# **SMOKY LAKE COUNTY**

Minutes of the County Council Meeting held on Thursday, December 14, 2023, at 9:01 A.M. held both virtually online and physically in Council Chambers.

The meeting was called to order by the Reeve, Mr. Jered Serben, in the presence of the following persons:

		ATTENDANCE
Div. No.	Councillor(s)	<u>Thursday, Dec. 14, 2023</u>
1	Dan Gawalko	Present in Chambers
2	Linda Fenerty	Present in Chambers
3	Dominique Cere	Present in Chambers
4	Lorne Halisky	Present in Chambers
5	Jered Serben	Present in Chambers
Interim CAO	Lydia Cielin	Present in Chambers
Finance Manager	Brenda Adamson	Present in Chambers
Executive Svcs/R.S.	Patti Priest	Present in Chambers
Plan/Dev Manager	Jordan Ruegg	Virtually Present
Planning Technician	Kyle Schole	Virtually Present

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# Observers in Attendance Upon Call to Order:

GIS Operator	Carole Dowhaniuk	Virtually Present
Fire Chief	Scott Franchuk	Virtually Present
Natural Gas Manager	Daniel Moric	Virtually Present
Communications Officer	Evonne Zukiwski	Virtually Present
Public Works Manager	Chris Minailo	Present in Chambers
Community Peace Officer	Tate Murphy	Present in Chambers
Municipal Clerk	Jenna Preston	Virtually Present
Fire Services Clerk	Meaghan Andreychuk	Virtually Present
Deputy Fire Chief	Spencer Kotylak	Virtually Present
Loss Prevention Co.	Trevor Tychkowsky	Virtually Present
Ag Fieldman	Carleigh Danyluk	Virtually Present
Assist. Ag Fieldman	Amanda Kihn	Virtually Present
Enviro & Parks Manager	Dave Franchuk	Virtually Present
Public	53 Members	Present in Chambers

22 Members

Public

Present in Chambers Virtually Present

**Moment of Silence** 

Council and those present observed a minute of silence to honour Johnny Cherniwchan, former Smoky Lake County Councillor for Division Two, in the 2017-2021 term, who passed away on December 11, 2023, at the age of 74 years.

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## 2. Agenda:

182-23: Halisky That the Smoky Lake County Council Meeting Agenda for Thursday, December 14, 2023, be adopted, as amended:

## **Deletion to the Agenda:**

• Item # 4.2: Kevin D. Kisilevich, GO EAST of Edmonton Regional Tourism – Update and Request for Year-2024 Advertising Renewal (*rescheduled to January 11, 2024*).

# Addition to the Agenda:

• Item # 7.13: Roadway License Agreement RLA-002-23, Range Road 171, between Township Road 595A & Township Road 621 – Application from Smoky Lake Trail Twisters Snowmobile Club.

Carried Unanimously.

## 3. <u>Minutes:</u>

Minutes of November 15, 2023, Council Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment183-23: GawalkoThat the minutes of the Smoky Lake County Council ChiefAdministrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment Meeting held on<br/>Wednesday, November 15, 2023, be adopted as presented.

Carried.

## Minutes of November 21, 2023, Council Budget

184-23: FenertyThat the minutes of the Smoky Lake County Budget Meeting held on<br/>Tuesday, November 21, 2023, be adopted as presented.

Carried.

## Minutes of November 23, 2023, Council Regular

185-23: CereThat the minutes of the Smoky Lake County Council Regular<br/>Meeting held on Thursday, November 23, 2023, be adopted as<br/>presented.

Carried.

## Minutes of December 5, 2023, Council Budget

186-23: HaliskyThat the minutes of the Smoky Lake County Council Budget Meeting<br/>held on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, be adopted as presented.

Carried.

## 7. <u>Request for Decision:</u>

# 7.1. Hamlet of Bellis Sewage Connection Request

187-23: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council approve to waive the Sewage Connection Fee in the amount of \$2,500.00, as per Bylaw No. 1265-14: Water & Sewer, for the land legally described as SE-34-59-15 W4, at the municipal address 15218 TWP RD 595A, along the Hamlet of Bellis, and commence levying an additional service charge for "sewage operation and maintenance frontage" starting in Year-2024, on the said property, in reference to Bylaw No. 666, and Bylaw No. 1412-22.

Carried.

## 7.2. Vilna Solar Project – Potential Cost-Sharing Models & Community Development

188-23: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Administration pro-actively approach the proponent of the "Vilna Solar Project" to explore options including but not limited to, cost-sharing models and/or cooperative concepts for community development, in respect to the proposed solar energy development located on the lands legally described as NW 24-59-14-W4M & NE 24-59-14-W4M.

## **County Council Meeting Recessed**

The Smoky Lake County Reeve announced the Council Meeting recessed, time 9:20 a.m.

## **PUBLIC HEARING:**

Bylaw No. 1453-23: a Bylaw of Smoky Lake to amend the Land Use Bylaw No. 1272-14, for the purposes defining Supportive Living Facilities and creating provisions relating thereto, and to rezone Part of River Lot 15 (Victoria Settlement) from Victoria Commercial (C2) District to Direct Control (DC2) District' 1.0 Opening

The Public Hearing was **called to order at 9:21 a.m.** by the Reeve, Jered Serben in the physical presence of all Council members, Interim Chief Administrative Officer, Finance Manager, Executive Services Clerk, Public Works Manager, Community Peace Officer, and **53 Members of the Public** in Council Chambers, with the Planning and Development Manager, Planning Technician, GIS Operator, Fire Chief, Natural Gas Manager, Communications Officer, Municipal Clerk, Fire Services Clerk, Deputy Fire Chief, Loss Prevention Coordinator, Agricultural Fieldman, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman, Environment & Parks Manager, and **22 Members of the Public** in attendance online, virtually.

Confirmation was provided by the Planning and Development Manager that the Public Hearing had been advertised and notice was provided in accordance with the applicable legislation.

## The purpose of the hearing was summarized:

To obtain public input in regard to Bylaw No. 1453-23: a Bylaw of Smoky Lake to amend the Land Use Bylaw No. 1272-14, for the purposes defining Supportive Living Facilities and creating provisions relating thereto, and to rezone Part of River Lot 15 (Victoria Settlement) from Victoria Commercial (C2) District to Direct Control (DC2) District'.

## 2.0 Staff Presentation

Jordan Ruegg, Planning and Development Manager provided the following information:

## **BACKGROUND**:

- The Smoky Lake County Planning and Development Department received an application to amend Smoky Lake County Land Use Bylaw No. 1272-14, from the Métis Nation of Alberta, dated October 4, 2023, to allow for the development of a 75-bed Supportive Living Facility.
- The lands in question are approximately 158.55 acres in area, and are separated into two portions, one north of Victoria Trail and the other to the south of Victoria Trail. The proposed Supportive Living Facility is planned to be located on the portion of River Lot 15 lying south of Victoria Trail.
- In its current iteration, Land Use Bylaw No. 1272-14 does not include a definition of "Supportive Living Facility" nor any similar land use type, nor does Bylaw No. 1272-14 contain provisions pertaining to Supportive Living Facilities and does not currently allow for Supportive Living Facilities to be located in any of the existing land use Districts as neither a Permitted Use nor as a Discretionary Use.
- Propose Bylaw No.1453-23 proposes to address these shortcomings in Bylaw No. 1272-14 by providing for a definition of Supportive Living Facility, by also providing

provisions that ensure that issues relating to Supportive Living Facilities are addressed in ways that ensure public safety, environmental protection and minimize impacts on adjacent landowners, and to ensure that these types of facilities are located in appropriate locations.

- The subject site is classified as "Commercial" under Section 7.2 (Future Land Use Map) of Smoky Lake County Municipal Development Plan Bylaw No. 1249-12, which is congruent with the proposed rezoning.
- The subject site is classified as "Commercial" of the Victoria District Area Structure Plan Bylaw No. 1305-17. According to Policy #46, "Commercial operations that are not home-based or agricultural-based will be encouraged to develop on lands designated as Commercial on Map 1 - Future Land Use". This proposal is congruent with Policy #46.
- The subject site is classified as "Culture and Tourism Area" on Map 7.3 Future Land Use of Smoky Lake County Bylaw No. 1383-20: Smoky Lake County & Lamont County Intermunicipal Development Plan, and is located within the "Referral Area" as shown on Map 7.2 Plan Area and Referral Area Boundaries. According to Policy 4.2.2 of Bylaw No. 1383-20, "Lands within the Culture and Tourism Area may be developed for a range of rural agricultural, residential, commercial, institutional, and recreational uses." This proposal is congruent with Policy #4.2.2.

## **NOTICE:**

- Public Notice has been advertised for two weeks consecutively in newsprint in the Redwater Review on November 29, 2023, and December 6, 2023.
- Public Notice has also been posted on the Smoky Lake County website since November 27, 2023, and on the County's Facebook page on November 27, 2023.
- Adjacent landowners were notified of the proposed Bylaw and Public Hearing by Notice, sent on November 24, 2023.
- Lamont County was notified of the proposed Bylaw and Public Hearing by Notice on November 24, 2023.

## 3.0 Public Presentations Via Written Submissions

There were 5 written submissions received in advance of the December 14, 2023, Public Hearing, as follows:

## Submission #1, read into the record:

Good morning, My name is Irene van der Kloet, and I live on Range Road 180. I am opposed to bylaw 1453-23 for the following reasons: 1. I am an avid endurance rider (horseback riding). I ride distances from 25 miles and up competitively. It is essential to me to have trails or roads where I can safely ride with my horse. When I say "safely," I primarily aim at traffic safety: quiet roads and/or roads with wide ditches and cooses to fields or approaches. Traffic safety is essential to me. As a 13-year-old, I was in and access to fields or approaches. Traffic safety is essential to me. As a 13-year-old, I was in a traffic accident while on horseback. I came away with minor visible injuries, but I lost my horse in that accident, and the trauma from that accident is still with me today. The Victoria Trail and RR 174A route is one of my favourite training routes. It is 19 kilometres, the perfect training distance, and quiet and safe. I have a serious concern that traffic will substantially increase if this supportive living facility is built in that location. There will be traffic from patients, staff and visitors, coming and going. I will lose that endurance training route because of it. 2. The second reason for my opposition is that to many

or it. 2. The second reason for my opposition is, that building a supportive living facility in the proposed location could open the door to the construction of other facilities, or a major expansion. Thereby, the region would lose its agricultural and rustic character. In the slipstream, I am very concerned that the value of my property will tank because of the presence of this facility nearby. 3. The third reason for my opposition is that the

presence or mis facility nearby. 3. The third reason for my opposition is that the proposed project would be within the Victoria District National Historic Site of Canada, as can be found in a flyer available at the County office. How can the County justify to support tourism, support heritage areas in the county and then build a supportive living facility in that same area? That makes no sense to

A report from Expedition Management Consulting, also available at the County office, mentioned the following about the stretch of the North Saskatchewan River from Edmonton to Pakan:" Multiple well-established historic and cultural attractions and landscapes, including Fort Heritage Precinct, Victoria District National Historic Site, Victoria Trail and Metis Crossing." Again, it makes no sense to me that the County plans to build a supportive living facility in a Heritage area.

# Submission #2, read into the record:

Hi Jordan,

I wont be able to attend the hearing tomorrow and Brittany let me know to pass my spiel to you. Would you be able to read the following on my behalf?

#### Good Day Council Members,

Thanks for letting me share my thoughts today on the proposed rezone of River Lot 15 from a Commercial District to a Supportive Living Facilities District. I, like many other landowners, county residents and users of the trail, would like to express my strong opposition to this consideration.

express my strong opposition to this consideration. I have aways wanted to live on the trail. The reasons are obvious—it's a scenic, quiet place, consisting mostly of agriculture. For the last 10 years I would frequently travel the trail on my way to and from work, taking the long way home looking for 'For Sale' signs any chance I could. It took 10 years of taking the long way home, but I finally found the 'For Sale' sign that I was looking for, just barely visible buried in a snow drift last year. The 10-year wait was over. I had finally found the place where my wife and I could raise our young family.

Now, it is somewhat heartbreaking to think that a project like this would be built in the Victoria District. When you have a gem like the trail within your county, only minimal and necessary intervention should be the driving force when considering change. A 75-bed rehabilitation facility would be bizarre and alien-like against the backdrop of the sleepy trail. Some will look at this project and think of the monetary value it may bring – to the county, to the owners and to the staff who may work there one day. To me, the real value is in the largely undisturbed agricultural land running along, and surrounding the trial being shaped largely only by time. It's priceless. This area should not be exploited by projects that do nothing to enhance or preserve its natural beauty and approving this project would undoubtably open the door and make it easier for other conflicting projects to follow.

In closing, I ask that the council members say no to the proposed change and continue preserving the future vision of the Victoria District. A vision that respects the natural landscapes and historical assets of the area. A vision consistent with that of local stakeholders, landowners, county residents and users of the trail.

Regards,

#### **Clayton Turko**

## Submission #3, read into the record:

Good day,

Thanks for the time. I would like to express my concern regarding the proposed changes to the Victoria district.

I understand that the the land will be changed from C2 to DC2. I believe this should be left as is, and not changed from the historical surroundings it is currently designated as is. I work on many of these historical buildings in the area and think that we should keep these lands as historical, and embrace the heritage in these boundaries. I'm strongly apposed to rezoning this area, and think that it is best to be left as is, and not rezoned.

## Sincerely Aaron van der Vaart

## Submission #4, read into the record:

Hello,

I am writing in regards to Proposed Bylaw 1453-23. Unfortunately, I can not attend the meeting, but I would appreciate my questions were read and answered if possible.

With the addition of a Supportive Living Facility south of Smoky Lake, many questions come to mind.

Who proposed this idea?

How will this facility DIRECTLY and POSITIVELY affect the current citizens of Smoky Lake and Smoky Lake County?

What is the maximum capacity for the facility?

Will the residents of this facility be using the Smoky Lake hospital, emergency room, clinic, doctors and nurses?

If the residents of this facility are using the healthcare system in Smoky Lake, what is the plan to increase doctors, nurses, and facility size so that residents of Smoky Lake and Smoky Lake County do not have their access to these services negatively affected? A Supportive Living Facility would strain these services.

How will this facility positively affect the property owners in this historic area?

How will this facility affect local tourism and the image of Smoky Lake and Smoky Lake County?

Thank you for your time and I look forward to specific answers.

Byron Johnson

## Submission #5, read into the record:

As residents and landowners in Smoky Lake County, we wish to express our views regarding the **amendments** being proposed to your **Bylaw No. 1453-23** to include a "Supportive Living Facility".

1. That 'Section 1.7 INTERPRETATION/DEFINITIONS' of Smoky Lake County Bylaw No. 1272-14: Land Use Bylaw, be amended:

## We Strongly OPPOSE.

 That 'SECTION 7 – SPECIAL PROVISIONS' of Smoky Lake County Bylaw No. 1272-14: Land Use Bylaw, be further amended:

We Strongly OPPOSE.

 That 'SECTION 8 LAND USE DISTRICTS' of Smoky Lake County Bylaw No. 1272-14: Land Use Bylaw, be further amended:

## We Strongly OPPOSE.

We feel these amendments will open the door to increased crime in our rural area that is already a huge and out of control problem. Given that the courts have introduced measures where there are no consequences or opposition to crimes such as break ins, thefts, and blatant disregard for our residents' safety.

A "Supportive Living Facility" will draw more unwanted, troubled, and potentially violent individuals to the neighborhood. **This is not wanted.** The rural RCMP cannot police the local areas already and we do not need any more problems added due to a combination of a lack in police resources and the current stances that the Federal Government has imposed upon the court system.

We chose to move to Smoky Lake and invest our life savings to live in a peaceful place without the concerns of these sorts of facilities such as the bigger cities are now having to deal with.

Our concerns are not unfounded as crime rates have been proven to increase dramatically where "rehabilitation" and "safe injection sites" have been placed.

Facilities such as this change of bylaw will encourage to move in **do NOT belong in a rural environment**, where police presence is sparce and attendance times are ridiculously long due to the amount of area the few police members must cover. Not only does this stretch police resources but puts a strain on our already heavily burdened healthcare services. Smoky Lake residents should not pay the price with their lives or health for this decision.

In conclusion, the proposed amendments do absolutely NOTHING to enhance or improve our community, hence our strong opposition to them.

We Strongly OPPOSE these changes.

Sincerely,

Robyn Hallet

## 4.0 Public Presentations at the Public Hearing from the Proponent:

Metis Nation of Alberta's representatives: Aaron Barner, Senior Executive Officer and Reagan Bartel, Director of Health, spoke in favour, including but not limited to the following points:

- The Metis Nation of Alberta is the largest indigenous government in Canada, we have 65,000 citizens, we have in excess of 400 staff on our annual budgets and in excess of \$250 million, we are the largest indigenous housing provider in Canada, over a thousand houses. Right now, we are building e.g., 127 unit building in Edmonton. We have our own lending institution.
- Partnerships are something that we take very seriously within our nation, kinship and community ties are central to our way being our values, they are head and heart for us, so everything we do centers that in the work that we do.
- We do not take on projects that we do not believe in, that we do not believe really add value to our communities or our health and wellbeing. We have many successes; the province is adopting our Alberta Metis cancer strategy, which is work that looks to support folks on a cancer journey and I highlight this because it is evidence that we know how to look at a complex problem, break it down into really great pieces and work with our partners to build and create wonderful programs and infrastructure that will support not just us as a community, but our neighbors, province, and nation as a whole.
- We do have a very strong grounding in mental health and substance abuse within our nation and we sit on many provincial and national committees and decision-making bodies to support doing things in a good way. It's a story of hope. We all know people who have family and friends who have been impacted by the choices that they have made to cope with things that are often out of their control.
- We know that as a community, if we can lift people up, that we see folks recover, we see folks coming back home to our communities contributing in incredible ways and living incredible, wonderful lives, we know that folks who struggle with substance abuse are worth it; they are our family, they are our friends and they are our community.

- We are looking to build a continuum of care. And so, what does that mean? That means recovery communities from a holistic, long-term place where folks can stay with us.
- To be very clear the space that we are hoping to build, healing waters, is the middle of our recovery journey, so when we hear, 'detox', that is not happening at this facility. We are past detox. We have already welcomed folks into our new beginnings' treatment. So, they have already had a chance to understand some of the routines and things that come with being a part of a recovery community; and that is when they would transition to the recovery center at Healing Waters.
- Recovery is the focus, there are no in-and-out folks coming, they are committing to staying up to a year within this facility, which is very secure, monitored and staffed appropriately, and before we remove them to their own communities, again, discharge planning starts on admission, and we are welcoming folks back into our own post treatment transitional housing back in the city. So, the goal of this continuum is not to inject recovery folks into the community. It is to ensure that they have the skills and the treatment that they need to go out and do beautiful things in the world.
- After they are done their detox, they will come into pre-treatment housing, they will form cohorts, they will form connections, they will get their meds done, they will be forming connections with Counciling, they will move as a cohort into the recovery.
- We are not doing a 'safe injection' site in Smoky Lake County. We are talking about people that are well into their journey of recovery, that have already detoxed, they have done pre-recovery and now they are in recovery. They will work with us prior to coming to the community.
- We do have services such as opioid treatments, which are medications that may replace the substance that they use to prevent acute medical issues. We have Counciling, we have employment support, we are going to wrap these folks in essentially a community-based hug to ensure that they have what they need to be successful, clients will live on site.
- It is a locked facility much like the 11 planned and 2 currently operating in our province already.
- The approach to substance uses and mental health really did focus on acute interventions and that is where you do see some of the challenges because we know that if we take folks in, we give them everything they need to thrive, and then we put them back into spaces where they have none of those things, it can be very traumatizing for those folks. So, we are transitioning towards that recovery model that will improve outcomes for everybody. It is a coordinated network of personalized community-based services, and that is where the difference lies, we know as the power of community.
- What we can do, Smoky Lake has seen that you are a strong community. Your pumpkin fest is known far and wide, and those are things that you do together, and we want to do the same to ensure that folks are accessing that holistic long-term management where folks can just come and thrive. Healing waters, again, just to emphasize it is a secure, Metis led with a holistic approach to healing combining both traditional Metis and western health care.
- It is a 35-million-dollar investment into Smoky Lake County with construction set to start in spring of 2024. We have talked about it being on River Lot 15. We are not looking to create an institution; we are looking to continue with our incredible work.
- So, we are talking about a 35-million-dollar investment, with 90 to 120 jobs, 40 to 60 jobs in construction, and 50 to 60 full-time jobs.

## 4.0 Public Presentations at the Public Hearing from those Opposed:

The following Members of the Public and/or Organization Representatives virtually and/or physically present, spoke **in opposition** of proposed **Bylaw No. 1453-23**:

# At 11:15 a.m., Victoria Home Guard Society Representative: Don Klym, read from his handout, as follows:

My name is Don Klym and I'm representing the Victoria Home Guard Historical Society. To begin with:

- The Victoria Home Guard recognizes today's societal need for support of individuals requiring assistance in accommodation and living services. However, we are opposed to the proposed location for a facility to provide such services.
- The Victoria Home Guard objects to the lack of transparency and information, and the compressed time-frame for public involvement in the decision process for this proposed bylaw.

Home Guard Role and Position

The Victoria Home Guard Historical Society was incorporated in 1997 with a mission to "seek out, and to preserve and promote the history of the Victoria District for the benefit of present and future generations". Home Guard membership, numbering at about 100, consists of people currently residing in Victoria District; people who have resided in Victoria District; interested individuals residing in Smoky Lake County; and other individuals with an interest in Victoria District. Over the last 25 years, the Home Guard has accomplished a suite of initiatives in keeping with our mission and has been an active participant in development of the Victoria District. The signature achievement of the Home Guard is the designation of the district as The Victoria District National Historic Site of Canada which was one of its original objectives in 1997.

The following is an elaboration of our reasons for our opposition as well as concerns with the Smoky Lake County process leading up to today's hearing.

## Public Notification and Consultation

The Home Guard learned about the proposal indirectly. No notification was received officially. Over the past 2 decades we have built a cooperative relationship with the County being apprised of any developments in Victoria District. This did not happen. Public notification of the hearing may have met the administrative requirements; however, the period of time to prepare for this hearing is unreasonable.

We have experienced a shift, by the County, to more meaningful public consultation in the past few years. However, in this situation consultation has been non-existent. To learn about a development of such magnitude three weeks prior to the hearing is unreasonable.

### **Decision Process**

The decision to proceed with a Municipally Controlled Development is paramount in land use administration. Such a decision would have required some level of a needs assessment to warrant a Supportive Living Facility in the Smoky Lake region. This needs assessment requires time and careful thought and proper consultation. We sense that the time-frame to reach this decision point was hurried.

Furthermore, our understanding of the approval process for a Municipally Controlled Development is that once a hearing is held with three readings by the county council, development permits are issued, but with no provision for appeal. This means that directly affected parties and stakeholders have only one opportunity to effect the decision.

Preserving the Historic Landscape of Victoria District

Recognition of the area along the Victoria Trail as a special historic place began years ago. The provincial government established the Victoria Settlement Historic Site in 1976. The Home Guard initiated the application for national designation in 1997. In 2001, the federal government approved the designation of the Victoria District as a National Historic Site. The completion of the designation process occurred in 2012 with the Commemorative Plaque Site celebration. National designation results in a Commemorative Integrity Statement, which is the basis for managing the historic site. In this situation, Smoky Lake County has this responsibility as identified in the designation process. The overall objective of the Integrity Statement is to preserve the historic resource values that contributed to the designation. In this case, River Lot 15 and associated history is the resource in question. The Alberta Municipal Government Act has provisions for management of special places. The Land Use Bylaw emanates from the Municipal Development Plan. The County amended the bylaw in 2015 to provide a level of historic preservation by including a heritage overlay for Victoria District. An Area Structure Plan was completed in 2019 providing more specific development guidelines. More recently, in 2020 the County designated the Victoria Trail as a Municipal Historic Area. Previously, in 1972, the federal government designated the Trail as a National Historic Event

As interest in the Victoria District grew over the last two decades, the County began to address the possibility of economic development opportunities. This resulted in the Victoria District Economic Development Strategy with bylaw approval by both, the County and the Town of Smoky Lake in 2020. The focus of the strategy is tourism with an objective to contribute to the preservation of heritage values in Victoria District.

Last but not least, the federal and provincial governments accepted the nomination of the Alberta reach of the North Saskatchewan River as a Canadian Heritage River this summer. The National Historic Site played a key role in this nomination.

Generally, all national historic sites in Canada follow stringent development rules. Although not verified, this proposal may be a precedent and could risk designation status. There is a common theme that transcends all of the above initiatives – historic significance and need for preservation. *Conclusion* 

The proposed Supportive Living Facility on River Lot 15 is totally and absolutely incompatible with the historic landscape of the Victoria District and not in keeping with preservation intentions. I have described over two decades of passionate work and efforts by many groups and individuals to bring to the world a very special place representing our history and heritage. This must not be unraveled now or ever.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Klym,

President, Victoria Home Guard Historical Society

## At 11:22 a.m., Don Klym, landowner, read from his handout, as follows:

My name is Don Klym and I am presenting this as an owner of part of River Lot 16 and resident of 17438 Victoria Trail in Smoky Lake County. The assumed site of the facility identified in the proposed Bylaw is just a few hundred meters east of my residence.

- Firstly, though I recognize the need for support of individuals requiring assistance for various reasons, I am opposed to the proposed location of such a support facility.
- Secondly, I object to the lack of transparency, information and compressed time-frame in the decision process for the proposed bylaw.

Recognition of the area along the Victoria Trail as a special place began years ago. I will give you a whirlwind review of all the key initiatives over the past several decades that recognize the importance of the Victoria District:

- In 1972, the Victoria Trail was designated as a National Historic Event by the federal government.
- In 1974, the Victoria Settlement Historic Site was established by provincial government.
- In 2001, the Victoria District National Historic Site of Canada was designated by the federal government.
- In 2012, the Commemorative Plaque Site was established, highlighting the Commemorative Integrity Statement to guide development.
- In 2015, the County Land Use Bylaw was revised recognizing the heritage of Victoria District.
- In 2019, the Area Structure Plan for Victoria District was completed with more specific development guidelines.
- In 2020, the Victoria Trail was designated as a Municipal Historic Area by the County.
- In 2020, the Victoria District Economic Development Strategy was completed and implementation begun.
- In 2023, the Alberta reach of North Saskatchewan River was nominated as a Canadian Heritage River.
- Over the past decade or so, the Métis Crossing development is becoming a world class destination for Métis cultural and heritage experiences.

Upon further examination of the above initiatives, you will find a common theme that transcends all of them, and that is, historic significance and need for preservation. Therefore, the proposed facility on River Lot 15 is totally and absolutely incompatible with the historic landscape of the Victoria District and not in keeping with preservation intentions.

Besides heritage and history preservation, other issues identified below require further clarification. These are related to the decision process and management of the Supportive Living Facility.

1. As a nearby landowner and resident, I would have expected a direct notification of this proposal. As well, given the magnitude of such a development, we would have expected to be consulted by the County and/or proponent. None of these occurred, limiting our time and knowledge in preparation for this hearing. In fact, the proponent and the exact location of the facility were only learned from unofficial sources.

2. My understanding of the approval process for a Municipally Controlled Development is that once a hearing is held with 3 readings with approval by the county council, development permits are issued, but with no provision for appeal. This means that directly affected parties and stakeholders have no opportunity to effect the decision and the design of the facility after this hearing.

3. The decision to proceed with a Controlled Development would have required some level of a needs assessment to warrant a Supportive Living Facility in the Smoky Lake region. Is this available from the County or the proponent? Some of the services identified in the definition already exist in the Smoky Lake area and elsewhere.

4. What is the source of the definition of the Facility in the proposed Bylaw? We have a concern regarding the wide range of types of needs for support identified in the definition. For example, addiction would require an "aftercare plan" with specialized care different from other support needs such as for aging or behavioral issues. In section 3(ii)(b)(2) of the bylaw, further uses are identified. The wide range of uses under a Municipally Controlled Development for Smoky Lake County is questionable.

5. Item 4(iii) stipulates the facility be fenced and screened. While security must be addressed, this would detract from the viewscape as specified in the Area Structure Plan and could impact tourism. <u>No amount of screening or blending into the landscape an institutional-like complex will mitigate this.</u>

6. Has the proponent or the County performed some level of socio-economic impact assessment? Any economic benefits must be weighed against negative impacts, such as property land values for surrounding landowners. Other negative impacts could be on the tourism strategy mentioned above, county emergency services, police surveillance, hospital services, schools, etc.

In summary, my key concerns are aesthetical enjoyment, land values, security, and increased traffic. I have the privilege of living in a National Historic Site and whatever the economic benefits this facility would create cannot outweigh the value I place on my quality of life. Bottom line – going forward with this proposed bylaw to accommodate a supportive living facility in the proposed location is simply WRONG. Furthermore, the decision process so far, leaves much to be desired. I trust Council will make the right decision, not just for me, but for our county ratepayers and all those from afar that come here to experience our beautiful and historic Victoria District.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Klym

## At 11:32 a.m., Smoky Lake Heritage Board Society Representative, Noreen Easterbrook, read from her handout, as follows:

The Smoky Lake Heritage Board has reviewed the proposed bylaw amendment and opposes the proposal with reasons explained below.

The Smoky Lake Heritage Board is mandated to preserve, promote and protect heritage including the integrity of the historic district. To be specific, one of our stated objectives is: "To protect heritage values and places especially where land development and commercial venture may put landscape heritage attributes and aesthetic values at risk."

The board has also made a commitment to the SL County to support the Economic Development Strategy with its emphasis on heritage-driven tourism. A facility such as this would put the strategy at risk since the proposed site is in the heart of national historic district.

The definition of a Supportive Living Facility given in the proposed bylaw amendment is extremely broad with little information on the extent of development, purposes of the facility, design and operational details all of which are pertinent to protecting heritage attributes of the historic district and the tourism industry along the Victoria Trail;

Direct Control allows development to proceed without public consultation and without the constraints of planning documents, such as the Area Structure Plan (ASP), that protect heritage, built resources and natural ecosystems.

To expand on the above reasons for opposition to the proposal, there are further details to consider.

 <u>Location</u> Heritage-driven tourism was identified in the Strategic Economic Development Plan as a feasible means of improving the local economy. With this plan in mind, the questions must be asked: Would this type of facility enhance the country residential ambiance that currently exists? Would it entice new residents and new heritage-based businesses to the area; or instead, would it impede the tourism strategy?

If the province has announced a monetary incentive to build supportive living facilities in the province, some municipalities or organizations must have lobbied for this. Did municipalities in our region lobby for this type of facility? The county must be looking at all needs and setting priorities that will serve our communities. Municipal Planners must look at the entire county to determine where this type of facility could best be situated, if that is what our communities require.

The county has a Municipal Development Plan (MDP) and a Land Use Bylaw (LUB) governing development. The Heritage Overlay in these documents includes a recreation and tourism policy that states the following:

- development shall be located in areas where it does not adversely affect the natural environment;
- development may be allowed where it can be demonstrated that it will generate a low net environmental impact; Tourist facilities must not threaten the potential itself.

This Heritage Overlay was obviously included in the LUB in consideration of the tourism, and recreational potential of the Victoria District. The policies in the overlay would not have to be considered if the proposed amendment is passed.

According to the LUB, the proposed development site is located in Environmentally Sensitive and Heritage Overlay Areas. The LUB includes many policies to protect the environmental and historic integrity of this district such as the following:

- Development near a river may be allowed if the proponent can demonstrate to the development authority that it is compatible with the river environment, and The Land Use Bylaw relates to land development compatibility with the historic value of the .
- trail within the Victoria District.

Again, this refers to the Overlay areas of the LUB that were identified in order to protect the heritage district and environment. The proposed amendment to the bylaw would eliminate protection to these protections.

There is also an Area Structure Plan (ASP) created specifically for the historic district and its extension along the Victoria Trail. The drafting of this document took several years and involved the County, the Victoria Home Guard and the Smoky Lake Heritage Board. There are numerous policies within the ASP that encourage development to be compatible with heritage values. Architectural design is to be considered along with other aspects of development such as the following:

- o clearing vegetation from the shore to 300 m north of the Victoria Trail is to be minimized;
- 0 0
- the number of approaches onto the trail is to be restricted; recreation oriented development that allows **public** access to the river is to be encouraged;
- Identified viewscapes are to be subject to additional regulations to ensure integrity of the historic designated site

The proposed amendment would allow the development to proceed without regard to these guidelines. The LUB carries more weight than the ASP so it is the LUB that is proposed for amendment.

- Since this proposed development is not consistent with the Land Use Bylaw, the proposed rezoning under direct control is intended that any hindrance to the proponent's proposed blice the proposed brocket control is intended that any hindrance to the proponent's proposed development is removed. The intent of the Bylaw and associated planning documents is being completely ignored.
- 4 A municipality that develops and approves bylaws and plans has a responsibility to its citizens and ratepayers to uphold them.

2 Broad Definition and Indeterminate Size of Facility This bylaw rezoning proposal contains insufficient details. The only indication of what building may be developed in this proposal is a definition of the facility. What type of building is proposed? Who, exactly, will the residents be and what number of residents is the upper limit? According to the definition, the facility could house anywhere from four elderly people to an indeterminate number of recovering addicts. A clear decision cannot be made based on this ambiguous definition.

The bylaw amendment would also allow future additional development to occur on this large riverlot extending up the profile of the valley. Concerns relating to security, traffic, parking and conflicts with Victoria District objectives must be considered. Additionally, housing for employees may not be available in town and many professionals will likely choose to live in the city thereby contributing little to our local economy.

- The municipality should be conducting a Socio-Economic Impact Assessment as one aspect in decision making and a Risk Assessment to measure the risk-benefit balance and determine how effects could potentially be mitigated.
- 3 Direct Control of Proposed Development

Direct Control of Proposed Development The amendment is obviously meant to expedite a specific proposed development. Direct control allows for design, construction, and operations to proceed without regard to the Area Structure Plan that the County, Victoria Home Guard, and Heritage Board developed specifically for this area. If this is good for the community, then community input should be taken seriously; the needs and desires of the public must factor into the design and operation of the development. If this rezoning proceeds, the ratepayers of the County should receive, in writing, assurance from the county that council will take into account the opinions of the surrounding residents and community, continue to heed the ASP, and incorporate public input into the development plans, design, construction, and monitoring monitoring.

- The Municipal Government Act states two important points: A. A Municipal Direct Control District is under the authority of council who may regulate and control the use or development of land and or buildings in any manner they deem necessary and
- B. That no appeal is held.

While we recognize the importance of an increased tax base and possibly new residents to fill employee Thank you for considering our comments as we advocate for historic, environmental, and aesthetic values to be respected.

Sincerely,

Noreen Easterbrook, Smoky Lake Heritage Board Chair

## At 11:42 a.m., Noreen Easterbrook, homeowner, read from her handout, as follows:

As a landowner on the adjacent riverlot 16, I oppose the construction of a large facility at this location. The proposed site is at the forefront of the western portion of historic Victoria Trail.

#### Heritage Preservation and Promotion

Heritage Preservation and Promotion Previous county councils, organizations and the provincial and federal governments have worked for over twenty five years, first to obtain national historic designation, then to preserve sites promoting its history along the trail. More recently the previous Smoky Lake County Council in consultation with the Victoria Home Guard and the Heritage Board, for which I have been chair, created an Area Structure Plan to guide development. A heritage-driven Economic Development Strategy focused on tourism in the Victoria District National Historic Site, was created and currently getting off the ground.

In addition to nearby residents appreciating the history and lifestyle, people come from other parts of the county and visitors come from other regions to enjoy the scenic beauty of the river valley. This is a popular roadway for visitors to our county with scenic views for motorists, cyclists, horseback riders, hikers, and more. Business people, historic organizations and, I thought, our municipalities have been looking forward to tourism ramping up. Currently, the north side of the riverlot is bison grazing and the south side where construction may occur is a hayfield. A dense population on a narrow riverlot would cause complicated movement of people and materials, and offer negative impacts to aesthetics.

### **Choice of Proposed Development Site**

A facility to help people heal would be beneficial to those who require that assistance in our and nearby communities.

✓ The facility will also provide jobs, some for our local people and some positions would bring professionals from other places; then y benefit of new residents to fill employee positions. m other places; then we could potentially gain the

What are Smoky Lake Region Community Requirements?

- Heritage-Driven Tourism was identified as a feasible strategy to increase the local economy. Infrastructure requirements and methods to address them should be sought to improve our community?
- A sizable facility in the historic district would not entice new residents including the cottage industry, which is anticipated to increase heritage-driven tourism.
- Municipal Planners should be looking at the entire county to determine where this type of facility is best situated if that is what our communities require.
- Municipal councilors should examine and prioritize the results of studies then find government funding and investors to meet the needs of the community.
- If county planners and council prioritize needs, would this type of facility increase or decrease the chances of our region to receive funding for our other requirements such as fire and emergency response equipment; funding, medical equipment and staff, recreation facilities, or other infrastructure for our community.
- ✓ A risk-benefit analysis could be conducted.
  - This should be based on safeguarding community desires and needs and also may consider the safety of mental health and addictions residents living beside precarious landscapes.
  - o For a facility to meet the needs of mental health or addictions residents, look to r or a facility to meet the needs of mental health or addictions residents, look t model facilities recently designed where progress has been made by being receptive to the residents' beneficial wishes. It may show that these residents want more privacy than being beside a road where many of the public linger.
- ✓ The municipality should be conducting a Socio-Economic Impact Assessment. This impact assessment will show an aspect for decision making and determining
  - how impacts may potentially be mitigated.
  - Over the past few years, there has been a very low vacancy rate in the Town of Smoky Lake. Until many houses and rental units are built locally, most employees would need to commute from other municipalities. Residents who have recovered and moved out may have to leave this region which is currently lacking accommodation.
- ✓ Site Studies must be conducted.
  - $\circ~$  A very large storage tank will be needed for sewage.
  - Large parking lots are needed for staff and residents. Depending on the size
    of living quarters (ie 75 residents), space for possibly 100 vehicles may be required.
- One type of study needed for this site on top of the river escarpment is a Geotechnical study to determine how far back from the escarpment the building should be placed or if the landform can hold the building.
- The plot of land surveyed for this facility has physical constraints. It lies on a relatively narrow piece of land between Victoria Trail and the river escarpment. While they may design it to fit, setback from the trail would have to be minimal and it needs to be far enough away from the edge of the escarpment to avoid land from sloughing and eroding.
- $\circ$   $\;$  There is no aquifer with sufficient water on the south side of the road. A different location containing a groundwater resource would be more practical

In conclusion, this location does not seem to be appropriate for the proposed facility. There In conclusion, this location does not seem to be appropriate on the proposed analy. There should be a balanced approach to economic development with social values, this development negatively impacts our heritage values and how it will impact the local economy is questionable. We hope that the decision benefits the Smoky Lake region as well as the proponent. Thank you for your attention to these considerations and I hope that the proponent can find another location within our county.

Noreen Easterbrook

At 11:50 a.m., Irene van der Kloet, reiterated her written submission, read into the record as Written Submission #1. (see previous section of these minutes)

# At 11:55 a.m., Craig Lukinuk, landowner, read from his handout, as follows:

Many years ago Smoky lake County Council had a Vision and that vision was to create what we know today as the Victoria District. In **2001** with the strong lobbing by the Victoria Home Guard Society is when by **Ministerial Order of the Minister of Canadian Heritage under the Canada Historic Sites and Monuments Act that the Victoria District National Historic Site of Canada was designated.** The Victoria District has been a focal point of the Smoky Lake Region for many of years.

Council always had a partnership with the Victoria Home Guard Society and the Heritage Board, together with the Home Guards strong lobbing, the Vision of the Heritage Board, all their hard work we have created a Great Tourism Attraction in the Smoky Lake Region in the Victoria District. These beautiful banks of the North Saskatchewan River showcase everything we have to offer like the Warspite Ferry Crossings, the Police Monument, Lob stick Settlement with what we know as the House in the Middle of the Road to the Red River Cart and everything in between. With all this History in the Victoria District Council and the Region (RCDC) created the Victoria District Economic Development Strategy this strategy was a plan to preserve and have some control of what happens in the Victoria District. This plan also was a tool to help promote the Victoria District and really make a bigger impact on tourism in our Region. Moving forward is when a strong bond with the Metis Nation of Alberta was formed (MNA) they too also had a vision that they have been working on for many of years and that was to create a place for their people to tell their stories about their rich heritage and culture along the bank of the North Saskatchewan River bringing Local and International Tourism to our Region to hear their story was a great idea. Working real close together with MNA they now have a Beautiful place called Métis Crossing This vision of theirs really coincided with the Vision of Council, Victoria Home Guard Society and the Heritage Board we also wanted to tell our story about the Victoria Settlement, Lob Stick Settlement there is so much history along the picturesque banks of the North Saskatchewan River in the Victoria District knows as the Victoria District National Historic Site of Canada. Now Smoky Lake County and Region has many stories that can be told and landmarks to be seen.

I want to say that I am not opposed to a Treatment Facility of this nature that will help individuals that need it. There defiantly is a need, but I am sure that there are more appropriate places in our County for a Treatment Facility to be built. I have talked recently to a few people who have used these types of facilities and about this project which is an MNA proposed initiative that the our provincial government wants to support they all seem to echo the same thought that there is definitely a need but also the placement is wrong. When recovering from an addition people should have total anonymity so they can heal and should not be the center of attraction. A structure of this Nature and a Building of this size, with the potential impact for our Region, Should Never Have Been Fast Tracked this way regardless if our Provincial Government supports it and wants to partner with Metes Nation of Alberta.

There is a proper way of doing this and that is to engage YOUR Ratepayers with Public hearings and Open Houses so we can give you our input. By making this amendment to By-Law 1272-14 and inserting By-Law 1453-23 to include a supportive Living Facility by rezoning all of River lot 15 Victoria Settlement from Victoria Commercial (C2) District to Direct Control (DC2) will remove all public consultation and engagement with your Ratepayers. Is this the plan for the future that we all are not aware of. Also this would give this Council and future Council total control by adding By-Law 1453-23 Look at all the permitted uses which would be used in the future to build on Riverlot 15 1. Family Care Facility 2. Group Care Facility 3.And Any other Buildings and Uses Accessory to be Permitted uses to be build in the Victoria District. Look close at your proposed Amended by-law under Regulations Especially 4a. Sub iv it reads However Council Shall Not Be Bound by any of these matters which will include 1-3 which I will leave you to read and review.

What about the light pollution this will create taking away the NIGHT SKYS which in part will directly affect Métis Crossing. I do believe the Ice Huts were to showcase the Northern Lights for People staying there to enjoy not to see a glow of Bright lights from this Fenced in Facility.

If Council is thinking about this Development as an Economic Boost for our Region to gain Tax Revenue then that is a good thing and could work in any Division in our County.

## Having spoken my thoughts

I Craig Lukinuk, Owner of River lot 14 Adjacent to River Lot 15 am not opposed to a Supportive Living Facility I am however strongly opposed to the Location.

Council really needs to take into consideration the Decades of hard work put into the Victoria District all done by Volunteers who live here in Smoky Lake County for two Major Reasons which is in the RFD Request for Decision under Disadvantages the first one I feel is very very important.

1. Potential impact to the Historic Character of the Surrounding Area.

2. The potential Impacts on Adjacent Property Owners which does not only include me.

For transparency purpose when making your decision I ask council to call for a recorded vote

**RECESS** The Public Hearing recessed for lunch, time 12:02 p.m.

**RECONVENE** The Public Hearing reconvened on a call to order by Reeve Jered Serben at 1:00 p.m. in the physical presence of all Council members, Interim Chief Administrative Officer, Finance Manager, Executive Services Clerk, Public Works Manager, Community Peace Officer, and **53 Members of the Public** in Council Chambers, with the Planning and Development Manager, Planning Technician, GIS Operator, Fire Chief, Natural Gas Manager, Communications Officer, Municipal Clerk, Fire Services Clerk, Deputy Fire Chief, Loss Prevention Coordinator, Agricultural Fieldman, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman, Environment & Parks Manager, and **27 Members of the Public** in attendance online, virtually.

4.0 Public Presentations at the Public Hearing from those Opposed:

The following Members of the Public virtually and/or physically present, spoke in opposition of proposed Bylaw No. 1453-23:

At 1:01 p.m., Rick Smith, landowner, spoke in opposition, with his opinion including but not limited to the following points:

- I live on Victoria Trail; I would like to open by saying I am here to object to the support living facility proposal to be built on River Lot 15, on the historical Victoria Trail and amongst residents and residential living families.
- The main reason for this development is the tax revenue money and it has no benefit to tourism and the historical value of Victoria Trail that has already been put in place.
- I am supportive of a facility like this, but not located on Victoria Trail, where tourism is the number one priority, a facility like this would be better serviced by people in a community where it would be doing the most, good.
- Speaking with people, it seems that one of the main concerns is the problem of the people that will be coming to the facility and possibly bringing problems to our backyards.
- Another large concern stated in the proposal is stated under disadvantages, it states the potential impact on adjacent property owners and the historical characteristic of surrounding area.
- There is nothing in the proposal that says how far the surrounding area will encompass and how much of an impact it will have on property value. I do not know exactly how it works, but if you decrease property value, do you not also decrease taxes?
- With a facility of this nature, one would assume there would be a need for

extra policing in place. Who would be responsible for ensuring the extra policing? I am also wondering how the wastewater will be dealt with. I would like to conclude saying that I feel stressed out and a bit blindsided by the passing of the first reading and the lack of transparency of Council's decision, I've spoken with other people who feel the same way as I do, I feel there is a need for more discussion.

At 1:05 p.m., Chirs Wolanski, County Resident, spoke in opposition, with his opinion including but not limited to the following points:

- A CBC article published May 11, 2023, stated Alberta's debt at \$79.7 billion, I believe in responsible governing and common sense. I struggle to understand how a government can roll out a program like this. It is my understanding that the full capital investment will come from them with Metis Crossing limited responsible for the operational expenses, the funds for which will then come from the provincial government and federal government dollars to then cover those operating expenses. I understand that.
- With the world we live in now, just us outright saying no to this could get spun terribly because we do not care about addicts or something like that.
- And that is why it is good. We are not on a big stage or anything like that. This is a little reserved and all that kind of stuff. I wanted to mention there is divisiveness. Taking this money only compounds this problem. The perception that they get stuff and others do not, I strongly believe in the Metis ability to combat this problem addiction and recovery, but being funded by taxpayers is not a responsible decision position for all people. This is an important problem, undoubtedly. However, can we see behind this veil of money growing on trees and allowing the government to offer us imaginary fruit. I do not think we are. I do not understand it and I do not think others do, maybe.
- Others understand it a bit more, but I just wanted to bring it out. Our provincial government's not in a place to give out money as far as I am concerned. And I think that asking for this program and taking these dollars into our community, allowing these dollars to be given to us is not good and it does not sit well with me because I do not think we are ever digging ourselves out of this debt. And just taking money in with no plans of paying it back and this is a government program that exists, so maybe we will take the money; but that is all, speakers, and people.

At 1:09 p.m., Christopher Greening, County Resident, spoke in opposition, with his opinion including but not limited to the following points:

- Who wants to build a house beside that? I do not have all the facts about rehabilitation facilities. I can guarantee one fact is that I do not want to live by one. It gives me feelings of insecurity. The area is a dark sky preserve. I would hate to meet somebody who's just going out for a walk in the dark. It is different when it is your neighbors, you know, your community members, you know, their schedules, you know, where they like to walk, you know, their names. You can call them out and say, 'hey, how is it going this evening?'. The people that are going to stay at this rehabilitation facility are temporary. They will come and go, some will be good, but some will be bad. It is not a positive thing to live close by.
- One scenario could be if someone failed to go through treatment and runs away, could steal the closest car, will it happen? Probably not, but it could. The people who live nearby will have to deal with all the worry and insecurity. In the opinion of my real estate agent, the rezoning of Lot 15 to allow the construction of the rehabilitation facility will cause a drop in the surrounding property values.
- The re-zoning to allow the construction of the rehabilitation facility on River Lot 15 will negatively impact Smoky Lake County tourism, in my opinion. It will be impacted by taking away the beauty of the landscape. The well-being of the residents in the community will be compromised further future development of the residential.
- The historical atmosphere that has been maintained for years will lose its importance. Thank you for your time, Council.

At 1:14 p.m., Emilee Feniak, County Resident, spoke in opposition from the side of the room, without a microphone and was inaudible.

At 1:20 p.m., Graham Diezel, County Resident, spoke in opposition with his opinion including but not limited to the following points:

• I love Metis Crossing, I think it is a fabulous facility; my daughter got married

there a year and a half ago.

• I totally appreciate the need for a facility like the one proposed and strongly disagree with the location. Most of the voters I have spoken to agree that this project seems to have been fast tracked through the system. Unacceptable. That is basically it. I could agree with most of the points that the other people have made. But then I would be talking for 70 minutes. Thank you.

At 1:22 p.m., Brittnay Turko, County Resident, spoke in opposition reiterating her late written submission received by email:

My name is Brittany Turko and I am a resident at Victoria trail smoky lake County.

I am opposed to the proposal.

## Good morning

Thank you council members for allowing me to voice my concerns and thoughts towards the proposed rezone for River Lot 15, Victoria Settlement.

My family and I own a farm just west of the land that is being spoken about today. We moved here in April 2022 after a very quick purchase, as we immediately knew that this location was our forever.

In 2020 we had actually completed our first draft of floor plans to build. That following week I was diagnosed with cancer and all was plans were paused. A diagnosis like this obviously put many things into perspective, and shifted my priorities. It was a blessing in disguise when it came to finding the home we have now. I no longer wanted some big million dollar house, I fell in love with the trail and the location, not the house itself.

This home has now healed me more than anyone will ever know. To own property along the historical victoria trail is sought after by many. For us home owners along the trail, we can't fully put into words what our properties mean to us. This scenic, private, and comforting trail is something we will never take for granted. I have fallen in love with everything it is and all that the Victoria home guard Historic Society protects and preserves here.

These committees and groups are formed by volunteers who love our area and county. They are not backed by money, and financial gain is not why we are here to voice our opposition. We are driven by love and passion. Please, council members, keep this in mind when making your decision.

It is said that this is a post detox facility being built, but there are 160 acres to potentially develop. I don't believe there is anything restricting future growth, or a guarantee that it won't change or grow to include other steps throughout treatment in the future.

I know these facilities are needed everywhere, I myself have had loved ones who have needed and used such facilities.

But, I do not feel that this location that is recognized federally as historical should be changed in this way. A facility for drugs and/or alcohol abuse at this location does not coincide with what so many have worked to preserve and protect for years.

Please don't change what we all love, respect and want to protect about this trail we call home.

Thank you.

## 4.0 Public Presentations at the Public Hearing from those In Support:

The following Members of the Public virtually or physically present spoke **In Support** of proposed **Bylaw No. 1453-23**:

At 1:26 p.m., Michelle Wright, County Resident, spoke in favour, with her opinion including but not limited to the following points:

- With the Metis Nation of Alberta proven partnerships, they are bringing networks of partnerships to the table.
- We have housing issues, we have labor issues, we have transportation issues, we have infrastructure issues, we have sustainability issues, and we have community building and maintenance issues. These can all be addressed as we work together if we give the Council the chance to take the direct control and continue to manage this process forward, I do believe in the facility, and I also trust that the County Council is the right entity to be looking after our interests with this location.
- We aspire to transform people who come here, whether they are visitors or whether they are residents, and in this case, the people who will be at this

facility, this health care facility, are those that are also here to be transformed, so whether we are transforming them through direct tourism, the visitor who comes down the boat in the river or whether they are a visitor who is being transformed purposely and by choice in a facility such as this nature. We built this district, and we invested in this district with the intention to share the district.

- I again reiterate, I am trusting the councillors that I want you to continue to be a partner with the Metis Nation of Alberta in this proposal and that I would expect that you would still engage with the community about the proponent's proposal and that this is not the end of the conversation.
- Despite whether you are allowed to, or are not allowed to, in working with the council over the last 4 and a half years in my economic development role, I found them to be very open to listening to what people's concerns were.
- While you may have a bigger hammer, you also have the bigger picture, you understand the tourism strategy that we have lived and breathed for the past few years. My expertise in this area and building this strategy was that it was to be built on transformative experiences.
- We care about people in our community, we care about people outside of our community, and we want healing for all. This is a different type of visitor, but they are still visitors in our community. The bottom line is again, we could have a beautiful facility. It could be beautiful when viewed from the riverbanks, it could be well managed, and it could be a whole bunch of the other things that you have heard. But if we do not give direct control at this point, I do not believe we will have the opportunity to actually work through this with our partners and get it right. Thank you.

# At 1:31 p.m., Hank Holowaychuk, Town of Smoky Lake Resident, spoke in favour with his opinion including but not limited to the following points:

- It is a couple acres on the banks of the Saskatchewan River that will not negatively impact any community, whether it is the dust, the traffic, there is a half a mile from there, 855 to that location.
- Everybody that's opposed here, they all traveled to Fort Saskatchewan, they all travel to the cities, they go to the malls that have had shootings. That is a problem throughout society, but this will be a place of hope and healing. So, remember that. Fort Saskatchewan has correctional institute right there and nobody in this room has any problem going there. All I am saying you jump on a plane, you go to Mexico, you go wherever, folks, the reality is, we know where the people are going to be in good hands with professional, capable people that have their well-being at heart. We do not know who comes up and down our highways, so please, please Council, give this its due consideration in time and continue to engage in the dialogue that these people are prepared to offer to work towards a viable solution.
- Having said that, I am going to say this, the McDonald Hotel, how many people have stayed in McDonald Hotel, Google it, and just take a quick look around the 3-block area around the historic 110 years old hotel. It's a historic district that coincides with all the other stuff that they have in the community, they are all just a couple blocks away. Guys, this is all doable. And it will serve us well into the future. If we fail on this, then folks on your way home, take a drive through Willingdon, take a drive through a Warspite, take a drive through other communities, because folks just have a good look at the world around you and what the implications are if we pass this opportunity by. \$35,000,000. 45 jobs, 75 people.
- Every couple of months people will transition to there and they will not be on the streets, and they will not be involved in negative stuff. They will be looking after their families, saving us millions and millions of dollars.
- So, I think. I probably covered what I want to say. I want to urge the Council to separate the chaff from the wheat. A lot of stuff was presented today; with not one factual evidence to support devalued land properties, nothing was presented to this board at all. At this time, it's speculation. Throw the speculation out the window or where it belongs. Throw the emotion out of the picture, deal with the facts. This is a positive development for this region.
- Folks, I can just say these people in our gallery. What wonderful additions to our community. Leon, you live there now. All these other guys, Elmer, you come to town every day. These people support our community. They live and work amongst us. And tonight, I am going to the Metis Crossing because they have a world class event there with Telus World of Science bringing people from all over the place. Let's not drop the ball, folks. Do what's right for Smoky Lake County, thank you.

At 1:42 p.m., Jaunita Marois, Chief Executive Officer of Metis Crossing, spoke in favour with her opinion including but not limited to the following points:

- Our role is to share and celebrate our culture with all of these people from around the world, the past, the present and the future.
- As all of you have acknowledged, this region with its river, its history, and the land, is a place of connection and healing. Many of you have been healed here yourselves. We all agree that this location is important. We draw visitors from around the world to benefit from the healing powers.
- This location has healing waters, though separate from Metis Crossing it is an initiative of the Metis Nation and extends that purpose, though to a different audience, these people are not coming from around the world to spend thousands of dollars at Metis Crossing, they are coming to this place, and they too will heal from the lands and the programs of Metis Crossing.
- Now I am also a mother, an auntie, I have 4 beautiful children, 30-some beautiful nieces, and nephews. I am a neighbor, I am a friend, I am a landowner, just like all of you are, and I cannot say that I do not have concerns because I do, but you have to know that I would not if one of my children ever had an addictions issue, there is nowhere in the world that I would rather send them than to the banks to the North Saskatchewan River where we are building this facility today.
- Mental health and addictions, issues touch all of us. It is not a problem that they have out there; it is a problem that has touched all of our lives and there is nowhere better to build this facility than where we are talking about right now. This facility will help rebuild our citizens and our friends to become people who can again contribute to our communities.
- It really does take a village to raise a child. Smoky Lake Victoria District is your community, and it is our community. The Metis Nation of Alberta could have picked anywhere in Alberta to build this, but they did not; they chose this location, and they chose it because of the healing powers, they chose it because of the existing partnerships that we have within Smoky Lake County with the Victoria Home Guard, with the Heritage Society.
- This is not something that we could build anywhere, it is a place that we have to build with a community that trusts us, that we have a relationship with and that we want to grow forward with.
- Progress is not measured in necessarily what you do. But by how you do it, the Metis Crossing and the Metis Nation of Alberta and Smoky Lake County have proven time and time again that we build with integrity, pride, respect and inclusion. Metis Crossing is committed to support this facility. And we will do that in the best way for the Metis Nation, for our citizens, for Smoky Lake County, for the residents, and for all of the people that will come and heal there. Thank you.

At 1:50 p.m., Dee Cherwoniak, County Resident and retired Victim Services Agent, signed in a "neutral" but spoke in favour, with her opinion including but not limited to the following points:

- I listened to some comments made today about individuals going to be staying in this facility. They are not bad people. And I can guarantee you that each, and every one of you in this room and outside this room have family members, friends or know people within our region that need this service.
- Is the location ever going to be right? No, that was earlier today. But each, and every one of you has your own way of healing. I can tell you that a lot of people here heal with nature. Victoria Trail, you have all said it, it is beautiful. A lot ride their horses down road, we drive, we walk... because it's healing in some way.
- I really, strongly believe that this facility is something our region needs. We have professionals, that are educated, that will provide a means of rehab or recovery.
- Comments made were that it is going to have an effect on our health system. No, our health system now has been impacted without this service. Through the year, Smoky Lake area has lost a lot of services for the people within our communities, and we are having people coming outside of our communities to our emergency department that need services, and this facility is going to provide those services that is where the referrals can be made.
- And I strongly believe that we do need this, and I really ask that Council, if you are making your decision, please make it in a positive way for our communities.
- It will provide employment which should increase our economic status within our community. That is a positive.
- It is going to have a health care clinic with medical professionals to look after these people, and these people are not bad, they are not.
- My husband and I talked about it. Too bad that the Metis Nation of Alberta

did not approach us because we would have been happy about having a facility on our property because it's serving our community. And that is what this is about; it is building our community. That is all I have to say. Thank you.

At 1:57 p.m., Dr. Elmer Ghostkeeper, Elder, Buffalo Lake Metis Settlement, spoke with reflection, including but not limited to the following points:

- 60 % are going to say: 'well, I need more information, I am uncertain'. Then 20 % are going to say: 'no way, there is nothing you can say to convince me to support this project'. That is the way with every family, every community, every elected body making decisions.
- I am not here to convince anybody. It is you that has to make up your mind; and hopefully, base it on facts factual information, not assumptions, not on the spur of the moment.
- I am sure you have had the time (maybe you had the time), to make a logical decision, based on facts. And from what I heard, the short time we have been here, the people that have spoken. A lot have spoken on factual, information, rather than assumptions.
- We all seek treatment at some point, whether it is for the flu, for COVID, others for alcoholism or drugs, drug abuse, etc., and a facility like this from my experience, gives a healing experience.
- You know, this river we call the North Saskatchewan River. I am a fluent Cree speaker and am Michif speaker. The definition means fast flowing water and when you sit by the banks of the river, and you listen closely, it makes the sound: 'Saskatchewan Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan'. That is a healing sound. And from my Worldview, our bodies are 70 % water, our brains, are about 85 % water, so water is so important; to everybody, it is a healer. Without water, in 4 days, you will probably pass. And these people that need this treatment, sometimes it is their fault, sometimes it is not.
- You know, I was heard on the news today. There is a new chemical that is added to fentanyl that cannot be treated. I think the latest count in Alberta 6 people are dying a day because of these drugs; you know, it is not the addict's fault, it is a supplier. And Canada is trying to make a deal with China to stop fentanyl coming into North America and especially Canada, you know? Right now, there is a tremendous increase in mental illness amongst everybody, because of COVID, and because of inflation, the cost of living is just unbearable for many, many people.
- In summary, you go home and have a drink after a long, stressful day. You are trying to get away from your problem. But these people need educated people, mental health Councilors to talk to them. And sometimes, you know, different types of people believe in spirituality or religion to come and talk to them.
- You know the decision is in your hands as elected leaders. Though I do not have much more to say about that. I am sure you've got the knowledge and the wisdom to make the right decision. Just think about the people. You know, those that really cannot talk for themselves or help themselves. You know? So, I wish you all the best. Merry Christmas to you, thank you.

## 5.0 Questions and Answers

The following answers and points of clarity were provided:

- Metis Crossing is not building or proposing to build this center, this is being proposed by the Metis Nation of Alberta (MNA).
- The proposed facility would be used by any nationality, and will not exclude anybody based on their race, gender, or religious ideologies, it is about making people better.
- The footprint of the building itself would be 40,000 sq ft.
- The purpose of a Direct Control District is to provide council with direct control over shaping what the development would eventually look like should they choose to issue a development permit and it allows (as the language in the Act indicates) for councils to come up with conditions, which they would not be allowed to do so under a regular land use district. So, if there are specifics that Council wanted to see with regards to security or public safety or screening, or even set back distances that go above and beyond the typical setbacks in existing districts, council would have the authority to require those things, and if the proponent did not adhere to that, they are not going to get a

development permit. It gives the ability to apply more rigorous and strict conditions on development permits.

- The Metis Nation of Alberta would own and operate the proposed facility.
- The proposed facility is not an 'out' for somebody not having to go to jail, it is not for somebody that is violent, it is for people who have more chance of success, it is a recovery path, not a detox centre. It's for people looking to continue their success and build skills and receive the support that they need, holistically, in order to be successful.

## 6.0 Closing Remarks

There being no further presentations, the Reeve thanked all the presenters for their comments and thanked everyone for attending the Public Hearing; he then declared the Public Hearing for the proposed **Bylaw No. 1453-23**, closed, time **2:08 p.m.** 

## 6. <u>Municipal Planning Commission:</u>

# DP-030-23: Animal Breeding and/or Boarding Facility & Associated Accessory Buildings

The Municipal Planning Commission (MPC) meeting was held from 2:09 to 2:26 p.m. as outlined on an agenda independent of the Council Meeting Agenda. Minutes of the MPC are recorded separately.

# **County Council Meeting Reconvened**

Meeting Reconvened The Smoky Lake County Council Meeting reconvened, at a call to order by Reeve Serben, time 2:53 p.m., in the physical presence of all Council Members, Interim Chief Administrative Officer, Finance Manager, Executive Services Clerk, and 2 Members of the Public, as well as in the virtual presence of the Planning and Development Manager, Planning Technician, Fire Services Clerk, Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief, Municipal Clerk, Community Peace Officer, and 8 Members of the Public.

# 2:53 to 2:54 p.m.Public Question and Answer Period:<br/>None.

One Member of the Public, left chambers, time 2:56 p.m.

## 7. <u>Request for Decision:</u>

## 7.11. Year-2024 Capital Budget

189-23: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council approve the Five-Year Consolidated Capital Budget including the Bridge and Road Programs for a total cost in the amount of \$8,004,721 in Year-2024, \$10,907,927 in Year-2025, \$6,453,116 in Year-2026, \$5,678,001 in Year-2027 and \$3,523,117 in Year-2028.

Carried.

Smoky Lake RCMP Detachment Sgt. Anita Doktor, entered Council Chambers, time 2:57 p.m.

## 7.12. Year-2024 Interim Budget

190-23: Cere

That Smoky Lake County Council approve the Year-2024 Interim Municipal Budget, with revenues in the amount of \$22,494,464 and total Expenditures in the amount of \$24,538,764, not including amortization in the amount of \$2,044,300.

## 4. <u>Delegation:</u>

## Smoky Lake RCMP Detachment: Sgt. Anita Doktor

Present before Council from 3:02 p.m. to 3:05 p.m. was the Smoky Lake RCMP Detachment's Sgt. Anita Doktor, to provide a verbal update, including, but not limited to, the following information:

- Crime is a little bit down right now.
- The Community Engagement Crime Prevention Town Hall, is scheduled for January 16, 2024, at the National Hall in Smoky Lake, doors open at 6:30 p.m.
- A new Corporal is scheduled to arrive February 12, 2024.

Sgt. Anita Doktor, Smoky Lake RCMP Detachment, left Council Chambers, time 3:05 p.m.

## 4.2. Smoky Lake Detachment RCMP

191-23: Halisky

That the verbal report received by Smoky Lake County from Sgt. Anita Doktor, Smoky Lake RCMP Detachment, on December 14, 2023, be accepted for information.

Carried.

## 7.3. Heritage River Designation Initiative Updates (Project Close-out)

192-23: Halisky

- That Smoky Lake County accept the Heritage River Project Updates information package, including:
  - 1. The City of Edmonton Urban Planning Committee Report UPE01575 and accompanying presentation slides dated August 29, 2023, subsequent City Council Report dated September 12, 2023, and subsequent Letter of Support from the Mayor on behalf of Council, dated October 13, 2023.
  - 2. Presentation package for the Canadian Heritage Rivers Board Annual General Meeting, virtually and in-person in New Brunswick, on September 20, 2023.
  - 3. Final Revision of the Heritage River Designation Document and accompanying appendices (which Council previously accepted in principle on June 29, 2023; Motion 683-23 subject to further engagement and revisions):

Appendix A Maps Package

Appendix B Letters of Support

Appendix C pipikwan pêhtâkwan Indigenous Engagement Report

Appendix D O2 Public Engagement Report

Appendix E Expedition Management Tourism Report

Appendix F Know History Heritage Research

Appendix G Legislative/Jurisdictional Scan

- 4. Alberta Minister's reply to Brazeau County, dated December 4, 2023.
- 5. Alberta Minister endorses Designation, dated December 5, 2023.
- 6. Next Steps per Canadian Heritage Rivers Board Chairperson, December 5, 2023.

as information, and that Administration continue to proceed in coordination with the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA), Confederacy of Treaty 6 First Nations, Otipemisiwak Métis Government, and others in making any necessary arrangements for a plaque unveiling in Summer 2024.

#### 7.4. Policy Statement No. 01-53-02: Treaty and Indigenous Acknowledgement

193-23: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Policy Statement No. 01-53-02: Treaty and Indigenous Acknowledgement, be amended as follows:

 
 Title:
 Treaty 6 and Indigenous Acknowledgement
 Policy No:

 Section:
 01
 Code:
 P-I
 Page No.:
 Page No.: 1 of 3 Legislative Reference: Alberta Provincial Statutes and Statutes of Canada Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for recognition of Treaty 6 and Indigenous peoples Policy Statement and Guidelines: 1. STATEMENT: Smoky Lake County acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory and the homeland of the Métis Nation. We benefit from calling this place home, and acknowledge the contributions of First Nations, the Métis Nation, and settlers from around the world in the County's 1.1 founding and growth. We respect these histories, languages, and cultures, which continue to enrich our vibrant community. 2. DEFINITIONS: "Constitution of Canada" includes the <u>British North America Act, 1867</u>; the <u>Statute of</u> <u>Westminster, 1931</u> (to the extent that it applies to Canada); the <u>Constitution Act, 1982</u>; any amendments to these acts; and the acts and orders that brought new provinces and territories into the Canadian federation. The Constitution is Canada's supreme law, overriding any other laws that the intercented with the second 2.1 are inconsistent with it. 2.2 "Treaty Six" was signed by Crown representatives and Cree, Assiniboine, and Ojibwa leaders on 23 August 1876 at Fort Carlton, Saskatchewan, and on 9 September 1876 at Fort Pitt, Saskatchewan, with subsequent adhesions. The treaty boundaries generally extend across central set of the set of portions of present-day Alberta and Saskatchewan 2.3 "Aboriginal" refers to the first inhabitants of the land we now call Canada. "Aboriginal" was popularized due to its use in the 1982 Constitution Act, but more recently has been replaced as the most respectful option by "Indigenous." "Doctrine of Discovery" means a belief that "discovering" nations legalized conquest, the appropriation of land, and the annihilation of cultures. Beginning in the mid-fifteenth century, the Doctrine of Discovery became the basis of colonization by Spain, Portugal, and England of many lands including North America. It provided the basis of agreements between competing European nations for land not yet inhabited by them, identifying such lands as free for the taking.1 2.4 "First Nations" is a term used to describe Aboriginal peoples of Canada who are ethnically neither Métis nor Inuit.<sup>2</sup> 2.5 "Indigenous": A synonym for "Aboriginal." The term "Indigenous" is more commonly used by global organizations, such as the UN, "to refer to peoples with histories of settlement and connection to 2.6 specific lands who have been adversely affected by industrialism, displacement, and settlement of their traditional territories by others."3

		reaty 6 and Indigenous Acknowledgement Policy No: : 01 Code: P-I Page No.:	2	02 of	2
	on:	Code: P-1 Page No.:		01	з
Polic	y S	tatement and Guidelines:			
2.	7	"Indian" is now generally understood to be antiquated but is still included in This word should not be used by non-Indigenous people. It has been replace Nations."4			
2.	8	"Inuit" means an Indigenous People living primarily in northern Canada.			
2.9 "Metis" means a distinct Indigenous People with their own unique culture, tradii way of life, and nationhood. They are differentiated from First Nations due to the s their history and subsequent identity.					
<ul> <li>2.10 "Otipemisiwak Métis Government" means the self-government of the Métis Nation within Alb formerly known as the Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA). Otipemisiwak [Oh-teh-pim-swak] is a P Cree word that means "the people who own themselves."</li> <li>2.11 "Confederacy of Treaty Six First Nations" was created with the purpose of serving as the U Political voice for those member Treaty Nations who are signatories of Treaty No. 6 for continued protection of the fundamental Treaty, Inherent and Human Rights of the Treaty people to a geographical area. Territories may be defined by kinship ties, occupation, seasonal t routes, trade networks, management of resources, and cultural and linguistic connections to plat.</li> <li>2.13 "Terra Nullius" means land that is legally deemed to be unoccupied or uninhabited. In La literally means "land belonging to no one.</li> </ul>					
				No. 6	for the
	2 I 2 I http 3 I 4 I 5 C	United Church of Canada, "Doctrine of Discovery," accessed February 23, 2021, https urch.cs/socialaction/justice-initiatives/reconciliation-and-indigenous-justice/doctrine-indigenous Foundations, "Terminology," accessed February 23, 2021, tps://indigenous Foundations, "Terminology," Indigenous Foundations, "Terminology," Indigenous Foundations, "Terminology," Oxford Lexico, "terra nullius," accessed February 23, 2021, tps://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/terranullius			
3. GUIDELINES					
3.	1	Smoky Lake County will seek to cultivate good and positive relations, and incr with Indigenous communities and peoples, growing together in relationship an			
	2	The Treaty 6 (left) and Métis Nation (right) flags shall be permanently placed a the Smoky Lake County, the Province of Alberta, and the Canadian Flag, in th			flags of

194-23: Fenerty

000	ction	: 01		Code: P-I	Page No.:	3	of	3
					1			
Pol	licy S	Statement			54			
				76 RRITORY	0			
	3.3			election, the Council Orientation will nd Indigenous communities.	include informatio	n aboi	ut the	
	3.4	The County Lake placer		a page on its municipal website ackn	owledging Treaty	6, and	the S	moky
			f meetings or official business, the cl which would be intended to ground					
4.	PLA	CE NAME:						
	4.1	Harrison, Tracey., Place names of Alberta, Volume II, Central Alberta (1996). offers the following entry for Smoky Lake (the lake, proper):						
		name kaska for a smoke	apatau sakah a-like vapour r, in his journa	est of Smoky Lake. The name for igan. According to legend, Smoky La which rose from the lake, obscuring al date 10 July 1810, mentions this fe	ake was named b the opposite shor	y the [ re. Ale.	First i xande	Nation: er Henr
	4.2	Translation	IS:	No				
			Cree	ხ <sup>ი</sup> ხ<⊂u ∖ხ"∆g⊲⊃ (kaskapatau	sakahigan)			
			Ukrainian	Озеро Димне (Ozero Dymne)				
			French	Lac qui Fume				
			English	Smoky Lake				
	43	Statement:						

Carried.

## 7.5. Unbudgeted Capital Expesnse – Heritage Resource Designation Signage

That Smoky Lake County Council approve the unbudgeted capital expense in the amount of \$5,031.86, for the purchase of Heritage Resource Designation signage, as the amount required to purchase these signs exceeds the \$15,000.00 allotted to this expense in the Year-2023 Smoky Lake County Capital Budget.

Carried.

## 7.6. Natural Gas Year-2024 Budget 195-23: Cere That Smoky Lake County Council adopt the Year-2024 Natural Gas System Operating Budget: total revenue in the amount of \$3,025,220 and total expenditures in the amount of \$3,220,220 (including amortization). Carried. 196-23: Cere That Smoky Lake County Council adopt the Year-2024 Natural Gas System Capital Budget; total revenue in the amount of \$267,000 and expenditures in the amount of \$317,000. Carried. 7.7. Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) Grant 197-23: Halisky That Smoky Lake County approve to allocate funding from the 2023 Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) Grant budget in accordance with Policy No. 08-17-01: Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) grant as follows:

Community Group	Eligibility	Funding
Holubka Dancers	Parent Volunteer Appreciation	\$2,500.00

- 198-23: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council approve a sponsorship in the total amount of **\$500.00 to the Smoky Lake Curling Association**, for the purpose of advertising Smoky Lake County's logo on two curling rocks at a cost in the mount of \$250.00 per rock, in response to the letter request received, from the Smoky Lake Curling Association's President, dated November 14, 2023, Carried.
- 199-23: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council approve to **donate a package of promotional items to the Community Planning Association of Alberta (CPAA)** Year-2024 CPAA Conference scheduled for April 29-May1, 2024 in Red Deer, Alberta, for the purpose of supporting the CPAA silent auction being held during the conference to raise funds towards the CPAA student scholarships.

Carried.

## 7.9. Property Tax Agreement Request

200-23: Serben

That Smoky Lake County Council approve to execute a Tax Agreement for Property Tax Roll Number 22010105, legally described as Plan 1955CLm Block 1, Lot 5 & 6, with a payment schedule in the amount of \$320.00 per month, effective December 1, 2023, for thirty-six (36) consecutive months, in accordance with Policy Statement No. 12-01-01: Tax Agreement.

Carried.

## 7.10. Property Tax Penalty Request for Write-Offs

201-23: Cere That Smoky Lake County Council approve to write-off tax penalties in the amount of \$354.57, incurred on Tax Roll Number 17593210.

Carried.

202-23: Gawalko

That Smoky Lake County Council approve to write-off tax penalties incurred:

- in the amount of \$133,442.48, on Tax Roll Number 54000096, and
- in the amount of \$2,176.08 Tax Roll Number 19593242, and
- in the amount of \$358.68 Tax Roll Number 18611811.

Carried.

## 8. Chief Administrative Officer's Report:

<ul> <li>Information (AMVIR File # 000-12764)</li> <li>Peace Officer completed an Application For Access to personal driving and motor vehicle information in conjunction with his Community Peace Officer role and duties under the Traffic Safety Act. Reference as "ROADS".</li> <li>Smoky Lake County received a letter from Roger Grove, Executive Director, Motor Vehicles &amp; Registries, dated November 30, 2023 by email indicated that our Organization has been approved to obtain Alberta's Motor Vehicles Registry – Direct Access. ATTACHMENT: L-1</li> <li>Once the County returns the executed "Agreement For Access to Information As Required by the Access to Motor Vehicle Information Regulation" between Smoky Lake County and His Majesty in right of Alberta as Represented by the registrar of Motor Vehicle Service appointed by the Minister of Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction – File #: AMVIR File 000-12764. Peace Officer will be issued a confidential Personal Unique Access Number (PUAN) which must be provided to the registry agent to facilitate information requests. ATTACHMENT: L-2</li> <li>RECOMMENDATION: Motor Vehicles &amp; Registries, dated November 30, 2023 that the application submitted by Smoky Lake County has been approved to obtain Alberta's Motor Vehicles Registry – Direct Access to ROADS Agreement in relation to the Peace Officer Program and the Traffic Safety Act.</li> <li>Motion # 2: That Smoky Lake County, in relation to the Peace Officer Program execute the "Agreement For Access to Information As Required by the Access to Motor Vehicle Services appointed by the Access to Motor Vehicle Services appointed by the Motor Program execute the "Agreement For Access to Information As Required by the Access to Motor Vehicle Services to Motor Vehicle Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction – Tile #: AMVIR File 000-12764</li> </ul>		Projects	In Progress	Completed
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Required by the Access to Motor Vehicle Information Regulation" between Smoky Lake County and His Majesty in right of Alberta as Represented by the registrar of Motor Vehicle Services appointed by the Minister of Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction – File #: AMVIR File 000-12764. Peace Officer will be issued a confidential Personal Unique Access Number (PUAN) which must be provided to the registry agent to facilitate information requests. ATTACHMENT: L-2 RECOMMENDATION: Motion # 1: That County Council acknowledge receipt of the emailed letter received from Roger Grove, Executive Director, Motor Vehicles & Registries, dated November 30, 2023 that the application submitted by Smoky Lake County has been approved to obtain Alberta's Motor Vehicles Registry – Direct Access to ROADS Agreement in relation to the Peace Officer Program and the Traffic Safety Act. Motion # 2: That Smoky Lake County, in relation to the Peace Officer Program execute the "Agreement For Access to Information As Required by the Access to Motor Vehicle Information Regulation" between Smoky Lake County and His Majesty in right of Alberta as Represented by the registrar of Motor Vehicle Services appointed by the Minister of Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction – File #: AMVIR File 000-12764 for a term of three (3) years commencing on the date of this agreement [December]		Motor Vehicles & Registries, dated November 30, 2023 by email indicated that our Organization has been approved to obtain Alberta's Motor Vehicles Registry –		
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(5) additional years for the Peace Officer to be issued a confidential Personal Unique		23) and may be extended for additional one (1) year term to a maximum of five iting a ware for the Bases Officer to be issued a confidential Personal Unique.		

	Bylaw N0. 1371-20: Smoky Lake Regional Heritage Board's – Section 4.2 : To advise the Member Municipality Councils on any policy and regulatory matters		
	relating to the heritage and heritage resources of the Region, including the 20-		
	Year Heritage Management Plan. (Policy Statement NO. 61-20). Heritage Board Business Arising – July 2023 Meeting: ATTACHMENT: L-3		
-	This table provides a brief description of tasks based on bylaw purposes and HMP		
	objectives and tasks. If there is anything missing that a municipality feels should add to the work plan, please let Noreen Easterbrook know or pass it along		
	to the Board representative.		
	MMENDATION: Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the Smoky Lake Regional Heritage		
Board	I - Action Tracking Table list dated July 2023 providing brief description of		
	completed and to be completed in respect to the objectives and activities the Heritage Management Plan and Bylaw NO. 1371-20.		
	NISTRATIVE		•
	Projects	In Progress	Completed
Smok	y Lake Chamber of Commerce County received an Invoice #175 on November 17, 2023 for 2024 Membership. We	Nov. 17/23	
1	have supported the Chamber of Commerce for many years.		
	The organization of business owners and entrepreneurs' efforts to coordinate commerce, industry, and the professions in maintaining and strengthening a sound		
i	and healthy business climate in our region is important.		
	County shows support and promotes interest for local business community by renewing the membership.		
	DMMENDATION:		
That	County Council approve action taken by Administration to renew the 2024		
	bership with Smoky Lake Chambers of Commerce in the amount of \$175.00 in dance with the November 17, 2023 – Invoice #175.		
FINA	NCIAL Designed	In Dreases	Completed
BF 13	Projects 398 – Cache Creek	In Progress Aug 30/23	Completed Nov 30/23
	Formula Aberta submitted an Extra Work Order (EWO) Costs for the additional		
	costs associated with resolving the unforeseen conditions on site at BF 13398. May 26, 2022: Motion 758-22: BR13398 – Tender Award – Forumla Alberta Ltd.		
	"That Smoky Lake County Council approve to fully award the tender to: Formula Alberta		
	Ltd. of Stony Plain, Alberta, in respect to the bridge replacement tender: TND20213156-1 for bridge number BF13398, at NW-07-60-12-W4."		
	The Contractor was approved by the County to do the work. Meanwhile Formula		
	anticipated work extended to two additional days of unforeseen costs in attempt to locate the water line beyond original contract. ATTACHMENT: F-1		
•	Meeting held with Jen Plamondon, myself, Public Works Manager, and Finance		
	Manager on November 30, 2023 outlined the circumstances for the additional costs in the amount of \$68,499.59 over the Contract.		
	Administration concurred when Associated Engineering provided an		
	explanation and the request to be compensated was accurate. In the spirit of our current relationship with Formula Alberta and previous		
	history of this company assisting the County; and to maintain our		
	partnership for future work.		
	MMENDATION: County Council approve action taken by Administration to compensate Formula		
Albert	ta Ltd. of Stony Plain, Alberta in the amount of \$68,499.59 for the additional work		
	nge Order 004 to complete to BF 13398 – Cache Creek located on RR 130 on NW- -12-W4 in reference to the tender #TND20213156-1 awarded on May 26, 2022 –		
Motio	n 758-22.	0. / 00/00	D (1/00
Munic	sipal Information Services Received an email on October 30, 2023 from Assistant Deputy Minister, Gary	Oct 30/23	Dec. 14/23
	Sandberg – RE: release of the 2022 Municipal Indicator Results.		
_	ATTACHMENT: F-2		
•	Smoky Lake County did not meet the threshold ratio (.99) for one of the Indicators and the County needs to respond to this report with an explanation as our		
	investment in capital is less than our amortization.		
	Indicator #11: Investment in Infrastructure. Chief Administrative Officer response will indicate: (1) Smoky Lake County has		
	received MSI reduction annually since 2015. (2) Dealing with an issue of over \$2,000.000.00 outstanding in unpaid oil and gas taxes. This has substantially		
	affected our ability to maintain our capital replacement as required without		
	borrowing at high interest rates. Smoky Lake County will continue to look for		
	solutions. Any questions or additional comments before submission?		
	DMMENDATION:		
	County Council acknowledge that Smoky Lake County's 2022 Municipal ator results – Indicator #11: Investment in Infrastructure did not meet the		
thres	hold ratio of capital spending to amortization (depreciation) over a five-year		
	d and accept the Interim Chief Administrative Officer's response to Municipal s as follows:		
	"Smoky Lake County has received MSI funding reductions annually since 2015,		
	and is dealing with outstanding unpaid oil and gas taxes (over \$2,000.000.00). These continued issues have substantially affected the County's ability to		
	maintain capital replacement has required without borrowing at high interest		
	rates. Smoky Lake County will continue to look for solutions." ern and Regional Economic Development (NRED) Program Application:	Nov. 23/23	
	mber 23, 2023 - Motion 128-33	JUL LULU	
•	The following motion will require further direction, as this was not discussed at the budget meeting held on December 5, 2023:		
	"That Smoky Lake County defer further discussion in respect to the 2023-24 Northern and		
	regional economic development (NRED) program intake which closes December 20, 2023, to the December 5, 2023, Council Budget Meeting, to potentially fund 50% of a		
	matching grant from the Council Strategic Initiatives contingency".		
	AN RESOURCES	In Progress	Completed
HUMA	Projects		Sompleted
•	Projects Staff Debrief combine October and November together.	Dec. 7/23	Dec. 7/23
∎ Chief	Staff Debrief combine October and November together. Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment: Position		Dec. 7/23 outstanding
Chief	Staff Debrief combine October and November together. Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment: Position Request 5 Applications as of December 3, 2023 For Council information - Advertised at the following:	Dec. 7/23	
Chief	Staff Debrief combine October and November together.         Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment: Position         Request 5 Applications as of December 3, 2023         For Council information - Advertised at the following:         Canada Municipal Jobs         • \$313.55 (paid online)	Dec. 7/23	
Chief	Staff Debrief combine October and November together.         Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment: Position         Request 5 Applications as of December 3, 2023         For Council information - Advertised at the following:         Canada Municipal Jobs         • \$313.95 (paid online)         • Ad has been reposted and extended. It can be viewed at this link:	Dec. 7/23	
Chief	Staff Debrief combine October and November together.         Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment: Position         Request 5 Applications as of December 3, 2023         For Council information - Advertised at the following:         ►       Canada Municipal Jobs         •       \$313.95 (gald online)         •       Ad has been reposted and extended. It can be viewed at this link: Chief Administrative Officer. This ad will remain on the CMJ website until the end of the day May 29, 2024, unless otherwise notified.	Dec. 7/23	
Chief	Staff Debrief combine October and November together.         Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment: Position         Request 5 Applications as of December 3, 2023         For Council information - Advertised at the following: <ul> <li>Canada Municipal Jobs</li> <li>\$313.95 (paid online)</li> <li>Ad has been reposted and extended. It can be viewed at this link:</li> <li>Chief Administrative Officer. This ad will remain on the CMJ website until the end of the day May 28, 2024, unless otherwise notified.</li> </ul> RIMA	Dec. 7/23	
Chief	Staff Debrief combine October and November together.         Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment: Position         Request 5 Applications as of December 3, 2023         For Council information - Advertised at the following: <ul> <li>Canada Municipal Jobs</li> <li>\$ \$ \$313.95 (gald online)</li> <li>Ad has been reposted and extended. It can be viewed at this link:</li> <li><u>Chief Administrative Officer</u>. This ad will remain on the CMJ website until the end of the day May 20, 2024, unless otherwise notified.</li> </ul> <li>RMA         <ul> <li><u>https://malberta.com/e</u></li> <li>Submitted to RMA for posting on November 28, 2023</li> </ul> </li>	Dec. 7/23	
Chief	Staff Debrief combine October and November together.         Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment: Position         Request 5 Applications as of December 3, 2023         For Council information - Advertised at the following:         Canada Municipal Jobs         • Canada Municipal Jobs         • Ad has been reposted and extended. It can be viewed at this link: <u>Chief Administrative Officer</u> . This ad will remain on the CMJ vebsite until the end of the day May 28, 2024, unless otherwise notified.         • https://malberta.com/e         • Submitted to RMA for posting on November 28, 2023         • Alberta Municipalities	Dec. 7/23	
Chief	Staff Debrief combine October and November together.         Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment: Position         Request 3 Applications as of December 3, 2023         For Council information - Advertised at the following: <ul> <li>Canada Municipal Jobs</li> <li>\$ 3313.95 (gaid online)</li> <li>Ad has been reposted and extended. It can be viewed at this link:</li> <li>Chief Administrative Officer. This ad will remain on the CMJ website until the end of the day May 28, 2024, unless otherwise notified.</li> </ul> <li>RMA         <ul> <li>https://maiberta.com/e</li> <li>Submitted to RMA for posting on November 28, 2023</li> </ul> </li> <li>Alberta Municipalities         <ul> <li>https://www.abmunis.ca/</li> <li>Posted November 29, 2023.</li> </ul> </li>	Dec. 7/23	
Chief	Staff Debrief combine October and November together.         Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment: Position         Request 5 Applications as of December 3, 2023         For Council information - Advertised at the following: <ul> <li>Canada Municipal Jobs</li> <li>\$ \$ \$313.95 (gald online)</li> <li>Ad has been reposted and extended. It can be viewed at this link:</li> <li><u>Chief Administrative Officer</u>. This ad will remain on the CMJ website until the end of the day May 28, 2024, unless otherwise notified.</li> </ul> <ul> <li>RMA</li> <li><u>https://maiberta.com/e</u></li> <li>Submitted to RMA for posting on November 28, 2023</li> </ul> <ul> <li>Alberta Municipalities</li> <li>Posted November 29, 2023.</li> </ul> <ul> <li>Posted November 29, 2023.</li> <li>Redwater Review</li> <li>Small ad placed in the Grapevine Will be published in the Redwater</li> </ul>	Dec. 7/23	
Chief	Staff Debrief combine October and November together.         Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment: Position         Request 5 Applications as of December 3, 2023         For Council information - Advertised at the following:         Canada Municipal Jobs         • \$313.95 (paid online)         • Ad has been reposted and extended. It can be viewed at this link: Chiel Administrative Officer. This ad will remain on the CMJ vebsite until the end of the day May 28, 2024, unless otherwise notified.         • RMA         • https://maiberta.com/e         • Nubmitted to RMA for posting on November 28, 2023         Alberta Municipalities         • https://www.abmunis.ca/         • Posted November 29, 2023.         Redwater Review         • Small ad placed in the Grapevine Will be published in the Redwater Review the week of December 4	Dec. 7/23	
Chief	Staff Debrief combine October and November together.         Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment: Position         Request 5 Applications as of December 3, 2023         For Council information - Advertised at the following: <ul> <li>Canada Municipal Jobs</li> <li>\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$</li></ul>	Dec. 7/23	
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Chief	Staff Debrief combine October and November together.         Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment: Position         Request 5 Applications as of December 3, 2023         For Council information - Advertised at the following:         Canada Municipal Jobs         • \$313.95 (paid online)         • Ad has been reposted and extended. It can be viewed at this link: Chiel Administrative Officer. This ad will remain on the CMJ vebsite until the end of the day May 28, 2024, unless otherwise notified.         • NIMA       • https://malberta.com/e         • Submitted to RMA for posting on November 28, 2023         • Atherat Municipalities         • https://malberta.com/e         • Submitted to RMA for posting on November 28, 2023         • Adhase at the Grapevine Will be published in the Redwater Review the week of December 4         • Social Media-         • schedule to appear on Smoky Lake County social media accounts on November 28, December 8, 18, 28 and January 4         • County Website         • Post on the Smoky Lake County website- November 28, 2023	Dec. 7/23	
Chief	Staff Debrief combine October and November together.         Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment: Position         Request 5 Applications as of December 3, 2023         For Council information - Advertised at the following: <ul> <li>Staff Debrief 2, 2023</li> </ul> For Council information - Advertised at the following: <li>Staff Staff Debrief 2, 2023</li> A dhas been reposted and extended. It can be viewed at this link: Chief Administrate Officer. This ad will remain on the CMJ vebsite until the end of the day May 28, 2024, unless otherwise notified.         RMA <ul> <li>https://rmalberta.com/e</li> <li>Submitted to RMA for posting on November 28, 2023</li> </ul> Alberta Municipalities <ul> <li>https://www.abrunis.ca/</li> <li>Posted November 29, 2023.</li> </ul> Review the veak of December 4         Social Media- <ul> <li>schedule to appear on Smoky Lake County social media accounts on November 26, December 8, 18, 28 and January 4</li> </ul> County Website <ul> <li>Post on the Smoky Lake County website- November 28, 2023</li> <li>Add as a 'Nolice' on the County website- November 28, 2023</li> </ul>	Dec. 7/23	
Chief	Staff Debrief combine October and November together.         Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment: Position         Request 5 Applications as of December 3, 2023         For Council information - Advertised at the following:         Canada Municipal Jobs         • \$313.95 (paid online)         • Ad has been reposted and extended. It can be viewed at this link: Chiel Administrative Officer. This ad will remain on the CMJ vebsite until the end of the day May 28, 2024, unless otherwise notified.         • NIMA       • https://malberta.com/e         • Submitted to RMA for posting on November 28, 2023         • Atherat Municipalities         • https://malberta.com/e         • Submitted to RMA for posting on November 28, 2023         • Adhase at the Grapevine Will be published in the Redwater Review the week of December 4         • Social Media-         • schedule to appear on Smoky Lake County social media accounts on November 28, December 8, 18, 28 and January 4         • County Website         • Post on the Smoky Lake County website- November 28, 2023	Dec. 7/23	
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Some	Staff Debrief combine October and November together.         Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment: Position         Request 5 Applications as of December 3, 2023         For Council information - Advertised at the following: <ul> <li>Canada Municipal Jobs</li> <li>\$313.95 (paid online)</li> <li>Ad has been reposted and extended. It can be viewed at this link:</li></ul>	Dec. 7/23	
Some Some Some	Staff Debrief combine October and November together.         Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment: Position         Request 5 Applications as of December 3, 2023         For Council information - Advertised at the following:         Canada Municipal Jobs         • \$313.95 (paid online)         • Ad has been reposted and extended. It can be viewed at this link: Chiel Administrative Officer. This ad will remain on the CMJ vebsite until the end of the day May 28, 2024, unless otherwise notified.         • RMA         • https://malberta.com/e         • Submitted to RMA for posting on November 28, 2023         • Aberta Municipalities         • Numitted to RMA for posting on November 28, 2023         • Athess //malberta.com/e         • Submitted to RMA for posting on November 28, 2023         • Aberta Municipalities         • https://www.abmunis.ca/         • Small ad placed in the Grapevine Will be published in the Redwater Review the wesk of Docember 4         • Social Media-         • schedule to appear on Smoky Lake County social media accounts on November 28, December 8, 18, 28 and January 4         • County Website       • November 28, 2023         • Add as a Nolice' on the County website. November 28, 2023         • Add as a Nolice' on the County website. November 28, 2023         • Grader Operators have expressed that the County consider increasing the trate of	Dec. 7/23	
Some	Staff Debrief combine October and November together.         Administrative Officer (CAO) Recruitment: Position         Request 5 Applications as of December 3, 2023         For Council information - Advertised at the following:         Canada Municipal Jobs         • \$313.95 (paid online)         • Ad has been reposted and extended. It can be viewed at this link: Chiel Administrative Officer. This ad will remain on the CMJ vebsite until the end of the day May 28, 2024, unless otherwise notified.         • RMA         • https://malberta.com/e         • Submitted to RMA for posting on November 28, 2023         • Aberta Municipalities         • Numitted to RMA for posting on November 28, 2023         • Athess //malberta.com/e         • Submitted to RMA for posting on November 28, 2023         • Aberta Municipalities         • https://www.abmunis.ca/         • Small ad placed in the Grapevine Will be published in the Redwater Review the wesk of Docember 4         • Social Media-         • schedule to appear on Smoky Lake County social media accounts on November 28, December 8, 18, 28 and January 4         • County Website       • November 28, 2023         • Add as a Nolice' on the County website. November 28, 2023         • Add as a Nolice' on the County website. November 28, 2023         • Grader Operators have expressed that the County consider increasing the trate of	Dec. 7/23	

	Projects	In Progress	Completed
La	keland Roman Catholic Separate School Division (LRCSSD): DayCare	Nov. 21/23	Nov. 30/23
•	<ul> <li>Lakeland Roman Catholic Separate School Division attended the Joint Council meeting with on November 21, 2023 regarding the Daycare possibility at the new school build.</li> <li>Secretary-Treasurer, CFO, Tessa Hetu - November 23, 2023: Email received with supporting documents regarding the daycare possibility at our new school in Waskatenau: 1) Powerpoint presentation from initial design</li> <li>Updated floor plan for current design (current as of November 14th) 3) Statement of Commitment form</li> </ul>		
•	They would like to have confirmation of the municipality's commitment(s) by no later than mid-December, to allow for them to incorporate the daycare into the design process, to not have any delays in our project.		
•	November 30, 2023: Smoky Lake County - Letter written to Joe, Arruda, Superintendent, in respect to County's position for the DayCare. Attachment: C-1		
	December 4, 2023: Village of Waskatenau - Letter written to Joe, Arruda, Superintendent, in respect to Village's position for the DayCare. Attachment: C-1A COMMENDATION:		
Le Sc	at County Council approve action taken by the Reeve on November 30, 2023 of the tter written to Joe Arruda, Superintendent, Lakeland Roman Catholic Separate hool Division (LRCSSD) indicating that the County is not in a position to commit y funds towards the new Holy Family Catholic School Project or DayCare.		
Ex	hibition "The War Is Not Over Yet Ukrainian National Hall in Smoky Lake (Ukrainian Educational Association of Taras Shevchenko) are generously helping organize the presentation of the exhibition "The War is Not Over Yet", in the town of Smoky Lake, Alberta, on December 16, 2023, from 1:00 PM to 7-8 PM,	Notification sent on December 6/23 at 8:11 a.m.	
•	Smoky Lake County is assisting with photocopying and sharing this exhibition on our website for the community, and for continuing to bring awareness to the suffering and loss the Ukrainian nation is enduring, due to Russia's full-scale invasion.		
•	National Hall, President Pat Palechuk has advised us that full permission to promote and advertise the exhibition is granted and have express sincerely gratitude for County's assistance.		
•	The exhibition "The War Is Not Over Yet" is dedicated to the ongoing Russia- Ukraine war, as it highlights the magnitude of the humanitarian catastrophe, the extent of horrors inflicted by Russia, and the stories of courageous Ukrainians whose lives were ruthlessly taken — or forever altered — by this war. You are receiving this invitation for awareness and/or to personally attend, if you wish		
Th Ov to	COMMENDATION: at Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the Exhibition "The War Is Not er? Yet" in the Town of Smoky Lake, Alberta on December 16, 2023 from 1:00 P.M. 7-8 P.M. as received by email from Ukrainian National Hall, President, Pat Palchuk		
	December 5, 2023 and provide photocopying and awareness support. AINING / MEETINGS		
TK			
<b>A</b> C	CTION LIST		
-	tober 12, 2023 and October 26 Council Meetings and October 26, 2023 Organization: To be emailed out next week prior to the meeting.		FACHMENT: A
		December 14, 202	

## Alberta Motor Vehicles & Registries - Direct Access to ROADS Application

203-23: Halisky

204-23: Fenerty

That Smoky Lake County Council acknowledge receipt of the email and letter received from Roger Grove, Executive Director, Motor Vehicles & Registries, dated November 30, 2023, in respect to the approved application submitted by Smoky Lake County to obtain Alberta's Motor Vehicles Registry – Direct Access to ROADS Agreement, in relation to the Peace Officer Program and the Traffic Safety Act.

Carried.

## Agreement For Access to Motor Vehicle Information Regulation

That Smoky Lake County execute the "Agreement for Access to Information As Required by the Access to Motor Vehicle Information Regulation" in relation to the Peace Officer Program between Smoky Lake County and His Majesty in right of Alberta as Represented by the registrar of Motor Vehicle Services appointed by the Minister of Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction – File #: AMVIR File 000-12764, for a term of three (3) years commencing December 14, 2023 and may be extended for additional one (1) year term to a maximum of five (5) additional years for the Peace Officer to be issued a confidential Personal Unique Access Number (PUAN) to provide to the registry agent to facilitate information requests.

Carried.

## Smoky Lake Regional Heritage Board – Action Tracking Table

205-23: Cere That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the "Smoky Lake Regional Heritage Board – Action Tracking Table List" dated July 2023 providing brief description of tasks completed and tasks to be completed in respect to the objectives and activities within the Heritage Management Plan and Bylaw No. 1371-20.

207-23: Gawalko

208-23: Halisky

## 2024 Membership to Smoky Lake Chambers of Commerce

206-23: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council approve action taken by Administration to renew the membership to the Smoky Lake Chambers of Commerce for Year-2024, in the amount of \$150.00 as per Invoice #175, dated November 17, 2023.

Carried.

## Formula Alberta Ltd. - Change Order 004 to Complete to BF 13398

That Smoky Lake County Council approve the unbudgeted expense to compensate Formula Alberta Ltd. of Stony Plain, Alberta, in the amount of \$68,499.59, for the additional work as per the Change Order # 004, dated September 1, 2023, to complete the work necessary to resolve unforeseen circumstances relating to Bridge Replacement Project #2021-3156, for bridge number BF 13398 located across Cache Creek on Range Road 130, at NW-07-60-12-W4, in reference to tender #TND20213156-1 awarded on May 26, 2022, by Council Motion 758-22.

Carried.

## Smoky Lake County's 2022 Municipal Indicator Results

That Smoky Lake County Council acknowledge Smoky Lake County's 2022 Municipal Indicator results - Indicator #11: Investment in Infrastructure did not meet the threshold ratio of capital spending to amortization (depreciation) over a five-year period and accept the Interim Chief Administrative Officer's response to Municipal Affairs as follows: "Smoky Lake County has received MSI funding reductions annually since 2015 and is dealing with outstanding unpaid oil and gas taxes (over \$2,000.000.00) and unpaid tax holiday on new wells. These continued issues have substantially affected the County's ability to maintain capital replacement has required without borrowing at high interest rates. Smoky Lake County will continue to look for solutions. Smoky Lake County has received MSI funding reductions annually since 2015 and is dealing with outstanding unpaid oil and gas taxes (over \$2,000.000.00) and unpaid tax holiday on new wells. These continued issues have substantially affected the County's ability to maintain capital replacement has required without borrowing at high interest rates. Smoky Lake County will continue to look for solutions."

Carried.

## Lakeland Roman Catholic Separate School Division (LRCSSD) Funding Denied

That Smoky Lake County Council approve action taken by the Reeve on November 30, 2023, in providing a letter to Joe Arruda, Superintendent, Lakeland Roman Catholic Separate School Division (LRCSSD), indicating the County is not in a position to commit any funds towards the new Holy Family Catholic School Project or Daycare, in response to the LRCSSD verbal request of same made at a Joint Council Meeting held on November 21, 2023, with the Village of Waskatenau.

Carried.

## Exhibition "The War Is Not Over Yet" at the National Hall Smoky Lake

210-23: Cere

209-23: Fenerty

That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the invitation received from Pat Palechuk, President of the Ukrainian National Hall, inviting everyone to attend the Exhibition "The War Is Not Over Yet" scheduled for Saturday, December 16, 2023, from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m., at the National Hall, in Smoky Lake; and provide support of in-kind assistance of photocopying the event poster and post the event to the County's website calendar.

Carried.

Scott Franchuk, Fire Chief and Spencer Kotylak, Deputy Fire Chief, entered Council Chambers, time 4:05 p.m.

217-23: Halisky

**Time Extension of Regular Council Meeting December 14, 2023** 

211-23: Cere That Smoky Lake County Council unanimously agree to extend the time of the Regular Council Meeting of December 14, 2023, past 4:00 p.m..

Carried Unanimously.

## **Chief Administrative Officer's Report**

212-23: Halisky That Smoky Lake County's Chief Administrative Officer's report for the period of November 24, 2023, to December 7, 2023, be accepted as presented and filed for information.

Carried.

## 10. <u>Correspondence:</u>

## Minister of Transportation - Additional STIP Funding Denied for BF13398 and BF76552

213-23: Halisky That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the letter from the Minister of Transportation, dated October 19, 2023, declining the County's September 21, 2023, request for additional Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program (STIP) funding towards local bridge numbers BF13398 and BF76552.

Carried.

## RMA District 5 Meeting, at Fort Kent Community Hall, Bonnyville

214-23: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council who can attend – attend the Rural municipalities of Alberta (RMA) District 5 Meeting, scheduled for Friday, January 26, 2024, at Fort Kent Community Hall, near Bonnyville.

Carried.

## N.E. Muni-Corr Ltd. – Kortech Ltd. Dust Suppression Test Strip at Edwand

215-23: Halisky That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the letter from N.E. Muni-Corr Ltd., dated November 16, 2023, responding to the County's September 7, 2023, Motion #862-23, clarifying all trucking/hauling is being supplied by Kortech Ltd., and there is no cost to the County in respect to dust suppression test strip on the Iron Horse Trail at the Hamlet of Edwand.

Carried.

# Lac La Biche County - Lac La Biche Law Enforcement Training Centre

216-23: Halisky That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the letter from Lac La Biche County, dated November 16, 2023, promoting the Lac La Biche Law Enforcement Training Centre to the Northeast Alberta Alliance for Growth & Opportunity (NAAGO), for awareness.

Carried.

## ATCO – Request for Information Sharing of the County's Road Improvement Projects

That Smoky Lake County's administration liaise with ATCO in providing the County's Year-2024 or future Road Improvement Projects, as information sharing, in response to the letter received from ATCO, dated November 22, 2023, requesting same.

Carried.

## **The Royal Canadian Legion Smoky Lake Branch #227 - Building Repairs Reimbursement** 218-23: Gawalko That Smoky Lake County Council approve to provide funding in the amount of \$1,005.50 to the Royal Canadian Legion Smoky Lake Branch #227, in response to their letter request, dated November 19, 2023, in respect to reimbursement for building materials to repair a hole in the basement of the Legion adjacent to the County's Main Office.

220-23: Halisky

221-23: Halisky

## The Royal Canadian Legion Smoky Lake Branch #227 – Roof Rakes

219-23: Halisky That Smoky Lake County advise the Royal Canadian Legion Smoky Lake Branch #227, to install roof rakes on the metal clad roof of the Legion building attached to the County' Main Office, to reduce the risk of damages caused from potential ice jams and snow slides.

Carried.

## Minister of Public Safety & Emergency Services - Wildfires Disaster Recovery Program

That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the letter from the Minister of Public Safety & Emergency Services, dated November 20, 2023, providing notice of approval under the 2023 Wildfires Disaster Recovery Program; and, in response, Administration submit any claims for extraordinary response costs and remediation costs incurred by the County, due to actions taken to protect the community from the wildfire, to potentially receive 90% of the said costs under the said funding.

Carried.

Councillor Linda Fenerty, left Council Chambers, time 4:22 p.m.

## Agenda Items to Defer from the December 14, 2023, Council Meeting

That Smoky Lake County Council, defer the following items on the December 14, 2023, Regular Council Meeting, as follows, to the next or Council Meeting scheduled for January 11, 2024:

- Email Alberta Indigenous and Municipal Police Transition Grant Program Information;
- Roadway License Agreement RLA-002-23, RGE RD 171, between TWP RD 595A & TWP RD 621;
- Northern and Regional Economic Development (NRED) Program;
- Legal Issue: Associated Engineering Alberta Ltd.'s proposed renewal of standing offer agreement for engineering services, under the authority of the FOIP Act Section 16: Third Party Business Interests;
- Land Issue: Property Tax Exemption Request through Community Organization Property Tax Exemption Regulation (COPTER), under the authority of the FOIP Act, Section 16: Third Party Business Interests; and
- Financial Reports: Budget to Actual.

Carried.

## 13. <u>Next Meeting(s):</u>

## **Schedule County Council Regular Meetings**

222-23: Serben That Smoky Lake County re-confirm previously scheduled upcoming Smoky Lake County Council Meetings are as follows:

Thursday, January 11, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular), and Thursday, January 25, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular),

And the next Smoky Lake County Council meetings be scheduled for:

- Thursday, February 8, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular), and
- Thursday, February 22, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular), at Thursday, February 22, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular),
- Thursday, March 7, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular),
- Thursday, March 28, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular),
- Thursday, April 11, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular),

Thursday, April 25, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular),

to be held virtually, through Electronic Communication Technology as per Bylaw 1376-20 **and/or** physically in County Council Chambers.

# Schedule Council Committee of the Whole Meeting

223-23: Serben	That the next Smoky Lake County Council Committee of the Whole
	Meeting for the Purpose of Strategic Planning, be scheduled for
	Wednesday, January 31, 2024 at 9:00 a.m., to be held virtually,
	through Electronic Communication Technology as per Bylaw 1376-20
	and/or physically in County Council Chambers.

Carried.

# **ADJOURNMENT:**

224-23: Serben	That the Smoky Lake County Council Meeting of December 14, 2023,
	be adjourned, time 4:33 p.m.

Carried.

REEVE

# S E A L

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER