

**Agenda for the
Regular Meeting of the Vauxhall Town Council
Tuesday February 18, 2025
6:00p.m. – Vauxhall Council Chambers**

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Action</u>
1. Call to Order	
2. Adoption of Agenda	For Adoption
3. Delegations a.) R.C.M.P	Receive as Information
4. Minutes Council Minutes a.) Regular Meeting of Council February 3, 2025 b.) Special Meeting of Council February 10, 2025	For Adoption For Adoption
External Minutes c.) Vauxhall Regional Fire Authority October 30, 2024 d.) Vauxhall and District Regional Water Service Commission October 7, 2024 e.) FCSS Board Meeting December 4, 2024	Receive all for Information
5. Bylaw (s) a.) Bylaw No. 1006-25 – Land Use Bylaw	1 st Reading
6. Financials a.) AMSC Mastercard as of February 4, 2025 b.) Cheque Listing for the month of January 31, 2025 c.) Capital Budget 2025 – 2029	Receive all for Information
7. New Business a.) Public Hearing – Land Use Amendment Bylaw b.) Information – Register to Vote c.) FCSS – Save The Date, All Councils Event d.) Taber Concludes Alberta Avantage Immigration Program	For Adoption Receive all as Information
8. Reports a.) Action List i.) Action List in Progress 2025 b.) Upcoming Events and Meetings	Receive all for Information
9. Information and Correspondence a.) Letter from Martin Shields b.) ORRSC Periodical – Exemptions in Planning c.) VDCC Bi-Weekly Newsletter February 7, 2025	Receive all for Information
10. Closed Session Pursuant to Section 197(2) of the Municipal Government Act and Section 17 and 24 of Division 2 of Part 1 of FOIPP – Disclosure Harmful to personal Privacy and Advice from Officials – Support Letter	
11. Closed Session Pursuant to Section 197(2) of the Municipal Government Act and Section 16 of Division 2 of Part 1 of FOIPP – Disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party (16) and 24 Advice from Officials (21) Contract	
12. Adjournment	

Taber RCMP



Town of Vauxhall

MONTHLY REPORT

JANUARY 2025

**JURISDICTIONS OF TABER VAUXHALL RCMP-GRC
TABER MD, BARNWELL, VAUXHALL**

MD OF TABER - JANUARY 2025	
RCMP CALLS FOR SERVICE	
MD of Taber	82
Barnwell	5
Vauxhall	24
TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE	111
Impaired Driving, 24 & 30 DAY SUSPENSIONS, IMMEDIATE ROADSIDE SUSPENSIONS	
MD of Taber	0
Barnwell	0
Vauxhall	0
TOTAL IMPAIRED/SUSPENSIONS	0
CRIMINAL CODE VIOLATIONS (reported/cleared, insufficient or unfounded)	
MD of Taber	7
Barnwell	3
Vauxhall	5
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE VIOLATIONS	15
NON-CRIMINAL	
911 Hangups in MD of Taber	8
Barnwell	1
Vauxhall	9
TOTAL 911 HANG UPS	18
Criminal Record Checks for Detachment Area	28
General Public Fingerprints for Detachment Area	7

MD OF TABER PATROLS	
Barnwell	29
Vauxhall	36
HAMLETS	#
Enchant	11
Grassy Lake	23
Hays	11
TOTAL HAMLET PATROLS	45
PARKS /CAMPGROUNDS	
MD Park	0
Forks	0
Enchant	0
Chin	0
Hays	0
Grassy Lake	0
TOTAL PARK / CAMPGROUND PATROLS	0
TOTAL PATROLS in MD of Taber	110
VIOLATION TICKETS	
MD of Taber	6
Barnwell	0
Vauxhall	0
VIOLATION TICKETS WRITTEN BY TABER RCMP	9
ITU (Lethbridge/Redcliff/Brooks) VIOLATION TICKETS	5
TOTAL VIOLATION TICKETS	14



Taber Provincial Crime Gauge

2025 vs. 2024
January to January

Criminal Code Offences



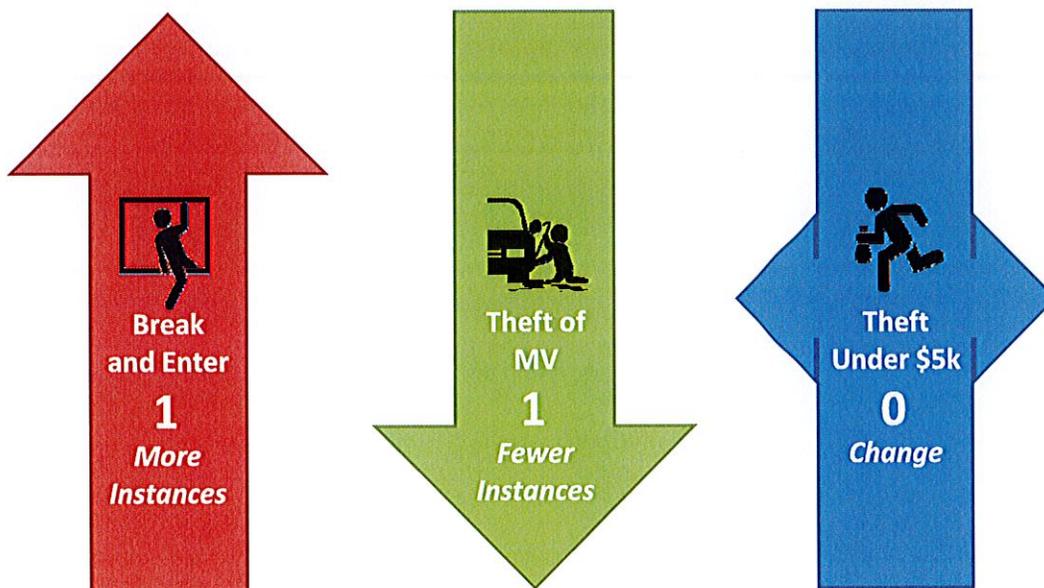
**Total
Criminal Code
Offences:**

5

More

When compared to
January to January, 2024

Select Property Crime



The data contained in this document was obtained from PROS, which is a live database. As such, some of the information presented could differ slightly from any past or future reports regarding the same time period.

Detachment Commander's Comments

- The Detachment laid charges in two criminal investigations during the month of January.
- There were no complaints of domestic violence made to the Detachment in January.
- On January 22 Sgt. Gemmill attended the Enchant School to participate in the Mystery Reader program by reading a book to the grade two class. Sgt. Gemmill also provided the students a tour of the Police Vehicle.



Taber (Provincial) Crime Statistic Summary – January to January

2025/02/05

Taber (Provincial) – Highlights

- **#VALUE!**
- **Theft of Motor Vehicles** decreased by 33.3% when compared to the same period in 2024 (January to January). There were 1 fewer actual occurrences (from 3 in 2024 to 2 in 2025).
- **Theft Under \$5,000** decreased by 0.0% when compared to the same period in 2024 (January to January). There were 0 fewer actual occurrences (from 2 in 2024 to 2 in 2025).

Taber (Provincial) – Criminal Code Offences Summary

Crime Category	% Change 2024 – 2025 (January to January)
Total Persons Crime	100.0% Increase
Total Property Crime	50.0% Increase
Total Criminal Code	41.7% Increase

From January to January 2025, when compared to the same period in 2024, there have been:

- 2 more **Persons Crime** offences;
- 4 more **Property Crime** offences; and
- 5 more **Total Criminal Code** offences;

Taber (Provincial) – January, 2025

- There were 2 **Thefts of Motor Vehicles** in January: 0 cars, 0 trucks, 0 minivans, 1 SUVs, 0 motorcycles, 1 other types of vehicles, and 0 vehicles taken without consent.
- There were 1 **Break and Enters** in January: 1 businesses, 0 residences, 0 cottages/seasonal residences, 0 in some other type of location, and 0 unlawfully being in a dwelling house.
- There were a total of 0 **Provincial Roadside Suspensions** in January (0 alcohol related and 0 drug related). This brings the year-to-date total to 0 (0 alcohol related and 0 drug related).
- There were a total of 0 files with the **Spousal Abuse** survey code in January (January 2024: 2). This brings the year-to-date total to 0 (2024: 2).
- There were 102 files with **Victim Service Unit** referral scoring in Taber Provincial: 1 accepted, 2 declined, 1 proactive, 0 requested but not available, and 98 files with no victim.



Taber Provincial Detachment Crime Statistics (Actual) January to January: 2021 - 2025

All categories contain "Attempted" and/or "Completed"

February 5, 2025

CATEGORY	Trend	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	% Change 2021 - 2025	% Change 2024 - 2025	Avg File +/- per Year
Offences Related to Death		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Robbery		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Sexual Assaults		0	0	1	2	0	N/A	-100%	0.2
Other Sexual Offences		0	0	0	0	3	N/A	N/A	0.6
Assault		2	1	5	0	1	-50%	N/A	-0.3
Kidnapping/Hostage/Abduction		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Extortion		0	1	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	-0.1
Criminal Harassment		1	0	0	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.2
Uttering Threats		1	0	0	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.2
TOTAL PERSONS		4	2	6	2	4	0%	100%	0.0
Break & Enter		4	1	0	0	1	-75%	N/A	-0.7
Theft of Motor Vehicle		1	2	0	3	2	100%	-33%	0.3
Theft Over \$5,000		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Theft Under \$5,000		5	2	2	2	2	-60%	0%	-0.6
Possn Stn Goods		5	1	0	0	1	-80%	N/A	-0.9
Fraud		0	3	2	3	2	N/A	-33%	0.4
Arson		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Mischief - Damage To Property		3	1	1	0	2	-33%	N/A	-0.3
Mischief - Other		0	1	0	0	2	N/A	N/A	0.3
TOTAL PROPERTY		18	11	5	8	12	-33%	50%	-1.5
Offensive Weapons		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Disturbing the peace		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Fail to Comply & Breaches		2	0	0	2	0	-100%	-100%	-0.2
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		0	1	1	0	1	N/A	N/A	0.1
TOTAL OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		2	1	1	2	1	-50%	-50%	-0.1
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE		24	14	12	12	17	-29%	42%	-1.6



Taber Provincial Detachment

Crime Statistics (Actual)

January to January: 2021 - 2025

All categories contain "Attempted" and/or "Completed"

February 5, 2025

CATEGORY	Trend	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	% Change 2021 - 2025	% Change 2024 - 2025	Avg File +/- per Year
Drug Enforcement - Production		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Drug Enforcement - Possession		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Drug Enforcement - Trafficking		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Drug Enforcement - Other		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Total Drugs		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Cannabis Enforcement		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Federal - General		1	0	0	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.2
TOTAL FEDERAL		1	0	0	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.2
Liquor Act		0	0	1	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Cannabis Act		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Mental Health Act		2	3	4	0	4	100%	N/A	0.1
Other Provincial Stats		17	1	1	1	3	-82%	200%	-2.8
Total Provincial Stats		19	4	6	1	7	-63%	600%	-2.7
Municipal By-laws Traffic		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Municipal By-laws		5	3	1	0	1	-80%	N/A	-1.1
Total Municipal		5	3	1	0	1	-80%	N/A	-1.1
Fatals		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Injury MVC		0	0	0	1	4	N/A	300%	0.9
Property Damage MVC (Reportable)		14	7	14	13	8	-43%	-38%	-0.6
Property Damage MVC (Non Reportable)		1	5	0	2	1	0%	-50%	-0.3
TOTAL MVC		15	12	14	16	13	-13%	-19%	0.0
Roadside Suspension - Alcohol (Prov)		2	0	0	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.4
Roadside Suspension - Drugs (Prov)		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Total Provincial Traffic		76	49	59	19	31	-59%	63%	-12.0
Other Traffic		1	0	1	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.2
Criminal Code Traffic		6	1	0	1	0	-100%	-100%	-1.2
Common Police Activities									
False Alarms		0	1	0	3	0	N/A	-100%	0.2
False/Abandoned 911 Call and 911 Act		5	1	10	1	0	-100%	-100%	-1.0
Suspicious Person/Vehicle/Property		2	0	3	4	5	150%	25%	1.0
Persons Reported Missing		0	0	1	1	0	N/A	-100%	0.1
Search Warrants		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Spousal Abuse - Survey Code (Reported)		1	0	2	2	0	-100%	-100%	0.0
Form 10 (MHA) (Reported)		0	0	1	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0



Taber Provincial Detachment Crime Statistics (Actual) January: 2021 - 2025

All categories contain "Attempted" and/or "Completed"

February 5, 2025

CATEGORY	Trend	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	% Change 2021 - 2025	% Change 2024 - 2025	Avg File +/- per Year
Offences Related to Death		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Robbery		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Sexual Assaults		0	0	1	2	0	N/A	-100%	0.2
Other Sexual Offences		0	0	0	0	3	N/A	N/A	0.6
Assault		2	1	5	0	1	-50%	N/A	-0.3
Kidnapping/Hostage/Abduction		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Extortion		0	1	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	-0.1
Criminal Harassment		1	0	0	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.2
Uttering Threats		1	0	0	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.2
TOTAL PERSONS		4	2	6	2	4	0%	100%	0.0
Break & Enter		4	1	0	0	1	-75%	N/A	-0.7
Theft of Motor Vehicle		1	2	0	3	2	100%	-33%	0.3
Theft Over \$5,000		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Theft Under \$5,000		5	2	2	2	2	-60%	0%	-0.6
Possn Stn Goods		5	1	0	0	1	-80%	N/A	-0.9
Fraud		0	3	2	3	2	N/A	-33%	0.4
Arson		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Mischief - Damage To Property		3	1	1	0	2	-33%	N/A	-0.3
Mischief - Other		0	1	0	0	2	N/A	N/A	0.3
TOTAL PROPERTY		18	11	5	8	12	-33%	50%	-1.5
Offensive Weapons		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Disturbing the peace		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Fail to Comply & Breaches		2	0	0	2	0	-100%	-100%	-0.2
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		0	1	1	0	1	N/A	N/A	0.1
TOTAL OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		2	1	1	2	1	-50%	-50%	-0.1
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE		24	14	12	12	17	-29%	42%	-1.6



Taber Provincial Detachment

Crime Statistics (Actual)

January: 2021 - 2025

All categories contain "Attempted" and/or "Completed"

February 5, 2025

CATEGORY	Trend	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	% Change 2021 - 2025	% Change 2024 - 2025	Avg File +/- per Year
Drug Enforcement - Production		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Drug Enforcement - Possession		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Drug Enforcement - Trafficking		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Drug Enforcement - Other		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Total Drugs		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Cannabis Enforcement		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Federal - General		1	0	0	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.2
TOTAL FEDERAL		1	0	0	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.2
Liquor Act		0	0	1	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Cannabis Act		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Mental Health Act		2	3	4	0	4	100%	N/A	0.1
Other Provincial Stats		17	1	1	1	3	-82%	200%	-2.8
Total Provincial Stats		19	4	6	1	7	-63%	600%	-2.7
Municipal By-laws Traffic		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Municipal By-laws		5	3	1	0	1	-80%	N/A	-1.1
Total Municipal		5	3	1	0	1	-80%	N/A	-1.1
Fatals		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Injury MVC		0	0	0	1	4	N/A	300%	0.9
Property Damage MVC (Reportable)		14	7	14	13	8	-43%	-38%	-0.6
Property Damage MVC (Non Reportable)		1	5	0	2	1	0%	-50%	-0.3
TOTAL MVC		15	12	14	16	13	-13%	-19%	0.0
Roadside Suspension - Alcohol (Prov)		2	0	0	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.4
Roadside Suspension - Drugs (Prov)		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Total Provincial Traffic		76	49	59	19	31	-59%	63%	-12.0
Other Traffic		1	0	1	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.2
Criminal Code Traffic		6	1	0	1	0	-100%	-100%	-1.2
Common Police Activities									
False Alarms		0	1	0	3	0	N/A	-100%	0.2
False/Abandoned 911 Call and 911 Act		5	1	10	1	0	-100%	-100%	-1.0
Suspicious Person/Vehicle/Property		2	0	3	4	5	150%	25%	1.0
Persons Reported Missing		0	0	1	1	0	N/A	-100%	0.1
Search Warrants		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Spousal Abuse - Survey Code (Reported)		1	0	2	2	0	-100%	-100%	0.0
Form 10 (MHA) (Reported)		0	0	1	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0

**Town of Vauxhall - Taber Detachment
Crime Statistics (Actual)
January: 2022 - 2025**

All categories contain "Attempted" and/or "Completed"

February 5, 2025

CATEGORY	Trend	2022	2023	2024	2025	% Change 2022 - 2025	% Change 2024 - 2025	Avg File +/- per Year
Offences Related to Death		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Robbery		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Sexual Assaults		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Other Sexual Offences		0	0	0	2	N/A	N/A	0.6
Assault		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Kidnapping/Hostage/Abduction		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Extortion		1	0	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.3
Criminal Harassment		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Uttering Threats		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
TOTAL PERSONS		1	0	0	2	100%	N/A	0.3
Break & Enter		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Theft of Motor Vehicle		0	0	0	1	N/A	N/A	0.3
Theft Over \$5,000		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Theft Under \$5,000		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Possn Stn Goods		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Fraud		0	1	2	0	N/A	-100%	0.1
Arson		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Mischief - Damage To Property		1	0	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.3
Mischief - Other		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
TOTAL PROPERTY		1	1	2	1	0%	-50%	0.1
Offensive Weapons		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Disturbing the peace		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Fail to Comply & Breaches		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		0	0	0	1	N/A	N/A	0.3
TOTAL OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		0	0	0	1	N/A	N/A	0.3
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE		2	1	2	4	100%	100%	0.7

Town of Vauxhall - Taber Detachment
Crime Statistics (Actual)
January: 2022 - 2025

All categories contain "Attempted" and/or "Completed"

February 5, 2025

CATEGORY	Trend	2022	2023	2024	2025	% Change 2022 - 2025	% Change 2024 - 2025	Avg File +/- per Year
Drug Enforcement - Production		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Drug Enforcement - Possession		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Drug Enforcement - Trafficking		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Drug Enforcement - Other		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Total Drugs		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Cannabis Enforcement		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Federal - General		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
TOTAL FEDERAL		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Liquor Act		N/A	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Cannabis Act		N/A	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Mental Health Act		N/A	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	-0.4
Other Provincial Stats		N/A	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Total Provincial Stats		N/A	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	-0.4
Municipal By-laws Traffic		N/A	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Municipal By-laws		N/A	N/A	0	1	N/A	N/A	0.3
Total Municipal		N/A	N/A	0	1	N/A	N/A	0.3
Fatals		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Injury MVC		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Property Damage MVC (Reportable)		N/A	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Property Damage MVC (Non Reportable)		N/A	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
TOTAL MVC		N/A	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Roadside Suspension - Alcohol (Prov)		N/A	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Roadside Suspension - Drugs (Prov)		N/A	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Total Provincial Traffic		N/A	N/A	2	2	N/A	0%	0.8
Other Traffic		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Criminal Code Traffic		0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Common Police Activities								
False Alarms		N/A	N/A	2	0	N/A	-100%	0.2
False/Abandoned 911 Call and 911 Act		N/A	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Suspicious Person/Vehicle/Property		N/A	N/A	2	1	N/A	-50%	0.5
Persons Reported Missing		N/A	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Search Warrants		N/A	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Spousal Abuse - Survey Code (Reported)		N/A	N/A	1	0	N/A	-100%	-1.0
Form 10 (MHA) (Reported)		N/A	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0

A regular meeting of Council of the Town of Vauxhall, was held in
Council Chambers
on Monday February 3, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT

MAYOR: Kimberley Cawley

DEPUTY MAYOR: Marilyn Forchuk

COUNCILLORS: Shelley Deleeuw
Kimberly Dorin
Russell Norris
Henry Zacharias

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT:

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

CALL TO ORDER:

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

Adoption of
Agenda

RES: 25:36

MOVED by Councillor Norris to adopt the agenda as amended.

CARRIED

Additions: 10c) Foster Children

Councillor Dorin arrives in Council Chambers at 6:02 p.m.

Rescind Resolution 25:14

RES: 25:37

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Forchuk to rescind Resolution 25:14 Bylaw 1001-24 a bylaw to establish a Code of Conduct for Members of Council, be given a third (3rd) and final reading as amended.

CARRIED

Minutes

RES: 25:38

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

- Regular Meeting of Council January 20, 2025

CARRIED

External Minutes

RES: 25:39

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Forchuk to accept the following minutes as information

- OldMan River Services Commission November 14, 2024

CARRIED

Christmas Bonus Policy

RES: 25:40 **MOVED** by Deputy Mayor Forchuk to adopt the Christmas Bonus Policy 050-2025 as amended.
CARRIED

Bylaw 1004-25
Chief Administrative
Officer

RES: 25:41 **MOVED** by Councillor Zacharias that Bylaw 1004-25 a bylaw of the Town of Vauxhall in the Province of Alberta to establish the position of Chief Administrative Officer, be given second (2nd) reading as presented.
CARRIED

Bylaw 1004-25
Chief Administrative
Officer

RES: 25:42 **MOVED** by Councillor Norris that Bylaw 1004-25 a bylaw of the Town of Vauxhall in the Province of Alberta to establish the position of Chief Administrative Officer, be given third (3rd) and final reading as presented.
CARRIED

Appointment
Library Board Member

RES: 25:43 **MOVED** by Deputy Mayor Forchuk to appoint Lucille Norris to serve as a member on the Vauxhall Library Board till January 23, 2028
CARRIED

Budget Request
Sanitary/Treatment Equipment
Purchase

RES: 25:44 **MOVED** by Deputy Mayor Forchuk approves the purchase of a pickup truck for \$60,000.00 and gravel truck \$175,000.00 based on the approved 2025 Capital Spending Plan.
CARRIED

Deputy Mayor Forchuk – in favor
Councillor Norris – in favor
Councillor Zacharias – in favor
Councillor Dorin – opposed
Councillor Deleeuw – opposed

Reports

RES: 25:45 **MOVED** by Councillor Zacharias to accept the following as information.

- Councillor Activity Report – November 2024 to January 2025
- Action List January 2025
- Action List In Progress 2025
- Upcoming Events and Meetings

CARRIED

Information and
Correspondence

RES: 25:46

MOVED by Councillor Norris to accept the following as information.

- FCSS – Cheers to Volunteers Awards
- Policy No. 032-2018 Asset Management Policy – Review
- Closer to Home Community Services

CARRIED

Closed Meeting

RES: 25:47

MOVED by Councillor Dorin that council move to closed session to discuss:

- Section 197(2) of the Municipal Government Act and Section 16 of Division 2 of Part 1 of FOIPP – Disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party (16) and 24 Advice from Officials (21) – Vauxhall Recreation Facilities.

Closed Meeting

RES: 25:48

MOVED by Councillor Deleeuw that council return to open meeting at 8:44 p.m.

CARRIED

8:44 p.m. Meeting recessed to allow return of public.

8:47 p.m. Meeting resumed with no public present.

RES: 25:49

MOVED by Councilor Deleeuw to approve Administration to engage Progressive West Consulting on a Brownfield Project located at Plan 760CM, Block 16, Lots 2-5.

CARRIED

RES: 25:50

MOVED by Councilor Dorin to approve the Ice Surface Slab Replacement projection for \$1,836,800 and close the public survey.

CARRIED

RES: 25:51

MOVED by Councilor Norris to approve Administration to draft a letter addressing the additional information request from the MD of Taber Council stated in the letter dated November 20, 2024. Vauxhall Town Council also requests a matching financial support of \$700,000 for the Ice Surface Slab Replacement project.

CARRIED

Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

MAYOR

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

A special meeting of the Council of the Town of Vauxhall, was held in
Council Chambers
on Monday February 10, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT

MAYOR: Kimberley Cawley

DEPUTY MAYOR: Marilyn Forchuk

COUNCILLORS: Shelley Deleeuw
Kimberley Dorin
Russell Norris

ABSENT:
COUNCILLOR: Henry Zacharias

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

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Cawley called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Closed Meeting

RES: 25:52

MOVED Councillor Dorin that council move to closed session to discuss Section 197(2) of the Municipal Government Act and Section 16 of Division 2 of Part 1 of FOIPP - 24 Advice from Officials (21) – Tendering of Equipment - Section 197(2) of the Municipal Government Act and Section 17 and 24 of Division 2 of Part 1 of FOIPP – Disclosure harmful to personal privacy and Advice form Officials – FCSS Awareness Study at 6:04 p.m.

Open Meeting

RES: 25:53

MOVED by Councillor Deleeuw that council return to open meeting at 7:33 p.m.

CARRIED

7:34 p.m. Meeting recessed to allow return of public.

7:35 p.m. Meeting resumed with no public present.

Tendering of Equipment

RES: 25:54

MOVED by Councillor Deleeuw approves selling items at Auction and as well as tender equipment And use the funds for purchase of a replacement 3-point hitch mower RCR2596 96" for \$11,750.00 as presented.

Auction Items

- 2010 Dodge Ram 1500 2wd 5.71
- 2012 Dodge Ram 1500 4x4 4.71
- Squealer Bush Hog 3-point mower
- Beco 3-point hitch Flail mower
- Carraro 3-point hitch rototiller

Public Tender

2002 Polaris Sportsman 700 ATV (quad) (reserve \$2500.00)

CARRIED

Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

MAYOR

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Unapproved

Municipal District of Taber

Meeting Minutes

Vauxhall Regional Fire Authority October 30, 2024 - 07:00 PM

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Vauxhall Regional Fire Authority, held in the Vauxhall Fire Hall, on Wednesday, October 30, 2024.

Present	Murray Reynolds	MD of Taber Councillor (Chair)
	Chantel Claassen	MD of Taber Councillor
	Henry Zacharias	Town of Vauxhall Councillor (Vice Chair)
	Marilyn Forchuk	Town of Vauxhall Councillor
	Arlos Crofts	MD of Taber CAO
	Cris Burns	Town of Vauxhall CAO
	Nathan Cote	MD of Taber Regional Fire Chief
	Bryce Surina	MD of Taber Community Services Director
	John Martens	MD of Taber District Chief

Absent

	Brandon Bougie	MD of Taber Regional Deputy Fire Chief
--	----------------	--

1 **Call To Order**
 Chairman Murray Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Resolution No: 2 **Acceptance of Agenda**
 VRFA-2024-21 Moved by: Councilor Marilyn Forchuk
 That; the agenda be accepted as presented.
 Carried

Resolution No: 3 **Adoption of Minutes**
 VRFA-2024-22 Moved by: Councilor Marilyn Forchuk
 That the minutes of the regular meeting of the Vauxhall Regional Fire Authority held on July 10, 2024 be approved as presented
 Carried

4 **New Business**

Resolution No: 4.1 **VRFA Report**
 VRFA-2024-23 Moved by: Councillor Chantel Claassen
 That; the VRFA Report and additional discussion be accepted for information.
 Carried

Resolution No: 4.2 **Financial Report**
 VRFA-2024-24

Moved by: Vice Chair Henry Zacharias
That; the Financial Report be accepted for information.
Carried

5 Other Business

6 Next Meeting Date

6.1 January 8, 2025 19:00 Vauxhall Fire Station

Resolution No: VRFA-2024-25 7 Adjournment

Moved by: Councilor Chantel Claassen
That the meeting adjourn at 7:43 p.m.
Carried

Chairman

Manager



Report for Council

MD of Taber Regional Fire Services Report For RFA Meeting of January 8, 2025

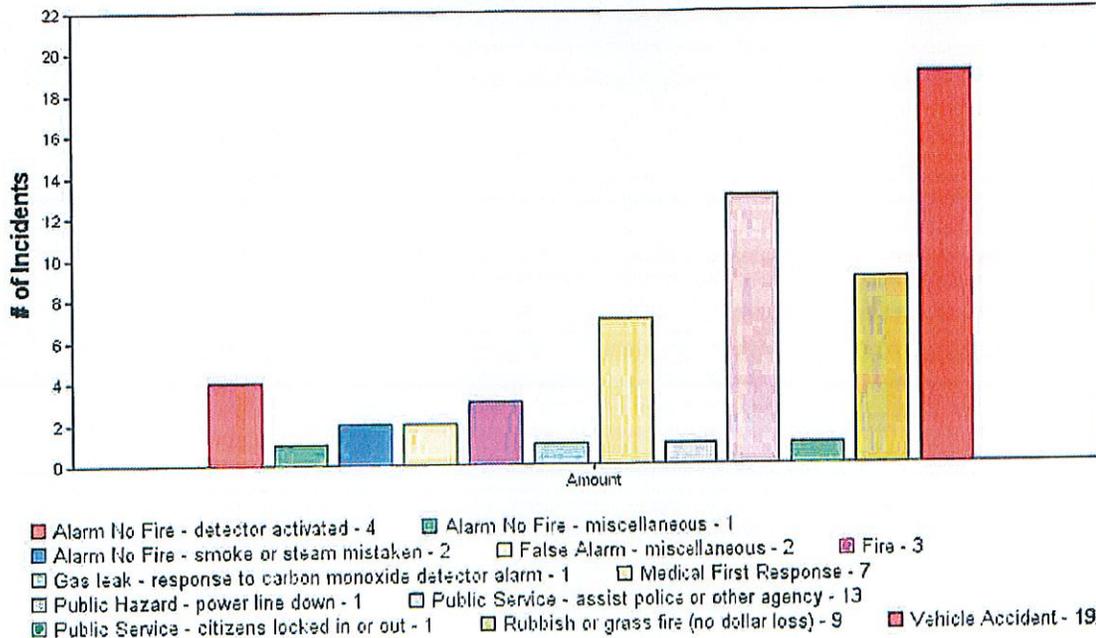
Items of Note

- As we come the end of the first year providing the Medical First Response program, we can report that Station 5 Vauxhall attended 7 MFR calls in 2024. There have been no reported issues or challenges with these calls. We continue our training program ensuring confidence in member response.
- The Regional Fire Chief has been working on a new updated fire bylaw. Once the Bylaw is completed and approved it will be shared for your review and consideration of approval within your jurisdiction. It will be going to Council in January.
- An NFPA 1001 Level 1 course began in October. We began the course with 18 students, 3 of which are from Station 5. We have lost one of these members from Station 5, therefore he will not be completing the training.
- DC Bougie and I have become certified Saint Johns Ambulance First Aid Instructors. The MD of Taber has purchased the manikins and equipment to be able to provide the training.
- December 18, 2024 the Regional Fire Chief attended a meeting with Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation to discuss the Springbank Off-stream Reservoir. The meeting was an introduction as well to discuss the potential of flooding should the new dams fail upstream.
- The Regional Emergency Management Plan Update Project is well underway. Our consultant, Trace Associates, has been working on documentation review and evaluation. They have also conducted some



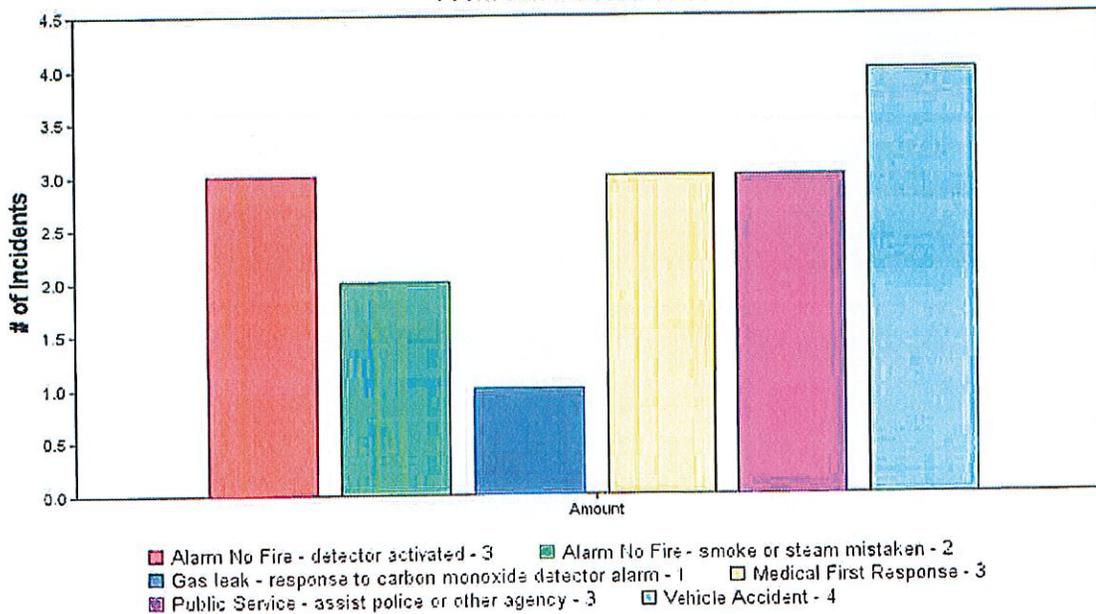
Report for Council

Totals by Type
From Jan 1 24 to Dec 31 24



Town of Vauxhall

Totals by Type
From Jan 1 24 to Dec 31 24



Municipal District of Taber Meeting Minutes

Vauxhall and District Regional Water Services Commission Meeting October 7, 2024 - 03:30 PM

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Vauxhall and District Regional Water Services Commission on Monday, October 7, 2024.

Present	John DeGroot	Municipal District of Taber
	Murray Reynolds	Municipal District of Taber
	Russell Norris (arrived at 3:37pm)	Town of Vauxhall
	Richard Phillips (Chair)	Town of Vauxhall
	Corey Greene	Municipal District of Taber
	Mike Passey	Municipal District of Taber
	Ginger Rose	Municipal District of Taber
	Cris Burns	Town of Vauxhall

1 Call To Order

Chair Richard Phillips called the meeting to order at 3:31pm.

Resolution No: VW-2024-31 2 Acceptance of Agenda

Moved by: Murray Reynolds
That; the Agenda be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

3 Adoption of Minutes

Resolution No: VW-2024-32 3.1 July 25, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Moved by: John DeGroot
That; the July 25, 2024 Meeting Minutes be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

Resolution No: VW-2024-33 3.2 August 26, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Moved by: Murray Reynolds
That; the August 26, 2024 Meeting Minutes be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

- 4 **Accounts for Payment**
- Resolution No:** 5 **Balance Sheet**
 VW-2024-34 Moved by: Murray Reynolds
 That; the Balance Sheet be accepted as presented.
 CARRIED
- Resolution No:** 6 **Profit & Loss Statement**
 VW-2024-35 Moved by: John DeGroot
 That; the Profit and Loss Statement be accepted as presented.
 CARRIED
- Resolution No:** 7 **Operations Report**
 VW-2024-36 Moved by: Murray Reynolds
 That; the Operations Report be accepted as presented.
 CARRIED
- 8 **Other Business**
- Resolution No:** 8.1 **V&DRWSC Proposed 2025 Operating Budget**
 VW-2024-37 Moved by: Russel Norris
 That; the Vauxhall & District Regional Water Services
 Commission 2025 budget and three-year operating plan be
 adopted as presented.
 CARRIED
- 9 **Next Meeting Date**
 The next meeting will be January 6, 2024 at 3:30pm.
- 10 **Adjournment**
 Chair Richard Phillips adjourned the meeting at 4:21pm.

QUARTERLY REPORT

DATE: Feb 10, 2025

Vauxhall

UPDATES:

- Nov 11, 2024, a contractor hit the 12" transmission line. The flow leaving the plant was 260 L/sec. Isolated the break, contacted Alberta Environment, PGP and Corey Greene. This contravention lasted from Nov 11-17, 2024.
- TCA was onsite to repair the major leak on Skid C.
- Opened the PGP raw water valve to feed the raw reservoirs at the plant.
- Replaced the gasket on DAF 2 handvalve.
- Flushed the coagulant system because it didn't dose for 24 hrs.
- Sent raw water samples to Caro Analytical Services.
- Gasonic onsite for the re-certification of the Cl₂ and CO₂ alarm systems.
- Water pooling around flushpoint #2. When exposed could not find leak.
- Hach technician onsite for annual maintenance & certification on analyzers.
- Experiencing higher manganese levels.
- Taste and odour issue. Increased PAC (powder activated carbon) dosage.
- Sent raw water samples to Caro.
- Sent Geosmin/MIB samples to SGS Canada to be analyzed for levels.
- Sent bi-annual potable water samples to Caro.

CHALLENGES:

- Personnel / HR:
 -
- Equipment:
 - Internet was changed to Live Wire and seems to be working much better.
- Other:
 -

SAFETY:

- One operator has renewed their H₂S certification.

**Barons-Eureka-Warner Family & Community Support Services (FCSS)
Minutes of Board Meeting – Wednesday, December 4, 2024
Coaldale HUB (2107-13th Street)
In-person and Online**

Attendance (in-person)

Board Members:

- Degenstein, Dave – Town of Milk River, Chair
- Chapman, Bill - Town of Coaldale, Vice-Chair
- Bekkering, Garth – Town of Taber
- Caldwell, Heather – Town of Coalhurst
- Doell, Daniel – Village of Barons
- Foster, Missy – Village of Barnwell
- Harris, Merrill – M.D. of Taber
- Heggie, Jack – County of Warner
- Jensen, Kelly – Town of Raymond
- Jensen, Melissa – Town of Nobleford
- Kirby, Martin – Village of Warner
- Nilsson, Larry – Village of Stirling
- Payne, Megan – Village of Coutts

Attendance (on-line)

- Feist, Teresa - Town of Picture Butte

Absent

- Deleeuw, Shelley – Town of Vauxhall
- Hickey, Lorne – Lethbridge County

Staff

- Morrison, Zakk – Executive Director
- Florence-Greene, Evelyn – Accounting Assistant
- Hashizume, Linda – Executive Assistant

Call to Order

D. Degenstein called the meeting to order at 4.05 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

M. Harris moved the Board approved the agenda as presented.

Carried Unanimously

Minutes

L. Nilsson moved the minutes of November 6, 2024, FCSS Board meeting be approved as presented.

Carried Unanimously

Business Arising from Minutes

Family and Community Support Services Association of Alberta (FCSSAA) Conference

M. Kirby, H. Caldwell, B. Chapman and D. Degenstein attended the 2024 FCSSAA Conference. Each Board member provided an update on the conference.

Z. Morrison shared that Kayla Blanchette was elected to the position of FCSSAA President.

Z. Morrison shared that Michelle McKenzie was re-elected as the South Region representative.

Correspondence

The following correspondence was presented for information:

- President Nominations Final 2024.
- FCSSAA Annual Report 2024.
- FCSSAA Board Meeting Highlights October 4, 2024.
- FCSSAA News - November 2024.

Board Appointment Confirmations received:

- 2024-10-23 Village of Stirling - Larry Nilsson.
- 2024-10-30 Town of Picture Butte - Teresa Feist.
- 2024-11-30 Town of Taber - Garth Bekkering.
- 2024-10-31 County of Warner - Jack Heggie.
- 2024-10-31 Town of Vauxhall - Shelley Deleeuw.
- 2024-10-31 Village of Coutts - Megan Payne.
- 2024-11-01 Town of Milk River - Dave Degenstein.
- 2024-11-01 Town of Nobleford - Melissa Jensen.
- 2024-11-01 Village of Barnwell - Missy Foster.
- 2024-11-06 Town of Coalhurst - Heather Caldwell.
- 2024-11-08 Town of Raymond - Kelly Jensen.
- 2024-11-21 Town of Coaldale - Bill Chapman.
- 2024-11-21 Village of Warner - Martin Kirby.

B. Chapman requested Z. Morrison ask the FCSSAA the process for choosing a parliamentarian for the FCSSAA AGM and report back to the Board in February.

M. Payne moved to receive the correspondence as presented for information.

Carried Unanimously

Handwritten signature and initials in blue ink, appearing to be 'JTB' and 'ZM'.

Reports

Executive Director

Z. Morrison reviewed the Executive Director's report.

The following was highlighted:

- FCSS Monthly Message – Self-Care Over the Holidays.
Visit: <https://fcss.ca/monthly-message/self-care-over-the-holidays/>

J. Heggie moved the Board to approve the Executive Director's Report as presented.

Carried Unanimously

Financial Report

Z. Morrison reviewed the Financial Report.

The Board discussed the Financial Report and monthly accounts.

B. Chapman moved the Board to approve the December 2024 Financial Report including:

- Financial statement for October 31, 2024;
- Monthly accounts for October 1-31, 2024;
- Mastercard statement for October 11 to November 13, 2024.

Carried Unanimously

New Business

Community Needs Assessment Update

The Board discussed the Community Needs Assessment project.

L. Nilsson strongly encouraged the Board to go back to their Councils and ask them to schedule interviews for the Community Needs Assessment.

M. Harris asked if the Taber Police Chief and local TCAPS could be involved in the assessment.

Z. Morrison responded that data collection includes other service providers across sectors of the communities, and will forward contact information for the Taber Police Chief and TCAPS.

M. Payne moved the Board to receive the Community Needs Assessment update for information.

Carried Unanimously



Interim Budget 2025

Z. Morrison presented the proposed interim budget for 2025.

The Board discussed the interim budget and no concerns were raised.

The Board discussed the 2025 Municipal Requisition rate.

All-Councils meeting 2025

The All-Councils event (BEW FCSS 55th Anniversary) was discussed.

B. Chapman offered the Town of Coaldale Facility with Country Kitchen as the Caterer.

J. Heggie moved the Board to host the All-Councils event in Coaldale on April 2, 2025, following the regular Board Meeting.

Carried Unanimously

Round Table:

The Board shared municipal updates.

Closed Session

B. Chapman moved the Board move in-camera, based on the Governance Policies Board Meeting in Absence of the Public, at 4:58 p.m.

Carried Unanimously

Evelyn Florence-Greene and Linda Hashizume left the meeting at 4:58 p.m.

T. Feist left the meeting at 5:03 p.m.

G. Bekkering moved the Board back to regular session at 5:11 p.m.

Carried Unanimously

H. Caldwell left the meeting at 5:11 p.m.

Evelyn Florence-Greene and Linda Hashizume entered back into the meeting at 5:11 p.m.

M. Harris moved the Board approve a 2% increase per capita for the 2025 Municipal requisition based on the population list as provided by the Municipalities.

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next regular Board meeting will be February 5, 2025, at the Coaldale Hub (2107-13th Street) in-person and online (via Teams) starting at 4:00 p.m.



Adjournment

J. Heggie moved the meeting adjourn at 5:24 p.m.

Carried Unanimously



Chairperson



Executive Director

05 FEB 25

Date

Feb 5 / 2025

Date



Town of Vauxhall Council Memo

76

Date: February 12, 2025
Proposed by: Administration
Topic **Information - Register to Vote**

Background:

Bill 20: Municipal Affairs Statue Amendment Act; amened the Local Authorities Election Act to include a requirement for municipalities to use the most current provincial register of electors from Elections Alberta. This required all municipalities to prepare a electors register of residents in the municipality who are eligible to vote.

We have posted a link on our website:

- To check if your registration is up to date.
- If your registration is out-of-date, or (for example, if you have recently moved or changed your name since you previously registered), you will need to re-register.
- If you have not registered before, you can register now.

Nomination day is **Monday, September 22, 2025**. A person may file a nomination to become a candidate for an Election, within the period beginning on January 1, 2025 and ending at 12 noon on nomination day in the Vauxhall Administrative Office located at 223-5th Street Vauxhall, AB during business hours Monday to Friday (except STAT holidays) 8:00am-12:00pm and 1:00pm-4:30pm

Election Day is **Monday, October 20th 2025** voting stations will open at 10AM and will remain open until 8:PM



7c
Celebrating
55 years of
FCSS

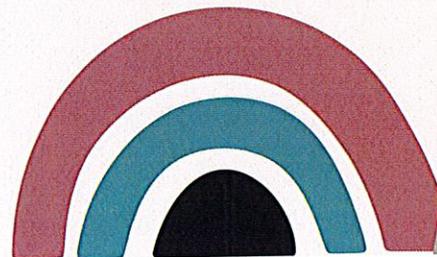
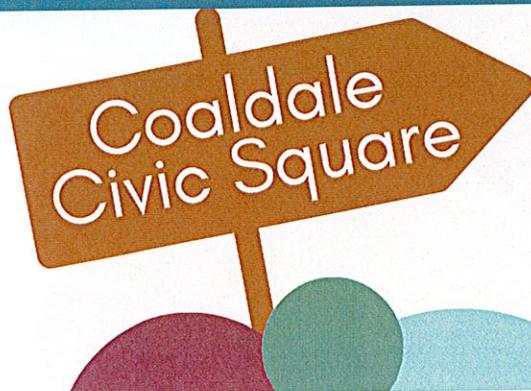
SAVE THE DATE

All Councils Event

Date: Wednesday, April 2, 2025

Time: 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Location: Coaldale Civic Square (1801 20th ave #200)





February 13, 2025

TABER CONCLUDES ALBERTA ADVANTAGE IMMIGRATION PROGRAM

TABER, AB – After two years of success, the Town of Taber is wrapping up our participation in the Alberta Advantage Immigration Program’s (AAIP) Rural Renewal Stream. This decision follows recent Federal and Provincial immigration policy changes that have lowered immigration allocation spaces throughout the province and aligns with the conclusion of the Settlement, Integration, and Language Projects (SILP) Grant funding that was due to end on March 31, 2025.

The initiative was first brought to the Town's attention by local businesses struggling to fill vacancies. After researching the program, Taber’s Economic Development Department brought it forward as a solution to assist local businesses in addressing their workforce shortages.

The Rural Renewal Program has played a vital role in supporting economic growth and workforce development across the region. Based on Taber’s success, we were also able to assist the Municipal District of Taber, Vauxhall, Coaldale, Lethbridge County, Picture Butte, Milk River, Raymond, Cardston, and Nobleford with their own AAIP programs, demonstrating the power of regional collaboration. Since its inception, 235 full-time jobs in the region have been filled through endorsed candidates, benefiting 88 local businesses.

“With provincial immigration allocations cut in half to 4,875 across all six AAIP streams and over 49,000 individuals already in the queue, this was a natural transition point for our participation,” said Amy Allred, Economic Development Manager. “The reduction in allocations presented increasing challenges for continuing the program, but we are incredibly proud of what we’ve achieved and grateful for the businesses and communities that helped make it a success.”

Throughout the program, SILP Grant funding enabled the employment of a dedicated coordinator and supported various employer training and community engagement initiatives. These included sessions on topics such as addressing racism in the workplace, cross-cultural team building, and inclusive hiring practices. Additionally, community engagement events helped connect service providers and stakeholders to better support newcomers and local businesses.

As the program winds down, Taber remains committed to ensuring a smooth transition for our candidates and our partner communities. Every qualified candidate who applied during the program’s pause will receive their Endorsement Letter before March 31. The Town of Taber looks forward to exploring new opportunities to support business growth, workforce development, and community stability.

“We welcome the many workers and families who have chosen our region as their new home,” added Allred. “Taber and our partner communities remain open for business and committed to fostering economic growth and prosperity for all.”

###

9a



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

Martin Shields

Member of Parliament
Bow River

Martin Shields Will Not Seek Re-Election for Member of Parliament in Next Federal Election

February 7, 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BROOKS, AB – “The Bow River Riding is a fantastic part of Canada. The beautiful Bow River divides the riding North from South. Bow River is home to nearly 120,000 residents in over sixty communities, big and small, stretching from the community of Linden in the North, Taber in the South, Tilley on the East, and Chestermere on the West. I have had the tremendous privilege of being the Member of Parliament for Bow River over the last decade. This is an opportunity that very few people have, and I am honoured to have received the overwhelming support and trust of Bow River constituents.

I will not be seeking re-election in the next federal election; it is time for a new representative to serve the interests and the people of this riding.

I would like to thank my family for their support and selfless sacrifices. They have been by my side to help with advice, attending events, driving, acting as photographer, parade team member, and my biggest cheerleaders. They deserve more thanks and recognition than I can give them, for their years of endless support and encouragement.

My staff team, both in the Riding and Ottawa, have been incredible. The support I have received from my team – through their assistance with information, scheduling, transportation, communication and attending events both with me and on my behalf – has been integral to my role as an elected representative. Without their dedication and hard work, I would not have been able to serve the Riding to the extent that I have. They are a phenomenal team that has made it possible for me to be a successful MP.

My local EDA Board has supported me throughout the years by keeping me informed about what is happening in their communities and attending events with me. I have been very fortunate to have had an extraordinary President of the Board during my terms as Member of Parliament, this relationship is invaluable.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

Martin Shields

Member of Parliament
Bow River

It has been an immense pleasure to work alongside my fellow Conservative MPs as we served as the official opposition, especially my Alberta colleagues. This country has bright Conservative leaders and I look forward to watching their success in the years to come.

I have had the opportunity to work together with the Members of the Alberta Legislature, with six MLAs representing distinct parts of the Bow River Riding, including the current Premier as the MLA who represents my home community of Brooks. It has been my pleasure to collaborate with them and serve our communities together.

There is a larger group of elected leaders in the Bow River riding that deserve recognition as fantastic community leaders. These are the Mayors, Reeves, Chief, and Council Members of the villages, towns, cities, counties, municipal districts and Nation. They are leaders of Democracy, residing closest to the people they represent. I have profound respect for them and have greatly valued our working relationships. It has been an extraordinary experience to interact with them in their communities and participate in many of their community events like council meetings, milestone celebrations, parades, fundraisers, rodeos or just dropping by for a visit.

The Bow River riding is home to many marvelous people, and it has been my true pleasure to have the opportunity to meet so many of them.

Thank you for the privilege of being your representative.”

Sincerely,

Martin Shields, MP
Bow River

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Exemptions in Planning

Federal and provincial jurisdiction is protected through legislative exemptions, sometimes leaving local approval processes on the sideline.

The paramountcy of the federal and provincial governments is well recognized by municipalities. In many cases, higher-order governments can undertake actions that are exempt from the municipal process applied to non-government proponents of the same activity. Crown entities also exist to deal with matters of a provincial or federal interest, despite that impacts are felt the most locally. Municipalities often retain some ability to influence higher-order processes, and need to understand the various exemptions and processes in order to best fulfill their mandate.

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Exemptions Context

Since municipal authority flows from provincial legislation, municipal powers cannot exceed those the province could validly delegate. Hence, any municipal action that conflicts with federal or provincial legislation will be ultra vires. These specific rules are classified as exemptions and can be found throughout many legislative documents.

For the purposes of this periodical, an exemption can simply be defined by the legislative powers established or enacted by the province or federal government that limit the powers provided to municipalities under the *Municipal Government Act*, including the powers under Part 17 Planning and Development. Whereas Part 17 provides broad scope for municipalities to govern subdivision and development, there are many aspects of these processes that are limited in favour of a Crown exception. Still, while a Crown approval will address the predominant aspects of a development, municipalities often retain the ability to address certain matters – either those expressly prescribed to it or matters not dealt with by the higher order government. The result of this multi-jurisdictional approval matrix often leaves questions as to jurisdictional scope and the timing of approvals relative to one another.

This periodical will identify the exemptions found in provincial legislation as well as the federal exemptions and explore the extent to which case law has either protected the Crown or limited the scope of the exemption.

Legislative Framework

Exemptions under Section 14 of the *Interpretation Act* state that the MGA is not binding on His Majesty. Thus, where the province is undertaking development, it is not required to obtain subdivision or development approvals although, in fact, it often does. Where the province has leased or transferred title to another party, that party must comply with the requirements of the *Act*. The federal government and federal government agencies are also exempt.

The legislative enactment of these exemptions are not found in a one stop shopping document but are spread across many federal and provincial Acts and Regulations. One of the most obscure is the *Universities Act* which in Section 62 states that Part 17 of the MGA does not apply to the use or development of real property owned by or leased to a university. This played out in a very real sense for the County of Newell when it was reported to municipal staff that construction was occurring in a remote rural area. Upon inquiry it was found that the construction was for research accommodation of University of Alberta students.

Under Section 618 of the MGA, subdivision or development for roads, wells, or batteries, pipelines, designated Crown lands, and the geographic area of Metis settlements is exempt from the provincial regulations and municipal bylaws under Part 17 of the Act. The *Planning Exemption Regulation* (AR 223/2000)

List of Developments with Exempt Status*

Provincial:

Gravel pits, confined feeding operations, oil and gas, power plants, irrigation, highways, powerlines, universities, provincial recreation development, etc.

Federal:

Airports, railways, ports of entry, telecommunications, navigable waters, military bases, etc.

***Note: This is not a comprehensive list of every exemption but a general list for quick reference only.**



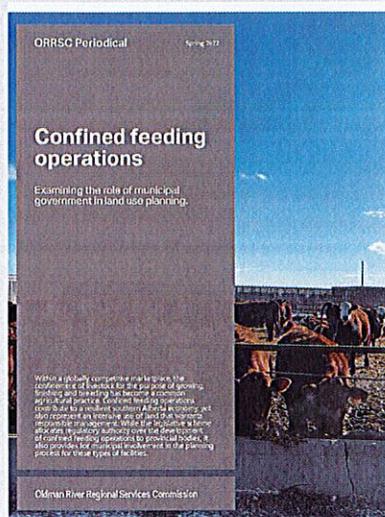
Interpretation Act Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000 Chapter I-8 Section 14 Crown not Bound

No enactment is binding on His Majesty or affects His Majesty or His Majesty's rights or prerogatives in any manner, unless the enactment expressly states that it binds His Majesty.

Municipal Government Act

620 Conditions prevail

A condition of a licence, permit, approval or other authorization granted pursuant to an enactment by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, a Minister, a Provincial agency or Crown-controlled organization as defined in the Financial Administration Act or a delegated person as defined in Schedule 10 to the Government Organization Act prevails over any condition of a development permit that conflicts with it.



Rules on overlapping jurisdiction for feedlots can be found in the ORRSC Spring 2022 Periodical

exempts other developments such as hydro transmission and electric distribution lines and irrigation works undertaken by an irrigation district from the planning provisions.

Under Section 619 of the MGA, where a licence, permit, approval or other authorization is required by the NRCB, ERCB, AER, AEUB, or AUC, these boards have jurisdiction over the decision. But municipalities may have some jurisdiction over a portion of the approval. If there is no direct conflict with provincial legislation, local bylaws can establish rules to address development matters not dealt with by the provincial entity and the two enactments can stand together.

Land Use Context

In the land use application of the exemption sections, each legislated entity must be understood as to whether it allows municipal participation in the approval process. Often the project gives an indication of how the interaction between the federal or provincial governments will be approached. Is the work being driven by the municipality (or one of its citizens) or is the project being driven by the government entity? Where the work is driven by and is directly related to the primary business of the government entity like railways, airports, irrigation districts, transmission lines, pipelines, and provincial highways, no direct local approval will be sought or is legally required. A cursory notice may be sent by the entity beginning the work or they may seek municipal approval for impacts to roads, but no land use process will be triggered.

Where the process is being put forward via a landowner or proponent (on behalf of a landowner) for uses such as telecommunication towers (federal), feedlots (NRCB), power plants (AUC), or major recreational developments (NRCB), overlapping jurisdiction may be applicable. For example, telecommunication tower processing occurs under Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada who prefer municipalities follow their *CPC-2-0-03 — Radiocommunication and Broadcasting Antenna Systems* protocol (or a locally devised version of the protocol). The process allows for a municipality to put forward rational planning reasons to oppose a proposal, but the reasons or approval are to take the form of a letter of concurrence or non-concurrence and not a municipal permit. Ultimately, the ISED can override the local preference and issue the tower proponent an approval.

Similarly, guidance is provided for processes involving land use planning under the legislative protections provided by MGA s. 619 and interactions with the AUC, NRCB, AER and ERCB. This guidance simply limits a municipality to processing development permits only where those government agencies under s. 619 have not taken a stance or where their legislation defines the local permit parameters. For example, under the AUC approvals for solar or wind power plants, the agency concedes setback from roadways and lot lines to the municipality who include the rule as conditions to a municipal permit. Lately, it is a struggle for the municipality to be heard and have its jurisdiction recognized by proponents. These local requirements end up being fodder in the AUC appeal process.

Since the adoption of the South Saskatchewan Regional Plan as an overarching plan which both the municipalities and the government agencies listed under s.618 and s.619 must abide, no real challenge has been put forward to question how an entity like the AUC is meeting the balance of shared outcomes for all in the region.

Case Law

In one leading case establishing the limit of the legal status of Crown exemptions, the Application of Hours of Work Act (British Columbia) to Employees of the Canadian Pacific Railway in Empress Hotel, Victoria (City) in 1948 concluded that generally, any activity undertaken by a federal railway company on its lands that cannot be characterized as an integral part of its railway operation in a functional or business sense, is likely subject to provincial planning legislation. This position has been supported in municipal interactions with all kinds of federal and provincial entities ever since.

For example, it is not uncommon for rural municipalities to be involved in pipeline installations or electrical substations where the development has aspects that are outside the exemption. Laydown yards, work camps, and offices are uses not directly related to the conveyance of energy and therefore require municipal development permits.

Another wrinkle to the extension of the Crown immunity from Part 17 is the question of whether a lessee of provincial or federal land is shielded from local planning requirements. Simply stated yes, it is in the federal instance, unless the Crown has specifically stated in the lease agreement, that the lessee is not immune from local approvals. In the provincial scenario the lessee is not immune from Part 17 unless the provincial crown remains part of the development and extends its exemption power to cover the lessee.

The MD of Pincher Creek has development approval examples of this through leases at Beauvais Lake and Castle View Ridge (on the Oldman River Dam) where the lessee of Crown recreation land must obtain local approval for development permits. The Crown has done so for both planning and building code reasons citing their lack of capacity to run the processes. This is the opposite of the Crown lease land at Castle Mountain Resort where the Crown has full approval authority of all the ski slope development and the MD only has jurisdiction over the private land at the base of the mountain. Here the sensitivity of the surrounding environment warrants Alberta Environment and Parks oversight out of the Crowsnest Pass provincial office.

Local Impacts

The impact on municipalities is physical, permanent and tangible. Once established the Crown impositions remain locked into the landscape and for many citizens hard to forgive. The City of Brooks recently had a CPKC Rail building erected at the end of their main commercial core adjacent to the Town hall and its associated park. By the time CPKC had decided in its corporate offices that a building was to be added to their operation, the City's

Example of s.619 Paramourncy In Lethbridge County

In 2018, Acestes Ventures Ltd, applied to construct and operate a 22-megawatt solar power plant designated as the Coaldale Solar Project in Lethbridge County. Acestes was advised at the time by Lethbridge County that a re-designation of the land was required because the project did not comply with the County's land use bylaw, as the bylaw of the day prohibited a commercial solar facility on good quality irrigated agricultural lands.

County Council denied Acestes' land re-designation application, stating that it made the protection of high-quality agricultural lands a priority and that irrigated land is a limited resource that it strives to protect from non-agricultural developments.

Despite the County's rezoning refusal, the AUC approved the Acestes project in 2019. The AUC concluded that the project was in the public interest - seemingly putting more weight on the project's close proximity to a substation against the loss of irrigated agricultural land. After the rendering of the AUC decision, Lethbridge County approved a follow-up rezoning application in accordance with s.619(2) & (3) of the MGA.

Example of Planning Exemption Regulation in Vulcan County

The Regulation allows for "exclusive use areas" pursuant to Section 50 of the Condominium Property Act to be established without the requirement for subdivision approval. The intent of this provision was put to test on Travers Reservoir in Vulcan County where the proponent of a simple building condominium (which does not require subdivision approval) attempted to establish hundreds of exclusive use areas for campground sites. The building condo plan was registered but ultimately removed by the Land Titles Office after the fact. Land Titles in their response to cancellation of the registered plan wrote:

"...this letter [is issued] pursuant to s. 187 of the Land Titles Act to inform you that the plan fails to meet the requirements under s.76(1) of the Land Titles Act. Specifically, the plan is in substance a subdivision that requires the approval of a competent authority. Subdivision approval is required for the Plan..."

In this example the stop gap protection for the municipality was exercised by a government department.



Province of Alberta

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT ACT

PLANNING EXEMPTION REGULATION

Alberta Regulation 223/2008

With amendments up to and including Alberta Regulation 54/2014
Current as of March 27, 2014

Office Consolidation

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ability to cite concerns would legally be set aside and a period of adjustment would begin. Resultant discussion has brought about landscaping, fencing and murals to address the mistake. But imagine if CPKC had simply asked about siting the building prior to giving the orders to do so...the municipality would have suggested an alternative location which, given the land holdings of the company, could surely have been accommodated. Good land use planning is always about weighing options and being sensitive to those that are adjacent.

An example of a process where collaboration resulted in a positive planning outcome occurred in the MD of Pincher Creek where the Alberta Energy Systems Operator (AESO) inquired with the municipality as to where the MD had major planning policies that would be contrary to electrical transmission line development. The MD identified an Area Structure Plan around the Oldman River Reservoir which planned for residential development on the north side of the dam and potential for wind power development on the south side. The AESO needed to be educated on why the MD would prefer transmission development away from residential development but once understood they were able to guide Altalink to not traverse the residential planning area with their infrastructure. Collaboration resulting in recognition of the decades of local planning efforts helped both parties move forward without being fully at odds with each other.

Other situations remain inconsistent and within a grey area of collaboration and varying outcomes. Irrigation districts have the power to create subdivisions for their irrigation works without local approval processes. Often the irrigation districts would proceed with a subdivision and create remnant parcels which would be sold to private landowners. The landowner would then seek to develop a house only to find they had no access or a parcel that failed to meet the minimum standards. Upon denial by the municipality, the complaint of the landowner to the irrigation district would be to either fix the issue or to reimburse them. Irrigation districts have become more open to collaboration where the subdivisions result may be questionable but not always.

Municipalities are encouraged to nurture their relationships with each entity that has exemption legislation. If you have a contact that works collaboratively with a municipality it is well worth the effort to have periodic meetings to discuss and update each other on your individual goings on. This is especially important where the timing of federal and provincial processing and procedures is not readily understood at the local level. Discussion with officials on timely responses in their procedures prove to keep the municipality's involvement relevant rather than being told that a timeline was missed and the response cannot be accepted.

Concluding Remarks

Local land use planning by legal order must understand its place in federal and provincial power structures. Canada is a young country and is continuing to build its infrastructure and federal provincial jurisdiction allows for decision making for the whole to be undertaken on behalf of democratic society. Laux, Frederick A. and Stewart-Palmer, Gwendolyn

Planning Law and Practice in Alberta, Juriliber Limited 2019, concludes their discussion on this topic as follows:

Finally, the proposition can be advanced that, in this day and age, the doctrine of Crown immunity is an anachronism. At a time when equality before the law is entrenched in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, R.S.C. 1985, App. II, No. 44, it seems paradoxical that any entity, government or otherwise, should be regarded as being above the law. The doctrine of Crown immunity effects a derogation from the rule of law. Thus, simply stated, every development project ought to meet the requirements of the planning regime, whether public, quasi-public or private. It is hardly an answer to say that to subject the government to its own rules is to unduly impair the government in its operations and, therefore, none of the rules should apply. Indeed, as mentioned previously, as a matter of practice government agencies frequently voluntarily abide by the planning rules. If it can be done voluntarily, should it not be legally required to ensure that all are equal under the law?

Practically, municipalities desire to be included in decisions where subdivision and development processes are overseen by higher levels of government because of the local impacts that these decisions can have regardless of the decision making body. Being heard can provide local insight not attainable from the head offices of governing bodies and their proponents. Nevertheless, it is important that the myriad of exemptions and exclusions to the local planning process are understood by municipalities.

For more information on this topic contact admin@orrsc.com or visit our website at orrsc.com.

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e-mail: admin@orrsc.com



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Friday February 7th 2025

This Bi-weekly Newsletter is available to members and non-members of the Vauxhall & District Chamber of Commerce and features information of importance to, and about local business and upcoming events!

MEMBER HIGHLIGHT



From simple beginnings in 1933, to more than 150 team members in 6 communities, Avail CPA is now the largest independently owned business advisory and accounting firm in Southern Alberta, with recent expansion into B.C.'s East Kootenay region as well.

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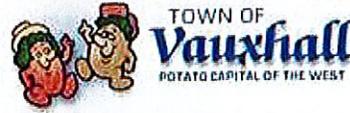
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Council would like to hear from our community and area. Please take the time to fill out the short survey on this project.

The link is posted below if you use the QR code on your mobile device save the image to your phone and use the QR code from your photos.

The link also located on the Town of Vauxhall website >Municipal Services>Community Information

<https://s.surveypal.com/al4u7gwx>



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The next municipal election will be Monday, October 20, 2025. A person may file a nomination to become a candidate for a general election within the period beginning on January 1st 2025 and ending at 12 noon on nomination day.
Located at the Vauxhall Administration Office - 223 5th St Vauxhall, AB
Monday to Friday (except STAT holidays) 8am - 12pm and 1pm - 4:30pm.

Filing the nomination form may be done in person, by mail, or courier. If sent by mail or courier, the form must be received before close of nominations at 12 noon on Monday September 22, 2025.

If you are interested in running for office but would like more information, please view the Nomination Package found on the Town of Vauxhall website. Copies of the nomination package are also available for pick up at the Administrative Office

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- Tuesday, March 18th from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
- Thursday, April 17th from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

WHERE
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FOR MORE INFORMATION
Cindy
403-915-7063
Cindy.Lauwen@fcss.ca

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• Please note that City of Lethbridge residents are **not** eligible to receive this award.
- ✓ Exemplify a spirit of volunteerism and the ability to inspire others.

INFORMATION
Cindy Lauwen
403-915-7063 (call/text)
volunteerservices@fcss.ca

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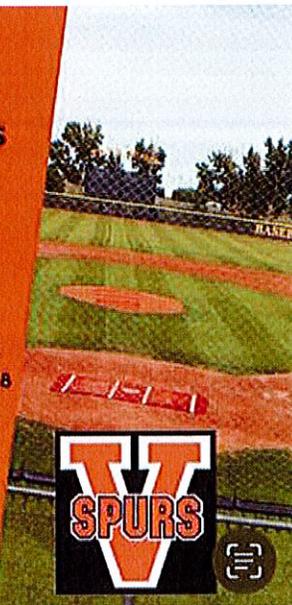
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