



SMOKY LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, September 26, at 9:00 a.m. held

Virtually <https://video.businessconnect.telus.com/join/857010129> (Meeting ID # 857010129)
and Physically in Smoky Lake County Council Chambers, 4612 McDougall Drive, Smoky Lake

1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Adoption of Minutes
 - 3.1. Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting, Thursday, September 12, 2024
4. Delegation(s)
 - 4.1. Robyn Laczy, Project Coordinator – North Zone Health Neighbourhoods Project, to provide information on their newest initiative: Four Directions Health Neighbourhood @ 9:30 a.m.
5. Public Hearing
Nil
6. Municipal Planning Commission (MPC)
Nil

PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD - announced between 11:30 a.m. & 12:00 p.m.

7. Business – Requests for Decisions
 - 7.1. Policy Statement No. 62-21-07: Beaver Control on Private Lands
 - 7.2. Federation of Alberta Gas Co-op's Annual Convention and Annual General Meeting
 - 7.3. Policy Statement No. 03-35-14: Snow Clearing – Public and Private Services
 - 7.4. 2024/25 Alberta Community Partnership Grant Application (ACP) – Regional Economic Development Hwy Commercial Initiative with Town of Smoky Lake as Managing Partner
 - 7.5. 2024/25 Alberta Community Partnership Grant Application (ACP) – Regional Service Delivery for Waste Management with Town of St. Paul as Managing Partner
 - 7.6. County Surplus Equipment Sale – Bids
 - 7.7. Smoky Lake County Investment Attraction Strategy Funded by the RMA Microgrant Program
8. Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Report
 - 8.1. CAO Report
9. Council Committee Reports
 - 9.1. Councillor Division One Report (handout)
 - 9.2. Councillor Division Two & Deputy Reeve Report (handout)
 - 9.3. Councillor Division Three Report (handout)
 - 9.4. Councillor Division Four Report
 - 9.5. Councillor Division Five & Reeve's Report

10. Correspondence

- 10.1. Letter from Ducks Unlimited Canada, dated September 13, 2024, in respect to County-Owned Lands near Hanmore Lake
- 10.2. Letter from Smoky Lake Curling Club, dated September 16, 2024, in respect to reconsideration of waiving penalties
- 10.3. Email from Rural Renewal Stream Team, dated September 10, 2024 confirming approval of Smoky Lake Region's Community Designation
- 10.4. Invitation to LICA – Environmental Stewards, Open House and Annual General Meeting, October 10, 2024

11. Information Release

Nil.

12. Financial Reports

- 12.1. Financial Statement for the Month of August, 2024
- 12.2. Budget to Actual Report as at September 16, 2024
- 12.3. Bills & Accounts as of September 26, 2024

13. Next Meetings

- 13.1. Reconfirm Smoky Lake County Council's scheduled upcoming Meetings are as follows:
 - Thursday, October 10, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular)
 - Thursday, October 24, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular & Organizational)
 - Tuesday, October 29, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. (Budget)
 - Thursday, November 14, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular)
 - Thursday, December 12, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular)

14. In Camera (Executive Session)

- 14.1. Legal Issue: in respect to the MCC For Smoky Lake Development Corp. and Smoky Lake Tourism Company Ltd., under the authority of the FOIP Act Section 16: Third Party Business Interest.
- 14.2. Legal Issue: in respect to expenses relating to the National Heritage River Designation Celebration, under the authority of the FOIP Act Section 16: Third Party Business Interest.

15. Adjournment.

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY

Minutes of the **County Council Meeting** held on Thursday, **September 12, 2024**, at 9:00 A.M. held both virtually online and physically in Council Chambers.

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

ATTENDANCE		
<u>Div. No.</u>	<u>Councillor(s)</u>	<u>Thursday, Sept. 12, 2024</u>
1	Dan Gawalko	Absent
2	Linda Fenerty	Present in Chambers
3	Dominique Céré	Present in Chambers
4	Lorne Halisky	Present in Chambers
5	Jered Serben	Present in Chambers
CAO	Kevin Lucas	Present in Chambers
Finance Manager	Brenda Adamson	Present in Chambers
Executive Svcs/R.S.	Patti Priest	Present in Chambers

Observers in Attendance Upon Call to Order:

Fire Srv. Clerk	Meaghan Andreychuk	Virtually Present
Natural Gas Manager	Daniel Moric	Virtually Present
GIS Operator	Carole Dowhaniuk	Virtually Present
Planning Dev Manager	Jordan Ruegg	Virtually Present
Comm. Officer	Evonne Zukiwski	Virtually Present
Public	No Member	Present in Chambers
Media	No Members	N/A

2. Agenda:

820-24: Cere

That the Smoky Lake County Council Meeting Agenda for Thursday, September 12, 2024, be adopted, as amended:

Addition to the Agenda:

1. Executive Session – Surface Material Lease Exploration, under the authority of the FOIP Act, Section 27 Privileged Information and Section 16: Third Party Business Interests.

Carried Unanimously.

3. Minutes:

3.1. Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting, August 7, 2024

821-24: Fenerty

That the minutes of the **Smoky Lake County Council Committee of the Whole Meeting for the purpose of Planning**, held on Wednesday, August 7, 2024, be adopted as presented.

Carried.

3.2. Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting, August 8, 2024

822-24: Halisky

That the minutes of the **Smoky Lake County Council Regular Meeting**, held on Thursday, August 8, 2024, be adopted as presented.

Carried.

3.3. Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting, August 22, 2024

823-24: Cere

That the minutes of the **Smoky Lake County Council Regular Meeting**, held on Thursday, August 22, 2024, be adopted as presented.

Carried.

One member of the Public virtually joined the meeting, time 9:10 a.m.

4. Delegation:

Nil.

5. Public Hearing:

Nil.

7. Request for Decision:

7.1. Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) Annual Fall Convention

824-24: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County Council and relevant staff who can attend – attend the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) Annual Fall Convention, scheduled for November 4 to 7, 2024, at the Edmonton Convention Centre; and extend invitations to available Ministers to meet at the said convention to discuss priorities of Smoky Lake County as determined by Council.

Carried.

One member of the Public virtually joined the meeting, time 9:15 a.m.

Carleigh Danyluk, Agricultural Fieldman, virtually joined the meeting, time, 9:16 a.m.

7.2. Accounts Receivable Write-off Request – Smoky Lake Curling Club

825-24: Halisky

Motion Defeated

That Smoky Lake County Council approve to write-off the interest accrued in the amount of \$1,039.72, on the Smoky Lake Curling Club’s Accounts Receivable account #SMOK028.

DEFEATED.

7.3. Property Tax Sale

826-24: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County advertise the following properties with a Tax Notification issued on their Land Title, for the Year-2024 Property Tax Sale, to be scheduled for Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.:

Roll	Location	LINC #	Legal	Reserve Bid
22010117	Spedden	0020142808	Lot 17, Block 1, Plan 1955CL	\$3,000
23090113	Birchland	0015172463	Lot 13, Block 1, Plan 7520244	\$140,000
40300410	Warspite	0021146964	Lot 10, Block 4, Plan 314HW	\$10,000
41410215	Hillside Acres	0029948593	Lot 15, Block 2, Plan 0323059	\$105,000

Carried.

7.4. Policy Statement No. 15-06-01: Pension Participation

827-24: Serben

That Smoky Lake County Policy Statement No. 15-06-01: Pension Participation Policy, be adopted:

Title: Pension Participation		Policy No.: 06-01
Section: 15	Code: P-A	Page No.: 1 of 3 E
Legislation Reference:	Employment Pensions Plans Act Joint Governance of Public Sector Pension Plans Act.	
Purpose:	The guidelines set out in this policy ensure that employees entitled to benefits of the Local Authorities Pension Plan (LAPP) are enrolled according to plan membership requirements and that Smoky Lake County is compliant with all mandatory membership criteria.	

Policy Statement and Guidelines:	
1. STATEMENT:	
1.1. Smoky Lake County participates in the Local Authorities Pension Plan (LAPP), the Operating Engineers Local 955 Pension Trust Fund, or Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP) contributions, for qualifying employees.	
1.2. LAPP is administered by Alberta Pensions Services and is a defined benefit plan where both, eligible employees and Smoky Lake County, as the employer, contribute to. The contribution rates are set by the LAPP Board of Trustees. The employee contributions are deducted from the employees pay.	
2. OBJECTIVE:	
2.1. This policy will provide the guidelines for membership in LAPP and ensure all new employees are informed of their membership status.	
3. DEFINITIONS:	
3.1. "Casual Employee" is an employee who is employed as holiday relief, sick relief, or is hired to work on an occasional or intermittent basis.	
3.2. "County" means Smoky Lake County.	
3.3. "Out-of-Scope Employee" is an employee who is not employed under any union's collective agreement.	
3.4. "Permanent Employee" is a full-time or part-time employee who is hired for a specific job and there is no assigned end date to their employment.	
3.5. "Reciprocal Transfer Agreement" is an agreement that allows members to transfer all or part of their service from specific Registered Pension Plans (RPP) into LAPP as approved by the Local Authorities Pension Plan.	
3.6. "Regular Employee" is any full-time Permanent Employee or part-time Permanent Employee	
3.7. "Regular Pay" is pay that includes vacation, time off in lieu, sick, and special leave pay.	
3.8. "Seasonal Employee" is an employee who is employed to fill a regular seasonal position and is not a Regular Employee.	
3.9. "Term or Temporary Employee" is an employee who is hired for a specific job and has an assigned end date to their employment.	

Title: Pension Participation	Policy No.: 06-01
Section: 15	Code: P-A
	Page No.: 1 of 3 E

4. MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY:	
4.1. The Collective Agreement between Smoky Lake County and the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 4575 provides that the Employer shall make arrangements for permanent Employees to enter into the Local Authorities Pension Plan .	
4.2. The Collective Agreement between Smoky Lake County and the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local Union 955 provides the direction for member employees with regards to participation in the Operating Engineers Local 955 Pension Trust Fund.	
4.3. As per Policy 08-18 Council Remuneration and Expenses, Smoky Lake County will contribute to an R.R.S.P. for Council members only.	
4.4. New employees will be informed of their membership status at the time of hire, upon determining membership eligibility.	
4.5. Participation in LAPP is mandatory excepting thereout:	
4.5.1. Employees under the Local Union 955 Collective Agreement	
4.5.2. Casual Employees	
4.5.3. Seasonal Employees	
4.5.4. Term or Temporary Employees	
4.5.5. Regular Employees that work under 14 hours per week	
4.5.6. Employees that would begin participation in the plan after December 31 of the year in which they reach the age 71	
4.5.7. Employees who receive a monthly pension from LAPP based on their previous participation in the plan	
4.5.8. Elected Officials	
5. PROBATIONARY PERIOD:	
5.1. Pension plan participation shall start upon completion of the probationary period, or sooner as agreed to through an Out-of-Scope Employee's contract agreement.	
5.2. If a new employee applies to transfer service with no break in contribution into LAPP from a previous LAPP employer or through a reciprocal transfer agreement, the employee shall start participating in LAPP regardless of the status of the probationary period.	
6. CALCULATIONS OF PENSIONABLE SERVICE FOR THE YEAR:	
6.1. The method of calculation to determine the pensionable service will be as follows: The total number of pay periods or portions of pay periods worked divided by the number of pay periods a member working full-time through the service year would be required to work.	
7. BUYING SERVICE BACK	
7.1. Member employees may buy back service following an unpaid leave of absence or maternity/paternity leave at the request of the member. Member employees also have the option to continue paying contributions while on leave without salary or to defer payment until the leave ends.	
8. PENSIONABLE SALARY	
8.1. Pensionable Salary includes salary, regular pay, retroactive pay, acting pay, and on call pay.	

Title: Pension Participation	Policy No.: 06-01
Section: 15	Code: P-A
	Page No.: 1 of 3 E

9. EMPLOYER COMPLIANCE	
9.1. In compliance with LAPP, the County will obtain an independent auditor on an annual basis to examine all records, policies and procedures relevant to pension processed to confirm the accuracy and integrity of the data submitted. The auditor will report their findings directly to Alberta Pension Services Corporation and to the County.	

Carried.

7.5. Canada Community Building Fund (CCBF) Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)

828-24: Cere That Smoky Lake County execute the Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), which replaces the former Gas Tax Fund (GTF) MOA, with His Majesty in Right of Alberta as represented by the Minister of Municipal Affairs, effective April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2034, in respect to matters relating to the payment of funds and outlining the County's responsibilities and general provisions in respect to CCBF funding.

Carried.

7.6. Quiet Nook Community Centre Funding Request

829-24: Fenerty
Motion Defeated That Smoky Lake County Council approve to provide one-time funding in the amount of \$2,673.24 to the Quiet Nook Community Centre, in response to their letter request dated August 10, 2024, which was deferred by Council on August 22, 2024, by Motion #795-24, and in receipt of their financial information as requested.

DEFEATED.

8. Chief Administrative Officer's Report:

Executive Session:

Legal Issue: Waste Transportation - Action List – Item August 8, 2024, Motion #742-24

830-24: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council go into Executive Session, in the presence of Council (without Councillor Gawalko who was absent), Chief Administrative Officer, Finance Manager, and Executive Services Clerk, to discuss a Legal Issue, in respect to waste transportation within the County, in reference to the August 8, 2024, Council Meeting Action List Motion #742-24, under the authority of the FOIP Act, Section 16: Third Party Business Interests, time 9:44 a.m..

Carried.

831-24: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council go out of Executive Session, time 9:51 a.m.

Carried.

8.1. Action List – June 2024

832-24: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council accept the Action List, as presented from the Regular Council Meetings held on June 13 and 27, 2024, for information.

Carried.

8.2. Action List – July 2024

833-24: Halisky That Smoky Lake County Council accept the Action List, as presented from the Regular Council Meetings held on July 18, 2024, for information.

Carried.

8.3. Action List – August 2024

834-24: Serben That Smoky Lake County Council accept the Action List, as presented from the Regular Council Meetings held on August 8 and 22, 2024, for information.

Carried.

9. Council Committee Reports:

Nil.

Daniel Moric, Natural Gas Manager, entered Chambers, time 10:02 a.m.

10. Correspondence:

10.1. Land & Property Rights Tribunal- Village of Waskatenau Intent to Annex

835-24: Halisky

That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the copied letter from Land and Property Rights Tribunal (LPRT), formerly known as the Municipal Government Board (MGB), dated August 15, 2024, to the Village of Waskatenau, in respect to the Second Revision Notice of Intent to Annex, confirming “On April 13, 2011 the MGB received the original Notice of Intent to Annex (Notice) from the Village. On October 23, 2012, the Village submitted a revised Notice. The LPRT will accept your correspondence of August 6, 2024 as the second revision submitted by the Village.”.

Carried.

10.2. Lakeland Industrial and Community Association (LICA) Representative

836-24: Serben

That Smoky Lake County Council approve for Councillor Lorne halisky to remain as the appointed member to the Lakeland Industrial and Community Association (LICA), in response to the letter from Lakeland Industrial and Community Association (LICA), dated August 20, 2024, requesting confirmation of interest in appointing a representative from the County to the LICA Board.

Carried.

10.3. Fed Gas O&M Audit of Smoky Lake County Natural Gas – Deficiencies Updated

837-24: Cere

That Smoky Lake County Council acknowledge receipt of the updated completed deficiencies and corrective action plan, dated August 9, 2024, in respect to the Federations of Alberta Gas Co-ops Ltd.’s, 2024 Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Audit of Smoky Lake County Natural Gas, which addresses and/or concludes the deficiencies.

Carried.

11. Information Releases:

Information Releases to Council – August 2024

838-24: Fenerty

That Smoky Lake County “Information Releases” sent to Council for the period of August, 2024, listed as follows, be filed for information:

Tracking Number & Description of Information Released:	Date Released:	Municipal File #:
R113.24 - Municipal Affairs MSD_Newsletter-Issue2	August 2, 2024	1-203
R114.24 – RMA 2024_08_02_Contact_Newsletter	August 6, 2024	1-10
R115.24 - Town of Smoky Lake August 2024 Newsletter.pdf	August 6, 2024	1-113
R116.24 - RMA July 2024 - Bill 20 Regulations - RMA Input	August 9, 2024	1-10
R117.24 - RMA 2024_08_09_Contact_Newsletter	August 9, 2024	1-10
R118.24 - Heritage River Article - News Advertiser July 31, 2024	August 16, 2024	61-48
R119.24 - RMA 2024_08_16_Contact_Newsletter	August 16, 2024	1-10
R120.24 - ERWSC - Draft Minutes July 2024 & Financial Report	August 19, 2024	4-29
R121.24 – RMA Member Briefing - Energy Industry and Municipalities	August 19, 2024	1-10
R122.24 - King Charles III Coronation Medal Nominations Info	August 19, 2024	1-201
R123.24 - Minister of Energy & Min. Letter to RMA on Muni tax	August 20, 2024	1-10
R124.24 - Managers Reports for July-August 2024	August 20, 2024	N/A
R125.24 - County of Vermilion River - Provincial Grants Reductions	August 21, 2024	1-203
R126.24 - LARA Research Program Report (May-July 2024)	August 21, 2024	62-9
R127.24 - Email response & Letter of Support, Municipality of Jasper	August 21, 2024	1-111
R128.24 - Western Rural Munis Urge Feds to end Rail Labour Dispute	August 21, 2024	3-76
R129.24 - RMA 2024 08 23 Contact Newsletter	August 26, 2024	1-10
R130.24 - Pipeline Abandonments Whitecap Resources Ltd.	August 23, 2024	12-45
R131.24 -National Police Federation AB Polling Results W6 June 2024	August 27, 2024	2-85
R132.24 - RMA 2024 08 30 Contact Newsletter	August 30, 2024	1-10

Carried.

12. Financial Reports:

Nil.

13. Next Meeting(s):

Re-Confirm and Schedule County Council Meetings

839-24: Fenerty That the next Smoky Lake County Council Meetings be re-confirmed and **scheduled** as follows:

Thursday, October 10, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular),

Thursday, October 24, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular & Organizational),

Tuesday, October 29, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. (Budget)

Thursday, November 14, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular), and

Thursday, December 12, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., (Regular),

to be held virtually, through Electronic Communication Technology as per Bylaw No. 1376-20 **and/or** physically in County Council Chambers.

Carried.

14. Executive Session:

14.2. Personnel Issue: Organizational Structure

840-24: Cere That Smoky Lake County Council go into Executive Session, in the presence of Council (without Councillor Gawalko, who was absent), and Chief Administrative Officer, to discuss a Personnel Issue, in respect to the County's Organizational Structure, under the FIOP Act Section 27: Privileged Information, time 10:24 a.m..

Carried.

841-24: Cere That Smoky Lake County Council go out of Executive Session, time 11:01 a.m.

Carried.

6. Municipal Planning Commission:

Meeting Recessed The Council meeting was recessed at 11:01 a.m. to undertake a Municipal Planning Commission Meeting on a separate agenda with separate minutes.

Meeting Reconvened The Council meeting reconvened on a call to order by the Reeve at 11:11 a.m. in the physical or virtual presence of all Council Members, Chief Administrative Officer, Finance Manager, Executive Services Clerk, Planning & Development Manager, Natural Gas Manager, Fire Chief, Communications Officer, GIS Operator, and 3 Members of the Public.

14. Executive Session:

14.2. Personnel Issue: Organizational Structure (continued)

842-24: Fenerty That Smoky Lake County Council go into Executive Session, in the presence of Council (without Councillor Gawalko, who was absent), and Chief Administrative Officer, to discuss a Personnel Issue, in respect to the County's Organizational Structure, under the FIOP Act Section 27: Privileged Information, time 11:12 a.m..

Carried.

843-24: Cere That Smoky Lake County Council go out of Executive Session, time 11:30 p.m.

Carried.

11:30 to 11:30 a.m. Public Question and Answer Period:

None.

Addition to the Agenda:

Legal Issue: Surface Material Lease Exploration

844-24: Serben That Smoky Lake County Council go into Executive Session, in the presence of Council (without Councillor Gawalko, who was absent), Chief Administrative Officer, Public Works Manager, and Executive Services Clerk, to discuss a Surface Material Lease Exploration, under the authority of the FOIP Act, Section 27 Privileged Information and Section 16: Third Party Business Interests, time 11:35 a.m..

Carried.

845-24: Fenerty That Smoky Lake County Council go out of Executive Session, time 12:15 p.m.

Carried.

Surface Material Lease Exploration

846-24: Serben That Smoky Lake County Council approve for Administration to enter negotiations as discussed under the authority of the FOIP Act, Section 27: Privileged Information and Section 16: Third Party Business Interests, on September 12, 2024, in respect to Surface Material Lease Exploration.

Carried.

14.2. Personnel Issue: Organizational Structure (continued)

847-24: Fenerty That Smoky Lake County Council go into Executive Session, in the presence of Council (without Councillor Gawalko, who was absent), Chief Administrative Officer, and Executive Services Clerk, to discuss a Personnel Issue, in respect to the County's Organizational Structure, under the FOIP Act Section 27: Privileged Information, time, time 12:18 p.m.

Carried.

848-24: Fenerty That Smoky Lake County Council go out of Executive Session, time 12:33 p.m.

Carried.

15. ADJOURNMENT:

849-24: Halisky That the Smoky Lake County Council Meeting of September 12, 2024, be adjourned, time 12:34 p.m..

Carried.

REEVE

S E A L

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Our Health Neighbourhoods

Key Messages

Health Neighbourhoods bring together people from diverse backgrounds to improve primary health care for the people in Northern Alberta.

We celebrate that our Health Neighbourhoods are unique to Northern Alberta, and unique even when compared with each other.



We are building bridges between health and social areas to improve the primary health care experience for everyone in Northern Alberta.



We are evolving. As we add new Membership, the look and feel of the Health Neighbourhoods will change in time.



We take our time to relationship-build and want to avoid being only project-driven. We work meaningfully together to understand gaps in services for the benefit of everyone in Northern Alberta.



We do not want to duplicate existing work. We meet to learn, share, and use our ideas to support primary health care needs now and in the future.



We have **Mini Working Groups** targeted to address specific concerns related to primary health care:



We model shared leadership and take ownership of our work.

Our work is evolving - we want to co-create navigation supports, workshops, stories, networks, and build on communications within existing projects.

We balance meeting time by getting to know each other, staying connected, and implementing the North Zone Service Plan.

We know that everyone has wisdom and we need everyone's wisdom to move forward together.

We strive to be inclusive and communicate in a way that all Membership and community members can access and understand.





Request for Decision (RFD)

Meeting Date: Thursday, September 12, 2024

Agenda Item: #7.1

Topic: Policy Statement No. 62-21-06: Beaver Control- Fee for Removal with Explosives

Presented By: Agriculture Department

Recommendation:

That Smoky Lake County Policy Statement No. 62-21-06: Beaver Control-Fee for Removal with Explosives, be amended to include the Department of Fisheries and Oceans ‘timing windows’ for dam removal, and update Schedule “A” Request for Service Permission to Enter Land(s) for Municipal Work to include options of beaver dam removal, pond leveler installation and maintenance, trapping/hunting, stipulating pond levelers are maintained by Smoky Lake County with a 5-year easement.

Background:

Smoky Lake County has been providing beaver dam blasting services since 1991. The main reason for this policy being brought forward is to update the Schedule “A” Request for Service form we often are entering peoples land(s) for more than just beaver dam removal. It has now expanded to pond leveler installation and maintenance, as well as beaver removal and this needs to be reflected on the Request for Service so it is clear to both the property owner(s) and Smoky Lake County employees what work will be taking place on the land(s). Additionally, the DFO code of practice for dam removal ‘timing window’ periods have been clearly laid out in the policy for clarity for both landowners and Smoky Lake County employees.

Benefits: Allows the Agriculture Department to continue to offer an option for dam removal to our ratepayers by providing clearer expectations of the work(s) being carried out.

Disadvantages: None.

Alternatives: None.

Financial Implications:

1 1/2 kg stick of dynamite \$19.07

Fuse \$20.71

Lighter \$4.17

1000’ roll of det cord costs \$589.99 and depending on the location and size of the dam the amount of det cord can vary from 30ft to 100ft.

We currently charge \$50/stick of dynamite, and at the above costs are essentially breaking even on \$50/stick. We do charge a one-time \$100 service fee for each property we enter in addition to the charge/ stick of dynamite. That covers the employees wage, and time because there always must be 2 employees blasting for safety reasons.

Legislation:

Department of Fisheries and Oceans code of practice: dam removal

Water Act

Intergovernmental: Federal & Provincially regulated.

Strategic Alignment: N/A

Enclosure(s):

Policy Statement No. 62-21-06

Signature of the CAO:



Title: Beaver Control on Private Lands		Policy No.: 21-06
Section: 62	Code:	Page No.: 1 of 5 E

Legislation Reference:	Department of Fisheries and Oceans code of practice: Dam Removal Provincial Water Act
-------------------------------	---

Purpose:	To clarify expectations of work and provide procedures for the Agricultural Services Department to facilitate beaver dam flood control on private land.
-----------------	---

Policy Statement and Guidelines:	
<p>1. STATEMENT:</p> <p>1.1. Smoky Lake County is committed to protecting municipal infrastructure from flooding and water movement that relates to beaver activity, and may provide flood mitigation services for a fee to landowners for blasting beaver dams and/or installing pond levelers, within the County's jurisdictional boundaries.</p> <p>2. OBJECTIVE:</p> <p>2.1. To mitigate damage to municipal infrastructure caused by beaver dams blasting of beaver dams and installed.</p> <p>3. GUIDELINES:</p> <p>3.1. Applicants must submit the "Service Fee" identified under Schedule "B": Request for Service— "Permission to Enter Land(s) from Landowner" with the signed Schedule "A": Request for Service – Permission to Enter Land(s) for Municipal Work, prior to any work being completed.</p> <p>3.2. Landowners will subsequently be charged for each stick of explosives used.</p> <p>3.3. Smoky Lake County has the right to refuse any Request for Service if it is determined by the certified blaster or County Administration to be unsafe work conditions, i.e.: near gas lines, power lines, or infrastructure and may be subject to approval from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.</p> <p>4. PROCEDURES:</p> <p>4.1. Request for Service – Municipal Work:</p> <p>4.1.1. Smoky Lake County shall remove only the necessary sections of Beaver Dams, as required to facilitate the flow of water. Removal of entire dams will not be done to avoid downstream flooding and situations causing damage to municipal infrastructure.</p> <p>4.1.2. In the event the Beaver activity is located outside the municipality's right-of-way, the Agricultural Service Board Staff shall obtain Landowners' permission for dams/beaver removal activities to access land(s); as per Schedule "A": Request for Service – "Permission to Enter Land(s) for Municipal Work".</p> <p>4.1.3. It is highly recommended that the property owner removes all beavers by their own means prior to blasting to prevent the dam(s) from being rebuilt.</p> <p>4.2. Request for Service – Agricultural Land:</p> <p>4.2.1. Beaver Control measures may be undertaken on a fee for service basis at the request of a landowner on lands to which access is permitted. This will provide producers assistance when seeded land is being affected by flooding caused by beaver dams.</p> <p>4.2.1.1. Prior to the start of blasting, the Landowners must grant permission and commit payment for the services rendered, as per Schedule "B": Request for Service – "Permission to Enter Land(s) from Landowner".</p>	



Title: Beaver Control on Private Lands		Policy No.: 21-06
Section: 62	Code:	Page No.: 2 of 5 E

4.2.2. A service fee of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00) shall be collected prior to every entry upon the land.

4.2.3. In addition, FIFTY DOLLARS (\$50.00) per stick of explosives used shall be collected after the removal of a beaver dam(s).

4.2.4. The timing and amount of water lowered at any one time will be at the sole discretion of the Smoky Lake County employee conducting the work, bearing in mind effects on other landowners, down and up-stream from the work area. Timing of the work will only take place after July 16th and before November 1st to align with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans 'timing windows' for dam removal.

	Date	Resolution Number
Approved	May 10, 1991	# 402 - Page # 5320
Amended	February 7, 1994	# 202 - Page # 5641
Amended	April 21, 2004	# 455 - Page # 7746
Amended	June 11, 2009	# 555-09 - Page # 8995
Amended	March 29, 2012	# 395-12 - Page # 10013
Amended	January 9, 2015	
Amended		



Title: Beaver Control on Private Lands	Policy No.: 21-06
Section: 62	Code: _____
	Page No.: 3 of 5 <i>E</i>

SCHEDULE "A"
PERMISSION TO ENTER LAND(S) FOR MUNICIPAL WORK

DETAILS	Property Owner: Name: _____
	Address: _____
	Telephone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____ Cell Number: _____

LEGAL DETAILS	Legal Description (hereinafter referred to as the "Lands":
	Location: LEGAL, LAND LOCATION:
	1/4 _____ SECTION: _____ TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ W4M
	1/4 _____ SECTION: _____ TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ W4M
	1/4 _____ SECTION: _____ TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ W4M

PERMISSION	I (We), do hereby grant permission to SMOKY LAKE COUNTY and its employees or agents, to enter upon the "Land(s)" and use such equipment and material as considered necessary for:
	Removal of beaver dams
	Installation and maintenance of pond leveler
	Trapping/Hunting beavers
	Other work(s) as described on the reference "Land(s)": _____
	I (We) hereby agree to, in consideration of the benefit derived by me (us) from the work description above shall indemnify and save harmless the SMOKY LAKE COUNTY, its Councillors, officers, employees, and agents from any claim, damages, liability, cost, fee, penalty, action, cause of action, demand, damage to property, injury to person or death (including, without limitation to, legal fees of SMOKY LAKE COUNTY on a solicitor-client full indemnity basis), that may arise directly or indirectly out of the performances of the above described work(s).
	I (We) hereby acknowledge that pond levelers are property of SMOKY LAKE COUNTY, therefore maintained by SMOKY LAKE COUNTY.
	I (We) hereby agree this easement is considered valid for 5 years at which time SMOKY LAKE COUNTY will contact me (us) for renewal of easement if required, or in the event property is sold.

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, HAVE READ THIS APPLICATION AND AM AWARE OF ITS CONTENTS AND AGREE TO THE CONDITONS.

SIGNATURE OF OWNER: _____	DATE: _____
SIGNATURE OF SMOKY LAKE COUNTY: _____	DATE: _____



Title: Beaver Control on Private Lands	Policy No.: 21-06
Section: 62	Code: _____
	Page No.: 4 of 5 <i>E</i>

SCHEDULE "B"
REQUEST FOR SERVICE: PERMISSION TO ENTER LAND(S) FROM LANDOWNER

DETAILS	Applicant: Name: _____
	Address: _____
	Telephone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____ Cell Number: _____
	Land Property: <input type="checkbox"/> Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Lessee

LEGAL DETAILS	Legal Description (hereinafter referred to as the "Lands"):
	Location: LEGAL, LAND LOCATION:
	1/4 _____ SECTION: _____ TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ W4M
	1/4 _____ SECTION: _____ TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ W4M
	1/4 _____ SECTION: _____ TOWNSHIP: _____ RANGE: _____ W4M

SERVICE FEE	<p>A service fee of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00) shall be collected prior to entry upon the land.</p> <p>A per stick charge of FIFTY DOLLARS (\$50.00) shall be collected after the removal of a beaver dam.</p>
--------------------	--

PERMISSION	<p>I (We), do hereby grant permission to SMOKY LAKE COUNTY and its employees or agents, to enter upon the "Land(s)" and use such equipment and material as considered necessary for the removal or destruction of BEAVER DAMS.</p>
	<p>I (We) hereby agree to, in consideration of the benefit derived by me (us) from the work description above shall indemnify and save harmless the SMOKY LAKE COUNTY, its Councillors, officers, employees, and agents from any claim, damages, liability, cost, fee, penalty, action, cause of action, demand, damage to property, injury to person or death (including, without limitation to, legal fees of SMOKY LAKE COUNTY on a solicitor-client full indemnity basis), that may arise directly or indirectly out of the performances of the above described work(s).</p>

WORK	Number of Dams Blown: _____	Signature of Blaster: _____
	Number of Sticks Used: _____	Date of Blasting: _____

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, HAVE READ THIS APPLICATION AND AM AWARE OF ITS CONTENTS AND AGREE TO THE CONDITONS.

SIGNATURE OF OWNER: _____	DATE: _____
SIGNATURE OF SMOKY LAKE COUNTY: _____	DATE: _____



Request for Decision (RFD)

Meeting Date: Thursday, September 26, 2024

Agenda Item: #7.2

Topic: Federation of Alberta Gas Co-op's Annual Convention and AGM

Presented By: Natural Gas Manager

Recommendation:

That Smoky Lake County Council and relevant staff who can attend – attend Federation of Alberta Gas Co-op's Annual Convention and AGM, scheduled for November 25 - 28, 2024, at the River Cree Resort and Casino

Background:

The Federation of Alberta Gas Co-ops Convention and AGM and Gas Alberta AGM is attended by Council and relevant staff yearly. Smoky Lake County has budgeted accordingly to attend these events.

Hotel rooms were booked in March 2024 at the River Cree Resort and Casino to get the discounted room rate. Council and staff were registered on September 11, 2024, to take advantage of the early bird registration discount. Both hotel rooms and registration for those not attending, can be cancelled prior to November 1.

Benefits:

The Federation is hosting learning and training sessions for directors and managers on Monday and Tuesday. Gas Alberta and the Federation will be having their AGM's over the course of Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, with a banquet on Wednesday evening. There will be a trade show running Monday and Tuesday. Thursday morning there is a MLA forum and discussion.

Disadvantages:

Unknown.

Alternatives:

Any alternative to the recommendation is at the discretion of Council.

Financial Implications:

Attending this Event is a Budgeted Expense and will include:

Accommodations	\$159+tax/night for three nights = \$477+tax/person
Registration	\$600/person full registration. Partial registration available

Legislation:

Policy Statement No. 08-18: Council Remuneration and Expenses

Intergovernmental:

Various

Strategic Alignment:

N/A

Enclosure(s):

1. Federation of Alberta Gas Co-ops Ltd. Tentative Convention Agenda for Nov.25-28, 2024

Signature of the CAO: 



TENTATIVE AGENDA
2024 CONVENTION & TRADE FAIR
NOVEMBER 25 – NOVEMBER 28, 2024
RIVER CREE RESORT AND CASINO

Honouring the Past, Embracing the Present, Shaping the Future – Cheers to 60 Years!

Monday, November 25, 2024

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. | Convention Registration – Outside Event Centre (Trade Fair area) |
| 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. | Breakout Session #1 Policy Development (Ray Purdy) |
| 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. | Breakout Session #2 Board Governance (Colin Sauer) |
| 12:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. | Trade Fair – Event Centre |
| 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. | Resolutions Committee Meeting |
| 3:30 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. | Benefits Program Administrators Session (with Alberta Municipalities) |
| 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. | Service Personnel Seminar – Registration at 4 p.m.
Olfactory Testing to follow – must be registered. |
| 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. | Office Admin Seminar – Registration at 4 p.m. |
| 8:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. | AOS Reception |

Tuesday, November 26, 2024

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. | Convention Registration – Outside Event Centre (Trade Fair area) |
| 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Service Personnel Seminar (Lunch included) |
| 7:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Office Admin Seminar (Lunch included) |
| 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | Manager’s Meeting (Lunch included) |
| 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. | Breakout Session #3 New Director Training (Dan Tompkins) |
| 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. | Chair’s Meeting
Registration and Lunch 12:30 p.m. |
| 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. | Reflex Users Group Meeting |
| 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. | Trade Fair – Event Centre (lunch not included)
What’s New held from 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. in the Trade Fair/Event Centre Mezzanine
Silent Auction in Trade Fair lobby (Proceeds go to charity) |
| 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. | Gas Alberta Inc. Annual General Meeting |

Wednesday, November 27, 2024

- 6:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. Breakfast Buffet (In Enoch Grand Ballroom) – Overflow in River Cree Ballroom
- 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Convention Registration (**outside meeting rooms – River Cree hallway**)
- 8:00 a.m. **2024 Convention**
Enoch Ballroom
O' Canada
Welcome
- 8:05 a.m. Keynote Address – Speaker TBD
Fireside Chat/Q&A
- 9:20 a.m. Short Break
- 9:20 a.m. – 3 p.m. *Spousal Program (River Cree Ballroom)*
Registration in River Cree 1/2
- 9:30 a.m. **2024 Annual General Meeting**
Call to Order
In Memory
Welcome and Introduction of Board and Staff – Bert Paulssen
Recognitions
Resolutions – Resolutions Committee comprised of Zone Representatives
Convention and Trade Fair Co-ordinators – Emily Ewashko, Dawn McWhirter, and Allison Zinnick
Registration – Federation Staff
Meeting Chair – Bert Paulssen
Recording Secretary – Sandi Orr
- 9:45 a.m. Minutes
➤ Adoption and Business Arising from the Minutes
- 9:50 a.m. Federation Board & Executive Director Report
➤ Adoption & Questions Arising from the Board & Executive Director Report
- 10:00 a.m. Coffee Break
- 10:15 a.m. Member Vote on 2024 Revised Supplemental Bylaws
- 10:30 a.m. Resolutions
- 11:00 a.m. Phil Dirks, C.P.A, C.A. – Metrix Group LLP
➤ Auditor's Report & Adoption
➤ Appointment of Auditor for 2024/2025
- 11:15 a.m. Presentation of 2024/2025 Budget
Levy Motion
- 11:25 a.m. Resolutions (if required)
- 11:30 a.m. Alberta Municipalities – Benefits Overview (Michael O'Mara)
Federation Achievement Awards

12:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Kevin Ouderkirk, Chairperson of Manager's Advisory Committee
1:15 p.m.	Aon Reed Stenhouse FedGas Insurance Reciprocal Exchange ➤ Insurance Update
1:30 p.m.	Katharine Hall, Aon (Topic TBD)
2:30 p.m.	Coffee Break
3:00 p.m.	Paul Cheliak, Canadian Gas Association (Topic TBD)
4:00 p.m.	Adjourn Annual General Meeting Business Portion Recess Meeting for the Day
5:45 p.m.	Social Hour
6:45 p.m.	Banquet & Entertainment – Event Centre Back by Popular Demand! Drew Gregory - <i>Drew Gregory has been a staple of the western Canadian music scene for several years; his hard-won fan base, as well as the commercial success, was earned through a deep-rooted honesty and authenticity in both the songs that Gregory writes and sings.</i> <i>Gregory is a three-time Country Music Alberta Horizon Male and the inaugural YYC Male Artist of the Year, Song of the Year (Better in a Bar), and Album of the Year (I Was There). Recently Drew Gregory took home 50,000.00 from Project Wild to help advance his career.</i> <i>With new songs in the works, and an album expected soon, there is a bubbling excitement and anticipation within the music scene for what just may be Gregory's most confident, vibrant, and exciting creative outpouring.</i>

Thursday, November 28, 2024

6:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	Breakfast Buffet (In Enoch Grand Ballroom) – Overflow in River Cree Ballroom
8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Convention Registration
8:15 a.m.	<u>2024 Convention Reconvenes</u> Enoch Ballroom Evaluation of 2024 Convention & Trade Fair/Registration Report Suggestions from the floor on next Annual Meeting or Zone Meetings New Business and Resolutions (if required)
8:30 a.m.	Government MLA Forum and Discussion
10:00 a.m.	Refreshment Break
10:15 a.m.	Chris Davey, Cooperators (Risk Management)
11:30 a.m.	Closing Remarks
11:45 a.m.	Adjournment Luncheon



Request for Decision (RFD)

Meeting Date: Thursday, September 26, 2024

Agenda Item: **#7.3**

Topic: Policy Statement No. 03-35-14: Snow Clearing – Public and Private Services

Presented By: Public Works Manager

Recommendation:

That Smoky Lake County Policy Statement No. 03-35-14: Snow Clearing – Public and Private Services, be amended.

Background:

At the August 22, 2024, Council meeting, Council acknowledged receipt of the information provided by public works in respect to policy statement No. 03-35: Snow clearing - Public and Private Service, program costs for the seasons of 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023, and 2023-2024; and provided direction to bring the policy to the September 26, 2024, Council meeting for review.

The current Policy provides for subsidized snow clearing services to residents, which has been beneficial to residents in maintaining accessibility during winter months. However, the existing fee structure does not cover the costs associated with providing this service. Over recent years, operational costs have increased due to inflation, higher labor expenses, and increased maintenance of snow clearing equipment.

A review of the program's financials indicates a growing shortfall between the revenue generated from fees and the actual cost of delivering the service. This shortfall impacts the municipality's budget and resources, potentially affecting other essential services.

Proposal to address the financial shortfall Administration recommends the following options:

1. **Increasing Service Fees:** Adjusting the current fee structure to better reflect the true cost of snow clearing services.
2. **Implementing a Tiered Fee Structure:** Introducing a tiered fee system based on property size and snow clearing needs. This approach ensures that larger properties with higher snow clearing demands contribute proportionally to the service costs.
3. **Eliminating the Private Residential snow clearing service from the policy:** This could initiate landowners to explore alternative solutions which could create new business opportunities for local contractors.

Benefits: Enhance cost recovery, significantly reducing the financial burden on the budget and may allow the County to redirect resources to other essential services.

Disadvantages: Unknown.

Alternatives: Council's discretion.

Financial Implications: Dependent upon Council discretion.

Legislation: Policy Statement No. 03-35-14: Snow Clearing – Public and Private Service

Intergovernmental: N/A

Strategic Alignment: N/A

Enclosure(s):

1. Smoky Lake County Snow Clearing Program Costs
2. Policy Statement No. 03-35-14: Snow Clearing – Public and Private Service

Signature of the CAO: 

Smoky Lake County Snow Clearing Program Costs

2019-2020

213 senior flags
71 general flags
284 total sold: \$41,422.50
7 Rounds:
-Dec. 16-18
-Jan. 8-10
-Jan. 27- 30
-Feb. 13-15
-Mar. 2-6
-Mar. 13-14
-Mar. 31- Apr. 4
TOTAL COST: \$102,251.66

2020-2021

219 senior flags
55 general flags
274 total sold: \$49,071.25
6 rounds:
-Nov. 10-13
-Nov. 25-27
-Jan. 15-17
-Jan. 27-29
-Feb. 12-17
-Mar. 2-4; 8-9
TOTAL COST: \$81,343.37

2021-2022

206 senior flags
48 general flags
254 total sold: \$45,911.25
11 rounds:
-Nov. 17-19
-Dec. 15-17
-Dec. 23- Dec 31
-Jan. 2-4
-Jan. 9-11
-Jan. 24-28
-Feb. 2-4
-Feb. 18-22
-Mar. 5-7
-Mar. 8-10
-Mar. 21-24

*The data for this season is skewed due to incomplete records during the finance program transition in early 2022. Based on the available information, the estimated total cost is approximately **\$121,000.00 or more.**

2022-2023

209 senior flags
35 general flags
244 total sold: \$80,930.50
8 rounds
-Nov. 28-30
-Dec. 5-8
-Dec. 18-23
-Jan. 4-9
-Jan. 24-30
-Feb. 3-7
-Mar. 1-3
-Mar 13-15
TOTAL COST: \$108,737.53

2023-2024

188 senior flags
24 general flags
212 total sold: \$67,427.85
No snow in late 2023.
4 rounds:
-Jan. 24-26
-Feb. 6-8
-Feb. 27-29
-Mar. 4-6
TOTAL COST: \$53,293.83



Title: Snow Clearing - Public & Private Services	Policy No.: 35-14
Section: 03	Code: P-R
	Page No.: 1 of 5 E

Legislation Reference:	Municipal Government Act
-------------------------------	--------------------------

Purpose:	Provides protocol for public and private snow clearing within Smoky Lake County.
-----------------	--

Policy Statement and Guidelines:	
<p>1. STATEMENT:</p> <p>1.1 Smoky Lake County recognizes its obligation to provide an acceptable level of snow clearing service within its available resources for winter maintenance on municipal roads. All reasonable efforts will be made to provide roadways that are in a safe, passable condition.</p> <p>1.2 The County may also provide snow clearing services for private residential driveways within the County, at a cost to the resident.</p> <p>2. OBJECTIVE:</p> <p>2.1 That County roads be in a condition where traffic can move freely within five (5) days following any winter weather event.</p> <p>3. PUBLIC SNOW CLEARING SERVICES GUIDELINES:</p> <p>3.1 Grader operators will start snow clearing operations at a different point in their grader beat for each event where practical, to ensure that the same citizens are not always last to be served.</p> <p>3.2 Grader operators will proceed to clear the roads in a systematic manner as directed by the Public Works Manager, Public Works Road Foreman or designate.</p> <p>3.3 Truck plow(s) and/or tractor(s) will be deployed to public roads, hamlets, subdivisions, and private residential driveways in that order of priority.</p> <p>3.4 Equipment operators will minimize snow berms across private driveways and around parked vehicles where practicable.</p> <p>3.5 Roads may initially be opened one way if required to meet the five (5) day objective of getting traffic moving freely after a severe winter weather event, which is any combination of snow and wind that obstructs traffic flow.</p> <p>3.6 Snow clearing equipment may be moved into areas of the County where conditions are more severe, once traffic is moving within a grader beat.</p> <p>4. PUBLIC SNOW CLEARING COMMUNICATIONS GUIDELINES:</p> <p>4.1 The Chief Administrative Officer or designate, will communicate to the Council, the general Public and/or emergency service providers through the Communications Officer when necessary, during major winter weather events to report on emergent conditions and departmental priorities during the event.</p>	

Title: Snow Clearing - Public & Private Services		Policy No.: 35-14	
Section: 03	Code: P-R	Page No.: 2 of 5	E

Policy Statement and Guidelines:			
<p>4.2 Inquiries from Councillors and residents should be directed through the Chief Administrative Officer or designate, to the Public Works Manager or designate, to aid them in identifying emergent issues requiring attention. The Public Works Manager or designate will use this information to prioritize County snow clearing activities.</p>			
5. PUBLIC / COMMUNITY FACILITIES GUIDELINES:			
<p>5.1 Community halls, church yards, and cemeteries may receive snow clearing services by request at no cost to the organization, subject to availability of equipment and operators.</p>			
<p>5.2 Snow clearing for funeral and burial services will be provided at no cost and highly prioritized, subject to reasonable notification.</p>			
6. PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL DRIVEWAY SNOW CLEARING FLAGS TERMS & CONDITIONS:			
<p>6.1 For the purpose of this policy, a "Private Residential Driveway" is defined as the most direct route travelled between the nearest public road and the residential dwelling and must be located within Smoky Lake County.</p>			
<p>6.2 The Private Residential Driveway distance to be cleared shall be up to 200 linear meters and anything exceeding 200 linear metres will require the purchase of an additional snow clearing flag for each increment up to 200 linear metres. The maximum width to be cleared shall be up to 4 linear meters.</p>			
<p>6.3 Snow clearing flags are non-transferable and are valid only for the specific location indicated on the hold harmless agreement.</p>			
<p>6.4 Snow clearing on Private Residential Driveways shall be considered as a secondary priority to all public snow clearing operations, and landowners or tenants that require more immediate services are encouraged to hire a private contractor at their own cost.</p>			
<p>6.5 County landowners or tenants may purchase County snow clearing flags for their Private Residential Driveway under the following conditions:</p>			
<p>6.5.1 The landowner, tenant, or anyone known to reside at the residence, must not have any outstanding accounts receivable over 30 days due to Smoky Lake County.</p>			
<p>6.5.2 The Landowner or tenant agree to place their County issued snow clearing flag in a conspicuous location at the entrance of their driveway beside their municipal rural address sign and ensure it is visible to County snow clearing operators.</p>			

Title: Snow Clearing - Public & Private Services		Policy No.: 35-14
Section: 03	Code: P-R	Page No.: 3 of 5 E

Policy Statement and Guidelines:

6.5.3 The landowner or tenant shall complete the site plan attached to and forming part of **Schedule "A"** to accurately identify all hazards and obstacles the operator and equipment are likely to encounter prior to any snow clearing activities. The County reserves the unfettered right to refuse to undertake snow clearing activities on a Private Residential Driveway until all obstacles and/or hazards have been removed by the landowner or tenant. The County also reserves the unfettered right to refuse to undertake any snow clearing activities on a Private Residential Driveway if the County equipment operator deems it to be too narrow or too close in proximity to existing buildings or gates.

6.5.4 In the event that the landowner or tenant has pre-purchased a snow clearing flag(s) and the County later determines that the work cannot be undertaken by reasons of 6.5.3 above, then the County will refund the monies paid for the snow clearing flag(s) to landowner or tenant.

6.5.5 Snow clearing on Private Residential Driveways may only occur after an accumulation of a minimum of six (6) inches of snow, including drifted snow as measured at the centreline along the clearing route.

6.6 The **Application Form and Hold Harmless Agreement for Private Snow Clearing**, as per **Schedule "A"**, are located at the County Public Works Shop Office as well as online on the County's website www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca.

6.7 Snow clearing flags can be purchased prior to, and/or during, snow covered ground with the snow clearing services season beginning on November 1st to April 30th the following year. There shall be no discount or proration to the stated price below for any reason whatsoever if purchased within the service season. The price per snow clearing flag for a Private Residential Driveway is:

\$250.00 for **seniors and/or persons with disability** who can provide proof of their age or disability through a birth certificate, valid driver's license, other government issued identification, or valid parking placard, or

\$700.00 for all other **landowners and tenants**.

	Date	Resolution Number
Approved	October 24, 1991	# 99 - Page # 5377
Amended	February 14, 1994	# 218 - Page # 5647
Amended	May 23, 1996	# 467 - Page # 6018
Amended	February 17, 2005	# 228 - Page # 7884
Amended	February 20, 2007	# 225-07 - Page # 8294
Amended	March 10, 2008	# 348-08 - Page # 8621
Amended	May 26, 2011	# 557-11 - Page # 9733
Amended	December 4, 2014	# 175-14 - Page # 11498
Amended	June 15, 2017	# 805-17 - Page # 12711
Amended	February 14, 2018	# 306-18 - Page # 12958
Amended	February 20, 2020	# 505-20 - Page # 13996
Amended	June 23, 2022	# 864-22 - Page # 15239
Amended	June 1, 2023	# 628-23 - Page # 15664
Amended	June 29, 2023	#711-23 - Page # 15697

Schedule "A"
APPLICATION FORM AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT FOR PRIVATE SNOW CLEARING

THIS AGREEMENT made this ____ day of _____, 20__.



BETWEEN:

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY
(hereinafter called "the County")

OF THE FIRST PART

(hereinafter called "the Landowner or Tenant")

OF THE SECOND PART

Landowner or Tenant Name (Print) _____

Landowners or Tenant Legal Land Description: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____ W4
Quarter Section Township Range

Municipal Address: _____ Sub-division Name (If Applicable): _____

Flag Number(s) Issued: _____ Cost per Flag: \$ _____

Total Amount Paid: \$ _____

WHEREAS the Landowner or tenant has requested that the County be allowed to enter the property legally described above, to clear snow on the private residential driveway in accordance with the terms and conditions of Policy Statement No. 03-35: Snow Clearing.

NOW THEREFORE, the Landowner or tenant hereby agrees that the purchased snow clearing flag will entitle them to have snow cleared along the most direct route commonly used to access the residence, including the turn-around in the yard where safe to do so, as depicted on the site plan conditional upon accumulation of a minimum of 6 inches of snow.

- 1. The Landowner or tenant agrees that the maximum length of the driveway to be serviced through the purchase of a flag is 200 lineal meters. Additional flags will have to be purchased for lengths of exceeding 200m.
2. The Landowner or tenant agrees that the flag(s) purchased are to be posted at the entrance of his/her driveway beside the municipal rural address sign, well before County snow clearing equipment is expected and agrees that the County is not responsible for flags that are blown away or stolen.
3. The Landowner or tenant, hereby covenants and agrees that they will at all times indemnify and save harmless the County, its servants, agents, employees, executors, administrators, and assigns, from and against any claim for loss, damage or injury, however caused to the property aforementioned by reason of the performance of the said work of snow clearing, whether such loss or damage is the result of the negligence of any servant, agent, or employee of the said municipality, or otherwise.

Site Plan:



AT A MINIMUM INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN YOUR SITE PLAN:

- ✓ Location of driveway.
- ✓ Location of existing buildings.
- ✓ Location of existing access (es).
- ✓ Location of any abandoned or active water wells.
- ✓ Location of shelterbelts, dugouts and water bodies.
- ✓ All developed/undeveloped road allowances and right-of-way and/or easements.
- ✓ Location of Private Sewage Disposal System (existing and/or proposed)
- ✓ Location of power generation facilities (if applicable).

IN WITNESS WHEREOF has hereunto set their hand and the day and year first above written.

SIGNED

}
}
}

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY

Landowner or Tenant (Print Name & Title)

Per (Print Name & Title):



Request for Decision (RFD)

Meeting Date: Thursday, September 26, 2024

Agenda Item: **#7.4**

Topic: 2024/25 Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) – Regional Economic Development – Highway Commercial Initiative

Presented By: Kevin Lucas, CAO

Recommendation(s):

That Smoky Lake County, in partnership with the Town of Smoky Lake, the Village of Waskatenau and the Village of Vilna, participate in the application to the Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) 2024-25 Grant Intake, under the Intermunicipal Collaboration Stream, in the amount of \$200,000.00, for the purposes of undertaking a Regional Economic Development – Highway Commercial Initiative Project; and approve the Town of Smoky Lake as the Managing Partner; and further agree to abide by the terms of the Conditional Grant Agreement governing the purpose and use of the grant funds.

Background:

Draft Project Description: The partnership between the Town of Smoky Lake, Smoky Lake County, Village of Vilna, and the Village of Waskatenau is a collaboration with a history of shared municipal service delivery in areas such as regional land use, emergency management, transportation, water management, waste management, and recreation.

The region would like to explore regional economic development opportunities along the highway corridors in support of business attraction and retention through a regional economic development – highway commercial initiative 2024/25 ACP application. The project could involve a focused regional economic development public survey and engagement, land use and servicing requirements, and implementation strategy.

The development of a regional economic development – highway commercial initiative will guide and provide the partnership with workable alternatives to address the highway commercial services shortage, need to be prepared and resilient for future challenges, and to enhance municipal viability and economic growth.

Financial Implications: There are no financial or budget implications to this recommendation. There is no matching contribution required.

Legislation: N/A

Intergovernmental: Town of Smoky Lake, Village of Vilna, and Village of Waskatenau.

Enclosure(s):

(List any supporting documents attached)

Signature of the CAO: 



Request for Decision (RFD)

Meeting Date: Thursday, September 26, 2024

Agenda Item: **#7.5**

Topic: 2024/25 Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) – Regional Service Delivery – Waste Management

Presented By: Kevin Lucas, CAO

Recommendation(s):

That Smoky Lake County, in partnership with the Town of St. Paul, County of St. Paul #19, Town of Smoky Lake, Town of Elk Point, Village of Vilna, and the Village of Waskatenau (all being Members of the Evergreen Regional Waste Management Services Commission) participate in the application to the Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) 2024-25 Grant Intake, under the Intermunicipal Collaboration Stream, for the purposes of undertaking a Regional Economic Development – Highway Commercial Initiative Project; and approve the Town of St. Paul as the Managing Partner; and further agree to abide by the terms of the Conditional Grant Agreement governing the purpose and use of the grant funds.

Background:

The ERWMSC has requested that the Town of St. Paul applies for an ACP (Alberta Community Partnership) grant on behalf of the Commissions member municipalities. If successful in our application to the province, the Town of St. Paul is happy to be the managing partner in this regional collaboration and capacity building initiative and will be creating an application and submitting to the province before the deadline of October 1, 2024.

The project will include an extensive look into the operations, capacity and management of municipal solid waste activities conducted within of each Partner community, as well as that of that of the Commission with a view to identify existing overlap, gaps and opportunities for regionalized waste management service deliver across the region. Project objectives will include an in-depth consideration into: Effective and efficient delivery of services, Synthesized structure and roles, Reduced GHGs, Increased diversion, Increased landfill lifespan, Increased accountability to Commissions' overarching authority, Generating Revenues that will allow the Partners to consider regional service delivery of waste management services.

Financial Implications: There are no financial of budget implications to this recommendation. There is no matching contribution required.

Legislation: N/A

Intergovernmental: The Town of St. Paul will lead an Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) with seven municipal partners: County of St. Paul #19, Town of St. Paul, Smoky Lake County, Town of Smoky Lake, Town of Elk Point, Village of Vilna and the Village of Waskatenau (the Partners), to look at options and opportunities for regional service delivery of waste management services.

Enclosure(s):

Signature of the CAO: _____



Request for Decision (RFD)

Meeting Date: Thursday, September 26, 2024

Agenda Item: **#7.6**

Topic: Surplus Equipment

Presented By: Kevin Lucas, CAO

Recommendation(s):

1. That Smoky Lake County Council direct administration to contact the high bidders and complete the sale of surplus equipment.

Or

2. That Smoky Lake County Council direct administration to contract the equipment to a structured auction house to be sold to the highest bidder at the time of sale.

Or

3. That Smoky Lake County Council direct administration to contact the high bidders on (identify equipment numbers) and complete the sale of surplus equipment. The remaining equipment to be contracted to a structured auction house to be sold to the highest bidder at the time of sale.

Background:

At the August 22, 2024, regular Council meeting, Council was advised of surplus equipment from various Smoky Lake County departments that had become of no value to departments do to changing work practices, high mileage or hours or simply had become redundant to our needs. The council's direction from August 22, 2024, was to post equipment for sale through sealed bid, posted to our Smoky Lake County website and advertised through our Facebook page.

We received 14 sealed bids on the seven lots being offered. The sealed bids were opened by two Smoky Lake Staff members with bids recorded by Smoky Lake County CAO. I present these bids to you today for consideration and direction.

Financial Implications: There are no financial of budget implications to this recommendation.

Legislation: The sale of surplus Smoky Lake County equipment is being followed through a public auction.

Intergovernmental: There are no intergovernmental involvement and/or implications related to or affecting the recommendation.

Enclosure(s):

1. Sealed bid outcomes

Signature of the CAO:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Kevin Lucas", written over a horizontal line.



Request for Decision (RFD)

Meeting Date: Thursday, September 26, 2024

Agenda Item: **#7.7**

Topic: Smoky Lake County Investment Attraction Strategy

Presented By: Planning & Development Services

Recommendation:

That Smoky Lake County Council acknowledge receipt of the Smoky Lake Region Investment Attraction Strategy, dated March 14, 2024, prepared by Michelle Wright Consulting Services, pursuant to the Rural Municipalities of Alberta Microgrant Program.

Background:

November 11, 2023, Council Motion #133-23: "That Smoky Lake County Council approve action taken by administration in awarding the contract for the Smoky Lake Region Investment Attraction Strategy (Request for Proposals #PD-001-23), to Michelle Wright Consulting Services (Division of Pappy's Parcel Pitstop), in the amount of \$10,000.00, with a contract date effective October 22, 2023, to March 15, 2024, and subject to the terms and conditions of the Consulting Services Agreement General Terms and Conditions, dated October 22, 2023."

The Smoky Lake Region Investment Attraction Strategy identifies growth opportunities within the Smoky Lake Region, with a specific focus on the tourism, agriculture and energy industries. The Strategy includes a review of existing industries, potential development sites, statistics/demographics and the aspirations of the Region, as well as a review of existing strategic plans. The Strategy also makes recommendations for investment attraction and associated financing and stakeholder engagement. The Strategy also identifies the Region's major challenges to attracting investment, namely housing, infrastructure and labour.

Benefits: The Strategy can be used as a blueprint to attract new investment to the Region.

Disadvantages: N/A

Alternatives: N/A

Financial Implications: N/A

Legislation: N/A

Intergovernmental: Potential cooperation with Town and Villages through RCDC or similar regional economic development model.

Strategic Alignment: Growth Employment Opportunities; Proactivity in Development; Cultural Diversity.

Enclosure(s):

- **Smoky Lake Region Investment Attraction Strategy @ Attachment 1**

Signature of the CAO:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized name, written over a horizontal line.



Request for Decision (RFD)

Attachment 1 - Smoky Lake Region Investment Attraction Strategy



INVESTMENT ATTRACTION STRATEGY

Prepared for Smoky Lake County

Michelle Wright Consulting Services
March 14, 2024



Request for Decision (RFD)

Regional Investment Attraction

Executive Summary

Smoky Lake County engaged Michelle Wright Consulting Services in November 2023 to research, assess and prepare recommendations on Investment Attraction opportunities in the County. The project included a review of industries, sites, statistics, and County aspirations. This report identifies growth opportunities by industry: tourism, agriculture, and energy.

To achieve the opportunities, this report also includes recommendations for attraction methodologies and associated resourcing, financing, and stakeholder engagement. Locations for these opportunities exist throughout the County, and benefits can be widely enjoyed across all divisions.

Development supports needed, in order of importance are: Housing, infrastructure and labour.

Several economic development studies, plans and municipal Strategic Plans were revised and summarized, with the primary focus and recommendations being the County's priorities. There is significant alignment and overlap with the prior studies and the recommendations contained herein.

Also considered were the County's current fiscal and resource capacities, and recommendations are made with respect to the current environment. Marketing, branding, performance measures and feedback are also included for the County's use as the activities to achieve their vision are undertaken.

A significant understanding in the completion of this work is that there are no new ideas to be developed, that the County and its partnering organizations over time have consistently identified the same needs for growth and are now ready to take action on those ideas.



Request for Decision (RFD)

1. Strategic Plan Reviews

Smoky Lake County's strategic plan was reviewed with the intent to identify the direction of the County with respect to investment opportunities. The consultant also reviewed and has included in the discussion, relevant content from the following plans and studies:

- Smoky Lake County Strategic Plan 2023-2025
- Travel Alberta Tourism Development Zone: Northeast Lakelands November 2023
- Government of Alberta Economic Development in Rural Alberta Plan December 2022
- Victoria District Economic Development Strategy September 2020
- Town of Smoky Lake Strategic Plan 2022
- Regional Community Development Committee Smoky Lake Region Strategic Plan 2020
- Service Assessment and Economic Development Strategy 13 Ways Smoky Lake Region October 2022

2. Plan Summaries

2.1 Smoky Lake County

Approved by Smoky Lake County Council in April 2023, the County's Strategic Plan 2023-2025 includes the County's Values and Vision and forms the basis for establishing the Council's priorities. The content relevant to investment attraction is included here for clarity, as it informed the identification and recommendations for the opportunities. The report in its entirety is available on the County's website (<https://smokylakeCounty.ab.ca/p/strategic-plan>).

2.1.1 Vision

Smoky Lake County Council defined their vision in the Strategic Plan as (numbering is consistent with the County Strategy):

- 1.1 Development along Highways – Council visualizes new highway commercial growth and business development along key corridor highways in the Region, where the County would proactively undertake processes to bring those properties to a “shovel-ready” status specific to land use, zoning, and other planning functions.
- 1.2 Creating policies/atmosphere to create pro-active growth and development:
 - a. Population growth – Council visualizes positive population growth by bringing key services back into the Region (using advocacy to obtain/maintain veterinary, health, courthouse services).
 - b. Fully utilized Hospitals and Courthouse – Council visualizes a robust regional healthcare and fully utilized hospitals, health centres, and the courthouse in our Region, supporting local needs and overflow capacity from larger metropolitan areas.
 - c. Housing Diversity – Council visualizes diverse housing opportunities designed to accommodate the needs of the Region through innovative programming such as partnerships, incentives, and/or external grants.
 - d. Proactive/Partnering Development Strategies – The Council visualizes that the County would proactively undertake the processes and partnerships to stimulate and promote residential and commercial growth in the Region, including “shovel-ready” principles pertaining to land use, zoning, servicing, and other land development functions.
 - e. Agriculture – Council recognizes the benefit and value of the County's agriculture sector and visualizes its enhancement and strengthening by supporting the expansion of veterinary services, promoting new value-added agri-business culture, and effectively promoting the Region.

Page 2 of 32



Request for Decision (RFD)

- f. Environment – Council recognizes the benefit, value and services delivered by our natural landscape, and visualizes its protection through land use planning, technical studies, collaborative partnerships, and leveraging tools under the MGA etc.

Note: the Vision and Mission in the 2024 Smoky Lake County Budget plan are different than that of the Strategic Plan 2023-2025:

Vision - Leading the way in positive growth with healthy, sustainable, rural living.

Mission - Smoky Lake County strives for collaboration and excellence in the provision of transparent and fiscally responsible governance and services.

Included in the County Budget are these insights:

Revenue:

- The County's total revenue (not including government transfers) has been relatively constant.
- The linear tax revenue forms 50 to 55% of the County's total tax revenue.
- The residential/farmland tax forms 28 to 30% of the County's total tax revenue.

Expenses:

- The County's total expenses have increased.
- The highest expense is Transportation, (around 40% of total expenses), followed by Administration & Legislative.
- Protective services expenses have increased significantly (due to changes imposed by the provincial government).
- On average, 15% of expenses are paid by Government Transfers over the past 7 years, with the highest being 20%.
- Expenses per capita have increased over the past 7 years.

2.1.2 Relevant Investment Attraction Priorities

Smoky Lake County Council identified five priorities within the Strategic Plan 2023-2025 and supporting details for investment attraction (only relevant priorities and tasks included in this summary):

- **Grow Employment Opportunities** – supporting growth in all industries and including agricultural business and producers.
 - Examine recreation opportunities and new facilities: The County will review the Smoky Lake Regional Recreation Master plan, dated March 2013, in the context of 2023 and develop a program for the public to provide input respecting facility improvements and desired programs.
 - Examine incentive initiatives to foster growth of business and industry: the County will examine the possibility of introducing incentives and/or partnership opportunities to foster the growth of business and industry development in the Region.
- **Proactivity in Development**
 - Sell land to raise revenues for development initiatives: the County will review potential opportunities for highest and best use of Municipal property currently vacant and dispose of the lands at fair market value. Some land may be sold on condition to assist in the undertaking development within a specified time frame.
 - Market evaluation: evaluation of market conditions to determine what conditions, economic constraints, impediments, catalysts, and stimulus may be beneficial in the proactive promotion of land development.



Request for Decision (RFD)

- Housing Diversity: The County will undertake a marketing analysis to determine the needs of the Region. The Council will also consider options to promote the construction of diverse housing through the use of specific policy frameworks, investment, partnership, and possible subsidization to achieve this goal.
- Cultural Diversity
 - Apply to the Provincial Government to become a Designated Community – Council is committed to researching and successfully applying to the Province to become a Rural Renewal Stream Designated Community (as per 2024 Budget – Project Cancelled)

The other two Smoky Lake County priorities not included in this review and report are Emergency Services and Education. These priorities support quality of life, but the tasks included for each of them are not directly relevant to investment attraction. They would be priorities for Council to action as part of their overall strategy implementation.

2.1 Travel Alberta Northeast Lakelands Tourism Development Zone Discovery Report 2023

Smoky Lake County is a member of the Northeast Lakelands Tourism Development Zone, established through Travel Alberta's tourism strategy. In 2023, administration participated in the Discovery Report process on behalf of Smoky Lake County.

The Northeast Lakelands Vision is: By 2035 our tourism region will become a recognized year-round destination built around our natural assets (water and wilderness) and cultural assets (history and heritage), and supported by excellent communications, transportation and other infrastructure.

Smoky Lake is one of the seven primary clusters in the report, (the six other clusters are much larger communities of Lac la Biche, St. Paul, Vegreville, Vermillion, Cold Lake, and Lloydminster).

The Discovery Report identified the following initiatives and priorities:

- Increasing year-round accommodations, specifically unique accommodations, and accommodations within proximity to recreational assets that would interest a leisure traveller.
- Supporting communities, businesses, and stakeholders to develop new and enhanced year-round tourism products and experiences, with a focus on cultural and heritage tourism products and experiences and recreational/soft-adventure experiences (such as Iron Horse Trail)
- Working with local organizations to better coordinate with each other, play a larger role in developing the visitor economy and increase their capacity to operate sustainably.
- Improving technological connectivity (including mobile reception and broadband) to and within the zone, in key areas and along main routes
- Creating an enabling environment to attract and retain employees within the tourism industry.
- Working with municipalities to explore opportunities to modernize policies affecting the continuing development of agritourism.

2.2 GOA Economic Development in Rural Alberta Plan

The Government of Alberta developed the Economic Development in Rural Alberta Plan in 2022, based on the insights gained from engagement with targeted rural stakeholders. This plan includes key strategies and measurable actions to ensure rural Albertans have economic opportunities where they live. The full plan can be found at <https://www.alberta.ca/rural-economic-development>.



Request for Decision (RFD)

This GOA plan identified 5 Strategic directions (priorities):

- Economic development-enabling infrastructure. Identify and improve economic development-enabling infrastructure to support investment and growth in rural Alberta.
- Rural business supports and entrepreneurship. Advance entrepreneurship capacity and a culture of innovation across rural Alberta.
- Support for labour force and skills development. Enable skills development in rural communities to enhance workforce capacity today and for the future.
- Marketing and promoting rural tourism. Enhance rural Alberta's reputation and capacity as a diverse tourism destination.
- Rural economic development capacity building. Enhance rural economic development through regional and targeted capacity building.

2.3 Victoria District Economic Development

Smoky Lake County, Town of Smoky Lake and Métis Nation of Alberta created the Victoria District Economic Development Strategy (VDEDS) in 2020. This strategy is focussed on the tourism industry and identifies opportunities across the Smoky Lake Region. The Strategy goals are to add to the visitor economy, increase the visitor audience for Métis Crossing and other attractions, diversify the Region's economy, and support Municipal sustainability.

The three Strategy deliverables are:

- A loan fund for tourism developers and operators.
- Direct accommodation and attraction acquisition either solely or in partnership with Regional or Corporate investors.
- Infrastructure investment including roads, trails, housing, and signage.

2.4 Town of Smoky Lake

The Town of Smoky Lake Strategic Plan 2022 is included as support to the County's strategy, where alignment exists. The Town's vision that Smoky Lake is a growing, well-planned community with diverse business opportunities, community amenities and events.

Priorities include:

Tourism – Local events, Trail development, Eco-tourism, Sport tourism
Growth Business/Commercial development - Business retention and growth, promote Highway commercial development and promote downtown business development.
Recreation – Promote the RV Park, local camping, and accommodation facilities, and the rich local heritage showcased through facilities such as the CN Station and Smoky Lake Museum.

2.5 Regional Community Development Committee (RCDC) Strategy

Updated in 2020, the RCDC Strategic Plan notes Vision is: The Smoky Lake Region is an attractive, prosperous community that treasures its blend of rural and small-town lifestyles, with strong values placed on economic development, social cohesion, environmental protection, and historical preservation.

The goals of the plan include:

- Maintain the Region's Quality of Life
- Promote the Region



Request for Decision (RFD)

- Diversify the Region's Economy
- Attract New Residents to the Region
- Protect the Region's Natural and Historic Assets
- Improve the Region's Economic Development Capacity

The 2020 RCDC plan includes performance measures for each goal.

2.6 Service Assessment Strategy and Economic Development Strategy by 13 Ways

Created collaboratively across the Region in 2022 with Smoky Lake County, the Town of Smoky Lake, the Village of Waskatenau and the Village of Vilna, the 13 Ways Strategy identified efficiencies and cost savings for the municipalities who are facing growing budget challenges due to the continued downloading of costs and services from other levels of government, increased demands for services and infrastructure from the residents, and a slowly shrinking tax base and population. Finding the cost savings, in the words of 13 ways is a matter of life or death for municipalities.

In addition to the Service Assessment, 13 ways included recommendations for an economic development strategy and marketing plan that complements the work done on service level reviews and priorities.

They noted they were unable to present a complete economic and marketing strategy as there is still more work to be done on collaboration and cooperation efforts that produce a clear vision and set of values for the Region. They took these additional elements of project work as far as they could in this phase.

Through their consultations it was clearly articulated by the participants that the goal is not focused on attracting industry. There is a high value placed on the quality of life for individuals and families in the Region, the interconnectedness of the community and communities, for the environment, and for recreation opportunities. The focus for growth was identified as small business and tourism and attracting families and professionals.

13 Ways Service Assessment Recommendations

- Realize Efficiencies
 - Asset Management and Budgeting
 - Joint Operation of Linear Services
 - Administrative Support
 - Coordinated Fleet Management
- Grow the Pie
 - Regional Economic Development Strategy
 - Regional Marketing Strategy - An Effective Marketing Strategy
 - Regional Development Processes, Permitting, and Land Use Planning
- Make it Happen
 - Develop Common Purpose with Shared Strategic Direction
 - Governance Structure and Organizational Processes
 - Identify human and financial resources for each initiative



Request for Decision (RFD)

Within the 13 Ways Economic Development Strategy, the following priorities were identified (details of recommended actions are included in Appendix A). They noted that this is not a complete economic development strategic plan. Their current study analyzed the current strategic plan (at the time, the RCDC and VDEDS plans were the only ones in use), identified its missing pieces and weaknesses, and offered practical advice. It identified areas of improvement and potential additions based on the consulting team's extensive experience working with municipalities in Canada and the United States, their research on future trends in community building and economic development, and their conversations with the Smoky Lake Region municipalities staff, Council, and members of the community.

- Quality of Life
- Targeted Marketing Campaign (details in Section 7)
- Diversify the Regional Economy
- Grow Economic Development Capacity

3.0 Regional Competitive Advantage Summary

Smoky Lake County economic profile is described in the following sections. It includes macroeconomic trends, baseline and industry trends, a review of the County resident employability, and land readiness factors.

3.1 Macroeconomic Trends

The North American context for foreign direct investment has been declining significantly prior to and following the years of the pandemic. For companies who operate globally, Alberta is competing with international sites, and fewer and fewer investments are made here due to regulatory uncertainty, taxation, and low labour pools. In Canada, Ontario is the most likely to see foreign direct investment. In Alberta, there has been a 10% decline in business investment in 2023. Energy is bouncing back after a period of slow growth, the population is the fastest growing of anywhere in Canada, and the Alberta economy is showing signs of diversification. ATB Economists are predicting that 2024 will see slower economic growth and the population growth will also be tempered, reducing some of the strain on the housing market and inflation overall will slow down.

As labour availability is a large factor in investment projects, take note that in Canada in 2023, 100% of labour force growth came from interprovincial and international immigration.

Another factor influencing investment is the rising cost of construction. As potential developers look to Smoky Lake County to build, their business case may prove to be unviable as construction estimates are developed.

3.2 Local Economic Trends and Workforce

Based on the 2021 census results, the County has experienced negative growth (-5.7%) since the last census (2016). The 20-year growth is negative as well, calculated at -12.3%. However, for the past 10 years, the population decline rate has slowed. The County statistics include the Métis Settlements of Buffalo Lake and Kikino. Excluding the two Métis settlements, Smoky Lake County had a population of 2,461 in 2016, and 2,517 in 2021 (2.2% increase). Reports of population decline in the County would be related to the population decline in Buffalo Lake Settlement (nearly 50% decline, may be due to under reporting during 2021 census).



Request for Decision (RFD)

In 2021, the Median age in the County was 44.8 years, which is higher than the provincial median age (based on 2021 census, Alberta's median age was 38.4 years). The County has the lowest Median age and the highest % of under 20 years amongst the four municipalities of Smoky Lake Region with 21% of the County's population over 65 years of age. Over 90% of the residences in the County are single family dwellings.

Most County residents have post secondary education, the breakdown of the education levels (2021 census) are:

High school diploma or equivalent	29.14%
Postsecondary certificate, diploma or degree	45.36%
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma	15.07%
College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma	19.37%
University certificate or diploma below bachelor level	2.32%
University certificate, diploma or degree at bachelor level or above	0.66%

Also from 2021 Census, the County's employment participation rate is 53%, with most employed in trades, transport, agriculture, and natural resources. Post pandemic, the unemployment rate was at 12%, and is currently at 13%. 550 residents reported they commute outside the County for work (could include employment in Town and Villages) in 2021, up significantly from the prior census in 2016.

In 2022, one major project was initiated in Smoky Lake County (\$13 million solar energy development) and 29 development permits worth \$4.7 million were active in 2021. Of note, 90% of County's businesses are small businesses. The industrial segment had the largest increase, however for a small dollar amount, increasing by 87.7% to \$281,500.

3.3 Regulatory Environment

In August 2023, the Alberta government announced it was instituting a six-month pause on all approvals related to renewable energy projects greater than one megawatt, citing as justification concerns over the impact on the environment and on rural areas. In late February 2024, specific policies were created including one relevant to Smoky Lake County: Renewable generation developments are no longer permitted on soil with either no or moderate limitations on crop usage unless it can be demonstrated that crops and/or livestock can coexist with the renewable project.

Other potential regulatory constraints, especially if Smoky Lake County were to pursue a mega industrial project, includes approval times, stakeholder challenges, and the use of higher classification agricultural lands for industrial development.

3.4 Land Analysis

Of the County's 3,396.29 km² (1,311.31 sq mi), approximately one third is public lands, mostly used for grazing leases. The 2012 Municipal Development Plan Future Land Use District maps (pages 78 to 82) identify planned commercial zones adjacent to Highway 28 and 36, and secondary highways 855 and 831. Industrial lands are located on Highway 36 and west of Waskatenau along the County's far western boundary north and south of Highway 28 (maps in Appendix B). The Town of Smoky Lake has also indicated commercial development plans adjacent to Highway 28 (Gateway Overlay) as well as Downtown (Downtown Overlay).



Request for Decision (RFD)

Recently the County sold 3 of its parcels (sale price included to support discussion later in this report):

Parcel 1 NE 32-59-14 Gross sale price \$245,000

Parcel 2 NE 23-60-13 Gross sale price \$230,000

Parcel 3 SW 34-61-13 Gross sale price \$290,000

Despite no commercially suitable lands currently owned by the County, there are several parcels suited to recreational and tourism uses, near Hanmore Lake, Whitefish Lake and the Iron Horse Trail. These would be suitable to be in the Smoky Lake Tourism Company development strategy.

A full list of County owned parcels is in Appendix C.

3.5 Regional Competitors

All the County's neighbouring municipalities hold and are actively marketing serviced land parcels, although sales are slow.

Lamont County has commercial, industrial and heavy industrial lands for sale, adjacent to rail lines and for their vacant commercial lands, municipal services are in place or in close proximity. There is a unique process for the heavy industrial lands in that landowners can register with the Lamont County their interest in selling to heavy industrial investors, the Lamont County maps those parcels and makes them available for potential investors to connect with directly for any sales.

Thorhild County has approximately 147 hectares (363 acres) of available land for both industrial and business park subdivisions northeast and just outside of the Hamlet of Thorhild. This land area is close to three phase power, existing municipal infrastructure and Alberta's Industrial Heartland. Commercial lots are also for sale. Any lots located east of Thorhild have access to Edmonton water.

Sturgeon County (near Redwater) has several private and publicly owned commercial and industrial subdivisions. Many of the private lots have full services and useable buildings, and there is a high vacancy rate. Redwater is also much closer to Alberta's Industrial Heartland market. The Town of Redwater offers a one year tax rebate for new builds/businesses.

Athabasca County encourages development in Athabasca County by offering a 50% rebate on the municipal portion of property tax bills. The development, which can be new build or upgrades to existing structures, must have an assessed value of over \$100,000.

Lac La Biche County has several development-ready areas available for small, medium and large commercial investment. Incentives are provided for local business owners to improve their facade and appearances. It can also be used to introduce new features and amenities that create interest, improve accessibility, enhance safety, and increase vibrancy, transforming places into spaces where people want to spend time. The program grants 20% to approved improvement costs, to a maximum of \$20,000.

St. Paul County, through STEP the regional economic development partnership, promotes opportunities within their region for investors. No specific land area or incentives are in play, however STEP has a mandate to attract and retain businesses.



Request for Decision (RFD)

Except for St. Paul County, the other neighbouring Counties have better proximity to larger markets (heavy industrial predominantly) than Smoky Lake County. Growth in St. Paul County has been in the Town of St. Paul, as a large service centre to the surrounding communities.

4.0 County Resources and Budget

Smoky Lake County's 2023-2025 Strategic Plan has identified several investment attraction relevant priorities. In the 2023-2024 Budget presentation, Council committed funds to the following activities and their alignment to the Strategic Plan priorities are noted:

Priority 1, 2, 3, 4: Contract a Lobby Consultant.

Priority 5: Investigate and participate in the Alberta Advantage Immigration Program.

Priority 2: Prepare market studies.

Priority 1: Review the 2013 Recreation Master Plan.

Not in Strategic Plan: Review County Economic Development.

Priority 2: Update the Land use Bylaw and Municipal Development Plan.

By department, the following activities are to be funded:

Administration: No costs budgeted to advance the 2023 strategic plan.

Operations: No New 2024 initiatives.

Planning and Development: Hanmore Lake Area Structure Plan, Land use Bylaw/Municipal Development Plan Review, and ACP Grant (Priority 2).

Economic Development: Funding for County specific economic development programs and advertising, Doctor recruitment and retention, and Regional Community Development Committee (RCDC)

Recreation and Culture Services: Heritage, Northern Lights Library, Parks in the Hamlets and Lakes, as well as other County properties.

Smoky Lake County currently has key positions vacant (CAO, P&D) in administration and Economic Development through RCDC.

5.0 Suitable Sectors for Smoky Lake County

Based on strategies, current direction, budgeted funds, entrepreneurial spirit (high number of small businesses), and education levels, Smoky Lake County should focus on the growth and development of agriculture and tourism.

5.1 Agriculture

Smoky Lake County has a high concentration of agricultural operations with 398 active producers, nearly 45,000 head of cattle, and 199,000 acres of cropland. These operations continue to evolve due to technology, demographics, and land management practices. Each of these areas is an opportunity for business growth for the producer and for the industry. Anecdotally, Smoky Lake County has a growing number of young producers (under 40) who are assuming responsibility for family farms or partnering in other ways to expand their operations.

In the SLC Strategic Plan Priority 2 includes this action: the Council will seek opportunities to enhance the agricultural culture of the Region through new and innovative partnerships that prioritize landowner needs, sustainable local foods.



Request for Decision (RFD)

Several SLC agricultural producers are conducting farm sales, farmers' market sales and supply to restaurants and retailers, and there is room for this market to expand. Current consumer preferences are expanding into the producer/consumer relationship arena, local food sourcing, and overall sustainable and secure food production.

Larger investment opportunities (pending landowner input as indicated by the priority) include seed cleaning, equipment manufacturing and repair, storage and transportation facilities, particularly rail line renewal on the County's west end.

Actions to take in this opportunity:

1. Producer engagement – identify business expansion opportunities for individual operations
2. Producer engagement – identify services and supports most needed by current producers
3. Producer engagement – assess collaborative or cooperative appetites with producers
4. Neighbour engagement – identify collaborative opportunities with surrounding Counties which would serve needs of SLC producers
5. Tourism Strategy Alignment – identify, in the business expansion opportunities, those that are also aligned to the visitor economy and could be pursued jointly as agritourism.

5.2 Tourism

Smoky Lake County, with its partners, has invested \$1.8 million into the Smoky Lake Tourism Company (SLTC) for the advancement of the tourism industry in Smoky Lake Region. With the execution of the SLTC business plan, the County will see increased assessments for private operations and increased user fee revenue from County owned and operated assets. Three asset developments that are priorities for Phase I of the VDEDS business plan are: Hutterite Colony Interpretive Centre, Smoky Lake Forest Nursery Interpretive Centre and Smoky Lake Museum redevelopment.

The VDEDS also has a marketing plan and investment attraction plan within. Executing the tourism plan as already defined should be sufficient to achieve tourism industry growth and development goals. The County's focus should be to accelerate the SLTC activation and to provide policies supporting tourism developments.

5.3 Energy

Smoky Lake County has 1.3 billion m³ of natural gas reserves within its boundaries, consistent natural gas extraction activities and in 2022, oil production increased in the County by 63%.

Also relevant, is the investment in renewable energy infrastructure within the County, with the \$13 million Métis Crossing project built to supply 4.9MW of solar energy to the Alberta grid (a partnership between Métis Nation of Alberta, Smoky Lake County and Town of Smoky Lake).

Another solar project is in the planning stages for the east end of the County near Vilna, to provide 42MW of solar generated electricity.

Wind studies in the area have indicated low feasibility for large scale power generation.

A 2018 Geothermal energy study for Smoky Lake County indicated factors that may be detrimental to large-scale geothermal development. First, though the Devonian-aged strata are quite thick (1350m),



Request for Decision (RFD)

there are no previously identified productive geothermal formations present in the geological record. As well, most wells in the study area are drilled to depths less than 750m meaning that temperature readings are likely to have been influenced by the thermal conductivity of shallow rock layers, potential anomalous temperature readings, improper measurement techniques, or data entry errors and has led to an overestimation of the temperature potential in the region. This Study recommended that the County investigate the geothermal potential of localized Devonian-aged formations and gather temperature measurements from deeper than 1000m to fully understand the geothermal potential of the area (italics for emphasis). However, there may be opportunities for direct use technology in the region, for individual businesses or applications (grain producers, greenhouses, etc). (Terrapin Geothermics, 2018).

Energy investments tend to the major project level; however opportunities exist within Smoky Lake County which may prove viable for the County to meet carbon emission targets, support business greenhouse gas emission reduction and brand itself as a green or greener community. With the Provincial government stand on renewable projects and the lack of direct control the County has with oil and gas decisions, a wait and see position is recommended for investment attraction in the energy sector.



Request for Decision (RFD)

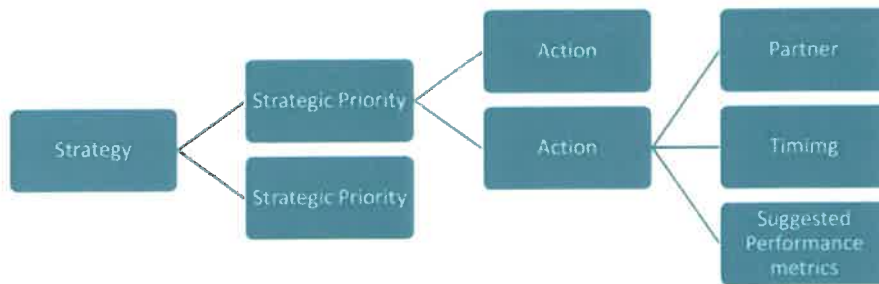
6.0 Attraction Strategy

The Strategic Plans are all designed to create growth and quality of life for Smoky Lake County. By following a simple flow, the aspirations of the plans can be achieved.

First is strategy and priorities (the Region has several plans and multiple priorities), then actions (some of which are described in the existing plans, some will be new) and ensuring resources are available including potential partners, determine when it should be done, and determine how the action be measured in terms of its ability to deliver the priorities.

To not weigh down the report, a separate matrix of actions is in Appendix A. This matrix notes the actions from the reviewed plans and other recommendations connected to Smoky Lake County's priorities. In addition to the report recommendations, the County may choose to plan to do some, or all the tactics associated with the plans (and some actions are duplicates of the recommended actions).

Possible partners, timing and performance metrics are also included.



6.1 What to Do?

In summary, Smoky Lake County's Strategic Plan identified two industries: tourism and agriculture for investment opportunities and three supporting quality of life components: housing, infrastructure, and recreation. These focus areas are consistent with the other plans reviewed, and this alignment is an opportunity for collaboration and possibly funding support.

The Smoky Lake County plan does not limit itself to these two industries but indicates it will "support growth in all industries". This approach might be difficult given the funding and resource constraints of the County and the ability to market and attract real opportunities with a generic "everyone welcome" strategy. The County should be an investment taker, not maker, when it comes to considering investment from industries outside of agriculture, tourism, and energy.

If the County chooses to actively pursue other opportunities, the recommendation is to focus on the 7 areas identified in 2013 RCDC Workshop Planning report, as they remain relevant today: retail and commercial, small business and entrepreneurship, service and supply companies, small scale and artisan production (agriculture), professional services, transportation and logistics providers, and tourism.



Request for Decision (RFD)

The analysis of the plans, the neighbours, current County budgets and resources and the larger economy indicates that 2024 is the year to be planning for future year initiatives and activities, with actions budgeted for and resources in the upcoming years. All of the Strategic Plans combined have “hundreds” of supporting tasks, not all of which can be or should be completed. A County review of the matrix is necessary, to weed out any those that are unlikely or not possible to execute due to resources and funding. Understanding the impact on the ability of the County to deliver on its Strategic Priorities if a task is deleted should be part of the review process.

As indicated in Section 5, activating the Smoky Lake Tourism Company is a high priority. The company is funded and has an executable plan, so getting resources in place is the final step to create this development vehicle.

In the agriculture sector, the focus should be on supporting business expansions and looking for larger or auxiliary (veterinary and value add) investments which support the producer needs. Policy review in this area should consider agricultural taxation policy, so expansion support is focussed on those developments which would create additional tax revenue (subsidiary commercial activities to the agricultural operation), versus providing support to agricultural developments which do not contribute to taxation revenue.

Energy, especially renewables, is a longer game. Any opportunity to conduct feasibility studies or investigations in the renewable sector is recommended, in order to be prepared for future opportunities.

In the supporting priorities, housing, infrastructure and recreation and associated actions will support the investment attraction aspirations.

Housing units, both number of and affordability of, continue to be a nationwide challenge. The County's dwellings are over 90% single family dwellings. Servicing land and creating affordable housing or traditional housing units on County lands would be cost prohibitive. The recommendation is for the County to work with the Villages and Town on the creation of housing stock, particularly rental units and multi family housing.

Infrastructure needs for any development include water, sewer, high speed connectivity, power and gas. Agricultural business expansions may, and the VDEDS asset development will, require these services and will need to find funding to develop such infrastructure.

In the commercial/industrial parcels of the MDP future land use district map, power is the most available of the infrastructure needs. Again, servicing these sites in the current fiscal environment would rely on partnerships including Provincial investment and grants. The market currently does not indicate a need for these sites to be developed, as most neighbouring County's have surplus serviced, and in some cases, incentivized lands available for sale.

The County's priorities include a review of the Recreation Master Plan 2013 and engage the public on facility improvements and programs. Facilities in the County are limited to community halls and a curling rink (Hamlet of Bellis), with the bulk of recreational facilities within the Villages and Town. The review should be conducted jointly with the other Regional municipalities.



Request for Decision (RFD)

6.2 When is the Right Time?

The County has minimal capacity to support priority execution in 2024, therefore the creation of a 3 year action plan is recommended, and should include budget and resource requirements for the tasks identified. County lands have been sold grossing nearly \$750,000. Potentially some of the sale funds could be used to support future strategy execution.

The tourism strategy can begin execution in 2024, with the procurement of the resources to execute as the first step. As a member of the Municipally Controlled Corporation (MCC) one of the partners in the SLTC, the County should accelerate this opportunity as funding is in place to acquire the resources to execute the plan.

For the supporting activities in housing, infrastructure and recreation, the capacity of the Villages and Town will determine their engagement, as these supporting activities are recommended to be done jointly with the regional municipalities. If capacity exists, the recommended timeline for each is:

- Housing – immediate activation
- Infrastructure – project driven.
- Recreation – review 2013 Plan in 2024 and create 3-year action plan with budget and resources to begin execution in 2024.

6.3 Where to Do It?

The County's preferred locations for development are highway frontages, natural spaces, and agricultural lands. This aligns with both the tourism and agricultural opportunities, and highway frontage commercial development aligns with the Village of Vilna and Town preferences. If funds were available for direct land development by the County, the highway frontage adjacent to the Town of Smoky Lake and the lands near Waskatenau would be the priorities. The County does not own land near Vilna.

Area structure plans are in place for several natural (and historical) landscapes and would support tourism and other discretionary developments.

6.4 Who Does What?

For all opportunities, County Planning and Development policies and resources must be robust and be available to consult with developers often. A supportive development environment would include the County moving forward with perhaps unpopular opportunities, for the greater good of County sustainability and growth.

Agriculture

The County should conduct the engagement with existing agricultural producers to identify their business expansions aspirations and impediments to those aspirations, as well as what supporting development would support their business sustainability.

Thus far, producers have shared informally with Council the need for veterinary services, agricultural equipment sales and repair, and their transportation challenges.



Request for Decision (RFD)

The County should consider an incubation and/or business support system, specific to agriculture production and supporting services. Consider partnering with the Chamber of Commerce, Community Futures, the Province and other resources.

Tourism

The Smoky Lake Tourism Company (SLTC) is mandated to pursue economic development in the visitor economy. Council should consider collaborating with the SLTC resources to deliver non-tourism sector economic development as a potential efficiency and would be a clear line of inquiry for all investors (one stop shop). This could be considered in the review of Economic Development and RCDC being contemplated by the County.

Supports

Housing should be done jointly with the Villages and Town. Any direct investment in housing on County owned lands is not recommended due to the cost, lack of existing services and current County revenue constraints. There are some recreational land development opportunities, potentially seasonal sites however these will contribute minor levels of revenue to the County. They may allow for labour to be available with less housing infrastructure. If funds become available, housing development on County owned or acquired lands would need to consider proximity to services and if housing is the highest and best use for those lands.

Infrastructure

County to work with investors on infrastructure challenges, accessing grants and provincial supports where needed to support development, as well as SLTC defined infrastructure needs.

Recreation

County to recommend to the joint municipalities review of the 2013 Recreational master plan and assign actions within a time blocked plan from that review (three year or five year plan).

Labour

The County has cancelled its Rural Renewal Stream Designated Community Immigration project for 2024. With 100% of labour growth in Canada coming from immigrants, a reconsideration of the project and other immigrant friendly and attraction policies is recommended. Due to the lack of housing in the County, this is recommended as a joint municipal project. There are several organizations willing to partner with municipalities on immigrant attraction and welcoming activities. Labour is likely to be a need identified in the agriculture producer engagement work.

Other Opportunities

County, as managing partner of RCDC, to lead the review of RCDC and economic development in the Region, and identify how retail, small business, services, etc can be expanded and attracted using RCDC or as recommended, SLTC as a contractor, for these opportunities.

6.5 How?



Request for Decision (RFD)

The focus of the County funding and resources should be on revenue generating developments and opportunities.

This report was also to consider the effectiveness of incentives in attracting investment. A review of the literature on this topic and of actual programs recommends incentives be limited to property tax deferment or relief, as these types of incentives do not require use of the County's current capital. The amount of the incentive is driven by the future projection of the tax revenues for the development. If incentives are to be implemented in County policy, consideration should be given to both new development incentives and existing business expansions.

As mentioned, in the agricultural sector, certain business expansions may not create additional property tax revenues if they are deemed agricultural developments only.

7.0 Marketing Deliverable

7.1 Branding

In this report, brand is not logos, it is the way the County is perceived, by potential investors (although logos and images may be created as part of brand development). Branding for the County's investment attraction activities is informed by the Vision and Mission presented in the 2023-2024 Budget. The terms in each of these statements aligns with the recommendations for investment activities in this report:

Vision - Leading the way in positive growth with healthy, sustainable, rural living.

Mission - Smoky Lake County strives for collaboration and excellence in the provision of transparent and fiscally responsible governance and services.

Essentially, a brand manages the gap between reality and perception, succinctly put "say what you do and do what you say" and they are built on a strategic foundation (Strategic Plan).

With the vision to "lead the way", the County commits to creative and innovative ways to ensure growth and healthy, sustainable, rural living are realized. Examples of this leadership is the Smoky Lake Tourism Company, an entity created by the Town, County and Metis Nation of Alberta, of which there is no comparable entity in North America.

As collaborators, the County knows it must work with others (residents, municipal partners, provincial and federal governments, and investors), transparently and responsibly, while focusing on its municipal purposes (Alberta MGA):

- (a) to provide good government,
 - (a.1) to foster the well-being of the environment,
 - (a.2) to foster the economic development of the municipality,
- (b) to provide services, facilities or other things that, in the opinion of council, are necessary or desirable for all or a part of the municipality,
- (c) to develop and maintain safe and viable communities, and
- (d) to work collaboratively with neighbouring municipalities to plan, deliver and fund intermunicipal services



Request for Decision (RFD)

With these attributes in mind, suggested branding ideas for investment attraction (including business expansion) are:

"We Grow our Own" – this could be talent, food, businesses.

"Guided Growth" – the transparency and collaboration the County commits to with developers.

"Right Place, Right Time, Right Investments" – that the right investments are pursued when the resources and budgets are available to do so.

Design elements should align to the Smoky Lake County logo – red and blue, stylized writing



7.2 Targeted Marketing Campaign

The County will decide on which recommendations to plan, resource and budget for in 2024. Marketing recommendations are included here to be ready to support the planning outcomes. These are general guidelines and specific tactics are to be created after the County has decided which actions they will resource and fund.

Agriculture - Marketing Activities

This campaign is focussed on getting existing County producers engaged in the planning of the investment attraction for agriculture. In two parts, producers would be approached on their business aspirations and supporting service needs, then the business support program for the producer could be implemented and the supporting service attraction activities commence. (pending budget and resource availability). Until the funds and resources are committed, no engagement or surveys should be undertaken as it would set expectations of support and change, which may not be doable.

To align with the recommendations, marketing tactics include:

1. Market producer engagement for business expansion needs via social media, utility inserts, local news outlets as well as personal invitations.
2. Engagement sessions to include individual conversations, group workshops, open houses and online surveys.
3. Market producer engagement for support services via social media, utility inserts, local news outlets as well as personal invitations.
4. Once producer expansion ideas are gathered and the support plan created (with budget and resources), market County services to producers via direct email to round 1 engaged producers, plus wider marketing of the business development services.
5. For the support services, engage resource to seek out companies and organizations who provide the desired services to producers in other communities and attract those organizations with the



Request for Decision (RFD)

market opportunity, collaborative nature of the County and potential incentives as defined in policy.

Tourism

SLTC to action the marketing plan from the VDEDS business plan (v.6). County role is to compound the marketing efforts through their channels and connections.

Energy

For renewable energy, advocacy of Smoky Lake County as a natural site for solar installations due to availability of marginal agricultural lands in some areas, but still viable for solar projects. This advocacy should be a partnership between all the municipalities and be contracted to an industry expert with a solid industry network to attract potential project developers.

A general investment toolkit should be branded and include:

- Access to GIS tools for infrastructure and land capability maps – encourage a “pre approval” of access to types of investors to expedite access to the GIS information (currently requires 4 municipal approvals).
- Transportation statistics – County Transportation Profile
- Population rates and trends – County Investment Profile
- Educational levels – County Investment Profile
- Incentives - Policies

The Alberta HUB Smoky Lake County Lifestyle, Investment, Agriculture, and Transportation Profiles contain much of this information and can be enhanced by further content. These profiles are available at <https://albertahub.com/smoky-lake-County/> and can be edited through Alberta HUB.

Focused Toolkits

Agriculture Service Support Investors – include in the toolkit detailed information on producers by type and location, transportation corridors including County Road restrictions, infrastructure proximity, and community information (schools, recreation, healthcare, etc).

Tourism – SLTC to define toolkit – recommend including market proximity and demographics, supports from other entities (Travel Alberta, Travel Lakeland, Government of Alberta), existing operations, links, and County plans or studies (trail study for example).



Request for Decision (RFD)

Appendix A: Actions for Priorities from Each Plan – Information only

SLC Priority	Source of action:	Action	Partners Funding Resources	Timing	Performance Measures
Priority 1	SLC SP	The County will review the Smoky Lake Regional Recreations Master plan, dated March 2023, in the context of 2023 and develop a program for the public to provide input respecting facility improvements and desired programs.	JMM Public Consultant Grants for action execution	Fall 2024 (if JMM agree)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan reviewed - % complete 2. Strategy created - % complete 3. Strategy execution – within the Recreational strategy to included measures for the activities within the Strategy
Priority 1	SLC SP	Lobby for veterinary, health, courthouse	Council Advocate	Fall 2024	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contract Advocate 2. Performance Measures for Advocacy: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Summary of issues created – % completion b. Effective networking and contacts - % of high probability of support c. assessing legislative success - subjective d. public opinion shifts – surveys e. return on investment >0, provide insights into the cost-effectiveness of the campaign
Priority 1	SLC SP	The County will examine the possibility of introducing incentives and/or partnership opportunities to foster the growth of business and industry development in the Region.	Administration	2025	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tax Incentive Policy - % complete 2. Use of Policy – number of new developments attracted by tax incentive policy 3. Financial analysis – deferred revenue compared to increase in tax assessment total for County
Priority 2	SLC SP	The County will review potential opportunities for highest and best use of Municipal property currently vacant and dispose of the lands at fair market value. Some land may be sold on condition to assist in the undertaking development within a specified time frame.	Administration Investment Attraction Resource (commission based)	2024	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare attraction toolkit and marketing materials - % complete 2. Contract Commissioned Attraction Resource - % complete

SLC Priority	Source of action:	Action	Partners Funding Resources	Timing	Performance Measures
		Sale of municipal land holdings to be considered in creating additional investment opportunities and to assist desirable development opportunities			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Measure contractor performance – number of developments created through their efforts
Priority 5	SLC SP	Apply to the Provincial Government to become a Designated Community – Council is committed to researching and successfully applying to the Province to become a Rural Renewal Stream Designated Community. Project Cancelled in 2023 Budget – recommend reconsidering once Housing strategy is underway.	Consultant Administration Businesses JMM Workforce Attraction and Retention Partnership Alberta Advantage Immigration Program (AAIP)	2025	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Designation received 2. Number of immigrants (international) added to population 3. Include in this work, inter provincial attraction – number of Canadians relocating from other provinces
Priority 2	SLC SP	The County will undertake a marketing analysis to determine the needs of the Region. The Council will also consider options to promote the construction of diverse housing through the use of specific policy frameworks, investment, partnership, and possible subsidization to achieve this goal.	JMM	2025	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Joint Housing committee established (if it is not, County's influence on housing starts will be minimal) 2. Grants received 3. Number of housing units built/retrofit through Municipal projects 4. Feedback from developers - >75% positive on planning and development policies and ease of doing business scores
Priority 2	SLC	Landowner needs	Consultant SLTC Chamber Grants AFSC Community Futures Province	2025	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Landowner engagement plan finalized 2. Consultant engaged 3. Landowner engagements - % complete as per plan 4. Strategy created 5. Budget, resources in place 6. Actions undertaken – number of support engagements by resources with producers



Request for Decision (RFD)

SLC Priority	Source of action:	Action	Partners Funding Resources	Timing	Performance Measures
	SLC	Sustainable Local food investment	Consultant SLTC Sustainable Food Org's Grants	2026	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strategy created 2. Strategy executed 3. \$ of local food investment (private and public)
	SLC	Grow local ownership and entrepreneurship	Economic Development Committee Chamber	2025	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create business incubation system 2. Quantify current local ownership and target 3. Measure system success against target
	SLC	Create skilled workforce	Economic Development Committee Post Secondary Provincial Government	2025	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. With producer and business engagement, determine workforce needs 2. Engage with PSI to create curriculum for local enrollment 3. Number of local residents filling skills gaps with employers
	SLC	Value Added development	Economic Development Committee Post Secondary	2025	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agriculture Value Add – with the investment resource, take producer engagement feedback on support services and action plan to attract those opportunities to County – number of opportunities realized
	SLC	Sustained businesses through population growth	See Rural Renewal action		
The following sections are the recommended tasks and actions associated with the other Regional strategies reviewed, included for County consideration to action:					
	TDZ	Take full advantage of the possibilities for tourism development offered by the zone's considerable natural assets, particularly The Iron Horse Trail, which connects 10 municipalities and is a vital asset for the TDZ			
	TDZ	Significantly increase the number of tourism experiences available to visitors during the shoulder and winter seasons.			

Page 22 of 32

SLC Priority	Source of action:	Action	Partners Funding Resources	Timing	Performance Measures
	TDZ	Enhance collaboration between municipalities and tourism partners, and encourage stakeholders to think holistically regarding destination development and promotion of the TDZ (particularly by focusing on complementary development of the seven primary clusters identified in this report and by developing a cohesive brand for the zone)			
	TDZ	Increase and improve broadband/mobile infrastructure throughout the zone, thus empowering tourism businesses and operators, as well as facilitating a better experience for visitors navigating the TDZ or looking to share details of their trip			
	VDEDS	Invest in assets - Initially acquire tourism assets to improve the tourism system in the Region.			
	VDEDS	The percentage of assets owned by the Corporation declines as private investors enter the growing market and operate the assets independently.			
	VDEDS	For larger assets unlikely to attract private owner/operators, the Corporation retains an equity position (ownership, operations, as asset requires). Investing in assets and then leveraging the assets to access additional financing, the tourism assets can grow and develop			
	13 Ways Quality of Life	Housing Diversity and Affordability Initiative through partnerships with developers and accessing grants that increase opportunities for ownership, as well as short-term and long-term rental.			
	13 Ways Quality of Life	Develop policies, support, and partnerships that improve access to regional transportation.			

Page 23 of 32



Request for Decision (RFD)

SLC Priority	Source of action:	Action	Partners Funding Resources	Timing	Performance Measures
	13 Ways Quality of Life	Strategically invest to support new families' needs regarding those special loved ones in our lives, such as daycare and dog parks.			
	13 Ways Quality of Life	Work with tourism partners to encourage networking within the Region's tourism sector.			
	13 Ways Quality of Life	Support the development of tourism products to improve awareness and visitation of the Region's cultural and historic assets.			
	13 Ways Quality of Life	Develop rural water systems and highway service capacity.			
	13 Ways Quality of Life	Provide better support and resources to attract talented people and grow our economic development personnel capacity.			
	13 Ways Quality of Life	Partner with local chambers and other organizations to provide training to business owners, administrators, elected officials, entrepreneurs and others about the basic and advanced business success strategies and practices.			
	13 Ways Quality of Life	Develop four-season focused activities and experiences that also complement tourism growth initiatives but focus on the year-round quality of life opportunities of the Region.			
	13 Ways Quality of Life	Improve recreational diversity through the development of walking trails, cross country skiing, better boating, and lake access, and e-bike access			
	13 ways tasks Targeted Marketing Campaign	Encourage "buy local" campaigns.			

Page 24 of 32

SLC Priority	Source of action:	Action	Partners Funding Resources	Timing	Performance Measures
	13 ways tasks Targeted Marketing Campaign	Develop an Inventory of businesses in the Region.			
	13 ways tasks Targeted Marketing Campaign	Encourage procurement practices that support these businesses.			
	13 ways tasks Targeted Marketing Campaign	Develop an Integrated marketing plan to attract visitors, businesses, and residents to the Region.			
	13 ways tasks Targeted Marketing Campaign	Work with the provincial government to ensure adequate signage is available along major transportation routes to increase visitation to regional tourism and recreation sites.			
	13 ways tasks Targeted Marketing Campaign	Develop and implement a marketing plan focussed on attracting residents to existing urban areas and waterfront properties.			
	13 ways tasks Targeted Marketing Campaign	Identify and communicate with former residents of the Region. Encourage people to "come home" to live or visit.			

Page 25 of 32



Request for Decision (RFD)

SLC Priority	Source of action:	Action	Partners Funding Resources	Timing	Performance Measures
	13 ways tasks Targeted Marketing Campaign	Develop and implement a Regional "welcome package" for new and prospective residents based on a coherent regional identity.			
	13 ways tasks Targeted Marketing Campaign	Begin an internal marketing campaign to the residents of the Region, about the Region.			
	13 ways tasks Targeted Marketing Campaign	Target potential international and immigration populations considering relocating by leveraging our existing strengths through nuanced marketing strategies.			
	13 ways tasks Targeted Marketing Campaign	Develop a conversion strategy for visitors and tourists so they become residents.			
	13 Ways tasks Diversify the Regional Economy	Undertake a regional opportunity identification exercise for business attraction, retention, and expansion. Identify and pursue value-added agricultural opportunities in the Region. Ensure the identified opportunities are relevant and respond to regional and global trends.			
	13 ways tasks Grow Economic Development Capacity	Identify and eliminate impediments to economic development and business growth in the Region.			

Page 26 of 32

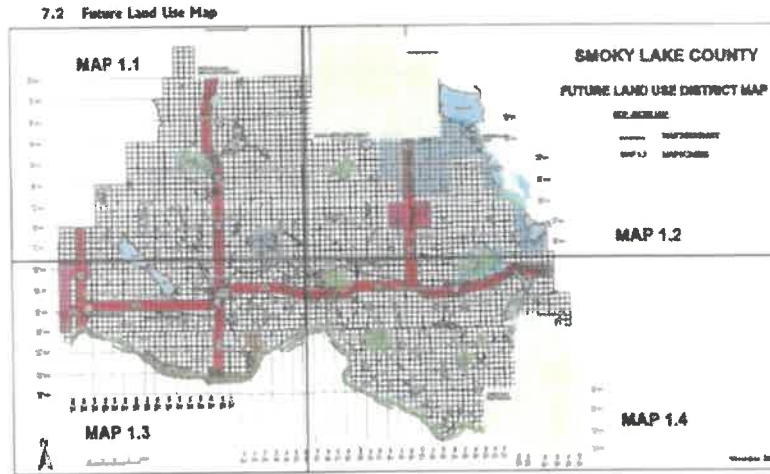
SLC Priority	Source of action:	Action	Partners Funding Resources	Timing	Performance Measures
	13 ways tasks Grow Economic Development Capacity	Encourage the development of outdoor recreation and adventure tourism products within the Region.			
	13 ways tasks Grow Economic Development Capacity	Targeted Business Development and Entrepreneurial Opportunity Identification.			
	13 ways tasks Grow Economic Development Capacity	Attract Recreation Amenities Dealership(s) such as quad, RV, and boating			
	13 ways tasks Grow Economic Development Capacity	Attract Horticulture and Alternative Agriculture Opportunities such as greenhouses, Indigenous agriculture, and health related agricultural products.			
	13 ways tasks Grow Economic Development Capacity	Identify and support local home-based businesses and entrepreneurs to help them grow and locate in our commercial and downtown locations.			
	13 ways tasks Grow Economic Development Capacity	Establish an Economic Development Corporation.			

Page 27 of 32

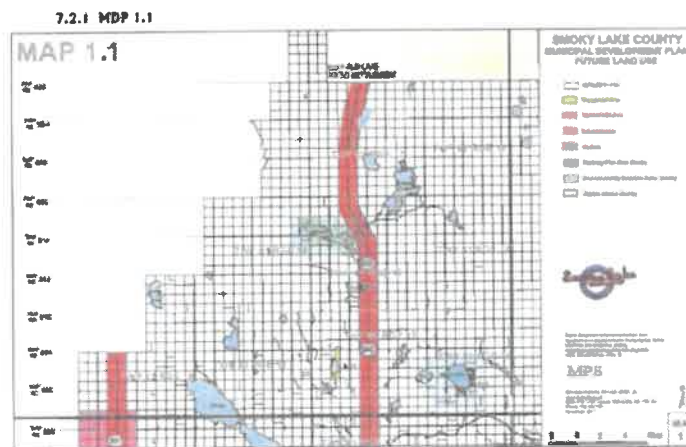


Request for Decision (RFD)

Appendix B: Smoky Lake County Future Land Use District Maps (insert pages 78 to 82 from MDP)



Page | 78

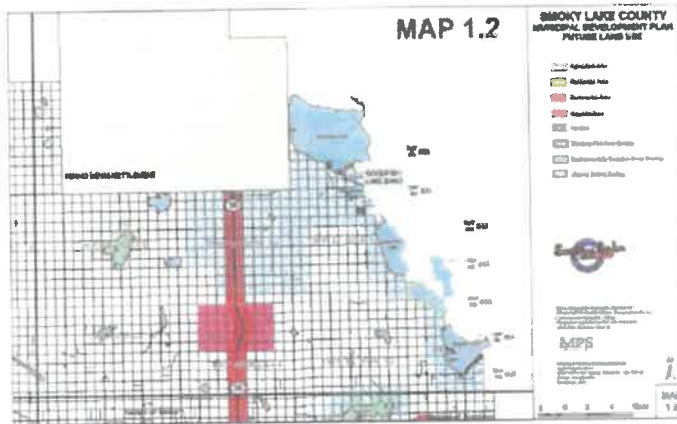


Page | 79



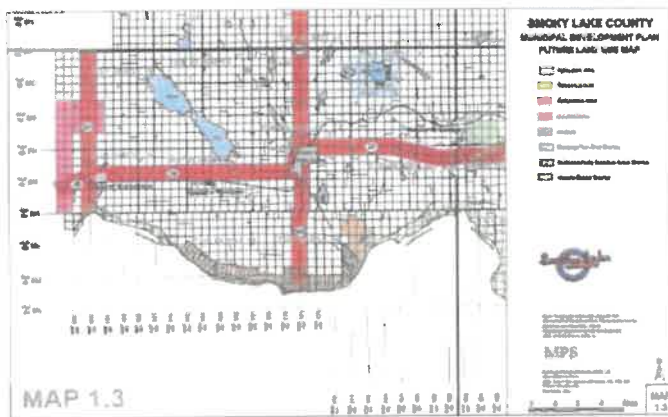
Request for Decision (RFD)

7.2.2 MDP 1.2



Page | 30

7.2.3 MDP 1.3

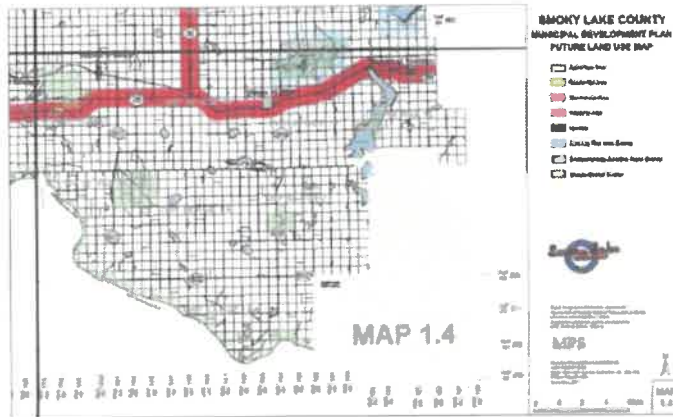


Page | 31



Request for Decision (RFD)

7.2.4 MDP 1.4





Request for Decision (RFD)

Appendix C: County Owned Parcels

PROPERTY #	ROLL#	LEGAL DESCRIPTION	SIZE OF PARCEL	NOTES
1	12590290	NW-2-59-12-4	13.57 ACRES	NORTH SIDE OF SADDLE LAKE INDIAN RESERVE (RGE RD 122)
2	12592941	NE-29-59-12-4	2.02 ACRES	SOUTH OF HWY 28 ON RGE RD 124 (TAKEN FOR NUISANCE GROUND)
3	13602121	SW-21-60-13-4	1 ACRE	RGE RD 134 NORTH OF TWP RD 602
4	13602340	NE-13-60-13-4	136.30 ACRES	RGE RD 131 SOUTH OF TWP RD 604 (SALE PENDING)
5	13613470	SW-34-61-13-4	127.60 ACRES	SOUTH SIDE OF WAYTEENAW LAKE NORTH OF TWP RD 615 (SALE PENDING)
6	13620810	SE-8-62-13-4	125.10 ACRES	SOUTH SIDE OF WHITEFISH LAKE
7	13620820	SW-8-62-13-4	153.50 ACRES	SOUTH SIDE OF WHITEFISH LAKE
8	14593042	NE-30-59-14-4	153.87 ACRES	ADJACENT TO IRONHORSE TRAIL EAST OF RGE RD 150 (QUAD CAMPGROUND - LEASED)
9	14593240	NE-32-59-14-4	160 ACRES	RGE RD 144 & TWP RD 600 (SALE PENDING)
10	15580911	SE-9-58-15-4	2 ACRES	WEST OF RGE RD 153 & NORTH OF TWP RD 581 (ACCESS ROAD FOR FORMER GRAVEL PIT)
12	15593521	SW-35-59-15-4	0.5 ACRES	EAST OF BELLIS & NORTH OF TWP RD 595A (NO ROAD ACCESS)
13	16582740	NE-27-58-16-4	2.5 ACRES	ADJACENT TO NORTH SASKATCHEWAN RIVER, EAST OF RGE RD 163 (NO ROAD ACCESS)
14	16593341	PLAN 8120163 LOT 1	20.16 ACRES	NORTH OF TWP RD 595A & WEST OF RGE RD 163
15	16611220	SW-12-61-16-4	160 ACRES	NORTH OF TWP RD 604 & EAST OF RGE RD 155 (NO ROAD ACCESS - LEASED)
16	18591021	PLAN 3329ET	1 ACRES	EAST OF RGE RD 183 & SOUTH OF WARSPITE (LAND TAKEN FOR NUISANCE GROUND?)
17	18591037	PLAN 2562B5 RLY 59	7.62 ACRES	ADJACENT TO IRONHORSE TRAIL IN WARSPITE
18	18612510	SE-25-61-18-4	107.35 ACRES	ADJACENT TO HANMORE LAKE WEST CAMPGROUND
19	18612541	NE-25-61-18-4	32.78 ACRES	NORTHWEST SIDE OF HANMORE LAKE
20	22010103	PLAN 1955CL BLOCK 1 LOT 3	3,900 SQUARE FEET	5026-49TH STREET SPEDDEN

Page 31 of 32

21	22010118	PLAN 1955CL BLOCK 1 LOT 18	6,222 SQUARE FEET	4927 51 AVENUE SPEDDEN
22	27150412	PLAN 1039CL BLOCK 4 LOTS 12-14	13,637 SQUARE FEET	BELLIS NORTH OF PLAYGROUND
23	27150415	PLAN 1039CL BLOCK 4 LOTS 15 & 16	12,803 SQUARE FEET	BELLIS NORTH OF PLAYGROUND
24	40310109	PLAN 716CL BLOCK 1 LOT 9	3,900 SQUARE FEET	5004 50 ST WARSPITE
25	40310201	PLAN 716CL BLOCK 2 LOT 1	3,900 SQUARE FEET	5035 50 ST WARSPITE
26	40341501	PLAN 3474MC; OT	6.65 ACRES	WARSPITE
27	40451210	PLAN 0425044, BLOCK H, LOT 10A	12,800 SQUARE FEET	5104 49 AVE WARSPITE (NO PHYSICAL ROAD ACCESS - UNDEVELOPED ROAD PLAN)
28	40451211	PLAN 0425044, BLOCK H, LOT 11A	10,000 SQUARE FEET	5108 49 AVE WARSPITE (NO PHYSICAL ROAD ACCESS - UNDEVELOPED ROAD PLAN)
TOTALS			1,230.45 ACRES	

Page 32 of 32



Policy M-01-30-01: Monthly Departmental Reporting

Chief Administrative Officer - Report Period: October 1, 2024 – October 30, 2024

LEGISLATIVE / GOVERNANCE

Projects	In Progress	Completed
Joint Municipality meeting, Bellis		x
ICC meeting/Fire	x	x
Meeting with MLA Shannon Stubbs		x

ADMINISTRATIVE

Projects	In Progress	Completed
Land & Bldgs Site Selector- RMA project kick off	x	
Met with local 955 Union Rep/Trevor	x	
GIS Tracker information session with Catalis	x	
Rural Renewal Stream orientation	x	

FINANCIAL

Projects	In Progress	Completed
Enterprise lease discovery	x	
Capital Departmental budget review	x	
Associated Engineering Bridge Program	x	
Department operational budget reviews for 2025	x	
initial Land negotiation meeting Oct 26	x	

HUMAN RESOURCES

Projects	In Progress	Completed
RMA Economic Development Initiative	x	
Onboarding/Exiting staff discussion, identifying gaps, building program	x	

COMMUNITY

Projects	In Progress	Completed
Heritage River Plaque Ceremony		x
Victoria Home Guard Tour		x

TRAINING / MEETINGS

ACTION LIST

Signature:	County Council Meeting:
<i>Chief Administrative Officer</i>	



Councillor's Report

#9.4

**For August 16 to September 18, 2024
From Councillor Lorne Halisky, Division 4.**

August 17, 2024 – Vilna & District Agricultural Society Boomtown Days Parade (in-person)

- Attended this event.

August 23, 2024 – RMA District 5 Meeting in Camrose (in-person)

- Presentations were held on Road to Rail, Sustainable Rural Communities, AgKnow – Farmer Mental Health, and Emerging Customer Solutions.
- Regions MLA's Jackie Lovely and Rick Wilson presented GOA initiatives.
- Provincial Downloading Resolution – County of Vermillion River and Full Time (24/7) Home Care Support in Lodges/Supportive Living Accommodations Resolution – Beaver County both Resolutions passed.
- RMA President Paul McLaughlin, RMA District 5 Director Kevin Wirsta, FCM Representative for RMA District 5 Robert Parks, and Alberta Municipalities Representatives Andrew Knack and Bill Rock gave brief updates.
- Next meeting to be held in January 2025 – Flagstaff County.

August 30, 2024 – Smoky Lake Tourism Company Ltd. - SLTC CEO Interviews (in-person)

- Interviewed four candidates for the SLTC CEO Position and discussed offer, next steps etc.

September 5, 2024 – Economic Development for Elected Officials Session (in-person)

- Discussion on various topics such as municipality boundaries, government funding, leveraging partnerships, regional collaboration, borrowing content vs. developing, political vs. competitive – NIMBY, proactive policies, strategic plans need to be flexible/not too long i.e. 10 yrs. with 3 or 4 SMART goals, support existing businesses firstly before exploring other opportunities, stay/plan/play/pay strategy, purposeful defined/clear KPI's, start with outcomes and work your way back to inputs, community resilience process should take place firstly etc.

September 12, 2024 – Heritage River Plaque Unveiling and Flag Raising (in-person)

- Attended this event.

September 16, 2024 – Smoky Lake Tourism Company Ltd. CEO Recruitment Meeting (virtually)

- Discussed CEO offer and decided to schedule/hold a SLTC Special Board Meeting to go over the candidate offer with all Directors before proceeding.

September 17, 2024 – Smoky Lake Tourism Company Ltd. Special Board Meeting (virtually)

- Discussed CEO offer and gained director approval to proceed with legal to develop a contract to present to chosen candidate.

*Please contact myself if you would like to discuss any of these items in further detail.

Thank you,

Lorne



Reeve's Report

#9.5

Jered Serben: Reeve and Councillor for Division 5
August 19, 2024 to September 19, 2024

August 22, 2024 – Regular Council Meeting (All Council)

- Approved to donate 2 loads of gravel, to the Smoky Lake Agricultural Society, for use their facility at no cost, to host the Farmers and Ranchers Appreciation Day events held in 2021 to 2024.
- Vilna Agricultural Society was a delegation offering the Vilna Arena / Curling Rink facility located within the Village of Vilna, to the County, as a way to address the Society's struggle for operating funding.
- Acknowledged receipt of the 2024-2025 County Bridge Program priorities prepared by Associated Engineering Alberta Ltd.
- Approved the unbudgeted expense of \$88,022.03 to replace all items stolen from the Vilna Fire Hall that were not covered by insurance.
- Received a report on the snow clearing (driveway) program costs for the seasons of 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023, and 2023-2024 and will be reviewing the Policy.
- Approved to write of 50% of the \$450.98 invoice issued to the Smoky Lake Ag Society, for 2 Electrodes replacements for the Automatic Emergency Defibrillator (AED) at Complex, and requested they budget for them in the future.
- Acknowledged receipt of the "Notice of Intent to Annex Lands from Smoky Lake County", received from the Village of Waskatenau.
- Acknowledged the County was awarded the Minister Awards for Municipal Excellence for the North Saskatchewan Canadian Heritage River Initiative.
- Acknowledged an update on the inspection deficiencies identified at the Smoky Lake Regional Landfill, providing assurance of the completion of the corrective action undertaken by Evergreen Regional Waste Management Services Commission.
- Acknowledged the Agricultural Service Board's recommendation for County Council to consider internal environmental and extension programming in 2025, and agreed to take no action due to the staff's expected capacity in 2025.
- Agreed to advertise 8 units of County surplus equipment for sale by public tender.

August 23, 2024 – Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) District 5 Meeting (All Council)

- Scheduled speakers included: MLA Jackie Lovely, MLA Rick Wilson, CET of Road to Rail Construction Group Inc., Director of Emerging Customer Solutions for Fortis Alberta, Director for the AB Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities, and Program Director of AgKnow.
- Held discussion on Provincial Downloading.
- Received updates from RMA's President, RMA's District 5 Director, RMA's FCM Representative, and two Alberta Municipalities Representatives.
- Beaver County brought forward a Resolution to endorse take to the Rural Municipalities of Alberta 2024 Fall Convention regarding Full Time (24/7) Home Care Support in Lodges/Supportive Living Accommodations.

August 26, 2024 – Joint Municipalities Meeting, held in Bellis (All Council except Lorne)

- Received a verbal update from Sgt. Anita Doktor, Smoky Lake RCMP and noted:
 - We will soon have a fulltime Victims Services position based out of Smoky Lake.
 - We're involved heavily in Rural Crime Watch & Citizens on Patrol, and utilizing the RCMP RAVE (web-based communication platform for RCMP to fan out real time alerts to the community).
- Received a presentation from Alberta Municipal Affairs about Municipal Viability and Municipal Restructuring for information.
- Received a verbal update from MLA Glenn van Dijken, and noted:



Reeve's Report

**Jered Serben: Reeve and Councillor for Division 5
August 19, 2024 to September 19, 2024**

- Highway 28 continues to be a concern and that a study is being done to determine what is necessary for improvements; and that he will follow up with the Minister about the speed reduction along Smoky Lake.
- Received a verbal update on the Smoky Lake Region's Regional Recreational Services Study being conducted through an Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) grant, with the Village of Waskatenau as the Managing Partner, with a project completion date expected to be in December 2026.
- Received a verbal update from Aspen View School Division's Donna Cherniwchan, South East School Trustee, and Constantine Kastrinos, Superintendent, and noted:
 - Portage College is offering a Bachelor of Education program and where they will provide local placements after graduating.
 - Athabasca University is offering one complimentary, free course to all Aspen View students graduating in 2024.
 - K-12 students will not be allowed access to personal mobile devices during school instructional time in the classroom.

August 28, 2024 – SL Region Intermunicipal Collaboration Committee ICC, (Jered, Dominique & Lorne)

- Approved to incorporate a Dispute Resolution Procedure as Schedule "L" into the proposed Smoky Lake Region Fire Rescue Bylaw.
- Agreed to incorporate the Fire Hall Buildings rental expense, including the utilities, into the Smoky Lake Region Fire Rescue 3-Year Draft Budget 2025-2027, at a total rental budget of \$74,062.
- Agreed for Volunteer Firefighter Insurance Services (VFIS) coverage to be based the Volunteer Firefighters paying 1/3 of the cost and the Smoky Lake Region Fire Rescue paying 2/3 of the cost.
- Discussed the Charge for Services to be calculated at \$250/hour/unit, not including mutual aid, and with a maximum cap to be determined.

September 4, 2024 – Meeting with MP Shannon Stubbs (All Council)

- This informal meeting was scheduled by the office of the Lakeland Member of Parliament (MP) Shannon Stubbs, Shadow Minister for Natural Resources, who was touring the region.
- Sgt. Anita Doktor, Smoky Lake RCMP was also in attendance as an information resource.
- Discussion topics included: rural crime concerns, lack of jail time for offenders, lack of funding for infrastructure to hold criminals, addiction and mental health support, lack affordable housing, hinderances to local economic growth, trade agreements, tariffs on electric vehicles, carbon tax, dropping canola prices, municipalities pulling out of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), grant funding application information sharing, and need for regional fire services funding.

September 12, 2024 – Regular Council Meeting (All Council except Dan)

- Approved the Tax Notification properties, for the 2024 Property Tax Sale, to be held on November 13, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.
- Adopted Policy Statement No. 15-06-01: Pension Participation.
- Agreed to execute the Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) Memorandum of Agreement relating to the payment of funds and outlining the County's responsibilities and general provisions in respect to CCBF funding.
- Acknowledged receipt of a letter from Land and Property Rights Tribunal (LPRT), formerly known as the Municipal Government Board (MGB), written to the Village of Waskatenau, about the Notice of Intent to Annex, confirming "On April 13, 2011 the MGB received the original Notice of Intent to Annex (Notice) from the Village. On October 23, 2012, the Village submitted a revised



Reeve's Report

**Jered Serben: Reeve and Councillor for Division 5
August 19, 2024 to September 19, 2024**

Notice. The LPRT will accept your correspondence of August 6, 2024 as the second revision submitted by the Village.”

- Acknowledged an update on the completed deficiencies and corrective action plan, to address the Federations of Alberta Gas Co-ops Ltd.'s, 2024 Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Audit of the County's Natural Gas system.
- Approved for Administration to enter negotiations relating to surface material lease explorations, as discussed in Executive Session.

September 12, 2024 – Municipal Planning Commission Meeting (All Council except Dan)

- Approved Development Permit No. 040-24: PLAN 2321586, Block 7, Lot 16, for the placement of a Shipping Container (20'x8'), subject to conditions.

September 12, 2024 – Canadian Heritage River Designation of North Saskatchewan River (Jered & Lorne)

- The plaque unveiling and flag raising Ceremony for the North Saskatchewan Canadian Heritage River took place at Métis Crossing, where a Land Acknowledgement & Prayer was provided by Jerry and Jo Ann Saddleback, and addresses from: the Victoria Home Guard Historical Society, Senator Paula Simons, Parks Canada, Alberta Environment & Protected Areas, North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance, and Smoky Lake County Reeve, were provided.

September 19, 2024 – Rural Renewal Stream (RRS) Newly Designated Community Orientation (Jered & Dominique)

- Smoky Lake Region has been designated under the RRS. This designation supports the attraction and retention of immigrants to the Smoky Lake Region to meet local labour vacancies not being filled by Canadian Citizens, it empowers our region to attract, recruit, screen and retain foreign nationals who intend to live, work and settle in our region.
- Immigrant candidates must meet several requirements and must be living and working or intending to be residing and working in our Region. Part-time, casual or seasonal employees are ineligible.
- Employers must also meet several requirements, one of which is that they must be incorporated or registered by or under the legislature of the province, and have a minimum total annual revenue of \$400,000 for the most recent fiscal year.

For more information about County meetings, minutes, agendas, bylaws, policies, or departments, please visit: www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca



Suite 300, 10525 170 Street
Edmonton, AB T5P 4W2
Phone (587) 873-9408
<https://ducks.ca>

Smoky Lake County Council

Vilna, Alberta T0A 3L0

September 13, 2024

Dear Council Members,

On behalf of Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC), I would like to extend our sincere gratitude to Smoky Lake County for considering us in the future of the Hanmore Lake lands. We truly appreciate your support for our mission to conserve and restore wetlands and natural habitats across Canada.

After careful consideration, we regret to inform you that we cannot move forward with the project at this time. As a non-profit with limited resources DUC continually weighs investment of habitat management budget against priorities set out in conservation plans. Considering this property from the perspective of wetland value, our target areas and proximity to our primary areas of operation taking on work related to this land does not fit with current priorities sufficiently.

While we are unable to work with you on this project, we greatly value your willingness to support conservation efforts. We encourage exploration other opportunities that might align more closely with local conservation goals or with organizations that focus specifically on this area. DUC is committed to continuing conversation with the County on our existing projects and potential future work in other areas of the County.

Thank you again for considering DUC for this generous donation. We are grateful for your understanding and continued commitment to environmental stewardship.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darwin Chambers", is written in a cursive style.

Darwin Chambers

Head of Conservation Programs – Alberta
Ducks Unlimited Canada





Smoky Lake

CURLING CLUB

September 16, 2024

Dear Smoky Lake County Council,

I am writing regarding the interest charges from the late payment of the insurance fees for the Smoky Lake Curling Club. I want to apologize in advance for the delay in payment but would like to provide some context as to why.

Past practice has been that the club paid their insurance fees after receiving their Casino funds. This all depends on when we receive our slotted dates and on how long it takes for the Casino to distribute the pool of funds. I can understand the frustration as this year's wait was extended. In addition, it has always been good practice to use Casino funds for these large expenses that are in the list of AGLC-approved expenses as it provides a clean and concise report. I was also not aware that our interest charges were concerning as we are a local self-sustaining recreational facility that provides extracurricular activity for the community, which includes Smoky Lake County.

On behalf of the Smoky Lake Curling Club, I would like to ask if you would reconsider waiving the interest charges of \$1039.72 with the caveat that I will withhold Casino funds from this past casino for next year's insurance fees.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,
Amy Cherniwchan
Treasurer, Smoky Lake Curling Club

Get in Touch



SLcurling@gmail.com | 780.656.3850

57 WHITE EARTH STREET, BOX 164, SMOKY LAKE, AB T0A 3C0

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nataly Ore** <Nataly.Ore@gov.ab.ca>

Date: Tue, Sep 10, 2024 at 9:05 PM

Subject: AAIP RRS Community Designation Approval - Smoky Lake Region

To: Smoky Lake Chamber <smokylakeregionalchamber@gmail.com>

Cc: Jessica Blakely <Jessica.Blakely@gov.ab.ca>, Surbhi Chandna <Surbhi.Chandna@gov.ab.ca>

Hello,

This email is to confirm that the Designated Community application for Smoky Lake Region is approved for participation in the Rural Renewal Stream (RRS).

Community: Smoky Lake Region (including Smoky Lake County, Town of Smoky Lake, Village of Waskatenau, Village of Vilna)

Designation is effective as of September 9, 2024 and is in place for 3 years with the possibility of an extension after that. Your community will be added to the list on our website early next week.

We would like to host a Designated Community Orientation virtually (MS teams) on **Thursday, September 19th**. Please let me know if there are any time preferences and I will send an invite for 1 hour and a half.

In the meantime, please review the Rural Renewal Stream information on our website to familiarize yourself with the stream - <https://www.alberta.ca/aaip-rural-renewal-stream-eligibility>. We will be happy to answer any questions at the Orientation.

We look forward to working with you and don't hesitate to let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Nataly Ore, on behalf of the Rural Renewal Stream Team

Nataly Ore – Manager, Rural Renewal Stream and Tourism & Hospitality Stream

Jessica Blakely – Assessment Coordinator, Rural Renewal Stream (Tourism & Hospitality Stream Support)

Surbhi Chandna – Assessment Coordinator, Tourism & Hospitality Stream (Rural Renewal Stream Support)

Classification: Protected A

Thursday, October 10

#10.4

LICA's 2024 Open House & Annual General Meeting

Join us for LICA's Annual General Meeting, on October 10, 2024, in Cold Lake, at the Lakeland Inn!



By **LICA - Environmental Stewards** 12 followers

Lots of repeat customers

Follow

Date and time

Thursday, October 10 · 5 - 8pm MDT

Location

Lakeland Inn

5411 55 Street Cold Lake, AB T9M 1P3

[Show map](#)

About this event

Event lasts 3 hours

LICA - Environmental Stewards is hosting their Annual General Meeting on October 10, 2024, at the Lakeland Inn, in Cold Lake. View the Program below for details.

Registration:

- **In-person:** Click "Register" to reserve a seat at the Annual General Meeting.
- **Virtual:** Email lica2@lica.ca or call the office at 780-812-2182 to register for quorum purposes.

Zoom Link: <https://tinyurl.com/LICAAGM2024>

Zoom Meeting ID: 840 9438 9788

Passcode: 536820

If attending virtually, please login at 5:30 p.m.

Nominations:

- [Click here](#) to access our website, for details about the nomination process.
- **How to submit:** via email at lica2@lica.ca or in-person to the LICA office
- Community Director seat nominations can also be submitted from the floor during the AGM.
- Sector-Endorsed seat nominations must be submitted to the LICA office by September 26, 2024 (at least 10 business days in advance).

The event aims to combine celebration, networking, informative sessions, and important organizational decisions. Whether attending physically or virtually, it promises to be a meaningful gathering for the LICA community and its stakeholders.

Municipality of SMOKY LAKE COUNTY

	<u>CIBC GENERAL ACCOUNT</u>	<u>GENERAL ACCOUNT</u>	<u>ATB PAYROLL ACCOUNT</u>	<u>NOTICE ACCOUNT</u>	<u>SAVINGS ACCOUNT</u>
NET BALANCE AT July 31, 2024	349,151.29	376,238.42	264,355.13	10,626,241.89	1,954,745.24
Receipts for the month of Aug					
Aggregate Levy		10,500.00			
Interest	1,068.62	4,384.87	1,214.92	46,851.33	6,930.92
Taxes & Penalties		243,302.60			
Utility	2,846.75	125,997.91			
Town Gas/Fed Gas		28,719.12			
GST rebate		20,797.77			
Miscellaneous Services & Sales		99,845.29			
Metis Nation Dev Permit		35,000.00			
Road Haul repair oil/gas		36,750.00			
Transfer From Savings		1,500,000.00			1,100,000.00
Water Commission Admin Fee		26,251.67			
MSI Operating		215,604.00			
Total Receipts	3,915.37	2,347,153.23	1,214.92	46,851.33	1,106,930.92
SUB-TOTAL	353,066.66	2,723,391.65	265,570.05	10,673,093.22	3,061,676.16
LESS					
Disbursements for the month of Aug					
Transfer funds to ATB Payroll		-635,192.46	635,192.46		
Bills and Accounts		-563,790.31	-636,546.09		
Transfer to other accounts		-600,000.00		-500,000.00	-1,500,000.00
Bank Fees	-11.50				
Total Disbursements	-11.50	-1,798,982.77	-1,353.63	-500,000.00	-1,500,000.00
NET BALANCE AT August 31, 2024	353,055.16	924,408.88	264,216.42	10,173,093.22	1,561,676.16
NET BALANCE AT August 31, 2024	353,700.51	1,114,891.16	264,216.42	10,173,093.22	1,561,676.16
Outstanding Deposits		5,526.47			
Less Outstanding Cheques		-196,008.75			
NET BALANCE AT August 31, 2024	353,700.51	924,408.88	264,216.42	10,173,093.22	1,561,676.16
REVOLVING LINE OF CREDIT					
NET BALANCE AT July 31, 2024		<u>0.00</u>			
Disbursements		0.00			
Payments		0.00			
NET BALANCE AT August 31, 2024		<u>0.00</u>			

THIS STATEMENT SUBMITTED TO COUNCIL,

Reeve

Secretary-Treasurer

**Budget to Actual 2024
Notes As At September 16, 2024**

Taxes (net) Taxes have been levied (\$13,601,369 including requisitions). Thus far adjustments have increased total tax revenue by \$95,000 . Penalties of 211,000 were levied but most will be uncollectable.

Legislative We have completed 67% of the year. Council has spent 63% of the budget. Some Councillor expenses are likely to end up over budget and some under budget. Overall, the department should end very close to budget.

Administration Administration has spent 63% of the operating budget. Other Services will be over budget by \$60,000 - 70,000. These are the unbudgeted fees to sell three properties as well as the consultant for CAO replacement. The CLH fees will be offset by the land sales revenue. Salaries and wages are overbudget and may result in a slight deficit for the department, but savings in salaries for other departments will offset this cost overall.

Communications Communications has spent 61% of the budget. It should end very close to budget.

GIS GIS has spent 73% of the budget. The annual computer licensing have been paid. It should end slightly under budget

Other Government Service: The budget for grants is \$31,000 plus \$360,000 for HAK

250.00 STARS hockey tourn	1,500.00 Ann Chorney Library annual donation
360,000.00 Aspen View	1,500.00 SL Public Library annual donation
200.00 Mighty Moose Endurance	500.00 SL Riding Club annual donation
500.00 Randy Russ Barrel Race	1,500.00 Vilna Library annual donation
500.00 Archery Tournament	6,000.00 Stars Annual Donation
1,000.00 Kalyna annual donation	3,000.00 Annual COPS Donation
1,500.00 Threshing bee annual donation	200.00 Robotics Tournament
500.00 HAK Girls Rugby	350.00 SL Holubka Dancers
500.00 UCC-AB Prov Council	1,000.00 Vilna Fair Days
500.00 Jr Golf	500.00 Waskatenau Fair Days
1,000.00 Fireworks	250.00 Jasper
<u>382,750.00</u>	
balance remaining	<u>8,250.00</u>

Fire Services Fire has spent 75% of the budget. Costs are high this year because tools etc. that were stolen from Vilna fire department have been replaced. Advertising is over budget due to OHV ban signs.

Bylaw Bylaw has spent 66% of the budget. There will be savings in salaries, depending on how long it takes to fill the position.

Transportation Public works has spent 60% of the budget. Thus far, we predict the department to end the year very close to budget

Environmental Services Water has spent 65% of the budget. Sewer 70%. Bellis Sewer has cost \$12,334 to date which is \$10,334 over budget. An unexpected repair was necessary. Landfill has spent 75% of the budget. Garbage truck repairs have resulted in higher parts costs as well as the costs to contract out garbage pick up. Water and Sewer should finish the year close to budget. Landfill may be slightly over budget.

FCSS 2024 FCSS funds granted out are:

1706 Wask Library	6500 SL Library
1875 Vilna Ag Society	2000 Warspite Community Hall
1500 Legion	1290 Friends of Vilan Pool Hall
6500 Fire Camp	

Aspenview FSLW	
<u>\$ 21,371.00</u>	grant remaining
	<u>\$ 3,006.00</u>

Planning & Communication Planning has spent 38%. This is low due to a vacant position in the dept and will provide a surplus

Agriculture Service Board ASB has spent 66%. The Assistant AG Fieldman position is vacant and will provide a savings for 2024

Economic Development RDCD did not provide a budget for approval. Expenditures to date are \$12,490. Dr Recruitment/Retention costs are \$14,640

Recreation & Cultural Serv Parks and Rec has spent 43% of the budget. The MSI grants to the Agricultural Societies will be paid out in September.

Gas Natural Gas Administration has spent 62% of the budget
The odorant has a profit is \$89,669
The CNG program has been cancelled
Natural Gas Distribution expenses are at 67%
Gross Margin to June 30 is \$348,218

	Total Gas Rev	Purchase	Capital	Gross Marg	Profit Marg
2024 \$	994,696.40	-\$ 574,275.98	-\$ 60,853.94	\$ 361,590.48	63%

Budget to Actual 2024
Notes As At September 16, 2024

2023	\$	1,863,967.45	-\$	1,275,933.53	-\$	118,689.19	\$	469,344.73	37%
2022	\$	3,224,440.00	-\$	2,692,763.00	-\$	144,974.00	\$	386,703.00	14%
2021	\$	2,703,448.00	-\$	1,942,250.00	-\$	147,212.00	\$	613,986.00	32%
2020	\$	1,975,881.00	-\$	1,261,073.00	-\$	149,802.00	\$	565,006.00	45%
2019	\$	1,938,495.00	-\$	1,202,745.00	-\$	148,785.00	\$	586,965.00	49%

Accounts Receivable		Total		Current		Over 30 days		Receivables under review
	\$	80,964.33	\$	28,880.93	\$	5,839.57	\$	46,243.83

Taxes Receivable		Total		2024 o/s		Arrears prior to 2023		Allowance for write off	
Percentage of 2024 taxes collec	12%	\$	146,789,735.35	\$	11,989,222.13	\$	2,690,513.22	\$	2,202,904.40

Natural Gas Receivable		Total		Current		Over 90 days
		\$81,967.78		\$4,703.74		\$ 91,609.30

Warspite Water Receivable		Total		Current		Over 90 days
	\$	2,204.61	\$	1,138.06	\$	1,576.84

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31,

Municipal
Budget to Actual Report

	YTD ACTUAL Period 12	YTD BUDGET 2024 BUDGET	VARIANCE	VAR %	Notes
OPERATING REVENUE					
Taxes					
Farmland & Residential	\$4,294,500	\$4,300,093	\$5,593	0.13%	
Machinery & Equipment	1,357,698	1,357,698	0	(0.00%)	
Non - Residential	1,381,168	1,318,187	-62,981	(4.78%)	<i>Taxes levied =</i>
Linear	6,534,391	6,435,843	-98,548	(1.53%)	<i>\$13,582,087 (budget)</i>
Provincial Government	12,479	72,831	60,352	82.87%	<i>\$13,484,652)</i>
Sewer Levy	9,625	9,040	-585	(6.47%)	
Other Income					
Well Drilling/Drill Rigs	943	5,500	4,557	82.85%	
Penalties	213,255	85,200	-128,055	(150.30%)	
User Fees and Sales of Goods	431,557	641,950	210,393	32.77%	
Investment Income	615,190	693,498	78,308	11.29%	
Development Levies	68,706	69,000	294	0.43%	
Licenses and Permits	122,775	224,500	101,725	45.31%	
Sales to Other Governments	159,077	336,135	177,058	52.67%	
Grants					
Provincial Conditional - Operating	731,611	609,753	-121,858	(19.98%)	
CLC	134,478	113,230	-21,248	(18.77%)	
Transfer from Operating Reserve	1,035,000	1,035,000		0.00%	
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	17,102,453	17,307,458	205,005	1.18%	
OPERATING EXPENSES					
Salaries, Wages, and Benefits					
Salaries & Wages	4,155,441	5,822,998	1,667,557	28.64%	
Benefits	390,851	1,243,983	853,132	68.58%	
WCB	35,613	85,000	49,387	58.10%	
Other Wages	1,250	10,000	8,750	87.50%	
Contracted and General Services					
Mileage	14,384	45,700	31,316	68.53%	
Meals and Lodgings	40,765	95,360	54,595	57.25%	
Membership & Conference Fees	33,550	60,435	26,885	44.49%	
Freight, Express, Postage	23,349	42,250	18,901	44.74%	
Telephone & Communication	48,226	98,150	49,924	50.86%	
Training	63,772	112,700	48,928	43.41%	
Advertising, Printing, Subscriptions	36,343	60,550	24,207	39.98%	
Accounting & Auditing	33,500	34,000	500	1.47%	
Legal Fees	9,111	40,000	30,889	77.22%	
Assessor Fees	112,172	146,000	33,828	23.17%	
Engineering Fees	159,471	133,670	-25,801	(19.30%)	<i>Includes Engineering fees for bridges which will be capitalized</i>
Other Consulting	59,789	62,700	2,911	4.64%	<i>Includes fees to auction land</i>
Computer Programing	123,389	187,417	64,028	34.16%	
Insurance	125,472	271,261	145,789	53.74%	
Other Services	814,752	1,648,358	833,606	50.57%	
Materials, Goods, and Utilities					
Office/Food/Janitorial Supplies	64,177	95,830	31,653	33.03%	
Fuel/Parts/ Etc	918,310	1,547,100	-990,156	1378.16%	<i>fuel & equip costs</i>
Offset to road plan		-1,618,946	-1,618,946	100.00%	<i>allocated to road proj</i>
Gravel	484,497	490,000	5,503	1.12%	<i>fuel & equip costs</i>
Chemicals	70,282	40,000	-30,282	(75.70%)	<i>allocated to road proj</i>
Computer Supplies	21,774	69,148	47,374	68.51%	<i>weed control</i>

	YTD ACTUAL Period 12	YTD BUDGET 2024	VARIANCE	VAR %	Notes
Utilities	115,539	220,999	105,460	47.72%	
Employee Recognition	5,842	30,000	24,158	80.53%	
Other General Supplies	769,341	819,800	50,459	6.16%	
Transfers to Local Boards & Agencies	479,732	678,794	199,062	29.33%	
Write Offs	1,587	3,000	1,413	47.10%	<i>includes transfer to Aspen View</i>
Bank Charges & Interest	4,116	6,100	1,984	32.52%	
Requisitions	2,629,350	2,583,857	-45,493	(1.76%)	
Contingency		13,749	13,749	100.00%	
Amortization		2,044,300	2,044,300	100.00%	
	<u>11,845,747</u>	<u>17,224,263</u>	<u>5,378,516</u>	<u>31.23%</u>	
Total Operations	5,256,706	83,195	-5,173,511		
Capital Funding					
Sale of Capital Assets	1,042,939	1,306,699	263,760	20.19%	
Provincial Capital Grants	257,748	4,074,411	3,816,663	93.67%	
Transfer from Reserve		1,431,717	1,431,717	100.00%	<i>land sales</i>
Capital Funding	1,300,687	6,812,827	5,512,140	80.91%	
Capital Expenses					
Buildings & Land	31	14,000	13,969	99.78%	
Transfer to Reserve	820,000	1,428,000	608,000	42.58%	
Land Improvements	1,863	18,000	16,137	89.65%	
Engineering Structures		6,011,475	6,011,475	100.00%	
Equipment	821,023	874,427	53,404	6.11%	
Vehicles	833,999	594,419	-239,580	(40.30%)	
	<u>2,476,916</u>	<u>8,940,321</u>	<u>6,463,405</u>	<u>72.29%</u>	
Total Capital	-1,176,229	-2,127,494	-951,265	44.71%	
Net Profit/Loss	4,080,477	-2,044,299	-6,124,776	299.60%	
Remove Amortization		2,044,300	2,044,300	100.00%	
Adjusted Surplus (Deficit)	4,080,477	1	-4,080,476	#####	

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31,

Council
Budget to Actual Report

	YTD ACTUAL Period 12	YTD BUDGET 2024 BUDGET	VARIANCE	VAR %	<i>Notes</i>
OPERATING REVENUE					
Taxes					
Other Income					
Grants					
<hr/> <hr/>					
OPERATING EXPENSES					
Salaries, Wages, and Benefits					
Salaries & Wages	\$241,946	\$362,792	\$120,846	33.31%	
Benefits	53,575	77,105	23,530	30.52%	
Contracted and General Services					
Mileage	10,806	28,200	17,394	61.68%	
Meals and Lodgings	12,726	23,770	11,044	46.46%	
Membership & Conference Fees	8,484	15,185	6,701	44.13%	
Telephone & Communication	3,176	6,100	2,924	47.93%	
Other Services		1,500	1,500	100.00%	
Materials, Goods, and Utilities					
Office/Food/Janitorial Supplies	142	3,000	2,858	95.27%	
Computer Supplies	27	3,000	2,973	99.10%	
	<u>330,882</u>	<u>520,652</u>	<u>189,771</u>	<u>36.45%</u>	
Total Operations	-330,882	-520,652	-189,771	36.45%	
Capital Funding					
<hr/> <hr/>					
Capital Expenses					
<hr/> <hr/>					
Net Profit/Loss	-330,882	-520,652	-189,771	36.45%	
Adjusted Surplus (Deficit)	-330,882	-520,652	-189,771	36.45%	
Expense Breakdown by Division					
1	-\$5,696	-\$12,985	-\$7,290		56% <i>Some councillors</i>
2	-\$11,792	-\$14,600	-\$2,808		19% <i>will likely end up</i>
3	-\$3,314	-\$12,885	-\$9,570		74% <i>over budget after</i>
4	-\$7,547	-\$19,700	-\$12,152		62% <i>attending fall</i>
5	-\$6,842	-\$13,585	-\$6,743		50% <i>conferences</i>
	<u>-\$35,191</u>	<u>-\$73,755</u>	<u>-\$38,563</u>		

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY
For the Twelve Months Ending December 31,

Natural Gas
Budget to Actual Report

	YTD ACTUAL Period 12	YTD BUDGET 2024 BUDGET	VARIANCE	VAR %	<i>Notes</i>
OPERATING REVENUE					
Taxes					
Other Income					
Penalties	\$16,791	\$10,000	(\$6,791)	(67.91%)	
User Fees and Sales of Goods	1,532,808	2,970,620	1,437,812	48.40%	
Investment Income		35,000	35,000	100.00%	
Licenses and Permits		9,600	9,600	100.00%	
Grants					
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	1,549,599	3,025,220	1,475,621	48.78%	
OPERATING EXPENSES					
Salaries, Wages, and Benefits					
Salaries & Wages	592,970	889,889	296,919	33.37%	
Benefits	123,774	144,020	20,246	14.06%	
Contracted and General Services					
Mileage		3,000	3,000	100.00%	
Meals and Lodgings	6,853	18,500	11,647	62.95%	
Membership & Conference Fees	9,070	38,000	28,930	76.13%	
Freight, Express, Postage	7,978	12,600	4,622	36.68%	
Telephone & Communication	10,804	20,400	9,596	47.04%	
Training	596	7,000	6,404	91.49%	
Advertising, Printing, Subscriptions		2,500	2,500	100.00%	
Accounting & Auditing	13,150	16,000	2,850	17.81%	
Legal Fees		1,000	1,000	100.00%	
Engineering Fees	5,747	7,500	1,753	23.38%	
Other Consulting	465	1,200	735	61.24%	
Computer Programing	18,656	30,000	11,344	37.81%	
Insurance	19,943	35,000	15,057	43.02%	
Other Services	43,304	51,750	8,446	16.32%	
Materials, Goods, and Utilities					
Office/Food/Janitorial Supplies	4,819	18,200	13,381	73.52%	
Fuel/Parts/ Etc	64,012	95,500	31,488	32.97%	
Computer Supplies	226	19,000	18,774	98.81%	
Utilities	7,423	12,120	4,697	38.75%	
Employee Recognition		2,000	2,000	100.00%	
Other General Supplies	638,478	1,550,042	911,564	58.81%	
Amortization					
	1,568,268	3,220,221	1,651,953	51.30%	
Total Operations	-18,669	-195,001	-176,332	90.43%	
Capital Funding					
Transfer from Reserve		267,000	267,000	100.00%	
Capital Funding		267,000	267,000	100.00%	
Capital Expenses					
Buildings & Land		140,000	140,000	100.00%	
Transfer to Reserve		50,000	50,000	100.00%	
Equipment	14,118	60,000	45,882	76.47%	
Vehicles	690	67,000	66,310	98.97%	
	14,808	317,000	302,193	95.33%	
Total Capital	-14,808	-50,000	-35,193	70.39%	
Net Profit/Loss	-33,477	-245,001	-211,525	86.34%	
Remove Amortization		245,000	245,000	100.00%	
Adjusted Surplus (Deficit)	-33,477	-1	33,475		

County Council Meeting: Sept. 26th 2024

Batch #	Cheque Numbers	Total of Batch
PMCHQ261	52946	\$164.19
PMCHQ263	52947 to 52973	\$160,918.60
PMCHQ265	52974 to 52990	\$88,587.03
PMCHQ267	52991 to 53012	\$312,166.68
PMCHQ269	53013 to 53027	\$93,789.81
PMCHQ270	53028 to 53041	\$50,331.38
Total Cheques from 52946 to 53041		\$705,957.69

Batch #	EFT Numbers	Total of Batch
240812	1498 to 1517	\$182,195.13
240820	1518 to 1530	\$64,324.89
240828	1531 to 1544	\$4,767.75
240904	1545 to 1550	\$73,048.59
240910	1551 to 1564	\$279,407.75
Total EFTs from 1498 to 1564		\$603,744.11

Direct Debit Register

Batch #	Description	Total of Batch
PMPAY081	My HAS	\$663.00
PMPAY082	My HAS	\$690.63
Total Direct Debits		\$1,353.63

Grand Total Bills and Accounts	\$1,311,055.43
<i>(Note: From General Account)</i>	