

**SMOKY LAKE COUNTY**

Minutes of the **County Council meeting** held on Thursday, **August 22, 2013** at 9:00 A.M. in the County Council Chambers.

The meeting was called to Order by the Reeve Mr. Dareld Cholak in the presence of the following persons:

|                 |                      | A T T E N D A N C E              |
|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <u>Div. No.</u> | <u>Councillor(s)</u> | <u>Thursday, August 22, 2013</u> |
| 1               | Dareld Cholak        | Present                          |
| 2               | Ron Bobocel          | Present                          |
| 3               | Rick Cherniwchan     | Present                          |
| 4               | Lori Danyluk         | Present                          |
| 5               | Randy Orichowski     | Present                          |
| C.A.O.          | Cory Ollikka         | Present                          |
| Asst CAO/R.S    | Lydia Cielin         | Present                          |
| Finance Manager | Brenda Adamson       | Present                          |

\*\*\*\*\*

2 Members of the Public in attendance.

Doug Ponich, Public Works Manager; Aline Brousseau, Planning and Development Manager; and Ed English, Peace Officer / Parks and Recreation Manager entered the Council Chambers, time 9:00 a.m.

**2. Agenda:**

**Agenda**

844-13: Orichowski

That the Agenda for Thursday, August 22, 2013 County Council meeting, be adopted as amended:

**Addition(s):**

- 1. Delegation: Permazyme IIX Presentation at 1:00 p.m.

Carried Unanimously.

Arlene Shwetz, Communication Services Coordinator entered the Council Chambers, time 9:05 a.m.

**3. Minutes:**

**Minutes of May 27, 2013 – Special County Council Meeting**

845-13: Orichowski

That the minutes of the **Special County Council Meeting** held on Monday, May 27, 2013 be adopted.

Carried.

**Minutes of May 29, 2013 – County Council Departmental Operations Meeting**

846-13: Bobocel

That the minutes of the **County Council Meeting for the purpose of Departmental Operations** held on Wednesday, May 29, 2013 be adopted.

Carried.

**Minutes of June 25, 2013 – County Council Departmental Operations Meeting**

847-13: Danyluk That the minutes of the **County Council Meeting for the purpose of Departmental Operations** held on Wednesday, June 25, 2013 be adopted.

Carried.

**Minutes of June 26, 2013 – County Council Meeting**

848-13: Orichowski That the minutes of the **County Council Meeting** held on Wednesday, June 26, 2013 be adopted.

Carried.

**Minutes of July 25, 2013 – County Council Departmental Operations Meeting**

849-13: Danyluk That the minutes of the **County Council Meeting for the purpose of Departmental Operations** held on Thursday, July 25, 2013 be adopted.

Carried.

**Business Arising from Minutes of July 25, 2013 – County Council Departmental Operations Meeting**

■ **Motion 814-13: Windshield Damage: Claim**

“ That Smoky Lake County take no action to the letter received from Rudie Loffelbein, dated July 17, 2013 in regards to a Claim for Windshield Damage that occurred travelling on Highway 855.”

**Windshield Damage: Claim**

850-13: Danyluk That Smoky Lake County reimburse Rudie Loffelbein in the amount of \$257.25 for Windshield Damage that occurred travelling on Highway 855; as per claim submitted, dated July 17, 2013.

MOTION DEFEATED.

**4. Request For Decision(s):**

**Bylaw No. 1257-13: Jubilee Insurance Agencies Limited – Reciprocal Insurance Exchange Agreement and Power of Attorney**

851-13: Cherniwchan That **Bylaw No. 1257-13:** authorize the Municipal Council of Smoky Lake County for the purpose of entering into of an **Agreement with Jubilee Insurance Agencies Limited – Reciprocal Insurance Exchange Agreement and Power of Attorney**, be given **FIRST READING.**

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Bobocel that **Bylaw No. 1257-13:** authorize the Municipal Council of Smoky Lake County for the purpose of entering into of an **Agreement with Jubilee Insurance Agencies Limited – Reciprocal Insurance Exchange Agreement and Power of Attorney**, be given **SECOND READING.**

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Orichowski that **Bylaw No. 1257-13**: authorize the Municipal Council of Smoky Lake County for the purpose of entering into of an **Agreement with Jubilee Insurance Agencies Limited – Reciprocal Insurance Exchange Agreement and Power of Attorney**, be given **PERMISSION** for **THIRD AND FINAL READING**.

Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Danyluk that **Bylaw No. 1257-13**: authorize the Municipal Council of Smoky Lake County for the purpose of entering into of an **Agreement with Jubilee Insurance Agencies Limited – Reciprocal Insurance Exchange Agreement and Power of Attorney**, be given the **THIRD and FINAL READING** and that the Reeve and the Chief Administrative Officer are hereby authorized to fix their signatures to all necessary documents and that the corporate seal also be fastened where it is deemed to be necessary.

Carried.

**Policy Statement No. 07-06-01: Recreation and Wellness Program**

852-13: Danyluk

That **Policy Statement No. 07-06-01** entitled "Recreation and Wellness Program" be adopted:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Purpose:</b>   | Smoky Lake County partnered with the Town of Smoky Lake, Village of Waskatenau and Village of Vilna to initiate a regional <b>Recreation and Wellness Program</b> to encourage recreation through collaborative coordinated governance, community development and service delivery approach within the Smoky Lake Region. |
| <b>Policy Statement and Guidelines:</b>   |   |
| <p><b>1. OBJECTIVES:</b></p> <p>1.1 Smoky Lake County in partnership with the Town of Smoky Lake, the Village of Vilna and the Village of Waskatenau – initiated a joint research-based study and best-practices review of the recreational assets, programs and services currently available within the region under a Regional Collaboration Program (RCP) Grant.</p> <p>1.2 Smoky Lake County chose to take on a regional approach to enhance rather than compete regionally for the provision of Recreation; and accepted the final Joint Municipal Regional Recreation Master Plan Project, dated March 2013 completed by Shane Pospisil under the 2011/12 Regional Collaboration Program Grant in joint partnership with the Town of Smoky Lake, Village of Waskatenau and Village of Vilna on April 25, 2013.</p> <p>1.3 Smoky Lake Regional Recreation Master Plan, as per <b>Schedule "A": Smoky Lake Regional Recreation Master Plan</b> is a process through which Council determines the municipality's long-term vision and goals, and developing an action plan from its recommendations for "Recreation" regionally; and will be the principle guiding living document for governance, community development and service delivery for the County to achieve fundamental change for future recreation and wellness sustainability.</p> <p><b>2. DEFINITION:</b></p> <p><b>Recreation:</b> The occasion of a person to participate in a specific recreation activity is inclusive of play, physical activity, sport, arts and culture and outdoor pursuits in order to enjoy a desired recreation experience and gain the healthy benefits that accrue.</p> <p><b>Regional Recreation:</b> Providers collaborating to maximize the scope, effectiveness and efficiency of recreation services.</p> |   |

**3. GUIDELINES:**

3.1 Smoky Lake Regional Recreation Master Plan, as per **Schedule "A": Smoky Lake Regional Recreation Master Plan** "Recommendations" will guide for the implementation of strategic planning and coordinated approach to the development and enhancement of Recreation and Wellness.

3.2 Smoky Lake County will consider the following Regional Recreation Master Plan Recommendations when creating budgets and work plans.

**3.2.1 Recommendation 1:**

All recreation stakeholders – not just the front-line recreation services providers – need to commit to strengthening the long-term health and well-being of residents through their involvement in *active recreation* and increased levels of physical activity. In answering the question Who does what?...the answer is all recreation stakeholders must share in this responsibility, based on their resource capabilities and core competencies to deliver effective, cost-efficient recreation programs and services.

**3.2.2 Recommendation 2:**

Municipal governments need to transition and build on the existing financial and operation support (direct and indirect) they currently provide to the region's main recreation service providers, taking a more hands-on, active role as a service delivery "partner" rather than just a "funding provider". The region's volunteer sector – which should be recommended for its ongoing efforts and contributions – continues to carry far too much of the work load in the all-important operational, information and awareness, and service delivery areas.

**3.2.3 Recommendation 3:**

More specifically, municipal governments should increase their involvement and monitoring of regional recreation service delivery to ensure that existing core service providers are better equipped – financially, administratively and strategically – to sustain the range of programs, services and "amenities" required to address identified community-wide needs.

The guiding principles should be:

- 1) Facilitating Education and Awareness
- 2) Maintaining Accessibility and Affordability
- 3) Enhancing Quality of Service
- 4) Maintaining Quality Infrastructure (Facilities and Related Amenities)
- 5) Providing Increased Program/Service Delivery Capacity
- 6) Transitioning to Multi-Party Accountability
- 7) Ensuring Long-Term Financial Sustainability
- 8) More Effective Leveraging of Senior Levels of Government

**3.2.4 Recommendation 4:**

Fiscal capacity and long-term fiscal sustainability are always the two key considerations in moving beyond a discussion of "wants" and focusing attention instead on actual community "needs" and, more importantly, what is doable.

Prior to any major capital project being approved a thorough analysis of operating budget implications and possible partnership options must be undertaken to ensure that sufficient annual operating funds will be available.

A case in point, a detailed capital and operating cost budget was developed as part of this study to look at the possibility of building a basic, no-frills 5-6 lane, 25 metre competitive/recreational swimming pool, with water slide and adjoining kids pool, steam room, sauna and changing facilities.

The total capital cost of such a basic facility, aside of any land acquisition costs, was any where between \$6 million and \$8 million, but the facility's annual operating cost shortfall (user pay) was estimated at between \$550,000 and \$600,000 a year (i.e., on annual projected operating costs of about \$800,000, and a user pay fee schedule consistent with other similar Northern Alberta benchmark facilities).

Aside of where the capital budget would come from, the longer term challenge is obviously who - or how – such a large and ongoing operating deficit would be covered?

3.2.5 **Recommendation 5:**

Municipal governments should lead in the facilitation of a broad-based public information and awareness campaign, with a particular focus on those groups with relatively low *active recreation/physical activity* participation levels.

3.2.6 **Recommendation 6:**

Municipal governments should continue to look at new and innovative ways to strengthen their role in encouraging, supporting and recognizing the region's many volunteers. Volunteer Alberta and volunteer Canada are both great contact organizations for best-practices approaches that have worked well in other comparable jurisdictions.

3.2.7 **Recommendation 7:**

The recruitment, training and mentoring of the next generation of volunteers and not for-profit organizational leaders is one area that needs to be given a higher priority especially given the feedback received during the recent phone survey. Once again, this is a task for all recreation stakeholders – not just the existing volunteer-based recreation service providers.

3.2.8 **Recommendation 8:**

Municipal governments – as employers and “organizational leaders” in the community should look at available opportunities to encourage and support healthier lifestyles, improved nutrition and diet and increased physical activity among their employees.

This includes setting aside specific time during working hours to facilitate these types of initiatives – all of which have been shown to contribute to a healthier and more productive workforce.

3.2.9 **Recommendation 9:**

It will be important to not overlook additional opportunities which may be available to improve public access to schools for after-hours recreation programs and user groups. Again, this was an opportunity that many respondents raised during the recent phone survey.

3.2.10 **Recommendation 10:**

Recreational programming and services aimed at more effectively engaging seniors, children and youth in *active recreation* must be a community-wide priority.

3.2.11 **Recommendation 11:**

Developing additional outdoor recreation capacity is not necessarily a bricks and mortar challenge, but it would appear to represent a significant and affordable opportunity to address the strong and seemingly growing demand of these types of recreational experiences.

3.2.12 **Recommendation 12:**

Avoid taxpayer-funded competition against privately-owned and operated service providers, especially where these entrepreneurs are effectively and efficiently addressing priority recreational needs and demands. In fact, all recreation stakeholders should be cross-promoting each other, rather than trying to duplicate services or programming that is already being offered.

3.2.13 **Recommendation 13:**

In terms of how to “operationalize” many of the findings, action items and recommendations emerging from this study, the overriding recommendation is that the new Smoky Lake Region Economic and Community Development Committee assume this coordinating collaborative role – effective immediately.

It may be that this eventually leads to the establishment of a “permanent” multi-stakeholder Regional Recreation Advisory Board, or even implementation of regional recreation-specific levies, but these are decisions that are clearly down the road.

**4. PROCEDURES:**

- 4.1 A regional approach for the implementation of the Regional Recreation Master Plan Recommendations will be facilitated through the Regional Community Development Committee, as per **Policy Statement No. 61-07: entitled "Regional Community Development Committee (RCDC): Terms of Reference"** for the provision and development of a Recreation and Wellness Program.
- 4.2 Smoky Lake County Council will continue to monitor and evaluate its operations and budgeting to ensure for the provisions for funding decisions of the Recreation and Wellness Program.
- 4.3 Decision-making process for the Recreation and Wellness Program for the implementation of specific projects and services will require approval by resolution of Smoky Lake County Council.



**SMOKY LAKE COUNTY  
FINAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**REGIONAL RECREATION  
MASTER PLAN**

---

**Submitted To:  
Smoky Lake Region JEDI Committee  
and  
Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Municipalities Committee**

**Submitted By:  
Mr. Shane Pospisil  
Smoky Lake Region JEDI Committee/CEO  
Phone: 1-780-860-5100**

March 2013

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative  
(JEDI)

---

*The future is closer than you think*

**Regional  
Recreation  
Master Plan**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

|  | <u>Page</u> |
|--|-------------|
| <b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b> .....   | 4           |
| <b>1. Preface</b> .....  | 6           |
| 1.1 RCP Grant Application Terms of Reference .....                         | 7           |
| <b>2. A Community-Wide Self-Examination of Recreation and Wellness</b> ... | 9           |
| <b>3. Regional Recreation Master Plan Phases and Critical Path</b> .....   | 11          |
| <b>4. Recreation, Quality of Life and Community Sustainability</b> .....   | 12          |
| 4.1 The Importance and Integrated Nature of Community Sustainability .     | 13          |
| 4.2 Community of Choice Drivers .....                                      | 14          |
| 4.3 Smoky Lake Region's <i>Community of Choice</i> Advantage .....         | 15          |
| 4.4 Smoky Lake Region's Fiscal Sustainability Challenge .....              | 16          |
| 4.5 Who does what? .....   | 17          |
| <b>5. Socio-Demographic Profile of Smoky Lake Region</b> .....             | 18          |
| 5.1 Smoky Lake Region Demographics – Highlights .....                      | 19          |
| <b>6. Recreation Asset Assessment and Program / Services Review</b> .....  | 21          |
| <b>7. Community Consultations / Quantitative Feedback</b> .....            | 23          |
| 7.1 Closed-End Phone Survey .....  | 23          |
| 7.2 Opened-Ended / Discussion-Based Phone Survey .....                     | 34          |
| 7.3 Community Physical Activity Benchmarks .....                           | 34          |
| 7.4 Smoky Lake Region Physical Activity Survey (2012) .....                | 36          |

|            |   |    |
|------------|---|----|
| <b>8.</b>  | <b>Community Feedback / Qualitative Feedback</b> .....                    | 38 |
| 8.1        | Regional Physical Activity Levels .....                                   | 38 |
| 8.2        | Gaps in Current Recreational Programming and Service Delivery ...         | 39 |
| 8.3        | Regional Recreation Priorities and Needs .....                            | 42 |
| <b>9.</b>  | <b>External Stakeholder Consultations / Discussions</b> .....             | 45 |
| <b>10.</b> | <b>Regional Recreation Master Plan / Action items and Recommendations</b> | 47 |

Smoky Lake Region  
 Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In April 2012, the four municipalities which make up of Smoky Lake Region – Smoky Lake County, the Town of Smoky Lake, the Village of Vilna and the Village of Waskatenau – initiated a joint research-based study and best-practices review of the recreational assets, programs and services currently available within the region. More specifically, the extensive consultations-based, community-needs-focused study was aimed at:

- Assessing and evaluating current **active recreation** participation levels among residents of Smoky Lake Region.
- Identifying gaps in current recreational programming and service delivery.
- Developing a series of recommendations to enhance the quality of life of all residents through their participation in **active recreation**, sport and – in general – through increased physical activity and higher levels of overall physical fitness.
- Better equipping regional recreation service providers with the resources they need to effectively and efficiently deliver a range of programs and services that respond – first and foremost – to current and evolving community needs and priorities.

Broad-based community consultations – primarily conducted through a comprehensive, random phone survey of Smoky Lake Region individuals and households (i.e., a statistically-significant sample size of 368 household members was covered by the two main survey components)<sup>1</sup> – were essential to assessing and evaluating current **active recreation** participation levels among residents and to identifying regional recreation priorities and needs.

Clearly, there are individuals within Smoky Lake Region who, regardless of their age, continue to maintain acceptable, good or excellent levels of physical fitness and continue to meet their recommended daily/weekly moderate- to vigorous-intensity aerobic physical activity targets.<sup>2</sup> The survey identified these individuals (and households), their existing recreation patterns and preferences, and their recreation priorities and needs.

What the survey also identified, however, was a relatively large segment of Smoky Lake Region’s population – cutting across all major demographic groups – that has become increasingly more inactive and sedentary in its behavior patterns.

**In fact, given the scope, breadth and seriousness of the trends identified, this would indeed appear to represent the most significant recreation-focused challenge currently confronting Smoky Lake Region.**

Smoky Lake Region  
 Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (Continued)

Major population-based health studies continue to show that inactivity and increased levels of sedentary and passive behavior directly contributes to higher levels of obesity, heart disease, diabetes, osteoporosis, stroke, depression and, ultimately, a reduced quality of life and a higher likelihood of premature death.

These findings are not unique. They have been widely recognized as one of the most fundamental public policy challenges confronting governments at all levels – municipal, provincial/state and federal – and certainly across North America.

The main Regional Recreation Master Plan action items/recommendations which follow are both a reflection and a response to what was heard during the community consultations.

As such, they reflect the broader community’s stated preferences, perceptions, needs, wants and priorities when it comes to recreation, sports and related community-wide amenities, programming and services – rather than those of the consultant, the four municipal governments or any other stakeholder groups(s). They are also financially doable and fiscally sustainable.

There is a wide recognition that to be effective this Plan must be viewed as a living document and that the active participation and continued engagement of all stakeholders in implementation and execution imperative.

The local service clubs, organizations and the regional Agricultural Societies are all important players, as are the four municipal governments within the region, but it must be recognized that each (individually) is only one player when it comes to contributing to the broader and more collaborative effort which this Plan is recommending.

The Regional Recreation Master Plan action items / recommendations are outlined in *Section 10*, which begins on Page 47.

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

## SMOKY LAKE REGION REGIONAL RECREATION MASTER PLAN

### Final Report and Recommendations

#### 1. Preface

In April 2012, the four municipalities which make up of Smoky Lake Region – Smoky Lake County, the Town of Smoky Lake, the Village of Vilna and the Village of Waskatenau – initiated a joint research-based study and best-practices review of the recreational assets, programs and services currently available within the region. More specifically, the extensive consultations-based, community-needs-focused study was aimed at:

- Assessing and evaluating current **active recreation** participation levels among residents of Smoky Lake Region.
- Identifying gaps in current recreational programming and service delivery.
- Focusing on regional recreation priorities and needs.
- Developing a series of recommendations to enhance the quality of life of all residents through their participation in **active recreation**, sport and – in general – through increased physical activity and higher levels of overall physical fitness.
- Better equipping regional recreation service providers with the resources they need to effectively and efficiently deliver a range of programs and services that respond – first and foremost – to current and evolving community needs and priorities.

Funding assistance for this study and development of the Smoky Lake Regional Recreation Master Plan was provided under a Regional Collaboration Program (RCP) grant from the Government of Alberta (Alberta Municipal Affairs), to which the four participating regional municipalities – Smoky Lake County, the Town of Smoky Lake, the Village of Vilna and the Village of Waskatenau – are grateful.

The detailed Terms of Reference, submitted along with the original RCP grant application, provides additional background information and context on the key drivers and final project deliverables expected from the study.

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

#### 1.1. RCP Grant Application Terms of Reference

- ▶ “Urgent concerns have been raised by our local service clubs and organizations, who are struggling to own, operate and maintain the many recreation facilities in Smoky Lake Region.”

- ▶ “Rural depopulation and aging demographics continue to put an intense strain on the volunteer sector”.
- ▶ “The four municipalities have been implored to find solutions to sustain the valued recreation services that improve our citizen’s quality of life.”
- ▶ “This Regional Recreation Master Plan will assess our current circumstances, identify opportunities for alternative methods of collaboration, and provide implementation steps towards achieving a sustainable framework of our recreation facilities and services to succeed into the future.”
- ▶ “Following feedback from the four municipal partners, the consultant will further develop the suggested alternative measures and implementation steps required to make these alternatives a reality.”
- ▶ “Upon adoption, the Regional Recreation Master Plan will be used as a policy guide to give direction to both municipal government and non-government organizations.”
- ▶ “The Plan will outline a structured commitment to provide the vital assistance needed to strengthen the communities’ ability to sustain the region’s recreation facilities and services and to enhance the quality of life of all residents through their participation in recreation.”

Mr. Shane Pospisil, a highly-experienced, Alberta-based recreation and recreational programming consultant, was contracted to work with and report through the Smoky Lake Region Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI) Committee on work plan implementation and execution.

Members of the JEDI Committee essentially acted as the steering committee and participated in 10 separate progress report/feedback sessions over the course of the study. The progress report / feedback sessions were also held within intermunicipal Smoky Lake Region Joint Municipalities Committee, consisting of municipal councilors and senior administration from each of the four regional municipalities.

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

It is important that JEDI Committee members be recognized and acknowledged for the important role they played in providing input and guidance to the consultant over the course of the study and in the development of the Smoky Lake Regional Recreation Master Plan.

**While the plan obviously reflects much more than just the views, perspectives and priorities expressed by JEDI Committee members – or, for that matter, any other particular stakeholder or group of stakeholders – each member of the JEDI Committee deserves to be acknowledged and commended for the time they committed to this project and for their collaborative efforts to enhance community well-being within Smoky Lake Region.**

Members of the Smoky Lake Region JEDI Committee include:

- Mr. Randy Orichowski**, Smoky Lake County Division 5 Councillor (Chair)
- Mr. Frank Barry**, Councillor, Village of Vilna (Vice-Chair)
- Mr. Ron Bobocel**, Smoky Lake County Division 2 Councillor
- Mr. Rick Cherniwchan**, Smoky Lake County Division 3 Councillor
- Mr. Hank Holowaychuk**, Mayor, Town of Smoky Lake
- Mr. Mark Watson**, Councillor, Town of Smoky Lake
- Mrs. Sherri Frankard**, Councillor, Village of Waskatenau
- Mr. Cory Ollika**, Chief Administrative Officer, Smoky Lake County

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

**2. A Community-Wide Self-Examination of Recreation and Wellness**

Broad-based community consultations – primarily conducted through a comprehensive, random phone survey of Smoky Lake Region individuals and households (i.e., a statistically-significant sample size of 368 household members was covered by the two main survey components)<sup>1</sup> - were essential to assessing and evaluating current *active recreation* participation levels among residents and to identifying regional recreation priorities and needs.

By taking directly to a representative sample of residents from across Smoky Lake Region, the survey was able to identify existing recreation patterns and preferences as well as perceived gaps in current recreational programming and service delivery. Most importantly, the survey identified a number of urgent and, for some at least, unexpected regional recreation priorities and needs.

Interviews with key recreation service providers, community leaders and volunteers were also an important component of the community consultations phase of the study, but one overriding theme coming from the comprehensive, random phone-based survey continued to resonate – overall physical activity and *active recreation* participation levels across all demographic groups are relatively poor and, in fact, appear to be diminishing over time.

Clearly, there are individuals within Smoky Lake Region who, regardless of their age, continue to maintain acceptable, good or excellent levels of physical fitness and continue to meet their recommended daily/weekly moderate- to vigorous-intensity aerobic physical activity targets.<sup>2</sup> The survey identified these individuals (and households), their existing recreation patterns and preferences, and their recreation priorities and needs.

What the survey also identified, however, was a relatively large segment of Smoky Lake Region’s population – cutting across all major demographic groups – that had become increasingly more inactive and sedentary in its behavior patterns.

In fact, given the scope, breadth and seriousness of the trends identified, this would indeed appear to represent the most significant recreation-focused challenge currently confronting Smoky Lake Region.

<sup>1</sup>New West Market Research *Comprehensive, Random Phone Survey of Smoky Lake Region Individuals and Households*, July-August 2012.

<sup>2</sup>As currently recommended by health, fitness and wellness advocacy organizations such as ParticipAction, Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology, Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute, Alberta Centre for Active Living, Health Canada, etc.

Smoky Lake Region  
 Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

Major population-based health studies continue to show that inactivity and increased levels of sedentary and passive behaviour directly contributes to higher levels of obesity, heart disease, diabetes, osteoporosis, stroke, depression and, ultimately, a reduced quality of life and a higher likelihood of premature death.

These findings are not unique, They have been widely recognized as one of the most fundamental public policy challenges confronting governments at all levels – municipal, provincial/state and federal – and certainly across North America.

On the other hand, the benefits of **active recreation**, increased physical activity and higher levels of overall fitness have also been proven in study after study:

- ✓ Lower levels of obesity.
- ✓ Reduced risk of disease.
- ✓ Reduced risk of premature death.
- ✓ Improved mental and emotional health.
- ✓ Improved quality of life and community well-being.

Those residents who took the time out of their busy schedules to participate in the comprehensive phone-based survey, undertaken to better inform and help guide in the development of the Regional Recreation Master Plan, deserve a special thanks. Their input and the feedback they so willingly provided – in many cases blunt, unvarnished and direct to the point – has proven invaluable to enhancing the quality of research supporting this study and the direction set forth in the recommendations.

Smoky Lake Region  
 Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

**3. Regional Recreation Master Plan Phases and Critical Path**

The work plan for the Smoky Lake Regional Recreation Master Plan consisted of the following five phases, conducted between April 2012 and February 2013. The final Regional Recreation Master Plan action items/recommendations were presented to the JEDI and Smoky Lake Region Joint Municipalities Committees in March 2013

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Phase 1: Background Research</b></p> <p>(1) <i>Socio-Demographic Profile of Smoky Lake Region</i></p> <p>(2) <i>Recreational Amenities/Facilities Inventory and Assessment</i></p> <p>(3) <i>Current Recreation/Sport Programming and Related Services.</i></p> <p>(4) <i>Identification of Regional Recreation Asset Gaps</i></p> <p>(5) <i>Assess the Need for New Regional Facilities and/or Programming</i></p>  | <p>&gt; Completed April-May 2012</p> <p>&gt; Completed April-June 2012</p> <p>&gt; Completed May-July 2012</p> <p>&gt; Completed July-August 2012</p> <p>&gt; Completed July-August 2012</p> |
| <p><b>Phase 2: Community Consultations</b></p> <p>(1) <i>Comprehensive Closed-End Phone Survey<sup>1</sup></i></p> <p>(2) <i>Comprehensive Open-Ended/ Discussion-Based Phone Survey<sup>1</sup></i></p> <p>(3) <i>Self-Selected Resident/Community Stakeholder Interview<sup>3</sup></i></p> <p><small><sup>1</sup>New West Market Research <i>Comprehensive, Random Phone Survey of Smoky Lake Region Individuals and Households</i>, July-August 2012. A statistically-significant sample size of 368 household members was covered by survey components (1) and (2).<br/><sup>3</sup>83 separate resident/community stakeholders interviews undertaken over the course of the study.</small></p> | <p>&gt; Completed July-August 2012</p> <p>&gt; Completed July-August 2012</p> <p>&gt; Ongoing/Completed January 2013</p>   |
| <p><b>Phase 3: External Stakeholder Consultations/ Discussions</b></p> <p>(1) <i>Leading Municipal Recreation Service Providers (Northern Alberta)<sup>4</sup></i></p> <p>(2) <i>Health, Fitness and Wellness Advocacy Organizations (Canada-Wide)<sup>4</sup></i></p> <p><small><sup>4</sup> 26 separate external stakeholder consultations/discussions undertaken over the course of the study.</small></p>  | <p>&gt; Ongoing/Completed January 2013</p> <p>&gt; Ongoing/Completed January 2013</p>  |
| <p><b>Phase 4: Review/Discuss Draft Regional Recreation Master Plan</b></p>  | <p>&gt; January-February 2013</p>  |
| <p><b>Phase 5: Final Regional Recreation Master Plan Action Items/ Recommendations Presented to JEDI Committee and Smoky Lake Region Joint Municipalities Committee</b></p>  | <p>&gt; March 2013</p>   |

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

**4. Recreation, Quality of Life and Community Sustainability**

Like many other rural jurisdictions in Alberta, Smoky Lake Region has a fairly diverse range of indoor and outdoor recreation facilities, other recreational amenities and recreation/sport programming and related services. There is no doubt that these make an important contribution to the region's overall quality of life.

There is a recognition, however, that a new Regional Recreation Master Plan is required to ensure that recreation, sport and other initiatives aimed at promoting increased physical activity continue to remain relevant to the current and future needs of Smoky Lake Region residents – e.g., well-targeted senior's programming; youth wellness, sports and fitness; and the provisions of a diversity of amenities, facilities and opportunities that encourage *active recreation* and increased physical activity.

The provision of recreation, sport, leisure and related community infrastructure and amenities, regardless of whether we are talking about rural Ontario, rural British Columbia or rural Alberta, usually involves many of the same issues.

- ▶ Ever-demanding and changing expectations of residents.
- ▶ Many facilities in need of major repair.
- ▶ Escalating maintenance and operating costs.
- ▶ Questions surrounding the optimal number of locations of various facilities.
- ▶ Refurbishment versus new-build?
- ▶ Limited funding and a multitude of competing priorities.
- ▶ A narrower range of highly-motivated volunteers.
- ▶ Over-worked volunteers and a growing sense among many that their efforts and contributions are not fully appreciated and recognized within the community.
- ▶ Where will the future operational and capital refurbishment resources come from?
- ▶ What alternative financing and service delivery arrangements could – and should – be explored?

These are issues and questions that are far from being unique to Smoky Lake Region and, in fact, arise in most rural jurisdictions.

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

#### 4.1 The Importance and Integrated Nature of Community Sustainability

Retention and growth of existing businesses, new business attraction, jobs, investments, residential development and new commercial/industrial assessment – these are all key and often stated economic and community development priorities of each of the four municipal governments within Smoky Lake Region.

We all know that sustainable economic development directly contributes to a municipality’s fiscal capacity which, in turn, supports the ability of that municipality to deliver on the other two and equally important objectives of environmental and social sustainability.

What is critical to remember is that this relationship is far from one-way, as environmental stewardship, the natural environment, and the community’s social fabric and social infrastructure (e.g., recreation, sports, cultural amenities, etc.) have also become key determinants in influencing locational decisions – for businesses and households alike.

##### Building Blocks of a Sustainable Community



Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

Research has shown that *communities of choice* are increasingly replacing *communities of necessity* for many households in the more rural parts of North America. These individuals are increasingly looking to live in affordable, high quality of life communities – with excellent recreational amenities and clean, safe and family-oriented neighbourhoods – but they are also looking to minimize commuting times associated with travel to and from work.

Ultimately, community sustainability depends on the ability to maintain a healthy balance and harmony between economic, municipal fiscal/financial, social and environmental sustainability. Each is equally important, but all are required for true community sustainability and a high level of community well-being.

Municipal governments typically find themselves in the position of trying to seek out and find the “healthy balance and harmony” alluded to above, often with resources that fall short of the competing demands being made on it.

It is critical that municipal governments ensure they are acting in the broader and longer term public interest when it comes to recreation, sports and proposals for new, expanding and/or refurbished recreational and sports facilities. The key question which must always be asked – ***Is there a fiscally responsible capital and operating plan that meets the highest priority recreational needs of residents, and is the plan sustainable?***

**4.2 Community of Choice Drivers**

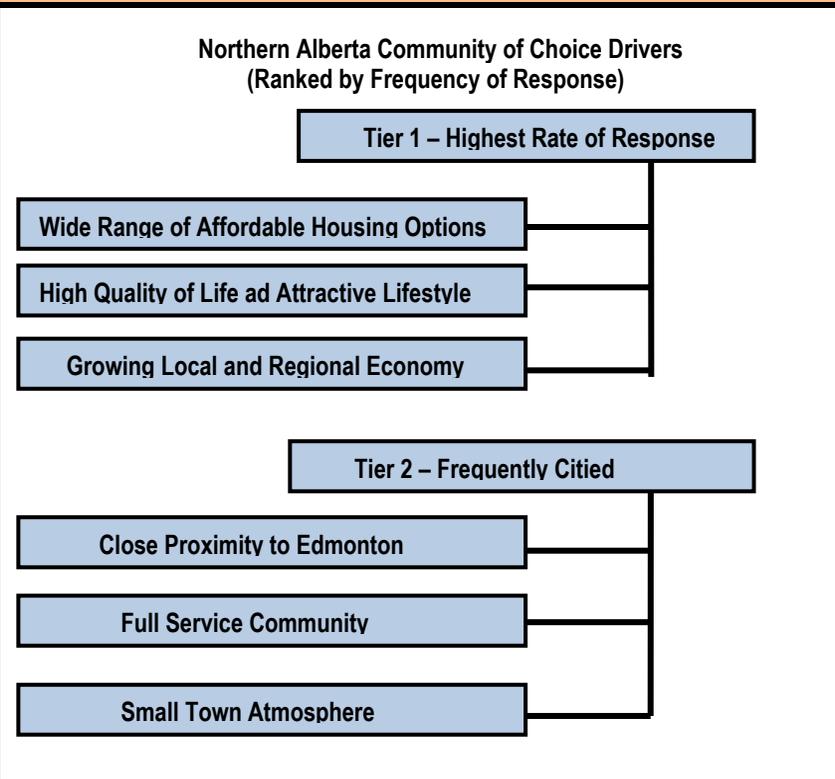
A recent online questionnaire sought to identify some of the perceived strengths and locational advantages of various Northern Alberta communities in attracting new residents.<sup>5</sup>

These are what contribute to making these *communities of choice* – not just for residential development, but increasingly for attracting business and industry who are also seeking many of these same attributes and amenities as part of their workforce development and retention strategies.

The most frequently-mentioned responses relating to Smoky Lake Region (i.e., from both regional business respondents and external respondents who have previously accessed regional services) have been grouped and ranked – one through twelve – in the graphic on the next page. These are what respondents had to say when asked to identify the various attributes and amenities that attract residents (and businesses) to the region and, as such, they provided an insightful perspective on Smoky Lake Region’s key *communities of chose* drivers.

<sup>5</sup>Windspire Business Analytics *Northern Alberta Community of Choice Drivers Survey*, July/August 2011.

Smoky Lake Region  
 Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)  
*The future is closer than you think*



**Tier 3 –Often Mentioned**

**Family-Oriented Neighbourhoods**

**Sports and Recreational Amenities**

**Good Schools**

**Tier 4 – Occasionally Mentioned**

**Safe Communities**

**Natural Environmental**

**Strong Sense of Community**

**NOTE:** These are the twelve attributes that were most frequently-mentioned during the recent Windspire Business Analytics *Northern Alberta Community of Choice Drivers Survey* (1,056 heads of household), July/August 2011.

**4.3 Smoky Lake Region’s Community of Choice Advantage**

It is interesting to note that **High Quality of Life and Attraction Lifestyle** ranked in Tier 1, the second most frequently-mentioned response, and that **Sports and Recreational Amenities** ranked in Tier 3, as the eighth most frequently-mentioned response.

Smoky Lake Region  
 Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)  
*The future is closer than you think*

---

Smoky Lake Regional Recreation Master Plan Page 14

It is readily apparent that Smoky Lake Region’s **Wide Range of Affordable Housing Options, Growing Local and Regional Economy, Natural Environment** and **Close Proximity to Edmonton** also contribute to the region’s high quality of life. Directly and indirectly, these quality of life attributes and perceptions will continue to be a major locational draw.

**4.4 Smoky Lake Region’s Fiscal Sustainability Challenge**

As the North American economy continues to pick-up momentum in the aftermath of the recent global recession, many Alberta communities are becoming more proactive – and, in some cases, much more aggressive – in promoting and pursuing economic and community development. In most cases, there is a strong fiscal dimension involved – the need to grow the commercial and industrial assessment base to maintain a stable assessment mix across all ratepayer categories.

Assessment composition, and trends in the assessment mix, is an important indication of municipal fiscal capacity. It is now widely accepted that non-residential properties typically yield municipal revenues that are higher than associated expenditures. Residential properties, on the other hand, generally yield municipal revenues that are lower than associated expenditures.

A 2011 cost of service analysis undertaken for a range of urban, suburban and rural Alberta municipalities indicates that for every dollar of revenue from non-residential developments, the range of municipal service-based expenditures was only between \$0.20 and \$0.60. 6

In comparison, the analysis found that for every dollar of revenue from residential developments, the range of municipal service-based expenditures was typically in the range of \$1.10 to \$1.20. 6

Even though these are aggregated figures across 42 Alberta municipalities, they still underscore the importance of attracting new commercial and industrial development (and assessment), the success of which would certainly expand a municipality’s fiscal capacity and ability to fund recreational programming and services.

Fiscal prudence, however, calls for a diversified and sustainable local taxpayer-supported fiscal capacity (e.g., not just based on one-time provincial/federal grants) to be proven before any smaller rural municipality should even consider getting involved in building, operating and/or maintaining any major community-wide recreation asset.

6Niichols Applied Management Cost of Service Analysis of Select Alberta Urban, Suburban and Rural Municipalities, 2011.

Smoky Lake Region  
 Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

The overall fiscal capacity of Smoky Lake Region – and its individual municipal partners – to continue providing the services, programs and infrastructure that residents expect, while maintaining reasonable levels of taxation for both residential and non-residential ratepayers, will be critical to future community sustainability.

**4.5 Who does what?**

This study identifies an urgent community-wide need to encourage and support a more physically-active population in which *active recreation* and sport contributes to enhanced community well-being and overall quality of life.

With the local service clubs/organizations and the regional Agricultural Societies historically having had primary responsibility for owning, operating and maintaining the many recreation facilities across Smoky Lake Region – and effectively delivering the bulk of the region’s non-school-based recreation programming and services – a number of fundamental questions inevitably arise.

- Who does what when it comes to meeting priority community recreational needs?**
- Are stakeholders – individually or by working collaboratively with others – adequately**
- Is Smoky Lake Region effectively organized, resourced and these challenges?**
- What can and should the municipal governments do to more effectively equip and partner with regional recreation service providers?**
- Is the not-for-profit and volunteer-based model of service delivery the right go-forward strategy?**
- Or does this model need to be supplemented through expanded partnerships with the municipalities, with private entrepreneurs, or through a new and re-invigorated coordinating – and recognizing the potential of – volunteer-driven networks across the region.**

Smoky Lake Region  
 Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

**5. Socio-Demographic Profile of Smoky Lake Region**

As with population in other Canadian provinces, U.S. states and developed nations around the world, the age profile of Alberta’s population is steadily increasing. This is due to a combination of factors, including decreasing fertility rates among what have traditionally been core population groups, longer life expectancies and the advancing age of the Baby Boom Generation.

The Alberta Government’s *Aging Population Policy Framework* (November 2010) outlines the magnitude of the socio-demographic shifts currently taking place within the province.

- ▶ Alberta still has one of the youngest populations in North America, but the province’s residents are getting older and the proportion of seniors in the overall population mix is projected to rise significantly.
- ▶ Alberta’s first Baby Boomer officially turned 65 in 2011.
- ▶ The Baby Boomers, those who were born between 1946 and 1965, accounted for almost one quarter of Alberta’s population in 2011.

- ▶ As this demographic group ages, the greying of the population is expected to accelerate until 2030, when the last group of Baby Boomers reach the age of 65.
- ▶ Currently, about one in ten Albertans are 65 years of age or older. Each month, another 2,000 Albertans reach the age of 65.
- ▶ It is estimated that between 2011 and 2021, the number of seniors will increase from 413,000 to 642,000. In that time, the percentage of seniors will increase from approximately 11 per cent to 15 per cent of Alberta's total population.
- ▶ In 2031, it is projected that there will be more than 923,000 seniors in Alberta. In other words, about one in five Albertans will be 65 years of age or older by 2031.

The impacts and implications of these trends will have profound and lasting economic, social and public policy (fiscal) implications for decades to come. They will directly affect the labour force, financial markets, pension systems, consumer demand, the housing sector, the demand for health services and supports, and the need for community-based supports and services.

From the perspective of this study, they will directly impact the provisions and societal preferences for recreational programming and services that meet the needs, priorities and interest of this growing population of aging citizens.

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

Smoky Lake Region's demographics reveal an even older and more rapidly-aging population, when compared to the province as a whole.

Whereas the median age of Alberta's population was about 36 years in 2011, and is forecast to climb to 37 years by 2020, Smoky Lake Region's median age was estimated to be just over 45 years in 2011, and is forecast to increase to over 46 years by 2020.

This aging demographic also characterizes many other smaller, rural-based non-oil-and-gas-dependent communities and regions across Alberta. What they all appear to have in common, at least over the past couple of decades, is a steady and ongoing out-migration of younger residents in pursuit of post-secondary education, employment and career opportunities elsewhere in the province – and particularly to Alberta's larger urban centres.

A consequence of these out-migration patterns is lower rates of new family formation within these rural communities and regions, and hence relatively stagnant population growth and rapidly-aging local/regional populations.

**5.1 Smoky Lake Region Demographics – Highlights**

- 2011 Smoky Lake Region Population: 5,436<sup>7</sup>
- 2006 Smoky Lake Region Population: 4,919<sup>7</sup>
- 2011/2006 Increase in Population: 517 or 10.51%
- Land Area: 1,319.89 Square Miles
- Persons Per Square Mile: 0.617
- Persons per Family: 2.97
- Per Cent Population by Age (2006 Data) <sup>7</sup>
  - 0 – 4 years 5%
  - 5 – 19 years 20%
  - 20 – 24 years 4%
  - 25 – 34 years 9%
  - 35 - 44 years 13%
- Per Cent Population by Age (2006 Data) <sup>7</sup>
  - 45 – 54 years 15%
  - 55 – 64 years 14%
  - 65 – 74 years 11%
  - 75 – 84 years 7%
  - 85 years + 2%

<sup>7</sup>Federal Census. Includes Smoky Lake County, Town of Smoky Lake, Village of Vilna and Village of Waskatenau.

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

**6. Recreation Asset Assessment and Program/Services Review**

Site visits were undertaken to the following recreational amenities and facilities within Smoky Lake Region. Preliminary life-cycle assessments were also informally and confidentially conducted – where indicated – by senior architectural/building engineering staff from three major construction/building restoration firms.

- Smoky Lake Agricultural Society Complex<sup>8</sup>
- Smoky Lake Curling Club<sup>8</sup>
- Smoky Lake Town and Country Golf Course
- Smoky Lake Rodeo Grounds
- Smoky Lake Seniors Drop-In Centre
- Smoky Lake Playfields and Playgrounds
- Smoky Lake Ball Diamond
- Smoky Lake and District Cultural and Heritage Museum
- Smoky Lake Kinsmen Gazebo
- Algonquin Shooting Sports Association/Club
- Iron Horse Trail
- Victoria Trail
- Metis Crossings
- Vilna and District Cultural Centres
- Vilna Agri-Plex Arena and Curling Rinks
- Vilna Golf Course
- Vilna Lions Club Rest Area and Village Park

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

- Vilna Seniors Drop-In Centre
- Waskatenau Arenas
- Waskatenau Skateboard Park and Ball Diamond Facilities
- Waskatenau Community Hall (Hall Facility)
- Waskatenau Curling Rink
- Waskatenau Lion's Club Playgrounds
- Waskatenau Senior Citizens Drop-In Centre
- Waskatenau Nature Trail
- Pine Creek Campground
- Other nearby resort/recreation areas visited included: Smoky Lake Campground and RV Park, Victoria Picnic Grounds, Hanmore Lake Campground, Warspite Picnic Grounds, Island Lake Campgrounds, Mons lake Campground, Bellis Beach Lake Campground, Garner Lake Provincial Park, Whitefish Lake, and Bonnie Lake Campground.

<sup>8</sup>Preliminary life-cycle assessment undertaken.

**A review of current recreation/sport programming and related services was also undertaken, as was a review of perceived regional recreation asset gaps, and an assessment of the need for new regional facilities and/or programming.**

**Feedback from these supplementary research components is reflected throughout the study and, specifically, in Phase 3: External Stakeholder Consultations/Discussions and Phase 5: Final Regional Recreation Master Plan Action Items/Recommendations Presented to JEDI Committee and Smoky Lake Region Joint Municipalities Committee.**

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

**7. Community Consultations / Quantitative Feedback**

The community consultations were largely focused around a comprehensive, random phone survey of Smoky Lake Region individuals and households, conducted over July-August 2012. A statistically-significant sample size of 368 household members was covered by the two survey components.

- **Closed-End Phone Survey  
(178 Individual Heads of Households)**
- **Open-Ended / Discussion-Based Phone Survey  
(Representing 368 Household Members)**

**7.1 Closed-End Phone Survey**

In addition to the standard demographic profile information, the first (closed-end) component of the phone survey focused on the following six questions.

- 1) ***In your view, what are the qualities that make Smoky Lake Region (Smoky Lake County), Town of Smoky Lake, Village of Waskatenau, Village of Vilna) attractive to you?***

*Nineteen options provided...please check up to five that you feel are the most important.*

**Response Profile Highlights:**

**Rank 1 – A pleasant place to live, work and raise a family  
(chosen by 61% of respondents)**

**Rank 2 – Quality of life (chosen by 57% of respondents)**

**Rank 3 – Proximity to Edmonton  
(chosen by 53% of respondents)**

**Rank 4 – Affordability (chosen by 51% of respondents)**

**Rank 5 – Outdoor recreation opportunities/attractions  
(chosen by 43% of respondents)**

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

- 2) ***In your opinion, how important are the following recreational opportunities, attractions and/or facilities to your community?***

*Ten options provided...please rate.*

**Response Profile Highlights:**

**Rank 1 – Social/Cultural Activities  
(54% ranked as being “Important/Very Important”)**

**Rank 2 – Hockey  
(49% ranked as being “important/Very Important”)**

**Rank 3 – Trails / Outdoor Recreation  
(46% ranked as being “Important /Very Important”)**

**Rank 4 – Trails  
(44% ranked as being “Important/Very Important”)**

**Rank 5 – Curling  
(38% ranked as being “Important/Very Important”)**

- 3) ***In your opinion, how important are the following recreational opportunities, attractions and/or facilities to your household/family?***

*Ten options provided...please rate.*

**Response Profile Highlights:**

**Rank 1 – Social/Cultural Activities  
(56% ranked as being “Important/Very Important”)**

- Rank 2 – Trails/Outdoor Recreation**  
(45% ranked as being “important/Very Important”)
- Rank 3 – Hockey**  
(38% ranked as being “Important/ Very Important)
- Rank 4 – Trails**  
(33% ranked as being “Important/Very Important”)
- Rank 5 – Golf**  
(32% ranked as being “Important/Very Important”)

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

4) **Which of the following words or phrases best describe a “healthy, sustainable community” to you?**

Nineteen options provided...please check up to five that you feel are the most important.

**Response Profile Highlights:**

- Rank 1 – Small business development**  
(chosen by 57% of respondents)
- Rank 2 – Business retention and growth**  
(chosen by 54% of respondents)
- Rank 3 – Quality of life** (chosen by 50% of respondents)
- Rank 4 – New jobs/investment** (chosen by 48% of respondents)
- Rank 5 – A growing economy** (chosen by 46% of respondents)

5) **In your view, how important are each of the following to expanding and attracting business/industry to Smoky Lake Region?**

Fifteen options provided...please rate.

**Response Profile Highlights:**

- Rank 1 – Quality of life**  
(92% ranked as being “Important/Very Important”)
- Rank 2 – Business climate**  
(89% ranked as being “important/Very Important”)
- Rank 3 – Affordable housing**  
(87% ranked as being “Important/ Very Important)
- Rank 4 – Property taxes**  
(86% ranked as being “Important/Very Important”)
- Rank 5 – Outdoor Recreation**  
(85% ranked as being “Important/Very Important”)

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

6) **What do you feel should be the Top 3 recreation priorities within Smoky Lake Region?**

No options provided...respondents rate.

**Response Profile Highlights:**

- Rank 1 – “Outdoor Activities”** (chosen by 53% of respondents)

**Rank 2 – “Expanding and promoting the Iron Horse Trail and the region’s other multi-use trail networks”  
(chosen by 42% of respondents)**

**Rank 3 – “What do seniors want/need?”  
(chosen by 41% of respondents)**

**Rank 4 – “Hockey” (chosen by 40% of respondents)**

**Rank 5 – “Being able to afford what we’ve got”  
(chosen by 38% of respondents)**

Once again, standard demographic profile information was also obtained and showed a very strong correlation to recent Statistics Canada data on population by municipality, household structure, age and gender. This is important and further validates the overall statistical significance of the two survey components utilized in this study.

Detailed response profiles on each of the closed-end questions are provided over the next several pages.

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

1) In your view, what are the qualities that make Smoky Lake Region (Smoky Lake County, Town of Smoky Lake, Village of Waskatenau, Village of Vilna) attractive to you?

Please check up to **FIVE (5)** that you feel are the most important.

- a) Quality of life **(RANK 2)**
- b) Good schools
- c) Strong sense of community
- d) Safe, walkable neighbourhoods
- e) Natural environment
- f) Sports and recreation facilities
- g) Cultural attractions
- h) Scenic/historic river valley
- i) Vibrant businesses, services and shopping
- j) Full range of retail/commercial services available
- k) High-quality community services and infrastructure
- l) Strong economy
- m) Good location for doing business
- n) Outdoor recreation opportunities/attraction **(RANK 5)**
- o) Affordability **(RANK 4)**
- p) Availability of good jobs
- q) Proximity to major transportation routes
- r) Proximity to Edmonton **(RANK 3)**
- s) A pleasant place to live, work and raise a family **(RANK 1)**

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

2) In your opinion, how important are the following recreational opportunities, attractions and/or facilities to your community?

Please rate the following.

|  | Very Unimportant      | Unimportant | Neutral | Important             | Very Important |
|--|-----------------------|-------------|---------|-----------------------|----------------|
| a) Boating/Fishing Watersports         | <b>36%</b><br>15% 21% |             | 35%     | <b>29%</b><br>23% 6%  |                |
| b) Quadding                            | <b>43%</b><br>12% 31% |             | 20%     | <b>37%</b><br>25% 12% |                |
| c) Snowmobiling                        | <b>57%</b><br>14% 43% |             | 13%     | <b>30%</b><br>19% 11% |                |
| d) Hockey (RANK 2)                     | <b>26%</b><br>9% 17%  |             | 25%     | <b>49%</b><br>31% 18% |                |
| e) Curling (RANK 5)                    | <b>29%</b><br>12% 17% |             | 33%     | <b>38%</b><br>24% 14% |                |
| f) Golf                                | <b>27%</b><br>3% 24%  |             | 38%     | <b>35%</b><br>26% 9%  |                |
| g) Trials/Outdoor Recreation (RANK 3)  | <b>33%</b><br>6% 27%  |             | 21%     | <b>46%</b><br>20% 26% |                |
| h) Social/Cultural Activities (RANK 1) | <b>30%</b><br>8% 22%  |             | 16%     | <b>54%</b><br>30% 24% |                |
| i) Trails (RANK 4)                     | <b>34%</b><br>6% 28%  |             | 22%     | <b>44%</b><br>26% 18% |                |
| j) Other (please describe)*            | <b>--%</b><br>--% --% |             | --%     | <b>--%</b><br>--% --% |                |

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

3) In your opinion, how important are the following recreational opportunities, attractions and/or facilities to your household/family?

Please rate the following.

|                                       | Very Unimportant      | Unimportant | Neutral | Important             | Very Important |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|---------|-----------------------|----------------|
| a) Boating/Fishing Watersports        | <b>52%</b><br>16% 36% |             | 23%     | <b>25%</b><br>20% 5%  |                |
| b) Quadding                           | <b>41%</b><br>8% 33%  |             | 29%     | <b>30%</b><br>20% 0%  |                |
| c) Snowmobiling                       | <b>57%</b><br>14% 43% |             | 13%     | <b>30%</b><br>19% 11% |                |
| d) Hockey (RANK 3)                    | <b>40%</b><br>11% 29% |             | 22%     | <b>38%</b><br>27% 11% |                |
| e) Curling                            | <b>45%</b><br>12% 33% |             | 29%     | <b>26%</b><br>18% 8%  |                |
| f) Golf (RANK 5)                      | <b>29%</b><br>11% 18% |             | 39%     | <b>32%</b><br>26% 6%  |                |
| g) Trials/Outdoor Recreation (RANK 2) | <b>31%</b><br>9% 22%  |             | 24%     | <b>45%</b><br>23% 22% |                |

|  |     |     |     |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| h) Social/Cultural Activities (RANK 1) | 25% |     | 19% | 56% |     |
|  | 5%  | 20% |     | 35% | 21% |
| i) Trails (RANK 4)                     | 39% |     | 28% | 33% |     |
|  | 4%  | 35% |     | 23% | 10% |
| j) Other (please describe)             | --% |     | --% | --% |     |
|  | --% | --% |     | --% | --% |

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)  
*The future is closer than you think*

4) Which of the following words or phrases best describes a “healthy, sustainable community” to you?

Please check up to FIVE (5) that you feel are the most important.

- a) New jobs/investment (RANK 4)
- b) Business retention and growth (RANK 2)
- c) New business attraction
- d) Small business development (RANK 1)
- e) Self-employment opportunities
- f) Tourism business development
- g) A sustainable economy
- h) Sustainable recreation (indoor/outdoor) opportunities
- i) A green economy
- j) A diversified economy
- k) An attractive business climate/infrastructure
- l) Affordable taxes
- m) Quality of life (RANK 3)
- n) A more comfortable lifestyle
- o) A stable lifestyle
- p) A growing economy (RANK 5)
- q) A stable economy
- r) A growing population
- s) A stable population

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)  
*The future is closer than you think*

5) In your view, how important are each of the following to expanding and attracting business/industry to Smoky Lake Region?

|   | Very Unimportant | Unimportant | Neutral | Important | Very Important |
|---|------------------|-------------|---------|-----------|----------------|
| a) Available and affordable commercial / industrial sites | 40%              |             | 40%     | 20%       |                |
|   | 3%               | 37%         |         | 15%       | 5%             |
| b) Business climate (RANK 2)                              | 3%               |             | 8%      | 89%       |                |
|   | 0%               | 3%          |         | 38%       | 51%            |
| c) Property taxes (RANK 4)                                | 5%               |             | 9%      | 86%       |                |
|   | 1%               | 4%          |         | 48%       | 38%            |

|                                     |                       |     |                       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----|-----------------------|
| d) Government rules and regulations | <b>20%</b><br>1% 19%  | 24% | <b>56%</b><br>37% 19% |
| e) Municipal Infrastructure         | <b>42%</b><br>2% 40%  | 16% | <b>42%</b><br>29% 13% |
| f) Affordable Housing (RANK 3)      | <b>3%</b><br>1% 2%    | 10% | <b>87%</b><br>38% 49% |
| g) Living close to where you work   | <b>32%</b><br>3% 29%  | 14% | <b>54%</b><br>29% 25% |
| h) Government programs/ Services    | <b>63%</b><br>14% 49% | 14% | <b>23%</b><br>15% 8%  |
| i) Sports and recreation facilities | <b>18%</b><br>3% 15%  | 21% | <b>61%</b><br>46% 15% |
| j) Quality of life (RANK 1)         | <b>4%</b><br>1% 3%    | 4%  | <b>92%</b><br>50% 42% |
| k) Proximity to Edmonton            | <b>6%</b><br>2% 4%    | 12% | <b>82%</b><br>51% 31% |
| l) Outdoor recreation (RANK 5)      | <b>4%</b><br>1% 3%    | 11% | <b>85%</b><br>54% 31% |
| m) Growing economy                  | <b>1%</b><br>0% 1%    | 26% | <b>73%</b><br>45% 28% |
| n) Growing population               | <b>9%</b><br>1% 8%    | 22% | <b>69%</b><br>41% 28% |
| o) Skilled labour force             | <b>33%</b><br>3% 30%  | 29% | <b>38%</b><br>18% 20% |

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

6) What do you feel should be the Top 3 recreation priorities within Smoky Lake Region?

NOTE: Highest-frequency related/unprompted responses (20% response threshold).

- a) "Outdoor Activities" 53%
- b) "Expanding and promoting the Iron Horse Trail and the region's other multi-use trail networks" 42%
- c) "What do seniors want/need?" 41%
- d) "Hockey" 40%
- e) "Being able to afford what we've got" 38%
- f) "Not duplicating or competing against other destination facilities within the region" 32%
- g) "Curling" 25%
- h) "Golf" 21%

7) Where do you live?

- a) Smoky Lake County
- b) Town of Smoky Lake
- c) Village of Waskatenau
- d) Village of Vilna
- e) Not Sure
- f) Other

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

|     |  |     |
|-----|--|-----|
| 8)  | Which of the following best describes your household:                |     |
| a)  | a single person  | 8%  |
| b)  | a number of single people  | 9%  |
| c)  | a couple   | 44% |
| d)  | a family   | 39% |
| 9)  | Are there any children under the age of 18 living in your household? |     |
| a)  | Yes  | 41% |
| b)  | No   | 59% |
| 10) | How old are you?   |     |
| a)  | under 18   | 1%  |
| b)  | 18-24  | 7%  |
| c)  | 25-34  | 15% |
| d)  | 35-49  | 30% |
| e)  | 50-64  | 33% |
| f)  | 65 or over   | 14% |
| 11) | Are you:   |     |
| a)  | Male   | 49% |
| b)  | Female   | 51% |

Smoky Lake Region  
 Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

### 7.2 Open-Ended/Discussion-Based Phone Survey

The second (open-ended) survey component was structured specifically to discuss, assess and evaluate current **active recreation** participation levels among residents of Smoky Lake Region.

Poor, acceptable, good and excellent levels of physical activity were discussed within the context of recommended daily/weekly moderate- to vigorous-intensity aerobic activity targets – e.g., 60 minutes daily for 5-11 and 12-17 year olds and 150 minutes a week for 18-64 year olds, as currently recommended by health, fitness and wellness advocacy organizations such as ParticipAction, Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology, Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute, Alberta Centre for Active Living, Health Canada, etc.

Body Mass Index (BMI) was also discussed and approximate based on self-reported respondent data on weight and height and the fundamental relationship between these two key BMI variables. Thresholds were set for defining “overweight” and “obese” and gender-specific thresholds established for children and youth.

Indeed, this survey approach parallels the methodology used in the *2005 Statistics Canada Canadian Community Health Survey* of 80 major health region across Canada.

The second survey component also provided respondents with an opportunity to raise other top-of-mind issues, concerns or preferences related to recreation and future recreational programming and services in Smoky Lake Region. Over sixty per cent of respondents took advantage of the opportunity to provide additional input – a relatively high percentage for this type of fairly in-dept phone survey.

Response profiles on this open-ended/discussion-based survey component – together with the not-for-attribution input, comments and suggestions for the 83 residents and community stakeholders interviewed over the course of the study – are provided in *Section 8*.

### 7.3 Community Physical Activity Benchmarks

The *2005 Statistics Canada Canadian Community Health Survey* generate a series of Canada-wide regional rankings based on overall physical activity levels and Body Mass Index (BMI) thresholds, as discussed above.

A total of 80 major health regions were ranked – from those with the highest levels of (sufficiently) active residents to the lowest levels of (sufficiently) active residents.

At the time, Smoky Lake Region fell within the Aspen Regional Health Authority. While the data are still illustrative, it should be remembered that other population centres in an around Smoky Lake Region are also included in these results.

Smoky Lake Region  
 Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

**Aspen Regional Health Authority (Alberta: 2005)**

- Proportion of Adults Who are Sufficiently Active: 51.1% Rank: 23
- Proportion of Youth Who are Sufficiently Active: 29.5% Rank: 12
- ▶ **“Sufficiently Active” defined as 60 minutes a day of moderate- to vigorous-intensity aerobic activity for 5-11 and 12-17 year olds, and 150 minutes a week for 18-64 years old.**

Source: Statistics Canada Canadian Community Health Survey, 2005.

Health regions were also ranked from the highest levels of overweight and obese residents to the lowest.

**Aspen Regional Health Authority (Alberta: 2005)**

- Proportion of Adults Who are Overweight or Obese: 58.4% Rank: 26
- Proportion of Youth Who are Overweight or Obese: 25.5% Rank: 48
- ▶ **Body Mass Index (BMI) thresholds were set for defining “overweight” and “obese” and gender-specific thresholds established for children youth. Those exceeding the thresholds were categorized as being either “overweight” or “obese”.**

Source: Statistics Canada Canadian Community Health Survey, 2005.

Smoky Lake Region  
 Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

**7.4 Smoky Lake Region Physical Activity Survey (2012)**

The same methodology and approach used in the 2005 Statistics Canada Canadian Community Health Survey was also used in the recent Smoky Lake Region open-ended/discussion-based phone survey. This time the survey involved a total sample size of 368 household members – once again, all from Smoky Lake Region.

**Smoky Lake Region (Alberta: 2012)**

- Proportion of Adults Who Agree Physical Activity is Important to Long-Term Health: 92.1%
- Proportion of Adults Who are Sufficiently Active: 46.3%
- ▶ **“Sufficiently Active” defined as 60 minutes as day of moderate- to vigorous-Intensity aerobic activity for 5-11 and 12-17 year olds, and 150 minutes a week for 18-64 year olds.**
- ▶ **Body Mass Index (BMI) thresholds were set for defining “overweight” and “obese” and gender-specific thresholds established for children and youth. Those exceeding the thresholds were categorized as being either “overweight” or “obese”.**
- ▶ **About 70% of adults do some walking for leisure, transportation or at work, but not enough to reach a moderate level of physical activity.**
- ▶ **Regionally, about 59.8% of resident adults can be considered “overweight” or “obese”.**

Source: New West Market Research Comprehensive, Random Phone Survey of Smoky Lake Region Individuals and Households, July-August 2012. A statistically-significant sample size of 368 household members was covered by the two survey components.

Smoky Lake Region  
 Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

**Smoky Lake Region (Alberta: 2012)**

- Proportion of Youth Who Agree Physical Activity is Important to Long-Term Health: 47.3%
- Proportion of Youth Who are Sufficiently Active: 26.4%
- ▶ **“Sufficiently Active” defined as 60 minutes as day of moderate- to vigorous-intensity aerobic activity for 5-11 and 12-17 year olds, and 150 minutes a week for 18-64 year olds.**
- ▶ **Body Mass Index (BMI) thresholds were set for defining “overweight” and “obese” and gender-specific thresholds established for children and youth. Those exceeding the thresholds were categorized as being either “overweight” or “obese”.**
- ▶ **The average Smoky Lake Region teen would appear to spend an average of just over 5 hours per day – outside of school and doing homework – watching television, playing video games and using the computer.**
- ▶ **Regionally, about 29.8% of residents youth can be considered “overweight” or “obese”.**

**Source:** New West Market Research *Comprehensive, Random Phone Survey of Smoky Lake Region Individuals and Households*, July-August 2012. A statistically-significant sample size of 368 household members was covered by the two survey components.

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

**8. Community Feedback / Qualitative Feedback**

This section provides a short summary of some of the higher-frequency themes and comments made by respondents during the study’s open-ended/discussion-based phone survey and through the self-selected resident/community stakeholder interviews.

Although presented as actual (Verbatim) statements made by individual respondents, these comments are intended more to be illustrative of similar or like-minded themes and comments raised with a high degree of frequency across all respondents. The frequency weighting factor used in compiling this summary was 20 per cent, which means that at least one-in-five respondents would have raised a similar or related issue or theme, or made a similar comment when discussing a given issue.

**8.1 Regional Physical Activity Levels**

- ▶ *“A lot of farm work these days is mechanical...and all we ever do is drive to where we’re going. No wonder we’re not as fit as we used to be.”*
- ▶ *“Where can I go for a walk in the middle of winter when it’s minus 30 C? My excuse I guess.”*
- ▶ *“Summer is good to be burning calories...winter is where it all unravels.”*
- ▶ *“As I get older I know it’s easy to put on the pounds...but a bugger to try and get it off.”*
- ▶ *“We love our food in Smoky Lake, but are killing ourselves through the epidemic of overweight people...kids, adults, everyone it seems. Just take a look around.*
- ▶ *“Being a retiree, I now have more time for exercise...but wouldn’t have a clue where to start or how to get going.”*
- ▶ *“We need to look at more walking, hiking and outdoor activities, with way-finding posts, distance measures and even better and more level sidewalks in the Town and Villages. We can afford this, and it will make a big difference.”*
- ▶ *“Walking is the most common form of exercise as we get older. We are completely overlooking this simple but effective solution.”*
- ▶ *“I am a senior and would like to see more organized and affordable recreation for seniors...and that includes outdoor and indoor walking activities like in the Ag Complex.”*

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

- ▶ *“I hope this study does not forget the elderly residents who built this country, we need a recreation plan that helps us age with vitality, dignity and makes our last few years healthy ones.”*
- ▶ *“All our young people do these days is stare at a computer or smart phone screen, watch TV, or generally sit on their ass.”*
- ▶ *“Many of our kids are overweight, out of shape and many couldn’t walk up a flight or stairs without huffing and puffing...what are the schools doing about this, giving everyone As for effort?”*
- ▶ *“Most recreation is social and doesn’t get the heart going. I think our goal should be to encourage more active recreation...heart-pumping recreation and activity...for all ages. I would be honoured to see these words in your report because I think they capture what needs to get done.”*

**Note to Reader:** The theme of *active recreation* – aimed at increasing population-wide physical activity levels and, in turn, overall community health and well-being – is one of the key underlying themes of the Smoky Lake Regional Recreation Master Plan.

- ▶ *“The County needs to educate people on what’s happening, because when the doctor does it’s usually way late.”*
- ▶ *“Sports, getting sweaty and running around ain’t cool...social media, video games and the internet, that’s cool.”*
- ▶ *“You don’t always need a new building or fancy new gazebo that nobody uses to get something done. Heck, we can all do basic stretching and exercise at home with the right information and a little help to get started.”*

**8.2 Gaps in Current Recreational Programming and Service Delivery**

- ▶ *“I think the service clubs and Ag Societies have done a fantastic job of running the show for the past few decades...but this small circle of volunteers needs to be expanded and newcomers welcomed and brought into the fold.”*
- ▶ *“There are three things you need to know about sports and recreation in Smoky Lake... volunteers, volunteers and volunteers!”*

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

- ▶ *“Our volunteer groups are irreplaceable, but increasingly stretched and overworked...and some are definitely feeling unappreciated these days. The fun needs to be put back into it and the politics need to be sent packing.”*
- ▶ *“The municipalities need to do a better job of supporting and recognizing the volunteer who...year after year...continue to operate the facilities we are still fortunate to have.”*
- ▶ *“The biggest gap we face for recreation is money...others got it, we don’t.”*
- ▶ *“There is an urgent need to more effectively monitor and regularly report on facility usage levels and capital maintenance requirement for facilities, particularly the older facilities.”*
- ▶ *“With cash-strapped non-profits driving the bus, quality infrastructure and quality of service are always ongoing concerns.”*
- ▶ *“Given the importance of improving physical activity across the region, maybe it’s time to look at some type of a recreation levy of a regional recreation coordinating group to better organize things.”*
- ▶ *“We just moved here from a community where the municipality ran all the sports facilities and parks...we’re still trying to sort through how a volunteer group of people is expected to do most of the heavy lifting in Smoky Lake...including raising money for facility operations.”*
- ▶ *“Is the not-for-profit administration of recreation the right-way to go in 2013. I don’t know, but I do know that buying raffle tickets to support basic community infrastructure still seems a little troubling, to me at least.”*
- ▶ *“Growing expectations of the vocal coffee-shop crowd can sometimes be a problem...they want something and want it bad, but expect someone else to pay for it.”*

- ▶ “The County, the Town and other municipalities, our schools and our senior’s lodges need to step up and help out more to guarantee that basic recreational opportunities...waling trails, trail networks, general health and wellness information, and senior’s activity programs are there when we need them.”
- ▶ “Let’s not forget that cash is king as you consider all those grandiose plans for new pools, new multiplexes and any other new Taj Mahal project that some Councillors seem to think will bet them re-elected. Be smart and keep it simple.”

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

- ▶ “Stay focused on the immediate recreation needs and priorities and not on what special interests are telling you needs to be built.”
- ▶ “Escalating maintenance and operating costs continue to be a big drain...even with grants and charities it sometimes is challenging to pay the bills. Hopefully the County understands this.”
- ▶ “Basic fitness and fitness education is missing and must be Job One...let’s get on with it.”
- ▶ “We can probably build most things we grant monies, especially in an election year, but should always ask how we will pay for operating it.”
- ▶ “The cultural dance groups have been super and have really connected with our young girls and boys...giving them a strong connection to the region’s heritage. This is recreation too.”
- ▶ “I have noticed that teenage girls are typically less active than boys in the same age group...I am a mother of one such teenage girl and am at my wits end trying to get her and her girl friends more actively involved in sport and exercise...help!”
- ▶ “Recreation in Smoky Lake has to be more than just hockey and curling. Outdated thinking!”
- ▶ “All of our energies seem to go to the elite organized sports teams or clubs...we need to get the message across to everybody that health and healthy lifestyles are for everybody.”
- ▶ “Information on the importance of diet and exercise needs to be made available...what happened to ParticipAction?”
- ▶ “The big issue to me is the classic issue of wants versus needs...we all want an indoor swimming pool in our backyard, but can we afford it?”
- ▶ “Smoky Lake can’t be all things to all people when it comes to sports and recreation. Let’s pick our sport, make sure we can afford it, and deliver as any great team would.”
- ▶ “I don’t mind taking the family into the Dow Centre once a week...we look forward to it. But let’s make sure we have some basic, cost-effective recreation available for our seniors, at our schools and in our natural environment.”
- ▶ “The new privately-run fitness centre in Smoky Lake is a god-send. Professional staff, great hours, excellent equipment and private capital...let’s not have government or the Ag Society trying to duplicate something we just got and is working well.”

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

- ▶ “Social marketing should be used to better inform our young people of the benefits of exercise and proper diet?”
- ▶ “Hockey is an expensive undertaking...let’s not forget that providing affordable recreation experiences is
- ▶ “Corporate culture sends messages to employees about the value an employer places on an active workforce through its day-to-day policies, working style and activities...out municipal governments should do more to support and encourage physical activity and show real in-house leadership.”

**8.3 Regional Recreation Priorities and Needs**

- ▶ “Recreation is and will remain critical to the social, cultural and economic well-being of our community.”
- ▶ “Based on what I know your phone survey told you, the overriding goal needs to be to get more people, more active, more often.”
- ▶ “Some of my neighbours and their families are in great physical condition, but it used to be that we all were. Your study needs to look at what we can do to get through to those that aren’t that physically active any more.”
- ▶ “We need to explore new and more cooperative, collaborative ways of encouraging and supporting healthy and socially active lifestyles.
- ▶ “Your strategy must pay particular attention to inactivity, obesity, disease prevention and health well-being...in my view, these will be the priority public health issues confronting us now and into
- ▶ “Today’s Canadian children and youth are heavier, fatter, rounder and weaker than they were a generation ago...this is an embarrassment to Canada.”
- ▶ “I hope by recreation you remember seniors. People say they are doing things for us, but it needs to be better...we need to do moving things with our friends and not just play cards and watch TV.”

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

- ▶ “Studies suggest that the extra expense of simple exercise programs for seniors can be more than met through savings in both medical expenses and the demands for institutional support.”
- ▶ “Active living and wellness programs for older adults should be expanded...we need to do more outreach in this area.”
- ▶ “Participation in organized sport seems to be holding steady or even losing ground...what can and should we do to attract new entrants? What role can or should our schools play?”
- ▶ “Rather than trying to build new facilities, or add on to existing ones, it may be better to look at ways of further improving public access to schools for after-hours recreation programs and user groups. No need for anyone to get defensive, but we can do better.”
- ▶ “Youth drop-in opportunities, open gym time and other unstructured activities should be expanded to connect with low participation groups.”
- ▶ “There is increasing interest in pathways, trails and walking routes for seniors...how can these be further encouraged and supported.”
- ▶ “Hopefully, your survey is more than just finger-pointing and justifying the status quo...cause the status quo is definitely under considerable stress, financially and from a volunteer group that is fast burning out.”
- ▶ “Recreation and leisure are key entry points for belonging in our community and support strong families and individuals, both young and old, in building strong neighbourhoods.”
- ▶ “Parks, open space and natural areas are important to ecological survival, in addition to being great and cost-effective recreational assets.”
- ▶ “Outdoor recreation...trails, boating, camping, golf, the gun club, quadding, snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, bird-watching and even just plain walking...these are all things we can do to increase physical activity.”
- ▶ “Let’s rediscover the great outdoors in Smoky Lake County.”
- ▶ “Hockey is Canada and our hockey programs should be the highest priority.”
- ▶ “Curling, golf and hockey are the key building blocks of sport and recreation in Smoky Lake...please figure out a way to make sure they survive.”

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

- ▶ “Participation in golf encourages healthy outdoor activity and important social interaction for all ages.”
- ▶ “The Iron Horse Trail and the County’s trail networks are an amazing regional jewel...government support must continue.”
- ▶ “Social activities for seniors are recreation...they exercise the mind. We will not be running a marathon, but maybe take a short walk or do some stretching.”
- ▶ “Smoky Lake needs to develop a local active community strategy...we need to get people out of their vehicles, out from the dinner plate, and our children away from their video games for a while.”

**9. External Stakeholder Consultation/Discussions**

In addition to the community consultations, external stakeholder consultations and discussions with the following organizations also helped guide in the development of the Regional Recreation Master Plan action/recommendations, outlined in Section 10.

- Alberta Agricultural and Rural Development
- Alberta Centre for Active Living
- Alberta Health Services
- Alberta Health and Wellness
- Alberta Recreation and Parks Association
- Alberta Senior Citizens Sport and Recreation Association
- Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation
- Allan and Jean Millar Centre (Town of Whitecourt)
- Bold Centre (Lac La Biche County)
- Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute
- Canadian Institute for Health Information
- Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology
- City of Edmonton, Neighbourhoods, Parks and Community Recreation Branch
- Cold Lake Energy Centre (City of Cold Lake)
- County of Barrhead

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

- Health Canada
- High Prairie and District Regional Recreation Board
- National Seniors Council
- ParticipAction
- Strathcona County, Recreation, Parks and Culture Department
- Town of St. Paul, Culture Parks and Recreation Department
- Town of Vegreville, Recreation, At and Facilities Department
- TransAlta Tri-Leisure Centre (City of Spruce Grove and Tri-Municipal Leisure Board)
- Volunteer Alberta
- Volunteer Canada
- Westlock Aquatic and Fitness Centre (Town of Westlock)

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

**10. Regional Recreation Master Plan / Action Items and Recommendations**

The preceding pages of this report have outlined a number of key challenges for all recreation stakeholder in Smoky Lake Region – including our local service clubs, organizations and Agricultural Societies, other recreation service providers, our volunteer sector and, of course, the four municipal governments.

- ▶ Although 92 per cent of adult respondents to the recent Smoky lake Region phone survey agreed that physical activity is important to long-term health, only 46 per cent are sufficiently active.
- ▶ About 70 per cent of adults do some walking for leisure, transportation or at work, but not enough to reach a moderate level of physical activity.
- ▶ About 60 per cent of resident adults can be considered “overweight” or “Obese”.
- ▶ Only 47 per cent of youth respondents agreed that physical activity is important, and only 26 per cent are sufficiently active.
- ▶ The average Smoky lake Region teen is estimated to spend an average of just over 5 hours a day – outside of school and doing homework – watching television, playing video games and using the computer.
- ▶ Almost 30 per cent of resident youth can be considered “overweight” or “obese”.

While these numbers now appear to have moved into the “middle-of-the-pack” when it comes to ranking with other Canadian health regions, this should not be taken as an excuse for failing to act on what is clearly a significant challenge to long-term community health and well-being.

- ▶ According to the World Health Organization, physical inactivity is now one of the five leading global risk factors for mortality and is estimated to account for about 2.6 million premature deaths per year.
- ▶ Inactivity contributes to obesity, heart disease, diabetes, osteoporosis, stroke, depression and, ultimately, a reduced quality of life and higher likelihood of premature death.

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

- ▶ Childhood and youth obesity in Canada have tripled over the past three decades and Smoky Lake Region appears to be closely tracking this national trend.
- ▶ The Canadian Institute for Health Information reports that, on average, obese male and female patients incur physician-related costs that are 15-18 per cent higher than normal-weight patients.
- ▶ According to ParticipAction, physical inactivity now costs Canadian taxpayers almost \$6.9 billion a year representing an estimated 3.9 per cent of total Canadian health care costs.
- ▶ **Bottom Line:** The benefits of physical activity have been proven in study after study, helping to reduce the risk of disease, improve quality of life and reduce the risk of premature death.

The main Regional Recreation Master Plan action items/recommendations which follow are both a reflection and a response to what was heard during the community consultations.

As such, they reflect the broader community's stated preferences, perceptions, needs, wants and priorities when it comes to recreation, sports and related community-wide amenities, programming and services – rather than those of the consultant, the four municipal governments or any other stakeholder group(s). They are also financially doable and fiscally sustainable.

There is wide recognition that to be effective this Plan must be viewed as a living document and that the active participation and continued engagement of all stakeholders in implementation and execution is imperative.

The local service clubs, organizations and the regional Agricultural Societies are all important players, as are the four municipal governments within the region, but it must be recognized that each (individually) is only one player when it comes to contributing to the broader and more collaborative effort which this Plan is recommending.

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

□ **RECOMMENDATION 1**

All recreation stakeholders – not just the front-line recreation services providers – need to commit to strengthening the long-term health and well-being of residents through their involvement in *active recreation* and increased levels of physical activity.

In answering the question Who does what?...the answer is all recreation stakeholders must share in this responsibility, based on their resource capabilities and core competencies to deliver effective, cost-efficient recreation programs and services.

□ **RECOMMENDATION 2**

Municipal governments need to transition and build on the existing financial and operation support (direct and indirect) they currently provide to the region’s main recreation service providers, taking a more hands-on, active role as a service delivery “partner” rather than just a “funding provider”.

The region’s volunteer sector – which should be recommended for its ongoing efforts and contributions – continues to carry far too much of the work load in the all-important operational, information and awareness, and service delivery areas.

□ **RECOMMENDATION 3**

More specifically, municipal governments should increase their involvement and monitoring of regional recreation service delivery to ensure that existing core service providers are better equipped – financially, administratively and strategically – to sustain the range of programs, services and “amenities” required to address identified community-wide needs.

The guiding principles should be:

- 1) Facilitating Education and Awareness
- 2) Maintaining Accessibility and Affordability
- 3) Enhancing Quality of Service
- 4) Maintaining Quality Infrastructure (Facilities and Related Amenities)
- 5) Providing Increased Program/Service Delivery Capacity
- 6) Transitioning to Multi-Party Accountability
- 7) Ensuring Long-Term Financial Sustainability

**More Effective Leveraging of Senior Levels of Government**

Smoky Lake Region  
 Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

□ **RECOMMENDATION 4**

Fiscal capacity and long-term fiscal sustainability are always the two key considerations in moving beyond a discussion of “wants” and focusing attention instead on actual community “needs” and, more importantly, what is doable.

Prior to any major capital project being approved a thorough analysis of operating budget implications and possible partnership options must be undertaken to ensure that sufficient annual operating funds will be available.

A case in point, a detailed capital and operating cost budget was developed as part of this study to look at the possibility of building a basic, no-frills 5-6 lane, 25 metre competitive/recreational swimming pool, with water slide and adjoining kids pool, steam room, sauna and changing facilities.

The total capital cost of such a basic facility, aside of any land acquisition costs, was any where between \$6 million and \$8 million, but the facility’s annual operating cost shortfall (user pay) was estimated at between \$550,000 and \$600,000 a year (i.e., on annual projected operating costs of about \$800,000, and a user pay fee schedule consistent with other similar Northern Alberta benchmark facilities).

Aside of where the capital budget would come from, the longer term challenge is obviously who - or how – such a large and ongoing operating deficit would be covered?

□ RECOMMENDATION 5

Municipal governments should lead in the facilitation of a broad-based public information and awareness campaign, with particular focus on those groups with relatively low *active recreation/physical activity* participation levels.

□ RECOMMENDATION 6

Municipal governments should continue to look at new and innovative ways to strengthen their role in encouraging, supporting and recognizing the region’s many volunteers. Volunteer Alberta and volunteer Canada are both great contact organizations for best-practices approaches that have worked well in other comparable jurisdictions.

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

□ RECOMMENDATION 7

The recruitment, training and mentoring of the next generation of volunteers and not for-profit organizational leaders is one area that needs to be given a higher priority especially given the feedback received during the recent phone survey. Once again, this is a task for all recreation stakeholders – not just the existing volunteer-based recreation service providers.

□ RECOMMENDATION 8

Municipal governments – as employees and “organizations leaders” in this community should look at available opportunities to encourage and support healthier lifestyles, improved nutrition and diet and increased physical activity among their employees.

This includes setting aside specific time during working hours to facilitate these types of initiatives – all of which have been shown to contribute to a healthier and more productive workforce.

□ RECOMMENDATION 9

It will be important to not overlook additional opportunities which may be available to improve public access to schools for after-hours recreation programs and user group. Again, this was an opportunity that many respondents raised during the recent phone survey.

□ RECOMMENDATION 10

Recreational programming and services aimed at more effectively engaging seniors, children and youth in *active recreation* must be a community-wide priority.

Smoky Lake Region  
Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)

*The future is closer than you think*

□ RECOMMENDATION 11

Developing additional outdoor recreation capacity is not necessarily a bricks and mortar challenge, but it would appear to represent a significant and affordable opportunity to address the strong and seemingly growing demand of these types of recreational experiences.

□ RECOMMENDATION 12

Avoid taxpayer-funded competition against privately-owned and operated service providers, especially where these entrepreneurs are effectively and efficiently addressing priority recreational needs and demands. In fact, all recreation stakeholders should be cross-promoting each other, rather than trying to duplicate services or programming that is already being offered.

□ **RECOMMENDATION 13**

In terms of how to “operationalize” many of the findings, action items and recommendations emerging from this study, the overriding recommendation is that the new Smoky Lake Region Economic and Community Development Committee assume this coordinating collaborative role – effective immediately.

It may be that this eventually leads to the establishment of a “permanent” multi-stakeholder Regional Recreation Advisory Board, or even implementation of regional recreation-specific levies, but these are decisions that are clearly down the road.

Prepared by:  
**Mr. Shane Pospisil**  
 Smoky Lake Region JEDI Committee/CEDO  
 Phone: 1-780-860-5100  
 March 2013

Smoky Lake Region  
 Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI)  
*The future is closer than you think*

---

Smoky Lake Regional Recreation Master Plan Page 49

Carried.

**Policy Statement No. 61-07-03: Regional Community Development Committee (RCDC): Terms of Reference**

853-13: Danyluk

That **Policy Statement No. 61-07-03** entitled "Regional Community Development Committee (RCDC): Terms of Reference" be amended:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Purpose:</b>                         | To serve as an Ad Hoc Advisory Committee to Smoky Lake County, Town of Smoky Lake, Village of Vilna and Village of Waskatenau for the completion of the Smoky Lake Regional Community Development Partnership Project.  |
| <b>Policy Statement and Guidelines:</b> |   |
| <b>1. MEMBERSHIP:</b>                   |   |
| 1.1                                     | <b>Smoky Lake County</b> – Three members of Council as voting members.  |
| 1.2                                     | <b>Town of Smoky Lake</b> – Two members of Council as voting members.   |
| 1.3                                     | <b>Village of Vilna</b> – One member of Council as voting member.   |
| 1.4                                     | <b>Village of Waskatenau</b> – One member of Council as voting member.  |
| 1.5                                     | <b>Alternate Members</b> – Each municipality may, at their discretion, appoint alternate members to serve as voting members in the absence of their named Committee members.  |
| 1.6                                     | <b>Managing Partner Administration</b> – Smoky Lake County, as managing partner, will provide the Administrative support of the Chief Administrative Officer and any staff necessary to assist in the duties of the Regional Community Development Committee. |
| 1.7                                     | <b>Resource Persons</b> – Administrators of partner municipalities, consultants and other Councillors may attend Regional Community Development Committee meetings in a resource capacity, as needed.   |
| <b>2. MEETINGS:</b>                     |   |
|   | The Regional Community Development Committee will meet as necessary (normally monthly).   |

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>3.</b></p> <p><b>4.</b></p> <p><b>5.</b></p> <p><b>6.</b></p> | <p><b>QUORUM:</b><br/>Four voting members shall constitute a quorum.</p> <p><b>TERM:</b><br/>As per the term of term of the Smoky Lake Region Community Development Partnership Project (as set forth in the Regional Collaboration Grant Agreement), the Committee shall serve until May 31, 2014, or shall be immediately dissolved before May 31, 2014 upon the creation and installation of a new joint-municipal committee to replace it to carry on all work pertaining to the Regional Community Development Partnership Project.</p> <p><b>FINANCE:</b></p> <p>5.1 The managing partner of the Regional Collaboration Grant, Smoky Lake County, will monitor the budget.</p> <p>5.2 Budget updates will be provided at each Regional Community Development Committee meetings.</p> <p><b>ROLES:</b></p> <p>6.1 The Regional Community Development Committee will serve as the Regional “Ad Hoc” Advisory Committee for the Initiatives set forth in the Smoky Lake Regional Community Development Partnership.</p> <p>6.2 The Regional Community Development Committee shall facilitate the implementation of the Regional Recreation master Plan recommendations and actions items for the development and provisions of a Regional Recreation and Wellness program as per <i>Policy 07-06: Recreation and Wellness Program</i> and as per <i>Schedule “A”: Smoky Lake Regional Recreation Master Plan.</i></p> |
|---|--|

Carried.

854-13: Cholak

That County Council recess the County Council meeting to call the Public Hearing Meeting to order, time 9:23 a.m.

Carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

The Reeve Dareld Cholak called the Public Hearing to Order at 9:23 a.m. in the presence of all the Council members, the Chief Administrative Officer; the Assistant Chief Administrative Officer/Recording Secretary; and the Finance Manager.

Aline Brousseau, Planning and Development Manager; Ed English, Peace Officer; Doug Ponich, Public Works Manager and Arlene Shwetz, Communication Services Coordinator in attendance for the Public Hearing.

Jane Dauphinee, Principal/Senior Planner, Municipal Planning Services (2009) Ltd. in attendance for the Public Hearing.

General public: 3 members of the public in attendance for the Public Hearing.

**Bylaw No. 1256-13: Amend the Land Use Bylaw No. 1250-12 to Amend Section 7.23: Recreational Vehicles.**

**1.0 Opening**

**1.1** Reeve Dareld Cholak welcomed all persons in attendance to the Public Hearing and self-introductions were made.

**1.2** Reeve at this time asked the Chief Administrative Officer to confirm that the Public Hearing has been advertised and notice has been provided in accordance with the applicable legislation.

► Chief Administrative Officer replied: Yes.

The Chief Administrative Officer summarized the purpose of the Hearing is for the Council of Smoky Lake County to obtain **Public Input**, in favor and opposed to the **Bylaw No. 1256-13: Amend the Land Use Bylaw No. 1250-12 to Amend Section 7.23: Recreational Vehicles.**

**1.3**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Proposed Bylaw No.:</b>   | <b>1256-13</b>  |
| <b>Applicant:</b>  | <b>Smoky Lake County</b>  |
| <b>Proposed Amendment to:</b>  | <b>Section 7.23: Recreational Vehicles<br/>Land Use Bylaw 1250-12</b> |
| <b>Background:</b>   |   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Bylaw No. 1256-12</b> was given 1<sup>st</sup> reading on June 26, 2013.</li> <li>▪ A complete copy of the proposed amendment as attached has been available since late July on the County’s website and is available here for you today as reference.</li> <li>▪ The Public Hearing Notice was advertised in the Smoky Lake Signal and Redwater Review during the week of <b>August 5, 2013</b> and <b>August 12, 2013</b>. The proposed bylaw was advertised and notice has been provided in accordance with Section 230 and 606 of the <i>Municipal Government Act</i>, R.S.A. 2000.</li> <li>▪ A copy of the current bylaw in effect as of today is attached for reference.</li> </ul> |   |
| <p><b>BYLAW 1256-13<br/>OF<br/>SMOKY LAKE COUNTY</b></p>   |   |
| <p>A BYLAW OF SMOKY LAKE COUNTY IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, TO AMEND BYLAW 1250-12, BEING THE LAND USE BYLAW OF THE SMOKY LAKE COUNTY.</p>   |   |
| <p><b>WHEREAS</b>, Council has adopted the Bylaw 1250-12 to be used as the Smoky Lake County Land Use Bylaw;</p>   |   |
| <p><b>AND WHEREAS</b>, it is deemed expedient to amend Bylaw 1250-12 as set out in Section 692 of the Municipal Government Act, R.S.A. 2000, Chapter M-26, as amended.</p>   |   |
| <p><b>NOW THEREFORE</b> under the authority and subject to the provisions of the Municipal Government Act, and by virtue of all other powers enabling it, the Council of Smoky Lake County duly assembled, enacts as follows:</p>  |   |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That Section 7.23 (Recreational Vehicles) of the Land Use Bylaw 1250-12 be replaced with the attached Schedule “A”.</li> <li>2. This Bylaw comes into effect after third and final reading.</li> </ol>   |   |

**Schedule "A"**

**SECTION 7.23 – RECREATIONAL VEHICLES**

1. The year round placement of two (2) recreational vehicles on a parcel in Multi-lot Country Residential, Residential (Cluster) Conservation, Victoria Residential or Hamlet Residential Districts is allowed without a development permit.
2. Additional recreational vehicles shall be permitted without the Multi-lot Country Residential, Residential (Cluster) Conservation, Victoria Residential or Hamlet Residential Districts for a maximum of four (4) consecutive days.
3. Notwithstanding **subsection (2)** a development permit may be approved, at the discretion of the Development Authority, for up to one (1) additional recreational vehicle per lot may be allowed for a maximum of thirty (30) days. The 3<sup>rd</sup> recreational vehicle on a lot is considered a permitted use under the Land Use Bylaw.
4. No recreational vehicle shall be permanently connected to any utility or municipal service, such as power, gas, water supply, or sanitary sewage disposal facilities unless the recreational vehicle is located in an approved recreational vehicle park.

- 1.4** The Reeve outlined the ground rules of the hearing and the order of speaking will be:

The **ground rules of the hearing and the order of speaking will be:**

- a. Members of the public, who have signed in will be given the opportunity to speak in the order they signed in.
- b. Anyone else, who did not sign in will be given the opportunity to speak.
- c. Planner will be given the opportunity to answer any questions or to comment on any of the issues presented.
- d. Councillors will be given the opportunity to ask questions.
- e. Council will then end the Hearing and retire to make consider the information received at the Public Hearing.
- f. Council will only consider matters raised at the Hearing.
- g. Only Councillors may ask questions of speakers during the Hearing, If any persons wish to ask questions of a speaker, they must ask Council to ask the question on their behalf during their presentation, and Council will only ask the question if it feels it wishes to have an answer in order to undertake its consideration.

**2.0 Public Testimony and Written Submissions**

- 2.1** The Chief Administrative Officer reported that no written submission has been received In Favour and no written submission has been received Opposed to the proposed **Bylaw No. 1256-13: Amend the Land Use Bylaw No. 1250-12 to Amend Section 7.23: Recreational Vehicles.**

**3.0 Public Testimony in attendance of the hearing**

**3.1 In Favour of the Bylaw:**

- No Public in Favour of the Bylaw.

**3.2 Opposed of the Bylaw:**

■ **Paul Belliveau:**

- Me and my family own a lot in Birchland – Garner Lake Resort.
- Question: Why change now to allow for 3<sup>rd</sup> recreational vehicle with Development Permit for 30 days, when you already previously passed the Land Use Bylaw?

**Council:** Received public inquires to re-visit the Land Use Bylaw – Section 7.23: Recreational Vehicles.

- Explanation of process was identified and this process has received 1<sup>st</sup> reading for the amendments.
- Land Use Bylaw was originally passed in January 2013.

- Each relevant section of the Land Use Bylaw was a long drawn process and each relevant section was amended at this time with public input. Numerous open houses were held with public input.

- **Paul Belliveau:**

- Purchased the lot in 1976 (37 years ago), there was only two caveats: 1. No mobile, manufactured homes allowed. 2. Square footage of cabin – more than 640 square feet.
- Never built a cabin – have trailers on property for the camping experience.
- As years passed, need for camping facilities have changed. Family has expanded. Trailers are as bedrooms and one is used as a kitchen preparation area.
- Agree that trailers bring more traffic to the development, but if not more than two trailers will be allowed, then put a restriction on cabin size limited to one bedroom, trailers represent a bedroom.
- Allow for trailers on Lot!
- Want for a third trailer to be allowed for a longer period of time.
- Permit the accommodations to enjoy recreation.

**Council:** For clarification purpose – Are you asking for a third trailer for year round? This is a Multi-lot Country Residential lot.

- **Paul Belliveau:**

- Want to use the property in the manner that I purchased it. No caveat on trailer restrictions.

**Council:** The first Land Use Bylaw was adopted in 1982. No regulations were in place prior to 1982.

**Council:** For clarification purpose – Your trailer is it considered to be permanently hooked-up?

- **Paul Belliveau:**

- Can be moved with some degree of difficulty. But it is moveable.

**Council:** For clarification purpose – What about Sewage?

- **Paul Belliveau:**

- Have an outhouse with holding tank.

**Planner’s Comments:** The current bylaw to be amended, allows an individual to come every 30 days for a development permit for a third recreational vehicle.

**4.0**

**Questions and Answers**

**4.1 Public Response:**

- No further questions.

**4.2 Council:**

- No further questions.

**5.0**

**Closing Remarks**

Reeve Dareld Cholak declared discussion on proposed **Bylaw No. 1256-13: Amend the Land Use Bylaw No. 1250-12 to Amend Section 7.23: Recreational Vehicles** closed at **9:53 a.m.**

855-13: Cholak

That the Public Hearing be adjourned, time 9:53 a.m.

Carried.

**County Council Meeting**

County Council Meeting reconvened, time 9:54 a.m.

**4. Request for Decision:**

**Bylaw 1256-13: Amend the Land Use Bylaw No. 1250-12 to Amend Section 7.23: Recreational Vehicles**

856-13: Cherniwchan That Smoky Lake County Council defer second and third reading of **Bylaw 1256-13:** authorize Municipal Council of Smoky Lake County to Amend the Land Use Bylaw No. 1250-12 to amend Section 7.23 Recreational Vehicles, to the next scheduled County Council meeting.

Carried.

Aline Brousseau, Planning and Development Manager; Ed English, Peace Officer/Parks and Recreation Manager and Jane Dauphinee, Principal/Senior Planner, Municipal Planning Services (2009) Ltd. left the Council Chambers, time 10:30 a.m.

**7. Delegation:**

**Roy Schmelzeisen  
Alberta Conservation Association**

Present before County Council at 10:30 a.m. to 10:48 a.m. was Roy Schmelzeisen, Representative, Alberta Conservation Association to request for Property Tax Exemption on property located at NE 12-60-13-W4.

Aline Brousseau, Planning and Development Manager entered the Council Chambers, time 10:50 a.m.

**4. Request for Decision:**

**Property Tax Exemption**

857-13: Danyluk That Smoky Lake County approve Tax Roll No. 13601240 to be exempt from taxation for the 2014, 2015, and 2016 Tax Years; subject to no agricultural activity on said property: NE 12-60-13-W4.

Carried.

**Property Tax Exemption**

858-13: Orichowski That Smoky Lake County waive the 2013 taxes of municipal portion in the amount of \$551.05 and the Landfill portion in the amount of \$55.39 for a total amount of **\$606.44** for Tax Roll No. 13601240.

Carried.

**2013 Tax Sale: Reserve Bids**

859-13: Cherniwchan That Smoky Lake County Council approve the 2013 Tax Sale with the following properties and reserve bids:

| <u>Roll Number</u> | <u>Legal Description</u>       | <u>Reserve Bid</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 13613240           | NE 32-61-13-W4                 | \$ 275,000.00      |
| 17602220           | SW 22-60-17-W4                 | \$ 335,000.00      |
| 14582610           | SE 26-58-14-W4                 | \$ 250,000.00      |
| 41400217           | Lot 17, Block 2, Plan 032 2248 | \$ 85,000.00       |

Subject to the following conditions:

1. Each parcel will be offered for sale, subject to a reserve bid and to the reservations and conditions contained in the existing Certificate of Title.

2. These properties are being offered for sale on an “as is, where is” basis and Smoky Lake County makes no representation and gives no warranty whatsoever as to access, the adequacy of services, soil conditions, land use districting, building and development conditions, absence or presence of environment contamination, or the developability of the subject land for an intended use by the Purchaser.
3. No bids will be accepted where the bidder attempts to attach conditions precedent to the sale of any parcel. No terms or conditions of sale will be considered other than those specified by Smoky Lake County. No further information is available at the auction regarding the lands to be sold.
4. Terms: Cash G.S.T. will apply on lands sold at the Public Auction.

Carried.

**2013 Election: Polling Stations**

860-13: Orichowski

That Smoky Lake County Council confirm that the Election Polling Stations for the 2013 General Municipal Election be as follows in each Division, as set by the Chief Returning Officer:

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Division One   | Spedden National Hall<br>Vilna Cultural Centre            |
| Division Two   | Stry 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Hall<br>Dickiebush Hall |
| Division Three | Warspite Community Hall<br>Smoky Lake National Hall       |
| Division Four  | Bellis National Hall<br>Smoky Lake National Hall          |
| Division Five  | Waskatenau Community Centre<br>Smoky Lake National Hall   |

and that the Advance Poll scheduled for October 12, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. have the Polling Station held in the Smoky Lake County Administration Building.

Carried.

**Policy Statement No. 01-39-01: Council-CAO Covenant**

861-13: Orichowski

That **Policy Statement No. 01-39-01** entitled "Council-CAO Covenant" be adopted:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Purpose:</b>                         | To secure Council’s approval of a Council-CAO Covenant.  |
| <b>Policy Statement and Guidelines:</b> |  |
| <b>1. OBJECTIVE:</b>                    |  |
| 1.1                                     | The intention of this Policy is to lay out the expectations, roles and responsibilities that Council has of the Chief Administrative Officer and vice-versa.   |
| 1.2                                     | Essential to move forward with governance issues and to build an understanding of the continuity of Council and Chief Administrative relationship.   |
| <b>2. DEFINITION:</b>                   |  |
| 2.1                                     | “ <b>Chief Administrative Officer</b> ” is the person appointed by Council as the Chief Administrative Officer pursuant to Sections 207- 210 of the <i>Municipal Government Act</i> .  |
| 2.2                                     | “ <b>Council</b> ” means the Reeve and Councillors of the County for the time being elected pursuant to the provisions of the <i>Local Authorities Election Act</i> whose term is unexpired, who have not resigned and who continue to be eligible to hold office as such under the terms of the <i>Municipal Government Act</i> . |

- 3. GUIDELINES:**
- 3.1 An effective organization demonstrates clarity and trust in the relationship between the Council and its Chief Administrative Officer.
  - 3.2 Establishing a Council-CAO Covenant commits both parties to seeking clarity in the relationship and to seriously undertake conduct within their respective roles appropriately.
- 4. PROCEDURES:**
- 4.1 The Covenant will be accepted in principle and endorsed by Council and be seen as an appendix to the Chief Administrative Officer’s contract.
  - 4.2 **Schedule “A”: Council Covenant identifies** the expectations, roles and responsibilities that Council will undertake in its respective role.
  - 4.3 **Schedule “B”: Chief Administrative Officer Covenant identifies** the expectations, roles and responsibilities that the Chief Administrative Officer will undertake in his/her respective role.
  - 4.4 The Council-CAO Covenant as described within the Schedules be authorized for the Reeve, Council members and Chief Administrative Officer to sign for added authority.
  - 4.5 The Council-CAO Covenant shall be executed by all parties at the beginning of each political term at the organizational meeting following the General Election.
  - 4.6 The Council-CAO Covenant shall be provided for information annually during the scheduled Performance Appraisal of the Chief Administrative Officer.
  - 4.7 The Council-CAO Covenant may be reviewed and amended from time to time with the mutual consent of the parties.

**Schedule “A”**

|   |                                    |                       |
|---|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
|    | <p><b>COUNCIL<br/>COVENANT</b></p> | <p>DATE:</p>          |
|   |                                    | <p>MOTION NUMBER:</p> |
| <p><b>WE, the undersigned members of the SMOKY LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL,</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Carry out our responsibilities as set out in the <i>Municipal Government Act</i>, and other applicable Legislation; and in the Bylaws and Policies of Smoky Lake County, to the best of our abilities.</li> <li>■ Make decisions which we believe to be in the best interests of the citizens of Smoky Lake County and the Municipality as a whole.</li> <li>■ Review the background information and advice made available to us by the administration prior to rendering a decision.</li> <li>■ Seek further input from our Chief Administrative Officer when we are unsure of the issue or direction to be taken.</li> <li>■ Refrain from making any commitments on behalf of the Council to individual citizens or groups.</li> <li>■ Refrain from any public or private criticism of our administration wherein individual employees are identified.</li> <li>■ Act as good stewards of the County and as public servants of our citizens through ethical conduct.</li> <li>■ Provide effective leadership through guiding the corporation of the County through annual or longer term goals, priorities and plans, through the budget approval process and by agreeing to reasonable policies which reflect, in our views, the best interests of a majority of our citizens.</li> </ul> |                                    |                       |

- Ensure that we formally evaluate the performance of the Chief Administrative Office on an annual basis and involve the Chief Administrative Officer in this process to ensure a full understanding of the Council's assessment.
- We agree to respect the apolitical nature of the office of the Chief Administrative Officer and to receive his/her advice as being in the perceived best interests of the community and/or organization. We will respectfully listen to comments in response to questions posed at Council meetings and will ensure that the Chief Administrative Officer is accorded a respectful audience.
- We will not bypass the Chief Administrative Officer in our search for information and will coordinate any questions / concerns relative to the jurisdiction of the administration through the office of the Chief Administrative Officer.
- We agree to respect the apolitical nature of our senior staff and will treat their advice and reports with respect. We will not knowingly or willfully interfere with their work and will coordinate concerns through the office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

**Signatures:**

**Councillor, Division 1:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Councillor, Division 2:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Councillor, Division 3:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Councillor, Division 4:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Councillor, Division 5:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Schedule "B":**

|  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
|  <b>CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER<br/>COVENANT</b> | <b>DATE:</b>          |
|  | <b>MOTION NUMBER:</b> |

**I, THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, will**

- Conduct myself as Council's chief policy advisor in an honest and ethical manner.
- Ensure that all Councillors are accorded respect in all of my personal and public comments.
- Provide advice (on all issues) which is professionally sound, ethical, legal and in accordance with the policies and objectives of Council.
- Guide the actions of the administration so that they are in accordance with the policies and objectives of Council.
- Act on the will of Council as a whole as established by the Resolutions, Policies and Bylaws of Council.
- Forward any complaints or concerns of Council to the appropriate department and/or individual so that reasonable and prompt follow-up is assured.
- Ensure that Council is made aware of the full picture with regard to each issue at least to the extent that the administration is aware of such information and ensure that Council has access to the reasonable decision options as well as recommendation, when appropriate.
- Seek to ensure that Council is aware of any key issues as they arise and thus avoid the problems associated with surprises.
- Maintain a current understanding of applicable legislation as well as relevant programs, policies and initiatives of other levels of government.
- Admit to mistakes of substance made by myself or my staff and take corrective action.
- Listen carefully to the concerns of Council vis-à-vis my performance and seek to improve any deficiencies on an ongoing basis.
- Ensure that all major issues are tracked in sufficient detail so as to

|   |
|---|
| <p>advise Council of any progress, anticipated problems or decision points.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Abide by the <i>Municipal Government Act</i> as well as the Bylaws and Policies of the County to the best of my abilities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Signature:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chief Administrative Officer:</b> _____</p> |
|---|

Carried.

**Policy Statement No. 15-03-02: Employee Performance Appraisal**

862-13: Cholak

That **Policy Statement No. 15-03-02** entitled "Employee Performance Appraisal", be amended:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Purpose:</b>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To provide a bench mark and employer-employee communication in achieving the goals, objectives and responsibilities of the County.</li> <li>2. To ensure that a formal performance appraisal process is development and implemented.</li> </ol> |
| <b>Policy Statement and Guidelines:</b>   |   |
| <p><b>1. OBJECTIVE:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1 Smoky Lake County is committed to measuring improvements in "strengthening the workplace".</li> <li>1.2 A Performance Appraisal or evaluation is a method of measuring an employee's achievement in the County and an assessment of how well an employee is fulfilling the requirements of their job and the expectations of the employer.</li> <li>1.3 The Performance Appraisal process is an important tool to provide employees with an indication on how well they are doing and provides them the necessary direction to improve on or build on their skills as a municipal employee in the work performance.</li> <li>1.4 The Performance Appraisal process is an important tool to provide the Chief Administrative Officer the opportunity to discuss with the employee on future performance goals and establish standards for quality and quantity of work.</li> </ol> <p><b>2. GUIDELINES:</b></p> <p><b><u>Council:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.1 The Council will review, amend and adopt changes to the Performance Appraisal Policy as recommended by the Chief Administrative Officer.</li> </ol> <p><b><u>Chief Administrative Officer:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.2 The Chief Administrative Officer will oversee the implementation and maintenance of the Performance Appraisal throughout the County.</li> <li>2.3 The Chief Administrative Officer will monitor the effectiveness of the performance evaluation process and recommend necessary additions, deletions, or modifications to the Performance Appraisal Policy where considered appropriate.</li> <li>2.4 Results of the Performance Appraisal shall be on a basis to consider the reclassification and any increase in pay schedule.</li> </ol> |   |
| <b>Department Heads:</b>  |   |

2.5 Department Heads will administer and co-ordinate Performance Evaluations within their respective departments, where applicable, in consultation with the Chief Administrative Officer.

2.6 Perform formal Performance Appraisals.

2.7 Report annually to the Chief Administrative Officer on the departmental results of the formal performance appraisals undertaken.

### 3. PROCEDURES:

3.1 Performance Appraisal shall be conducted on an annual basis. The reviews will be formally documented by way of using **Schedule "A": Employee Performance Appraisal Form.**

3.2 Employees shall complete the Employee Performance Appraisal to encourage self-analysis and thus promote personal growth and development.

3.3 The Chief Administrative Officer will review previous evaluation and meet with the employee to complete the current evaluation with recommendations.

3.4 The Employee Performance Appraisal Form will be signed by the employee and the Chief Administrative Officer following the interview and discussion.

3.5 Retention of the Employee Performance Appraisal Records (following completion – including signatures); one copy of the evaluation shall be placed in the employee's personnel file and a copy will be given to the employee and where applicable to the Department Head completing the report.

### 4. RATING USED IN EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL

4.1 **Needs Improvement:** is the level of performance which consistently falls below the requirements of the job. It does not mean that every aspect of the individual's performance is below adequate standards but that, in general, the employee does not meet the minimum requirements.

4.2 **Satisfactory:** is the level of performance which is considered adequate to meet the requirements of the job. Some day-to-day variation is to be expected and may range, on occasion, from poor to very good. For the most part, however, satisfactory performance would be neither below the required level, nor consistently superior to the required standards.

4.3 **Outstanding:** An outstanding rating is reserved for the individual who consistently surpasses standards of adequate performance. Individuals who consistently do a good job. The individual more often than not has exceeded the employer's expectations for satisfactory performance.

### 5. APPEAL

5.1 Employees who feel that their rating does not represent a true evaluation of their performance over the review period should try to resolve these differences with their supervisor.

5.2 If an agreement cannot be reached, the employee shall be given the opportunity to appeal, in writing, to the Chief Administrative Officer, within 15 days of the interview.



|  |  |                          |                          |
|--|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
|  |  |                          |                          |
|  |  |                          |                          |
| <b>Category # 4</b>  | <b>General Qualities and Abilities</b> |                          |                          |
| <b>Item</b>  | <b>Needs Improvement</b>               | <b>Satisfactory</b>      | <b>Excellent</b>         |
| Attendance Record  | <input type="checkbox"/>               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Punctuality  | <input type="checkbox"/>               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Time management skills   | <input type="checkbox"/>               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ability to handle a number of tasks simultaneously                       | <input type="checkbox"/>               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Willingly to spend extra time at work, <i>when required</i>              | <input type="checkbox"/>               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Willingness to accept new ideas and approaches                           | <input type="checkbox"/>               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Develops positive working relationships and contributes to group success | <input type="checkbox"/>               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Personal Presentation  | <input type="checkbox"/>               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Comments:</b>   |  |                          |                          |
| <hr/> <hr/>  |  |                          |                          |
| Page 2   |  |                          |                          |

**EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL**

|  |   |                          |                          |
|--|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Category # 5</b>  | <b>Communication and Interpersonal Skills</b> |                          |                          |
| <b>Item</b>  | <b>Needs Improvement</b>                      | <b>Satisfactory</b>      | <b>Excellent</b>         |
| Uses effective verbal communication skills                             | <input type="checkbox"/>                      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Uses effective written communication skills                            | <input type="checkbox"/>                      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ability to work in a team environment                                  | <input type="checkbox"/>                      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ability to accept direction and constructive criticism from colleagues | <input type="checkbox"/>                      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Comments:</b>   |   |                          |                          |
| <hr/> <hr/>  |   |                          |                          |

|  |                           |                          |                          |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Category # 6</b>  | <b>Job Related Skills</b> |                          |                          |
| <b>Item</b>  | <b>Needs Improvement</b>  | <b>Satisfactory</b>      | <b>Excellent</b>         |
| Proficient in required skills and knowledge                                      | <input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Demonstrates ability to learn new skills   | <input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Keeps current to new knowledge and skills  | <input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Requires minimal supervision   | <input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Understands government organizational relationships                              | <input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Uses resources effectively and efficiently                                       | <input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Has thorough knowledge and understanding of departmental policies and procedures | <input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Comments:</b>   |                           |                          |                          |
| <hr/> <hr/>  |                           |                          |                          |
| Page 3   |                           |                          |                          |

**EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL**

|  |  |                          |                          |
|--|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Category # 7</b>  | <b>Public Service and Customer Relations</b> |                          |                          |
| <b>NOTE: Customer Relations includes both internal and external clients, where internal clients can include requests from other departments within the municipality and external clients can include the public and other government agencies.</b> |  |                          |                          |
| <b>Item</b>  | <b>Needs Improvement</b>                     | <b>Satisfactory</b>      | <b>Excellent</b>         |
| Exhibits courtesy and care   | <input type="checkbox"/>                     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Deals with difficult customers   | <input type="checkbox"/>                     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Takes responsibility in representing the municipality's image  | <input type="checkbox"/>                     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Displays appropriate business etiquette  | <input type="checkbox"/>                     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Responds to internal and external customers in a timely manner   | <input type="checkbox"/>                     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Comments:</b>   |  |                          |                          |
| <hr/> <hr/>  |  |                          |                          |

| <b>Employee Input</b>  | <p style="color: red; font-size: small;">As part of creating an environment that supports and encourages high performance, we wish to recognize the wants and needs of employees. An employer who achieves this will provide a standard of excellence in public service and customer relations and a high rate of employee retention. Your help in identifying what is important to you and the areas in which we could improve is</p>  |                          |                          |      |           |                                    |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |        |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |                               |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |
|--|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|------|-----------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <p style="font-size: x-small;">Please RANK according to what is important to you: (1 = most important)</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Please RATE us according to your expectations</p>  |   |                          |                          |      |           |                                    |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |        |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |                               |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |
| Rankin   | <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 60%;">Item</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Poor</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Good</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Excellent</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Promotion and growth opportunities</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Benefits</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Salary</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Flexibility (hours of work)</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vacation</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Good physical work conditions</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other: <i>specify</i> _____</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | Item                     | Poor                     | Good | Excellent | Promotion and growth opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Benefits | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Salary | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Flexibility (hours of work) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Vacation | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Good physical work conditions | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other: <i>specify</i> _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Item   | Poor  | Good                     | Excellent                |      |           |                                    |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |        |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |                               |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |
| Promotion and growth opportunities   | <input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |      |           |                                    |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |        |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |                               |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |
| Benefits   | <input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |      |           |                                    |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |        |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |                               |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |
| Salary   | <input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |      |           |                                    |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |        |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |                               |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |
| Flexibility (hours of work)  | <input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |      |           |                                    |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |        |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |                               |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |
| Vacation   | <input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |      |           |                                    |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |        |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |                               |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |
| Good physical work conditions  | <input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |      |           |                                    |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |        |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |                               |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |
| Other: <i>specify</i> _____  | <input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |      |           |                                    |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |        |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |                               |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |
| Page 4   |   |                          |                          |      |           |                                    |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |        |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |                               |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |
| <b>EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL</b>  |   |                          |                          |      |           |                                    |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |        |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |                               |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |
|  | <b>Goals</b>  |                          |                          |      |           |                                    |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |        |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |                               |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |
| <p>The following short and long term goals for improvement of employee performance will be developed in collaboration with the reviewer(s) and will be based upon results of the performance appraisal.</p> <p>Please fill out any goals you wish to achieve below in preparation for your meeting with your supervisor.</p> <p>The goals may address the following questions:</p> |   |                          |                          |      |           |                                    |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |        |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |                               |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |
| 1.   | What has to be improved?  |                          |                          |      |           |                                    |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |        |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |                               |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |
| 2.   | What training / education programs will be undertaken as a result of the assessment?  |                          |                          |      |           |                                    |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |        |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |                               |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |
| 3.   | What is the time frame necessary to reach these goals?  |                          |                          |      |           |                                    |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |        |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |                               |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |
| 4.   | What are some of the specific measurable output goals?  |                          |                          |      |           |                                    |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |        |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |                               |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |
| <p><b>Short Term Goals: (Six months to one year)</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>  |   |                          |                          |      |           |                                    |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |        |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |                               |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |
| <p><b>Long Term Goals: (One year to four year)</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>  |   |                          |                          |      |           |                                    |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |        |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |                               |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |
| Page 5   |   |                          |                          |      |           |                                    |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |        |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                          |                               |                          |                          |                          |                             |                          |                          |                          |

Carried.

**Policy Statement No. 15-03-02: Employee Performance Appraisal**

863-13: Cholak

That County Council approve to reclassify **Policy Statement No. 01-22-01: Performance Appraisal** from the Policy Governance Manual Section (01) General Government Services to Section (15) Human Resource Section entitled as **Policy Statement No. 15-03-02: Employee Performance Appraisal**.

Carried.

**Request For Proposal: Geographic Information Services (GIS)**

864-13: Bobocel

That Smoky Lake County award the Request For Proposal to Accurate Assessment Group Ltd and execute a contract on the basis of the Request For Proposal and supplementary information provide to Smoky Lake County by Accurate Assessment Group Ltd. to provide GIS (Geographic Information System) Services for a Three-Year Term with an additional two (2) years option Renewal Term.

Carried.

Aline Brousseau, Planning and Development Manager left the Council Chambers, time 11:30 a.m.

**9. Public Question and Answer Period:**

11:35 a.m.

No Questions.

**5. Issues for Information:****Chief Administrative Officer's Report**

The Chief Administrative Officer gave an updated report to Council for the period of July 25, 2013 to August 21, 2013.

**Legislative / Governance:**

- In order to complete a subdivision on the land of the late Harold West, three motions are required to close three separate portions of road.
- LGL Institute is hosting a "Post Election Success" Forum in Edmonton on October 2, 2013. This would be an excellent precursor to the Strategic Priorities Workshop scheduled for March, 2014.
- A Policy Committee Meeting is needed at Council's convenience in September, if possible, to discuss the Communication Strategy (most pressing) and other policies still in queue.
- Received a call from Ms. Elaine Polotylo regarding access to her properties near the river (N ½ 30-57-14-W4). The access road that goes through an adjacent property used to be maintained by the County and was (at one time) surveyed for possible registration by the County. To register the road would require the purchase of land from the neighbor to the east (Repka).

**Administration:**

- County of St. Paul has asked if Smoky Lake County wishes to appeal a 106 metre guyed tower being placed in NW 33-60-12-W4 at Reed Lake. We see no issues from County perspective.
- Smoky Lake Foundation is hosting a ground-breaking ceremony for the Bar-V-Nook Supportive Living Project on September 14, 2013.

Regional Minister's Office.

**Financial:**

- The burners for the Public Works Bulk Oil Tanks at Bogdan's Pit were budgeted at \$60,000.00. The most recent price obtained now puts the purchase at \$81,307.40. This is clearly more than marginally over-budget. However, our old Public Works grader tenders have just come in for c. \$30,000.00 more than budget, so there is room for the additional expenditure if Council wishes to proceed.

**Human Resources:**

- No report.

**Community:**

- Board members from the Museum (Smoky Lake & District Cultural and Heritage Society) have approached the County for a donation to the annual threshing Bee that will take place at the Pumpkin Fair. Our donation last year was \$1,500.00, and there is a standing motion (August 2012) in place for annual donations of \$1,500.00. We will be issuing a cheque for \$1,500.00.

**Training:**

- No report.

**County Strategic Plan:**

- No report.

**Financial Update:**

As annexed to the minutes:

↪ Financial Statement for the Month: June 2013.

**Action List(s):**

↪ **Action List(s):**

- **County Council Departmental Operations Meeting:**  
May 29, 2013.
- **County Council Departmental Operations Meeting:**  
June 25, 2013.
- **County Council Meeting:** June 26, 2013.
- **County Council Departmental Operations Meeting:**  
July 25, 2013.

**Road Closure: Road Plan 865 CL within SW 35-58-19-W4**

865-13: Bobocel

That Smoky Lake County approve the following Road Closure and submit to the Minister of Transportation for approval:

A Resolution of the Smoky Lake County for the purpose of closing to public travel and cancelling a public highway in accordance with Section 24 of the Municipal Government Act, Chapter M26.1, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, as amended.

**WHEREAS**, the lands hereafter described are no longer required for public travel.

**NOW THEREFORE** be it resolved that the Council of the Smoky Lake County does hereby close the following described road, subject to rights of access granted by other legislation.

**Road Plan 865 C.L. within S.W. 35-58-19-W4.**

Excepting Thereout All Mines and Minerals.

Cancelled portions to be consolidated with respective title.

Carried.

**Road Closure: Road Plan 865 CL within SE 35-58-19-W4**

866-13: Orichowski

That Smoky Lake County approve the following Road Closure and submit to the Minister of Transportation for approval:

A Resolution of the Smoky Lake County for the purpose of closing to public travel and cancelling a public highway in accordance with Section 24 of the Municipal Government Act, Chapter M26.1, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, as amended.

**WHEREAS**, the lands hereafter described are no longer required for public travel.

**NOW THEREFORE** be it resolved that the Council of the Smoky Lake County does hereby close the following described road, subject to rights of access granted by other legislation.

**Road Plan 865 C.L. within S.E. 35-58-19-W4.**

Excepting Thereout All Mines and Minerals.

Cancelled portions to be consolidated with respective title.

Carried.

**Road Closure: Road Plan 569 AU within SW 35-58-19-W4**

867-13: Cherniwchan That Smoky Lake County approve the following Road Closure and submit to the Minister of Transportation for approval:

A Resolution of the Smoky Lake County for the purpose of closing to public travel and cancelling a public highway in accordance with Section 24 of the Municipal Government Act, Chapter M26.1, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, as amended.

**WHEREAS**, the lands hereafter described are no longer required for public travel.

**NOW THEREFORE** be it resolved that the Council of the Smoky Lake County does hereby close the following described road, subject to rights of access granted by other legislation.

**Road Plan 569 A.U. within S.W. 35-58-19-W4.**

Excepting Thereout All Mines and Minerals.

Cancelled portions to be consolidated with respective title.

Carried.

**Post Election Success Forum**

868-13: Bobocel That the correspondence received in regards to the Regional Local Government Leadership Institute (LGL Institute) Forums on the “Post Election Success – It’s No Accident” Forum held on October 2, 2013 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Edmonton, Alberta, be filed for information.

Carried.

**Policy Committee Meeting**

869-13: Cholak That Smoky Lake County Council scheduled a Policy Committee Meeting on Wednesday, September 4, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. to be held in the County Council Chambers.

Carried.

**Road Access: N ½ 30-57-14-W4**

870-13: Bobocel That Smoky Lake County Administration pursue negotiations with Landowners, Larry Repka and Charles Repka to purchase land for road allowance for access to property along the North Saskatchewan River located on NE 30-57-14-W4 for landowner Elaine Polotylo.

Carried.

**County of St. Paul: Development Permit Notice**

871-13: Danyluk That the notice received from County of St. Paul, dated August 20, 2013 in regards to Development Permit No. 13-D0138 – legal NW 33-60-12-W4 in regards to the installation of a 106 meter guyed communication tower – Land Use District: Agricultural District (A), Discretionary Use, be filed for information.

Carried.

**Smoky Lake Foundation**

872-13: Bobocel That Smoky Lake County Council and Administration who can attend – attend the Smoky Lake Foundation Ground Breaking Ceremony of the Bar-V-Nook Supportive Living Project on Saturday, September 14, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. located at 4524 – 52 Avenue, Smoky Lake, Alberta.

Carried.

**Government Liaison – Reception**

873-13: Bobocel That the Smoky Lake County Reeve and the Chief Administrative Officer attend the Government – Industry hosted “Proud Partners, Proud Communities” Barbeque and Reception on Wednesday, August 28, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Edmonton, Alberta.

Carried.

**Public Works Department: 2013 Capital Budget**

874-13: Orichowski That County Council authorize the change to the Public Works Department 2013 Capital Budget to increase the Capital budget from \$60,000.00 to not exceed the amount of \$82,000.00 for the purchase of Oil Tanks Burners at Bogdan’s Pit.

Carried.

**Smoky Lake and District Cultural and Heritage Society  
Threshing Bee Event**

875-13: Danyluk That Smoky Lake County annual donation in the amount of **\$1,500.00** to the Smoky Lake and District Cultural and Heritage Society in support of sponsorship for the Threshing Bee Event as part of the Smoky Lake Pumpkin Fair Festivities scheduled for October 5, 2013, be allocated from the 2013 Contingency Budget.

Carried.

876-13: Orichowski That the updated report for the period of July 25, 2013 to August 21, 2013 by the Chief Administrative Officer, be accepted and filed for information.

Carried.

**Finance Manager’s: Report**

Brenda Adamson, Finance Manager provided an updated Finance report for the period of July 12, 2013 to August 9, 2013.

**County Council Budget Meeting**

877-13: Cherniwchan That Smoky Lake County Council scheduled a County Council Budget Meeting on Wednesday, September 4, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. to be held in the County Council Chambers.

Carried.

**Utilities / ASB Committee Meeting(s)**

878-13: Bobocel That the **Utilities Meeting: Natural Gas and Environmental Operations: Water, Wastewater & Waste Management** and the **Agricultural Service Board** Meeting be re-scheduled from Monday, August 26, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. to Tuesday, **August 27, 2013** at 9:00 a.m. to be held at the County Council Chambers.

Carried.

879-13: Orichowski That the Finance Manager's Report received by Brenda Adamson for the period of July 12, 2013 to August 9, 2013, be accepted and filed for information.

Carried.

**Reeve's Report**

Reeve Dareld Cholak presented the following report:

- **Letter:** Honourable Don Scott, Associate Minister, Accountability, Transparency and Transformation, dated June 28, 2013 – Re: *New Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act (PIDA)* came into force on June 1, 2013.
- **Letter:** Honourable Verlyn Olson, Q.C., Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, dated May 28, 2013 – Re: Application under the Final Mile Rural Community Program – Access to high-speed Internet.
- **Letter:** Honourable Doug Griffiths, Minister of Municipal Affairs, dated August 2, 2013 – Re: Appreciation for one-time submission of 2012 Financial Information Return and Financial Statements.
- CAO Evaluation: Schedule Meeting.

**Public Interest Disclosure Act**

880-13: Bobocel That the letter received from Honourable Don Scott, Associate Minister, Accountability, Transparency and Transformation, dated June 28, 2013 in regards to the *New Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act (PIDA)* came into force on June 1, 2013, be filed for information.

Carried.

**Final Mile Rural Community Program**

881-13: Cherniwchan That the letter received from Honourable Verlyn Olson, Q.C., Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, dated May 28, 2013 in regards to the Application under the Final Mile Rural Community Program – Access to high-speed Internet, not funded due to program funding fully committed, be filed for information.

Carried.

**2012 Financial Information – Financial Statements**

882-13: Danyluk That the letter received from Honourable Doug Griffiths, Minister of Municipal Affairs, dated August 2, 2013 extending Appreciation to Smoky Lake County for submitting the 2012 Financial Information Return and Financial Statements well before the year's submission deadline of May 1, 2012, be filed for information.

Carried.

**CAO Evaluation**

883-13: Bobocel

That Smoky Lake County Council scheduled a CAO Evaluation Meeting on Tuesday, September 3, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. to be held in the County Council Chambers.

Carried.

884-13: Cherniwchan

That the Reeve's report received, be accepted.

Carried.

**Meeting Recessed**

Meeting recessed for Lunch, time 12:05 p.m.

**Meeting Reconvene**

The meeting reconvened on a call to order by Deputy Reeve Ron Bobocel at 1:07 p.m. in the presence of all Council members, and the Chief Administrative Officer, and Assistant Chief Administrative Officer/Recording Secretary.

Doug Ponich, Public Works Manager, Bob Novosiwsky, Public Works Foreman, and Dave Kully, Public Works Shop Foreman entered the Council Chambers, time 1:07 p.m.

**Addition to the Agenda:**

**Delegation**

**Permazyme IIX: Presentation**

Present before County Council at 1:08 p.m. to 1:20 p.m. was Shane Pospisil, Consultant, Smoky Lake Region and Skip LeMaster, Senior Soil Analyst, Pacific Enzymes Incorporated to give a presentation to Council on the Permazyme IIX Product Road Soil Stabilizer Agent. Cost is approximately for 1km (7 metres) for 6" depth is \$7,500.00.

Brenda Adamson, Finance Manager entered the Council Chambers, time 1:30 p.m.

Reeve Dareld Cholak entered the Council Chambers, time 1:57 p.m.

**Executive Session: Legal**

885-13: Chernwichean

That County Council go into Executive Session to discuss a Legal issue, time 2:05 p.m.

Carried.

886-13: Orichowski

That County Council go out of Executive Session, time 2:15 p.m.

Carried.

## Management Reports

### Public Works Manager

- **2013 Road Project**, dated as of August 14, 2013.

887-13: Cherniwchan That Smoky Lake County will not do any “Custom Work” with the Public Works Equipment of the Hydro-Ax and Skid Steer.

Carried.

### Public Works Shop Foreman

### Public Works Equipment for Sale

#### Unit 501: 14H Grader

#### Tender(s) Submitted: 14H Motor Grader

##### Nine Tender(S) submitted:

|                             |                      |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Finning (Canada) CAT</b> | <b>\$ 184,000.00</b> |
| Ritchie Bros                | \$ 181,275.00        |
| Can Alta Tractor            | \$ 173,000.00        |
| Noyen Construction          | \$ 162,000.00        |
| Domex                       | \$ 160,000.00        |
| P D Equipment               | \$ 156,277.00        |
| Michener Allen              | \$ 152,888.00        |
| MCL Group                   | \$ 144,500.00        |
| CPA Auction                 | \$ 126,751.00        |

### Public Works Equipment for Sale

#### Unit 501: 14H Grader

888-13: Bobocel That Smoky Lake County award the tender to **Finning (Canada) CAT**, for the highest bid in the amount of **\$184,000.00**; to sell the Public Works Equipment: Unit 501: 2006 14H CAT Motor Grader – 9359 Hours, Serial Number: ASE 1723; including Blade lift accumulators and 12 foot Weldco Hydraulic Masted Wing; 16 foot mouldboard and 20.5 x 25 tires.

Carried.

### Public Works Equipment for Sale

#### Fuel Dispensing Pumps

889-13: Cherniwchan That Smoky Lake County continue advertisement to sell the Public Works Equipment: two (2) used Tokhiem, 110 Volt Fuel Dispensing Pumps and two (2) inoperable fuel dispensing pumps for parts only; until a bid is submitted.

Carried.

890-13: Cherniwchan That the management reports received for the period of July 26, 2013 to August 19, 2013 from Doug Ponich, Public Works Manager; Bob Novosiwsky, Public Works Foreman; Dave Kully, Public Works Shop Foreman; Ed English, Peace Officer; Aline Brousseau, Planning and Development Manager; Trevor Tychkowsky, Safety Officer; and Arlene Shwetz, Communication Services Coordinator, be accepted and filed for information.

Carried.

Doug Ponich, Public Works Manager, Bob Novosiwsky, Public Works Foreman, and Dave Kully, Public Works Shop Foreman left the Council Chambers, time 2:38 p.m.

### **Committee Task Forces and Boards: Reports**

#### **Alberta Care**

- Upcoming Conference(s) are focusing on Re-cycling – will not be attending at this time.

#### **Corridor Communications Incorporated**

- County IT Technician busy investing potential sites for Internet Services.
- New Agent: Andy Phillips, Smoky Lake Area.

#### **Doctor Retention & Recruitment Committee**

- Nursing Status – Health Care Issue.

#### **Evergreen Regional Waste Management Commission**

- Lighting Storm hit the power at the “scale” – destroyed the electronics. Approximately \$100,000.00 damage. Will know actually at next meeting. Insurance will cover expense.
- Beaver River taking waste to Ryley Waste Management Commission.

#### **Family Community Support Services Committee**

- No report.

#### **Family-School Liaison Committee**

- No report.

#### **Fire and Rescue Liaison Committee**

##### **Smoky Lake:**

- No report.

##### **Vilna:**

- No report.

##### **Waskatenau:**

- No report.

#### **Government Liaison Committee**

- Numerous functions and events upcoming. Council to attend at its own expense.

#### **Highway 28/63 Regional Water Services Commission**

- Phase Three – Contract awarded for the Bellis Infrastructure and Spedden Truck fill – starting next week.
- Executive Meeting scheduled with County of St. Paul on September 11, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. in Smoky Lake County Chambers. County of St. Paul is exploring options for Water supply.

#### **In-House Safety Committee**

- Meeting was held on August 21 2013.
- First Aid Training: Completed Vilna and Smoky Lake Fire Departments.

- Scissor Lift: Fall 2013.
- Forklift Training: Fall 2013.
- ATV / UTV Training: In progress – Fall.
- Crane Training: Schedule for the Fall 2013.
- Fire Extinguisher Training: June 2013.
- Orientation: Completed for all staff.
- Purchase: “Monty: Video(s) – Library Resource for Safety Training.
- Incident(s) reviewed.
- Next In-House Safety Committee Meeting is scheduled for September 25, 2013 at 8:00 a.m.

#### **Lakeland DMO: Destination Marketing Organization**

- No report.

#### **Municipal Planning Commission**

- No report.

#### **North East Muni-Corr. Ltd.**

- Meeting held on August 12, 2013.
- Water Line Contractor(s): Very happy with the work being done.
- Dust Control: Billey Residence. County Administration is working with Muni-Corr. on the process.
- Mr. Phillips given permission to cut hay along trail.
- Beaver River Trestle: Replacement Process continuing.
- Iron Horse Trail Newsletter- Riverland Recreational Trail Society: April 2013.
- Next North East Muni-Corr. Meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

#### **Northern Lights Library System**

- Meeting scheduled on September 28, 2013 in Elk Point.

#### **Policy Committee**

- No report.

#### **R.C.M.P. Liaison Committee**

- No report.

#### **Regional Community Development Committee (RCDC) Committee**

- Meeting held on August 19, 2013.
- Delegation: Grizzco Camp Services Inc., Andy Andersen.
- Initiative 1: Committee Structure - work in proceeding. Update to be provided at the next Joint Municipalities Meeting
- Report on Labour Market Shortages in our area.
- Next RCDC Meeting is scheduled for September 16, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

#### **Regional Disaster Services Agency Committee**

- No report.

#### **Risk Pro Control Management Committee**

- **Minutes:** Added Named Insured:
  - No minutes.

**Smoky Lake Agricultural Society**

- Next Smoky Lake Agricultural Society Meeting is scheduled for August 27, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

**Smoky Lake Foundation**

- Continuing with the Alberta Seniors and Community Supports Affordable Supportive Living Initiative – Project.
- Rental increase on new arrivals.
- Consistently at full occupancy.
- **Minutes:** July 3, 2013.
- Meeting scheduled on September 18, 2013.

**Smoky Lake Heritage Board**

- No report.

**Joint Municipalities**

- Next Joint Municipalities Meeting hosted by Village of Waskatenau on September 23, 2013.

891-13: Bobocel

That the Committee Task Force and Board Reports presented by Councillors be accepted.

Carried.

**6. Correspondence:**

892-13: Cherniwchan

That the following correspondence received from the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties, be filed for information:

- a. Contact Newsletter:
  - June 20, 2013.
- b. Contact Newsletter:
  - July 3, 2013.
- c. Contact Newsletter:
  - July 11, 2013.
- d. Contact Newsletter:
  - July 17, 2013.
- e. Contact Newsletter:
  - July 24, 2013.
- f. 2013-2024 AAMDC Annual Membership:
  - July 30, 2013.

Carried.

**Sustainable Resource Development****Grazing Lease No. GRL 41001**

893-13: Orichowski

That the c.c. letter received from Connie Gagne, Disposition Section, Government of Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, dated June 27, 2013 in regards to Grazing Lease No. GRL 41001-name change from Arnold Tateson and Debbie Tateson as “Joint Tenants” to Arnold Tateson, be filed for information.

Carried.

**Alberta Culture Days**

894-13: Orichowski That Smoky Lake County advertise on the Smoky Lake County Web-site for Community awareness the Alberta Culture Days scheduled for September 27 – 29, 2013 hosted in Alberta and location to be announced; as per information received from Heather Klimchuk, Minister of Culture, dated June 20, 2013.

Carried.

**Alberta Seniors Programs and Service**

895-13: Bobocel That the information received from the Alberta Government on the Seniors Programs and Services Information Guide 2013-2014, be filed for information.

Carried.

**Grand Rapids Pipeline Project**

896-13: Cherniwchan That the letter received from Greg Bridgewater, Project Director, Grand Rapids Pipeline GP Ltd, dated July 10, 2013 in regards to the project update on the Grand Rapids Pipeline Project, be filed for information.

Carried.

**2013 Stars of Alberta Volunteer Awards**

897-13: Danyluk That County Council advertise in the Smoky Lake County Grapevine and the web-site the 2013 Stars of Alberta Volunteer Award for those individuals who are community-minded volunteers whose dedication and generosity are helping build strong families and communities by recognizing extraordinary Albertans for persons interested to self-application nominations where the ceremony to be held on December 5, 2013 in Edmonton on International Volunteer Day.

Carried.

**Sustainable Resource Development**

**Cultivation Permit No. CUP 130002**

898-13: Bobocel That the c.c. letter received from Eldeen Gray, Disposition Services Section, Government of Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development, dated July 12, 2013 in regards to the Cultivation Permit No. CUP 130002 land Part NW 26-59-18-W4 – 18 acres granted for cultivation permit is renewed for an additional year to Steve Zarusky and Michael Zarusky, be filed for information.

Carried.

**Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church**

899-13: Orichowski That Smoky Lake County Division Two Councillor attend the Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church celebrating 100 years anniversary and bring greetings on behalf of Smoky Lake County for the Church centenary celebration festivities on September 14, 2013 begin at 11:00 a.m. at the Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic church with a dinner to follow at 1:00 p.m. at the Holy Eucharist Stry Catholic Hall; and prepare a plaque in commemoration of the 100 year celebration.

Carried.

**AAMD&C District 5**

900-13: Orichowski That County Council and administration who can attend - attend the Alberta Association of Municipal District and Counties District 5 meeting on Friday, September 13, 2013 at the Whitecroft Hall, 52313 Range Road 232 hosted by Strathcona County.

Carried.

**Home Buyer Protection Act**

901-13: Cherniwchan That the correspondence received from Alberta Municipal Affairs in regards to the *New* Home Buyer Protection Act coming into force Fall 2013 on Home Warranties for Albertans – Information for Builders, be filed for information.

Carried.

**Thank You: Summary Listing**

902-13: Danyluk That Smoky Lake County acknowledge no information for the Month of July 2013 and August 2013 - Summary Listing of Thank You received from organizations extending appreciation of support.

Carried.

**Information Releases**

903-13: Orichowski That the Information Releases for the Month of July 2013 and August 2013, be accepted and filed for Information.

Carried.

**Reading File**

No correspondences in the Reading File.

**Bills & Accounts:**

904-13: Danyluk That all the Bills and Accounts approved for payment, including the bills and accounts recommended for payment by the Natural Gas Council, including transfers to the Payroll Account be filed for information:

| Batch #                               | Cheque Numbers    | Total of Batch         |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| 27518                                 | 33907             | \$ 4,700.00            |
| 27523                                 | 33908 to 33957    | \$ 160,428.71          |
| 27530                                 | 33958 to 33964    | \$ 77,201.81           |
| 27534                                 | 33965 to 33976    | \$ 227,438.75          |
| 27559                                 | 33977 to 34016    | \$ 137,663.18          |
| 27591                                 | 34017 to 34060    | \$ 98,160.58           |
| 27602                                 | 34061 to 34067    | \$ 73,453.85           |
| 27606                                 | 34068 to 34097    | \$ 106,770.76          |
| 27635                                 | 34098 to 34120    | \$ 933,934.64          |
| 27667                                 | 34121 to 34187    | \$ 145,147.21          |
| 27706                                 | 34188 to 34207    | \$ 304,538.32          |
| 27711                                 | 34208             | \$ 1,818.61            |
| 27717                                 | 34209             | \$ 59,417.40           |
| 27724                                 | 34210 to 34251    | \$ 331,553.40          |
| 27741                                 | 34252 to 34272    | \$ 163,411.18          |
| <b>Total Cheques</b>                  |                   | <b>\$ 2,825,638.40</b> |
| <b>Direct Debit Register</b>          |                   |                        |
| 27563                                 | Smoky Lake County | \$ 298,228.53          |
| 27707                                 | Smoky Lake County | \$ 295,941.68          |
| <b>Total Direct Debits</b>            |                   | <b>\$ 594,170.21</b>   |
| <b>Grand Total Bills and Accounts</b> |                   | <b>\$ 3,419,808.61</b> |

Carried.

**County Council Meeting(s)**

905-13: Bobocel That the next County Council Meeting(s) be scheduled for Thursday, **September 26, 2013**; and for Thursday, **October 24, 2013**; at 9:00 a.m. to be held at the County Council Chambers.

Carried.

**4. Request For Decision(s):**

**Electricity Purchasing Programs**

906-13: Cherniwchan That County Council defer discussion on the Electricity Purchasing Program – 8760 Energy to the **Utilities Meeting: Natural Gas Meeting** scheduled for Tuesday, August 27, 2013.

Carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

907-13: Cholak That the County Council meeting be adjourned, time 3:30 p.m.

Carried.

---

REEVE

**S E A L**

---

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER