIRE TRUCK AND
SEE WHAT THE GRAIN ELEVATORS LOOKED LIKE
ALONG THE RAILWAY! EVERYONE WELCOME.

NO COST TO ATTEND FOR CAKE.
DONATIONS TO THE HISTORICAL
SOCIETY ARE WELCOME



Regular Council Meeting: June 9, 2025.	Agenda Item: 8.c
Prepared by: Arno Glover	Approved by: Mayor Robb Stuart
Report Type: Information	Attachment(s): 1 Alberta Municipal Affairs Notice. 2 Fact Sheets from Open Alberta

Content:**8.c Municipal Election 2025 Update – Pre Election Disclosures**

The CAO has received notice from Municipal Affairs with regard to a new requirement made to the Election Statutes Amendment Act 2025.

The attached notice dated June 5, 2025 provides details of the requirement.

The facts sheets referenced in paragraph 3 of the notice are attached.

Recommended Motion:

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council accept agenda item 8.c as information.

AR119290

June 5, 2025

Dear Chief Administrative Officers and Municipal Clerks:

Subject: Pre-election Disclosures

I am writing to inform you of a change to the *Local Authorities Election Act* that was made as part of Bill 54, the *Election Statutes Amendment Act, 2025*, which received Royal Assent on May 15, 2025.

These amendments establish that candidates who have received contributions beginning on January 1 and ending on July 31 of the election year must file a campaign disclosure statement for that period by September 30 of the general election year.

Recently, an amendment was also made to the Local Political Parties and Slates Regulation that requires pre-election campaign disclosures for local political parties by September 30 of the general election year. Information about these legislative changes are outlined in a collection of fact sheets published under Changes to the *Local Authorities Election Act* on Open Alberta.

Should you have questions about these amendments, please contact our advisory team at ma.advisory@gov.ab.ca.

Sincerely,



Jonah Mozeson
Deputy Minister

cc: Ryan Westerson, President, Alberta Municipal Clerks Association

Election Statutes Amendment Act, 2025

The *Election Statutes Amendment Act, 2025* makes changes to several pieces of democratic process related legislation:

- The *Election Act* governs the process for provincial elections, by-elections and plebiscites in Alberta and creates the office of the chief electoral officer, the head of Elections Alberta.
- The *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act* governs the financing of provincial elections, Senate elections and referendums. It sets out election financing rules for registered political parties, registered constituency associations, registered candidates, registered leadership contestants and registered third parties.¹
- The *Alberta Senate Election Act* governs the process for Senate elections in Alberta.
- The *Referendum Act* governs the process for referendums in Alberta.²
- The *Recall Act* authorizes Albertans to initiate a process that could lead to the recall of elected MLAs.
- The *Citizen Initiative Act* sets out a petition process that allows eligible voters in Alberta to propose legislative initiatives, policy initiatives, or constitutional referendum questions to the government. It includes advertising and spending rules for those bringing forward citizen initiative petitions.
- The *Local Authorities Election Act* establishes the framework for the conduct of elections in Alberta municipalities, school divisions, irrigation districts and Métis Settlements.

Changes to the *Local Authorities Election Act* came into force May 15. Amendments to all other acts will come into force on proclamation.

Changes for voters and the voting process under the *Election Act*

Description of Changes	Current Status
Ban electronic voting tabulators.	The <i>Election Act</i> is silent on tabulator use but the chief electoral officer can make directives for advance voting that would allow their use.
Require voters to cast ballots in their riding or by special ballot.	Albertans can vote in person on election day, by special ballot, or at any advance voting location.
Require that voting places are available as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ninety-five per cent of voters in an electoral division will be within 50 km of a voting place.	Elections Alberta needs to place voting places at locations convenient for electors.

¹ The *Alberta Personal Income Tax Act* and *Legislative Assembly Act* will be changed to align with the changes in the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act*

² The *Alberta Pension Protection Act* and the *Alberta Taxpayer Protection Act* will be changed to align with certain amendments to the *Referendum Act*

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> every population center with 1,000 or more electors will have, at minimum, a voting place on election day and at least one day in which an advance voting location is open. every population center with 2,500 or more residents will have a voting place on election day and an advance voting location on all advance voting days. 	
<p>Eliminate vouching.</p> <p>Expand the types of identification that can be used to prove residence to include anything that reasonably shows a person lives in the electoral division.</p>	<p>When voting, Albertans can present identification or have another voter vouch for them.</p> <p>Vouching allows a voter without identification to be verified by another eligible voter in the same voting area.</p>
<p>Expand the use of special ballots by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> allowing voters to use a special ballot without first giving a reason. allowing for special ballots to be sent to international destinations, military members and remote areas in advance of the writ for a set election. clarifying that a voter can cast a special ballot by indicating the name of the party leader. <p>Enhance the integrity of special ballots by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> requiring voters to request a special ballot themselves, except in cases where people need assistance due to disability, requiring the signature on the special ballot to match the signature on the voter's identification. 	<p>Special ballots are only available when a voter is unable to vote on the regular election day (for example, if they are in prison, absent from the electoral division, or are physically disabled).</p>
<p>Require the unofficial vote count to be completed within 12 hours of polls closing.</p> <p>Require special ballots to be mailed back in time for Elections Alberta to receive them by the Friday before the election and allow special ballots and advance ballots to be counted three hours before polls close.</p>	<p>There is no specific time for the unofficial vote count to be completed.</p> <p>Special ballots may be delivered until the end of voting day.</p>

Changes for political parties and candidates under the *Election Act*

Description of Changes	Current Status
<p>Allow parties to inspect documents.</p> <p>Clarify that scrutineers may observe every aspect of the electoral process.</p> <p>Allow parties to begin and participate in judicial recounts and be reimbursed by the Crown for legal expenses related to judicial recounts (as long as their endorsed candidate is not also being reimbursed).</p>	<p>Only candidates (or their official representative) can inspect documents or request judicial recounts.</p>

Prevent a single official agent from acting on behalf of more than one independent candidate.	An official agent for a candidate must be a Canadian citizen, 18 years of age or older, and a resident of Alberta but there are no other restrictions for official agents.
Require municipal councillors and school board trustees to take an unpaid leave of absence when running for provincial office.	There are no rules requiring municipal councillors and school board trustees to take an unpaid leave of absence when running in a provincial election.

Changes to advertising rules and administrative changes under the *Election Act*

Description of Changes	Current Status
<p>Clarify advertising rules for government during elections, specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> allow the Premier and ministers to make announcements during emergencies, allow government advertising during a non-constitutional referendum that does not coincide with a general election, clarify government and public agency advertising may continue during by-elections if it does not have a direct and disproportionate impact, and clarify that there are no restrictions on advertising or publishing information about programs and activities outside an election period. 	<p>The <i>Election Act</i> largely prohibits any government department or provincial corporation from publishing information about its programs or activities during an election unless the advertisement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> is required by law, is required at the time to solicit proposals for tenders, relates to urgent matters of public safety, is a continuation of earlier publications, or is an ordinary and routine part of programs or activities of the department or provincial corporation and is not for partisan purposes.
Allow the Minister to regulate election signs and advertisements and prohibit municipalities from making further regulations on signs and advertisements.	Municipalities can enact bylaws related to election signs and advertisements.
Make sure that all chief financial officers appointed under the <i>Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act</i> are not eligible to serve as election officers.	Chief financial officers only for candidates are not eligible to serve as election officers.
Simplify terminology and procedures.	N/A

Changes to contribution rules under the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act*

Description of Changes	Current Status
<p>Authorize Alberta corporations and Alberta unions to make contributions to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> registered political parties, registered constituency associations, registered prospective candidate associations, registered leadership contestants, 	<p>Corporations and unions are prohibited from making contributions to registered political parties; registered constituency associations; nomination contestants; registered leadership contestants; registered candidates under the <i>Alberta Senate</i></p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • registered candidates for election under the <i>Alberta Senate Election Act</i>, • registered third parties engaging in election advertising, Senate advertising, and referendum advertising. 	<p><i>Election Act</i>; and third parties engaging in election advertising, Senate election advertising, or referendum advertising.</p> <p>Current rules for who may make contributions to third party political advertisers remain. Canadian citizens and permanent residents, if ordinarily a resident in Canada, corporations carrying on business in Canada (unless the sole purpose is to influence voters) and unions with bargaining rights in Canada may make contributions to third-party political advertisers.</p>
<p>Adopt a separate maximum aggregate annual contribution limit of \$5,000 to one or any combination of registered leadership contestants. Contribution limit would be increased for inflation.</p>	<p>A person who is ordinarily resident in Alberta may contribute a maximum of \$5,000 annually in the aggregate to one or any combination of a registered party, registered constituency association, registered candidate, nomination contestant or registered leadership candidate.</p> <p>Currently, a person who is ordinarily resident in Alberta may contribute a maximum aggregate amount of \$5,000 in any year to one or more nomination contestants.</p>
<p>Reduce the maximum limit on contributions to third-party advertisers to \$5,000.</p>	<p>The maximum limit on contributions to third-party advertisers is \$34,400. This limit applies to contributions to third parties engaging in election advertising, political advertising, Senate election advertising, and referendum advertising.</p>
<p>Provide that if the election commissioner determines that a contribution is inadvertent, the election commissioner may not serve a notice of an administrative penalty or send a letter of reprimand, unless the amount of the overcontribution exceeds an amount set by regulation. Provide that the election commissioner must also not consent to a prosecution if of the opinion that the overcontribution is inadvertent and does not exceed the limit set in regulation.</p>	<p>Upon completion of the investigation, if the election commissioner is of the opinion that a person has made an overcontribution the election commissioner may serve a notice of administrative penalty or a letter of reprimand.</p>

Changes to rules for political parties and candidates under the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act*.

Description of Changes	Current Status
Remove nomination contests from being regulated under the act.	Nomination contests and nomination contestants are regulated under the act.

<p>The <i>Legislative Assembly Act</i> will be amended to reflect that nomination contests and contestants are no longer regulated under the <i>Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act</i>.</p>	<p>Under the <i>Legislative Assembly Act</i>, a nomination contestant or a registered candidate can be disqualified from being a member of the legislative assembly if they or their chief financial officer has not filed a required report.</p>
<p>For a provincial general election, adopt a maximum election expense limit of \$5,000,000 per registered political party.</p> <p>Increase the maximum election expense limit per registered candidate to \$75,000.</p> <p>Increase the by-election expense limit for a registered political party to \$75,000.</p> <p>Amounts would be adjusted for inflation.</p>	<p>The maximum election expense limit for a registered political party during a general election is calculated using a formula.</p> <p>The current maximum election expense limit for a registered candidate is \$60,800.</p> <p>The current maximum by-election expense limit for a registered political party is \$28,000.</p> <p>Amounts are adjusted for inflation.</p>
<p>Allow independent candidates and others to register a prospective candidate association. Like a registered constituency association, a registered prospective candidate association must appoint a chief financial officer; receipt, record, and report contributions; and adhere to contribution, expense, fundraising and transfer rules.</p> <p>Ensure that most of the rules that apply to a registered constituency association apply.</p> <p>Amendments to the <i>Alberta Personal Income Tax Act</i> will extend the existing individual tax credit for political contributions so it applies to contributions to registered prospective candidate associations.</p>	<p>Candidates may raise funds during a campaign period. An independent candidate may establish a constituency association once elected. A person endorsed by a registered party may be supported by a constituency association at all times.</p> <p>Currently, the tax credit applies to individual contributions to a registered party, registered constituency association, registered candidate or registered leadership contestant.</p>
<p>Add the following reasons the chief electoral officer could decline to register a political party:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The party is not incorporated as a society or a non-for-profit company, • The party has the same or similar name or abbreviation as a local political party, and • The party has not nominated candidates in at least 50 per cent of electoral divisions. 	<p>Currently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no obligation for a political party to incorporate as a non-profit society or company. • The Chief electoral officer may refuse to register a party if of the opinion that the name or abbreviation of the applying party is likely to be confused with the name or abbreviation of another registered party. • To register, a party must endorse candidates in 50 per cent of electoral divisions.
<p>Allow registered political parties to sell merchandise at fair market value without issuing a contribution receipt, except for amounts that exceed the fair market value.</p>	<p>Currently, the act is silent.</p>

Allow people to purchase memberships for family members without needing a contribution receipt for amounts under \$50 except for the per-person amounts that exceed \$50.

Currently, individuals may only purchase their own membership.

Changes to rules for third parties and third party advertising under the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act*.

Description of Changes	Current Status
<p>Increase the aggregate third-party election advertising spending limit for each of the pre-writ and writ period to \$500,000.</p> <p>Increase the third-party election advertising expense limit for promoting or opposing the election of one or more registered candidates in an electoral division to \$10,000.</p> <p>Limits are adjusted for inflation.</p>	<p>The current aggregate third party election advertising spending limit for each of the pre-writ and writ period is \$182,200.</p> <p>A third-party election advertiser is prohibited from spending more than \$3,700 to promote or oppose one or more registered candidates in an electoral division.</p>
<p>Require the chief electoral officer to refuse a third-party registration if one of the criteria for finding it is affiliated with a registered political party is met.</p> <p>Add a new criterion that a third party is affiliated with a registered political party "if one person holds a position on the governing body of a third party and the governing body of a registered party."</p> <p>Require a third party to provide a declaration that the third party is not acting directly or indirectly on behalf of a registered party.</p> <p>Allow for regulations that add new criteria to the test for whether a third party is affiliated with a registered political party.</p>	<p>To determine if a third party is affiliated with a registered political party, the chief electoral officer considers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The organization of the third party, including whether a person holding the position of chief financial officer, signing officer, principal officer, or if there are no principal officers, principal member, with the third party holds the same position with the registered political party. • Any interactions or agreements between the third party and the registered political party, including those that may indicate that the third party is under the control of the registered political party. • The extent to which the third party participates in the decision-making process of the registered political party pursuant to the constitution or founding documents of the registered political party. <p>If the chief electoral officer finds that a third party and a registered political party are affiliated, the chief electoral officer must refuse or cancel the registration.</p>
<p>Provide that advertising in support of or in opposition to candidates seeking a position within a registered party's governing body is not a prohibited third party activity.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

Changes to the investigation and complaint resolution process under the *Election Act* and *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act*

Description of Changes	Current Status
Require the chief electoral officer to retain documents for six months and allow inspection of documents for up to three months.	The chief electoral officer must retain documents for three months and allow inspection of documents for up to 30 days.
Allow the chief electoral officer to provide and publish advice and directions.	Both acts are silent on this.
Require the election commissioner to notify the subject of investigations of the allegations at the beginning of an investigation unless it would compromise the investigation.	Both acts currently require the subject of the investigation to be notified before the investigation is completed.
Allow any person appearing before the election commissioner to be represented by counsel, and any person, including the election commissioner, to record any proceedings at which evidence is given.	The acts are silent on representation by counsel and recording of evidence.
Shorten overall time period for issuing an administrative penalty or letter of reprimand to one year after the date on which the election commissioner received a complaint, or two years after the date on which the election commissioner knew or ought to have known of a matter that permits the election commissioner to conduct an investigation, whichever is earlier. Where the election commissioner receives more than one complaint about the same subject-matter, the time is calculated from the receipt of the first complaint. Provide timelines for giving evidence and introduce a shortened process for investigating complaints made during the writ period.	Investigations can occur up to three years after the alleged contravention. There is no shortened process for complaints received during an election.
Prohibit investigation of complaints where the election commissioner does not have reasonable grounds to believe the matter constitutes an offence under the act.	There is no requirement for the election commissioner to be satisfied there are reasonable grounds to believe an offence has occurred.
Specify what information can be disclosed where the election commissioner refuses to investigate a complaint, consents to a prosecution, enters a compliance agreement, or issues a reprimand or administrative penalty.	The election commissioner can disclose any information they consider appropriate in addition to disclosing findings and decisions.
Ensure the burden of proof for an appeal of an administrative penalty lies with the election commissioner.	The acts are silent on what the election commissioner must establish when an administrative penalty is subject to judicial review.
State that the chief electoral officer and election commissioner are not required to publish information that would reveal the name of a complainant or witness unless directed by a court or if that person consents (this update will be to the <i>Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act</i> only).	The <i>Election Act</i> already states that the chief electoral officer and election commissioner are not required to publish any information that would reveal the name of a complainant or witness unless directed by a court or if that person consents.

	<i>The Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act</i> is silent on this.
<p>Increase penalties for noncompliance where appropriate. Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General contraventions would carry a maximum of \$10,000; • Neglecting duties as an election officer would carry maximum fines of \$10,000 (for returning officers) and \$5,000 (for others); • Damaging or removing required notices would carry a maximum fine of \$5,000; and • Making false claims in relation to the character of a candidate would carry a maximum fine of \$50,000. <p>These changes align with maximums for comparable offences in other Alberta democratic process legislation.</p>	<p>Currently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General contraventions carry a maximum fine of \$5,000. • Neglecting duties as an election officer currently carries a maximum fine of \$5,000 for returning officers and \$2,000 for others. • Damaging or removing required notices currently carries a maximum penalty of \$2,000. <p>Making false statements in relation to the character of a candidate currently carries a maximum fine of \$10,000.</p>

Changes to improve accessibility under the *Alberta Senate Election Act*

Description of Changes	Current Status
Enable the chief electoral officer to conduct Senate elections for First Nations and Métis Settlements when held in conjunction with a municipal election.	<p>The chief electoral officer can conduct Senate elections for First Nations and Metis Settlements when held in conjunction with a provincial election or when they are stand-alone.</p> <p>When a Senate election is held in conjunction with a municipal election, the Minister of Municipal Affairs is responsible for conducting the senate election vote for First Nations. Métis Settlements are directly empowered to conduct the senate election vote.</p>
<p>Apply the current emergency provisions in the <i>Election Act</i> and <i>Local Authorities Election Act</i> to allow the chief electoral officer to adjourn voting in certain circumstances or the Minister of Municipal Affairs to extend, adjourn or take other action in an emergency.</p> <p>Allow the chief electoral officer to recommend to the Lieutenant Governor in Council that voting in a Senate election be discontinued and recommenced another day during emergencies.</p> <p>Allow the Lieutenant Governor in Council to discontinue and recommence voting on another day during emergencies.</p> <p>An emergency could include a disaster or unusual or unforeseen circumstances that are likely to have a significant effect on the conduct of a vote including voters' ability to attend a voting station or circumstances that put the health and safety of a person at risk.</p>	<p>There are no existing rules that apply to senate elections in emergencies.</p>
Apply a change from the <i>Local Authorities Election Act</i> relating to the permanent electors register.	The <i>Alberta Senate Election Act</i> is not aligned with the <i>Local Authorities Election</i>

Changes to improve accessibility under the *Referendum Act*

Description of Changes	Current Status
Enable the chief electoral officer to conduct referendum votes for First Nations and Métis Settlements when held in conjunction with a municipal election.	<p>The chief electoral officer can conduct referendum votes for First Nations and Métis Settlements when held in conjunction with a provincial election or when they are stand-alone.</p> <p>When a referendum is held in conjunction with a municipal election, the Minister of Municipal Affairs is responsible for conducting the referendum vote for First Nations. Métis Settlements are directly empowered to conduct the referendum vote.</p>
<p>Allow the chief electoral officer to recommend to the Lieutenant Governor in Council that voting in a referendum be discontinued and recommenced another day during emergencies.</p> <p>Allow the Lieutenant Governor in Council to discontinue and recommence voting on another day during emergencies.</p> <p>An emergency could include a disaster or unusual or unforeseen circumstances that are likely to have a significant effect on the conduct of a vote including voters' ability to attend a voting station or circumstances that put the health and safety of a person at risk.</p>	<p>Existing rules under the <i>Election Act</i> allow the chief electoral officer to adjourn voting in certain circumstances during emergencies. These rules apply to referendums held in conjunction with provincial elections or stand-alone referendums.</p> <p>The Minister of Municipal Affairs may extend, adjourn or take any other action in emergencies under the <i>Local Authorities Election Act</i>. These rules apply to a referendum held in conjunction with a municipal election.</p>

Changes to create clarity, consistency and accountability under the *Referendum Act*

Description of Changes	Current Status
Require third party advertisers to indicate if they are for or against a referendum question or questions. This change is included in the <i>Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act</i> but applies to referendums.	There is no requirement for third party advertisers to indicate if they are for or against a referendum question or questions.
<p>Remove the requirement for a referendum to occur before the Legislative Assembly makes a resolution authorizing an amendment to the Constitution of Canada.</p> <p>This change will also be applied to the <i>Alberta Taxpayer Protection Act</i>.</p>	A referendum must be held before the Legislative Assembly makes a resolution authorizing an amendment to the Constitution of Canada.

Add a section that states nothing in a referendum held under this Act is to be construed as abrogating or derogating from the existing aboriginal and treaty rights of the aboriginal peoples of Canada that are recognized and affirmed by [section 35](#) of the [Constitution Act, 1982](#).

This change is in addition to the current, already existing requirement in section 2 (4) of the *Citizen Initiative Act* that states that:

An initiative petition proposal must not contravene sections 1 to 35.1 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.

Changes to create flexibility under the *Referendum Act*

Description of Changes

Allow the government to determine how and when the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act* would apply to a referendum through regulation. However, specify that only Alberta entities can engage in third-party referendum advertising.

This change will also be applied to the *Alberta Pension Protection Act*.

Current Status

The *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act* sets out restrictions on referendum advertising contributions and spending limits, disclosure of referendum advertising contributions, reports and financial statements, and many more aspects of financing and disclosure for third-party referendum advertisers.

Changes to improve efficiency under the *Recall Act*

Description of Changes

Reduce to 100 the number of words permitted from the applicant on the recall petition form and allow seven days for a responding statement from the elected MLA who is being recalled.

Require the chief electoral officer to:

- determine within seven days if the requirements for issuing a recall petition have been met,
- verify within 21 days whether a recall vote is authorized,
- report the recall petition results within seven days after completing the verification of results.

Current Status

A recall application must include a statement of not more than 200 words explaining why the MLA should be recalled. There is currently no process for an MLA to provide a responding statement.

If the requirements for a recall petition have been met, the chief electoral officer must provide notice of the recall petition within seven days.

If the requirements for a recall petition have not been met, the chief electoral officer must notify the applicant but there is no timeline for notification.

The chief electoral officer must verify whether a recall vote is authorized within 30 days.

The chief electoral officer is required to report the results of the recall petition as soon as is practicable after completing the verification of results but there is no set time limit.

Reduce the period of time required for a recall vote to be issued to four months from the date on which the successful petition results are published.

The recall vote must be issued within six months from the date on which the successful petition results are published.

Changes to make it easier to recall an MLA under the *Recall Act*

Description of Changes	Current Status
Provide that recall petitions can only begin 12 months after an MLA is elected and may not be issued 12 months before a set date general election.	An applicant may not submit an application for recall until 18 months after an election nor within six months of an upcoming set date general election.
Extend the recall petition signature collection timeline to 90 days.	Once the chief electoral officer issues a recall petition, there are 60 days to collect signatures.
Change the threshold for signatures to 60 per cent of the total number of electors who voted in the electoral district in the most recent election.	A recall vote is authorized if the recall petition has been signed by at least 40 per cent of the total number of electors on the post-election-day list of electors, for the electoral division named in the recall petition.

Changes to improve consistency between the *Recall Act* and other democratic process legislation

Description of Changes	Current Status
Allow union and corporate contributions. This aligns with changes to the <i>Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act</i> and <i>Citizen Initiative Act</i> .	Union and corporate contributions are not permitted.

Changes to improve efficiency and consistency under the *Citizen Initiative Act*

The citizen initiative process includes several steps:

- An eligible Alberta voter applies to the chief electoral officer to start a petition for their initiative.
- The chief electoral officer determines whether to approve the petition, if the application meets the requirements.
- The chief electoral officer issues the petition, including signing sheets for collecting signatures, and then the petition applicant (now known as the proponent) collects signatures.
- The chief electoral officer reviews the signatures and determines if the petition has been successful. Successful legislative and policy initiatives are referred to a committee of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta for consideration. If the committee does not support a legislative initiative, a public vote is held. Successful constitutional initiative petitions go directly to a public vote.
- Constitutional and policy initiatives proceed by way of referendum, while legislative initiatives proceed by way of citizen initiative vote.

Description of Changes	Current Status
Align the three types of citizen initiatives (policy, legislative, and constitutional), by changing the threshold for a successful citizen	To be successful, an initiative petition must have signatures from:

initiative petition to 10 per cent of the number of eligible voters who voted in the last general election.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 per cent of registered voters province-wide for legislative and policy initiatives; and • 20 per cent of registered voters province-wide and in two-thirds of Alberta's constituencies for constitutional initiatives.
The petition applicant is given 120 days to gather the required signatures.	The petition applicant is given 90 days to gather the required signatures
<p>Require the chief electoral officer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • decide within 30 days if requirements have been met to issue a petition and within 60 days if the chief electoral officer refers the matter to the court, • provide notice within seven days that a proposal for a petition has been forwarded to the court and that the petition applicant has the right to be a party before the court and has a right to be heard, • issue the initiative petition within seven days after the Notice of Initiative petition is posted on the chief electoral officer's website as a heads up to any interested third parties, and • verify within 21 days whether a citizen initiative petition has met signature requirements. 	<p>There is no timeline for the chief electoral officer to decide if requirements have been met to issue a petition.</p> <p>The chief electoral officer is required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide notice 14 days before the proceeding that a proposal for a petition has been forwarded to the court. • Issue the initiative petition within 30 days after the Notice of Initiative Petition is posted on the chief electoral officer's website as a heads up to any interested third parties. • Verify within 60 days whether an initiative petition has met signature requirements.
<p>Specify that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • successful initiative petitions completed one year or more before the next set election date must, if required, have an initiative vote on or before that set election date, • initiative petitions successfully completed after this deadline would, if required, have an initiative vote after the set election date but before the next set election date. 	Currently there is no requirement in the act for this.
Require that the rules set out in the <i>Elections Act</i> are followed, as appropriate, when a vote is held.	An initiative vote must be set by order-in-council under the authority of sections 128 and 130 of the <i>Election Act</i> . However, the <i>Citizen Initiative Act</i> does not expressly set out that the conduct for an initiative vote should follow, as closely as possible, the rules set out in the <i>Election Act</i> .

Changes to improve consistency, efficiency, fairness and accountability under the *Citizen Initiative Act*

Description of Changes	Current Status
Allow union and corporation contributions. This aligns with changes to the <i>Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act</i> and <i>Recall Act</i> .	Union and corporation contributions are not permitted.

Changes to maintain consistency under the *Local Authorities Election Act*

Description of Changes	Previous Status Before Legislation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Require all local municipal and school board candidates across Alberta and third-party advertisers to report their campaign finances by September 30 of the election year, in advance of elections that are regularly held in October. This approach will be consistent with requirements for local political parties in Calgary and Edmonton that were introduced through regulatory amendments related to the <i>Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2025</i>.	<p>The <i>Local Authorities Election Act</i> requires all candidates in all municipalities, to report their campaign finances by March 1 following each year that they receive contributions. This applies to independent candidates across Alberta as well as candidates affiliated with local political parties in Calgary and Edmonton.</p> <p>A third-party advertiser who advertises messages that promote or oppose the election of a candidate or an issue on a ballot must file a campaign disclosure statement on March 1 after the general election.</p>

Regular Council Meeting: June 9, 2025.	Agenda Item: 10.a
Prepared by: Arno Glover	Approved by: Mayor Robb Stuart
Report Type: Information	Attachment(s): as per content

Agenda item 10**Content:**

10.a Red Deer County Protective Services (May Enforcement Contract)

Note:

Sentence 3 is included in error and not therefore relevant (confirmed by Sgt. I Heide).

Red Deer County



PROTECTIVE SERVICES

38106 Range Road 275
Red Deer County, AB T4S 2L9
Phone: 403.343.6301
Fax: 403.347.0572

June 2, 2025

Town of Bowden
2101 – 20 Avenue,
Box 388
Bowden, AB T0M 0K0

Sent Via Email to: cfo@bowden.ca

Attention: Chief Administrative Officer

Dear Sir/Madam:

Re: May Enforcement Contract

Please be advised for the month of May, Red Deer County Patrol Officers spent 10 hours and 44 minutes in the Town of Bowden.

There were no tickets issued during patrols conducted between 0600-2100:

There were 2 enforcement related complaints received in the month of May.

I trust you will find the foregoing satisfactory, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Sgt. Irv Heide
Patrol Manager,
Red Deer County, Protective Services

Agenda item 10 (continued)

Alternative Motions:

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council accepts the submitted item of correspondence as information.

Regular Council Meeting: June 9, 2025.	Agenda Item: 11.a
Prepared by: Arno Glover	Approved by: Mayor Robb Stuart
Report Type: Information	Attachment(s) 1 CAO's Report

Content:

Agenda item 11.a (CAO's Report)

Regular Council Meeting: June 9, 2025	Agenda Item: 11.a
Prepared by: Arno Glover	Approved by: n/a
Report Type: Information	Attachment(s):

CAO's Report

1 Land Annexation

1.1

Liz Armitage (a registered professional planner) has been appointed to represent the Town at the Land Annexation Hearing scheduled for July 15, 2025.

A contract is in place between the developer and the planner. There will be no cost to the Town for this representation.

1.2

Administration has successfully tested the Webex video conferencing service with LPRT.

2 Firehall Roof

2.1

Structural remedial work on the firehall roof has been completed.

Original Flat Roof Structure

New ledgers have been installed on the east side of the meeting room / office facility. The new ledgers are manufactured Laminated Veneer Lumber (LVL). These are wood layers compressed together with resins and glue.

Anchor bolts secure the new ledgers in place. These have been spaced at 2-foot intervals as opposed to the previous 4-foot intervals. The bottom of the roof chords rest on these new ledgers and are secured using Simpson connectors (previously there were no connectors in place to secure the roof chords to the ledgers).



On the west side of the meeting room / office a new bearing wall has been constructed as the exterior wall was deemed not to have the structural capacity to support the new ledgers (with anchor bolts).



Secondary Structure (Peaked Roof)

It was noted by the structural engineer that the later addition of the peaked roof when constructed was not anchored to the wall assembly.

These are now anchored using Simpson anchors and threaded bolts.

Utility Room

It was not possible to install new ledgers in the utility room due to lack of access.

The roof load is being retained by the emergency shoring. This will remain in place.

The remedial work has been signed off by the structural engineer (refer to the attached document).

2.2

Further Work

a

The new interior bearing wall is unfinished – this requires the installation of drywall and insulation.

b

The suspended ceiling was part damaged in the original structure failure. Additional parts of the suspended ceiling were removed in order to carry out the shoring and for the remedial work.

A completely new suspended ceiling is now required.

2.3**Additional Work****a**

The floor is in poor condition particularly on the north side of the meeting room. This is a result of water ingress from windows that are in poor condition.

All 4 of the windows in the meeting room / office facility are in poor condition and should be replaced.

b

The north rear door is in poor condition. The metal frame and metal door are twisted and as a result the door cannot be opened / closed easily.

c

Red Deer County have identified further improvements to the building that they should be considered depending on cost. For example, a requirement to remove the kitchen for the construction of a utility washroom for clothing & equipment.

Administration is obtaining quotes for all of the work identified in 2.2 and 2.3 above.

Administration proposes that further discussion with both Council and Red Deer County will be required in order to review these additional requirements and the possibility of any cost sharing agreement.

3 Council Minutes & Agendas

Administration recently scanned all of the archive Council minutes and agendas from the years 2004 to 2011.

Administration now has digital records of all Council Meetings from the year 2004 to 2025 inclusive.

The manual documents will be shredded.

4 Emergency Management

The Town completed the emergency management tabletop exercise (TTX) on Tuesday May 27, 2025.

There were 10 attendees at this event including representative from MWRWSC, Alberta Emergency Management Agency and Red Deer County Protective Services.

The Director of Emergency Management and the CAO will attend the regional functional exercise on June 18, 2025 at Red Deer County.

This will complete the functional exercise for all members of the Joint Municipal Emergency Plan.

5 VALO Networks Remedial Work

Administration has met with Rural Connect. The purpose was to ensure remedial work was carried out to the alleyways and easements following the installation of the fibre optic cable by VALO networks.

This work is not yet fully completed.

6 Public Works Update**6.1**

Public Works responded to fallen trees and branches as a result of the high winds experienced on the evening of Saturday May 31st.

Two tall spruce trees fell in the cemetery in close proximity to the columbarium. Fortunately, there was no damage to either headstones, or the columbarium. These have been cleared away.

A large deciduous poplar tree in the Arena Park was severely damaged. This left the tree in an unbalanced precarious state.

The service of an arborist was necessary to safely cut down the tree due to the size of the branches and their proximity to power lines.



6.2

Most of the work on the final phase of the walking trail has been completed. The asphalt layer was put down on Thursday June 4th. Landscaping around the path will complete the project.

The specification of the path (throughout the Town) is as follows:

	City of Calgary Standard	Town of Bowden actual
Path Width	3 metres	2.5 metres
Gravel Base	100mm	75mm
Asphalt Layer	80mm	60mm

6.3

The wastewater project is now rescheduled to commence in July.

A whole section of wastewater Vitrified Clay Pipe (VCT) will be replaced on 23 Avenue Close (by open trench) plus an additional two (open trench) repairs are necessary as identified during the CCTV camera analysis work completed in 2024.

This is necessary to repair structural damage as the host pipe is not in a condition to accept pipe liner.

In August road crews will commence with the asphalt replacement on all of the open cut areas throughout the Town.

In September the appointed contractor will commence with the Cured-In-Place Pipe (CIPP) relining work on:

26th Avenue
25th Avenue
21st Street
17th Avenue

6.4

The solar powered crosswalk system on 20th Avenue is scheduled to be installed on Tuesday June 10th.

6.5

Public Works has installed two new rear lights on the parade float trailer.

In addition, 2 new wheel caps / covers have been fitted.

7 Bylaw Enforcement

Administration has signed a two-year Intermunicipal Agreement for Bylaw Advisory Services with the Town of Olds.

The Town of Olds will provide a service to the Town through its designated Community Peace Officer(s).

In accordance with the agreement these services include:

- Interpretation and clarification of existing municipal bylaws to residents of Bowden,
- Patrol, observation, and/or receiving public complaints for potential contraventions of municipal bylaws,
- Application of bylaw processes for the Town of Bowden in accordance with its administrative guidelines,
- Recommendations on policy improvements and best practices.

There is no intent in the agreement for the pursuit of compliance for bylaw infractions through enforcement orders, or court proceedings, nor for the capture of analytical data or records management reporting. These actions are the responsibility of the Town.

The next scheduled meeting with the contracted Bylaw Enforcement Officer is on Wednesday June 11, 2025.

8 Regional Water Line Repair

The Town notified MWRWSC of a water main break on Thursday May 29, 2025 on the west side of Highway 2a.

This was a result of corrosion in the regional line that supplies treated water to the Town's reservoir.

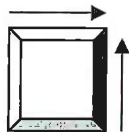
The cost of the repair is the responsibility of MWRWSC.

This is the fourth repair made this year on the regional line and is the first time in 50 years that repairs have been necessary to MWRWSC water distribution infrastructure.



9 Alberta Police Funding Model Review

The CAO has provided online feedback to the consulting practice commissioned by the Alberta Government aimed at gathering feedback on the Police Funding Model.



RICHARDS CONSULTING AND ASSOCIATES LTD.

27317 Twp Rd 372, Red Deer, Alberta T4E 1N9

Specializing in the design and structural engineering of commercial, industrial, agricultural and residential wood, precast and steel frame buildings.

Phone: 403-886-2919 Fax: 403-886-2773

May 29, 2025

RCA# 24222

Town of Bowden
Box 338, 2101 20th Ave
Bowden, AB T0M 0K0

Cell: 403 598 5730

Email: cao@bowden.ca

RE: Structural Engineering Field Review of Completed Remedial Work on the Bowden Firehall Office Area Roof Structure

Location: 20 Ave, Bowden, AB T0M 0K0

A structural engineering field review was completed at the noted location to verify that the report indicated structural upgrades to the primary roof assembly over the existing office area had been completed in compliance with the engineered drawings. Through the course of the review, it was possible to verify that all requirements had been satisfied with exception of the portion of the wall along the west side of the south end of the facility within the individual office area. The structural capacity of the existing masonry wall was not adequate to support an LVL ledger; thus, it was decided through collaboration with Camdon Construction that a 2x4 bearing wall would be adequate. Thus, it was specified that a 2x4 wall with 12" o.c studs will be required to support the roof assembly in this area. The wall assembly will need to have mid - height blocking to prevent lateral movement of the studs, as well as the wall is to be insulated, vapor barriered as well as drywall installed.

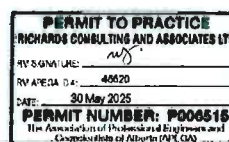
Please provide pictorial evidence of the work completed prior to application of insulation verifying the stud location, wall anchoring as well as the wall to existing roof truss anchoring.

Conclusion:

Overall, the construction completed thus far has been completed using good construction practice, with the only definable deficiency being the 2x4 bearing wall that was specified above. Once this wall has been assembled, pictorial evidence will need to be provided to Richards Consulting & Associates and the facility will be structurally safe to occupy.

Best Regards,

Michael Richards
P. Eng.



/sw

Agenda item 11.a CAO's Report (continued)**Recommended Motion:**

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council accepts the submitted CAO Report as information.

Regular Council Meeting: June 9, 2025.	Agenda Item: 11.b / 11.c
Prepared by: Arno Glover	Approved by: Mayor Robb Stuart
Report Type: Information	Attachment(s): As per content

Agenda Item 11 b / 11.c**Content:****Council Committee Reports**

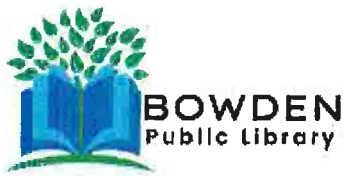
- i. Bowden Public Library (Meeting Minutes May 28, 2025)
(report submitted by Councillor Randy Brown)

Society & Other Reports

- i. Parkland Regional Library System (Quick Facts Year 2024)
(report submitted by CAO Arno Glover)
- ii. Bowden Grandview School Council (Meeting May 20, 2025)
(report submitted by Councillor Deb Coombes)
- iii. Parkland Foundation (Business Plan & Report)
(report submitted by Councillor Sandy Gamble)
- iv. Red Deer & District FCSS Report (May – June 2025)
(report submitted by Councillor Sandy Gamble)
- v. Central Alberta Regional Waste Management Commission Reports
(reports submitted by Councillor Sandy Gamble)
- vi. Alberta Counsel News (June, 2025)
(report submitted by CAO Arno Glover)

Note:

All meeting minutes submitted should be assumed to be “unapproved”.



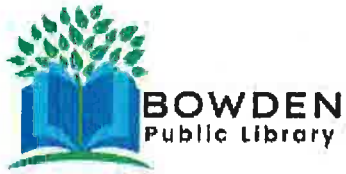
Bowden Public Library
Meeting Minutes

Date: May 28, 2025

Attendees: Shawna MacDonald, Caroline Furman, Justina Klassen-Fehr, Tina Von Hatten, Deb Coombes, Randy Brown, Julie Hamblin (Librarian)

Absent: Marietta Tuckwell

	Item	Description	Action	Motion	Decision
1	Call to Order	Shawna called us to order at 6:33		Shawna called the meeting to order	carried
2	Adoption of Agenda		Deb asked to add bottle drive and Friends group	Randy moved to adopt as amended	carried
3	Adoption of Previous Minutes			Shawna moved to adopt	Carried
4	Business Arising	Signing authority	We need to go in to ATB to sign		
		Cleaning	Hasn't actually happened; Randy or Deb will follow up at council		
		Review financial statement		Deb moved to approve, Tina seconded	carried
5	New Business		Bottle drive - notice about the bin at the bottle depot in Olds should go into the town's newsletter newsletter; could we do a pick up during rodeo week? NO Talk to Rotary and Lions groups - we should reapply for membership fees (Shawna will do this) Look into doing casinos		
		Fundraising	Everyone come up with ideas for fundraising for next meeting		
			Friends group? How do we get one started? Need charitable status in order to issue receipts Carolinn will find url for Shawna to follow up on and Tina will talk to her friends		
			Add fundraising to agenda for next meeting		



6	Next Meeting	June 25 @ 6:30		Caroline moved to accept	carried
7	Motion to Adjourn			Shawna moved to adjourn 7:12	carried

Town of Bowden

2024 Return on Investment

Benefits to your Library

Total Financial Benefits

\$175,471.92

Return on Investment

\$1.00 = \$15.04

Based on a population of **1,271**, the cost of membership to the Parkland Regional Library System for the Town of Bowden was **\$11,667.78** in 2024.

Cost benefits of PRLS services

The **direct financial return** as a result of membership to Parkland Regional Library System to Bowden Public Library:

2024 materials allotment	\$ 1,436.23
Rural Library Services Grant	\$ 15,321.60
Allotment from Red Deer County 1	\$ 3,518.82
Computers for library use	\$ 2,136.64
Software & Licensing	\$ 2,766.46
SuperNet Connection	\$ 6,483.60
Items borrowed from other libraries 2	\$ 106,543.25
Digital items borrowed from PRLS 3	\$ 37,265.32
Combined Savings	\$ 175,471.92

1 Red Deer County assigned a rural population of 3,114 to the Town of Bowden

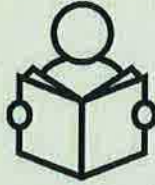
2 Average price of an item \$46.75

3 Average price of an eBook \$40.06, average price of an eAudiobook \$84.26

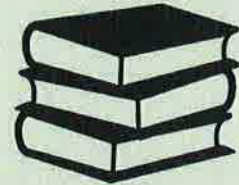
2024 Quick Facts



664,784 items
in the collection



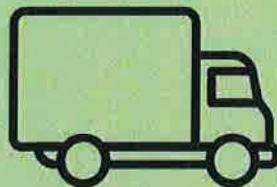
1,310,828 physical items
circulated



44,398 items added
to the catalog



26,029
cardholders



925,450 items
sent on van runs



1,514 consulting
sessions



Over **170**
attendees at the
2024 PRLS
Conference



1,269,757 Wifi
usages



156,839 digital items
circulated



58,104 eLibrary
sessions

Other Parkland Facts:

- Provides access to virtual materials across the province through TRAC.
- Provides training for libraries, boards, friends' groups and more.
- Provides centralized IT support on hardware, software, internet, SuperNet.
- Provides access to shared regional collections of books, tech, program kits, and much more.

May 20, 2025

BGS School Council Meeting (bgsCouncil@gmail.com)
[Google Meet Link](#)

Present: Alahna Hunter, Deb Coombes, Vanessa Hardy, Deen Lockhat, Dawn Weststrate, Jade Prefontaine, Dallas Evans, Brittany Houchin, Jennifer Wood, Karen Fagan, Lisa Ouellette, Linda Wagers

**Executive
Report**

**BGS
School
Report**

1. New Vice-Principal: Vanessa Hardy
2. Staffing Updates: Jr. High Math/Science hired Atlantis Berggren, Kindergarten currently in the process of interviewing candidates, Gr. 5 working on short listing candidates
3. New Bell Schedule-Deen shared the new bell schedule with the group and explained the changes. High school needs more hours so that is where the biggest change will occur. Move to 80 minute blocks and move focus/flex to a 30 minute block just before lunch. There is not much for changes in K-6. Grade 7-9 will go to a 5 block schedule with additional time added to the last block. For grade 9 English and Math will occur everyday all year in a longer block. Science and Social will continue to be semestered in grade 9.

Upcoming Events

- 1) May 22 - Sr. High Track Areas
- 2) May 26 - Kindergarten Open House 1:30-3:00
- 3) May 27 - EA Luncheon
- 4) May 28 & 29 - Gr. 6 & 9 PAT - ELA Part A
- 5) May 30 & 31 - Grad
- 6) June 5 - Volunteer Lunch

	<p>7) June 5 - Gr 10 Orientation Night</p> <p>8) Exams, Exam, Exams</p>
CESD Trustee Report	<p>Trustee Report for BGS for May 20,, 2025</p> <p>We are currently busy getting our staffing put in place as best as possible. Teachers have had the opportunity to express their desire to change positions either within their current school or to transfer to another school/position. Most retirements have been disclosed and those positions are being filled. This is going well.</p> <p>A quick update on our new school, Penhold Waskasoo Middle School (PWMS) indicates that all is on time/target and it is really coming together nicely.</p> <p>I am not sure who went as reps for BGS to the ASCA on the 26th of April as I could not attend. Perhaps they could speak to this?</p> <p>Transportation update (same as April report)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$50 increase per student, for students requiring transportation to school and who do not receive full provincial funding due to the distance from their home to school. The fee for partially funded students (1.0 km away from the school in K-6, and 2.0 km for 7-12) will be \$250. Students who don't qualify for provincial funding will pay a total fee of \$550. <p>School of choice will also be levied the \$550, unless it is to a school of less than 100 student population.</p> <p>An early registration discount is available for partially funded students.</p>

Currently K-6 students can be picked up if they are at least 1.0 Km distance from the school, whereas 7-12's are 2.0 Km. This will be changing to K-6 can be picked up if they are at least 1.6 Km but the 7-12's are still at 2.0 Km.

This distance factor is being held by CESD for this year, however, there will probably be changes for next year as the government has already changed the distance of minimum one kilometer to 1.6 km. A letter from CESD has been sent to parents regarding this.

The Spring AGM for ASBA (Alberta School Boards Assoc) will be held in Calgary June 1-3. There will be a Ministerial forum and Public Affairs session, where some of the provincial politicians will be in attendance with the group discussing many of the current and pressing issues we are facing in our schools. The Minister of Education will also be in attendance to provide remarks to the group.

Students interested in the fine arts have the following opportunities this summer.

In person learning at the fine arts building at Olds High School can take ceramics, art, or stained glass.

Mrs. Weststrate can help BGS students who are interested.

Max of 20 students for both art/ceramics and stained glass.

June 30, July 2nd to July 25th.

Monday to Friday.

Also Summer Camp July 28-30th. Upon completion of the camp, participants will receive three credits and a \$1000 scholarship towards future Olds College enrolment. **I believe this is now full....**

Parents Matter meeting Apr 30

-Dr. Ryan Sawula was in attendance

- more AI was discussed with Asst Super Jason Drent

-ideas were shared as to how to improve finances for Parent Council's bank accts

	We need a BGS rep for parents matter committee. Please let Mr. Lockhat know if you are interested.
Town of Bowden Report	Upgrading sidewalks in town looking at making it safer for kids to get to school.
Parents Matter Report	No one attended April 30th meeting
FCSS Report	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Balloon Pinata's" – (YES/FCSS) Is the project for May. We are having a messy time with paper mâché made with flour and water. Next Monday is paint/decorate and fill day. It will be neat to see the finished products. June activity will be "Make it Macrame" where kids can create a colourful wall hanging for their rooms. 2. SUMMER DAZE – (YES/FCSS) Kids Camp will be hosted at Park Place from July 14 – 17. Kids grade 4-6 (ages 9-12) are invited to sign up for activities including Art in the Park, Movie & Pizza Day, Igloo Sports and explore the museum as well as Sour Challenge and more! Registration is through FCSS. 12 spots available. 3. Field Days – FCSS/BGS – The countdown to summer is ON and Park Place is the Gathering Space for students and staff. We have already booked dates for the K/Gr. 1 visit and the Gr 3,4,5 Field Day. Activities include park play, BBQ, fire pit, field games, park splash and more! 4. Summer Dance K- Gr. 6 – FCSS will partner with the elementary staff to bring popcorn, photo booth and glow sticks to the dance at BGS on June 19. 5. Community Garden – Opening date was Friday, May 16. There are 4 new in ground plots, for a total of 20 down and 4 raised beds. There are only 2 remaining and pending rental. 6. "Let's Chalk About It" for Mental health – BGS kids visited Park Place and the Seniors' lodge sidewalks

	<p>and left some lovely messaging and colourful art on the sidewalks. Thanks to YES and FSW for arranging the Art around town.</p> <p>7. Graduation – Holy smokes – I am excited for Grad in just 10 days! 😊 Congrats to the 2025 class. I look forward to speaking at the celebrations.</p> <p>8. Is Weds September 17 a good day for Community resource fair/BBQ?</p>
FOG Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FOG REPORT • Breakfast Program • Did a special waffle day • Will support all the test days for PAT's and Diplomas and finals in certain classes if needed • Cake Walk For April 17 th • Cake walk was a success • Fundraising • Waiting on the final numbers on how much we made. We definitely did over a \$1000. Had a gross of just over \$5000 in flower sales. • Received \$5000 from Bowden Lion's Club for Basketball Court etc upgrades. Waiting to hear from Innisfail Kinsmen and we have received a gracious donation from Pat Filipenko as well to go towards the project. • From my understanding things have been ordered as of supplies and equipment, Town is going to help with painting of lines, and it gets resurfaced at the end of the month. • Suggestion has been brought forward at the beginning of the year at the BBQ we unveil the courts like we did the GAGA Pit. We could have a sign unveiled with all the donators on it.

New Business	- Big thank you to Alahna and Carla for supporting our school over the years! They have worked tirelessly to make BGS a better place.
Next Meeting(s)	September 2025
Meeting Adjourned	

Parkland Foundation

The 2025 Operating program deficit budget of \$125,712 was approved

The Lodge Assistance Program (LAP) IS being increased by the cost of living increase and the monthly disposable income increase to \$365.00 from \$357.00 monthly.

The Meals on Wheels that the Lodge provides is taking off great .

Autumn Grove Lodge is at full capacity. Bowden Glen Court has now only 2 vacant units and Westview Manor has only 3 vacant units.

Contractors have just started the work for the boilers and make up units at Bow Glen Court and Dodds Lake Manor at a cost of \$350,500.00.

We have received approval for our CMR (Capital Maintenance and Review) funding, which includes a suite renewal and a sidewalk upgrade at Westview Manor in Bowden. The total approved funding amount is \$130,000.00

Mardi Gras was a big hit at the lodge this past month. Residents enjoyed wonderful entertainment and decorations throughout to celebrate the day.

For Seniors week Autumn Grove is hosting its annual carnival (Thursday June 5th) and there will be many activities that the residents get to participate in throughout the week.

Business Plan attached.

Business Plan June 30, 2024 Submission

Business plans are a requirement of the Ministry of Seniors, Community and Social Services and a best practice for organizations. These plans are on a three-year cycle. The full plan was updated, reviewed and submitted in June 2022.

Performance Measurement and Accomplishments: Year 3

Outcome #1 Investing Now and in the Future

1. Ownership arrangement for vacant lands adjacent

- Ministry changes with Continuing Care – Capital now under the Minister of Seniors, Community and Social Services. This should be opportunity as the board explores options for expansion on the site.

2. Collaboration with municipal led housing needs assessments

- The Town of Innisfail adopted a Housing Needs Assessment with Action Plan in October 2023. <https://innisfail.ca/planning-development/plans-reports/>

3. CMR projects

- Annual unit inspections completed by March 2025.
- The 2025 CMR funding request will be provided at the June meeting.

Total CMR funding Request June 2024	\$1,150,000
Total approved funding April 2025	\$ 130,000
Total request June 2025	To be provided

**2024 CMR submission for SSC/Social Housing only, no identified need in Lodge*

4. Projects completed on time, on budget

Year	Project	Amount	Status
2023	Suite Renewals – Westview Manor	\$125,000	Completed
2023	Suite Renewals – Dodd's Lake Manor	\$125,000	Completed
2024	Boilers, MUA, Hot Water Tanks and Pumps – Bow Glen Court	\$150,000	Underway Equipment on site
2024	Boilers, MUA and Hot Water Tanks – Dodd's Lake Manor	\$300,000	Out for Bids
2025	Suite renewal – Community Housing Bowden	\$80,000	April 2025 announcement
2025	Sidewalk upgrade – Westview Manor	\$50,000	April 2025 announcement

Outcome #2 – Integrated Housing and Supports

1. Engage with and survey residents to identify improvement area and identify successes

- Resident surveys were completed January 2025, reflecting on their experiences in 2024.
- Surveys were electronically submitted. The Lodge and Housing Managers attended sites during the survey period with an I-pad to assist with access.
- Surveys results were reviewed with the residents during the 2025 Spring Tenant meetings.
- Survey action plan summaries for the Lodge and Housing are attached.

2. Quality Improvement Initiatives

- Work on Admission and Move-Ins: A Welcoming Experience is continuing into 2025.
- Establishment of the Food Services committee, with participation from the TBG HMB partners. The committee works to ensure consistent food quality and cost-effective ordering.
- A 30-day review period for the seasonal menu changes has given residents the opportunity to provide their feedback.

3. Maintaining Relationships with local Community Support Services

- Home Care
- Innisfail FCSS
- Community Partners in Action
- Innisfail Seniors Drop-In Centre
- Henday Learning – working with residents of Dodd's Lake
- Village of Delburne Town office/FCSS
- DEEP
- Golden Circle

Outcome #3 – Transitions and Aging in the Community

1. Optimizing home care services at Autumn Grove

- Assisted Living Alberta is now the organization responsible for continuing care. This division reports to the Ministry of Seniors, Community and Social Services and could provide opportunities for improved co-ordination of the delivery of services. Assisted Living Alberta was officially created on April 1, 2025 and the transition away from ASH could be complete in the fall.
- Submission of an Expression Interest to provide home care services was made in February 2024 and an Adult Day support application was submitted July 2022. We are waiting to see how these long-standing applications will be addressed, in light of the efforts of the health care system refocus and creation of Assisted Living Alberta.
- Implementation of the new Continuing Care Act April 1, 2024 with lodges defined as supportive living within the Act.

2. Options to Integrate DSL units into possible future expansion

- The board identified funds to be set aside in Budget 2024 to engage a consultant for the initial investigation of a project at the lodge site.

Outcome #4 Fair and Flexible

1. Implement changes to Alberta Housing Regulations

2. Meet with Red Deer Housing Authority to discuss current community housing in Innisfail

- RDHA reached out to the Town of Innisfail in early 2023. After board discussion in March 2023, suggested to Innisfail rep that RDHA be encouraged to connect with Parkland Foundation administration to further the discussion. RDHA has not reached out any further.

3. Costs and inflation: Considerations to maximize revenue and stabilize expenses

- Rent ceilings for SSC were reviewed in 2024, with increases approved for July 2025.
- Parking charges and cable charges, where applicable, were increased. Parking charges were new in 2023. \$22,000 of revenue in 2023 and \$22,465 in 2024.
- Lodge Service package fees were unchanged for 2025.
- Seniors guaranteed disposable income amount has increased to \$365 per month.
- Phased rental increases for residents who paid flat rates at Autumn Glen Lodge have continued. There are currently 2 residents left to be transitioned to the full RGI calculation.
- Lodge Assistance Program (LAP) funding: In 2024, the Alberta Social Housing Corporation returned to the LAP grant funding methodology based solely upon your February 28 snapshot and submissions.

*2020 LAP	\$ 231,790
*2021 LAP	\$ 241,452
*2022 LAP	\$ 241,452
*2023 LAP	\$ 236,619
2024 LAP	\$ 285,114
2025 LAP	\$ 329,595

**baseline funding methodology for covid*

4. Lodge Program Review

- The Provincial Lodge Program Review Panel was appointed Feb 2024.
- In-person consultations with operators held March 2024.
- Operator survey completed April 2024.
- Draft report from the panel to the Ministry Spring 2024.
- Ministry review of the panel findings Fall 2024.
- MNP funding model consultations with operators January 2025.
- April 2025 update: the report has not yet been released.

Outcome #5 a Sustainable System

1. Completion of the Board Skills Matrix (Schedule A)

- This schedule was first implemented by the Ministry in 2023.
- Attached for review and updates

2. Administrative costs will be at or below provincial benchmarks

- Shared positions between Parkland Foundation and TBG and other HMB partners are being utilized to offer full time positions while meeting budget parameters (Housing Manager, Facility Services Manager and Financial Analyst).

3. Lodge Assistance Grant fairness

- 2025 LAP rates increased from \$20.50 to \$21.50 per eligible resident per day.
- Requisition in 2025 was increased.

2016-2023	2024	2025
\$ 155,200	\$ 250,000	\$ 280,000

4. Advocacy for local projects based on community needs

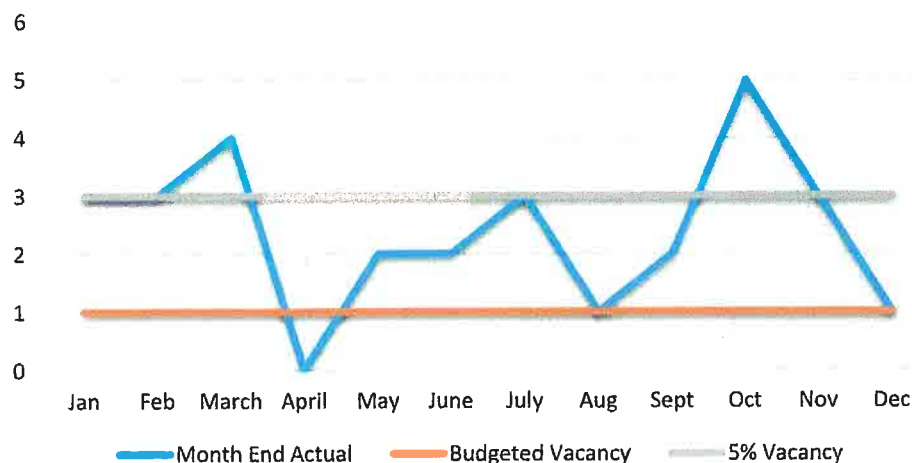
- No projects currently.

Other:

- The Lodge Marketing working group continues to meet quarterly.

Lodge Vacancy 2024

Autumn Grove 2024 - 60 rooms



2026-2028 ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN AND STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The primary impacts on the strategic environment are:

- Establishment of Assisted Living Alberta (ALA), under the Ministry of Seniors, Community and Social Services
- Implementation of the Continuing Care Act 2024
- 2021 Stronger Foundations Affordable Housing Strategy
- 2024/2025 Lodge Program Review
- Continuing Care – Capital now under the Ministry of Seniors, Community and Social Services
- Health Care System Refocusing initiative has led to delays in decision making
- Participation in the Continuing Care Alliance
- Participation in ASCHA Seniors Housing and Continuing Care Task Force and the Affordable Housing Task Force
- Participation in industry, provincial and community-based consultations and committees
- Impact of tariffs, and other factors that impact provincial and federal economic outlooks
- Federal and Provincial governments both highlighting the need for affordable housing, but needing clarity on available programs and supports
- Inflationary Pressures on organizations and individuals
- Household Income and Housing Affordability
- Availability of Affordable Housing and of deep subsidy housing units
- Availability of Rental Assistance Benefits
- Pressure on market housing availability
- Limited grant opportunities for affordable housing (% of support for capital construction) that impact the ability to create a sustainable operating model while providing achievable affordable rental rates
- Local Demographic information
- Aging population and shifts to home and community care
- Government is looking to operators and associations for solutions
- Workforce issues including recruitment and retention. Potential increases to WCB costs related to psychological health and safety and long covid.

STRATEGIC RISKS AND OPPROTUNITIES

- Waiting for the release of the Lodge Program Review and its recommendations. Plans for implementation and preparation for any province wide changes will have to be considered by the board once the review is released.
-

FCSS

FCSS program attached.

The new three year 2027-2029 Priority Setting Process will be starting with the stakeholders. In the context of FCSS funding priorities within this funding cycle, stakeholders are first surveyed to identify priorities important to them. These initially identified priorities are compiled and fed back to them to rank in a second survey, with the purpose of achieving consensus on what are the most important priorities across stakeholders.

There was a discussion on Honorariums. There have been 7 out of 8 included honorariums some that made up more than 50% of the project. Two adjustments were proposed : Explanation of the purpose and situations in which honorariums are appropriate and Requirement for participants requesting honorarium to explain recipients, amounts, and reasons for providing. Limitations to the total amount of honorariums provided. It was decided that honorariums should not make up more than 20% of the total budget and these will be decided on a case by case basis.

Red Deer & District FCSS Board**FCSS Program Specialist Report****FCSS Program Report**

1. Spark Grant Update:

- Approved grants:
 - Backyard Music Sessions (Inglewood, Clearview, Lancaster) - \$1,000
 - Sunrun After Party (Bower) - \$1,000
 - Block Party (Victoria Park) - \$695
 - Bring Us Together BBQ (Poplar Ridge) - \$1,000
 - Spring in Summer (Waskasoo) - \$1,000

2. Community Driven Practice

- Hosted second session (after Cormac Russell presentation) on May 14, attended by funded agencies
- Topics included
 - Setting the Foundation – Community of Practice
 - ABCD and Cormac Review
 - Community Development: Shifting Mindset
 - Challenging Assumptions
- Next session is June 18

3. Regional Project

- Youth Conference hosted May 2 & 3 at Northside YMCA, and was a collaboration of FCSS, BGC of Red Deer & District and YMCA
- Equipped 99 youth ages 12 – 19, with tools to thrive, through interactive workshops and dynamic speakers
- Youth explored mental health and well-being, leadership, building strong relationships, and safe use of technology and connected peers
- Guest speakers included:
 - Tyler Smith Winner of The Amazing Race Canada Season 9 & survivor of the 2018 Humboldt Broncos bus crash
 - Jo Phillips Speaker, resilience coach, and youth advocate from 'Jo Out Loud'
 - Linsay Willier Nehiyo (Cree) and Hungarian from Sucker Creek First Nation in Northern Alberta & a winning contestant on Canadas Next Top Model
 - Nicole Fegan Provisional Registered Psychologist & Jon Davies Certified Clinical Councillor from the Social Shift
 - Katie Mulkay Winner of The Amazing Race Canada Season 10 & a former University of Alberta Panda's Wrestler
- Outcomes for entire Youth Impact project will include:
 - Diversity of youth in attendance (e.g. location, age, gender, background, level of involvement (i.e. highly involved and not so involved youth)
 - Increased Connection to Adult mentors or other youth
 - Increased skills/knowledge to maintain mental health
 - Increased awareness of issues through discussion

Red Deer & District FCSS Board***FCSS Program Specialist Report***

- New Youth-led actions emerging
- Youth Action
 - With conference complete next stage focused on youth action
 - A committee including Community Navigators, Facilitators, and Youth Conference organizers (YMCA and Boys and Girls Club) will engage youth to encourage action in community
 - \$5,000 available for youth projects; currently building new process for application, forms, and review of applications
- 4. Reconnect
 - 6 initiatives funded; agreements almost all executed
 - Learning sessions running weekly from May 21 – June 25 with Project Leads and supports (10-12 people total)
- 5. West Central FCSSAA Spring Meeting – Lacombe, May 21st
 - Strong attendance from Red Deer & District Board
 - Provincial and Zone Updates –Courtney Rippin Kaufman (Government of Alberta) gave Accountability Framework update:
 - Summer 2025 – Training on new Framework
 - January 2026 – new 3-year FCSS agreements signed
 - 2027 – new annual report will come into effect

CARWMC – Administration Report

AGENDA ITEM 5.0: FINANCE REPORT

DISCUSSION:

Review of the Balance Sheet and Comparative Income Statement of the Commissions bank accounts. The reports are current as of March 31, 2025. Items of particular interest are the following:

- 2025 requisitions send out late March.
- 2025 Grazing Lease payment not yet received. Due May 1st. *Received*
- Current Service Credit Union account balance sits at \$22,023.89 (March 31, 2025)
- \$70,000 in GIC renewal on March 4, 2025 .
 - o \$35,000 in redeemable GIC at 2.5%
 - o \$35,000 in non-redeemable GIC at 4.95%
 - o Interest earned on previous term = \$2,607.50

BUDGET IMPLICATION:

There are no budget implications.

RECOMMENDATION:

To receive for information.

ATTACHEMENTS:

1. Balance Sheet (03/31/2025)
2. Comparative Income Statement (03/31/2025)

Prepared by: Andrew Treu, Commission Manager

Date: April 16, 2025

CARWMC – Administration Report

AGENDA ITEM 4.0: 2024 Financial Audit

DISCUSSION:

Section 5.2 of the Commission Bylaw No. 2 provides that "The Board shall appoint an auditor who shall be a member or members of the Institute of Chartered Accountants and who shall audit the accounts and affairs of the Commission in accordance with the requirements of the Act." In 2024, administration sent out a Request for Quotes for audit services, and subsequently, the Commission appointed Metrix Group LLP as the Commissions financial auditor at the December 4, 2024, meeting.

Metrix has audited the financial statements of the Commission, which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2024, and the statements of operations and accumulated deficit, changes in net debt and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In their opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Commission as at December 31, 2024, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

BUDGET IMPLICATION:

There are no budget implications.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approves the Commission's Audited Financial Statements for the year ending December 31st 2024.

ATTACHEMENTS:

1. Central Alberta Regional Waste Management Commission Financial Statements, Year End December 31, 2024

ASSET

Cash Header

Common Share	4.00	
RD SCU C/A	22,023.89	
Term Deposit	70,000.00	
Total Cash		92,027.89
Total Cash and Cash Equivale...		92,027.89

Accounts Receivable Header

Accounts Receivable	50,908.76	
Total Trade and Other Receivables		50,908.76
Total Accounts Receivable		50,908.76

Other Assets

Prepaid Insurance	950.37	
Total Other Assets		950.37
Total Other Assets		950.37

Capital Assets

Sanitary Landfill Site	1.00	
Total Capital Assets		1.00
Total Capital Assets		1.00

TOTAL ASSET		143,888.02
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LIABILITY

Accounts Payable

GST Payable	300.00	
Estimated Accounting Accrual	8,000.00	
Total Accounts Payable		8,300.00
Total Trade and Other Payables		8,300.00

Other Liabilities

Asset Retirement Obligation	217,299.80	
Total Reserve Fund		217,299.80
Total Reserve Fund		217,299.80

Equity

Equity in Capital Assets	-217,300.80	
Total Equity in Capital Assets		-217,300.80
Total Equity in Capital Assets		-217,300.80

TOTAL LIABILITY		8,299.00
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EQUITY

Surplus/Deficit

Accumulated Surplus	84,960.48	
Total Accumulated Surplus		84,960.48
Current Earnings		50,628.54
Total Accumulated Surplus/De...		135,589.02

TOTAL EQUITY		135,589.02
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LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		143,888.02
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PARWMC**Comparative Income Statement**

	Actual 01/01/2025 to 03/31/2025	Budget 01/01/2025 to 12/31/2025	Percent
REVENUE			
Revenue and Requisitions			
Requisition - Town of Innisfail	10,839.93	10,839.93	0.00
Requisition - Town of Bowden	1,873.57	1,873.57	0.00
Requisition - Red Deer County	27,300.56	27,300.56	0.00
Requisition - Town of Penhold	2,899.57	2,899.57	0.00
Requisition - Village of Delburne	1,115.22	1,115.22	0.00
Requisition - Village of Elnora	579.91	579.91	0.00
Interest Revenue	450.06	0.00	0.00
Pasture Rent	6,000.00	6,000.00	0.00
Total Tsfr Station/Landfill Revenue	51,058.82	50,608.76	0.89
Total Revenue	51,058.82	50,608.76	0.89
TOTAL REVENUE	51,058.82	50,608.76	0.89
EXPENSE			
Administration Expense Header			
RD County/ Admin Fees	0.00	500.00	-100.00
Bank Service Charges	23.00	160.00	-85.63
Board Fees	0.00	300.00	-100.00
Board Mileage	0.00	500.00	-100.00
Insurance	407.28	1,750.00	-76.73
Professional Fees	0.00	8,000.00	-100.00
Office Supplies	0.00	200.00	-100.00
Total Admin Expenses	430.28	11,410.00	-96.23
Ridgeview Landfill Expense			
Geotechnical Services PRO2412...	0.00	42,570.00	-100.00
Ridgeview Landfill Lease	0.00	805.00	-100.00
Ridgeview Repairs & Maint\Wee...	0.00	12,000.00	-100.00
Ridgeview Prop Tax - Pasture La...	0.00	253.00	-100.00
Total Ridgeview Landfill Expen...	0.00	55,628.00	-100.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	430.28	67,038.00	-99.36
NET INCOME	50,628.54	-16,429.24	-408.16

CARWMC – Administration Report

AGENDA ITEM 6.0: 2024 GROUNDWATER MONITORING REPORT

DISCUSSION:

As part of Approval Number 46896-02-00 with Alberta Environment and Protected Areas, the Central Alberta Regional Waste Management Commission (CARWMC) commissioned ParklandGEO to undertake the bi-annual groundwater monitoring program for the site in 2024. The details and requirements of the groundwater monitoring plan are outlined in the Ridgeview Landfill Closure/Post Closure Plan of May 2004 and the AEPA "*Standards for Landfills in Alberta*" (Standards). The following report provides a summary of the 2024 Groundwater Monitoring Program.

On April 12, and September 6, 2024, the groundwater levels in the monitoring wells were measured. The wells were then bailed, allowed to recover and sampled on April 18, and September 13, 2024, respectively. Groundwater samples from the spring and fall monitoring events were retrieved from eleven monitoring wells, and on May 3 and October 25, 2024, leachate samples were retrieved from four leachate system manholes.

Based on the analytical results for the monitoring wells, most parameters were within the acceptable limits or were remaining steady compared to historical levels in each respective well.

A copy of this report has been submitted to AEPA as per the requirements of the license.

RESULTS & RECOMMENDATIONS:

At this time, the observations of groundwater quality in the monitoring wells do not indicate any unusual impacts that would suggest significant migration of landfill leachate or impacts. Continued bi-annual monitoring of these wells is recommended. No additional investigation or further testing is necessary at this time.

*Monitored for 25 yrs.
2031*

Central Alberta Regional Waste Management Commission
38106 Rge. Rd. 275
Red Deer County, AB T4S 2L9
Phone: 403-350-2163
Fax: 403-346-9840

April 16, 2025

Alberta Municipal Affairs
10155 – 102 Street
EDMONTON, AB T5J 4L4

RE: SMALL REGIONAL COMMISSION – FINANCIAL AUDIT COSTS

Dear Honourable Minister Ric McIver

The Central Alberta Regional Waste Management Commission (CARWMC) was formed in 2000 by Ministerial Order 385/2000. As the Chair of the CARWMC, I am writing you to express our concerns of the rising costs to perform ongoing yearly financial audits as per the requirements of the Municipal Government Act for regional services commissions, and more specifically the Canadian public sector accounting standards (PSAS). CARWMC is a small regional waste management commission in Central Alberta made up of six member municipalities. Its primary function is to manage the post closure obligations of the Ridgeview Regional Landfill that closed in the early 2000s. While we understand the importance of maintaining financial transparency and accountability, the relatively high fees associated with these auditing requirements pose a significant financial burden on our small commission and its members.

In 2025, the fees associated with audit services, as a percentage of the overall operating budget, was approximately 12%; the second highest line item in the Commission's budget next to the groundwater monitoring and reporting costs. Also, with the expanded requirements in the public sector account standards over the past couple of years, we are seeing less and less accounting firms willing to perform financial audit services regarding this sector. The commission procured audit services in 2024 for a three year term. There was only one bidder, and the resulting costs increased over 200% from 2024 to 2025.

We kindly request your assistance in exploring potential alternatives to the following sections under the act:

Part 15.1 Regional Services Commissions

Division 3 Financial Matters

Financial information return

602.35(1) Each commission must prepare a financial information return respecting the financial affairs of the commission for the immediately preceding calendar year.

Audited financial statements

602.36 Each commission must prepare audited annual financial statements for the immediately preceding calendar year.

Distribution of returns and statements

602.37 Each commission must submit its financial information return and audited annual financial statements to the Minister and each member of the commission by May 1 of the year following the year for which the return and statements have been provided.

Specifically, we are interested in understanding if there are any more cost-effective auditing options available for small commissions. Additionally, we would appreciate any guidance or recommendations your office can provide on how we might reduce these costs while still adhering to the principles of being financially transparent and accountable.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to your response and any assistance you can provide.

Yours truly,

Central Alberta Regional Waste Management Authority

Dana Depalme
CARWMC Chair

CARWMC – Administration Report

AGENDA ITEM 7.0: Audit Requirements – Letter to the Minister

DISCUSSION:

At the April 2023 Commission meeting, administration brought a report forward reviewing the audit requirements of a regional commission in Alberta. In summary, Commission Bylaw 2 supports the requirements outlined in Part 15.1 (602.36) of the Municipal Government Act (MGA), and administration feels the commission is following the minimum requirements set out therein.

Bylaw No. 2

- 5.2 *The Board shall appoint an auditor or auditors who shall be a member or members of the Institute of Chartered Accountants and who shall audit the accounts and affairs of the Commission in accordance with the requirements of the Act.*

Municipal Government Act

Part 15.1 Regional Services Commissions

Division 3 Financial Matters

Financial information return

602.35(1) Each commission must prepare a financial information return respecting the financial affairs of the commission for the immediately preceding calendar year.

Audited financial statements

602.36 Each commission must prepare audited annual financial statements for the immediately preceding calendar year.

Distribution of returns and statements

602.37 Each commission must submit its financial information return and audited annual financial statements to the Minister and each member of the commission by May 1 of the year following the year for which the return and statements have been provided.

A recent legal opinion was acquired in reference to these two requirements under the act, and the response was as follows:

CARWMC – Administration Report

"For this reason, I don't think the Commission can avoid auditing its financial statements, even with a bylaw amendment, as this would be contrary to the requirements of the MGA." Reynolds Mirth Richards & Farmer LLP.

At the December 2024 meeting, audit requirements were discussed again, and the board directed administration to prepare a letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs expressing concerns, particularly surrounding costs, of this requirement.

A draft copy of this letter is attached for the boards review. Unless directed otherwise, this letter will be sent out after this meeting.

BUDGET IMPLICATION:

There are no budget implications.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive for information.

Prepared by: Andrew Treu, Commission Manager

Date: April 16, 2025



ALBERTA COUNSEL

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Publisher: Alberta Counsel

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UNDERSTANDING THE THREE BY-ELECTIONS WITH THREE DIFFERENT END GAMES

Aaron Singleton

On June 23rd, residents of three ridings will head back to the polls to fill the vacancies in the Alberta Legislature. The newly elected MLAs will join their colleagues in Edmonton when the Legislature returns in October for what will also (likely) mark the start of a new session with a Speech from the Throne.

And if rumours are to be believed, these new MLAs could be seeking re-election before 2027.

While both the United Conservatives and New Democrats are going into these by-elections with the same goal of winning as many seats as possible, these races will have very different sub-goals and theories that the parties will be testing in advance of what could be an early election call next year.

For this article, we will focus on the key themes of each by-election race and some of the objectives the UCP and NDP will be hoping to accomplish in the ridings.

Edmonton-Strathcona

NDP*: *Naheed Nenshi*

UCP: *Darby Crouch*

In politics, there are no sure things. Just look at the recent federal election results in Carleton. But in Alberta, the closest thing to a slam dunk is that the Alberta NDP will win in Edmonton-Strathcona.

The seat has been held by the New Democrats since 1997 and has been home to two party leaders, Raj Pannu and Rachel Notley. On June 23rd, the party will try to secure the victory for a third-party leader to hold the seat – Naheed Nenshi.

For the NDP, the goal is simple – win by as large of a margin as possible.

In the 2023 general election, Rachel Notley earned 79.7 per cent of the popular vote with a high-water mark of 82.4% earned in 2015. For Nenshi and his team, they will want to see Notley numbers when the ballots are counted.

For the UCP, they will have a different focus. Of course, every political party's main objective is to win every race, but Edmonton-Strathcona will be a place the party experiments with messaging and seeing what sticks against the new leader of the NDP.

In the communications put out by candidate Darby Crouch, this strategy is evident. There is clear testing of the waters with certain angles of attack. For example, her messaging has focused on Nenshi not living in Edmonton and his history as Calgary Mayor. She has also put out communications on the recent push to restrict materials in school libraries.

Edmonton-Ellerslie

NDP*: *Gurtej Singh Brar*

UCP: *Naresh Bhardwaj*

While Edmonton-Ellerslie has been an NDP seat for a decade now, it is not in the same category of "safe" as other ridings in the capital. Former MLA Rod Loyola won the seat during the Orange Wave of 2015 before resigning to run in the recent federal election. His successor, Gurtej Singh Brar, will be running against the last conservative to hold the seat – Naresh Bhardwaj.

Of the three by-elections, Ellerslie is shaping up to be the closest race (and perhaps the most important from a future-election standpoint).

On the New Democrat side of the aisle, the party's goal is simply to hold onto the seat and prevent the UCP from penetrating the city boundaries once again. But there is a challenge for the NDP in Ellerslie that the UCP does not have – volunteer resources.



AARON SINGLETON

Associate-Digital Campaigns

Aaron brings years of political experience to our already strong government relations team. He leads Alberta Counsel's digital campaign portfolio which has quickly grown to include public relations support on issues ranging from the grassroots level to national reach. Having been trained by a leading digital organizer in the United States, he is well-equipped to take your digital campaigns to the next level by supporting clients' existing government relations objectives.

He earned a BA in Political Science from the University of Alberta and brings additional experience supporting progressive campaigns at both the provincial and federal level since 2011.

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To be more specific, the biggest challenge for the NDP candidate in Ellerslie is attracting party supporters in the city to support his campaign. With the party leader running in central Edmonton and the recent loss of former federal NDP leader Jagmeet Singh in the federal election, volunteers will be eager to go support Nenshi in Strathcona. This could present a unique challenge in trying to attract volunteers for Brar in Ellerslie.

For the UCP, this presents the single-best opportunity to build momentum in Edmonton leading up to the next election (whenever that is held). They are running a candidate that is known in the community that also brings experience as an associate minister when the Progressive Conservatives were still in power.

It will still be an uphill battle for the UCP, but the party will be looking to this riding as a barometer of support in some of the "less safe" seats for the NDP in Edmonton. The UCP can form government without a single Edmonton seat (as they currently do), but any seat they can take away from the NDP in their base region makes the election math that much harder for the New Democrats to overcome.

Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills

UCP*: Tara Sawyer

NDP: Bev Toews

Republican: Cameron Davies

If Edmonton-Strathcona is the safest NDP seat in the province, Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills is one of the safest conservative seats in the province. Outside of a short period when the former Olds-Didsbury riding was held by the Western Canada Concept party in 1982, the seat has always belonged to a conservative party.

What makes this by-election interesting is that the only riding to elect the first openly pro-Alberta-separation MLA will once again have a pro-separation candidate running when independence advocates are getting louder.

And make no mistake, the Republicans have made it abundantly clear they are running on a separatism platform. On their website, the home page says "our party is at the forefront advocating for Alberta independence. Should the Alberta government hold a binding referendum prior to 2027, we will work together to ensure a result in favour of Alberta's independence. As part of our efforts, we are pre-organizing to ensure a successful referendum result."

While it is expected that the UCP will indeed come out of this race victorious, the question will be how much support can the Republicans take away from the governing party? Premier Danielle Smith has publicly indicated her desire to stop a new party from popping up like we see in Quebec, but that has happened.

The UCP's goal is to hold the riding and to extinguish as much support for the Republicans as possible so they are unable to build momentum.

For the NDP, there will be two goals to pursue.

First, the party will have the opportunity to test new ways of reaching out to rural ridings they traditionally struggle in come general election time. As the UCP will do in Edmonton-Strathcona, the NDP should be using this by-election to see what communications and strategies work in rural Alberta and find ways to build support outside of the cities leading up to the next election.

Second, the New Democrats could find ways to use the separatism wedge issue to hurt the UCP's campaign without ceding ground to the separatist Republicans.

According to recent public polling from Janet Brown, UCP members are split on the subject with 54% saying they would vote for separation from Canada while 39% would vote against.

In contrast, 98% of NDP voters have said they would vote against separation – effectively a unanimous result.

If the NDP can find ways to use the separatism wedge to hurt the UCP without giving momentum to the Republicans (and separatists more generally), they could use that as an effective tool come general election time – whenever that happens.

As a vote split leading to an NDP victory is unlikely, the key result to watch here will be how much the UCP win by.



Photo Credit: Brendan Brown

THE **NEWS**
from ALBERTA COUNSEL



SCOTT RATCH

Scott has recently completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science at the University of Alberta. While at university, he completed a co-op term as a Student Policy Analyst with the Government of Canada and served as an editor for the Political Science Undergraduate Review (PSUR).

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POLITICAL EVENTS

NDP– Lobsterfest

Saturday, June 7th @ 5:30PM

Location: Sherbrooke Community League, Edmonton

- Join Sarah Hoffman for an evening fundraiser with a lobster dinner.
- Tix: \$150 (albertandp.ca/events)

UCP – An Evening with Danielle Smith

Thursday, June 12th @ 5:00PM

Location: Bow Vally Ranche Restaurant, Calgary

- Join Danielle Smith and Myles McDougall for an evening dinner and political discussion.
- Tix: \$350 (unitedconservative.ca/events)

Alberta Counsel – Non-Profit Day 2025

June 17th @ 6:00PM

Location: Fantasyland Hotel, Edmonton

- Join Alberta Counsel and ECVO for the third-edition of Non-Profit Day! We will host a day of informative breakout sessions and Inspiring speakers designed to help non-profit leaders from across Alberta.
- Tix: \$150 Early Brd (nonprofitday.ca)

UCP AGM

November 28th – 30th, 2025

Location: Edmonton Expo Centre

- Join the United Conservative Party for their annual general meeting.
- Tix: \$119-\$999 (unitedconservative.ca/events)



Source: CBC News

KEY INFLUENCER PROFILE

RIC MCIVER

SPEAKER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

Scott Ratch

The Honourable Ric McIver was recently elected by MLAs as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta. He will succeed Nathan Cooper who had held the position since the UCP first formed government in 2019. McIver takes on this new role following his resignation from cabinet as Minister of Municipal Affairs.

McIver has a long-standing career in Alberta politics. He served three terms on the Calgary City Council from 2001 to 2010, where he held various roles including member of the Police Commission and Chair of the Calgary Housing Company. McIver was first elected as the MLA for Calgary-Hays in 2012 under the former Progressive Conservative banner and has been re-elected three consecutive times. After the party's defeat to the NDP in 2015, he briefly served as interim leader of the Progressive Conservatives.

In government, McIver has held several ministerial portfolios under four different premiers. This includes Transportation; Infrastructure; Jobs, Skills, Training, and Labour; and Municipal Affairs. A proud resident of Alberta since 1981, McIver remains active with several charitable and community initiatives. He will serve as Speaker for the remainder of the 31st Legislature.



PASCAL RYFFEL

VP of Corporate
Development and
Government Relations

After completing his MA in Media and International Development, Pascal spent four years with the Alberta NDP Caucus. Pascal has been directly involved in Alberta politics for almost two decades, including as a candidate in 2008, and has a deep and current knowledge of Alberta politics. Pascal has been with Alberta Counsel since 2015.

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AT A GLANCE

In the Media

Three Alberta By-elections Officially Underway

Three provincial by-elections have been called in Alberta, with election day scheduled for June 23, 2025. The three ridings, Edmonton-Strathcona, Edmonton-Ellerslie, and Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills, were vacated by the resignations of the Hon. Rachel Notley, Rod Loyola, and the Hon. Nathan Cooper, respectively. Edmonton-Strathcona will see NDP Leader Naheed Nenshi face the UCP's Darby Crouch. Edmonton-Ellerslie will see the NDP's Gurtej Singh Brar face the UCP's Naresh Bhardwaj. Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills will see the UCP's Tara Sawyer face the NDP's Bev Toews.

Additional Funding for New Grande Prairie Police Force

The Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Services has provided the City of Grande Prairie with additional funding to transition away from the RCMP as its policing services provider. Building upon the \$9.7 million provided in 2023, an additional \$7 million will be allocated to cover the transition costs associated with new salaries, benefits, recruitment, equipment, and training.

"The City of Grande Prairie is pursuing a policing solution that's right for the community and its residents, and Alberta's government is behind them throughout the transition process. Albertans, regardless of where they live, deserve fast and reliable law enforcement where and when they need it. Our government remains committed to ensuring Alberta municipalities have their choice of policing provider," stated Minister Mike Ellis.

Alberta Ranked Last in Housing Affordability Initiatives

More and Better Housing Canada, a project conducted by the Task Force for Housing and Climate, released an annual report card that ranks Alberta as the worst in Canada for efforts to address housing affordability. Receiving a "D+" grade, the province was scored on its ability to fulfill the following five categories: legalizing density, improving building codes, accelerating factory-built housing, avoiding building in high-risk areas, and the ability to fill in market gaps. The highest-ranked provinces, British Columbia, Quebec, and Prince Edward Island only received a "C+" grade in comparison.

With the report ranking only the Government of Alberta's

policy initiatives, municipalities in the province were complimented. "There are a lot of great things happening in Alberta. Housing starts are quite high. We have a lot of fantastic reforms at the municipal level in both Edmonton and Calgary, but they don't have much to do with the provincial government," commented author and Ontario-based economist Mike Moffat.

Funding to Support Youth Employment

The Government of Alberta is investing over \$17 million in employment support targeted at youth. The announcement follows statistics indicating a difficult job market for youth, such as a 22% reduction in summer job listings across the country.

"Alberta's economy depends on a strong, skilled workforce – and that starts with our youth. This investment ensures more young Albertans can get their foot in the door, gain experience and power the future of our province," stated Minister of Jobs, Economy, and Trade Joseph Schow. The funds will be targeted at providing youth with job coaching, resume development, interview practice, job search strategies, workshops, and job placements.

Alberta Teachers One-Step Closer to Strike Action

The Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA) has voted 99.45 per cent in favour of a strike authorization. "This is a loud and clear message from teachers that the government needs to do more, and it starts with funding public education. We're the least funded school jurisdiction in all of Canada, and that's impacting our classrooms," stated ATA President Jason Schilling. The decision to enact a strike would occur if an agreement is not made with the province in the coming days, after which the ATA would have 120 days to enact a strike of its over 40,000 members.

Agenda item 11.b / 11.c (continued)

Recommended Motion:

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council accepts the submitted reports as information.