

**Agenda for the
Regular Meeting of the Vauxhall of Town Council
Tuesday April 11th, 2023
6:00 p.m. – Vauxhall Council Chambers**

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Action</u>
1. Call to Order	
2. Adoption of Agenda	For Adoption
3. Delegations	Receive <u>all</u> for Information
a.) R.C.M.P	
b.) MWG Chartered Professional Accountants	
4. Minutes	
Council Minutes	
a.) Regular Meeting of Council March 13 th , 2023	For Adoption
External Minutes	Receive <u>all</u> for Information
b.) Vauxhall & District Chamber of Commerce general meeting of March 16, 2023	
i.) Business and Tourism Advisory Committee	
Appointments	Resolution
c.) Taber & District Housing Foundation meeting of February 23, 2023	
5. Bylaw(s)	
a.) Bylaw No. 992-23 Records Retentions Bylaw	1 st Reading
b.) Bylaw No. 993-23 Special Tax Bylaw	1 st , 2 nd and 3 rd Reading
c.) Bylaw No. 994-23 2023 Property Tax Bylaw	1 st , 2 nd and 3 rd Reading
6. Policies	
a.) Policy No. 027-2017 Council Remuneration	For Adoption
b.) Policy No. 044-2023 Council Participation on External Community Boards, Commissions, Committees and Societies	For Adoption
c.) Policy No. 045-2023 Vehicle Safety Inspection and Maintenance Policy	For Adoption
d.) Policy No. 046-2023 Lockout/Tagout Policy	For Adoption
e.) Policy No. 047-2023 Workplace Violence Prevention Policy	For Adoption
f.) Policy No. 048-2023 Performance Outcome Policy	For Adoption
7. Financials	
a.) Cheque Listing for the month of March 31, 2023	For Adoption
b.) Bank Reconciliation as of March 31, 2023	Receive <u>all</u> for Information
c.) GIC Holdings as of March 31, 2023	
d.) Consolidated Statement of Financial position as of March 31, 2023	
e.) Consolidation Statement of Operations as of March 31, 2023	
f.) AMSC MasterCard as of April XX, 2023	
g.) Budget by Department – Council	
h.) 2023 Operating Expenses vs. Budget	
8. New Business	
a.) 2022 Reserve Transfer and Financial Statements	Resolution
b.) Plaque – Clock Tower	Resolution
c.) Vauxhall Ag Society Invitation	Resolution
d.) Vauxhall Library Board Resignation	Resolution
e.) Council Committees	Resolution
f.) Letter from Resident	
g.) Alberta Municipalities – 2023 Resolutions Guide	
h.) Town of Vauxhall Health and Safety Manual	Resolution

**Agenda for the
Regular Meeting of the Vauxhall of Town Council
Tuesday April 11th, 2023
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9. Reports

Receive all for information

- a.) CAO Report
- b.) Council Activity Report – March 2023
- c.) Action List
 - i.) March 2023
 - ii.) Action List in Progress

10. Information and Correspondence

Receive all for Information

- a.) 2023 Convention & Trade Show Dates
- b.) Friends of the Vauxhall Public Library
- c.) Minister Sonya Savage – Electric Vehicle Charging Program
- d.) Town of Barrhead – EPR Exemption for Newspaper Media
- e.) Minister of Municipal Affairs – Joint Use and Planning Agreements
- f.) Alberta News – Adding new EMS supports to improve response times.
- g.) Alberta Municipalities – Fridays news

11. Adjournment

A regular meeting of the Council of the Town of Vauxhall, was held in
Council Chambers
on Monday March 13, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT

MAYOR: Raymond Coad
DEPUTY MAYOR: Kimberley Cawley
COUNCILLORS: Shelley Deleeuw
Kimberley Dorin
Marilyn Forchuk
Margaret Plumtree

ALSO PRESENT:

Chief Administrative Officer: Cris Burns
Asst. CAO/Office Manager: Mindy Dunphy

CALL TO ORDER:

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

Adoption of
Agenda

RES: 23:51

MOVED by Councillor Plumtree to adopt the agenda as amended.
CARRIED

Additions:

4(i) Veterans Memorial Highway Association meeting of November 25,
2022

Councillor Dorin arrived in Chambers at 6:07 p.m.

Delegation

RES: 23:52

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Cawley to accept the delegation report as
information.

- R.C.M.P.

CARRIED

Minutes

RES: 23:53

MOVED by Councillor Deleeuw to adopt the following minutes as
presented.

- Regular meeting of Council February 13, 2023

CARRIED

Minutes

RES: 23:54

MOVED by Councillor Forchuk to accept the following minutes as
information

- Municipal Planning Commission meeting of February 27, 2023
- Vauxhall & District Chamber of Commerce board meeting of
February 16, 2023

- Barons-Eureka-Warner FCSS board meeting of December 7, 2022
- Barons-Eureka-Warner FCSS board meeting of February 1, 2023
- Taber & District Housing Foundation board meeting of January 26, 2023
- Vauxhall Agricultural Society director meeting of January 18, 2023
- Oldman River Regional Services Commission board meeting of December 1, 2022
- Veterans Memorial Highway Association meeting of November 25, 2022

Policy No. 044-2023

RES: 23:55

MOVED by Councillor Deleeuw to bring the Policy No. 044-2023 Council Participation on External Community Boards, Commissions, Committees and Societies policy back to the April 11, 2023, meeting.

CARRIED

February 28, 2023

Cheque Listing

RES: 23:56

MOVED by Councillor Plumtree to adopt the February 28, 2023, cheque listing in the amount of three hundred thousand, seven hundred and thirteen dollars and eighty two cents (\$300,713.82), as information.

CARRIED

Financial Information

RES: 23:57

MOVED by Councillor Forchuk to accept the following as information:

- Bank Reconciliation as of February 28, 2023
- GIC Holdings as of February 28, 2023
- Consolidated Statement of Financial position as of February 28, 2023
- Consolidated Statement of Operations as of February 28, 2023
- AMSC MasterCard as of March 4, 2023
- Budget by Department – Council
- 2023 Operating Expenses vs Budget

CARRIED

37th Annual Celebration

Of Seniors' Week

RES: 23:58

MOVED by Councillor Forchuk to declare June 5 – 11, 2023 to be Seniors' Week in honour of the past, present, and future contributions of the seniors of this community and throughout Alberta

CARRIED

Seniors' Week

RES: 23:59

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Cawley to approve the expenditure of \$500.00 for recognition of Seniors' Week.

CARRIED

Policy No. 027-2017

RES: 23:60

MOVED by Councillor Forchuk to direct administration to revise Policy No. 027-2017 Council Remuneration Policy and to bring back to council.
CARRIED

Councillor Dorin left chambers at 6:45 p.m.

Councillor Dorin returned to chambers at 6:47 p.m.

RES: 23:61

MOVED by Councillor Forchuk to accept the following as information.

- Alberta Municipalities – News Release (Survey – Alberta Police Service)
- ABMunis Preliminary Analysis on Alberta's 2023 Budget
- Vauxhall Public Library Board Letter

CARRIED

Reports

RES: 23:62

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Cawley to accept the following as information

- CAO Report
- Council Activity Report – February 2023
- Action List – February 2023
- Action List in Progress

CARRIED

Information and Correspondence

RES: 23:63

MOVED by Councillor Forchuk to accept the following as information:

- Rural Charities AGLC Gaming Revenues Equality
- Minister of Education – Historic Education Investments in Budget 2023
- Minister of Municipal Affairs – Rebecca Schulz – Budget 2023
- Minister of Municipal Affairs – Rebecca Schulz – Local Government Fiscal Framework
- Alberta Precision Laboratories
- SouthGrow Monthly Report for Mayors & Reeves
- FCSS Report to Municipalities Family Services

Closed Meeting

RES: 23:64

MOVED by Councillor Plumtree that council move to closed session to discuss Section 16 – of the FOIP Act at 7:06 p.m.

CARRIED

Closed Meeting

RES: 23:65

MOVED by Councillor Plumtree that council return to open meeting at 8:03 p.m.

CARRIED

8:03 p.m. Meeting recessed to allow return of public.

8:04 p.m. Meeting resumed with no public present.

Vauxhall Curling
Club

RES: 23:66

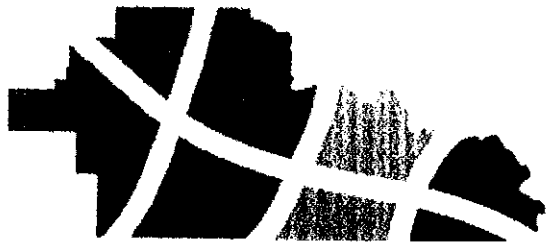
MOVED by Moved by Deputy Mayor Cawley to release the Vauxhall curling club from the utility commitments and Administration engage the engineers to conduct an inspection on the Vauxhall arena floor surfaces.
CARRIED

Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

MAYOR

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER



Vauxhall & District CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Regular General Meeting Minutes – March 16th, 2023

6pm – Held in person and virtually via Zoom.

- **Called to order:** at 6:03 pm by Dallen Flexhaug
- **Recording Secretary:** Danna Ferguson
- **Attendance:** Danna Ferguson, Petra & Joerg Klemnpauer, Shelley Deleeuw, Chantel Claassen, Rodney Lee, via Zoom Dallen Flexhaug, Ken Holst and Shelley Mehlhaff

Additions to the agenda:

- Addition of the November Celebration under Old Business
- **Motion:** Shelley Deleeuw moved to approve the agenda as presented with the addition, Chantel Claassen seconded the motion – Carried

Minutes from February 16th, 2023, meeting:

- **Motion:** Petra Klemnpauer moved to approve the minutes as circulated, Rodney Lee seconded the motion – Carried.
- **Financial Report:** The financial report was presented by Danna Ferguson.
- **Motion:** Rodney Lee moved to accept the financial report as circulated, Petra Klemnpauer seconded the motion – Carried.

Administrative Report: Danna Ferguson presented the administrative report.

- Danna Ferguson will look into setting up e-transfer for the VDCC bank account.
- It was discussed to possibly look into grant funding for our upcoming events.
- It was thought to advertise the General Regular Meetings in the VDCC Bi-Weekly Newsletter.

- The new owners of the Esso have been contacted and are interested in becoming a VDCC Member.
- **Motion:** Shelley Deleeuw moved to accept Esso as a new VDCC Member, Chantel Claassen seconded the motion – Carried.

Old Business:

- **November Celebration:** The November Celebration will be held on November 25th, 2023, at the Hall. There was a discussion of different entertainment that could be booked for this year.
- It was also suggested to possibly sell the dinner tickets and concert tickets separately with different prices this year.

New Business:

- **Revised Town of Vauxhall Bylaw:** The revised Town of Vauxhall Bylaw was circulated, and it was discussed as it now includes business owners who reside outside of the Town of Vauxhall. Shelley Mehlhaff and Rodney Lee would be interested in joining the Tourism Board.
- **Canada Day Breakfast:** It was discussed to set up a promo table during this year's Pancake Breakfast, otherwise it will be hosted the same as it has been in the past. This year we will look into options to have the sausages browned for the breakfast. It was also thought to have a few extra people scheduled for the clean up as it is rushed for those who have floats in the parade. Danna Ferguson will contact the same groups to help once again this year.
- **2023 Canada Day Parade:** The Parade was discussed, and we would like input from Town Council as to who will organize the parade if Lorna Skuban does not wish to continue.
- Note – If the Town of Vauxhall can add the 2023 Canada Day Parade to the next Council Meeting.
- **Next meeting Date:** Thursday April 20th, 2023 @ 6pm held at the Vauxhall Library.
- **Meeting Adjourned** @ 6:43 pm by Shelley Mehlhaff

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Town of Vauxhall

Date: April 6, 2023

Proposed by: Administration

Topic **Business & Tourism Advisory Committee**

Background:

Vauxhall & District Chamber of Commerce Meeting Minutes of March 16, 2023, has two directors from the Chamber who wish to sit on the Business & Tourism Advisory Committee.

Proposed Motion

Moved by Councillor _____ to approve the appointments to the Business & Tourism Advisory Committee of Shelly Mehlhaff and Rodney Lee.

4c.



**Taber & District
HOUSING FOUNDATION**

Provides individuals, families and seniors with affordable and caring accommodation

MINUTES

**Regular Monthly Board Meeting
Taber and District Housing Foundation
Thursday, February 23, 2023
Taber Civic Centre – Green Room**

ATTENDANCE

Board:	Tamara Miyanaga Ray Coad	Alf Rudd Tom Machacek	Rosanne Horrocks
Absent:	Jake Hiebert	Joe Strojwas	
Administration:	Tim Janzen (CAO), Carrie Wilson (Placement Coordinator), Corey Beck (Maintenance Manager), Joan Hart (Lodge Manager)		

Rosanne Horrocks, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:36 pm

1. Approval of Agenda

Motion 2023 - 011

MOVED by T. Machacek to approve the agenda as presented

CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion 2023 - 012

MOVED by R. Coad to accept the minutes from the Board of Directors meeting of Thursday January 26, 2023, as presented.

CARRIED

3. Business Arising

- a) Drug & Alcohol Policy - DRAFT – CAO reported the document is still being worked on.
- b) MOW Statistics – CAO presented MOW statistics year to date to January 2023. The number of clients and meals delivered has increased slightly from 2022 but lower than the same period in 2021

4. Approval of Financial Statements and Reports:

No Financial Statements were presented at this meeting.

5. Reports

- a) Lodge Manager Report

Motion 2023 - 013

MOVED by A. Rudd to accept the Lodge Manager's report, as presented.

CARRIED

- b) Maintenance Manager Report

Motion 2023 - 014

MOVED by A. Rudd to accept the Maintenance Manager's report, as presented.

CARRIED

- c) Placement Officer Report

Motion 2023 - 015

MOVED by T. Machacek to accept the Placement Officer's report, as presented.

CARRIED

- d) Chief Administrative Officer Report

Motion 2023 - 016

MOVED by T. Miyanaga to accept the Chief Administrative Officer's report, as presented.

CARRIED

6. New Business

- a) **Cherry & Main Affordable Housing Project:**

CAO reported he had not heard from the Town of Taber Administrator re: presenting around Cherry & Main affordable apartment project.

- b) **Clearview Lodge Design Process**

CAO presented a document created with Jan Williams, Unitech representative for phasing of the CVL expansion and modernization project. CAO, Joan and Corey to finalize with Jan.

- c) **Proposed Coverage of Financial Administrator Absence**

CAO presented that he had completed a job interview with a potential candidate; however, she is also participating in an interview for a different job tomorrow. The candidate would only be interested in a remote position but would be available to drive to Taber for specific scheduled events.

d) Policy T-32: Clearview Lodge – Residency Application Form

Several additional amendments were suggested for the Application form. Therefore, CAO will add these changes to the form and present it at the next meeting.

e) Letter (dated February 16, 2023) – AHS COVID Funding update

CAO reported that COVID funding is to be discontinued for Clearview Lodge, effective June 30, 2023. CAO and Lodge Manager to discuss how some positions (particularly Greeter) might be continued.

f) Letter – Brownlee Law re: CUPE 2038 Upcoming Collective Bargaining Session

g) MOW Fundraising

Carrie Wilson, Placement Officer, will be taking letters to a number of local businesses to see if some funds can be raised for MOW program.

7. Other Information

- a) Monthly Report – Social Housing – February 17, 2023
- b) AHS Report – DSL Residents – November 2022
- c) Email from CCSA – Confirmation COR External Auditor and Dates
- d) ASCHA Handout – Noble Cause, Key Facts, Challenges and Opportunities

8. Adjournment

Motion 2023 - 017

MOVED by T. Machacek to adjourn this meeting at 3:01 pm

CARRIED

Next Meeting: Board of Directors Thursday, March 23rd Taber Civic Centre - Green

Rosanne Horrocks, Chairperson

Tom Machacek, Vice-Chairperson

7d.

TOWN OF VAUXHALL

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT MARCH 31 2023

	2023	2022
FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents (note 2)	\$ 352,807	\$ 401,868
Temporary Investments (note 3)	2,642,348	2,642,348
Receivables		
Taxes and grants in place of taxes (note 4)	(56,398)	35,473
Trade and other receivables (net)	84,885	118,063
Receivable from other governments	939,007	1,396,596
Unrecoverable	11,946	10,930
Land held for sale	22,241	22,241
Long term investments (note 5)	29,279	29,279
Other assets	-	-
	4,026,115	4,656,798
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	54,389	124,457
Payroll remittance payable	193	193
Deposit liabilities	970	670
Other liabilities	-	-
Employee benefit obligation (note 6)	(1,420)	-
Long term debt (note 7)	337,656	360,655
Deferred revenue (note 8)	1,827,544	1,875,123
	2,219,332	2,361,098
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS (DEBT)	1,806,783	2,295,700
NON FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Inventory for consumption	41,569	41,569
Tangible capital assets (Schedule 2)	7,109,172	7,105,604
Prepaid expenses	20,406	20,839
	7,171,147	7,168,012
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS (Schedule 1, note 10)	\$ 8,977,930	\$ 9,463,712

Contingencies - note 15

Approved on behalf of Council:

_____ Councillor

_____ Councillor

7e

TOWN OF VAUXHALL

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

AS AT MARCH 31 2023

	Budget (Unaudited)	2023	2022
REVENUE			
Net municipal taxes (Schedule 3)	\$ 1,649,016	\$ (68,139)	\$ 1,136,342
Sales and user charges	342,050	106,229	780,821
Penalties, fines and costs on taxes	13,500	6,157	17,143
Franchise and concession contracts	100,000	22,936	111,045
Investment income	37,600	102	60,695
Rentals	90,490	27,083	90,033
Government transfers (Schedule 4)	331,705	-	375,267
Licenses and permits	17,100	16,618	33,457
Sale of land held for resale	74,000	-	507,635
Other revenues	37,775	11,779	97,449
Gain on sale of assets	-	-	31,588
	2,693,236	122,765	3,241,475
EXPENDITURES (Schedule 5)			
Legislative	143,000	57,493	126,331
Administration	440,108	175,932	413,669
Fire, disaster services and ambulance	77,135	2,359	100,935
By-law enforcement	21,550	2,214	8,638
Roads, streets, walks, lighting	619,695	82,765	489,942
Water and storm water	678,817	83,551	554,341
Wastewater	132,075	12,610	144,919
Waste management	305,060	44,959	279,905
Cemetery	16,630	3,141	16,554
Municipal Planning, zoning, economic development	45,593	18,341	45,039
Subdivision land development	2,000	-	193,128
Recreation and culture	630,632	114,893	750,267
Health and FCSS	10,059	10,288	9,580
Loss on disposal of asset	-	-	-
	3,128,854	608,546	3,133,248
EXCESS (SHORTFALL) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES - BEFORE OTHER	(435,618)	(485,781)	108,227
OTHER			
Contributed assets	12,100	-	446,000
Government transfers for capital (Schedule 4)	0	-	132,908
EXCESS (SHORTFALL) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	(447,718)	(485,781)	687,135
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	8,442,466	9,463,712	8,776,577
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS, END OF YEAR	\$ 7,994,748	\$ 8,977,930	\$ 9,463,712

DRAFT

Town of Vauxhall

Date: March 14 2023
Proposed by: Administration
Topic Plaque – Clock Tower

Background:

The Town has received \$600.00 in donations for names for the clock tower. The tower costs have all been cleared. The plaque will cost \$37.81 +gst

Administration has a suggestion for the funds to be allocated to the small potatoes.

Currently the funds raised for the small potatoes are \$2,364.77.

Proposed Motion

Moved by Councillor _____ to allocate the funds of \$562.19 to the small potatoes fund.

Moved by Councillor _____ to allocated the funds to

Town of Vauxhall

Date: March 2, 2023
Proposed by: Administration
Topic: Vauxhall AG Society Invitation

Background:

The Vauxhall Agricultural Society is once again asking if the Town would like to have a representative attend their meeting's.

Administration previously discussed Council members belonging to external boards and has developed a policy currently unapproved as this RFD is being written.

The Town of Vauxhall and the Vauxhall Ag Society have had a positive relationship as stated in the letter to Council and together accomplished numerous community projects that have benefitted the Town of Vauxhall and the Rural Community as a whole.

The 2023-2028 Strategic plan refers to recreation, collaboration as well as communication and engagement. Having Council representation attend Ag Society meetings would be a positive move in the direction of the Strategic Plan.

Proposed Motion

Moved by Councillor _____ to appoint Councillor(s) _____
_____ to attend the Vauxhall Ag Society meeting(s) as requested.

8d.

Town of Vauxhall

Date: March 16, 2023
Proposed by: Administration
Topic Library Board Resignation

Background:

Attached a letter of resignation from Lucille Norris

Proposed Motion

Moved by Councillor _____ to accept the resignation of Library board member Lucille Norris.

Town of Vauxhall
Information

Date: April 3, 2023
Proposed by: Administration
Topic Boards & Committees
Background:

Council will have a discussion on their previous appointed Committees and Boards

Proposed Motion:

Appointment to
Boards/Committees
& Commissions

Moved by Councillor _____ to accept all appointments of Council members to committees and boards until the next organizational meeting of council.

VAUXHALL TOWN COUNCIL COMMITTEES & MEMBERS
As of January 9 2023

Municipal Planning Commission

(Meets 2nd and 4th Monday of the month)

- Ray Coad
- Marilyn Forchuk
- Margaret Plumtree
- Shelley Deleeuw (Alternate)

Chinook Intermunicipal Subdivision and Development Appeal Board

(As required)

- Kimberley Cawley cert. 31/1/22 (3years)
- Kimberly Dorin (Alternate) cert. 11/3/22 (3years)
- Jennifer Crowson Member at large cert. 11/3/22 (3years)

Taber Regional Joint Economic Development Committee

(Scheduled by Chair, goal is one evening meeting per month)

- Ray Coad
- Margaret Plumtree

SouthGrow

- Ray Coad
- Kimberly Dorin (Alternate)

Vauxhall Library Board

(Meets monthly (except summer) at 6:00 p.m.)

- Shelley Deleeuw
- Marilyn Forchuk

Chinook Arch Library Board

(first Thursday of April, August and December)

- Marilyn Forchuk

Taber & District Solid Waste Management Committee

(Per Taber and District Solid Waste Management Agreement dated December 31st, 2016)

- Kimberley Cawley
 - Marilyn Forchuk
-

Taber & District Housing
(Monthly)

- Ray Coad

Oldman River Regional Services Commission (ORRSC)
(Quarterly, March, June, Sept, Dec in Lethbridge @ 7:00 p.m.)

- Ray Coad

Vauxhall & District Regional Water Services Commission
(Quarterly or as required)

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| ▪ Ray Coad | John DeGroot |
| ▪ Richard Phillips (Member at Large) | Chantal Claassen |
| | Murray Reynolds |

Inter - municipal Development Authority
(As required)

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| ▪ Ray Coad | John DeGroot |
| ▪ Marilyn Forchuk | Chantal Claassen |
| | Murray Reynolds |

Public Information Officer – Emergency Management Plan

- Kimberley Cawley

Emergency Management Committee

All of council

Protective Services

- Shelly Deleeuw
- Fire Authority Chair – res: 14:336

Regional Fire Authority
(Vauxhall Fire hall – quarterly or as required)

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| ▪ Ray Coad | Chantal Claassen |
| ▪ Kimberley Cawley | Murray Reynolds |
| | John DeGroot (Alternate) |

Veterans Memorial

- Margaret Plumtree Director on the Board

Regional Assessment Review Board

- Margaret Plumtree Expires: May 28, 2024

Barons-Eureka-Warner FCSS
(Monthly)

- Margaret Plumtree

Vauxhall & District Chambers of Commerce

- Shelley Deleeuw John DeGroot
- Kimberly Dorin (Alternate) Chantal Claassen

Pheasant Festival Committee

- Kimberley Cawley

Policy, Bylaw and Rate Committee

- Kimberly Dorin
- Marilyn Forchuk

Vauxhall Community Center Advisory Committee

- Kimberley Cawley
- Kimberly Dorin

Inter-municipal Collaboration Committee

- Ray Coad
- Kimberly Dorin
- Shelley Deleeuw

Business and Tourism Committee

- Shelley Deleeuw
- Kimberly Dorin

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2023 Resolutions Guide

January 2023

Timelines

Deadline for submitting resolutions, along with confirmation of endorsement by the councils of the moving and seconding municipalities, to resolutions@abmunis.ca	May 31, 2023
Alberta Municipalities' Municipal Governance Committee and Board of Directors review, categorize and comment on submitted resolutions based on criteria set out in the Resolutions Policy (sections 23- 28)	June 2023
Alberta Municipalities publishes Resolutions Book	August 2, 2023
Members debate and vote on resolutions	Alberta Municipalities Convention, September 27 – 29, 2023 in Edmonton

About resolutions

As set out in the [Resolutions Policy](#), a resolution must address a topic of concern affecting municipalities on a regional or provincial level, and must be approved by the council of the sponsoring municipality and seconded by an additional municipal council. A resolution must not direct one or more municipalities to adopt a particular course of action or policy but must be worded as a request for consideration of an issue, including a call for action by Alberta Municipalities.

Drafting tips

Before drafting a resolution, members are encouraged to review the [Resolutions Library](#) and search [Alberta Municipalities website](#) to see if the topic of the potential resolution is already addressed by an existing resolution or policy. Members are also encouraged to review the [Resolutions Policy](#) to ensure the topic and content meets the criteria set out in the policy. In addition, municipalities are encouraged to reach out to Alberta Municipalities' staff and/or submit resolutions early by emailing resolutions@abmunis.ca so that staff can assist in ensuring the resolutions meet the criteria.

If the purpose of the resolution is to seek amendments to legislation, please include the proper title of the Bill, Act or Regulation and list the pertinent sections of the legislation in the preamble and/or background of the resolution.

It is helpful to include examples of specific incidents that highlight why a particular issue should be addressed. However, care must be taken to ensure that this does not localize the resolution to the extent that it is seen as a single municipality's issue.

It is also helpful to check and include whether the issue is being addressed by the Rural Municipalities of Alberta and/or the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

Any facts or statistics cited in the background section should be referenced (i.e. indicate the source for those facts/statistics).

A [resolutions template](#) is intended to help you draft your resolution and reflects the format that will be used in the Resolutions Book.

Seeking a seconder

All resolutions must receive official endorsement from a seconding municipality before they are submitted. The purpose of seeking a seconder is to confirm whether the resolution is of significant interest to other municipalities. It is also to seek feedback on the clarity and content of the resolution itself, to ensure the intent and rationale is clear.

Municipalities interested in submitting a resolution are encouraged to reach out to other municipalities early in the process to determine whether the resolution is likely to receive support and to provide potential supporting municipalities sufficient time to provide meaningful feedback.

Submission

As mentioned, municipalities are encouraged to submit draft resolutions to Alberta Municipalities staff for feedback as early as possible. Once the resolution is finalized and endorsed by councils of both the moving and seconding municipalities, please submit the following to resolutions@abmunis.ca:

- A Word version of the resolution in the format outlined in the enclosed template.
- Confirmation of the endorsement by the moving and seconding councils. This can take the form of:
 - A link to meeting minutes if they are posted online, or
 - The number, mover and wording of the motion including the date of the meeting at which it was passed.

9a.)

REPORT to COUNCIL

Date: April 11, 2023

Issued by: A Cris Burns, CAO

- **Recreation Complex**

The Arena season is now over and the ice is out.

I held a poorly attended meeting to discuss the addition for the Arena on the east side which has been on the budget for the past 2 years. The project was delayed due to prices skyrocketing from pandemic inflation. The Request For Quote meeting was advertised and held on location.

I have yet to hear back from the Curling Club which was informed Tuesday March 14th of Councils decision to inspect the condition of the Arena and Curling Rink floors.

The old boiler for the swimming pool has been removed and we are waiting for the new boiler build to be completed and delivered.

- **Southgrow Economic Forum**

Attended the Southgrow forum held in Lethbridge March 30th, Guest speakers *Jack Mintz* a corporate economist with the University of Calgary and *Todd Hirsch* a former chief economist for ATB Financial. Both speakers discussed the challenges and strengths of Alberta with the downturn in oil.

Other topics of discussion were Investment Attraction, Waste to Energy, Agri-Food Tourism, Collaboration, Energy Future, Labour and Broadband

- **By-Election**

As you are aware there was a by-election held March 27th and Mr. Henry Zacharias was elected to Vauxhall Town Council and swore in April 4th at the Vauxhall Administration Office.

- **ACP Grant**

The ACP Grant for the Infrastructure Master Plan which we are partnered with the MD of Taber was approved and the Engineers will be around town performing surveys and inspections.

A Cris Burns

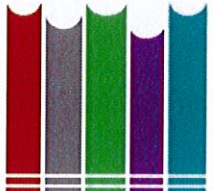
2023 CONVENTION & TRADE SHOW

This event is not open yet for registration Administration letting you know the dates to prepare if you wish to attend.

Event: 2023 Alberta Municipalities Convention

Date: September 27 - 29, 2023

Location: Edmonton Convention Centre

Friends of the
 Vauxhall
Public Library

Dear Community,

We, the Friends of the Vauxhall Public Library, are writing to you on behalf of the Vauxhall Public Library in search of donations. As you may or may not know, the library relies solely on funding from our local municipalities, the province, and available grants.

As a valuable service to our community, we keep our membership cards costs at a minimum, so that we can be an affordable place for our citizens to have access to many services not offered elsewhere.

We have come to a point financially where we are seeking other funding options, or we may have to significantly reduce hours.

We come to you today with a request to consider a financial donation to keep our service operating as usual. Any amount will be greatly appreciated. As a part of your donation, with your permission, we will advertise on our Facebook page, as well as in our building and throughout the community.

Donations over \$50 made to the Vauxhall Public Library will be provided with a tax receipt.

We thank you for your consideration in this matter. If you haven't already, please take a moment and stop by the library, meet our staff members, and see what we all have to offer to you and our community.

If you are unable to support us financially, we ask that you consider joining our Library board by sending a request to the Town of Vauxhall.

Sincerely, Friends of the Vauxhall Public Library.

TOWN OF VAUXHALL

MAR 22 2023

RECEIVED

A little info about our Library:

Our vision is to foster the spirit of exploration, the joy of reading and the pursuit of knowledge for all ages and cultures.

Our local library has a mission to:

- *Provide the public with as much reading material as possible*
- *Encourage literacy and lifelong learning*
- *Provide a variety of services to patron through the library's membership in the Chinook Arch Regional Library system*
- *And to provide children with programs aimed at helping them read and learn*

Our Values include:

- *Our community, our history and our people*
- *Literacy, reading, leisure and lifelong learning for all*
- *Intellectual freedom*
- *Equality of opportunity and inclusiveness*
- *Informed and engaged citizens*
- *Capable, caring, empowered and motivated staff and volunteers*
- *The diversity of our community*

Mission:

It is the mission of the Vauxhall Public Library to:

- Provide the public with as much reading material as possible
- Encourage literacy and lifelong learning
- Provide a variety of services to patrons through the library's membership in the Chinook Arch Regional Library System
- Provide children with programs aimed at helping them read and learn
- Be a central source of information and education for the community

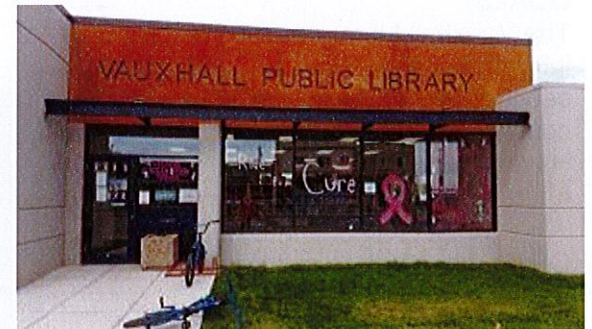
Values:

- Our community, our history, and our people
- Literacy, reading, leisure, and life-long learning for all
- Intellectual freedom
- Equality of opportunity and inclusiveness
- Informed and engaged citizens
- Capable, caring, empowered and motivated staff and volunteers
- The diversity of our community



**Vauxhall Public Library
Plan of Service
2021-2024**

*As approved by
The Vauxhall Public Library Board*



Vision:

Vauxhall Public Library desires to foster the spirit of exploration, the joy of reading and the pursuit of knowledge for all ages and cultures.

Service Response 1:

KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY

Target Audience: Everyone

BENEFIT:

Having a central source of information for community agencies and organizations. Promoting longevity of the Library Board and membership

GOALS:

The Vauxhall Library as a core source for information about the variety of programs, services and activities provided by community agencies and organizations. Have community members invested in the future of Library operations.

OBJECTIVES:

Providing information thru Newsletters on social media, newspaper, posters/flyers in the library and around town and being promoted by Library staff. Increase the number of people using the library to access information about community programs, services and activities. Communicate with existing library users to foster an interest in the future of the library.

Service Response 2:

POSITIVE AGING:

Target Audience: Seniors

The Vauxhall Public Library is a community that supports the well-being for seniors and values their contribution.

BENEFIT:

Seniors will have access to the resources that they need to discover topics of interest, and to continue to learn throughout their lives.

GOALS:

To create an environment within the Vauxhall Public Library that assists positive aging, meets their needs, and enhances the lives of the seniors in our community.

OBJECTIVES:

Communicate with Seniors how the Library can deliver services to benefit them. The library will aim to provide technological assistance and education to seniors to help them use modern technology. The library will offer at least one intergenerational program to improve and support strong bonds between generations in our community. Collaborate with Town Organizations to celebrate Seniors, giving them the opportunity to share stories, a talent or hobby. To provide a book delivery service to Seniors facilities

Service Response 3:

SATISFY CURIOSITY FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

Target Audience: Children and Teens

BENEFIT:

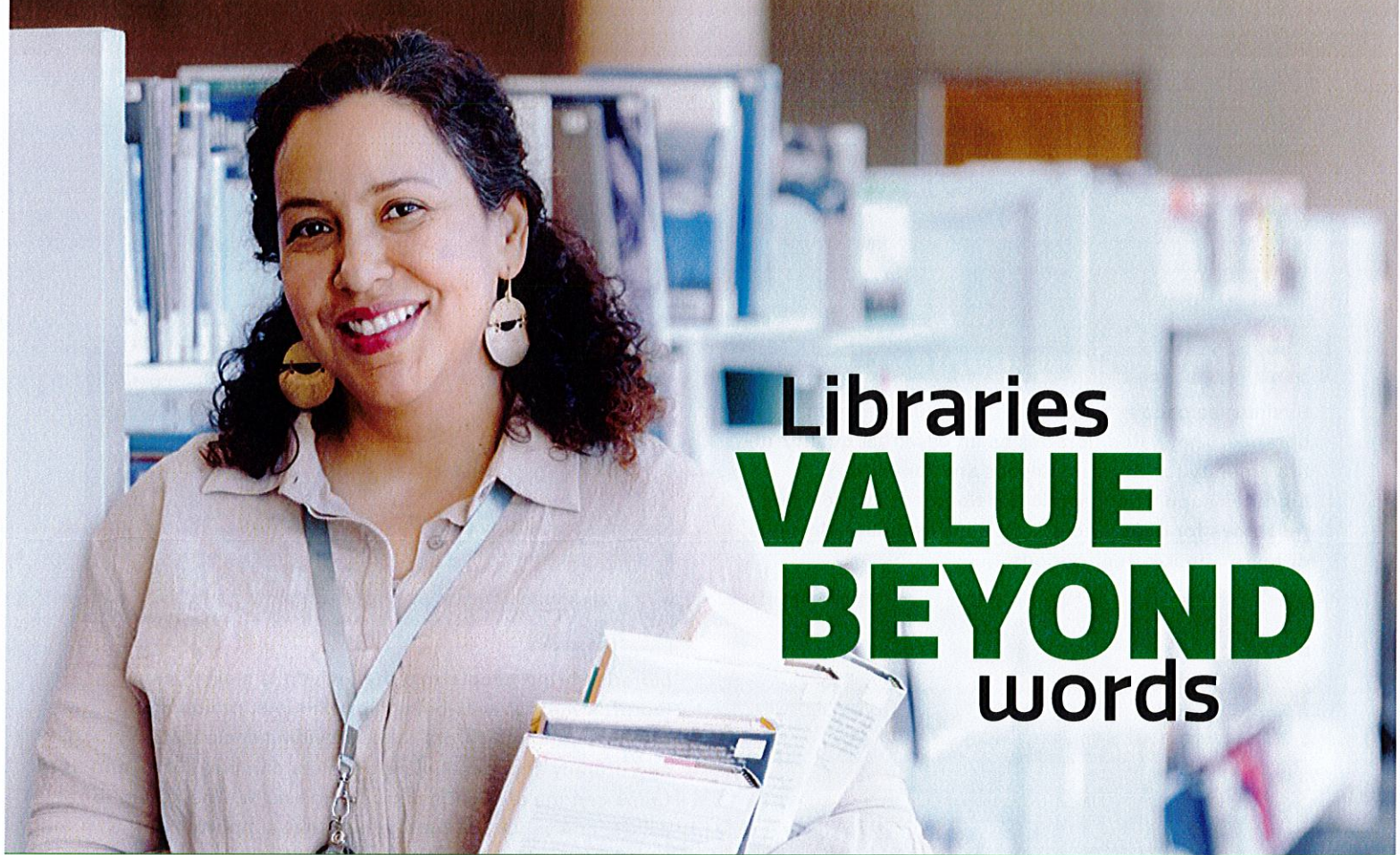
Our children and youth will have the resources they need to explore topics of personal and academic interests, to continue to learn throughout their youth.

GOALS:

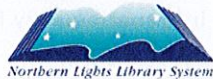
Our goal as a library is to provide our youth with as much knowledge, literature, resources and programs as possible to ensure they continue to learn throughout their youth.

OBJECTIVES: (Moveable targets to fit the needs of the time)

To communicate with members regarding needs and wants.
Offer storytelling as requested.
Offer hours just for teens.
Offer movie nights.
Offer exciting events geared for young children and families.
Provide community tailored operating hours (library staff to advise board on possibilities).
To provide more resources/ materials such as a toy library, puzzles, board games.



Libraries **VALUE BEYOND** words



In a typical year, public libraries in Alberta are visited more than 20 million times, circulate more than 35 million items, and offer tens of thousands of programs for all ages. Public libraries are welcoming community hubs that connect, inform, and inspire people of all ages. Libraries help to build a stronger province by creating opportunities for all.

Libraries Deliver Value Beyond Words

Libraries are one of the most effective and impactful uses of public funding. Strong libraries equal strong communities. Libraries help ensure that all Albertans have access to broadband internet, authoritative information, technology, tools, and services needed to help our province thrive. Equitable access to resources and materials provided by libraries 'levels the playing field,' and enables all Albertans to learn, grow and flourish.

Libraries are the heart of rural Alberta



Libraries **VALUE BEYOND** words



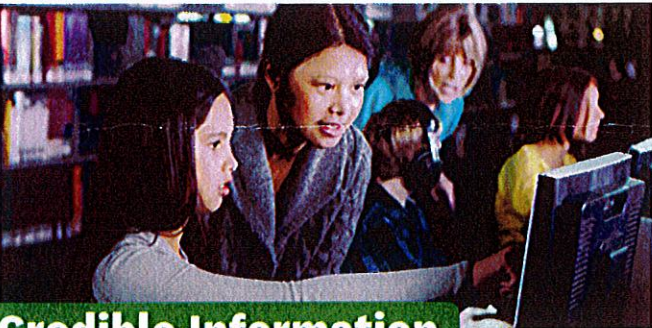
Economic Development

Businesses choose to locate in communities with libraries. They value libraries as an essential quality-of-life amenity for their employees and families. Libraries support economic development by providing resources for people to start a business, upgrade skills, or learn about career options.



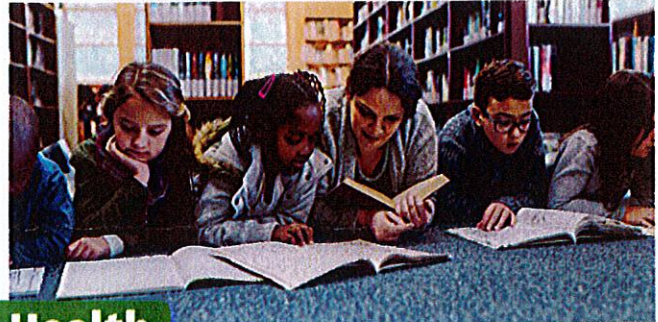
Education

Libraries encourage literacy for people of all ages, help newcomers who have English as a second language and connect people and the world. Free internet access is a critical educational support for families and people living in poverty.



Credible Information

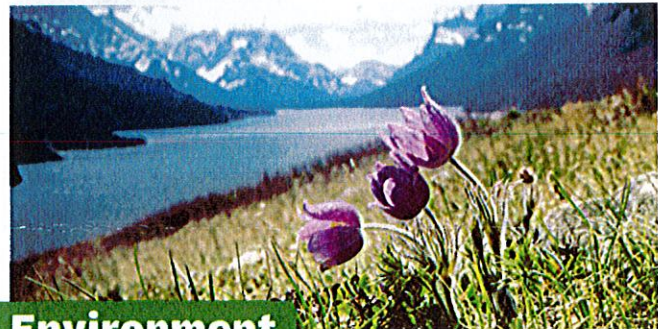
Librarians are available to help people find evidence-based resources that are credible and reliable. In times of misinformation, falsehoods and conjecture, libraries can be a force for objectivity and truth.



Health

Libraries bring people together, which is a significant factor in mental well-being. For example, moms and toddlers can enjoy story time, providing socialization and literacy support. Isolated seniors can play cards and teens can make friends during game night. The library is a safe, enjoyable community hub that supports mental health through social connection.

Libraries can also provide peer-reviewed, evidence-based resources on health matters, making access to reliable information easy for everyone.



Environment

Libraries help reduce waste and over-consumption by lending books, movies, materials and resources time and time again. This is the 'original' recycling program! Library circulation gets the longest life out of each item by enabling as many people to use it as possible.



Can we count on your support?

10c.)

118793

ALBERTA
ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTED AREAS
Office of the Minister

MAR 23 2023

His Worship Ray Coad
Mayor
Town of Vauxhall
223 - 5 Street N
Box 509
Vauxhall AB T0K 2K0
rcoad@town.vauxhall.ab.ca

Dear Mayor Coad:

My colleague the Honourable Pete Guthrie, Minister of Energy, forwarded a copy of your letter regarding electric vehicle charging stations. As Minister of Environment and Protected Areas, I am pleased to provide the following information.

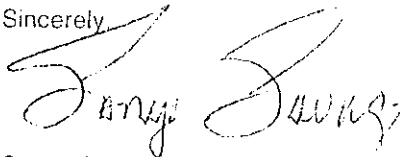
The Municipal Climate Change Action Centre (MCCAC) is a partnership of Alberta Municipalities, Rural Municipalities of Alberta, and the Government of Alberta. The centre provides technical assistance and education to municipalities, schools, and community organizations, helping reduce energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions. The Electric Vehicle Charging Program is funded by the Government of Alberta's Technology Innovation and Emissions Reduction (TIER) Fund, and the Government of Canada's Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program.

The MCCAC administers the Electric Vehicle Charging Program, supporting municipalities, businesses and other organizations installing new electric vehicle charging stations for public and/or fleet use. For more information, please visit mccac.ca/programs, and select "Electric Vehicle Charging Program."

The MCCAC also provides a useful tool to calculate an electric vehicle's lifetime cost effectiveness as compared to a gasoline-powered vehicle. You can find the "Electric Vehicle Savings Calculator" at mccac.ca/learning-centre.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

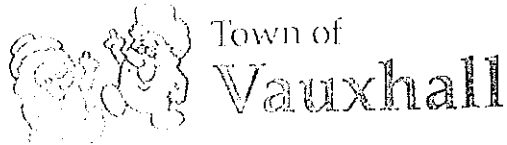
Sincerely,



Sonya Savage, KC
Minister

cc: Honourable Pete Guthrie
Minister of Energy

Honourable Joseph Schow
MLA, Cardston-Siksika



January 10, 2023

Minister Peter Guthrie
#1B, 60-Railway Street East
Cochrane, AB T4C 1B5

The Honourable Peter Guthrie, Minister of Energy

Canada has committed that by 2035, all new cars and light-duty trucks sold in the country will be zero-emission vehicles.

As a council of a small municipality, we wish to address our concern on the Electric Vehicle smart charging station and the costs associated, not only adding smart charging stations to our community but the cost of an electric vehicle rate, charged by the electrical utility provider.

Expansion of transportation is vital to development of not only tourism but also future economic development. Business may have an opportunity in the future to grow their tourism economies and install charging station at locations that bring visitors and revenue

We understand the availability of charging stations remains a concern for many Canadians when purchasing a zero-emission vehicle. As a smaller community we ask that more action be taken regarding the costs associated in supporting these programs.

Regards

Mayor Ray Coad
Town of Vauxhall

rcoad@town.vauxhall.ab.ca

cc MLA Joseph Schow, Cardston-Siksika
MP Martin Shields, Bow River
SouthGrow Regional Initiative
RMA Rural Municipalities of Alberta
Alberta Chamber of Commerce
Palliser Economic Partnership
Alberta Southwest Regional Alliance
Veterans Memorial Highway 35

10e.)



AR110902

Dear Chief Elected Official:

Joint use and planning agreements (JUPAs) between municipalities and school boards operating within municipal boundaries enable the integrated and long-term planning and use of school sites on municipal reserve, school reserve, and municipal and school reserve lands.

On June 10, 2020, Section 670.1 of the *Municipal Government Act* was proclaimed, setting the deadline for municipalities to complete these agreements with the applicable school boards by June 10, 2023.

The ministries of Municipal Affairs and Education have heard from municipalities and school boards about the challenges of meeting this deadline. My colleague, the Honourable Adriana LaGrange, Minister of Education, and I have agreed to extend the deadline for municipalities and school boards to June 10, 2025, to provide sufficient time to complete these agreements.

In addition to this extension granted as per Ministerial Order No. MSD:013/23, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs can provide additional supports to municipalities to assist with the development of these agreements. Questions regarding JUPAs can be directed to a planning advisor at ma_advisory@gov.ab.ca, or toll-free by first dialing 310-0000, then 780-427-2225. Should municipalities require support to mediate discussions with school boards, please email municipalcollaboration@gov.ab.ca or call the number above for more information.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Schulz
Minister

Attachment: Ministerial Order No. MSD:013/23

cc: Honourable Adriana LaGrange, Minister of Education

ALBERTA
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS
Office of the Minister
3rd. Floor, Shaw


MINISTERIAL ORDER NO. MSD:013/23

I, Rebecca Schulz, Minister of Municipal Affairs, pursuant to Section 605(2) of the *Municipal Government Act (MGA)*, make the following order:

The date by which a municipality must enter into a joint use and planning agreement with a school board as required by Section 670 1(1) of the *MGA*, is extended to June 10, 2025.

This order shall come into force on April 1, 2023.

Dated at Edmonton, Alberta, this 5th day of March, 2023.



Rebecca Schulz
Minister of Municipal Affairs



From: Alberta News <alberta.news@gov.ab.ca>
Sent: April 3, 2023 9:18 AM
To: Mindy Dunphy
Subject: News Release: Adding new EMS supports to improve response times

Adding new EMS supports to improve response times

April 03, 2023 Media inquiries

Record investments will build a stronger, more flexible and innovative system for emergency medical services (EMS) with better access to care and shorter wait times.

Alberta’s government promised that help is on the way for Albertans and the province’s health system. By hiring more staff, putting more ambulances on the road and strengthening mental health supports for front-line workers, Alberta’s government is delivering on that promise.

“We are adding new ambulances and front-line staff and investing in solutions now and into the future to make sure ambulances arrive as fast as possible when Albertans call 911 for a medical emergency.”

Jason Copping, Minister of Health

The funding boost also supports implementing Health Care Action Plan priorities and recommendations made by the Alberta EMS Provincial Advisory Committee to improve EMS response and the work culture for EMS staff.

Alberta has the best front-line health care workers in the world, and Budget 2023 will put the right supports in place to ensure Albertans get the care they need, when and where they need it.

“Budget 2023 delivers the needed support to the front line and adds more resources to implement the Alberta EMS Provincial Advisory Committee recommendations. The additional funding will help ease worker fatigue and provide more mental health supports to improve the work environment for all EMS staff.”

RJ Sigurdson, parliamentary secretary, EMS Reform

Adding EMS staff and more ambulances

To improve EMS response time, Budget 2023 invests in adding staff and boosting the number of ambulances on the road. The funding increase will add EMS crews to staff 10 more ambulances in Edmonton, 10 in Calgary, one in Lethbridge and one in Red Deer during peak hours this year.

As part of the ongoing work to improve the central dispatch system and implement the EMS advisory committee's recommendations, Alberta's government will provide more than \$1.5 million to hire and train additional staff and conduct a review of EMS available resources and how they are used in communities.

Supporting EMS workforce

Front-line staff and community partners asked for more supports to create better work environments, as reflected in the provincial advisory committee's recommendations. Budget 2023 delivers funding to improve scheduling practices to allow for more breaks, more flexibility in the length of shifts and opportunities to take time off, in addition to providing for more training and development opportunities.

Nearly \$1 million will go towards boosting mental health supports for EMS staff across the province. A \$3-million investment will address paramedic fatigue in rural communities by adjusting work hours and shift schedules as part of the AHS EMS hours of work initiative.

"This funding increase enables aggressive action on our priority of improving emergency response times. We will hire more staff, increase hours of ambulance capacity, expand partnerships with other community supports and deliver innovative projects. This is about getting Albertans the care they need, where and when they need it."

Mauro Chies, president and CEO, Alberta Health Services

EMS-811 shared response, inter-facility transfers and treat and refer

Alberta's Health Care Action Plan is helping to speed up EMS response times and free up highly trained paramedics from non-emergency calls and transfers. Additional funding will go towards the EMS-811 Shared Response program that transfers calls from Albertans with non-urgent conditions to registered nurses with Health Link.

All these actions will reduce EMS response time by empowering paramedics to focus efforts on urgent calls and diverting them away from situations when their level of care is not medically required.

Medical first response supports in rural communities

Medical first responders provide life-saving care in rural and remote communities until an ambulance arrives. Budget 2023 invests in supporting medical first response and implementing the EMS provincial advisory committee's recommendations to add capacity and provide additional training and equipment.

Budget 2023 secures Alberta's future by transforming the health care system to meet people's needs, supporting Albertans with the high cost of living, keeping our communities safe and driving the economy with more jobs, quality education and continued diversification.

Quick facts

In 2023-24, Alberta's government is providing \$723 million in operating funds for EMS, an increase of \$138 million to support EMS priority actions, including:

- \$47 million for additional EMS capacity to put more ambulances on the road, hire additional paramedics and emergency communications officers, and create dedicated inter-facility transfer capacity in Edmonton, Calgary and Red Deer.
- \$24 million for recruitment and workforce initiatives and supports, including training programs and mental health supports for front-line staff.
- \$24 million to continue initiatives that were implemented last year such as the 19 additional ambulances in Calgary and Edmonton, and enhanced scheduling changes made in high-priority stations around the province to reduce paramedic fatigue.
- \$21 million for ground ambulance contract changes, increased mileage and fuel, including for air ambulance/air ambulance supports and other operational pressures from the increase in the number of events.
- \$7 million to support strategies to enhance the EMS system, such as enhancements to the medical first response program, public education and response, and a review of the ground ambulance resource allocation policies and capacity.
- Almost \$7 million to support other initiatives such as clinical improvement initiatives like expanding the vital health response program to the south zone, which will make it possible for paramedics to provide life-saving heart medication in the event of a heart attack, and expanding the mobile integrated heart program to support community paramedics across the province.
- \$3 million for the EMS-811 Shared Response program.
- \$3 million for other initiatives related to implementing recommendations.
- \$2 million for a project related to air ambulances.
- Budget 2023 provides \$196 million in new EMS funding over three years to hire more staff, put more ambulances on the road and implement recommendations made by the EMS advisory committee and the EMS Dispatch Review Report.
- In addition, \$15 million over three years will fund a new capital program to purchase more ambulances and related equipment.

109.)

From: Alberta Municipalities <communications@abmunis.ca>
Sent: March 31, 2023 4:25 PM
To: Mindy Dunphy
Subject: Alberta Municipalities' Friday News - March 31, 2023



Friday News

March 31, 2023

Welcome to this week's Friday News, a summary of news reports from across Alberta! Alberta Municipalities delivers all the information you need every week via our regular e-newsletters, [Friday News](#), [Jobs Connect](#), and [The Weekly](#). [Subscribe to all three!](#)

ABmunis in the News

Premier Danielle Smith, Opposition Leader Rachel Notley and Municipal Affairs Minister Rebecca Schulz addressed about 300 members of Alberta Municipalities (ABmunis) at the 2023 Spring Municipal Leaders' Caucus in Edmonton on March 31. President Cathy Heron was pleased to hear the UCP and NDP outline their [plans to improve the health-care system and EMS](#). At the same time, she was disappointed that neither party committed to increasing infrastructure funding to address Alberta's \$30 billion infrastructure deficit.

President Cathy Heron said in [an interview with the Journal of Commerce](#) that the 2023 provincial budget is "wholly insufficient" in providing infrastructure funding for Alberta cities and towns. She said the Local Government Fiscal Fund (LGFF), which is replacing the Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) in 2024, is providing municipalities \$722 million, compared to the \$1.7 billion for which the association asked. ABmunis said in a news release that municipalities are receiving less than 1% of the budget for capital costs even though they own and maintain more than 60% of the province's infrastructure.

Municipal Affairs Minister Rebecca Schulz addressed numerous questions about the provincial government's opposition to planned federal carbon tax increases and changes to Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) funding at a [March 14 rural media roundtable session](#). A preliminary analysis of Budget 2023 by ABmunis found a significant decrease from historical MSI funding levels, which have totalled more than \$11.8 billion in capital funding delivered since the program began in 2007.

Cold Lake city council heard the results of a [feasibility study on installing electric vehicle infrastructure](#) in the near future. The city is exploring several options to accommodate zero-emission vehicles, including the Electric Vehicle for Municipalities (EVM) program managed by the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre (MCCAC). The MCCAC is a partnership between Alberta Municipalities, the provincial government and Rural Municipalities of Alberta.

Assessment & Taxation

Bashaw town council has reviewed a draft 2023 operating budget that proposes a 2.22% tax increase, and approved an increase in user fees associated with the wastewater dump station.

Economic Development & Tourism

Leduc County opened its new Business and Entrepreneur Centre (BEC) in the heart of Nisku Business Park and launched a new website for business.

Growth Alberta, a Regional Economic Development Alliance (REDA) that represents Mayerthorpe, Woodlands County, Barrhead County, Swan Hill and other communities in the region, is investing \$140,000 from the federal Tourism Relief Fund into Wild Alberta, an initiative to support regional tourism operators.

Mountain View County, the Town of Sundre, and the Town of Didsbury are partnering to create the Mountain View Regional Film Office (MVRFO), which aims to attract film projects and businesses. The project recently received a \$40,000 grant that will be used to create a website with an online database of locations and various tools to help market the region.

Energy

Fort Chipewyan residents questioned Imperial Oil representatives on March 22 at the company's first town hall meeting since wastewater seepage was discovered in tailing ponds of the Kearl Lake oil sands site near Fort McMurray. CBC News said Jamie Long, the company's vice-president of mining, faced "many tough questions from angry residents," who were only informed of the incident via an environmental protection order issued by the Alberta Energy Regulator in February 2023, nine months after it occurred in May 2022.

The Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP) said it is reviewing the details of Energy Minister Peter Guthrie's order requiring the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) to ensure municipal taxes have been paid before approving new licenses or license transfers for oil and gas companies. Wetaskiwin County Reeve Josh Bishop said his municipality is glad the AER will ensure taxes "over the threshold" are paid. "It is our position that the threshold should be close to zero, but this has yet to be determined," added Bishop.

Environment

Medicine Hat's Adopt-a-Pond program has allowed residents to volunteer to care for several ponds, creeks, coulees, rivers, and walkways in the community. Participants in the program are asked to visit the area every week or two to clean up litter and report invasive species.

A recommended change to St. Albert's water conservation bylaw could result in a \$100 fine for those using municipal water to irrigate lawns, gardens, shrubs, and trees outside certain hours.

Infrastructure & Transportation

Airdrie residents can once again travel around on e-scooters, which were reintroduced by Neuron Mobility on March 24. The company reports that riders travelled more than 65,000 kilometres in 2022, and six out of 10 e-scooter trips ended with a purchase. Neuron also says 97% of Airdrie riders believe the vehicles benefitted their city by improving air quality, mobility, and congestion.

Athabasca County council has approved a rezoning request from the Athabasca Acres RV Resort to allow for future expansion and development, though a development permit and wetlands assessment would need to be completed before any development activity could begin.

Brooks, Buffalo Lake Metis Settlement, Cypress County, Penhold, Ponoka, Redwood Meadows, and Sylvan Lake have all received funding from the federal government and Federation of Canadian Municipalities to help better manage their infrastructure.

Calgary has extended a pilot project that allows riders to take their bicycles on CTrains at all times of day until the end of the year. Work is also underway on several other initiatives to integrate bikes with transit, including the installation of bike racks on all buses.

On March 28, Cochrane issued a notice that the town is working to resolve an unpleasant odour resulting from stormwater retention facilities near Sunset Ridge. The town said the odour is caused by decaying vegetation underneath a layer of ice, which produces gasses that can make their way into buildings in the area connected to the storm main.

EPCOR has begun adding a chemical called orthophosphate into Edmonton's water system as well as Sturgeon County's water system. The chemical creates a protective coating inside pipes to prevent lead from leaching into the drinking water. In 2019, 25,000 Edmonton homes were found to be above Health Canada's acceptable threshold for the concentration of lead in drinking water. EPCOR says about 1.6% of homes in Edmonton have lead service lines.

Edmonton's on-demand transit service is growing in popularity since it launched in April 2021, according to recently compiled data. An October 2022 survey by VIA, the city's on-demand transit app provider, shows nearly half of users are between 13 and 24 years old and 73% don't have a personal vehicle.

Fort Saskatchewan told residents that the construction of a new roundabout at Westpark Drive will begin sometime this year, but a specific location and timelines have not been revealed. This will be the second roundabout in the city.

The City of Leduc has recommended reducing the speed limit on all residential streets to 40 km/h. The changes are expected to proceed following a public hearing and further readings to the traffic bylaw amendments in April.

Lethbridge residents will have access to e-scooters again in 2023. Neuron Mobility plans to bring back the micromobility option for a second year, along with e-bikes. Data from the company shows Lethbridge residents travelled 430,000 kilometres on battery-powered vehicles since they were launched in 2022, and more than 60% of scooter trips resulted in a purchase.

Morinville's committee of the whole received a capital projects update indicating that nine of the 14 infrastructure projects undertaken in 2022 were completed on schedule and under budget, while five are on their way to completion. Another nine projects are planned for 2023.

Morinville officials attended an engagement event where they received a report highlighting a lack of high-speed internet, poor drainage, and inadequate security in Morinville's industrial park. Information from the event will inform council's future strategic planning processes.

Spruce Grove city council was presented with a new Trail and Sidewalk Connections Program. The program budgets \$175,000 in 2023 and \$200,000 in 2025 for trail and sidewalk connections to improve walkability.

An investigation by CTV's W5 shows that 44% of St. Albert's water system, totalling 137 kilometres, uses asbestos cement pipes, as does 25% of Edmonton's, amounting to 1,000 kilometres. Few communities test for asbestos in the water because Health Canada says there is no consistent evidence that drinking it is harmful. Medicine Hat issued a release in response to the W5 coverage, which referenced data from the city, saying Medicine Hat follows Health Canada's water quality guidelines.

St. Albert city council approved \$200,000 for improvements to Dodger Dog Park, including the installation of a fence and signage. The funding will come from the city's dog license reserve.

Stettler town council has approved more than \$300,000 to replace and upgrade the hockey boards in two rinks at the Stettler Recreation Centre.

Indigenous Relations

Edmonton's new multi-use Indigenous cultural and ceremonial site called kihcihkaw aski has begun accepting its first visitors. The city partnered with the Indigenous Knowledge and Wisdom Centre (IKWC) to operate the site, which is scheduled to officially open in summer 2023.

CBC News looked at healthcare shortages in Alberta's eight Métis settlements. All of them are in need of full-time doctors. Unlike many First Nations communities, which can receive federal funding to support healthcare programs, healthcare in Métis settlements falls exclusively under provincial jurisdiction.

Intergovernmental Relations

The Alberta Mid-Sized Cities Mayors' Caucus (MCMC) is calling on provincial party leaders to commit to developing a framework that ensures mid-sized communities can build meaningful partnerships with the provincial government. Sylvan Lake Mayor Megan Hanson told the local press that being part of the MCMC helps elevate her community's voice.

The Town of Olds is backing a volunteer group that hopes to revive the health professionals attraction and retention committee to tackle the significant shortage of doctors in town.

Municipal Governance

Athabasca town council heard an appeal from Coun. Ida Edwards for the municipality not to sell an historic home. The property was formerly owned by Dr. Josephine Brown, a beloved leader in the local medical community who left her home to the town after she passed away in 2010.

Chestermere Mayor Jeff Colvin, in a lengthy video posted to the city's YouTube channel on March 25, responded to the findings of the investigation into the city's governance contained in a report by inspector George Cuff. The mayor called the report a "fictional document" and a "complete distortion of the facts" and accused Cuff of relying on "hearsay conversations." He also said the 12 directives issued by Municipal Affairs Minister Rebecca Schulz are "for the most part" what the city has already been doing.

Kim Wallace, the City of Chestermere's director of corporate services, issued a statement saying her lawyer has issued a plea of not guilty to charges of assaulting another staff member on Jan. 26, an incident that led to an RCMP investigation. On Feb. 2, The Calgary Herald wrote that "circumstances surrounding the incident are unclear, but city hall sources claim Wallace put her hands on an employee during a loud, verbal disagreement." Wallace will appear in court on April 4.

The City of Edmonton spent \$70,000 in 2022 to make and promote a five-episode podcast about zoning called Making Space to coincide with the Zoning Bylaw Renewal Initiative and the District Planning project. According to Postmedia, each episode was downloaded an average of 1,000 times.

The City of Grande Prairie is hosting a pair of surveys intended to help develop the city's brand and a "shared and consistent narrative." The surveys, which relate to community, business, and travel in Grande Prairie, will close on April 9.

Medicine Hat is in the process of agreeing on a new contract with the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), Local No. 46, which represents most unionized city workers. Workers voted on the agreement on March 27, with the results forthcoming. Council will consider the matter on April 3.

Nanton town council has extended Coun. Kevin Todd's leave of absence as he campaigns for the upcoming provincial election. Todd originally went on leave to pursue a UCP nomination but is now the Alberta Party's candidate for Livingstone-Macleod.

Redcliff's CAO Phyllis Forsyth was put on leave pending the outcome of an investigation by a human resources consultant. Shanon Simon, current legislative and development manager, will take over as acting town manager.

Safe & Healthy Communities

CBC News looked at the City of Calgary's emergency response plans in relation to dangerous goods. A spokesperson said a "major rail incident is rare" but the city has an emergency response plan specific to freight rail corridors. The Calgary Fire Department implements training that meets the standards set by the National Fire Protection Association related to hazardous materials, said Deputy Fire Chief Pete Steenaerts.

The Fort Saskatchewan fire services master plan has been released, offering 27 recommendations to improve service, including the need for a second fire hall. Council is now going through the report to decide whether to accept its recommendations.

Spruce Grove is working to relocate its Community Hub, the city's first-ever initiative to provide services to unsheltered people. The city is also looking to integrate the hub with the Late Night Cafe, which is hosted by the Congregational Christian Fellowship Church, and it intends to pursue funding for supportive and subsidized housing.

St. Albert city council has approved a temporary extension of the city's current contract with Alberta Health Services to provide emergency medical and fire services to allow for more time to negotiate a new agreement.

Sturgeon County has become the first municipality in central Alberta to contribute more than \$500,000 to STARS Air Ambulance.

Wainwright residents raised \$2.2 million to buy a new computed tomography (CT) scanner service for the Wainwright Health Centre, the primary care centre in the region for people who have had strokes.

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