

**ALBERTA BEACH
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
BEING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TEMPORARILY LOCATED AT UNIT 5A, 4000 MUSEUM ROAD
MARCH 17, 2020 AT 7:00 P.M.**

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. CLOSED MEETING SESSION
3. AGENDA ADDITIONS / DELETIONS
4. AGENDA ADOPTION
5. DELEGATIONS
 - a. Community Futures Yellowhead East Presentation
(Michelle Jones, General Manager & Ellen Maccormac, CED Coordinator)
 - b. Switch Alberta Beach 5G Air Fiber Presentation
(Jared Zamzow, Sales & Marketing Specialist & Freddie Jawaid, Regional Account Executive)
6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
 - a. Regular Council Meeting of February 18, 2020
 - b. Municipal Planning Commission Meeting of February 18, 2020
7. MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
8. OLD BUSINESS & BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
 - a. Things To Do List
9. FINANCIAL
 - a. List of Accounts
10. COMMITTEES & REPORTS
11. CORRESPONDENCE – NO ACTION REQUIRED
 - a. Alberta Health Services – AHS Review Recommendations & Next Steps
 - b. Alberta Municipal Affairs Minister Madu – Budget 2020
 - c. Alberta Urban Municipalities Association – Invitation to Strategic Branding Review Session
 - d. Alberta Urban Municipalities Association – Villages West Update
 - e. Alberta Urban Municipalities Association – 2020 AUMA Public Risk Conference
 - f. Alberta Urban Municipalities Association – AUMA’s Energy Aggregation 2020
 - g. Barrhead & Area Regional Crime Coalition – Crime Prevention Trade Show & Conference
 - h. City of Toronto – Car Speed Governors
 - i. Denis Meier, Constituency Assistant, Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland – Community Events
 - j. Doyle & Company – Audit of the Financial Statements for December 31, 2019
 - k. Doyle & Company – Auditor Independence
 - l. Gunn & Area Recreation Society - Thank You
 - m. Lac Ste. Anne County – SDAB Hearing on Proposed Telus Telecommunication Installation
 - n. Minister of Justice & Solicitor General – New Police Act Funding Model Response
 - o. North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance – NSWA 20th Anniversary Invitation
 - p. Summer Village of Sunset Point – Summer Village of Sunset Point ICF
 - q. The News from the Alberta Counsel
 - r. Wild Water Commission – Inter-basin Transfer Open Houses
12. CORRESPONDENCE – REQUIRES ACTION
 - a. Alberta Beach Ag Society – What Women Want Fundraiser
 - b. Cecile Bulva – Appeal for Easement Land Encroachment & Variance
 - c. Lac Ste. Anne County – Termination of Assessment Review Board Agreement
13. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Atco Gas & Pipelines – Franchise Agreement Renewal
 - b. Parkland County – Memorandum of Agreement for Animal Shelter Services
 - c. Sturgeon River Watershed Alliance – Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan
14. QUESTION PERIOD
15. ADJOURNMENT



Unit #1, 5023 – 50 Avenue (P.O. Box 2185)
Whitecourt, Alberta T7S 1P8

T 780-706-3500 T 1-877-706-3500 F 780-706-3501

January 22, 2020

Dear Community Partner and Stakeholder:

With the New Year in full swing, it is that time of year, where Community Futures Yellowhead East would like to provide its municipal shareholders with a progress update on the past year, as well as share some exciting highlights on upcoming events and activities that we will be partnering on in your community.

We would like to request 15-20 minutes of time where we can present these items at an upcoming Council meeting, in February if possible.

We will be providing an overview of the results from the Business Diversification Strategy Report that was recently completed for your municipality, as well as some information on a series of Business Education Training sessions that we will be conducting throughout the CFYE region, as well as information on the upcoming Lemonade Day program.

If you could please confirm a date and time, that you would have room for us to present to council, as well as any material you require from us ahead of time, we would greatly appreciate it. If possible, we would require a screen, projector and speakers for sound to share the CFYE Lemonade Day program, as well as the individual municipality Diversification Report.

We look forward to hearing back from you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Michelle Jones, Manager
Community Futures Yellowhead East
mjones@albertacf.com
w: 780-706-3500 c: 780-778-0977



Unit #1, 5023 – 50 Avenue (P.O. Box 2185)
Whitecourt, Alberta T7S 1P8

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January 20, 2020

Dear Community Partner and Stakeholder:

Please be advised as a valued partner and or board stakeholder of Community Futures Yellowhead East (CFYE), we would like to provide you with an update on the following policy changes, effective January 17, 2020.

As a committed partner of economic development and diversification in your community and the entire CFYE region, we are accountable to you as a key stakeholder to provide a range of small business services and business management tools for people wanting to start, expand, franchise or sell a business. In addition, we also offer a number of specialized business programs, organize exciting business events and actively work with community and business leaders to foster rural economic growth.

As with many organizations we are faced with budget cuts that could affect the number of opportunities and services we are able to provide in each of our ten communities. With this in mind as an effort to avoid any reduction in services, we are reaching out to ask for your consideration of the following; Free or reduced room rental rates of municipally owned meeting spaces, when we host business training sessions, such as lunch n learns, financial literacy courses, lemonade day mentor training sessions, client coaching or business plan development meetings etc as a method of assisting us in reducing expenses that will allow us to continue providing these valuable services to each of our communities. If this request is approved, CFYE, would continue to follow standard protocol as well as handle all arrangements and bookings ahead of time with the appropriate departments as required:

In addition to this request, we would like to inform you that we no longer have the means to purchase individual community chamber of commerce memberships. While we are still interested and willing to be a vital economic partner of each chamber of commerce, business support network, or other business organization, by providing assistance in the same fashion as we have always been, through promoting your events, providing marketing assistance, business training and coaching sessions, sitting on committees, partner on projects as time allows, unfortunately however, we will no longer be able to purchase individual Chamber of Commerce memberships.

If you could please review and provide the outlined policy changes to your board and council, for information along with a reply as to the above request for assistance, this will allow us to continue on with our yearly planning requirements for each community.

Sincerely,

Carol Webster, Board Chair
Community Futures Yellowhead East

Michelle Jones, Manager
Community Futures Yellowhead East
mjones@albertacf.com,
w: 780-706-3500 c: 780-778-0977

aboffice@albertabeach.com

From: Michelle Jones <mjones@albertacf.com>
Sent: January 20, 2020 2:01 PM
Subject: COMING TO A COMMUNITY NEAR YOU - NORTHERN ALBERTA LEMONADE DAY - JUNE 20, 2020 - MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Good afternoon, I just wanted to reach out to each of you as community stakeholders that have expressed an interest in hosting Community Futures Lemonade Day in your community on National Lemonade Day, Saturday June 20, 2020.

Very shortly you will be receiving an information package containing all the materials necessary to host a successful event. In addition, we would ask to be put on the agenda for an upcoming council meeting preferably before the end of February, 2020. If you could please provide the next available date where we can be put on the Agenda.

The following commitments will be requested of each community, and will be put forward in the presentation to council, along with a few other items that we would like to provide an update on at the time of the meeting.

Last year each community involved, proclaimed the date of Northern Alberta Lemonade Day, as National Lemonade Day in their community, each provided the \$500 sponsorship prize for the Entrepreneur of the Year for your specific community, provided the council/board/staff volunteers to assist with the following: Judges for the best tasting lemonade contest (mentor session #2), administration staff willing to handle the license and lease permits, track the registrations with the geographic mapping locations for judging on lemonade day, provide volunteer Judges to go around to each of the booths and select the best booth in your area on Lemonade Day, June 20, 2020, provide those results back to Community Futures Yellowhead East for final award presentations.

In the next couple of weeks you will be provided with an information package, containing the set training dates for each community, information for your admin staff to carry out the partnership agreement, information that can be shared with your local schools and businesses to create awareness and to provide sponsorship to offset the cost of the program.

In addition, CFYE staff permitting, we will attempt to visit the schools in your community to help promote the program.

We appreciate you time and interest in the project, last year was a huge success with 3 Community Futures Yellowhead East regional communities involved, approx 160 participants trained in the basics of Entrepreneurship, and hosted 60 different lemonade stands in the 3 different communities. This year all 10 municipalities are being invited to participate in 6 different communities across the region, with your community being one of them, we look forward to this partnership and continues success of the program.

Please feel free to reach out to me directly if you have any questions or comments in regards to this program.

Sincerely,

Michelle Jones

General Manager, Community Futures Yellowhead East
Box 2185, Whitecourt, AB T7S 1P8
p: 780-706-3500, c: 780-778-0977
mjones@albertacf.com

aboffice@albertabeach.com

From: WeTransfer <noreply@wetransfer.com>
Sent: March 9, 2020 4:09 PM
To: aboffice@albertabeach.com
Subject: emaccormac@albertacf.com sent you files via WeTransfer



emaccormac@albertacf.com sent you some files

1 item, 274 MB in total · Will be deleted on 16 March, 2020

Greetings and good day,

On behalf of CFYE, we are following up in reference to an upcoming partnership with your municipality, CFYE and the Lemonade Day Northern Alberta program, running March 1 - June 20, 2020.

If you have not yet seen the presentation, your council soon will, and you should then be better equipped to provide an answer to the following items of request:

- Is your community proclaiming June 20, 2020 as Lemonade Day Northern Alberta in your community?
- Are you able to provide Volunteers (a minimum of 3) for both the Best Tasting Lemonade Day Contest (optional for participants), as well as on Lemonade Day, June 20th, 2020? (List of training dates is available on the promotional poster within this zipped folder transfer).
- Will you be providing financial support to the program as per council request? (i.e., Local Entrepreneur of the Year, or any other amount of sponsorship as per attached Sponsorship Packet available within this

zipped folder transfer).

- Are you able to provide free or reduced venue rental rates to CFYE, for the facilitated training sessions?

If you can please provide responses to the above request as soon as possible, this will allow us to move forward with promotion of the program, in terms of providing training facility locations to participants, as well as to be sure we are able to provide all Sponsors with recognition of their sponsorship in forthcoming promotional material.

Within this zipped folder transfer, you will find an INTRODUCTION letter describing the program roll-out, PROMOTIONAL folder with all promotional material to use, LEASE AND LICENSING folder with all forms that staff will require in order to provide leases and licensing for local participants, and a CONTESTS folder with judging scorecards.

If you have any questions or comments in regards to this email and the material provided, please do not hesitate to contact either myself as per below information or the General Manager, Michelle Jones at mjones@albertacf.com.

Thank you for your consideration of the above and we look forward to your response,

Ellen

Community Economic Development (CED) Coordinator
Community Futures Yellowhead East
www.yellowheadeast.albertacf.com
W 780.706.3500 C 780.779.8722

Get your files

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1 item

Asset package for municipalities.zip

274 MB

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Growing communities one idea at a time.

Thank you for your municipality's participation with Lemonade Day Northern Alberta 2020.

Our organizing committee is looking to share instruction as to the roles and responsibilities of the roll-out of Lemonade Day, with this brief introduction.

Lemonade Day is a free, fun, experiential learning program that teaches youth how to start, own and operate their own business, all through a lemonade stand.

Participants will be registering for the program online at lemonadeday.org/northern-alberta.

PROMOTION

Materials in this folder include the Lemonade Day Northern Alberta logo, a letter-size poster, online-use poster, double-sided rack cards (single and quad layout), and the Lemonade Day 2019 video.

Please print, share and distribute these materials as your municipality sees fit.

SPONSORSHIP

Materials in this folder include our 2020 Sponsorship Packet.

Everyone is welcome to be involved with Lemonade Day Northern Alberta. The organizing committee is looking for Sponsors, Mentors, and Volunteers to make Lemonade Day Northern Alberta possible.

Lemonade Day entrepreneurs, the kids in your community, will be looking for investors, a place to setup their stands and customers to support their first business.

All funds collected through local donations and sponsorship are used directly to support Lemonade Day Northern Alberta, a not for profit, licensed program.

Local Sponsors of Lemonade Day Northern Alberta 2019 included the Town of Barrhead, Town of Onoway, Town of Swan Hills, Town of Whitecourt, Scotiabank, TD Bank, Swan Hills Chamber of Commerce, ATB Financial, Grizzly Gazette, Bigway Foods, Whitecourt Star, Whitecourt Press, Primerica, Patrysha.com, and Staff of Servus Credit Union. Participants also sought out their own individual sponsorships.

SESSION 1

Session 1 is mandatory for all registered participants, and youth must be accompanied by their Mentor (parent/guardian/trusted adult).

Participants will receive a Workbook package that outlines the steps needed to start a business - setting a goal, creating a business plan, selecting a location, forming a budget, finding an investor, saving money, and donating a portion back to their community.

We will also cover safe food handling practices, and discuss three (3) Contests youth can participate in.

Materials provided by CFYE to participants at Session 1 will include Workbook, Lease Agreement, Business License Application, Stand Information form, Lemonade Preparation Guidelines, Food Handling Agreement, and Business Results form.

6.2

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
OF ALBERTA BEACH IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TEMPORARILY LOCATED AT UNIT 5A, 4000 MUSEUM ROAD
FEBRUARY 18, 2020 AT 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT:

Mayor Jim Benedict
Deputy Mayor Angela Duncan
Councillor Bud Love
Councillor Judy Valiquette
Councillor Daryl Weber
CAO Kathy Skwarchuk
Development Officer Kim Kozak

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Benedict called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M.

CLOSED MEETING SESSION: No closed meeting session was held.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS: None.

AGENDA ADOPTION:

#014-20 MOVED BY Councillor Love that the agenda be adopted as presented. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATION:

PAUL HANLAN, SV PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT- TVRSSC STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION:
Mr. Paul Hanlan of SV Planning & Development met with Council to request stakeholder consultation regarding the TVRSSC 2020 Sewer Rate Model proposal. He has been contracted by the TVRSSC to complete this review, he reported that he has met with the TVRSSC CAO and Maintenance Manager and will be meeting with the Summer Village of Val Quentin and the Summer Village of Sunset Point at their next Council meetings later this week. A brief discussion was held on the review including maintenance and capital costs, parcel counts in the communities and residential versus non-residential fees. Mayor Benedict thanked Mr. Hanlan for attending the meeting.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

#015-20 MOVED BY Councillor Weber that the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of January 21, 2020 be adopted as presented. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MEETING ADJOURN FOR MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING:

#016-20 MOVED BY Mayor Benedict that the meeting adjourn to hold a Municipal Planning Commission meeting at 7:53 P.M. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MEETING RECONVENED:

Mayor Benedict reconvened the meeting at 8:05 P.M.

OLD BUSINESS & BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

BYLAW #268-19 - ATCO GAS FRANCHISE AGREEMENT RENEWAL:
Notification was received from ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. that the AUC has approved the Franchise Agreement Renewal.

#017-20 MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Duncan that Bylaw #268-19 being a Bylaw to authorize the execution of an agreement with ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. to renew a franchise agreement be read a second time. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#018-20 MOVED BY Councillor Weber that Bylaw #268-19 be read a third and final time. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ALBERTA BEACH LIONS CLUB SNOMO DAYS 2020:

#019-20 MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Duncan that a letter be sent to the Alberta Beach Lions Club to congratulate them on another successful Snomo Days event. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ALBERTA BEACH EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BYLAW #271-20:

#020-20 MOVED BY Councillor Love that Alberta Beach Emergency Management Bylaw #271-20 be read a second time. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#021-20 MOVED BY Councillor Weber that Alberta Beach Emergency Management Bylaw #271-20 be read a third and final time. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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ENCOMPASS PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT – REVIEW OF LAND USE BYLAW #252-17:
The Development Officer submitted draft changes to the definitions for Phase 1 of the Land Use Bylaw #252-17 Review.

#022-20

LAND USE BYLAW REVIEW COMMITTEE:

MOVED BY Mayor Benedict that Council approve to set up a committee to complete the review of the Land Use Bylaw #252-17 and further that Deputy Mayor Duncan, Councillor Weber and Development Officer Kim Kozak be appointed to the committee

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

FINANCIAL:

LIST OF ACCOUNTS:

#023-20

MOVED BY Councillor Valiquette that the list of accounts in the amount of \$179,079.15 as attached be accepted for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

DEPUTY MAYOR DUNCAN:

INTERMUNICIPAL COLLABORATION FRAMEWORK (ICF) COMMITTEE – Deputy Mayor Duncan gave a brief report on the February 3rd meeting (attached).
TRIVILLAGE REGIONAL SEWER SERVICES COMMISSION – Deputy Mayor Duncan reviewed and submitted report on the February 13th meeting (attached).
WEST INTER-LAKE DISTRICT (WILD) WATER COMMISSION – Deputy Mayor Duncan reviewed and submitted report on the January 27th meeting (attached).

COUNCILLOR VALIQUETTE:

No meetings to report.

COUNCILLOR WEBER:

No meetings to report.

COUNCILLOR LOVE:

ALBERTA BEACH 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY PLANNING COMMITTEE – Councillor Love reviewed and submitted report which included a draft events schedule, budget & dignitaries list. (attached).
PUBLIC WORKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Councillor Love reviewed and submitted report on the February 18th meeting (attached).

MAYOR BENEDICT:

MLA SHANE GETSON MEETING – Mayor Benedict reviewed and submitted report on the January 27th meeting (attached).
PUBLIC WORKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Mayor Benedict reviewed and submitted report on the February 18th meeting (attached).
REGIONAL FIRE SERVICES STEERING COMMITTEE – Mayor Benedict reviewed and submitted report on the February 14th meeting (attached).
TRIVILLAGE REGIONAL SEWAGE SERVICES COMMISSION – Mayor Benedict reviewed and submitted report on the February 13th (attached).

PATROL REPORTS:

The Patrol Department submitted the 2019 Patrol Annual Report for information.

DEVELOPMENT PERMIT REPORT:

The Administration Department submitted a report for Council's information on the 2020 Development Permits issued to date.

#024-20

MOVED BY Councillor Valiquette that the committee reports be accepted for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE – FOR INFORMATION:

ALBERTA FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES – FCSS UPDATE:

An FCSS update was received from Alberta Family & Community Services.

ALBERTA HEALTH SERVICES – AHS REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS:

Correspondence was received from Alberta Health Services regarding the AHS Review recommendations and the next steps in the process.

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ALBERTA INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL – AISC 2020 CONFERENCE:

Correspondence was received from Alberta Invasive Species Council regarding the AISC 2020 Conference being held in Lacombe on March 24-25.

ALBERTA MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS – 2020 LOCAL AUTHORITIES ELECTION ACT REVIEW:

Correspondence was received from Alberta Municipal Affairs requesting input on 2020 Local Authorities Election Act review and participation in the online survey.

ALBERTA MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS – 2020 MINISTER’S AWARD FOR MUNICIPAL EXCELLENCE:

A letter was received from the Minister of Alberta Municipal Affairs regarding the 2020 Minister’s Award for Municipal Excellence.

ALBERTA SENIORS & HOUSING – SENIORS WEEK 2020:

Correspondence was received from Alberta Seniors & Housing regarding Seniors Week 2020 and the Government of Alberta online events calendar.

ALBERTA URBAN MUNICIPALITIES ASSOCIATION – AUMA ANNUAL ADVOCACY SURVEY:

Correspondence was received from Alberta Urban Municipalities Association requesting participation in the AUMA Annual Advocacy Survey.

ALBERTA URBAN MUNICIPALITIES ASSOCIATION – AUMA’S BUDGET WEBINAR:

Correspondence was received from Alberta Urban Municipalities Association regarding the AUMA’s Budget Webinar being held on February 28th.

ALBERTA URBAN MUNICIPALITIES ASSOCIATION – AUMA SPRING 2020 MUNICIPAL LEADERS’ CAUCUS:

Correspondence was received from Alberta Urban Municipalities Association regarding the AUMA Spring 2020 Municipal Leaders’ Caucus being held in Edmonton on March 25-26.

ALBERTA URBAN MUNICIPALITIES ASSOCIATION – AUMA SUBMISSION TO PREMIER KENNEY:

Correspondence was received from Alberta Urban Municipalities Association regarding the AUMA President’s Summit held last month and AUMA’s submission to Premier Kenney.

COMMUNITY FUTURES YELLOWHEAD EAST – NORTHERN ALBERTA LEMONADE DAY:

Correspondence was received from Community Futures Yellowhead East regarding Northern Alberta Lemonade Day being held on June 20, 2020.

COMMUNITY FUTURES YELLOWHEAD EAST – UPDATE ON POLICY CHANGES:

A letter was received from Community Futures Yellowhead East regarding an update on Policy Changes effective January 17, 2020.

COMMUNITY FUTURES YELLOWHEAD EAST – CFYE 2020 REQUEST TO PRESENT TO COUNCIL:

A letter was received from Community Futures Yellowhead East requesting to make a presentation to Council to provide a progress update on the past year, as well as to share some highlights on upcoming events and activities. Confirmation was received for attendance at the March 17th Council meeting.

EAST END BUS – 2020 NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING:

Correspondence was received from Lac Ste. Anne East End Bus Society regarding the 2020 Notice of Annual Meeting being held March 25th in the Onoway Civic Centre.

FORTIS ALBERTA – 2020 FORTIS ALBERTA APPROVED RATES:

A letter was received from Fortis Alberta regarding the approved Fortis Alberta 2020 distribution rates.

GROWTH ALBERTA – GROWTH ALBERTA STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION:

A letter was received from Growth Alberta regarding their Strategic Planning Session being held on February 24th.

HONOURABLE JULIE PAYETTE, GOVERNOR GENERAL OF CANADA – ALBERTA BEACH’S 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY:

A letter was received from Honourable Julie Payette, Governor General of Canada to congratulate the residents of Alberta Beach on the 100 Year Anniversary of Alberta Beach.

NORTH SASKATCHEWAN WATERSHED ALLIANCE – IN STREAM NEWSLETTER:

The North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance In Stream Newsletter January 2020 was received for information.

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SUMMER VILLAGE OF YELLOWSTONE – DONATION TO ALBERTA BEACH'S 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY:

Correspondence was received from the Summer Village of Yellowstone to advise on the approval of a donation to Alberta Beach's 100 Year Anniversary.

TOWN OF MAYERTHORPE – SHOP 43.CA REGIONAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY:

A letter was received from the Town of Mayerthorpe regarding the launch of their regional business web portal Shop43.ca Regional Business Directory.

TOWN OF ONOWAY – DONATION TO ALBERTA BEACH'S 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY:

Correspondence was received from the Town of Onoway to advise on the approval of a donation to Alberta Beach's 100 Year Anniversary.

#025-20

MOVED BY Councillor Weber that the correspondence be accepted for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE – REQUIRING ACTION:

GRASMERE GRIZZLIES ENHANCEMENT SOCIETY – PLAYGROUND PROJECT REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT:

#026-20

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Duncan that the request for financial support from the Grasmere Grizzlies Enhancement Society for their Playground Project be tabled to the next Council meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RMA INSURANCE – GENESIS RECIPROCAL INSURANCE - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING PROXY:

#027-20

MOVED BY Councillor Valiquette that Council approve to defer the proxy vote for the Genesis Annual Meeting to the Genesis Principal Attorney.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SUMMER VILLAGES OF LAC STE. ANNE EAST – INVITATION TO ATTEND FUTURE SVLSAE MEETINGS:

#028-20

MOVED BY Councillor Love that the invitation to attend future Summer Villages of Lac Ste. Anne East meetings be accepted for information and further a letter be forwarded to thank them for the invitation and request that should there be something on their agenda pertaining to Alberta Beach to please let us know.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS:

ENCOMPASS PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES – NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER CONTRACT:

#029-20

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Duncan that the notice of termination of the Development Officer Contract effective May 1, 2020 received from Encompass Planning & Development Services be accepted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

KIM KOZAK – PROPOSAL TO PROVIDE CONTRACTED PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT OFFICER SERVICES:

#030-20

MOVED BY Councillor Valiquette that the proposal to provide contracted planning & development officer services received from Kim Kozak with the optional service of planning support effective May 1, 2020 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REQUEST FOR DECISION – CERTIFICATE OF TITLE ADMINISTRATION FEE:

#031-20

MOVED BY Councillor Love that the request for decision received from the Development Officer regarding the certificate of title administration fee be accepted for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REQUEST FOR DECISION – ENCROACHMENT LETTER OF CONSENT ADMINISTRATION FEE:

#032-20

MOVED BY Mayor Benedict that the request for decision received from the Development Officer regarding the encroachment letter of consent administration fee be accepted for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

GENERAL VILLAGE POLICY #G.2.7 PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SCHEDULE OF FEES:

#033-20

MOVED BY Mayor Benedict that the General Village Policy Planning & Development Schedule of Fees #G.2.7 be amended to include Certificate of Title administration fee of \$15.00 per lot and Encroachment Letter of Consent administration fee of \$200.00 plus gst.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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QUESTION PERIOD:

A question period was held and a brief discussion arose on the Trivillage Regional Sewer Services Commission 2020 Sewer Rate Model proposal.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 9:44 P.M.

Mayor – Jim Benedict

C.A.O. – Kathy Skwarchuk

LEASE AND LICENSE

Materials in this folder include Lease Agreement, Business License Application, and Business License.

Participants will need to select a location within your municipality (either a storefront or municipal property), ask for permission, and acquire a signature on their Lease Agreement. Participants will present their signed Lease Agreement at your municipal office, then acquire a Business License Application from your staff. Your staff will then complete the Business License and return to the participant. In the spirit of entrepreneurship, we ask Leasers to charge a minimum of \$1 for the Lease, and \$1 for the Business License.

CONTESTS & PRIZES

Materials in this folder include Contest 1 & 2 Scorecards, and Contest 3 Scorecard.

Three (3) Contests are part of the Lemonade Day program, and all require a minimum of 3 Volunteer judges -

- CONTEST 1 Best Tasting Lemonade - \$250 VISA gift card
- CONTEST 2 Best Stand - \$250 VISA gift card
- CONTEST 3 Local Entrepreneur of the Year - \$500 VISA gift card

Prizes for Best Stand and Local Entrepreneur of the Year will be awarded after the event in June, 2020.

SESSION 2

Session 2 is an optional session, but participants wishing to enter their lemonade recipe for CONTEST 1 - Best Tasting Lemonade, will need to be in attendance. We require a minimum of 3 Volunteers, arranged through your municipality, to judge all samples, ask participants questions about their recipe, and award the winner that evening on our behalf.

CONTEST 1 Scorecards will be used by judges for this contest.

LEMONADE DAY

Lemonade stands will begin operation at 10 AM on Saturday, June 20, 2020, and will close operations by 4 PM. Participants will set their own individual hours of operation. We require a minimum of 3 Volunteers, arranged through your municipality, to judge participant's stands within their specified hours.

CONTEST 2 and CONTEST 3 Scorecards will be used by judges on this day. Participants' submitted Business Results online will be included in determining the winners of CONTEST 3, the Local Area Entrepreneur of the Year.

Community Futures Yellowhead East gratefully appreciates your municipality's participation in this exciting event for the youth of our Yellowhead East region.

Lastly, we wish to request, if your municipality has space available for the training sessions that can be utilized free of charge, this effort allows Community Futures Yellowhead East to continue offering this program for free to youth.

Contact General Manager, Michelle Jones, with any further questions or concerns, mjones@albertacf.com.

6.6

**MINUTES OF THE MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
FOR ALBERTA BEACH
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TEMPORARILY LOCATED AT UNIT 5A, 4000 MUSEUM ROAD
FEBRUARY 18, 2020 AT 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT:

Mayor Jim Benedict
Deputy Mayor Angela Duncan
Councillor Bud Love
Councillor Judy Valiquette
Councillor Daryl Weber
C.A.O.Kathy Skwarchuk
Development Officer.....Kim Kozak

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Benedict called the meeting to order at 7:53 P.M.

AGENDA ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS: None.

AGENDA ADOPTION:

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Duncan that the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS:

REQUEST FOR DECISION – DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION #20DP01-01:

Plan 201BT, Block 12, Lot 11 (5007 – 56 Street)

Application for the variance of the front yard setback to 5.06 m. (16.8 ft.) for the proposed attached deck to the Modular Home.

The Development Officer reviewed the Development Permit Application and the Development Officer's Report with the members of the Municipal Planning Commission. She has recommended approval subject to the conditions as outlined in her report (attached).

The applicant attended the meeting in support of the application.

MOVED BY Councillor Weber that the Municipal Planning Commission approve Development Permit Application #20DP01-01 for the variance of the front yard setback to 5.06 m. (16.8 ft.) for the proposed attached deck to the Modular Home located on Plan 201BT, Block 12, Lot 11 (5007 – 56 Street) subject to the conditions as per the Development Officer's Report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REQUEST FOR DECISION – DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION #19DP36-01:

Plan 3321BQ, Block 5, Lot 6 (5024 – 50th Avenue)

Application to leave one (1) freestanding sign and two (2) wall signs on the building.

The Development Officer reviewed the Development Permit Application and the Development Officer's Report with the members of the Municipal Planning Commission. She has recommended approval subject to the conditions as outlined in her report (attached).

MOVED BY Councillor Weber that the Municipal Planning Commission approve Development Permit #19DP36-01, to leave one (1) freestanding sign and two (2) wall signs on the building located on Plan 3321BQ, Block 5, Lot 6 (5024 – 50th Avenue) subject to the conditions as per the Development Officer's Report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT:

The Municipal Planning Commission meeting adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Mayor – Jim Benedict

C.A.O. – Kathy Skwarchuk

aboffice@albertabeach.com

From: Reaghan Gamble <Reaghan.Gamble@albertahealthservices.ca> on behalf of Community Engagement <Community.Engagement@albertahealthservices.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 9:55 AM
To: Community Engagement
Subject: AHS Review Recommendations and Next Steps



To local municipal leaders,

Across Alberta, there are discussions about the Alberta Health Services (AHS) Review, and what it means for your communities. We recognize you may be receiving questions from your constituents and want to share an update.

Since the release of the AHS Review report (Feb. 3, 2020), AHS has been working to examine and prioritize the report's recommendations and determine next steps towards implementation.

A detailed plan, which will guide our work on all review initiatives, is under development and will be part of our 100 Day update to the government in mid-May.

We are able to move on some recommendations quickly while others will take more work and investigation. One of the areas that will take time is hospitals. As you know, Alberta Health and AHS have committed to not closing any hospitals.

As part of the review recommendations, we will work with communities in assessing the configuration of some smaller and medium-sized hospitals. The goal is to ensure we are meeting community needs with sustainable healthcare. This is work that is done routinely and has occurred in many settings over many years.

We will ensure that patient care is at the forefront of any plans, and we will include input from community leaders, physicians, staff and members of the communities served by these facilities.

We are aware that some physicians are raising concerns with their patients and the public regarding changes to physician compensation and the healthcare services they provide in their communities.

We support their ability to advocate for themselves and their patients. At the same time, AHS is dedicated to ensuring ongoing access to care for patients. Our priority is the safe care of Albertans.

We will continue to work with our medical staff to provide safe patient care and ensure any potential practice changes have a limited impact on clinical services and patient care.

You are in a unique and valuable position, as both a leader and a member of your communities. We are here to provide you with the support and information you and your communities need. Please find below key messages for your information. If you receive questions or requests for additional information, I encourage you to contact the AHS North Zone leaders who will be able to help provide the support you need:

Greg Cummings, Chief Zone Officer, North Zone
Gregory.Cummings@ahs.ca; 780-350-3136

Dr. Albert Harmse, Acting Zone Medical Director, North Zone
Albert.Harmse@ahs.ca; 780-645-3331

Our focus continues to be making AHS as efficient and sustainable as possible, while maintaining or improving patient access and quality of care. We want Albertans to receive the best care both now, and in the future.

We look forward to ongoing communication with you as we continue with this important work.

Sincerely,
Dr. Verna Yiu
President and CEO, Alberta Health Services

Key Messages:

- Local Alberta Health Services (AHS) facilities provide excellent care to the communities they serve and we don't want that to change. We will not be closing any hospitals.
- We understand that changes to how Alberta's physicians will be compensated have caused concern for some.
- Physicians are critical to the healthcare system. We will continue to work with our physician partners to ensure patients and families have access to timely, safe and high quality care, and that there are no gaps in service.
- AHS supports physicians' ability to advocate for themselves and their patients.
- It is important physicians are able share their concerns, just as it is important that AHS continues to meet the needs of the patients and families we all serve.
- We appreciate the continued professionalism demonstrated by AHS physicians through this transition, and their continued commitment to caring for patients and families.
- AHS is also working closely with Alberta Health on the new physician funding framework, which was announced by the Minister of Health in February. Details of the changes are available on [Alberta Health's website](#).
- We are working to understand the impact these changes will have on physicians, patients and families.

This message and any attached documents are only for the use of the intended recipient(s), are confidential and may contain privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, retransmission, or other disclosure is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately, and then delete the original message. Thank you.

From: MA Minister <Minister.MunicipalAffairs@gov.ab.ca>
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2020 3:59 PM
To: MA Minister
Subject: 2020 Budget
Attachments: 2020 Budget.pdf

Dear Chief Elected Officials and Chief Administrative Officers,

Please see the attached letter from Minister Madu.

Regards,

Office of the Minister
Municipal Affairs

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ALBERTA
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

Office of the Minister
MLA, Edmonton - South West

February 27, 2020

Dear Chief Elected Officials and Chief Administrative Officers:

I am writing to provide more information about Budget 2020 that my colleague Minister Travis Toews has delivered in the legislature. Specifically, I would like to give some details on the key items for Municipal Affairs that impact municipalities in Budget 2020.

Overall, Budget 2020 maintains the direction set in Budget 2019, with a few minor changes.

First of all, it is important to note that there is no change to the Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) funding announced in Budget 2019 for fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22.

The Local Government Fiscal Framework begins in 2022-23 at \$860 million, as announced in Budget 2019. We look forward to working closely with the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association and the Rural Municipalities of Alberta in determining how the Local Government Fiscal Framework funding will be allocated to individual municipalities, and in designing program criteria that provide the right balance of flexibility, autonomy, and accountability.

As announced in Budget 2019, the Grants in Place of Taxes payments are being reduced by an additional 25% in 2020-21 to 50% of requested amounts in 2018-19. Government needs to reduce operating spending while still providing municipalities a share of the cost of municipal services to Crown properties.

A new change in Budget 2020 is the elimination of the fire training grants to municipalities of \$500,000.00. This program has been eliminated to reduce operating costs and administrative burden. We will work with impacted communities to help build their own training capacity.

Budget 2020 also proposes that the Alberta Fire Responder Radio Communications System (AFRRCS) be transferred to the Alberta Emergency Management Agency from Service Alberta. This transfer will streamline emergency planning by consolidating critical emergency management infrastructure.

.../2

We have made some challenging decisions to get our fiscal house in order to ensure we have reliable funding for public services in the future. In addition to reductions to municipal grants, we have made significant department-level reductions in personnel and expenses. Through a variety of red tape reduction initiatives, we will continue to work with stakeholders to reduce the regulatory burden we impose on you, and to help you do the same for your businesses and residents.

All of us together, as leaders of this province, are committed to doing everything we can to get Alberta's economy back on track.

I look forward to working together with municipalities to realize a better future for all Albertans.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kaycee Madu', written in a cursive style.

Kaycee Madu
Minister

cc: All Government Members

aboffice@albertabeach.com

From: President <President@auma.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 9:46 AM
Subject: Invitation to Strategic Branding Review Session

Dear Mayors & CAOs,

Several years ago, AUMA conducted a review of the AUMA / AMSC brand. Since then, we have felt the effects of the many economic, social, political, and technological changes in Alberta and around the world. As we look to the future and what these continuing changes mean for us, we feel it is timely to revisit our brand strategy. As a member-driven organization, we wish to inform our strategic direction with your perspective.

YOUR FEEDBACK

We have hired Stormy Lake Consulting to engage with a wide range of stakeholders, such as yourself, and provide us with your honest feedback and perspectives. We want to capture your views so we can understand how others see us, how we see ourselves, and what that means for the evolution of our brand.

YOUR INVITATION

I am inviting you to an engaging, dynamic research workshop on Thursday, March 26 from 1:00 – 4:30 p.m. at the Westin Edmonton following the Spring Municipal Leaders Caucus. You will be joined by members, stakeholders, and AUMA leadership. We can accommodate a limited number of participants, so your commitment to attending is very important to us.

I am told this is not a traditional research workshop. You will be working in small groups and discussing provocative questions that will explore the AUMA and AMSC brand from many angles and help us identify different paths to move forward. Everything shared in this session will be kept confidential and anonymous. Light snacks and refreshments will be provided.

TO REGISTER

This is an important project for AUMA as we re-affirm our role and voice in the province. We would greatly appreciate your input. Please RSVP by [clicking this link](#) and registering for the event.

Thank you,

Barry Morishita | President
Mayor, City of Brooks

C: 403.363.9224 | president@auma.ca

Alberta Municipal Place | 300 8616-51 Ave Edmonton, AB T6E 6E6

Toll Free: 310-AUMA | www.auma.ca



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From: Angela Duncan <duncan.angela.ad@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 1:12 PM
To: undisclosed-recipients:
Subject: AUMA Villages West Update

Dear Mayors and Councillors,

It has been an exceptionally busy time for me, my Council, and the AUMA, as I am sure it has been for all of you. I appreciate the opportunity to update you on some of the work that AUMA has been doing and to let you know about some of our upcoming events.

In January, AUMA hosted a President's Summit to discuss the state of municipal finances, share ideas, and help inform AUMA's conversations with the provincial government. Thank you to those of you who attended, the event was a huge success that brought together municipal, industry, not for profit, and provincial leaders. If you would like more information on the outcome of the summit, click [HERE](#). We will be continuing the conversation at the upcoming Municipal Leaders Caucus.

As I am sure you are all aware, last week was the Throne Speech and the release of the Provincial Budget. While I am grateful that there were no major unexpected cuts, there are some items in the budget that will affect municipalities. You can see AUMA's full analysis of the budget [HERE](#) and our media release [HERE](#). I have been hearing some feedback from municipalities that they are concerned about how the budget will impact rural and small municipalities. In particular I have heard concerns around the removal of the Fire Training Grant, increase to the Education Property Tax Requisition, and changes to how Doctors Bill. I was also a little surprised to hear, in the Throne Speech, about proposed legislation for recall of Municipal Officials, as this is part of the current consultation on proposed changes to the LAEA. The GoA [survey](#) on the LAEA is open until tomorrow (Mar 4) so I encourage you to fill it out. Also, I would appreciate hearing how the budget has impacted your municipality, please reach out and let me know.

Another survey that you should be aware of is the [new Fair Deal Panel Survey](#). One of the proposals for the Fair Deal Panel is requiring municipalities and other public bodies to seek provincial approval before entering into agreements with the federal government. This will add time, red tape, and costs when negotiating and entering into agreements with the federal government. I encourage everyone to fill out the survey.

I am getting excited for our upcoming [Municipal Leaders Caucus](#) being held in Edmonton on Mar 25 and 26. Our working agenda contains many sessions that will be of particular interest to small municipalities, including panels with many Ministers, a session on proposed changes to the LAEA, a question and answer period with the RCMP, and further conversations about municipal finances. There will also be an [EOEP Course](#) on Councils Role in Land Use and Development Approvals on Mar 24 to coincide with the MLC. I understand that finances are tight but I encourage all who are able to attend. I hope to see many of you there.

This is by no means a comprehensive list of what we have been up to at the AUMA. I encourage you to check our [website](#) and sign up for the Weekly Digest to stay informed. In fact, a recent Digest featured an [UPDATE](#) from the Small Communities Committee. Conversely, I encourage anyone who has questions, comments, or concerns to reach out to me personally any time, I love hearing from you. On that note, I am interested in visiting some of the villages that I represent this summer to get a better perspective on your successes and struggles and provide updates. Please let me know if you would like me to visit your community so that we can make arrangements.

Sincerely,

11.e

aboffice@albertabeach.com

From: Crystal Zevola <czevola@auma.ca> on behalf of Dan Rude <drude@auma.ca>
Sent: March 6, 2020 2:04 PM
Subject: Registration open for the 2020 AUMA Public Risk Conference
Attachments: 2020 AUMA Public Risk Conference - ePostcard.pdf

Good afternoon,

Registration is now open for our 2020 AUMA Public Risk Conference, taking place on April 30 & May 1 in Canmore, Alberta. This event will ensure that you stay current with the latest emerging risk trends, learn new tactics from industry experts, uncover cost-savings solutions, and be better prepared for the future. Session topics will include hazard identification and risk assessment, planning and mitigation for special event losses, data breach risks, and much more. This year's Public Risk Conference will also include an entire half-day dedicated to addressing legal risks.

Your registration also includes entrance to our evening event where you can network with peers and subject matter experts from across Alberta and learn how to best manage the risks your municipality or organization faces. Our agenda is now live, visit our [event page for all of the details](#). You won't want to risk missing this conference.

Should you have any questions, please contact Maegan Sheskey at msheskey@auma.ca. I look forward to seeing you there.

Dan Rude | Chief Executive Officer
ALBERTA URBAN MUNICIPALITIES ASSOCIATION

D: 780.431.4535 | C: 780.951.3344 | E: drude@auma.ca
Alberta Municipal Place | 300-8616 51 Ave Edmonton, AB T6E 6E6
Toll Free: 310-AUMA | 877-421-6644 | www.auma.ca



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AUMA Public Risk Conference

April 30 - May 1, 2020 | Canmore, AB

Can(DO)more:
How to collaborate
and do more with less.

Can(LEARN)more:
Inspiring thought
leadership in a
changing world.

Can(PLAY)more:
Network with your
friends, colleagues
and peers.

310-AUMA | auma.ca/events



11.f

aboffice@albertabeach.com

From: Andrew Riley <ariley@auma.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 9:37 AM
To: Kathy Skwarchuk
Subject: AUMA's Electricity Aggregation for years 2021 through 2023
Attachments: Energy Aggregation 2020 - 03042020.pdf

AUMA will be conducting an electricity aggregation very shortly on behalf of our members. Please see the attached information package and sign up sheet. And feel free to email me or call me with any questions and I will be happy to discuss the benefits of our program with you. My contact details are below.

Sincerely

Andrew

Andrew Riley | Director, Client Development
ALBERTA URBAN MUNICIPALITIES ASSOCIATION

D:780.431.4541 | C: 780.975.3765 | E: ariley@auma.ca

Alberta Municipal Place | 300-8616 51 Ave Edmonton, AB T6E 6E6

Toll Free: 310-AUMA | www.auma.ca



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AMSC Energy Program 2020 Aggregation: Electricity



Please return the completed *Authorization form* to
energy@auma.ca by April 15, 2020 to participate.

2020 Aggregation Opportunity

At AUMA, we always want to hear directly from our members. In January 2020, we hosted in-depth conversations with members regarding municipal energy priorities. Through these conversations, we understand that price certainty, budget stability, and most importantly reducing energy costs in ways that cannot be achieved individually, are important to you. To support you in these goals, **we're once again offering an opportunity to participate in our proven aggregation process that ensures you get the right product at the best price.**

Many members have also expressed a strong interest in other longer-term options such as – long-term electricity procurement (10-20 years), community generation opportunities, and energy management services to increase efficiencies. As such, we're working on how to better serve you in the future for those needs as well.

Alberta's electricity market: recent changes and future impact

Over the past several years, Alberta's electricity market has undergone quite a substantial shakeup. Some of the most significant disruptions were:

1. Plans to transition to a Capacity Market were announced, developed, and then cancelled.
2. Federal phase-out targets for coal-fired generation were implemented and a large amount of government subsidized renewable energy electricity projects were supported to replace this source of energy.
3. Power purchase arrangements (PPAs), that have been present since the early 2000's, were terminated, opening up possibilities for generators to seek long-term contracts with new counterparties.

These, among other factors, have opened opportunities for our Energy program and for you.

Under these new conditions, and as a large aggregate group, Alberta municipalities have the potential to source low cost electricity directly from generators for long-term price certainty (10-20 years) and stability. Over the next year, we will work to perform full due diligence on a variety of new opportunities on behalf of our members. We will then engage you to test whether we have met your needs.

How to participate in the 2020 opportunity

In order to ensure we can move as an aggregated collective in the future, while also addressing your short-term energy needs, we recommend participating in our aggregation round for terms up to 3 years, covering the period of January 2021 - December 2023. However, as with previous aggregations we will be offering alternative options to serve unique requirements. Fortunately, futures pricing in the wholesale market has been very stable since the provincial government announced that Alberta would remain an energy-only market. **Current wholesale futures prices for a 3-year term are currently averaging \$0.054 per kWh and have decreased about 3.5% over the past 7 months signaling that now is a good time to procure.**

Once you've reviewed our 2020 aggregation package, complete the enclosed *Authorization form*, and return it to us at energy@auma.ca. If you're interested in alternate terms, please contact us and we'll walk through the available options with you. Never hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have.

Andrew Riley

Director, Client Development

780.431.4541 | ariley@auma.ca

Aggregation Opportunity

What is aggregation?

A collective approach to access competitive pricing.

In Alberta, most consumers procure energy commodities through retailers, however, large consumers have the option to go to wholesalers. Retailers sell products directly to customers in frequent and smaller transactions, adding premiums to cover costs they've incurred to acquire supply and market to the end-consumer. Wholesalers sell in bulk volumes to various outlets or retailers and typically sell their products for a lower unit price as their handling time and costs are lower. The difference between the two is similar to purchasing cereal at a retail grocery store (e.g. Safeway) vs. a wholesale company (e.g. Kellogg's).

Energy works the same way, resulting in lower prices in the wholesale energy markets. By conducting a Request for Proposals (RFP), we attract generators, energy suppliers, and financial institutions who deal in trading commodities. The increased participation drives increased competition, further driving down price and ultimately accessing the best price for you.

Our Energy aggregation process is designed for our members.

Unlocked access to the wholesale market



Our process attracts bids from the wholesale market, ensuring access to the best price available at the time of transaction.

No fees



Energy procurement is part of our program and is available to members at no additional cost. Depending on the size of the municipality, outsourcing this service could cost a municipality an additional \$10,000/year to \$25,000/year.

Trade agreement compliant



You don't need to worry when you partner with us. We ensure compliance with relevant trade agreements including CFTA, NWPTA, and CETA. We even go the extra mile by engaging an auditing firm as our third-party monitor.

Proven performance



We have successfully conducted this process multiple times. Our 2017 aggregation resulted in 40% savings in natural gas costs and 20% savings in electricity costs for our members.

A product designed for you



We do the work to ensure you get the right product at the best price.

We calculate your load profile, structure products, take care of the procurement process, and monitor the market for favourable times to transact.

Aggregation Opportunity, continued

What is the process for aggregation and how do I join?

Joining is easy, simply fill out the *Authorization form* in this package and we'll do the rest.

JOIN THE AGGREGATION

Complete the *Authorization form* found in this package by April 15, 2020.

New customers may be contacted if additional information is required.

YOUR ROLE

We do the work to ensure you get the right product at the best price.

TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

We will perform a technical analysis of your historical energy profile, including consideration of any future needs you identify, and then shape a product that offers you the most protection from market exposure.

OUR ROLE

VENDOR QUALIFICATION

We will develop and post RFP documents to the Alberta Purchasing Connection (APC), ensuring a fair, open, and transparent opportunity to all vendors. Vendors will be pre-qualified based on their responses.

ACQUIRING COMPETITIVE PRICING

We will monitor the Alberta Electricity market daily to identify favourable pricing conditions. When these conditions arise, we will notify pre-qualified vendors to submit their competitive bids. We will transact with the vendor that offers the best price.

SIGN THE CONTRACT

We will coordinate signing of the new contract and price with you.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I know I am receiving the best price?

Our Energy Program has a number of qualities that provide municipalities comfort in knowing they are getting the best price for their electricity needs.

First, our process encourages maximum competition. Our Energy Program doesn't just ask for quotes from select vendors, it publicly posts the competition to ensure broad participation from industry. Our process is proven-effective and compliant with trade agreements. Additionally, we involve a third-party to audit ourselves to ensure that we satisfy the procurement standards of our clients.

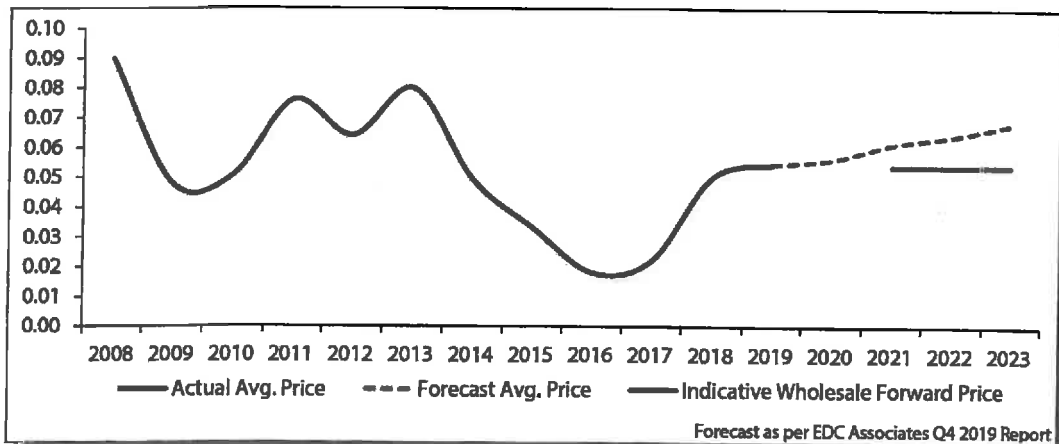
Second, our Energy Program further reduces costs by going straight to the wholesale market, a place where large quantities of energy commodities are traded in real time by large energy suppliers and financial institutions and where the mark-up costs of "intermediaries" (e.g. retailers or re-sellers of energy) have not been added yet. Our Energy Program does not have a profit mark-up on the wholesale prices it receives from this competition.

Third, timing is important as commodity prices in the wholesale markets are constantly changing. We pre-qualify vendors so that we can monitor market trends and transact at short notice in order to take advantage of favourable market conditions.

Finally, wholesale trades are recorded in the ICE NGX and posted daily. Since we are transacting at the wholesale markets we can compare bids received with what is taking place at the wholesale market and use that information to benchmark results. If we receives bids that are out of line with the market, we won't transact. We are committed to transparency with our members and can share market analytics and forecasts on request.

Current market forecasts

Figure 1. Current Wholesale Prices (indicative) versus Alberta Pool Forecast (\$/kWh)



Frequently Asked Questions

How does the AMSC Energy Program help municipalities manage risk?

We provide expertise to help you navigate the complex and changing Alberta markets. Prices fluctuate constantly as a result of supply and demand as well as due to external forces such as government regulation. Announcements of program and regulatory changes introduce volatility in the electricity market and consumers who can act quickly may be able to take advantage of favourable pricing shifts. Signing up for our aggregation process allows our energy experts to monitor the energy and political landscapes for you and helps you manage these risks.

Why should we choose the AMSC Energy Program?

Our aggregation process offers numerous benefits to municipalities and not-for-profit organizations that independent procurement does not. The advantages of aggregation and access to wholesale markets, the benefits of our municipally focused customer care, the flexibility of products and terms, the transparency of fees and the support from the political advocacy of the AUMA are just some of the reasons why choosing us as your retailer is a smart move. Community Related Organizations (CROs) within your municipality can also enjoy the many benefits of our Energy Program when your municipality signs up to participate.

What is a Community Related Organization and how can they benefit by joining the AMSC Energy Program under our municipality?

A Community Related Organization (CRO) is a municipally-related organization that is eligible to receive the benefits offered through our Energy Program. Examples of CROs include curling rinks, community centres, youth clubs, service clubs, and exhibition/rodeo grounds. CROs are only qualified to participate if their municipality is committed to the program and guarantees their contract on the AMSC Energy Member Master Agreement or upon meeting credit requirements.

When will the AMSC Energy Program be procuring electricity on behalf of my municipality?

We will be reviewing market opportunities on a daily basis and buying strategies will be based upon market conditions and forward pricing analysis. Depending upon the formation of aggregated pools and products, procurement will be executed to the maximum benefit of participants. The aggregation process is designed to be responsive to the market and to provide transparent, competitive prices to our Energy Program participants.

Our community is considering building a generation plant in the coming years.

Can we sell surplus power back to the program?

Yes. Our Energy Program is extremely flexible and would treat a municipal generator in the same fashion as an independent power producer, accepting surplus power back into the program. Every situation is unique, so please consult with us for further information.

Still have questions? Contact us at energy@auma.ca.

We're here to serve you.

AUMA

300, 8616 51 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T6E 6E6
780.433.4431 | 310.AUMA

auma.ca





Aggregation: Authorization form

1. Organization/contact information

Municipality/ Organization		Customer number (if applicable)	
Contact name		Job title	
Address			
City/Prov		Postal code	
Telephone		Email	

2. Electricity procurement

Select the term AMSC is to procure electricity on your behalf:

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 year	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 year	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 year	
---------------------------------	---------------------------------	---------------------------------	--

3. Signature

By signing below, you confirm that AMSC is authorized to procure electricity on your behalf through an aggregated public procurement process.

Signature	X	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	
-----------	---	-------------------	--

Submission instructions

Email completed Authorization Form by April 15, 2020 to: energy@auma.ca

Notes

Additional authorization may be required under the AMSC Energy Member Master Agreement. AMSC Energy Program will contact you if required.

11.9

aboffice@albertabeach.com

From: Jennifer Pederson <JPederson@countybarrhead.ab.ca>
Sent: February 24, 2020 4:00 PM
To: Jennifer Pederson
Cc: Koren Scott
Subject: Save the Date - BARCC Crime Prevention Trade Show & Conference

SAVE THE DATE

CRIME PREVENTION TRADE SHOW & CONFERENCE

Barrhead, Alberta
May 9, 2020

Attendance is FREE

www.barcc.ca

BARCC is a partnership between



The Barrhead & Area Regional Crime Coalition (BARCC) has already been awarded the 2019 Minister's Award for Municipal Excellence - Outstanding Achievement for our collaborative efforts in education and awareness of crime prevention and reporting suspicious activities. We're now moving forward with our next initiative, our "Crime Prevention Trade Show & Conference" to be held in Barrhead on May 9, 2020.

Register for regular updates through Eventbrite - [click here.](#)

The Trade Show & Conference event website is currently under construction, but you can visit www.barcc.ca to learn more about our alerting system and other initiatives, and our collaborative approach to making our communities safer in a time where **property crime** is monopolizing news headlines.

We invite **representatives, council, administration and staff**, from all municipalities across the province to join us **and the general public** in learning more about what we can legally do to protect ourselves and our property.

Attendees will have the opportunity to:

- Hear from a legal expert about what property owners are legally allowed to do to protect their property
- Learn from an ex-offender about a life of crime and the challenges overcome to make the change to a better life
- Experience the latest and greatest security tools and gadgets with live demos throughout the show
- Connect with vendors and specialists who can provide suggestions on how best to secure your property.

Please feel free to share this event **with council, staff & constituents.**

If you have any questions about the event, our collaboration (BARCC) or our alerting tool, **BARCC Connect**, please feel free to reach out to me.

Have a great day.

Jennifer Pederson, B.Sc.
Economic Development & Communications Coordinator
Office 780-674-3331



Please Note:

This message is only intended for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, and exempt from disclosure. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us by telephone (780) 674-3331 or electronically by return message, and delete or destroy all copies of this communication. Thank you.

11.6

aboffice@albertabeach.com

From: Councillor Karygiannis <Councillor_Karygiannis@toronto.ca>
Sent: March 4, 2020 3:05 PM
Subject: Car Speed Governors
Attachments: Speed Governors Letter.pdf

Dear Municipal Colleague,

Please find attached letter regarding Car Speed Governors.

If you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 416 392 1374.

Regards,

Hon. Jim Karygiannis
Councillor Ward 22
Scarborough-Agincourt
100 Queen Street West, Suite A1
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
Phone: 416-392-1374
Fax.: (647) 723 0278
jim@karygiannis.net
www.karygiannis.net



@jimkarygiannis



jim_karygiannis

"Live-Love-Laugh"

This e-mail may be privileged and/or confidential, and the sender does not waive any related rights and obligations. Any distribution, use or copying of this e-mail or the information it contains by other than an intended recipient is unauthorized. If you received this e-mail in error, please advise me (by return e-mail or otherwise) immediately.

If you are a lobbyist and are not registered please contact the Office of the Lobbyist Registrar Tel 416- 338-5858, lobbyistregistrar@toronto.ca, www.toronto.ca/lobbyist

Toronto City Hall Suite A1
100 Queen St. W.
Toronto Ontario M5H 2N2
(416) 392 1374 Tel
(416) 392 7431 Fax



3850 Finch Ave E. #G7
Scarborough Ontario
M1T 3T6
Tel (416) 321 2788
Fax (647) 723 0287

March 4, 2020

Dear Municipal Colleague:

Re: Car Speed Governors

I am writing to request that you join Toronto City Council in asking the Federal Government to consider studying an amendment to the Motor Vehicle Safety Act *to control the top speed on new vehicles to be less than 150 kilometres per hour through the installation of speed governors*. The amendment would include the prohibition against the manufacture, importation, sale, lease, operation and release after repair of motor vehicles manufactured after January 1, 2022, if they are not equipped with a speed governor engaged and set to a maximum speed no greater than 150 kilometres per hour. First responder vehicles or other vehicles used in emergencies would be exempt.

As the former Member of Parliament for Scarborough-Agincourt, I served as the Parliamentary Secretary for the Minister of Transport, with special emphasis on Transport and the Environment. In June 2008, I submitted a Private Members' Bill (Bill C-568, An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Safety Act (speed limiters), which received First Reading in the House of Commons.

As a City Councillor, I am faced with the reality of increasing pedestrian fatalities and injuries as the result of speeding drivers. In Scarborough-Agincourt, we have lost members of our community due to speed:

- Including a young man who died after driving at 180 km/h, hitting a concrete pole and splitting his vehicle in half
- An 11 year old student killed after being hit by a car on his way home from school.

At the July 2019, City Council adopted the following:

"That City Council request the City Manager to write to the Federal Minister of Transportation requesting that the Minister examine the possibility controlling the top speed on new vehicles to be less than 150 kilometres per hour through the installation of speed governors."

I am asking you to support this initiative by writing to the Minister of Transportation requesting that all vehicles manufactured after January 1, 2022, to be equipped with speed governors so vehicles cannot travel over 150 kilometres per hour.

Jim Karygiannis, Councillor
Ward 22, Scarborough-Agincourt
www.karygiannis.net

Should you have any questions or require additional information on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 416-392-1374 or by email at jim@karygiannis.net.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Karygiannis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Jim Karygiannis Councillor Ward 22
Scarborough-Agincourt

Jim Karygiannis, Councillor
Ward 22, Scarborough-Agincourt
www.karygiannis.net

aboffice@albertabeach.com

From: Denis Meier - Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland <Denis.Meier.LSP@assembly.ab.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2020 2:10 PM
To: aboffice@albertabeach.com
Subject: Community events

Greetings,

MLA Shane Getson has asked me to reach out to community leaders in order to gather information about community events planned for this year. The purpose is threefold: 1/ Shane wants to be accessible and attend as many events as possible. 2/ We are preparing a new website and we want to present as many events as possible (free publicity for your event). 3/ Changes are being made to the Legislature website and they are asking for pictures and videos of events from Lac Ste. Anne Parkland Constituency to feature on that site. Please let us know about events in your area such as fairs, ag. Fairs, 4-H events, parades, school graduations, tractor pulls etc.

Thank you and if you need further information, feel free to call me.

Denis Meier

Constituency Assistant
Lac St. Anne-Parkland
780-218-5635

Allan J. Grykuliak, CPA, CA*
Scott T. Mockford, CPA, CA*
Allen Lee, CPA, CMA*
Jason Bondarevich, CPA, CA*
*Operates as a professional Corporation

11210 – 107 Avenue N.W.
Edmonton, Alberta T5H 0Y1
Tel (780) 452-2300, Fax (780) 452-2335

March 10, 2020

THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
ALBERTA BEACH
Box 278
Alberta Beach, Alberta T0E 0A0

**Audit of the Financial Statements of the Alberta Beach for the year
ended December 31, 2019**

The purpose of this report is to communicate to the Mayor and Council certain aspects of the audit that we believe would be of interest to you. The Mayor and Council can play an important part in the audit planning process and we look forward to discussing our proposed plan with you to determine whether there are additional areas of concern to the Mayor and Council, which we should consider.

This report should not be distributed without our prior consent. We accept no responsibility to a third party who uses this communication.

Independence

At the core of the provision of external audit services is the concept of independence. Canadian Auditing Standards require us to communicate to the Mayor and Council, at least annually, all relationships between our firm and your organization that in our professional judgement, may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence for the forthcoming audit of the organization.

In determining which relationships to report, we have considered the applicable legislation and relevant rules of professional conduct and related interpretations prescribed by the appropriate provincial institute covering such matters as the following:

- Holding of a financial interest, either directly or indirectly in a client;
- Holding a position, either directly or indirectly, that gives the right or responsibility to exert significant influence over the financial or accounting policies of a client;

- Personal or business relationships of immediate family, close relatives, partners or retired partners, either directly or indirectly, with a client;
- Economic dependence on a client; and
- Provision of services in addition to the external audit engagement.

Our annual letter confirming our independence up to the date of this letter is enclosed as Appendix A.

Responsibilities of the Auditor

It is important for the Mayor and Council to understand the responsibilities that rest with the organization and its management and those that belong to the auditor:

Management is responsible for the preparation of the consolidated financial statements, which includes responsibilities related to internal control, such as designing and maintaining accounting records, selecting and applying accounting policies, safeguarding assets and preventing and detecting error and fraud;

The auditor's responsibility is to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements based on an audit thereof.

An audit is performed to obtain reasonable, but not absolute, assurance as to whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement and, owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that some misstatements of the consolidated financial statements will not be detected (particularly intentional misstatements concealed through collusion), even though the audit is properly planned and performed;

- The audit includes:
 - (i) assessing the risk that the consolidated financial statements may contain misstatements that, individually or in the aggregate, are material to the consolidated financial statements taken as a whole;
 - (ii) examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements;
 - (iii) assessing the accounting principles used and their application; and
 - (iv) assessing the significant estimates made by management;

- A sufficient understanding of internal control will be obtained to plan the audit and, when control risk is assessed below maximum, sufficient appropriate audit evidence will be obtained through tests of controls to support the assessment, but the scope of the auditor's review of internal controls will be insufficient to express an opinion as to the effectiveness or efficiency of the entity's controls; and
- The auditor will express an opinion as to whether the consolidated financial statements present fairly in all material respects, in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards, the financial position, financial performance and cash flows of the organization.

Audit Approach

We have been engaged to perform the audit of the consolidated financial statements of the Alberta Beach for the year ended December 31, 2019. We will adopt an audit approach that allows us to issue an audit opinion on the consolidated financial statements of the organization in the most cost-effective manner, while still obtaining the assurance necessary to support our audit opinion.

Our firm follows a risk-based approach. This approach focuses on obtaining sufficient appropriate audit evidence to reduce the risk of material misstatement in the consolidated financial statements to an appropriately low level. This means that we focus our audit effort in areas that we believe have a higher risk of being materially misstated and do less audit work in areas that are only low risk.

To assess risk accurately, we need to have a clear understanding of the organization's business and the environment it operates in. Much of our understanding is obtained through discussions with management and their staff. We would appreciate any insights that you could provide to us on what you perceive to be risky in your village, as that will make our audit more effective and efficient, which will benefit all concerned.

The following sections provide more detail on our audit approach for Alberta Beach in regards to the current year.

Audit Scope

We anticipate the scope of our audit of the consolidated financial statements of the Alberta Beach for the year ended December 31, 2019 to include the following:

- an audit opinion on the consolidated financial statements
- an audit opinion on the financial information return.

Requests by the Mayor and Council

In the course of your duties as the Mayor and Council, you may be aware of additional areas of concern from an audit perspective that you would like us to address. We want you to know that we welcome discussion on any areas of audit concern that you may have.

Overall Audit Strategy

The general audit strategies available to us are a “combined” audit approach or a “substantive” audit approach.

In a combined audit approach, we would obtain our assurance from a combination of tests of controls (compliance procedures) and substantive procedures (such as analysis of data and obtaining direct evidence as to the validity of the items). The combined strategy is more appropriate when there are a large number of transactions, and, when controls in Alberta Beach are strong. By obtaining some of our assurance from the tests of controls, we can reduce the substantive procedures that need to be done. Under a substantive audit approach, all of our audit evidence is obtained through substantive procedures like analysis, confirmation, examination of documentary or electronic evidence, etc.

Based on our knowledge and experience with your organization, we anticipate using mainly a substantive approach. Our preliminary knowledge of the organization’s internal control environment and procedures indicate that tests of controls should prove efficient for us to obtain a portion of our audit evidence, with the balance of the required assurance coming from reduced substantive procedures.

Higher Risk Financial Statement Areas

Based on our knowledge of the organization's business, our past experience, and knowledge gained from management and you, we have not identified any consolidated financial statements areas as having a potentially higher risk of material misstatement.

Materiality

Materiality can be defined as follows:

“A misstatement or, the aggregate of all misstatements in consolidated financial statements is considered to be material, if, in the light of surrounding circumstances, it is probable that the decision of a person who is relying on the consolidated financial statements, and who has a reasonable knowledge of business and economic activities (the user), would be changed or influenced by such misstatement or the aggregate of all misstatements. Ultimately, therefore, materiality decisions are based on professional judgement.”

Materiality in an audit is used as a guide for planning the nature and extent of audit procedures and for assessing the sufficiency of audit evidence gathered. It is also used in evaluating the misstatements found and determining the appropriate audit opinion to express.

Since the determination of materiality is a matter of professional judgement, it is primarily dependent on our evaluation of the relative importance of accuracy in the consolidated financial statements to the various users of those statements. We have identified government authorities, councilors, employees and the community at large as the most important users of Alberta Beach's consolidated financial statements.

Canadian Auditing Standards require the use of both quantitative and qualitative factors in determining materiality. For the audit of the Alberta Beach for the year ended December 31, 2019, we have concluded that a materiality level of \$60,000 is appropriate for the purposes of planning the audit.

Audit Team

In order to ensure effective communication between the Mayor and Council and our firm, we briefly outline below the key members of our audit team.

Allen Lee
Gary Ho

Timing of the Audit

We anticipate the following schedule for the conduct of the audit:

• Year-end audit fieldwork	• March 2020
• Draft consolidated financial statements	• April 2020
• Finalization of consolidated financial statements	• April 2020
• Finalization of Financial Information Return	• April 2020

Audit Fees

As part of our audit, we understand that you expect us to provide value and to share in your commitment to minimizing costs.

We anticipate that the fees for the audit of the consolidated financial statements of the Alberta Beach will be \$11,750 plus GST and any out of pocket expenses.

The above fee estimate is based on the assumption that the organization will provide all the necessary supporting working papers and full consolidated financial statements, that minimal adjusting journal entries will be required and that the nature of operations remains consistent with the information provided to us to date.

Should the completion of our engagement take less time than we have estimated, the savings will be passed on to the organization. We will continue to work with the organization to control costs.

Communication of Results

At the completion of our audit, just prior to issuing our Auditors' Report, or earlier if considered necessary, we will communicate to you matters arising from the consolidated financial statement audit. Our communication will include the following:


- matters required to be communicated to the Mayor and Council under Canadian Auditing Standards including possible fraudulent activities, possible illegal acts, significant weaknesses in internal control and certain related party transactions;
- matters that have a significant effect on the qualitative aspects of accounting principles used in the Alberta Beach's financial reporting;
- other matters arising from the audit that, in our professional judgement, are important and relevant to the Mayor and Council, and
- matters previously agreed with you to be communicated to the Mayor and Council.

Conclusion

We look forward to discussing these issues with you. Please do not hesitate to contact us about any of the above items or other matters of concern to the Council.

Yours truly,

DOYLE & COMPANY



Allen Lee, CPA, CMA
AL/br

Allan J. Grykuliak, CPA, CA*
Scott T. Mockford, CPA, CA*
Allen Lee, CPA, CMA*
Jason Bondarevich, CPA, CA*
*Operates as a professional Corporation

11210 – 107 Avenue N.W.
Edmonton, Alberta T5H 0Y1
Tel (780) 452-2300, Fax (780) 452-2335

March 10, 2020

“APPENDIX A”

THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
ALBERTA BEACH
Box 278
Alberta Beach, Alberta T0E 0A0

Re: Auditor Independence with Respect to the Alberta Beach

We have been engaged to audit the financial statements of the Alberta Beach for the year ended December 31, 2019.

Canadian Auditing Standards, require that we communicate at least annually with you regarding all relationships between the Alberta Beach and our firm that, in our professional judgement, may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence.

In determining which relationships to report, these standards require us to consider relevant rules and related interpretations prescribed by the Chartered Professional Accountants of Alberta and applicable legislation, covering such matters as:

- holding a financial interest, either directly or indirectly, in a client;
- holding a position, either directly or indirectly, that gives the right or responsibility to exert significant influence over the financial or accounting policies of a client;
- personal or business relationships of immediate family, close relatives, partners or retired partners, either directly or indirectly, with a client;
- economic dependence on a client; and
- provision of services in addition to the audit engagement.

We have prepared the following comments to facilitate our discussion with you regarding independence matters arising since January 1, 2019.

We are not aware of any relationships between the Alberta Beach and us that, in our professional judgement, may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence.

Page 2

CONFIRMATION OF INDEPENDENCE

March 10, 2020

The Canadian Auditing Standards requires that we confirm our independence to management or persons having oversight responsibility for the financial reporting process. However, since the Rules of Professional Conduct of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Alberta deal with the concept of independence in terms of objectivity, our confirmation is to be made in that context. Accordingly, we hereby confirm that we are objective with respect to the Alberta Beach within the meaning of the Rules of Professional Conduct of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Alberta.

This report is intended solely for the use of the Mayor and Council and management within the Alberta Beach and should not be used for any other purpose.

Yours truly,

DOYLE & COMPANY

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Allen Lee".

Allen Lee, CPA, CMA

AL/br

We have had another successful Christmas Party!

*Our Family Christmas Party was successful due to your support.
The Gunn Area Recreation Society (GARS) relies on the generosity of
donors such as yourself and is grateful for your kindness.*

We, at GARS, say

Thank you !



RECEIVED FEB 20 2020

11.

SUBDIVISION AND DEVELOPMENT APPEAL BOARD – LAC STE. ANNE COUNTY

ALBERTA BEACH
BOX 278,
ALBERTA BEACH, AB T0E 0A0

March 2, 2020
Our File: 01SDAB2020

Re: SUBDIVISION AND DEVELOPMENT APPEAL BOARD HEARING
Proposed TELUS Telecommunication Installation located on portion NE 16-54-03-W5, Appeal of
Development Permit and Request for Concurrence.

The Subdivision and Development Appeal Board have arranged the following date, time and place for a hearing with respect to appeal application 01SDAB2020:

Date: Thursday, March 12, 2020
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: Lac Ste. Anne County Office
56521 RR 65, Lac Ste. Anne County, AB.
Reason: Proposed TELUS Telecommunication Installation located on portion NE 16-54-03-W5,
Appeal of Development Permit and Request for Concurrence.

This hearing is to determine the appeal and to consider the reasons for the decision given by the approving authority. As an adjacent landowner, you are being notified of this appeal and your right to present a verbal, written or visual presentation regarding this matter. Should you wish to make a presentation at the appeal, please contact the undersigned to schedule same prior to Monday, March 09, 2020.

Should you wish to submit any additional information for the hearing, please provide same to me, at the County office, prior to 3:00 p.m. on Friday March 6, 2020, or alternatively you may provide this information at the hearing, however eleven (7) copies of the information provided will be required.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Stacey Wagner, Clerk of the SDAB
780-785-3411
swagner@lsac.ca

RECEIVED MAR 05 2020

aboffice@albertabeach.com

From: Ministry of Justice <ministryofjustice@gov.ab.ca>
Sent: Monday, March 2, 2020 4:46 PM
To: 'aboffice@albertabeach.com'; Ministry of Justice
Cc: Office of the Premier; LacSteAnne.Parkland@assembly.ab.ca; MA Minister; Barry Morishita
Subject: RE: Police Act\Costing Review - Letter to the Minister
Attachments: 35081.pdf

Dear Mayor Benedict:

Please see the attached response sent on behalf of the Honourable Doug Schweitzer, Minister of Justice and Solicitor General.

Thank you,

*Office of the Minister
Ministry of Justice and Solicitor General*

From: aboffice@albertabeach.com <aboffice@albertabeach.com>
Sent: Friday, October 04, 2019 10:13 AM
To: Ministry of Justice <ministryofjustice@gov.ab.ca>
Cc: Office of the Premier <Premier@gov.ab.ca>; LacSteAnne.Parkland@assembly.ab.ca; MA Minister <Minister.MunicipalAffairs@gov.ab.ca>; Barry Morishita <president@auma.ca>; Jim Benedict <jimbenedictalbertabeach@gmail.com>; Angela Duncan <duncan.angela.ad@gmail.com>; budlove53@gmail.com; Judy Valiquette <judyvaliquette@gmail.com>; Daryl Weber <darylweb@telus.net>; Mike Primeau <mprimeau@lsac.ca>; Wendy Wildman <cao@onoway.ca>; cao@mayerthorpe.ca; S. V. of Birch Cove <d.evans@birchcove.ca>; ! SVCASTLE <SVCASTLE@TELUS.NET>; S. V. of Nakamun Park <ddm@kronprinzconsulting.ca>; S. V. of Ross Haven <cao@rosshaven.ca>; S. V. of Sandy Beach <svsandyb@xplornet.ca>; ! ADMINISTRATION <ADMINISTRATION@WILDWILLOWENTERPRISES.COM>; ! ADMINISTRATION <ADMINISTRATION@WILDWILLOWENTERPRISES.COM>; S. V. of Sunrise Beach <svsunrisebeach@wildwillowenterprises.com>; office@sunsetpoint.ca; S. V. of Val Quentin <d.evans@valquentin.ca>; S. V. of Westcove <svwestcove@outlook.com>; ! ADMINISTRATION <ADMINISTRATION@WILDWILLOWENTERPRISES.COM>
Subject: Re: Police Act\Costing Review - Letter to the Minister
Importance: High

Good Morning:

Please see the attached correspondence from Mayor Benedict.

Alberta Beach Administration
Box 278
Alberta Beach, AB
T0E 0A0
Phone: 780-924-3181
Fax: 780-924-3313



ALBERTA
JUSTICE AND SOLICITOR GENERAL

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary - Elbow*

AR 35081

Sent via email: aboffice@albertabeach.com

FEB 28 2020

His Worship Jim Benedict
Mayor
Alberta Beach
Box 278
Alberta Beach AB T0E 0A0

Dear Mayor Benedict:

Thank you for your letter dated October 3, 2019, regarding police funding. I appreciate your sharing your concerns with me. Please note that we included your comments in the summary of feedback we have received and have considered your comments about issues such as equalized assessment and detachment distance, in finalizing the new police funding model. Stakeholders will be able to see that many of their concerns are reflected in changes to the test model presented during engagement. With respect to the implementation of the new funding model, I would like to provide you with some additional information.

I am pleased to say that the Government of Alberta's new police funding model will constitute a total increase in rural police funding of more than \$286 million over five years with every dollar of the additional funds invested in front-line policing. Under the cost-sharing terms in the Provincial Police Service Agreement (PPSA), Alberta pays 70 per cent of policing costs and the federal government covers the remaining 30 per cent. With the additional investment from municipalities, the federal share of the PPSA will increase as well. Revenue collected through the new model will be put into policing, leading to a substantial increase in RCMP officers and civilian positions throughout the province. This investment places priority on adding uniformed patrol officers in rural RCMP detachments and will also add members to specialized RCMP units that dismantle organized crime and drug trafficking and investigate auto and scrap metal theft. New civilian positions will assist with administrative tasks and investigative support to improve response times and help ensure officers have the support network they need to protect Albertans by spending more time on roads and in communities.

.../2

I recognize your concerns with the idea that rural municipalities will begin paying a portion of their policing costs. Stakeholders such as the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA) and the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) have been asking the Alberta government for many years to address police funding. Under the *Police Act*, the province provides policing to some municipalities at no direct cost to those municipalities. These municipalities primarily include towns of 5,000 population or less, Métis settlements, as well as all municipal districts and counties regardless of their population. Alberta contracts the RCMP as its provincial police service.

The Engagement Process

We proposed a new police funding model for a variety of reasons. The current funding model is not sustainable. Stakeholders have been asking the Alberta government for many years to address inequities in the funding model. Increased crime across rural Alberta is placing added pressure on the police and justice system. At the same time, nearly 20 per cent of Albertans have not directly paid for the front-line policing costs in their community. The new police funding model will not only address this inequity, but it will also help direct needed resources to policing and justice priorities in rural Alberta.

Engagement on the police funding model with stakeholders, including leaders in rural municipalities, took place between September and October of 2019. The perspectives gathered during the engagement, received via correspondence addressed to the ministry, and heard during my tour of rural municipalities this fall were included in the discussions.

Under the test model, small and rural communities (i.e., those receiving RCMP provincial policing) that have not previously paid for front-line policing would begin contributing a portion of the costs. We have taken your views on the test model to heart. On November 7, 2019, I held a webinar for municipal representatives to discuss feedback gathered on the funding model. To summarize:

- Municipalities want equalized assessment to have a lower weight than in the test model (where it is at 70 per cent);
- Municipalities want the funding model to factor in detachment distance and currently funded positions (e.g., enhanced policing positions);
- Municipalities are currently completing budgets for 2020 and forecasting for future years; There is a strong desire to have phased-in implementation of changes and for the percentage of costs to be below the 15 per cent threshold presented in the test model;
- Revenue gathered from the funding model should be reinvested in the communities that are paying for front-line policing; and
- It is critical for municipalities to have greater input into identifying policing priorities.

The new police funding model

Small and rural communities, with some exceptions, will begin contributing a portion of their front-line policing costs in 2020. This new cost-sharing partnership will bring small and rural municipalities into line with larger communities and cities. To give communities time to adjust, the new funding model is being phased in: communities will contribute 10 per cent of policing costs in 2020, followed by 15 per cent in 2021, 20 per cent in 2022, and 30 per cent in 2023. Communities will also no longer be billed for the full-time enhanced policing positions that they have previously funded, as the government will be absorbing this cost.

The establishment of a new Alberta Police Advisory Board will give small and rural communities policed by the RCMP a forum to discuss policing priorities with the RCMP. It will be made up of representatives from the Rural Municipalities of Alberta, the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association, and the Alberta Association of Police Governance.

The new funding model will be implemented on April 1, 2020. Municipalities can expect to receive an annual invoice for their front-line policing costs beginning in January 2021. The new funding model is sustainable and equitable while supporting public safety measures that will help protect all Albertans, no matter where they live. Policing is a “people-based” service, and I am committed to working in partnership with Albertans to create solutions that work for them.

Thank you once again for sharing your thoughts on a new police funding model. Your views and comments will be taken into consideration if changes to the funding model are implemented.

Sincerely,



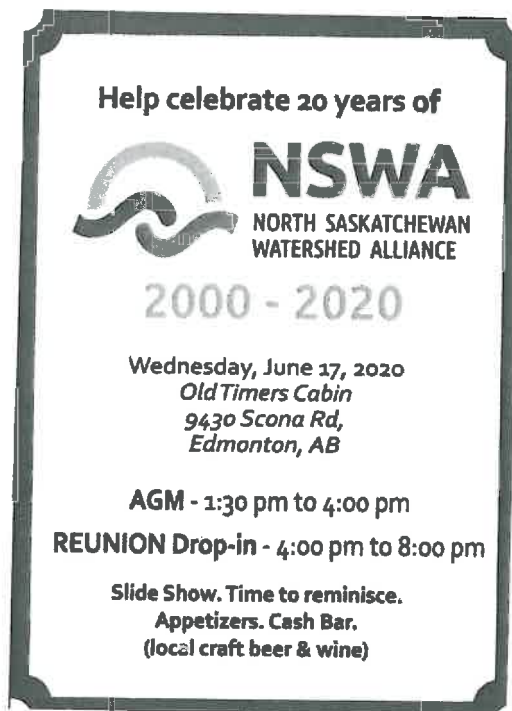
Doug Schweitzer
Minister of Justice and Solicitor General

cc: Honourable Jason Kenney, Premier of Alberta
Honourable Kaycee Madu, Minister of Municipal Affairs
Shane Getson, MLA, Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland
Barry Morishita, President, Alberta Urban Municipalities Association

aboffice@albertabeach.com

From: North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance <water@nswa.ab.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, February 26, 2020 2:12 PM
To: aboffice@albertabeach.com
Subject: NSWA 20th Anniversary Invitation

[View this email in your browser](#)



Please RSVP on Eventbrite

before June 10, 2020





March 4 2020

**Village of Alberta Beach
4935-50th Ave
P.O. Box 278
Alberta Beach, Alberta
T0E-0A0**

Re: Summer Village of Sunset Point ICF

To Mayor Benedict and Alberta Beach ICF Committee:

At our recent Council meeting the Summer Village of Sunset Point discussed the ongoing negotiations. Our Council is disappointed that negotiations haven't progressed further. We have always and will always continue to operate collaboratively. However at this time, we are unable to provide additional funding in relation to any of your ICF requests.

As Minster Madu's letter indicated ICFs are not about revenue sharing or attempting to leverage the ICF negotiations in an effort to extract revenue sharing. If

Sunset Point hereby proposes that we get back to the intent of the ICF implementation. I have attached a copy of an ICF we have forwarded to your Municipality several months ago. We understand that a response was not considered necessary due to the ongoing discussions however given our current timelines we recommend returning to a more basic ICF as laid out in the attached document.

If you have any questions do not hesitate ask.

Regards,

Richard Martin
Mayor



ALBERTA COUNSEL

Senior Editor: Pascal Ryffel
Publisher: Alberta Counsel

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Trade-mark Agents

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P: 780-652-1311
F: 780-652-1312
E: info@albertacounsel.com
www.AlbertaCounsel.com

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THRONE SPEECH 2020: JOBS, FINANCES, AND BETTER LIFE FOR ALBERTANS

Aaron Singleton

With the first day of the legislative calendar in the books, the province now has a picture of what spring will look like in Alberta politics. The government wasted no time in returning to regular business as they already tabled the first bill of the session. The theme of this session was broken down into three key sections: getting the province back to work, improving our financial house, and making citizens' lives better.

Jobs

As the Honourable Lois Mitchell read the speech, it was clear that this government is planning on tackling the disappointing unemployment rate in the province, which was last pegged at 7.3% in January 2020 (an increase of 0.5% from January 2019). The speech hinted at several different bills that will be tabled in the coming months.

At the forefront of this is a \$6.4 billion dollar investment in the upcoming budget that will target infrastructure and job creation. This falls well in line with the UCP's desire to improve the number of skilled workers entering the labour force. The speech deposed "We need more young people to recognize that there is a parity of esteem between experiential and academic learning, and between trades and professionals".

The government also revealed that they intend to introduce a long-term Blueprint for Jobs that focuses on investor confidence and "making Alberta the freest, fastest-moving and lowest taxes province." The province is continuing its mission to cut regulatory red tape, so you can expect that to play a significant role. They also allude to an increased diversification of the economy and growing the natural resource, technology, aerospace and tourism sectors.

The Fairness for Newcomers Act and Alberta Advantage Immigration Program improve the credential recognition process for new Albertans and encourage entrepreneurs to start new companies and investments in the province. Speaking of extra-jurisdictional business, Alberta will implement a new investment promotion agency to invest in global capital markets. Very few details were given about this new investment branch, but it will likely serve as a way for the province to directly invest in areas of their selection outside of the Alberta Investment Management Corporation (AIMCo), which serves at arms-length from government. They also signaled their desire to expand the New West Partnership Trade Agreement to improve inter-provincial trade.

The UCP also made sure Albertans knew they were going to continue fighting for the advancement of the province's energy sector. They stressed the importance of completing the Trans Mountain expansion and Keystone XL pipeline as well as other projects that will get energy to new markets. They did not speak to the Canadian Energy Centre but did reaffirm that they want the world to invest in Alberta's ethically sourced oil rather than that of countries led by dictators. They also hope to continue the path set by TIER and have Alberta reach net-zero emissions by 2050. This will be done through an equivalency agreement with Canada through methane regulations.

We need more young people to recognize that there is a parity of esteem between experiential and academic learning, and between trades and professionals.

Finances

Although the budget is set to be released right away on February 27th, the UCP predictably put Alberta's fiscal plan at the forefront of their throne speech. With numerous professional and public service agreements coming to an end on March 31, the UCP has indicated that they will implement a plan that will reduce public service spending by 3% while protecting frontline services. On January 31, Finance Minister, Travis Toews, hinted that the government will have to seriously consider the potential of reducing the number of staff in the public service. Excluded from the spending reduction were health care, education, community and social services, and children's services. This will be a key area to watch in the budget announcement as the Ernst & Young report on AHS called for significant savings and the details of the new education

THE NEWS

from ALBERTA COUNSEL

Alberta's Premier Review of Politics and Government Vitality



AARON SINGLETON
Policy Analyst

During the second year of his Political Science degree at the University of Alberta, Aaron worked as the campaign manager for a candidate in the 2011 federal election. He was able to translate that experience into a public service career that includes various positions with Service Alberta and Justice & Solicitor General. He also served as the Foreign Policy Advisor for Security Council at the University of Alberta's HSMUN conference where he developed his understanding of pragmatic policy analysis.



ALBERTA COUNSEL

funding model have yet to be fully released. With reference to health care, the UCP addressed the concern of Alberta's progressives by promising that "Albertans will never have to pay out of pocket for medically necessary care". This will be met with some critique as the topic of clinically unnecessary procedures became an opposition talking point in the media.

The UCP continued their planned change of direction for addictions by adding \$140 million to their mental health and addictions strategy. The last session saw the government not so subtly move away from safe injection sites to a focus on treatment, including the funding of 4,000 new treatment beds. The opposition will continue to press the government on the continued funding of safe injection sites as they cite that they have been living up to their intended purpose while the government cites a spike in crime in the areas in which they are built.

This section of the throne speech was relatively small, but they likely did not want there to be any talking points for the media or the opposition to use going into the budget on Thursday. The upcoming budget will also give us some insight into what the government will bring to the bargaining table for the public service.

Albertans will never have to pay out of pocket for medically necessary care.

Better Life for Albertans

The UCP will be bringing forward a bill to protect the survivors of human trafficking, a primary concern of the government since their election in 2019. Further to a hint they dropped last week, they will be proceeding with an amendment to the Vital Statistics Act that will prevent those convicted of sex offences from legally changing their name in the province. Lastly they discussed amendments to the Victims of Crime Act. No details were given other than it will increase financial benefits for those impacted by crime. Further, they hope to implement a provincial parole board in place of the federal one currently in place.

Jason Kenney's government has indicated that they will be following through on recommendations presented by the Curriculum Review Committee which was released in December. Some of the recommendations had included standardized testing, a contested issue within the teaching industry and with some parents. They will also be introducing a choice in education act that includes language used in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Following the report of the Fair Deal Panel, other bills may be tabled to give effect to its recommendations.

As for elections changes, the biggest change will no doubt be a recall act designed to give people a vehicle for which to remove MLAs, city councilors, mayors, and school board trustees. This is likely going to impact the ongoing municipal elections review underway by Minister Kaycee Madu. They released their idea to implement fixed provincial election and budget dates and changing election fundraising rules that would add limits to political action committee donations. After the decision of the Alberta Court of Appeal on the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act on Monday, they will be instituting a law that will require a referendum to be conducted before a consumer carbon tax can be implemented. This will be an interesting development to follow as the carbon tax has not been formally removed from Alberta as the matter is to be heard at the Supreme Court of Canada in March. They also hinted at other referendum bills they will table. This will likely come into play when the recommendations of the Fair Deal Panel are submitted to government at the end of March, so expect some of these to be among the first bills debated. The speech ended with "Following the report of the Fair Deal Panel, other bills may be tabled to give effect to its recommendations".

Finally, following the speech, the government tabled its first bill of the session. The bill will protect critical infrastructure from what the government calls illegal blockades across Canada and increase the penalties associated with the actions. They hinted that one feature will be that police will not be required to wait for a warrant to execute their duties in relation to these matters.

So, what does this all mean? Well, strap in for a turbulent session. The government may not be appeasing their already stressed municipal counterparts with the news of recalls and the ongoing review of municipal elections. The fiscal plan will be closely watched by those in the education field as the government has promised funding will remain constant while increasing in-class dollars which has led to speculations about hidden cuts. The public service battle will wage on with the news of the 3% decrease in spending. Another key area of focus will be future government investments. All in all, we are in for an exciting session.



JENELLE SASKIW
Senior Advisor

Jenelle Saskiw has over 17 years' experience in administration and as an elected official. She served four terms as a municipal councillor, eight years as a mayor, six years with the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association and three years with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. Jenelle has a strong understanding and passion for municipal and provincial issues.

POLITICAL EVENTS

UCP – Budget Breakfast

Friday, February 28th @ 7:00am

Location: Matrix Hotel, Edmonton

- Join Finance Minister, Travis Toews, for a summary of the 2020 budget over breakfast.
- Tix: \$125 (unitedconservative.ca/events)

UCP – St. Paddy's Brunch

Sunday, March 15th @ 11:00am

Location: Dublin Calling Pub, Calgary

- Join the Calgary-Currie Constituency Association for an Irish brunch and Celtic music.
- Tix: \$50 (unitedconservative.ca/events)

NDP – Irish Ceili

Saturday, March 7th @ 6:00pm

Location: Nor-Bridge Seniors Centre, Lethbridge

- Join Lethbridge-East NDP for an Irish social with food and a dessert auction.
- Tix: \$50 (albertandp.ca/events)

NDP – International Women's Day

Saturday March 7th @ 7:00

Location: Calgary

- Join Christina Gray for a celebration of International Women's Day along with political discussion.
- Tix: RSVP (albertandp.ca/events)



Source: Twitter @YEGJackson

KEY INFLUENCER PROFILE

DAVID JACKSON

Chief of Staff - Ministry of Infrastructure

Jenelle Saskiw

When the UCP won the spring election, it was clear that there had to be a strong balance of experience and knowledge in the ministries. So holds true for the demanding portfolio of the Ministry of Infrastructure. Minister Panda, an engineer by trade, needed the expertise and experience of a strong Chief of Staff who could maneuver the complexities of the department. David Jackson was hired to fill that role.

David brings to the department a strong resume having years of education and government experience to balance his portfolio. A graduate from St. Francis Xavier University and Memorial University, he has applied his knowledge to every government department he has interacted with. David has been a Legislative Coordinator in the Assembly of Alberta since 2013, working primarily with the Wildrose Party. Very well respected by all those who know him, David has a reputation of being a hard worker and is a wealth of knowledge within his department. He is proficient in both French and English.

David also has overseas experience as an International Election Observer for the parliamentary elections in Ukraine during the 2012 elections. During this mission, David was faced with a mixture of warm hospitality and hostility noting that even today, there are notable irregularities within the election process in the Ukraine.

David was a former member of the Alberta Public Service and a former reservist in the Canadian Forces. He volunteered to lead Canada's youth in the Royal Canadian Air Cadets in various squadrons and summer training centres across Canada. He has been awarded the Canadian Forces Decoration (CD) for his years of service.

A true gentleman with a desire to have a positive and effective influence in government, David is a wonderful asset to the Ministry of Infrastructure.



ALBERTA COUNSEL



**ZACK
ZIOLKOWSKI**
Associate

After graduating from MacEwan University, Zack started working for the former PC government as a political staffer and moving into a role as the Director of Research and Communications for Government Members prior to the 2015 election. He also has an extensive policy background including work surrounding the Municipal Government Act on behalf of the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association.



ALBERTA COUNSEL



EDUCATION CUTS PUT UCP ON THE HOT SEAT

Zack Ziolkowski

Education has been a hot topic since the UCP formed government this past May. From standardized testing to teacher contracts and education funding there has been no shortage of land mines for Minister Adrianna LaGrange to avoid. The funding piece is the most controversial; while the government included their intent to maintain education spending in their platform, it would appear that they haven't stuck to their promise. The Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA) recently released the results from a request into the funding of Alberta school boards. The results show that the government numbers were not adding up to the totals school boards actually received.

"...despite government assurances of a funding freeze, school boards are slated to receive \$136 million less funding for the 2019/20 school year, compared to 2018/19."

In response the government maintains that they are keeping the funding for education static over 2018/19:

\$8.2 billion per year for education maintains current funding levels as promised, and introduces a new assurance and funding framework that supports parents' choice and system demands.

— Alberta Budget 2019

The province claims that they are maintaining education funding and that there are no cuts; that, ignoring for the moment inflation and increased student enrollment, the budget line item for education remains the same as in the previous budget. In reality, it would seem that this is not the case with the ATA reporting a massive funding shortfall. The government has not explained the discrepancy.

The ATA released another interesting report this past week with the results of a survey they undertook into the public satisfaction with how the government is handling the education file.

A newly released public opinion poll conducted by Environics on behalf of the Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA) shows that disapproval of how the government handles K-12 education has risen 20 percentage points between February and December 2019. Fifty-eight per cent of Albertans express disapproval related to the government in K-12 education, compared to only 42 per cent that offer a passing grade.

While the government's popularity has shown a general decline since the election, this poll shows a direct dissatisfaction with the education file in particular. It is no wonder then that teachers are getting louder in response to the Minister of Education. In fact, there is a rally being planned for the same day as the provincial budget is to be released on February 27th and is conveniently during the Edmonton Teachers Convention as well. The rally is to support all public sector workers in the province and to "demand equitable access to quality public services". It will be interesting to see how large of a crowd will march on the Legislature to steal the UCP's budget thunder.

The Budget itself will also be interesting as it pertains to education. The Minister stated in her press conference introducing the new funding formula for school boards that details will be forthcoming after the budget is tabled. The media slammed the Minister for the lack of particulars in her release and as such details are greatly anticipated to determine where efficiencies will be found in the system and how it will boil down for school boards. Stay tuned to see if the government will actually maintain school board funding this time around, or if the ATA will need to FOIP the true numbers once again.



PHIL JOHNSON
Associate

With over 11 years of political experience in Alberta, Phil most recently held the positions of Ministerial Assistant to the Minister of Energy and Chief of Staff to the Minister of Indigenous Relations in the NDP government. He has also enjoyed various positions with the NDP Opposition. He holds an Honours Bachelor of Science from the University of Toronto. A skilled public relations advisor, policy analyst and project manager, he understands what it takes to build strong networks and effectively advocate on both economic and social issues.



ALBERTA COUNSEL

AT A GLANCE

In the Media

Teck Pulls Out of Oil Sands Mine Project

In a letter written by Teck CEO, Don Lindsay, the company notified Canada's Environment minister that the company will not be proceeding with its Frontier oil sands project. Federal cabinet was set to make a final regulatory decision on the project before the end of February. The \$20.6 billion project was projected to produce 260,000 barrels of oil each day along with creating around 7000 jobs.

In his letter, the CEO cites a changing global marketplace along with insufficient reconciliation of environmental protection and resource development in Canada. He also indicated that the company is in support of Canada's carbon pricing policy. The federal government used the news to reiterate their desire to reach a net zero economy in thirty years while Alberta has said that the decision has further weakened national unity as the province did everything in their power to have the project go ahead.

Teachers Allege Government Cut Education

The Alberta Teachers' Association has issued a release that shows the provincial government has made cuts to education funding despite claims that they maintained funding. In the October budget, the government included a provision that education funding would be frozen at 2018-19 levels until 2022-23. The UCP has maintained that the total funding rate per student remains unchanged.

The ATA countered the government's claims, saying that they had used the fiscal year dollars rather than school year totals. Funding increased from \$7.8 billion to \$8.4 billion between 2017-18 and 2018-19. The allegation is that the government averaged the two numbers and called that funding maintenance even though it amounts to a \$136 million dollar cut. They also revealed that the cancelling of three grants in favour of a one-time transitional grant has attributed to hundreds of millions in lost funding.

Government Ends Crude-By-Rail Contracts

The UCP has followed through on its campaign promise to divest from the crude-by-rail initiative implemented by the previous NDP government. The government spent \$1.3 billion dollars to get out of the contracts that saw Alberta lease 4,400 rail cars that would distribute oil products to market. The UCP estimates that the province would have lost about \$1.8 billion over the life of the contracts.

The project was polarizing from the start. Opposition leader Rachel Notley said that the move was to get

around pipeline bottlenecks while still being able to turn a profit. It was estimated that the crude-by-rail program was going to distribute 120,000 barrels a day. The NDP and UCP revenue numbers never matched which added to the controversy. The NDP forecasted profits of \$2.2 billion while the UCP found there would be a \$1.8 billion loss.

Mediation Fallout Between Alberta and Physicians

Alberta Health has said that the voluntary mediation efforts between the government and the Alberta Medical Association have not led to a resolution. This news comes on the heels of the Ernst & Young report that found that Alberta is spending too much money on physicians in relation to other provinces without seeing proportionate results.

The provincial government elected to end the current master agreement with AMA as per the powers entailed in Bill 21. New rules will be imposed on April 1, among which include a 50% reduction in the rate charged for complex modifiers until 2021. Although it will return to its normal rate, physicians will have to wait for the 25-minute mark to pass before they can claim the complex modifier. The province has also indicated that they hope to move away from the fee-for-service model to a three-year contract system.

UCP Funds Peter Lougheed Centre Expansion

One of the province's busiest hospitals is set to get a little bigger. Alberta has committed \$137 million dollars to renovations for the Peter Lougheed Centre to boost its busy emergency room and adding a mental health intensive care unit, amongst other measures. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2022.

The government indicated that the money needed for this project will be in addition to the money already going to the health care system and will be accounted for in next week's budget. In Alberta's the province's press release, they also hinted at other health care projects that will be announced in the upcoming fiscal plan.

Injunction Granted Against Blockades in Alberta

Justice Paul Belzil has granted an injunction against all rail blockades impacting CN Rail in Alberta. The application was made by CN in response to a blockade that was set up just west of Edmonton in support of the Wet'suwet'en protests related to the Coastal GasLink project in British Columbia. The injunction will last for 30 days.

Similar blockades have been built across the country as people on all sides work to reach a resolution on the issue. Prime Minister Trudeau has asked Canadians for patience as they try to find a without-force solution while the opposition has said that Trudeau has provided the "weakest response" to a national crisis in the history of the country. The RCMP have offered to withdraw from the Wet'suwet'en territory so long as the service road to the pipeline remains clear.



PASCAL RYFFEL
Director of Government
Relations

After completing his MA in Media and International Development, Pascal spent four years with the Alberta NDP Caucus. Pascal has been directly involved in Alberta politics for almost two decades, including as a candidate in 2008, and has a deep and current knowledge of Alberta politics. Pascal has been with Alberta Counsel since 2015.



ALBERTA COUNSEL

CONSERVATIVE LEADERSHIP RACE: A DIMINUTIVE FIELD WITH HUGE OPPORTUNITY

Aaron Singleton

Rona Ambrose, John Baird, Jean Charest, Pierre Poilievre- a strong field of diverse minds that would give conservative Canadians plenty of different policy directions for their party going into the next election. Only one problem; none of these names will be running for the Conservative Party leadership. Had all these names entered, we likely would have witnessed the most intriguing leadership contest in decades. At this time, only four people have met the official requirements to be considered approved candidates.

Peter MacKay

If you have followed federal politics to any degree over the last 20 years, you probably know who he is. Former leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Canada, Deputy Leader of the CPC and a cabinet minister under Stephen Harper. Name recognition is going to be a big factor in determining his success as he has been outside of federal politics since Justin Trudeau became Prime Minister.

MacKay is poised to take the moderate lane going into this leadership campaign. Largely considered a red tory, there is no reason to think that he won't continue to formulate his policy platform in a similar fashion going forward. It is important to note that he has not released a formal campaign platform at the time of writing this article. He always brings with him a great deal of Maritime support, something the Conservatives lacked in the last election. To see success at the leadership vote in June, MacKay will need to rally to convince the right that he is the moderate candidate that conservatives of all factions can unite behind.

Erin O'Toole

From the list of approved candidates to date, O'Toole is one of two currently sitting as an MP in Ottawa. Under the last Stephen Harper administration, he served as the Minister of Veteran Affairs. He also ran in the 2017 leadership contest where he had finished third.

Going into this race, he is aligning himself to occupy the "traditional conservative" lane in order to capture as broad support as possible. While his policy positions are similar to MacKay's, he is branding himself as someone who can attract all small-c conservatives and bring them under one umbrella. However, some have questioned whether O'Toole will find success occupying a lane to the right of MacKay as he is also relatively moderate. He has talked about the economic issues of western Canada but has said that the party cannot solely rely on the west for political support.

Marilyn Gladu

Out of the candidates not named MacKay and O'Toole, Gladu has the best outside shot of winning the Conservative leadership race. Currently the MP for Sarnia-Lambton, she is an engineer by trade with two decades of experience with Dow Chemical. Her policy proposals cite her as taking the "modern conservative" lane which includes a climate change policy that will meet our Paris Agreement targets while also allowing for pipelines to be built. She also supports some traditional conservative positions such as reducing income tax.

Leslyn Lewis

As the only approved candidate with no parliamentary experience, Lewis has quite the uphill battle ahead of her. Her only political experience comes from an ultimately unsuccessful campaign in 2015. She does, however, bring to the table a wealth of knowledge as she holds two master's degrees along with a PhD in International Law. Of the approved candidates, she will look to run in the social conservative lane on her path to leadership. She is the only candidate that received the "green light" endorsement from the Campaign Life Coalition, a pro-life advocacy group.

Some of the notable names who have given their intention to run but have yet to meet the qualification standards are Michelle Rempel Garner, Rick Peterson, Derek Sloan, and Richard Decarie. Many of these names announced their desire to enter to contest shortly after it was announced but have not taken the next step. In order to qualify, candidates are required to have submitted a \$25,000 registration fee and 1,000 signatures before February 27th. Should none of these individuals meet the first threshold, it could prove to be a very quiet and underwhelming race.

West Inter-Lake District Regional Water Services Commission

Inter-basin Transfer Open Houses

The West Inter-Lake District Regional Water Services Commission (WILD) is expanding the regional water system to the Summer Village of Nakamun and Hamlet of Entwhistle. The supply of water to the two communities will involve an Interbasin transfer of water from the North Saskatchewan river basin to the Athabasca Basin.

WILD will be holding a series of open houses to review the proposed Interbasin transfer and route of the water transmission lines

General Info

1. Water will be chlorinated potable from the EPCOR water system
2. Method transfer of water is the Regional Water transmission lines
3. Contact
 - a. Website -
 - b. Contact Person – Lorne Olsvik- Chairman – 780 -937-5360
John Van Doesburg -Manager- 403-391-0270

Open Houses

A series of Open houses will be held 4:00 - 8:00 pm at the following locations:

March 31-	Onoway –	Onoway Heritage Center
April 2-	Stettin – Nakamun Hall	RR1518- Twp 562
April 7	Hamlet of Entwhistle	Entwhistle Community Centre
April 16	Summer Village of Seba Beach	Seniors Center



February 27, 2020

What Women Want is one of the major fundraising events for our organization. The evening is a themed night for the ladies with dancing, drinks and entertainment along with numerous raffles and silent auctions. This year our theme is Speakeasy! The event is run completely by volunteers who give a tremendous amount of time and energy to making this a new and spectacular event every year.

The date is fast approaching! We are looking for corporate support in the form of financial sponsorship or donations of items for our silent auction. We have a sponsorship package for every budget, and we hope there is one that works for you! Please return your sponsorship commitment form by **Thursday, March 26, 2020** to ensure your company is included in all advertising efforts.

Events such as this assist the Alberta Beach Ag. Society in continuing to support various other organizations and initiatives in our community. Thank you in advance for your willingness to support this event and helping to make a difference in our community.

Sincerely,

The **WHAT WOMEN WHAT** Committee, and the Alberta Beach & District Ag. Society

RECEIVED MAR 03 2020

WHAT WOMEN WANT 2020

Sponsorship Levels

Platinum- \$500.00 cash or equivalent value donation

- Name of organization (Logo) as event sponsor on Facebook page & Ag. Website
- Name of organization as event sponsor on all advertisements in local papers, Posters
- Name of organization in Event program
- Two complimentary tickets to the event

Gold- \$200.00 or equivalent value donation

- Name of organization (Logo) as event sponsor on Facebook page & Ag. Website
- Name of organization as event sponsor on Poster advertisements
- Name of organization in Event program
- One complimentary ticket to the event

Silver- \$100.00 or equivalent value donation

- Name of organization in Event program
- Name of organization (Logo) as event sponsor on Facebook page & Ag. Website

Silent Auction Item(s)

- For items valued at less than \$100 -Name of organization advertised throughout the evening

****PLEASE EMAIL LOGOS TO abagsociety@gmail.com**

WHAT WOMEN WANT 2020

Sponsorship Commitment Form

Organization Name: _____
(As it should appear on all marketing, advertising & program materials)

Organization Contact: _____

Contact Email: _____

Contact Phone: _____

Contact Address: _____

Sponsorship Level: Platinum  Gold  Silver  Item Donation: 

Sponsorship Amount: \$ _____

Estimated Value of Item Donated: \$ _____

Payment by Cheque:

Cheque Enclosed? Yes No OR E-Transfers to: abagsociety@gmail.com

Please mail completed form and Cheque to:

Alberta Beach & District Agricultural Society
Box 330 Alberta Beach, AB T0E 0A0

***alternately, you may email your form to one of the Event Coordinators (see email address below). We can make arrangements to pick up your item and/or payment if required.**

Sherrie Halder-Westerlund- (780)915-5967 or gwesterlund@xplornet.com
Jessica Puhov – (780)913-5595 or kittykatsrule@msn.com or
abag.whatwomenwant@gmail.com

Authorization: By signing below, you confirm your company's commitment to sponsor the **What Women Want Event**

Saturday May 02, 2020 at the Alberta Beach Agliplex, Alberta Beach, AB.

Name & Title (please print)

Date

Signature

Village of Alberta Beach
Box 278
Alberta Beach , Alberta
T0E 0A0

March 11,2020

**Appeal for Easement Land Encroachment and Variance at:
5015- 46 Street, AB Beach, T0E 0A0**

ATTENTION: Mayor Jim Benedict and Council; AND TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

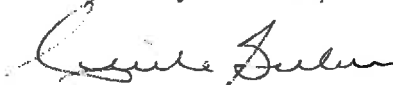
I am writing to appeal the decision made by this Council for a 2-3 foot variance consideration, based on building a fence to discourage people from walking onto my land and gazing into my home with no consideration or discretion. This variance request is based on privacy protection and difficulty to maintain adjoining municipal property. This refers to regular maintenance of the municipal property for grass cutting, trimming, shrub and tree maintenance, weed control and lawn care. Also allowance for snow shoveling and clearing during the winter months.

In this location this variance would not cause any unnecessary hardship and does not unduly affect neighbouring properties. There is a large area at the access and past the proposed fenced area that can still be and is enjoyed by the public.

The reason described to me for the refusal was not clearly described and was not in conjunction with the written Variance Provision Policy.

I am requesting your consideration to this request based on the above information and another recent breach of a restraining order that has been put into place to protect us from the ongoing trespassing, harassment and intimidation that initially led to my request for this variance. Thank you

Respectfully submitted,


Cecile Bulva

Cc. Kim Kozak - Development Officer



Village of Alberta Beach
Box 278
Alberta Beach, AB, T0E 0A0
Attn: Kathy Skwarchuk

February 21, 2020

To Whom it May Concern:

TERMINATION OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW BOARDS AGREEMENT

Lac Ste. Anne County has engaged in a review of our process to ensure that services are provided to County Residents in the most efficient manner possible. During this review, Administration became aware of an external alternative for Assessment Review Boards with would greatly reduce the demand on County resources. The Capital Region Assessment Services Commission (CRASC) provides Assessment Review Boards to member and non-member municipalities that is comparable to the cost of providing the services internally without the demands on County resources.

At the February 13, 2020 Regular County Council Meeting, Council resolved to move forward with CRASC. It is Lac Ste. Anne County's intension to discontinue the provision of Assessment Review Board services and contract with CRASC to provide assessment review boards when required. In taking this direction it will no longer be possible for the County to provide Assessment Review Board services to our municipal partners. Please accept this letter as formal written notice that Lac Ste. Anne County is exercising the right to terminate the Memorandum of Agreement with the Village of Alberta Beach with six months of notice. Understanding that the Assessment Appeal period is nearing, Council also agreed to extend the services of the Lac Ste. Anne Assessment Review Board services for the 2019 Assessment year and will consider the Agreement terminated after this time. We thank you for your ongoing cooperation and professionalism during the term of our agreement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mike Primeau".

Mike Primeau, MBA,ICMA-CM,CLGM
County Manager, Lac Ste. Anne County

Cc:
Lac Ste. Anne County Council
Robert Smyth, Assessment and Taxation Manager

RECEIVED FEB 25 2020

ATCO

March 3, 2020

Alberta Beach
PO Box 278
Alberta Beach, AB
T0E 0A0

Attention: Kathy Skwarchuk / Chief Administrative Officer

RE: Franchise Agreement Renewal

Enclosed are two (2) copies of the Renewal Agreement between Alberta Beach and ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. which require execution by Alberta Beach.

Please arrange for these documents to be executed and dated, return one (1) copy of the executed agreement along with one (1) certified copy of by-law No. 268-19:

Franchise Coordinator, Regulatory
ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd.
17th Floor, 10035 – 105 Street
Edmonton, AB T5J 2V6

The effective date of this agreement is March 1, 2020 as the bylaw received second and third readings by Alberta Beach on February 18th, 2020.

Please contact me at 780-420-5752 if you have any questions or if you would like to discuss the renewal further.

Yours truly,



Travis Oliver
Market Analyst
ATCO Gas

RECEIVED MAR 06 2020

NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

2020

BETWEEN:

ALBERTA BEACH

- AND -

ATCO GAS AND PIPELINES LTD.

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NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

ALBERTA BEACH, a municipality located in the
Province of Alberta (the "Municipality")

OF THE FIRST PART

- and -

ATCO GAS AND PIPELINES LTD., a
corporation having its head office at the City of
Edmonton, in the Province of Alberta (the
"Company")

OF THE SECOND PART

WHEREAS by Agreement dated May 4, 1968 made between the Company and the Municipality a franchise was granted to the Company to supply natural gas to the Municipality and its inhabitants, for a period of twenty (20) years;

WHEREAS by Renewal Agreement dated June 30, 1989 the Agreement was renewed and extended for a period of ten (10) years;

WHEREAS by Agreement dated December 15, 1999 the Municipality consented to the assignment of the Franchise Agreement by Northwestern Utilities Limited to ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd.;

WHEREAS by Renewal Agreement dated July 17, 2000 the Agreement was renewed and extended for a period of ten (10) years;

WHEREAS by Agreement dated August 17, 2010 the Agreement was renewed and extended for a period of ten (10) years;

WHEREAS the Municipality desires to grant and the Company, collectively the "Parties", desires to obtain an exclusive franchise to provide Natural Gas Distribution Service within the Municipal Service Area on the terms and conditions herein contained;

NOW THEREFORE in consideration of the mutual covenants and promises herein contained, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

1) Definitions and Interpretation

Unless otherwise expressly provided in this Agreement, the words, phrases and expressions in this Agreement will have the meanings attributed to them as follows:

- a) "Agreement" means this Natural Gas Distribution System Franchise Agreement;
- b) "Alternative Course of Action" shall have the meaning set out in paragraph 14 (c);
- c) "Commission" means the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) as established under the Alberta Utilities Commission Act (Alberta);
- d) "Company" means the Party of the second part to this Agreement and includes its successors and permitted assigns;
- e) "Construct" means constructing, reconstructing, upgrading, extending, relocating, or removing any part of the Natural Gas Distribution System;
- f) "Consumer" or "Consumers" as the text may require, means any individual, group of individuals, firm or body corporate, including the Municipality, with premises or facilities located within the Municipal Service Area from time to time that are provided with Natural Gas Distribution Service by the Company pursuant to the Company's Delivery Tariff;
- g) "Core Services" means all those services set forth in Schedule "A" of this Agreement;
- h) "Delivery Tariff" means the rates and Terms and Conditions of service approved by the Commission from time to time on an interim or final basis, as the case may be, for the Company to deliver Natural Gas to the Consumer;
- i) "Electronic Format" means any document or other means of communication that is created, recorded, transmitted or stored in digital form or in any other intangible form by electronic, magnetic or optical means or by any other computer-related means that have similar capabilities for creation, recording, transmission or storage;
- j) "Extra Services" means those services set forth in Schedule "B" that are requested by the Municipality for itself or on behalf of its citizens and provided by the Company in accordance with paragraph 7 of this Agreement;
- k) "GUA" means the Gas Utilities Act (Alberta);
- l) "Intended Time Frame" shall have the meaning set out in paragraph 14 (c);
- m) "Maintain" means to maintain and keep in good repair any part of the Natural Gas Distribution System;
- n) "Major Work" means any Work to Construct or Maintain the Distribution System that costs more than One Hundred Thousand (\$100,000.00) Dollars;
- o) "MGA" means the Municipal Government Act (Alberta);

- p) "Modified Plans" shall have the meaning set out in paragraph 14 (c)(ii);
- q) "Municipality" means the Party of the first part to this Agreement;
- r) "Municipal Compensation" shall have the meaning set out in paragraph 20;
- s) "Municipal Service Area" means the geographical area within the legal boundaries of the Municipality where the Company has been granted rights hereunder in connection with, among other matters, Natural Gas Distribution Service, as altered from time to time;
- t) "Municipal Property" means all property, including lands and buildings, owned, controlled or managed by the Municipality within the Municipal Service Area;
- u) "Natural Gas" means a combustible mixture of hydrocarbon gases;
- v) "Natural Gas Distribution Service" means the delivery of Natural Gas in accordance with the Company's Delivery Tariff;
- w) "Natural Gas Distribution System" means any facilities owned by the Company which are used to provide Natural Gas Distribution Service within the Municipal Service Area, and without limiting the generality of the foregoing, will include all mains, pipes, conduits, valves and all other installations used and required for the purpose of delivering Natural Gas to the Consumer within the Municipal Service Area and includes any Natural Gas transmission lines owned by the Company within the Municipal Service Area;
- x) "NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd. (NGTL)" means NGTL and its successors, as applicable, for purposes of paragraph 5 g) of this Agreement. For greater certainty, the provisions of paragraph 5 g) may only apply in relation to franchises held by ATCO;
- y) "Operate" means to operate the Natural Gas Distribution System, or to interrupt or restore service in any part of the Natural Gas Distribution System, in a safe and reliable manner;
- z) "Party" means any party to this Agreement and "Parties" means all of the parties to this Agreement;
- aa) "Plans and Specifications" means the plans, drawings and specifications reasonably necessary to properly assess and review proposed Work prior to issuance of any approval that may be required under this Agreement;
- bb) "Term" means the term of this Agreement set out in paragraph 2;
- cc) "Terms and Conditions" means the terms and conditions contained within the

Delivery Tariff in effect from time to time for the Company as approved by the Commission;

dd) "Work" means any work to Construct or Maintain the Natural Gas Distribution System; and

ee) "Work Around Procedures" shall have the meaning set out in paragraph 14 (c)(ii).

The words "hereof", "herein", "hereunder" and other words of similar import refer to this Agreement as a whole, including any attachments hereto, as the same may from time to time be amended or supplemented and not to any subdivision contained in this Agreement. Unless the context otherwise requires, words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa and words importing gender include all genders. References to provisions of statutes, rules or regulations will be deemed to include references to such provisions as amended, modified or re-enacted from time to time. The word "including" when used herein is not intended to be exclusive and in all cases means "including without limitation". References herein to a section, paragraph, clause, Article or provision will refer to the appropriate section, paragraph, clause, article or provision of this Agreement. The descriptive headings of this Agreement are inserted for convenience of reference only and do not constitute a part of and will not be utilized in interpreting this Agreement.

2) Term

a) Subject to sub-paragraph 2(b), this Agreement will be for a minimum term of ten years, commencing on the later of:

i. 1st day of March 2020; and

ii. the first (1st) business day after both of the following have occurred:

A. the Commission has approved and acknowledged this Agreement; and

B. Council of the Municipality has passed third reading of the applicable adopting bylaw.

b) This Agreement will expire on the 28th day February, 2030.

c) It is agreed this Agreement supersedes and replaces any prior Natural Gas franchise agreements between the Municipality and the Company.

3) Expiry of Term of Agreement

a) Provided the Company gives written notice to the Municipality not less than twelve (12) months prior to the expiration of the Term of its intention to negotiate a new franchise agreement, at any time following the expiration of the Term, and if the Municipality has not provided written notice to the Company to exercise its rights to purchase the Natural Gas Distribution System, either Party may submit

any items in dispute pertaining to a new franchise agreement to binding arbitration by the Commission.

- b) Subject to subparagraph 3c) of this Agreement, upon expiry of the Term, this Agreement will continue in effect pursuant to the provisions of the MGA.
- c) Commencing one (1) year following the expiration of the Term of this Agreement, unless either Party has invoked the right to arbitration referred to in subparagraph 3a), or the Municipality has given written notice to purchase the Natural Gas Distribution System, this Agreement will be amended to provide the following:
 - i) Fifty percent (50%) of the franchise fee otherwise payable under this Agreement to the Municipality will be held back and deposited in trust in an interest bearing trust account by the Company, for the sole benefit of the Municipality. The trust money along with all accumulated interest will be paid to the Municipality immediately upon execution of another Natural Gas Franchise Agreement with the Company, or if the Municipality purchases the Natural Gas Distribution System, or if the Company transfers or sells the Natural Gas Distribution System, or upon further Order of the Commission.
- d) In the event a franchise agreement template is approved by the Commission during the Term of this Agreement and the provisions are materially different from the provisions of this Agreement, the Parties may, by agreement in writing, amend this Agreement to conform to such franchise agreement template.

4) Grant of Franchise

- a) Subject to the terms and conditions hereof, the Municipality hereby grants to the Company the exclusive right within the Municipal Service Area to:
 - i. provide Natural Gas Distribution Service;
 - ii. Construct, Operate, and Maintain the Natural Gas Distribution System; and
 - iii. use portions of roads, rights-of-way, and other lands owned, controlled or managed by the Municipality which have been designated by the Municipality for such use and which are necessary to provide Natural Gas Distribution Service or to Construct, Operate and Maintain the Natural Gas Distribution System.
- b) Subject to subparagraph 4c) , and to the terms and conditions hereof, the Municipality agrees it will not, during the Term, grant to any other person, firm or corporation, the right to Construct, Operate and Maintain any natural gas distribution system nor the exclusive right to use the portions of the roads, rights-of-way and other lands owned, controlled or managed by the Municipality which have been designated by the Municipality for such use and which are necessary to

provide Natural Gas distribution service or to Construct, Operate and Maintain a Natural Gas distribution system, for the purpose of delivering Natural Gas in the Municipal Service Area for Consumers, so long as the Company delivers the Consumers' requirements of Natural Gas.

c) The Company agrees to:

- i. bear the full responsibility of an owner of a Natural Gas distribution system and to ensure all services provided pursuant to this Agreement are provided in accordance with the Delivery Tariff, insofar as applicable;
- ii. Construct, Operate and Maintain the Natural Gas Distribution System;
- iii. use designated portions of roads, rights-of-way, and other lands including other lands owned, controlled or managed by the Municipality necessary to Construct, Operate and Maintain the Natural Gas Distribution System, including the necessary removal, trimming of trees, shrubs or bushes or any parts thereof; and
- iv. use the Municipality's roads, rights-of-way and other Municipal Property granted hereunder solely for the purpose of providing Natural Gas Distribution Service and any other service contemplated by this Agreement.

5) Franchise Fee

a) Calculation of Franchise Fee

In consideration of the rights granted pursuant to paragraph 4 and the mutual covenants herein and subject to Commission approval the Company agrees to collect from Consumers and pay to the Municipality a franchise fee. The Parties agree s. 360(4) of the *MGA*, as amended, does not apply to the calculation of the franchise fee in this Agreement. For each calendar year the franchise fee will be calculated as a percentage of the Company's actual total revenue derived from the Delivery Tariff, including without limitation the fixed charge, base energy charge, demand charge, but excluding the cost of Natural Gas (being the calculated revenues from the Natural Gas cost recovery rate rider or the deemed cost of Natural Gas and Natural Gas supply related riders) in that year for Natural Gas Distribution Service within the Municipal Service Area.

For the first (1st) calendar year or portion thereof of the Term of this Agreement, the franchise fee percentage will be eight percent (8.00%).

By no later than September 1st of each year, the Company will:

- i. advise the Municipality in writing of the total revenues that were derived from

the Delivery Tariff within the Municipal Service Area for the prior calendar year; and

- ii. with the Municipality's assistance, provide in writing an estimate of total revenues to be derived from the Delivery Tariff within the Municipal Service Area for the next calendar year.

b) Adjustment to the Franchise Fee

At the option of the Municipality and subject to Commission approval, the franchise fee percentage may be changed annually by providing written notice to the Company.

If the Municipality wishes to amend the franchise fee percentage, then the Municipality will, no later than November 1st in any year of the Term, advise the Company in writing of the franchise fee percentage to be charged for the following calendar year. Upon receipt of notice, the Company will work with the Municipality to ensure all regulatory requirements are satisfied on a timely basis and agrees to use best efforts to obtain approval from the Commission for implementation of the proposed franchise fee percentage as and from January 1st of the following calendar year.

If the Municipality provides written notice at any other time with respect to a franchise fee change, the Company will implement the new franchise fee percentage as soon as reasonably possible.

c) Notice to Change Franchise Fee

Prior to implementing any change to the franchise fee, the Municipality will notify its intent to change the level of the franchise fee and the resulting effect such change will have on an average residential Consumer's annual Natural Gas bill through publication of a notice once in the newspaper with the widest circulation in the Municipal Service Area at least forty five (45) days prior to implementing the revised franchise fee. A copy of the published notice will be filed with the Commission.

d) Payment of Franchise Fee

The Company will pay the Municipality the franchise fee amount billed to Consumers on a monthly basis within forty-five (45) days after billing Consumers.

e) Franchise Fee Cap

The franchise fee percentage will not at any time exceed thirty five percent (35%) without prior Commission approval.

f) Reporting Considerations

Upon request, the Company will provide to the Municipality, along with payment of the franchise fee amount information on the total Delivery Tariff billed, the franchise fee percentage applied, and the derived franchise fee amount used by the Company to verify the payment of the franchise fee amount as calculated under this paragraph 5.

g) **Franchise Fees Collected from NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd. Customers**

In the event certain customers in the Municipal Service Area connected to the Company's Natural Gas Distribution System are customers of the NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd. (NGTL), a franchise fee will be collected from such customers by NGTL in accordance with NGTL's applicable tariff and such franchise fee once remitted to the Company will be aggregated with the franchise fee as calculated in paragraph 5 a) to be dealt with in accordance with paragraph 5 d).

6) **Core Services**

The Company agrees to provide to the Municipality the Core Services set forth in Schedule "A". The Company and the Municipality may amend Schedule "A" from time to time upon mutual agreement.

7) **Provision of Extra Services**

Subject to an agreement being reached, the Company agrees to provide to the Municipality the Extra Services, if any, set forth in Schedule "B", as requested by the Municipality from time to time. The Company is entitled to receive from the Municipality a reasonable amount for full compensation for the provision of the Extra Services in accordance with Schedule "B". The Company and the Municipality may amend Schedule "B" from time to time upon mutual agreement.

Any breach by the Company in connection with the provision of any Extra Services contained in this Agreement will not constitute a breach of a material provision of this Agreement for the purposes of paragraph 9.

8) **Municipal Taxes**

Amounts payable to the Municipality pursuant to this Agreement will be (without duplication) in addition to the municipal taxes and other levies or charges made by the Municipality against the Company, its land and buildings, linear property, machinery and equipment.

9) Right to Terminate on Default

In the event either Party breaches any material provision of this Agreement, the other Party may, at its option, provide written notice to the Party in breach to remedy such breach. If the said breach is not remedied within two (2) weeks after receipt of the written notice or such further time as may be reasonably required by the Party in breach using best efforts on a commercially reasonable basis, the Party not in breach may give six (6) months notice in writing to the other Party of its intent to terminate this Agreement, and unless such breach is remedied to the satisfaction of the Party not in breach acting reasonably this Agreement will terminate six (6) months from the date such written notice is given, subject to prior Commission approval.

10) Sale of Natural Gas Distribution System

Upon the expiration of the Term of this Agreement or the termination of this Agreement pursuant to the terms and conditions hereof or by operation of law or order of a governmental authority or court of law having jurisdiction the Municipality may, subject to the approval of the Commission under Section 47 of the MGA:

- i. exercise its right to require the Company to sell to it the Natural Gas Distribution System within the Municipal Service Area pursuant to the provisions of the MGA, where applicable; or
- ii. if such right to require the Company to sell the Natural Gas Distribution System is either not applicable or has been repealed, require the Company to sell to it the Natural Gas Distribution System. If, upon the expiration of the Agreement, the parties are unable to agree on the price or on any other terms and conditions of the purchase, the unresolved matters will be referred to the Commission for determination.

11) Provision of Detailed Plans and Equipment

a) Detailed Plans

The Company agrees to provide to the Municipality for the Municipality's purposes only, the most current set of detailed plan sheets including as-built drawings and specifications showing the locations (excluding depth) and alignments of the Natural Gas Distribution System, excepting service lines and installations on private property, according to the plan sheets in hard copy and in Electronic Format, where available, together with as many prints of the overall Natural Gas Distribution System as the Municipality may reasonably require. These plans and plan sheets will be updated by the Company on at least an annual basis.

The Municipality will, upon reasonable request, provide to the Company any subdivision development plans of the Municipality in hard copy and in Electronic Format, where available. The subdivision development plans are provided to the

Company for the sole purpose of assisting the Company in delivering Natural Gas to the Consumer.

b) Provision of Equipment

The Company agrees to provide the Municipality's fire department with the equipment necessary for the operation of curb boxes and service valves. In case of fire, the service valves may be turned off by the fire department if they reach a fire before the Company's representative. The Municipality will notify one of the Company's representatives of fires which may affect the Natural Gas Distribution System and/or the operations thereof as quickly as reasonably possible or, in the event they cannot reach a Company representative, the Municipality will advise the Company's standby personnel of such fires. The Company will ensure its representatives reasonably cooperate with the Municipality in preventing, controlling and investigating fires involving or affecting the Natural Gas Distribution System.

12) Right of First Refusal to Purchase

- a) If during the Term of this Agreement, the Company receives a bona fide arm's length offer to operate, take control of, or purchase the Natural Gas Distribution System within the Municipal Service Area, which the Company is willing to accept, then the Company will promptly give written notice to the Municipality of the terms and conditions of such offer and the Municipality will during the next one hundred and twenty (120) days, have the right of first refusal to operate, take control of or purchase the Natural Gas Distribution System, as the case may be, for the same price and upon the terms and conditions contained in the said offer.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event the Municipality fails or refuses to exercise its right of first refusal, the Municipality will retain the right to withhold its consent to an assignment of this Agreement in accordance with paragraph 20 below. For the purposes of this paragraph 12, "operate, take control" will not be construed as including the subcontracting by the Company of only some portions of its operations where the Company continues to be responsible for the performance of this entire Agreement;

- b) If the Municipality does not exercise its right of first refusal and the said bona fide offer the Company is willing to accept does not proceed to closure, the Municipality retains its right of first refusal on any other offer.
- c) This right of first refusal applies where the offer pertains only to the entire Natural Gas Distribution System. The right of first refusal does not apply to offers that include any other distribution systems or distribution facilities of the Company located outside of the Municipal Service Area. If such offer includes other distribution systems of the Company, the aforesaid right of first refusal will be of no force and effect and will not apply.
- d) Where the Municipality exercises its rights to purchase the Natural Gas Distribution

System from the Company and thereby acquires the Natural Gas Distribution System, the Municipality agrees, should it no longer wish to own the Natural Gas Distribution System within five (5) years after it acquires the said system and the Municipality receives any bona fide offer from an arms-length third party to purchase the Natural Gas Distribution System, which it is willing to accept, then it will promptly give written notice to the Company of the terms and conditions of such offer. The Company will during the next one hundred and twenty (120) days have the first right of refusal to purchase the Natural Gas Distribution System for the same price and upon the same terms and conditions as contained in the said offer.

- e) The Municipality's right of first refusal will not apply where the Company has agreed to transfer the Natural Gas Distribution System to a third party utility company in exchange for certain other assets provided all of the following conditions are met:
- i. the third party utility can demonstrate to the reasonable satisfaction of the Municipality that it meets the necessary technical and financial requirements to own and operate the Natural Gas Distribution System;
 - ii. the only consideration that will be exchanged between the Company and the third party utility company is the transfer and exchange of assets and monetary consideration limited to a maximum of 49% of the net book value of the Natural Gas Distribution System;
 - iii. there is no adverse impact to the Municipality resulting from the transfer and exchange above referenced as determined by the Commission;
 - iv. the Company and the third party utility company obtain all the requisite regulatory requirements prior to completing the transfer and exchange; and
 - v. full compensation is paid to the Municipality for all reasonable costs including administrative and legal costs incurred by the Municipality in ensuring all of the conditions i) through iv) above are satisfied.

13) Construction and/or Maintenance of Natural Gas Distribution System

a) Municipal Approval

Before undertaking any Major Work, or in any case in which the Municipality specifically requests any Major Work, the Company will submit to and obtain the written approval from the Municipality, or its authorized officers, of the Plans and Specifications for the proposed Major Work and its location. Approval by the Municipality granted in accordance with this paragraph will be limited to an approval of the location and alignment of the Major Work only, and will not signify approval of the structural design or the ability of the work to perform the function for which it was intended.

Prior to commencing the Work, the Company will obtain such other applicable permits as are required by the Municipality. The Company will notify the Municipality of all Work done within the Municipal Service Area prior to commencing the Work where reasonably practicable. However, only Major Work is subject to a formal approval process.

The Company will obtain prior written approval from the Municipality for any traffic lane or sidewalk closures required to be made at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the commencement of the proposed Work.

For the purposes of obtaining the approval of the Municipality for Major Work under this Agreement, the Company will provide the Municipality with the Plans and Specifications for the proposed Major Work in Electronic Format (or upon request, the Company will provide the Municipality with a hard copy of the materials). The Plans and Specifications will include a description of the project and drawings of a type and format generally used by the Company for obtaining approvals from municipalities and will illustrate the proposed changes to the Natural Gas Distribution System.

b) Restoration of Municipal Property

The Company agrees when it or any agent employed by it undertakes any Work on any Municipal Property, the Company will complete the said Work promptly and in a good and workmanlike manner and, where applicable, in accordance with the approved Plans and Specifications. Further, and unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties, the Company will forthwith restore the Municipal Property to the same state and condition, as nearly as reasonably possible, in which it existed prior to the commencement of such Work, subject to reasonable wear and tear and to the satisfaction of the Municipality acting reasonably.

The Company will, where reasonably practicable and prudent, locate its pipelines and related equipment in lanes and alleys rather than in the streets and main thoroughfares.

The Company further covenants it will not unduly interfere with the works of others or the works of the Municipality. Where reasonable and in the best interests of both the Municipality and the Consumer, the Company will cooperate with the Municipality and coordinate the installation of the Natural Gas Distribution System along the designated rights-of-way pursuant to the direction of the Municipality. During the performance of the Work, the Company will use commercially reasonable efforts to not interfere with existing Municipal Property and to cause as little damage as possible to the property of others (including the Municipality Property). If the Company causes damage to any existing Municipal Property during the performance of any Work, it will cause such damage to be repaired at its own cost.

Upon default by the Company or its agent to repair damage caused to Municipal Property as set out above, the Municipality may provide written notice to the

Company to remedy the default. If the default is not remedied within two (2) weeks after receipt of the written notice or such further time as may be reasonably required and requested by the Company using best efforts on a commercially reasonable basis to remedy the default, the Municipality may undertake such repair work and the Company will be liable for the reasonable costs thereof.

c) Urgent Repairs and Notification to Municipality

If any repairs or maintenance required to be made to the Natural Gas Distribution System are of an urgent nature where the operation or reliability of the Natural Gas Distribution System is materially compromised or potentially materially compromised, the Company will be entitled to conduct such repairs or maintenance as are commercially reasonable without prior notice to the Municipality and, unless otherwise specified by the Municipality, the Company will provide notice to the Municipality as soon as practicable and, in any event, no later than seventy-two (72) hours after the repairs are commenced.

d) Company to Obtain Approvals from Other Utilities

The Company will be solely responsible for locating, or causing to be located, all existing utilities or utility mains, pipes, valves and related facilities in, on or adjacent to the Work site. The Company will notify all other utility operators and ensure utilities and utility mains, pipes, valves and related facilities are staked prior to commencement of construction. Unless the Municipality has staked the location for the utility property, staking will not be deemed to be a representation or warranty by the Municipality the utility or utility property are located as staked. The Municipality will not be responsible for any damage caused by the Company to any utility or any third party as a result of the Company's Work, unless the Municipality has improperly staked the utility property. Approval must be obtained by the Company from the owner of any third party utility prior to relocation of any facility owned by such third party utility.

e) Revised Plans and Specifications

Following completion of the Major Work, the Company will provide the Municipality with the revised Plans and Specifications, updated after construction, in Electronic Format, where available and upon request, the Company will provide the Municipality with a hard copy of the materials within three (3) months of the request. The Company will provide the Municipality with copies of any other revised Plans and Specifications as reasonably requested by the Municipality. For the purposes of this paragraph and paragraph 11, the Company may satisfy its obligations to provide revised Plans and Specifications in Electronic Format by:

- i. advising the Municipality the revised Plans and Specifications are posted to a web-based forum that contains such information; and
- ii. allowing the Municipality access to such web-based forum.

f) Approvals

Where any approvals are required to be obtained from either Party under this paragraph, such approvals will not be unreasonably withheld.

The Company will ensure all Work is performed in accordance with the requirements of all applicable legislation, rules and regulations. The Company will immediately notify the Municipality of any lien, claim of lien or other action of which it has or reasonably should have knowledge, and will cause the same to be removed within thirty (30) days (or such additional time as the Municipality may allow in writing), failing which the Municipality may take such action as it reasonably deems necessary to remove the same and the entire cost thereof will be immediately due and payable by the Company to the Municipality.

14) Responsibilities For Cost of Relocations

- a) Upon receipt of one (1) year's notice from the Municipality, the Company will, at its own expense, relocate to Municipal Property such part of the Natural Gas Distribution System that is located on Municipal Property as may be reasonably required by the Municipality due to planned municipal construction. In order to encourage the orderly development of Municipal facilities and the Natural Gas Distribution System, the Municipality and the Company agree they will meet regularly to:
- i. review the long-term facility plans of the Municipality and the Company; and
 - ii. determine the time requirements and costs for final design specifications for each relocation. Providing the Municipality is not the developer requesting the relocation for commercial or residential resale to third parties, the Company will bear the expenses of the required relocation.
- b) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Company will not be required to move any part of the Natural Gas Distribution System after receipt of notice from the Municipality in accordance with this paragraph where:
- i. the Company has illustrated to the satisfaction of the Municipality, acting reasonably, an appropriate Alternative Course of Action is available;
 - ii. the Municipality has provided the Company with its written approval of the Alternative Course of Action (which approval may not be unreasonably withheld by the Municipality); and
 - iii. the Company has provided its written undertaking to carry out the Alternative Course of Action promptly and within a sufficiently short period of time so as to ensure the Municipality will be left with sufficient time to complete the said planned municipal construction within the Intended Time Frame (taking into account any delays which the Municipality may encounter as a result of the

Company utilizing the Alternative Course of Action).

- c) For the purposes of this paragraph 14, the term “Alternative Course of Action” will mean any course of action that will enable the Municipality to complete the said Municipal construction and will result in a net cost savings to the Company (taking into account all additional costs incurred by the Company in carrying out the Alternative Course of Action and any additional costs which the Municipality may incur and which the Company will be required to pay in accordance with this paragraph 14 and “Intended Time Frame” will mean the period of time within which the Municipality would have reasonably been able to complete the said Municipal construction if the Company would have relocated the Natural Gas Distribution System in accordance with this paragraph 14.

If the Municipality agrees to permit the Company to utilize an Alternative Course of Action, the Company will pay any and all costs incurred in carrying out the Alternative Course of Action and will pay on demand to the Municipality (on a full indemnity basis) any and all costs incurred by the Municipality:

- i. in conducting a review of the Alternative Course of Action to determine whether the Alternative Course of Action is acceptable to the Municipality;
- ii. in modifying any plans the Municipality may have prepared in respect of the said municipal construction (“Modified Plans”) or in preparing or developing plans and procedures (“Work Around Procedures”) to work around the Natural Gas Distribution System or any improvement, thing, or component utilized by the Company in effecting the Alternative Course of Action; and
- iii. in the course of conducting the said planned municipal construction where such costs would not have been incurred by the Municipality if the Company had relocated the Natural Gas Distribution System in accordance with this paragraph 14 (including any reasonable additional cost the Municipality may incur in completing the said municipal construction in accordance with the Modified Plans or in effecting any Work Around Procedures).

d) The following example illustrates the intended application of the foregoing provisions:

Where:

- i. The Municipality requires the Company to move a Natural Gas line so the Municipality can replace its own sewer lines. The cost of moving the Natural Gas line is \$10,000. The cost of carrying out the replacement of the sewer line after moving the Natural Gas line is \$40,000;
- ii. The Company proposes to simply brace the Natural Gas line (at a cost of \$2,000) and the Municipality, acting reasonably, approves of this as an Alternative Course of Action;

- iii. As a result of having to prepare Modified Plans and to prepare and implement Work Around Procedures to work around the braces, the actual cost incurred by the Municipality in replacing the sewer line is \$45,000 (being a net increase in cost of \$5,000); the Company is required to pay the \$2,000 cost of the bracing together and the additional cost of \$5,000 incurred by the Municipality (resulting in a net savings of \$3,000 to the Company).

In cases of emergency, the Company will take all measures that are commercially reasonable and necessary to ensure public safety with respect to relocating any part of the Natural Gas Distribution System that may be required in the circumstances.

If the Company fails to complete the relocation of the Natural Gas Distribution System or fails to repair or do anything else required by the Company pursuant to this subparagraph without valid justification and in a timely and expeditious manner to the satisfaction of the Municipality's representative, acting reasonably, the Municipality may, but is not obligated to, complete such relocation or repair and the Company will pay the reasonable costs of such relocation or repair forthwith to the Municipality. If the Municipality chooses to complete such relocation or repair the Municipality will ensure such work is completed using the Company's design specifications and standards, as provided by the Company, including the use of good and safe operating practices.

The Municipality is not responsible, either directly or indirectly, for any damage to the equipment which forms part of the Natural Gas Distribution System which may occur during its installation, maintenance or removal by the Company, nor is the Municipality liable to the Company for any losses, claims, charges, damages and expenses whatsoever suffered by the Company including claims for loss of revenue or loss of profits, on account of the actions of the Municipality, its agents or employees, working in, under, over, along, upon and across its highways and rights-of- ways or other Municipal Property other than direct loss or damage to the Company caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of the Municipality, its agents or employees.

In the event the relocation or any part thereof requires the approval of a third party, the Municipality will use reasonable efforts to assist the Company in any negotiation with such third party to obtain the necessary approval(s).

In the event the relocation results from the demand or order of an authority having jurisdiction, other than the Municipality, the Municipality will not be responsible for any of the costs of such relocation.

15) Natural Gas Distribution System Expansion

Subject to the Terms and Conditions, and at no cost to the Municipality unless otherwise provided for under the Terms and Conditions, the Company will, on a timely basis, use its best efforts on a commercially reasonable basis to meet the Natural Gas Distribution System expansion requests of the Municipality or a Consumer and provide the requisite

facilities for connections for new Consumers to the Natural Gas Distribution System.

16) Increase in Municipal Boundaries

Where the Municipality increases its geographical area, through annexation or amalgamation, as understood under the MGA, by the greater of 640 acres and twenty five (25%) percent of the current area or more, the Municipality will have the option to:

- a) terminate this Agreement provided the Municipality gives notice in writing to the Company of its intention to do so; or
- b) add the increased area to the Municipal Service Area already served by the Company so that the rights and obligations contained in this Agreement will apply in respect of the Municipal Service Area, including the increased area.

For all other increases to the Municipal Service Area through annexation or amalgamation as understood under the MGA, the rights and obligations contained in this Agreement will apply in respect of the whole Municipal Service Area, including the increased area.

17) Joint Use of Municipal Rights-of-Way

a) Municipal Use

The Municipality will upon written notice to the Company have, for any reasonable municipal purpose, the right to make use of any municipal rights-of-way granted to the Company by the Municipality, provided such use complies with good and safe operating practices, as determined by the Company acting reasonably, applicable legislation, and does not unreasonably interfere with the Company's use thereof, at no charge to the Municipality. The Municipality is responsible for its own costs and any necessary and reasonable costs incurred by the Company including the costs of any alterations that may be required in using municipal rights-of-way.

b) Third Party Use and Notice

If any third party, including other utilities, desire to jointly use the municipal rights-of-way, the Company agrees it will not grant the third party joint use except in accordance with this paragraph, or unless otherwise directed by any governmental authority or court of law having jurisdiction.

The Company agrees the following procedure will be used in granting permission to third parties desiring joint use of the municipal rights-of-way:

- i. first, the third party will be directed to approach the Company to initially request conditional approval from the Company to use that part of the municipal rights-

of-way it seeks to use;

- ii. second, upon receiving written conditional approval from the Company, the third party will be directed to approach the Municipality to obtain its written approval to jointly use that part of the municipal rights-of-way. As a condition of granting its consent, the Municipality may require such third party enter into an agreement with the Municipality, and such agreement may require such third party pay compensation to the Municipality; and
- iii. third, upon receiving written conditional approval from the Municipality, the third party will be directed to obtain final written approval from the Company to jointly use that part of the municipal rights-of-way. Once a joint use agreement has been entered into between the Company and the third party, it will not be subsequently amended without the written consent of the Municipality (which consent will not be unreasonably withheld).

c) Cooperation

The Company and the Municipality agree they will use reasonable efforts to cooperate with each other in encouraging the use of joint trenching and in any negotiations with third parties desiring joint use of any part of the municipal rights-of-way located on Municipal Property.

d) Payment

The compensation paid or to be paid by such third party to the Municipality for the use of the Municipal Property including its rights-of-way, will be determined between the Municipality and the third party.

The compensation paid or to be paid by such third party to the Company for the joint use of any portion of the municipal rights-of-way will be determined between the Company and the third party, subject to the jurisdiction of any governmental authority over the matter and the Municipality's right to intervene in any related regulatory proceeding.

e) Provision of Agreements

Upon reasonable request by the Municipality, copies of these agreements will be updated by the Company and provided to the Municipality at no cost to the Municipality.

18) Municipality as a Retailer

The provisions of this Agreement will not in any way restrict the right of the Municipality to become a retailer within the meaning of the GUA.

19) Reciprocal Indemnification and Liability

- a) The Company will indemnify and save the Municipality, its servants, agents, employees, licensees, contractors and invitees, harmless from and against any and all liability, actions, demands, claims, damages, losses and expenses (including all legal costs and disbursements), including indemnity from and against any claim, loss, cost, demand and legal or other expense, whether in respect of any lien, encumbrance or otherwise, arising out of any Work performed by or for the Company, which may be brought against or suffered, sustained, paid or incurred by the Municipality, its servants, agents, employees, contractors, licensees and invitees, arising from, or otherwise caused by:
 - i. any breach by the Company of any of the provisions of this Agreement; or
 - ii. the negligence or willful misconduct of the Company, or any of its servants, agents, employees, licensees, contractors or invitees in carrying on its business within the Municipal Service Area.

- b) The Municipality will indemnify and save the Company, its servants, agents, employees, licensees, contractors and invitees, harmless from and against any and all liability, actions, demands, claims, damages, losses and expenses (including all legal costs and disbursements) which may be brought against or suffered, sustained, paid or incurred by the Company, its servants, agents, employees, licenses, contractors and invitees, arising from, or otherwise caused by:
 - i. any breach by the Municipality of any of the provisions of this Agreement; or
 - ii. the negligence or willful misconduct of the Municipality, or any of its servants, agents, employees, licensees, contractors or invitees, in carrying on the business of the Municipality.

- c) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein contained, in no event will the Municipality or the Company be liable under this Agreement, in any way, for any reason, for any indirect, special or consequential damages (including damages for pure economic loss, loss of profits, loss of earnings or loss of contract), howsoever caused or contributed to.

20) Assignment

In the event the Company agrees to sell the Natural Gas Distribution System to a third party purchaser, the Company will comply with paragraph 10 above. In addition, the Company will request the third party purchaser confirm in writing it will agree to all the terms and conditions of this Agreement between the Company and the Municipality. The Company agrees it will provide to the Municipality a copy of the third party purchaser's confirmation letter.

The Company agrees to provide the Municipality with reasonable prior written notice of a sale of the Natural Gas Distribution System to a third party purchaser. The Parties will thereafter meet to discuss the technical and financial capabilities of the third party purchaser to perform and satisfy all terms and conditions of the Agreement, and the compensation payable to the Municipality for all costs including administrative and legal costs relating to providing its written consent to the Assignment ("Municipal Compensation").

The Municipality has thirty (30) days from the meeting date with the Company to provide written notice to the Company of its intention to consent or withhold its consent to the assignment of the Agreement to the third party purchaser. The Company agrees the Municipality may provide notice of its intention to withhold its consent to the assignment of this Agreement to the third party purchaser if the Municipal Compensation is inadequate or if the third party purchaser fails to covenant, in favour of the Municipality, to perform and observe all of the covenants and obligations of the Company to be performed and observed under this Agreement and otherwise solely on the basis of reasonable and material concerns regarding the technical capability or financial wherewithal of the third party purchaser to perform and satisfy all terms and conditions of the Agreement. In this case, such notice to the Company must specify in detail the Municipality's concern.

Should the Municipality not reply within the thirty (30) day period, it is agreed the Municipality will be deemed to have consented to the assignment. The Company further agrees when it applies to the Commission for approval of the sale, it will include in the application any notice received from the Municipality, including the reasons given by the Municipality for withholding its consent. The Municipality will have the right to make its own submissions to the Commission.

Subject to the Company having fulfilled the obligations outlined in the preceding three paragraphs, the Company will be entitled to assign this Agreement to an arm's length third party purchaser of the Natural Gas Distribution System without the consent of the Municipality, subject to paying the Municipal Compensation for the assignment, and having obtained the Commission's approval for the sale of the Natural Gas Distribution System and, the third party purchaser's confirmation in writing that it agrees to all the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

Where the Commission approves such sale of the Natural Gas Distribution System to a third party and the third party provides written confirmation to assume all liabilities and obligations of the Company under this Agreement, then upon the assignment of this Agreement and the payment of the Municipal Compensation for its consent to the Assignment subject to Commission approval, the Company will be released from all its liabilities and obligations thereunder.

The Company will be entitled to assign this Agreement to a subsidiary or affiliate of the Company without the Municipality's written consent. Where the Company assigns this Agreement to a subsidiary or affiliate, the Company will remain jointly and severally

liable.

Further, it is a condition of any assignment that the subsidiary, affiliate or third party purchaser, as the case may be, will provide written notice to the Municipality indicating it will assume all liabilities and obligations of the Company under this Agreement.

Any disputes arising under the operation of this paragraph will be submitted to the Commission for determination.

21) Notices

- a) All notices, demands, requests, consents, or approvals required or permitted to be given pursuant to the terms of this Agreement will be in writing and will be deemed to have been properly given if personally served, sent by registered mail or sent in Electronic Format to the Municipality or to the Company as the case may be, at the addresses set forth below:

To the Company:

ATCO GAS AND PIPELINES LTD.
Attention: Vice President, Calgary & Edmonton Region
Operations
909 – 11th Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta T2R-1L8

Phone (403) 245-7749

To the Municipality:

ALBERTA BEACH
Attention: Chief Administrative Officer
PO Box 278
Alberta Beach, Alberta T0E-0A0

Phone (780) 924-3181 Fax (780) 924-3313

- b) The date of receipt of any such notice as given above, will be deemed to be as follows:
- i. In the case of personal service, the date of service;
 - ii. In the case of registered mail, the seventh (7th) business day following the date of delivery to the Post Office, provided, however, in the event of an interruption of normal mail service, receipt will be deemed to be the seventh (7th) day following the date on which normal service is restored; or
 - iii. In the case of delivery in Electronic Format, the date the notice was actually

received by the recipient or, if not a business day, then the next business day.

22) Interruptions or Discontinuance of Delivery Service

Subject to its Delivery Tariff, the Company will use its best efforts on a commercially reasonable basis to avoid and minimize any interruption, reduction or discontinuance of Natural Gas Distribution Service to any Consumer. However, the Company reserves the right to do so for any one of the following reasons:

- a) Where the Company is required to effect necessary repairs or changes to the Natural Gas Distribution System;
- b) On account of or to prevent fraud or abuse of the Natural Gas Distribution System;
- c) On account of defective aspects of the Natural Gas Distribution Systems which in the opinion of the Company, acting reasonably, may become dangerous to life or property;
- d) Where required, under the Terms and Conditions, due to a Consumer's non-payment of Natural Gas bills.

To the extent the Company has any planned major interruptions, reductions or discontinuances in Natural Gas Distribution Service, it will notify the Municipality in writing as soon as practicable in the circumstances. For any other major interruption, reductions or discontinuances in Natural Gas Distribution Service, the Company will provide notice (in a format acceptable to the Municipality) as soon as is practicable in the circumstances.

23) Dispute Settlement

- a) If any dispute or controversy of any kind or nature arises relating to this Agreement or the Parties' rights or obligations hereunder, the Parties agree such dispute or controversy will be resolved by negotiation, and where such negotiation does not result in the settlement of the matter within thirty (30) days of notice of such dispute being provided by one Party to the other Party, and to the extent permitted by law, the Company and Municipality agree that unresolved disputes pertaining to this Agreement, other than those contemplated in paragraphs 3 and 20 and Section 3 of Schedule "A", or those related to the sale of the Natural Gas Distribution System as contemplated in paragraphs 10 and 12 hereof, or any other matter within the exclusive jurisdiction of a governmental authority having jurisdiction, will be submitted to arbitration for determination and may be commenced by either Party providing written notice to the other Party stating the dispute to be submitted to arbitration.

The Parties will attempt to appoint a mutually satisfactory arbitrator within ten (10)

business days of the said notice. In the event the Parties cannot agree on a single arbitrator within the ten (10) business days, the dispute will be forwarded to the Commission for resolution or determination.

In the event the Commission declines to assist in resolving the dispute or declines to exercise or claim jurisdiction respecting the dispute, both Parties agree to have the dispute resolved by an arbitration panel in accordance with the following procedure.

Each Party will appoint an arbitrator within the ten (10) business days thereafter by written notice, and the two arbitrators will, together, appoint a third arbitrator within twenty-five (25) business days of written notice for arbitration. The dispute will be heard by the arbitration panel within forty-five (45) business days of the written notice for arbitration unless extended by mutual agreement between the Parties. The arbitration panel will render a decision within twenty (20) business days of the last day of the hearing.

Except, as otherwise expressly provided in this Agreement, the provisions of the Arbitration Act (Alberta) (as amended from time to time) will apply to any arbitration undertaken under this Agreement subject always to the Commission's jurisdiction over any matter submitted to arbitration. Pending resolution of any dispute, the Municipality and the Company will continue to perform their respective obligations hereunder.

- b) The Company will advise the Commission of any dispute submitted to arbitration within ten (10) business days of it being submitted and will advise the Commission of the results of arbitration within ten (10) business days following receipt of the decision of the arbitrator(s).

24) Application of Water, Gas and Electric Companies Act

This Agreement will be deemed to operate as consent by the Municipality to the exercise by the Company of those powers which may be exercised by the Company with the consent of the Municipality under and pursuant to the provisions of the *Water, Gas and Electric Companies Act* (Alberta), as amended.

25) Force Majeure

If either Party fails to meet its obligations hereunder within the time prescribed, and such failure is caused or materially contributed by an event of "force majeure", such failure will be deemed not to be a breach of the obligations of such Party hereunder, but such Party will use its best efforts on a commercially reasonable basis to put itself in a position to carry out its obligations hereunder. The term "force majeure" will mean any acts of God, strikes, lock-outs, or other industrial disturbances, acts of the Queen's enemies, acts of terrorism (either foreign or domestic), sabotage, war, blockades,

insurrections, riots, epidemics, lightening, earthquakes, storms, fires, wash-outs, nuclear and radiation activity or fall-out, restraints of rulers and people, orders of governmental authorities or courts of law having jurisdiction, the inability to obtain any necessary approval from a governmental authority (excluding the Municipality) having jurisdiction, civil disturbances, explosions, mechanical failure, and any other causes similar in nature not specifically enumerated or otherwise specified herein that are not within the control of such Party, and all of which by the exercise of due diligence of such Party could not have been prevented. Lack of finances will be deemed not to be an event of "force majeure".

26) Terms and Conditions

The Terms and Conditions applicable to the Company and approved by the Commission, as revised or amended from time to time by the Commission, will apply to the Municipality. Nothing in this Agreement is intended to supersede the Terms and Conditions.

27) Not Exclusive Against Her Majesty

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein contained, it is mutually understood and agreed the rights, powers and privileges conferred and granted by this Agreement will not be deemed to be exclusive against Her Majesty in right of the Province of Alberta.

28) Severability

If for any reason any covenant or agreement contained in this Agreement, or the application thereof to any Party, is to any extent held or rendered invalid, unenforceable or illegal, then such covenant or agreement will be deemed to be independent of the remainder of this Agreement and to be severable and divisible from this Agreement. The invalidity, unenforceability or illegality will not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of this Agreement or any part thereof. The intention of the Municipality and the Company is that this Agreement would have been executed without reference to any portion which may, for any reason or to any extent, be declared or held invalid, unenforceable or illegal.

29) Amendments

This Agreement may only be amended by written agreement of the Parties, such amendments to be subject to any regulatory approvals required by law.

30) Waiver

A waiver of any default, breach or non-compliance under this Agreement is not effective

unless in writing and signed by the Party to be bound by the waiver. No waiver will be inferred from or implied by any failure to act or delay in acting by a Party in respect of any default, breach or non-observance or by anything done or omitted to be done by the other Party.

The waiver by a Party of any default, breach or non-compliance under this Agreement will not operate as a waiver of that Party's rights under this Agreement in respect of any continuing or subsequent default, breach or non-compliance under this Agreement (whether of the same nature or any other nature).

31) Confidentiality

The Company acknowledges the Municipality is governed by the provisions of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (Alberta).

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Parties hereto have executed these presents as of the day and year first above written.


(Municipality)

PER: _____

PER: _____

(Company)

PER:  _____
Manager, Edmonton Region Field Operations

PER:  _____
Vice President, Operations, Calgary & Edmonton Regions

SCHEDULE "A" Core Services

The Company will provide to the Municipality the following basic services as Core Services:

- 1) The Company will deliver Natural Gas to the Consumers in accordance with the Company's Terms and Conditions, the Company's Distribution Tariff, the GUA, any regulations thereto, and any Commission orders and decisions.
- 2) The Company will install all Natural Gas facilities required to provide service to the Consumers in accordance with all applicable regulations, codes, applicable standards and common industry practices.
- 3) As required by legislation, the Company will provide and install all necessary regulators and meters necessary for measuring the Natural Gas supplied to each Consumer.
- 4) The Company agrees to collaborate with the Municipality's emergency response services in an effort to mutually develop emergency response procedures relating to Natural Gas emergencies.
- 5) The Company will provide personnel twenty-four (24) hours a day to investigate and make safe any suspected gas leak inside or outside the Consumer's premises.
- 6) The Company will utilize the services of qualified personnel for designing all Natural Gas facilities to satisfy all applicable regulatory codes and standards, preparing necessary work order plans and monitoring the distribution network pressures to ensure the Company's facilities will satisfy the Consumer's current and future Natural Gas delivery requirements.
- 7) The Company will provide to the Municipality, on request, copies of any and all Natural Gas Distribution Service related written or electronic, where available information or reports required to be filed with the Commission by the Company.
- 8) The Company will provide to the Municipality, upon request and to the extent the information is available, an annual report on the following standards:
 - a) **System Reliability** - will be measured by:
 - i. The number of major outages resulting in a loss of service to Consumers;
 - ii. The number of Consumers affected by each major outage; and
 - iii. The duration of each major outage.
 - b) **Consumer Satisfaction** - will be measured by:

- i. Company-wide call centre targets and statistics (wait times, abandoned calls, call volumes, etc.); and
 - ii. any Consumer complaints received by the Commission.
- c) **Public Safety** - will be measured by:
 - i. the number of customer injuries and/or damages due to Natural Gas Distribution System failure;
 - ii. the number of line hits per total locates completed;
 - iii. the number of line hits as a result of inaccurate locates;
 - iv. the percentage of the area of the Municipality surveyed for leaks and yearly cathodic protection measures;
 - v. the number and nature of calls received from the Municipality and any of its Municipal agencies (including fire department, police department etc.) regarding the Natural Gas Distribution System.
- 9) Once per year, upon request and subject to any applicable privacy legislation, the GUA Code of Conduct Regulation or other rules prohibiting or restricting such disclosure, the Company will provide to the Municipality:
 - a) The total number of sites billed within the Municipal Service Area, by Company rate class, per revenue month, for each of the last two (2) years;
 - b) The total gigajoules (GJ) of Natural Gas consumed by Consumers billed within the Municipal Service Area, by Company rate class, per revenue month, for each of the last two (2) years;
 - c) The franchise fee revenue billed to Consumers within the Municipal Service Area, by Company rate class, per revenue month, for each of the last two (2) years;
 - d) Where the Municipality is the customer of record and the Municipality provides a list of those sites to the Company on the form provided by the Company:
 - i. The total number of those sites billed within the Municipal Service Area, by Company rate class, per revenue month, for each of the last two (2) years;
 - ii. The total gigajoules (GJ) of Natural Gas at those sites billed within the Municipal Service Area, by Company rate class, per revenue month, for each of the last two (2) years;
 - iii. The franchise fee revenue billed to those sites within the Municipal Service Area,

by Company rate class, per revenue month, for each of the last two (2) years; and

e) Such other information as may be agreed upon by the Parties from time to time.

Where privacy legislation, the GUA Code of Conduct Regulation or other rules prohibiting such disclosure prevent the Company from providing the information above, the Company will make reasonable attempts to aggregate the information so as to comply with the applicable rules. The Company will not be obligated to provide such aggregated information if it believes such aggregation will not allow the Company to comply with the applicable rules.

10) Upon request by either Party, the Company will meet with the Municipality. Through a mutual exchange of information the Company will keep the Municipality apprised of the Company's construction and upgrading programs planned for the Municipal Service Area and the Municipality will advise the Company of any issues or plans relating to, or potentially impacting, the Natural Gas Distribution System.

SCHEDULE "B" Extra Services

Nothing in this Agreement precludes the Parties from contracting for Extra Services outside the provisions of this Agreement. In the event the Parties do elect to contract for the provision of Extra Services within the provisions of this Agreement and unless otherwise agreed upon by the Parties, nothing in this Agreement will preclude the Company from sub-contracting with third parties for the provision of Extra Services.

Subject to Commission approval, as may be required, any payments from the Municipality to the Company for Extra Services, if agreed to by the Municipality, may be deducted from the Franchise Fee collected from Consumers and otherwise remitted to the Municipality pursuant to paragraph 5 of this Agreement. The timing and quantum of such payments will be as agreed upon by the Parties and set forth as an amendment to this Schedule.



M E M O

13b

Date: February 24, 2020
To: Kathy Skwarchuk, CAO, Village of Alberta Beach
From: Mackenzie Blackburn, Enforcement Services Coordinator, Parkland County
Subject: Memorandum of Agreement

Please find enclosed the proposed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for Animal Shelter Services between the Village of Alberta Beach and Parkland County.

Upon execution of the agreement, Parkland County will require a certificate of insurance from Alberta Beach covering Parkland County as an additional insured for increased protection from any liabilities that may arise. Parkland County will also require a clearance letter from the Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) of Alberta to confirm that Alberta Beach has an active account in good standing as per Section 9 of the MOA.

Attached, subsequent to the MOA, you will find Parkland County's certificate of insurance covering Alberta Beach and WCB letter as required.

Please returned the signed agreement via mail at your earliest convenience as the previous MOA will be terminated as of March 1, 2020. Once received, Parkland County will send you a copy the newly executed MOA.

Thank you for your ongoing cooperation. Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mackenzie Blackburn".

Mackenzie Blackburn
Enforcement Services Coordinator, Parkland County
mackenzie.blackburn@parklandcounty.com
780-968-8888 ext. 8277

encl.

RECEIVED FEB 28 2020



**SHELTER SERVICES AGREEMENT (the Agreement) entered into as of this
4th day of February, 2020 A.D.**

BETWEEN:

PARKLAND COUNTY

A Municipality incorporated pursuant to
The Laws of the Province of Alberta
(hereinafter referred to as the "County")

OF THE FIRST PART:

– and –

THE VILLAGE OF ALBERTA BEACH

A Municipality incorporated pursuant to
The Laws of the Province of Alberta
(hereinafter referred to as "Alberta Beach")

OF THE SECOND PART:

WHEREAS the County and Alberta Beach acknowledge that it is desirable to enter into an agreement to formalize the roles and responsibilities of each party.

WHEREAS Alberta Beach is of the opinion that the County has the necessary qualifications, experience and abilities to provide services to Alberta Beach.

WHEREAS Alberta Beach has determined a requirement for animal shelter services relating to Domestic Animals.

WHEREAS the County owns and operates a facility for the hosting of Domestic Animals for the purposes of an animal shelter.

NOW THEREFORE the matters described above and of the mutual benefits and obligations set forth in this Agreement, the receipt and sufficiency of which consideration is hereby acknowledged, the parties to this Agreement agree as follows:

1. DEFINITIONS

In this Agreement, the following words and expressions shall have the following meanings:

- a. **"Animal Unit"** shall mean any individual animal impounded in the Shelter. In the case of a litter of cats or dogs under the age of three (3) months, the litter will be impounded in a single kennel and viewed as an individual animal for billing purposes.
- b. **"Adoption"** shall mean the transfer of any impounded domestic animal from the shelter to a new home or rescue agency.
- c. **"Cat"** shall mean any male or female species of the feline family.
- d. **"Dog"** shall mean any male or female species of the canine family.
- e. **"Domestic Animal"** shall mean any animal that has been tamed and made fit for a human environment, relating specifically to cats and dogs.
- f. **"Effective Date of the Term"** shall mean the date on which this Animal Shelter Service Agreement is signed by both parties.
- g. **"Impounded"** shall mean any animal taken into custody to the Parkland County animal shelter.
- h. **"Owner"** shall mean the rightful owner of a domestic animal impounded in the Shelter.
- i. **"Peace Officer"** shall mean a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, or a Community Peace Officer with Parkland County Enforcement Services or Alberta Beach.
- j. **"Pound Services"** shall mean the containment, feeding, cleaning, care and protection of impounded domestic animals, as well as the euthanasia and disposal of impounded domestic animals as required.
- k. **"Shelter"** shall mean a premises designated by Parkland County for the purpose of impounding domestic animals.
- l. **"Unadoptable"** shall mean any impounded domestic animal that has manifested signs of a behavioral or temperamental defect who cannot be reasonably trained to behave appropriately, or any impounded domestic animal that could pose a health or safety risk or otherwise make the animal unsuitable for placement as a domestic pet.
- m. **"Violation Ticket"** shall mean any charge or notice of proceedings relative to the contravention of a provincial act or regulation or Alberta Beach Bylaw.

2. ENGAGEMENT

Alberta Beach engages the County to provide shelter services for animals obtained within the municipal boundaries of Alberta Beach and delivered by a Peace Officer or member of the public.

3. TERM OF AGREEMENT

The Term of this Agreement shall be for one (1) year commencing on March 2, 2020 and will remain in full force and effect until March 1, 2021 ("the Term") with two (2) single year options for extension, unless terminated by either party in accordance with Section 5 of this Agreement. Extension will be at the mutual acceptance of both parties and will be executed by formal amendment.

4. COMPENSATION

Alberta Beach agrees to pay to the County, on a monthly basis, for animal shelter Services (as set out and attached hereto in Schedule "A") and shall constitute the fees payable to the County by Alberta Beach from March 2, 2020 to March 1, 2021 unless otherwise specified.

Under the circumstances where a municipality is entitled to receipt of fines or penalties, Alberta Beach shall receive all fines or penalties relating to the enforcement of Provincial Legislation or Municipal Bylaws as generated by Alberta Beach pursuant to this Agreement.

All Fees are subject to change annually. Any changes to Fees will be communicated to Alberta Beach by December 31st of each year, with revised Fees due to take effect on March 2nd of the following year.

The County will invoice Alberta Beach on or before the 15th of each month. GST will not be collected by Parkland County for any fees relating to any service provided in accordance with this Agreement and therefore on behalf of a municipality in the Province of Alberta. Alberta Beach shall pay to the County invoice amounts within net thirty (30) days of receipt of the applicable invoice.

5. TERMINATION

This Agreement may be terminated in whole or in part, without further obligation, liability or expense of any kind under the following conditions:

- a) By either party providing prior written notice to terminate this Agreement on or before January 30th of the then current year. Termination shall then be effective on March 1st of the same year. In the event of Termination, any and all fees shall be due to the County by Alberta Beach within 30 days of the final invoice for Services covered under this Agreement;
- b) at any time upon notice for a breach of the terms and conditions of this Agreement and such breach has not been cured within five (5) days of the written notice thereof from the County, or such other period of time as the County may agree to in writing;
- c) at any time following the failure of Alberta Beach to remedy, repair, or correct any deficiency or defect upon receiving notice from the County;
- d) upon thirty (30) day's written notice to Alberta Beach from the County during the term of this Agreement; and

e) as otherwise provided in the Agreement.

The County's rights of termination shall be in addition to any other rights or remedies it may have in law, in equity, or under this Agreement.

6. COVENANTS

In addition to the Responsibilities of Alberta Beach and Parkland County attached as Schedule "A" hereto, the parties agree as follows:

Alberta Beach agrees:

- a. To be liable for the safety of Peace Officers while obtaining animal shelter Services pursuant to this Agreement;
- b. To bear the cost of prosecuting Municipal Bylaws, noting that Alberta Justice will bear the cost of prosecuting Provincial Legislation;
- c. To allow Parkland County to adopt out Domestic Animals in the Shelter after a period of three (3) days if the Domestic Animal has not been claimed by its Owner; and
- d. To notify the County of any changes in Bylaws that may impact this Agreement.

Parkland County agrees:

- a. To provide Pound Services for any Domestic Animals caught within the municipal boundaries of Alberta Beach and delivered to the Shelter. Proper identification will be obtained from the person(s) delivering an animal;
- b. To provide Pound Services for any Domestic Animals impounded under the Animal Protection Act and delivered by a Peace Officer. Any impounded Domestic Animal, which appears to be in distress in accordance with the Animal Protection Act, shall be dealt with as provided for in the Act;
- c. To deliver any impounded Domestic Animals in need of medical attention to a veterinarian;
- d. To provide 24 hour care and feeding for any impounded Domestic Animals from Alberta Beach;
- e. To scan all Domestic Animals at the time of impoundment or as soon as practicable for an obvious identification device, tattoo, brand, mark, tag or license;
- f. To advertise all Domestic Animals impounded in the Shelter on the Parkland County Facebook Page, and the Parkland County website in an effort to reunite the Domestic Animal with its Owner;
- g. To charge the Owner of a Domestic Animal the appropriate shelter fees as described in Schedule F of Parkland County's Fees and Charges List for every twenty-four (24) hour period or fraction thereof that the Domestic Animal is impounded;
- h. To facilitate the Adoption of an impounded Domestic Animal after a period of three (3) days if the Owner fails to claim the animal, or after a period of ten (10) days if the impounded Domestic Animal appears to be purebred, or contains any obvious identification device, tattoo, brand, mark, tag or license.

7. NOTICES

Any notices given pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall be served by way of ordinary pre-paid first class mail, courier, e-mail or by way of facsimile transmission, addressed as follows:

Parkland County
53109A Hwy 779
Parkland County AB T7Z 1R1
Attention: Geoff Heritage, Director, Enforcement Services
Tel: 780-968-8888 ext. 3240
Fax: 780-968-8413
Email: geoff.heritage@parklandcounty.com

Village of Alberta Beach
P.O. Box 278
Alberta Beach AB T0E 0A0
Attention: Kathy Skwarchuk, Chief Administration Officer
Tel: 780-924-3181
Fax: 780-924-3313
Email: aboffice@albertabeach.com

or to such other address as to which any party may from time to time notify the other.

Any notice addressed by registered mail to the County or to Alberta Beach pursuant to this Section shall be deemed to have been effectively given on the four (4) days following the date of mailing. If notice is effected by facsimile or e-mail, then the notice will be deemed to be effected on the first (1st) business day following the date of which the facsimile or email was sent. Either party may change the particulars of its address for service as set out above by notice to the other party.

8. INDEMNIFICATION

The County and Alberta Beach shall be mutually liable for and indemnify and save harmless the other party, its elected representatives and employees and agents from all claims, costs, losses, expenses, actions, and suits caused by or arising out of direct or indirect performance of this Agreement or by reason of any matter or thing being done, permitted or omitted to be done, by the each of the parties, its subcontractors, agents or employees and whether occasioned by negligence. The County and Alberta Beach shall not be liable or responsible in any way for any personal injury or property damage of any nature whatsoever that may be suffered or sustained by the other party, or by any employee, agent or servant of either party in the performance of this Agreement. Such indemnification shall survive this Agreement.

9. INSURANCE

Each party shall obtain and provide the other party a letter or similar document, confirming that the each party has an active account that is in good standing from each Worker's Compensation Board or similar body constituted in accordance with the workers' compensation legislation of each jurisdiction in Canada in which the Animal Shelter Services will be provided, and that neither party has not opted out of workers compensation, where allowed.

Alberta Beach and the County shall, at their own expense, provide each other with the following insurance coverage on or before full-execution of this Agreement and before commencement of any work, whichever is the earlier, resulting from this Agreement:

9.1 The parties hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless, each party from and against all losses and expenses suffered or incurred by the other party arising from or connected with any personal injury, disability or death, however caused, to any of the each of the parties employees to the extend not covered by workers' compensation for any reason.

9.2 Comprehensive General Liability Insurance covering the legal liability of each of the parties providing at least two (2) million dollars (Cdn. \$2,000,000.00) coverage, each occurrence, for injury, death, or property damage, including contractual liability. Each party agrees to reimburse the other party for any and all damage(s) to the other parties' property caused by the other party, or its permitted subcontractors, in performing the work. Each party shall provide the other party with evidence of coverage which includes (i) broad form property damage and (ii) "loss of use" in the definition of property damage; and Non-Owned vehicle insurance, for all applicable vehicles coverage in an amount of not less than two (2) million dollars (Cdn. \$2,000,000.00) each occurrence.

9.3 Where any automobile is used for the performance of the work for each of the parties in this Agreement, Both parties will provide automobile liability insurance covering all automobiles licensed in the name of each party that are used in connection with the Animal Shelter Services, and providing at least two (2) million dollars (Cdn. \$2,000,000.00) coverage, each occurrence, for injury, death, or property damage resulting from each accident;

A Certificate of Insurance, from each party naming each party as an additional insured, shall be supplied to each party evidencing that the above insurance is in force, and each party will endeavor to provide the other party with thirty (30) days' written notice prior to any cancellation or material change to the policies.

Before the start date of the Agreement or upon full-execution of the Agreement, whichever is earlier, and thereafter upon request by either parties representative, each party shall provide the other parties representative with insurance certificates describing the insurance policies required pursuant to paragraph 9.2 and 9.3 above. Both parties shall provide the the other party with evidence of coverage which includes (i) broad form property damage and (ii) "loss of use" in the definition of the property damage. These insurance policies shall not be canceled or changed in any manner which could negatively affect either parties' interest unless the other party has been given thirty (30) consecutive days prior written notice of any such cancellation or change.

Alberta Beach shall be responsible for the payment of all deductibles on insurance policies that Alberta Beach is required to maintain under the Agreement. Such policies shall name the County as an "additional insured". Further, Alberta Beach shall immediately advise the County's Representative of any loss or potential loss that has or may have occurred in conjunction with Alberta Beach performing the work. In addition, within three (3) consecutive days of any such loss or potential loss coming to the attention of either party, the other party shall provide written notice of such loss or potential loss to the other parties' representative, including full particulars thereof.

10. WORKERS COMPENSATION BOARD

Each party shall at all times comply with all the requirements of the Worker's Compensation Act of Alberta (or equivalent legislation), amendments thereto, or any successor legislation; and shall upon notice by either party, provide evidence satisfactory to the other party of said compliance with the Act prior to the commencement of any work resulting from this Agreement (herein defined as "WCB").

11. OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

11.1 Alberta Beach shall adhere to all applicable OH&S and Shelter safety standards. Each party shall require the other party to comply with the following OH&S requirements at minimum:

11.2 Alberta Beach shall ensure all applicable OH&S Legislation, County Safety Policies, and industry standards are readily available to all of Alberta Beach's Personnel and that all of Alberta Beach's Personnel are aware of and comply with the OH&S Legislation, County Safety Policies and industry standards.

11.3 Alberta Beach shall ensure that all personnel working for Alberta Beach complete an appropriate safety orientation and safety meeting prior to starting work and Alberta Beach is responsible for providing all other training that may be required.

11.4 The County shall have the right to monitor Alberta Beach's work processes and procedures to ensure compliance with safety standards and procedures.

11.5 Alberta Beach is required to take immediate action to correct unsafe practices or conditions when reported or observed.

11.6 Upon the occurrence of any incident arising from or during the performance of the Agreement, including property damage, an accident, an environmental incident, a safety incident, an injury, a near miss and any other form of loss or damage, Alberta Beach shall immediately investigate the matter and submit a report on the matter to a County representative and to any government authorities as required by law.

Failure of Alberta Beach to comply with any and all relevant safety legislation may result in the immediate suspension or termination of this Agreement.

12. CONFIDENTIALITY

In conjunction with obtaining Animal Shelter Services under this Agreement, it is acknowledged that Alberta Beach will have access to information ("Confidential Information") confidential to the business of the County. Confidential Information shall include, but is not limited to, financial information, intellectual property and engineering information or plans, business plans, concept plans, regulatory information, intellectual property and any other information owned by, used or concerning the County, which is not publicly known (including the terms of this Agreement and any information developed in conjunction with Alberta Beach providing the Animal Shelter Services) and any other proprietary information, records, trade secrets and documentation owned by, used by or concerning the County, whether in written, oral, electronic or other form, whether disclosed before or after execution of this Agreement, whether or not specifically described or marked as confidential and whether provided by the County or an authorized agent of the County. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the release of information or intellectual property will be at the County's discretion. Alberta Beach covenants and agrees that all Confidential Information disclosed to Alberta Beach shall (a) be kept in strict confidence by Alberta Beach, (b) not be used, dealt with or exploited for any purpose or purposes other than the provision of the Animal Shelter Services, and (c) not to be disclosed to any person or persons (other than the professional advisors of Alberta Beach, as required unless required by law. This obligation will survive indefinitely upon termination of this Agreement.

Alberta Beach acknowledges and agrees that damages would be an inadequate remedy for breach of the foregoing obligations of confidentiality and that the County shall be entitled to equitable relief (including injunction and specific performance) in addition to any other remedy available at law or in equity in respect of any such breach.

13. MODIFICATION OF AGREEMENT

Any amendment or modification of this Agreement or additional obligation assumed by either party in connection with this Agreement will only be binding if evidenced in writing and signed by each party or an authorized representative of each party.

14. ASSIGNMENT

Alberta Beach will not voluntarily or by operation of law assign or otherwise transfer its rights or obligations in whole or in part under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the County.

15. OWNERSHIP OF MATERIALS

All materials developed, produced, or in the process of being so under this Agreement, will be the property of the County. The use of the mentioned materials by the County will not be restricted in any manner. This includes, but is not limited to, raw data created at meetings with Parkland County staff.

16. RETURN OF PROPERTY

Upon the expiry or termination of this Agreement, Alberta Beach will immediately return to the County any property, documentation, records, or confidential information which is the sole property of the County.

17. FORCE MAJEURE

Each party shall be responsible for any delay or failure to perform its obligations under the Agreement where such failure or delay is due to fire, flood, explosion, war, embargo, governmental action, terrorism, act of public authority, Act of God, or any other cause beyond its control, except labour disruption. In the event a Force Majeure event occurs which delays or threatens to delay performance of its obligations by a party, that party shall give prompt notice to the other party and shall take all reasonable steps to eliminate the cause or ameliorate the potential disruption and consequent losses. Should the Force Majeure event last for longer than thirty (30) days, the County may terminate this Agreement, in whole or in part, without further liability, expense, or cost of any kind.

18. FOIP ACT

In the event that the either party provides any personal information to the other party for the completion of the Animal Shelter Services identified above, or either party gathers personal information from any employee/resident/customer under this Agreement in order to complete the Animal Shelter Services as stated in this Agreement, each party acknowledges that the legislation known as the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and regulations, as amended (hereinafter referred to as "FOIP") applies to that personal information (has same meaning as in FOIP), and agrees that each party will handle that personal information in accordance with the obligations of each party under FOIP:

- a) Each party agrees that they will not collect personal information from any employee/resident/customer of the other party except in connection with and for the purpose of providing the Animal Shelter Services as identified in this Agreement.
- b) Each party shall maintain records of all information collected while providing the Animal Shelter Services as identified in this Agreement. Any and all records collected, created, maintained or prepared in the performance of these Animal Shelter Services are hereby deemed to be under the control of each party irrespective of custody and shall be maintained by each party in accordance with FOIP.

Alberta Beach shall ensure that all their employees and/or agents understand and comply with the obligations imposed on Alberta Beach under this Section, including without limitation, the protection of privacy of employees/residents/customers of the County.

SCHEDULE "A"

Service Fees for Pound Services

1. Shelter fees for Domestic Animals will be charged to Alberta Beach at a rate of \$22.50 per day or any portion thereof per animal unit;
2. A minimum annual Administration Fee will be charged to Alberta Beach at a rate of \$500.00 for the initial Term of the Agreement; The minimum annual Administration Fee for extension terms will be \$500.00 unless otherwise adjusted according to Item Number 3 below.
3. The annual Administration Fee for potential extension terms will be determined based on the number of impounded Domestic Animals from Alberta Beach from the previous year. This value will be based on the percentage of Alberta Beach impoundments in relation to the total operational costs for the Animal Shelter. In the event that statistics are used in determining a revised annual Administration Fee, the County will provide Alberta Beach with statistical information from the previous year to support the revised pricing.
4. A fee of \$80.00 will be charged to Alberta Beach for any Domestic Animal deemed Unadoptable and euthanized;
5. A fee of \$80.00 will be charged to Alberta Beach for any impounded Domestic Animal that is delivered by the County to a qualified veterinarian to receive medical care. Alberta Beach Enforcement Services will be notified in advance (where practicable) to allow them the opportunity to transport the animal themselves and eliminate this fee; and
6. Veterinary fees, as required, will be charged to Alberta Beach (these charges are normally only required on an emergency basis);

ENDORSEMENT
GENERAL LIABILITY POLICY



CERTIFICATE HOLDER: PARKLAND COUNTY

CERTIFICATE NO.:C031-6

MUNICIPAL OPERATION: SUMMER VILLAGE OF ALBERTA BEACH BUT ONLY WITH RESPECT TO THE LIABILITY ARISING OUT OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE NAMED INSURED - ANIMAL SHELTER SERVICES RELATING TO DOMESTIC ANIMALS

IT IS HEREBY UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED: that the interests of the above mentioned Municipal Operation is added to the coverage afforded by the within Policies.

IN CONSIDERATION OF THE ABOVE, n/a premium of \$0.00 is n/a to the Insured.

EFFECTIVE: February 20, 2020

ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS REMAIN UNCHANGED.

Attached to and forming part of **Policy No. Genesis 2012/20** of the Genesis Reciprocal Insurance Exchange and **GAI2012/20** of the Underwriters at Lloyds Underwriters (Amlin).

EXPIRING: November 1, 2020

Dated at EDMONTON and NISKU, Alberta on February 20, 2020

Genesis Insurance
Reciprocal Exchange

Per: _____
Craig Pettigrew – Deputy Attorney in Fact

AON Reed Stenhouse Inc.
Insurance Brokers & Risk Consultants

Per: _____
Mollory Gray

This policy contains a clause which may limit the amount payable



9912 - 107 Street
PO Box 2415
Edmonton AB T5J 2S5

Email: ebusiness.support@wcb.ab.ca
Tel: (780) 498-3999 (1-866-922-9221)
Fax: (780) 498-7999
WCB website: www.wcb.ab.ca

February 12, 2020

Reference Number: 1068793

PARKLAND COUNTY
HUMAN RESOURCES
53109A HWY 779
STONY PLAIN AB T7Z 1R1

Dear Sir or Madam:

Re: ALBERTA BEACH
PO BOX 278
ALBERTA BEACH AB T0E 0A0

The above named subcontractor has an account with WCB-Alberta in the following industry(ies):

account	trade names(s)/Industry	effective date	coverage
154380	VILLAGE	Jan 01, 1959	worker coverage no personal coverage

Thank you for checking into the status of this contractor or subcontractor. Under Section 126 of the Workers' Compensation Act, you are responsible for obtaining a clearance on your contractor or subcontractor, in order to release you from any liability for unpaid WCB premiums owed by them. Please ensure clearance has been issued in the correct name and that there is coverage in the industry(ies) for which work was performed.

Please accept this letter as a clearance for work completed between the effective date of the account and the date of this letter. For this account, you are cleared of any liability under Section 126 of the Workers' Compensation Act up to the date of this letter. Any holdback may be released for contracts completed, and/or for work completed to the date of this letter. For an account that shows closed under the effective date, the clearance is only valid for work completed up to the close date. If work has not started, obtain a clearance prior to releasing final payment.

Please note, if any directors of the corporation are injured at work, you are protected from lawsuit if they have personal coverage. If they do not have personal coverage, you may not be protected in the case of a workplace injury.

If your contractor or subcontractor is performing work outside Alberta, contact the WCB in that jurisdiction to determine your clearance and any other WCB requirements.

Any alteration of this document is strictly prohibited.

Yours truly,

eBusiness Support Team (11645202)

From: Angela Duncan <duncan.angela.ad@gmail.com>
Sent: February 20, 2020 9:18 AM
To: Alberta Beach Office
Subject: Fwd: Near final Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan
Attachments: noname.dat; SR WMP - V2.2 clean Jan. 2020.docx.pdf

Hi Kathy,

Can we please fan this out to the rest of Council and add it to the March agenda for approval? The motion that they would like to see is in the document on the signature page.

Thanks,

Angela

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

From: Petra Rowell <prowell@shaw.ca>
Date: Sat, 15 Feb 2020 at 12:20
Subject: Near final Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan
To: Rebecca Balanko <Rebecca.Balanko@morinville.ca>, <j.bennett@stonyplain.com>, Angela Duncan <duncan.angela.ad@gmail.com>, <ngelych@lsac.ca>, <jhansen@stalbert.ca>, <ajensen@parklandcounty.com>, Arin MacFarlane <arin.macfarlane-dyer@gov.ab.ca>, Eric Meyer <emeyer@stonyplain.com>, <jmillante@gibbons.ca>, <aaron.paquette@edmonton.ca>, <bpoulin@xplornet.com>, <wrothe@sprucegrove.org>, <drouin@sturgeoncounty.ca>, <tfriedel@metis.org>, <Cheryl.savoie@alexanderfn.com>, Lynne Tonita <lttonita@onoway.ca>, Leah Kongsrude <Leah.Kongsrude@nswa.ab.ca>
Cc: <aharris@gibbons.ca>, Melissa Logan <mlogan@stalbert.ca>, <cbenson@stalbert.ca>, <psthilaire@onoway.ca>, Trena Benesocky <tbenesocky@sturgeoncounty.ca>, <Kshaw@sturgeoncounty.ca>, Lorraine Taylor <ltaylor@lsac.ca>

Hello Sturgeon River Watershed Alliance Steering Committee Members, Alternates and support staff - as we get near to finalizing the Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan document, a few folks indicated they would like a bit more time to review it, or to share it with their colleagues or other working groups for final feedback.

So please find the latest draft of the document attached. I am away on vacation for the next week, so please have any final comments to me by the time I return, Monday Feb. 24.

When I return, I will make any final changes, and will contact each of you in regards to getting your municipality/organizations signature on the endorsement page. I will then hand off the entire signed document to Leah (NSWA) for design and layout.

Thanks everyone! Cheers, Petra

DRAFT
January
2020



Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan

PREPARED BY

Sturgeon River Watershed Alliance

ENDORSEMENTS

The following municipal councils accept the *Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan (2020)* as information and resolve to:

1. continue to work collaboratively with other municipalities and the Sturgeon River Watershed Alliance to implement the plan; and
2. to consider plan recommendations in the decision-making of the municipality including the development of new or updated statutory and other documents.

Municipality	Signature	Position	Date
City of Edmonton			
City of Spruce Grove			
City of St. Albert			
Lac Ste. Anne County			
Parkland County			
Sturgeon County			
Summer Village of Alberta Beach			
Summer Village of Silver Sands			
Town of Gibbons			
Town of Morinville			
Town of Onoway			
Town of Stony Plain			
Westlock County			
Barrhead County			

Additionally, the *Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan (2019)* has been endorsed by the following:

Organization	Signature	Position	Date
Big Lake Environmental Support Society			
North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance			
Sturgeon River Watershed Alliance			
Wagner Natural Area Society			

As per the Government of Alberta's *Water for Life* strategy, the Sturgeon River Watershed Alliance (SRWA) is a watershed stewardship group made up of communities and organizations operating in the Sturgeon River watershed. The vision of the SRWA is:

The Sturgeon River watershed is recognized and valued as a natural prairie river system that connects our communities and adds to our quality of life. It is healthy, sustaining its ecological structure, processes, functions, and resiliency, within its range of natural variability. It is collaboratively stewarded by rural landowners, urban residents and Indigenous communities, and is managed with knowledge and ecological integrity as the foundation for decision-making that balances our social, cultural, economic and environmental well-being.

To achieve its vision, the SRWA has collected and reviewed existing knowledge about the state of the Sturgeon River watershed, commissioned a number of studies to fill information gaps, and engaged others to better understand values and issues associated with water management in this area. Now, to address the issues identified to date and to guide future actions, the SRWA has developed this *Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan (2020)*. While the plan is a reflection of the SRWA's collective consensus voice, it is presented as information and advice only, with voluntary implementation expected to occur over time, as resources allow.

The Sturgeon River is approximately 260 km long. Its headwaters arise from a number of small tributaries and lakes southwest of Lake Isle. It then runs northeast, flowing through Lake Isle and Lac Ste. Anne, Matchayaw (Devil's) and Big Lakes, St. Albert and Gibbons, before joining the North Saskatchewan River. The Sturgeon River contributes about one percent of the flows of the North Saskatchewan River, which in turn, eventually flow into Hudson's Bay.

The Sturgeon River watershed drains an area of 3,301 km² and includes a number of tributaries, lakes and wetlands. The watershed falls within Treaty 6 Territory and Region 4 of the Métis Nation of Alberta. This area has a rich history and today supports a large agricultural community, as well as a growing urban presence. Unfortunately, the conversion of about 80% of the basin's natural land cover to other land uses has affected the health of the Sturgeon River watershed. Past stakeholder concern saw a number of initiatives to examine or improve watershed health. Concerns also led to the formation of the SRWA in 2014, as well as the development of this watershed management plan to address issues identified in a state of the watershed report produced by the City of St. Albert in 2012.

A watershed management plan puts in place an iterative and adaptive management process with clear goals and performance measures and ongoing monitoring and assessment to ensure goals are met. It is a tool that helps to align and coordinate actions by various players in the watershed. In developing this plan, the SRWA recognizes that water management is complex. In order to discuss different components, the plan is organized around six key outcomes, as follows:

- 1. Policies and plans are well-informed and align to support a healthy watershed.**
- 2. All residents have access to safe, secure drinking water supplies, whether they are on public or private systems that draw from surface or groundwater.**
- 3. Aquatic ecosystems, including our rivers, lakes, wetlands and other water bodies, are healthy.**
- 4. The importance of water quantity is recognized and reliable, quality water supplies are available for people, livestock, and a sustainable economy.**
- 5. Wise land use ensures the cumulative effects of growth and development are mitigated, the land is resilient to climate change, and individuals and communities are well prepared for flood and drought events.**
- 6. Residents and stakeholders support the Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan and are willing to participate in local and regional initiatives to improve watershed health.**

Each outcome is discussed in more detail in the plan including what is important about each particular topic area, what we know about it, what goals we have set, and what strategies and actions we will use to achieve our goals and outcomes. Priority strategies, to be initiated in the near term, are discussed under plan implementation. The SRWA will report on plan implementation progress annually, and will review, and if necessary, update the plan every five years.

Throughout the development of the plan, SRWA members indicated that the document should also provide a picture of each municipality's efforts within the Sturgeon River watershed. It should also recognize other groups working in the area. Hence throughout this document, a number of 'sidebar' text boxes provide information on individual municipalities, organizations, initiatives and technical reports. Finally, additional information including a list of SRWA members, resources cited, and a ten-year work plan are included in appendices.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

On behalf of the SRWA Steering Committee (SC) members, we acknowledge our supporting organizations and thank them for giving us the time to participate on the SRWA, as well as providing logistical support for meetings and committee work. We also acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the members of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). We thank the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance for their technical and secretariat support. We also thank Alberta Environment and Parks and the City of St. Albert for technical and logistical support and meeting space. In addition to members of the SC and TAC, a number of Alberta Environment and Parks staff reviewed the plan including Lisa Bergen, Cristina Buendia-Fores, Quli Dai, Janine Higgins, Alex Oiffer, Yaw Okyere, Abdi Siad-Omar, Laura Redmond, Stephen Spencer and Vanessa Swarbrick. Finally, we also thank all of the municipal councillors and staff who also reviewed and provided input to this plan.

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

ACA	Alberta Conservation Association
AEP	Alberta Environment and Parks
AER	Alberta Energy Regulator
AGS	Alberta Geological Survey
ALSA	Alberta Land Stewardship Act
AOPA	Agriculture Operational Practices Act
AUMA	Alberta Urban Municipalities Association
BLESS	Big Lake Environment Support Society
EMRB	Edmonton Metropolitan Regional Board
EPEA	Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act
GOA	Government of Alberta
LID	Low Impact Development
LILSA	Lake Isle and Lac Ste. Anne Water Quality Management Society
LUB	Land Use Bylaw
MDP	Municipal Development Plan
MGA	Municipal Government Act
NSRP	North Saskatchewan Regional Plan (under the Alberta Land Use Framework)
NSWA	North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance
RMA	Rural Municipalities of Alberta
SC	SRWA Steering Committee
SRWA	Sturgeon River Watershed Alliance
SRWMP	Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan
TAC	SRWA Technical Advisory Committee
WSG	Watershed Stewardship Group

INTRODUCTION

THE STURGEON RIVER WATERSHED ALLIANCE

In 2003, the Government of Alberta approved *Water for Life: Alberta's Strategy for Sustainability*, a policy that sets the stage for water management in the province. The three goals of the strategy are:

- Safe, secure drinking water supplies
- Healthy aquatic ecosystems
- Reliable, quality water supplies for a sustainable economy

To achieve these goals, *Water for Life* identifies three types of multi-stakeholder partnerships in Alberta: (1) the provincial policy-focused [Alberta Water Council](#); (2) regional [Watershed Planning and Advisory Councils](#); and (3) Watershed Stewardship Groups. Watershed Stewardship Groups (WSG) include a range of local organizations with diverse mandates. These groups undertake actions to raise awareness and/or physically improve their watersheds or local water bodies. As part of these actions, WSGs may also undertake local watershed assessment and management planning activities.

The Sturgeon River Watershed Alliance (SRWA) is a WSG made up of municipalities with jurisdiction in the Sturgeon River watershed. The SRWA is guided by a Steering Committee (SC) of elected municipal officials and a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of municipal staff and invited experts. (For a list of SRWA committee members, see Appendix 1.) Additionally, the Government of Alberta (Alberta Environment and Parks), and the regional Watershed Planning and Advisory Council (the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance) are also members of both committees. The SRWA also seeks stakeholder input from other levels of government, Indigenous communities, agriculture and industry, conservation groups, academia and the public, through a variety of means such as guest presentations, workshops or forums, and commissioned reports. The vision of the SRWA is as follows:

The Sturgeon River watershed is recognized and valued as a natural prairie river system that connects our communities and adds to our quality of life. It is healthy, sustaining its ecological structure, processes, functions, and resiliency, within its range of natural variability. It is collaboratively stewarded by rural landowners, urban residents and Indigenous communities, and is managed with knowledge and ecological integrity as the foundation for decision-making that balances our social/cultural, economic and environmental well-being.

To achieve this vision, the SRWA has collected and reviewed existing knowledge about the state of the Sturgeon River watershed, commissioned a number of studies to fill information gaps, and engaged others to better understand values and issues associated with water management in this area. Now, to address the issues identified to date and to guide future actions, the SRWA has developed this *Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan (2020)*.

This plan is a reflection of the SRWA's collective voice, including the watershed issues they have identified and their consensus on a path forward. The plan is also an educational tool, providing the information and rationale to support good decision-making by SRWA members who strive to balance development with environmental protection. That is, the information in this plan can, and has, informed Councillors and municipal staff as they develop statutory and non-statutory municipal tools such as Municipal Development Plans, Land Use Bylaws, Area Structure Plans, map overlays, engineering standards, etc.

"Whether it's drought or fires, inundation or erosion, what happens at the local scale matters. That's where the impacts affect individual lives. That's where what people do in their communities can help us cope with the consequences of a warming world." Lauren E. Oakes, [Confronting flames, floods and more in a warming world.](#) *Scientific American Blog August 2, 2019.*

It should be noted, however, that watershed management plans are advisory only, and voluntary plan implementation will only occur as time and resources allow. The SRWA also recognizes that different municipalities have different capacities, priorities and commitments. Hence, plan uptake may occur at different rates across the watershed. To address such limitations, every effort will be made by member municipalities to collaborate and to leverage watershed management resources where it makes sense to do so. Finally, SRWA members also recognize the need to understand and align this body of work with current water management initiatives and priorities of the Provincial Government.

For more information about the SRWA and its work, including updates on the implementation of this plan, please visit the SRWA [webpage](#).



THE STURGEON RIVER AND ITS WATERSHED

Approximately 260 km long, the Sturgeon River is a small meandering river in central Alberta with a long history of settlement along its shorelines. Named after a fish of the same name, the river's headwaters arise from a number of small tributaries and lakes (including Hoople and Round Lakes) about 90 kilometres (km) west of Edmonton in an area west and southwest of Lake Isle (Figure 1).



Although no longer found here, the Sturgeon River is named after the Lake Sturgeon, a fish species that is now at risk in Alberta. Image: US Fish and Wildlife Service

From its headwaters, the Sturgeon River first runs northeast, flowing through Lake Isle and Lac Ste. Anne, both popular recreational lakes supporting a number of seasonal cottage communities along their shores. Leaving these lakes behind, the river turns east, then eventually south, running through the north edge of Matchayaw (also known as Devil's) Lake and dropping down into the north side of Big Lake's east basin. Along this stretch, several tributaries contribute their flow to the mainstem including Killini Creek, Toad Creek and Rivière Qui Barre. Two tributaries, Atim Creek and Carrot Creek, flow into Big Lake.

After leaving Big Lake, the Sturgeon River flows northeast through St. Albert and past Gibbons (after being joined by Egg Creek) before making an abrupt turn to the southeast, dropping down to join the much larger North Saskatchewan River, a little downstream of Fort Saskatchewan. Throughout its journey, the Sturgeon River drops gradually from an elevation of about 840 metres above sea level at its headwaters, to about 600 metres at its mouth. The river itself is generally shallow and slow-moving, compared to the much larger North Saskatchewan River. The Sturgeon River contributes about one percent of the flows of the North Saskatchewan River, which in turn, eventually flow into Hudson's Bay.

A 'watershed' is an area of land that drains into a larger body of water such as a river, lake or ocean. The Sturgeon River watershed drains an area of 3,301 km² (about five times the area of the City of Edmonton). These lands can be characterized by two somewhat distinct geographic areas. The western half of the watershed, with a slightly higher elevation, gently undulating hills and poorer soils, falls in the Central and Dry Mixedwood Natural subregion. The eastern half of the watershed, with richer soils and flatter lands more suitable for agriculture, falls in the Central Parkland Natural subregion. The Sturgeon River watershed makes up about 5.8 percent of the lands included in the North Saskatchewan watershed (an area of about 57,000 km²).

Along with the major lakes and tributaries described above, the Sturgeon River watershed also includes several smaller lakes (e.g., Birch, Deadman, Manawan, Sandy, Gladu and Atim lakes), wetlands (i.e., [Wagner Natural Area](#)), aquifers and other small water bodies. The uplands surrounding these water bodies are a mixture of natural (e.g., forest, shrub and grasslands) and developed (e.g., urban, country residential, agricultural and industrial) landscapes.

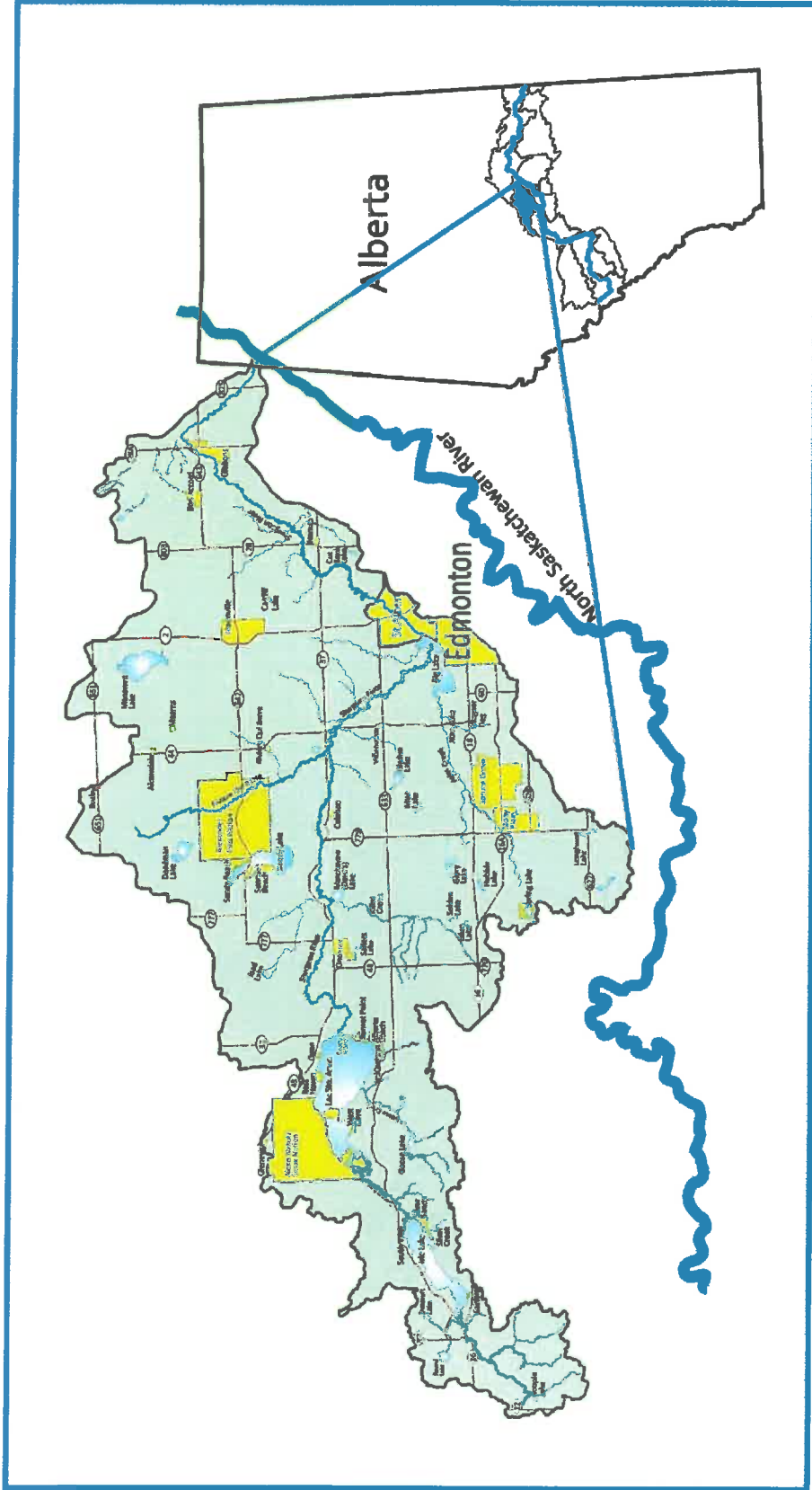


Figure 1. Map of the Sturgeon River watershed showing the lands draining to the Sturgeon River.

Major Tributaries of the Sturgeon River

Toad Creek

This small, ephemeral creek drains Toad Lake, a small waterbody about 10 km north of Onoway. From the lake, Toad Creek drops south to meet the Sturgeon River just east of Matchayaw (Devil's) Lake.

Kilini Creek

Kilini Creek starts south of Highway 16, near Johnny's Lake and Carvel Corner. It then travels northeast, flowing year-round into the west shore of Matchayaw (Devil's) Lake (north of the Town of Bilby). The Sturgeon River mainstem enters and leaves the lake on the north shore. The [Kilini Creek Natural Area](#) is a good example of a Mixedwood forest area with a number of interesting features such as marl ponds and wild orchids. Parkland County has identified a portion of Kilini Creek as an [Environmentally Significant Area](#).

Atim Creek

Atim Creek drains into the west end of Big Lake which in turn drains to the Sturgeon River. This watershed includes Atim Creek Natural Area, as well as Atim Creek Conservation site. Parkland County manages a portion of the creek under the [Atim Creek North Area Structure Plan](#). Atim Creek flows year-round, as it is influenced by dewatering and stormwater inputs from the Town of Stony Plain, which has recently produced a new [Stormwater Management Plan \(2018\)](#).

Carrot Creek

Similar to Atim Creek, Carrot Creek also drains into Big Lake (but from the north). This stream is a part of the City of St. Albert's water quality monitoring program. It also has an Environment Canada hydrometric station on it to record water flow.

Rivière Qui Barre

Rivière Qui Barre starts near Busby, flows through a number of small lakes in the Alexander First Nation Indian Reserve, passes near the hamlet of Rivière Qui Barre, and eventually, empties into the Sturgeon River. The name of this river is a French translation of the Cree phrase Keepootakawa ("river that bars the way"). Through sections of its course, Rivière Qui Barre is little more than a stream.

Little Egg Creek

Little Egg Creek is a small stream that flows out of Manawan Lake, past Cardiff, dropping south to meet the Sturgeon River before it reaches Gibbons. The Manawan Canal is used to discharge stormwater from stormwater ponds in Morinville to where it is discharged to the Sturgeon River.

BRIEF HISTORY OF HUMAN HABITATION

The archaeological record for the Sturgeon River watershed is surprisingly sparse given that important dig sites have been found nearby (e.g., the [Ahai Mneh](#) site south of Wabamun Lake in the Modeste watershed and sites along the North Saskatchewan River). In general, we can assume from these nearby sites that the Sturgeon watershed was likely inhabited by humans at some point after the glaciers receded and as plants and game species repopulated the lands, approximately 10,000 years ago.

Our earliest written history of the area comes through the first explorers, followed quickly by the fur traders and missionaries. By the time European explorers first visited the general area, both Woodland Cree and Nakota Sioux (Stoney) people were believed to be established in the Sturgeon watershed. Today, the Sturgeon River watershed is a part of Treaty 6 Territory. [Alexander First Nation](#), a Woodland Cree community, is located at Sandy Lake. The [Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation](#) is located on the shores of Lac Ste. Anne. Although there are no Métis Settlements in the region, the Sturgeon River watershed falls within the [Métis Nation of Alberta Region #4](#) and there are several local Métis associations in the area.

The Sturgeon River watershed also has a rich religious history with the first permanent Catholic mission in Alberta established at Lac Ste. Anne by Father Jean-Baptiste Thibault in 1842. This site is still an important pilgrimage site.¹ Twenty years later, Father Lacombe established a mission on the banks of the river in today's [St. Albert](#).²

Towards the end of the 19th century, the Sturgeon area was opened to settlers and agriculture. The river provided many resources to early homesteaders including a source of drinking water for both humans and livestock, ice for refrigeration, and fish for sustenance. Early residents also used the river and surrounding area lakes for transportation and recreation including swimming and boating in the summer and skating in the winter.

Throughout the 20th century, the lakes and rivers of the Sturgeon River watershed continued to play an important role to the communities that sprang up alongside them. Today, the Sturgeon watershed includes lands under the jurisdiction of five counties (Parkland, Lac Ste. Anne, Barrhead, Westlock and Sturgeon), three cities (Spruce Grove, St. Albert, Edmonton), five towns (Stony Plain, Onoway, Morinville, Bon Accord and Gibbons), two First Nation reserves (Alexis and Alexander First Nations), the Villages of Alberta Beach and Spring Lake, and several summer villages.

While agriculture dominated early settlement, today, the Sturgeon watershed also supports gravel mining, moderate oil and gas activity, numerous commercial activities and a growing urban population³. This long history of growth and development has had an impact on the small Sturgeon River and its

¹ For more on the Lac Ste. Anne pilgrimage, see the [Lac St. Anne Pilgrimage website](#).

² For more on the St. Albert mission, see the [St. Albert Catholic Parish website](#).

³ For information on population growth by municipality, see the [Alberta Regional Dashboard](#): enter a municipality and click on the 'Population' button for five and ten year trend data.

surrounding uplands.⁴ The cumulative effects of cleared forests, cultivated lands, loss of native ground cover, drained wetlands, increases in impervious surfaces as well as stormwater and other run-off inputs, have degraded the river to some degree. In more recent years, this has led to a number of initiatives advocating for greater efforts to “clean up” the river and its surrounding watershed.

PREVIOUS STUDIES AND INITIATIVES

The Sturgeon River watershed has long been of interest to researchers and resource managers for many different reasons. At the turn of the 20th century, settlement required a focus on soils and agriculture. Midway through the 1900s, other industries, such as logging and gravel mining, put the focus on business ventures, including commercial fishing. About the same time, recreation started to be a focus in Alberta, with several lakes in the watershed becoming important to the recreational communities that developed around them, and to the urban dwellers that could commute to them.

Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, several government staff and academics studied issues associated with Alberta lakes and rivers such as declining fisheries, water quality and water levels. Today, there is a fair amount of literature covering these topics. For a list of resources pertinent to the Sturgeon watershed referred to in this document, see Appendix 2.

In more recent times, there have been numerous collaborations to investigate and manage water issues in the Sturgeon watershed. For example, the Big Lake Task Force was a partnership of seven municipalities (City of Edmonton, City of Spruce Grove, City of St. Albert, Town of Stony Plain, Parkland County, Sturgeon County and Lac Ste. Anne County) in place from 2003–2007 that collaborated on the completion of a storm water master plan for Big Lake. The main objectives of the plan were to facilitate orderly development, prevent flooding problems downstream of development areas, protect the environment and plan for future generations. One of the key recommendations from the [Big Lake Storm Water Master Plan](#) (2004) was that a Sturgeon River watershed management plan be developed.

In response to increasing development in the Capital Region, the Edmonton Metropolitan Regional Board (EMRB) developed [Growing Forward: The Capital Region Growth Plan](#) originally approved by the Government of Alberta (GOA) on March 31, 2010 (then subsequently updated and re-approved in 2017). *Growing Forward* addresses a wide range of growth and development issues affecting the member municipalities by providing principles and policies that promote integrated, efficient and sustainable growth in the Capital Region. The primary purpose of the Land Use Plan component is to manage growth sustainably and in a manner that protects the region’s environment and resources, minimizes the regional footprint, strengthens communities, increases transportation choices, ensures efficient provision of services and supports regional economic development. Within the core principle entitled *Protect the Environment and Resources*, key policies include:

⁴ For an interesting article on changes to the Sturgeon River over the past 100 years, see Derek Richmond’s article [Is there hope for the Sturgeon River?](#)

- Preserve and protect the environment
- Preserve agricultural lands
- Protect natural resources
- Minimize the impact of development on regional watersheds and airsheds
- Minimize the impact of heavy industrial development.

To continue with the momentum of the Big Lake Task Force multi-stakeholder group, the City of St. Albert funded and completed the [Sturgeon River State of the Watershed Report](#) in 2012. The purpose of this report was to summarize the current knowledge of the watershed with respect to land use, water quantity, water quality, fisheries and selected biological indicators, and to comment on the environmental integrity of the watershed. Recognizing that the Sturgeon River within St. Albert is affected by upstream users, the report was created for the entire watershed and its stakeholders including residents, regulators, policy makers, landowners and industry. The report found that the river's condition was "fair" by most measures, and "poor" in terms of its fish, vegetation, and nutrient (phosphorous) levels. It also identified a number of information gaps about the health of the watershed.

Also in 2012, the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) completed an [Integrated Watershed Management Plan](#) for the North Saskatchewan River. This plan is a collection of recommendations and an approach for managing the North Saskatchewan River watershed, sustaining water resources for the long-term and meeting the three strategic goals of the *Water for Life* strategy. The plan includes five goals as follows:

1. Water Quality in the North Saskatchewan River watershed is maintained or improved.
2. Instream flow needs of the North Saskatchewan River watershed are met.
3. Aquatic ecosystem health in the North Saskatchewan River watershed is maintained or improved.
4. The quality and quantity of non-saline groundwater are maintained and protected for human consumption and other uses.
5. Watershed management is incorporated into land-use planning processes at all scales.

Building upon these previous initiatives, a collaborative approach was proposed to address the watershed management needs of the Sturgeon River basin. The Sturgeon River Watershed Alliance (SRWA) was formed in 2014 with the purpose of providing a platform for municipalities and others to work together to guide watershed stewardship in their counties, cities, towns, villages and other communities.

Finally, in undertaking an assessment of the watershed and before initiating a watershed management planning process, the SRWA noted several technical information gaps (e.g., the condition of riparian lands, the state of groundwater knowledge, the health of aquatic ecosystems). Several reports were commissioned to address these gaps and can now be found on the SRWA [webpage](#). With information in hand, the Steering Committee prepared a draft watershed management plan. It then used the draft to seek input and engage other stakeholders before completing a final document.

PLAN PURPOSE

Throughout their work, the SRWA has collected information on what residents, constituents and other stakeholders' value about the Sturgeon River watershed. Although not a definitive list, some of the things the Sturgeon River watershed is valued for include:

- Its own intrinsic value as a natural ecosystem including the value of the ecological goods and services (e.g., clean air, clean water, biodiversity) it provides.
- Its cultural and spiritual significance to Indigenous communities, religious congregations and other residents and visitors.
- Its inherent beauty and aesthetic appeal for recreation and leisure (e.g., boating, swimming, fishing, hiking, photography).
- As a source of raw drinking water supplies (i.e., largely from lakes and groundwater; no communities still draw raw source water from the river itself).
- An important resource for agriculture (e.g., livestock watering, crop irrigation), industry (e.g., gravel mining, oil and gas extraction) and commercial enterprises (e.g., sod farms, golf courses).

The above values inform a vision developed by the SRWA for the Sturgeon watershed as follows:

The Sturgeon River watershed is recognized and valued as a natural prairie river system that connects our communities and adds to our quality of life. It is healthy, sustaining its ecological structure, processes, functions, and resiliency, within its range of natural variability. It is collaboratively stewarded by rural landowners, urban residents and Indigenous communities, and is managed with knowledge and ecological integrity as the foundation for decision-making that balances our social, cultural, economic and environmental well-being.

In order to protect these cultural, social, economic and environmental values, and achieve this shared vision, the Sturgeon watershed must be actively and collaboratively managed. That is, land and water managers need to work together to provide long-term direction to maintain the quality of the Sturgeon River and its surrounding uplands. The Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan (SRWMP) is intended to provide this direction. Additionally, the plan will:

- Provide a watershed approach to water management;
- Initiate an iterative and adaptive management process for the watershed with clear goals and performance measures and ongoing monitoring and assessment to ensure goals are met;
- Work towards the alignment of provincial, regional and municipal policies and plans as they affect water and watershed health;
- Coordinate intermunicipal collaboration and stakeholder involvement to ensure successful implementation of strategies and actions within the watershed;

- Promote stewardship projects to be carried out alongside implementation of the plan; and
- Continue to identify and address knowledge gaps as they become known.

In developing this plan, the SRWA recognizes that water management is complex with a number of different components making up the watershed. In order to examine each of these components thoroughly, the SRWMP is organized around six key outcomes, as follows:

- 1. Policies and plans are well-informed and align to support a healthy watershed.***
- 2. All residents have access to safe, secure drinking water supplies, whether they are on public or private systems that draw from surface or groundwater.***
- 3. Aquatic ecosystems, including our rivers, lakes, wetlands and other water bodies, are healthy.***
- 4. The importance of water quantity is recognized and reliable, quality water supplies are available for people, livestock, and a sustainable economy.***
- 5. Wise land use ensures the cumulative impacts of growth and development are mitigated, the land is resilient to climate change, and individuals and communities are well prepared for flood and drought events.***
- 6. Residents and stakeholders support the Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan and are willing to participate in local and regional initiatives to improve watershed health.***

Each outcome is discussed in more detail (with goals and strategies) in the sections that follow. Note however that topics overlap and are interrelated. That is, they are all important and all contribute to overall watershed health, both individually, and collectively.

Finally, throughout the development of the SRWMP, SRWA members indicated that the plan should also provide a clear picture of each municipality's relationship to, and work within, the Sturgeon River watershed. It should also recognize other groups working in the area. Hence throughout this document, a number of 'sidebar' text boxes provide information on individual municipalities, organizations, initiatives and available technical reports. While not exhaustive, this information begins to paint a picture of the diversity of concerned interests working to keep the Sturgeon River watershed healthy, for current and future generations to enjoy.

KEY OUTCOMES

Outcome 1. Policies and plans are well-informed and align to support a healthy watershed.

ALIGNED POLICIES AND PLANS

A number of provincial and municipal jurisdictions share responsibility for land and water management in the Sturgeon River watershed. Additionally, a hierarchy of policies, legislation, regulations, and plans guide the orderly development of our lands and resources (Figure 2).

To be effective at managing shared waters, managers should be aligned and consistent in their policies and plans, as well as their enforcement, not only for areas where water crosses jurisdictional boundaries but also in the uplands surrounding such water bodies. The SRWA works to understand where provincial and municipal policies and plans are aligned for watershed health, and where work is needed to improve such alignment. Note that throughout this document, the term “healthy” refers to a watershed, waterbody or aquatic ecosystem that is “*sustaining its ecological structure, processes, functions, and resiliency, within its range of natural variability*” as defined by the [Alberta Water Council](#).

Under Alberta’s revised (2019) [Municipal Government Act](#), the purpose of a municipality includes “to foster the well-being of the environment”. Additionally, this includes managing water as per Section 60(1): “*subject to any other enactment, a municipality has the direction, control and management of the bodies of water within the municipality, including the air space above and the ground below*”. For more on this, see [Municipalities and Environmental Law Part 2: Municipal Management of Water Bodies](#).

- **Goal 1.1. Policies, plans and management actions are aligned to sustain the health of the Sturgeon River watershed.**
 - **Strategy 1.1.1. Incorporate values that support watershed health into federal, provincial, regional, municipal, resource and other policies, plans and actions by ensuring a watershed ‘voice’ is present in all policy and planning processes affecting the Sturgeon watershed.**
 - Action: Continue to work with other municipalities through Alberta Urban Municipalities Association ([AUMA](#)) and Rural Municipalities of Alberta ([RMA](#)) processes to bring attention to the role of municipalities in watershed management.
 - Action: Submit the SRWMP to the GOA as information to inform its development of the North Saskatchewan Regional Plan (NSRP) as well as other relevant provincial initiatives.

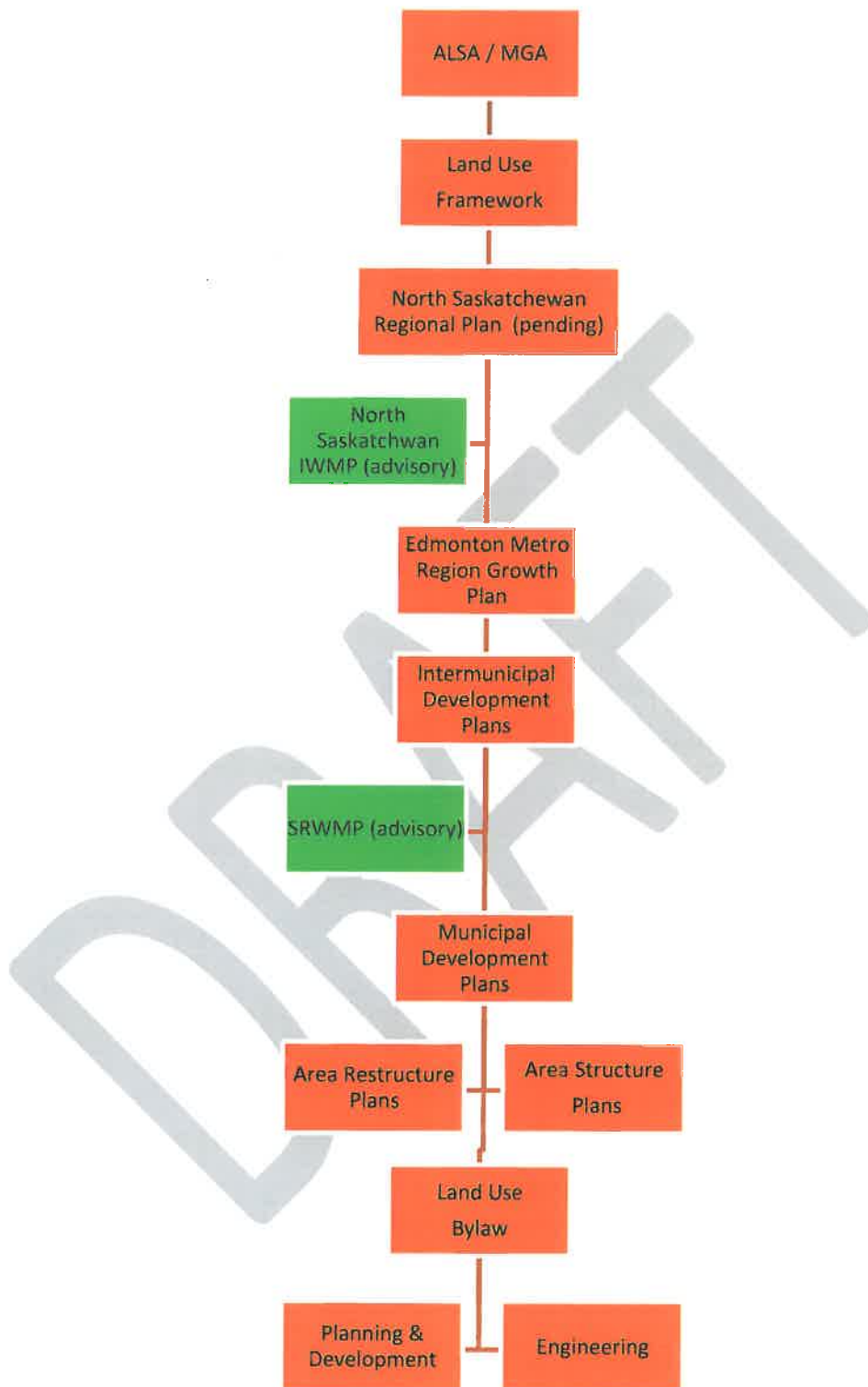


Figure 2. A hierarchy of authorities and management tools are used to manage growth and development in the Sturgeon River watershed.

- Action: Submit the SRWMP to the Edmonton Metropolitan Regional Board (EMRB) as information for their consideration and continue to encourage partnering on future policy and planning projects.
- Action: Encourage individual municipalities to use the SRWMP to inform their own municipal policy and planning over time and as their documents and processes are renewed.
- **Strategy 1.1.2. Encourage policy and plan alignment by ensuring technical water and watershed information informs the development of policies, plans and other management tools (e.g., bylaws, districting, reserves, setbacks, standards, map overlays, definitions).**
 - Action: Identify policy and planning gaps between municipalities in the Sturgeon River watershed, as well as adjoining watersheds, and compare, develop and share model policy statements, bylaws, definitions and other tools to fill such gaps and resolve differences (e.g., septic bylaws, pesticide bylaws, setback definitions).
 - Action: Wherever possible, develop and share spatial overlay maps (flood hazard areas, wetlands, natural areas, riparian setbacks, groundwater recharge/discharge areas) to inform land use planning and development processes.
 - Action: Recognizing the value of riparian intactness in securing water quality, make it a priority to work towards development of consistent policies and tools in protecting water bodies and riparian buffer setback within the watershed.

Potential Implementers: NSWA, SRWA, GOA, municipalities

Performance Measures:

- Every municipality in the Sturgeon watershed supports a collaborative watershed approach as outlined in their governing documents.

City of Edmonton's North Saskatchewan River Valley Area Redevelopment Plan

A small portion of the Sturgeon River Watershed within the jurisdiction of the City of Edmonton is protected under the North Saskatchewan River Valley Area Redevelopment Plan as an environmental protection area. The major goal of the plan is to ensure preservation of the natural character and environment of the river valley and ravine system.

Following this policy direction, the City is acquiring all lands below the geomorphic limit of the River Valley and Ravine System as Environmental Reserve. Successful implementation of this plan has resulted in protecting and safeguarding the natural features of the river valley and a majority of its ravine system as an integrated part of the City's urban fabric.

Local governments in the region may consider similar best practices for the protection of lake, river and riparian ecosystem from rapid land use changes and urban development in the region.

Throughout the process to develop a state of the watershed report in 2012, a number of information gaps about the Sturgeon River watershed were identified. The SRWA, in partnership with the NSWA and others, commissioned several reports to fill some of these gaps.⁵ However, additional data and information gaps remain. For example, Indigenous and other local knowledge about the watershed, and how it has changed over time, is not well documented, but could inform watershed health benchmarks and trend analysis. Additionally, groundwater, climate change, and the cumulative effects⁶ of future growth and development are all areas that warrant further investigation.

In many cases, information is available but is not easily accessible or shared broadly. Information also becomes much more useful to managers and planners when it is displayed as geo-spatial maps or overlays and is embedded in formal statutory development approval processes. Equally important is the translation of information into everyday language that quickly informs 'decision-makers'. (Note that as we go about our daily business, we are all 'decision-makers' whose actions impact the watershed.)

As the SRWA and its partners continue to move forward, gathering and disseminating data and information in order to build knowledge and inform decision-making will be critical to the SRWMP implementation success. In particular, the SRWMP should be 'performance driven'. That is, it should use performance measures to benchmark and assess progress over time.

- **Goal 1.2. Decision-making in the Sturgeon River watershed is based on the best available knowledge.**
 - **Strategy 1.2.1. Identify, prioritize and fill information gaps, using both Indigenous knowledge and Western science, about the watershed.**
 - Action: Work with Indigenous communities to create opportunities to identify and appreciate Indigenous knowledge or ways of knowing and values related to the Sturgeon watershed.
 - Action: Develop a research strategy that identifies and prioritizes information gaps and methods to fill such gaps.
 - Action: Building off of existing monitoring programs (e.g., City of St. Albert, CreekWatch, Alberta Lake Management LakeWatch program), establish a watershed-wide monitoring, evaluation and reporting framework.
 - **Strategy 1.2.2. Continue to develop and utilize mechanisms (e.g., meetings, workshops, Council presentations, reports, newsletters, technical studies, success stories and case studies, gap analysis) to share information to ensure decision-makers and others are well-informed about technical water issues in the Sturgeon watershed.**

⁵ To see technical reports completed to date, see the [SRWA webpage](#).

⁶ For some information on cumulative effects in the North Saskatchewan watershed, see the NSWA report [Cumulative Effects of Land Uses in the North Saskatchewan River Watershed](#).

- Action: Continue to engage the Province and municipalities (i.e., elected officials, senior management and technical staff) on key watershed issues through ongoing SRWA Steering and Technical Committee meetings, forums, workshops, publications, etc.
- Action: Provide guidance to municipalities on best practices around water management (e.g., stormwater management, low impact development, riparian restoration, etc.).

Potential Implementers: NSW, SRWA, GOA, municipalities, Indigenous communities

Performance Measures:

- Municipal Councillors, Indigenous leaders and other decision-makers are knowledgeable about water issues in the Sturgeon watershed.
- Technical information gaps required by decision-makers to achieve watershed health are identified, prioritized and addressed.
- Legislation gaps affecting water management practices are identified, prioritized and addressed.

DRAFT

Taking a Closer Look at Policies and Plans in the Sturgeon River Watershed

In general, 'policy' refers to a course of action, or plan, adopted or proposed by a government. Policy documents generally describe the direction a government wants to go on a certain topic. In the Sturgeon River watershed, there are many documents (e.g., inter-municipal and municipal development plans, land use bylaws and area structure plans) that describe the policy directions and plans of the various jurisdictions that reside here. The development or renewal of such documents provides an opportunity to incorporate watershed principles into provincial and municipal policy and planning.

To understand some of these documents better, the SRWA commissioned the report "[Planning Tools for the Sturgeon River Watershed](#)" (ParioPlan 2019). The purpose of this report was to encourage more consistent and effective watershed protection and advance more consistent land use planning throughout the Sturgeon watershed. As such, it provides a snapshot of the current policy context and makes several recommendations on areas where policy can be aligned to improve the protection of the Sturgeon River watershed at multiple stages in the planning process.

Delving into this topic a little deeper, the NSWA commissioned a second inhouse report *Sturgeon River Watershed: Recommendations for Planning Alignment Report (Beaubien 2020)*. Together, these reports identified a number of areas where policy alignment would benefit the Sturgeon watershed. This includes (but is not limited to) the following:

- mapping of flood areas, rules for development in flood areas, flood and drought resiliency planning
- conservation and restoration of wetlands and riparian areas
- identification, protection and conservation of environmentally significant areas
- definition, identification and mapping of Hazard Lands
- determination of setback and buffer requirements; taking of environmental and conservation reserve
- techniques for stormwater management, low impact development, road salt and snow management
- waste water management
- groundwater management
- environmental monitoring, evaluation and reporting
- the planning process, use of districting
- the development process, erosion control requirements, lot coverage policies, etc.

Parkland County – Keeper of the Sturgeon River Headwaters

Parkland County, located west of Edmonton, is a municipality with a population of about 32,000 largely rural residents. As such, the County is the manager for those lands in around Hoople and Round lakes (northwest of Stony Plain), the headwaters of the Sturgeon River. The headwaters of Kilini and Atim creeks, major tributaries of the Sturgeon River, also lie within the County's boundaries. And finally, the Carvel Pitted Delta underlying the county, is a major groundwater recharge area.

In fact, the County includes a number of unique waterbodies (e.g., Spring Lake and Wagner Natural Area). Additionally, many of the county's residents rely on groundwater wells for domestic, agricultural and commercial water supplies. Hence, the County is well-versed in water management issues. Examples of principles supporting a collaborative watershed approach can be found throughout their governing documents. In addition, the County has commissioned several reports that support a healthy Sturgeon River watershed including:

- Environmental Conservation Master Plan
- Wetland Inventory
- Stormwater Management Facility Naturalization Policy
- Biophysical Assessment Policy
- Park Development Plan

Parkland County also uses a number of tools to manage development near water bodies. For example, in order to manage lakeside development, they may designate a *Lakeshore Residential District* with specific rules for tree clearing, parcel coverage, setbacks from the shoreline and hazard lands, and development in floodplains.

The county collaborates with its neighbouring municipalities (e.g., Lac Ste. Anne County) and smaller jurisdictions within the county (Town of Stony Plain, City of Spruce Grove). For example, an Intermunicipal Development Plan ([IDP](#)) between Parkland and Lac Ste. Anne counties recognizes the significance of their shared watershed, as well as the importance of collaborating to maintain watershed health.

Outcome 2. All residents have access to safe, secure drinking water supplies, whether they are on public or private systems that draw from surface or groundwater.

SAFE, SECURE DRINKING WATER SUPPLIES

In the past, several small communities relied on the Sturgeon River, or local small lakes or groundwater wells, as their domestic drinking water sources. However, in more recent years, most communities have joined larger supply networks. In the Capital Region, EPCOR, a private utility owned by the City of Edmonton, extracts water from the North Saskatchewan River, treats the water for consumption, before pumping it to its regional water customers (Figure 3).

While there are many economies of scale and other advantages to being a part of a larger network, there are also some risks. Individual municipalities still have to maintain their own water storage and distribution systems (including reservoirs, pumping stations, pipelines and service connections) and they still have to manage potential contamination or drought events⁷. Additionally, if a spill on the North Saskatchewan hindered EPCOR's intake, a larger number of people would be affected than if everyone had their own systems. To manage this, EPCOR has a [source water protection plan](#) that identifies risks and potential mitigation. However, in the event of a disruption, smaller communities must also consider back up plans, source protection, water conservation measures, etc. Communities in the Sturgeon watershed also need to plan for future residential development and from where such developments will access potable water. Capacity constraints could require new or upgraded storage and delivery infrastructure.

While regulated public water systems deliver water to many communities, many individual land owners (i.e., farmers, ranchers and acreage owners) maintain unregulated private drinking water systems largely from groundwater wells but also including the use of dugouts and cisterns. These private systems can be affected by periods of drought and can provide a pathway for contamination. Hence, their management is equally important as that of public systems.

- **Goal 2.1. Residents in the Sturgeon watershed have access to safe, secure drinking water supplies.**
 - **Strategy 2.1.1. Improve understanding of the current state of drinking water demand and supply systems including both public and private sector and the issues residents are encountering with these systems.**

⁷ For an example of how municipalities can conserve water, see the City of St. Albert's [Water Conservation, Efficiency and Productivity Plan](#) or City of Spruce Grove's [Water webpage](#).

- Action: Encourage municipalities to use presentations, surveys, workshops and other means to better understand private water systems (including wells, dugouts and cisterns) and the issues residents are encountering with these systems.

○ **Strategy 2.1.2. Promote source water protection.**

- Action: Ensure the public are knowledgeable about private drinking water system management and potential impacts to water supplies by encouraging participation in Alberta Health's Working Well Program and Residential Drinking Water testing programs.
- Action: Provide educational materials and promote agricultural, household and commercial beneficial management practices to protect source water quality.

Potential Implementers: SRWA, NSWA, municipalities, private drinking water system operators (acreage and landowners), Alberta Environment and Parks, Alberta Health

Performance Measures:

- Treated drinking water quality parameters meet provincial guidelines.
- Domestic groundwater wells are not impacted by anthropogenic contaminants (e.g., *E. coli*, nutrients, etc.) and other pollutants (e.g., nutrients, toxic metals and hydrocarbons, etc.).

WELL-MANAGED GROUNDWATER

Groundwater in the Sturgeon River watershed is an interesting area of study with a number of unique components such as the Carvel Pitted Delta, buried meltwater channels and the marl ponds at Wagner Natural Area. Groundwater is also an important source of water across the watershed for a variety of users including:

- Drinking and domestic water for rural residents (i.e., farms and acreages) and lake communities (e.g., Alberta Beach)
- Water for agriculture (e.g., livestock watering and irrigation)
- Water for industry (i.e., mainly gravel dewatering and washing) and commercial use (e.g., irrigation for sod farms, golf courses)

Additionally, groundwater is a component of the water balance of lakes, rivers and wetlands. Some wetlands (such as the Wagner Natural Area) are highly dependent on groundwater, while the winter baseflow in most creeks and rivers is largely derived from groundwater. Some water-loving plants, like willows and poplars, may also rely on groundwater flows. During periods of drought, groundwater inputs to surface water bodies can buffer water level declines. In closed basin pothole lakes (e.g., Spring and Hubbles lakes), groundwater outflow may represent the only mechanism of flushing contaminants from the lake.



Figure 3. EPCOR's Edmonton Region Water Service Area.

In general, we don't have a detailed understanding of the current state of groundwater quantity and quality in the Sturgeon watershed. Additionally, we know that localized issues do arise in some areas at some times such as:

- Inadequate supply or well drawdown or dewatering/depressurization of some wells, particularly in drought years
- Inadequate quality in some areas due to presence of naturally-occurring trace elements (e.g., arsenic, iron)⁸
- Local and larger scale impacts to groundwater due to the cumulative effects of urban, industrial and agricultural activities

Additionally, there is a lack of information and knowledge, particularly around aquifer characteristics and surface-groundwater interactions, to inform land use planning and decision-making. There is also a lack of examples, case studies, etc. showing how municipal tools can be used to protect aquifers and

⁸ For information on Alberta drinking water well data, see the [AEPHIN website](#).

their recharge and discharge areas. And finally, there is a lack of comprehensive long-term monitoring networks and capacity /resources to identify spatial/temporal long-term trends to groundwater quality or quantity or for undertaking additional groundwater studies.

Groundwater is, for the most part, managed provincially through water allocations, the wetland policy, well monitoring and other programs. Because urban, agricultural and other land uses may affect groundwater quality (i.e., risk of contamination) and quantity, protecting this resource is a land-use planning issue municipalities should be aware of. Additionally, groundwater is also physically connected to surface water features that contribute to community identity (i.e., the Sturgeon River) and highly valued recreational water bodies – another reason why municipalities should be aware of this resource.

- **Goal 2.2. Groundwater is understood and managed sustainably.**

- **Strategy 2.2.1. Improve our knowledge about the quality and quantity of groundwater in the Sturgeon watershed and how it interacts with surface water.**

- Action: Encourage the GOA to maintain and/or enhance groundwater well monitoring programs (e.g., GOA well database, groundwater observation well network).
- Action: Undertake trend analysis of existing well information to understand temporal changes in groundwater quality and supply within the Sturgeon River watershed.
- Action: Encourage the province to undertake groundwater studies at the watershed and sub-watershed scale, providing relevant maps and tools to municipalities for land management planning and decision-making.

- **Strategy 2.2.2. Manage land use development such that key groundwater recharge and discharge areas are not impaired.**

- Action: Identify key recharge and discharge areas and areas at risk of contamination and use provincial (e.g., the Alberta Wetland Policy) and municipal tools (e.g., map overlays, environmental reserve, aquifer signage) to protect such areas as they are identified (e.g., Carvel lakes, Wagner Fen).
- Action: If/where required, under the North Saskatchewan Regional Plan, develop Groundwater Management Frameworks that protect well heads, artesian flow areas, important recharge and discharge areas, and aquifers; and prevents contamination, and the cumulative effects of development on groundwater quantity and quality.
- Action: Educate municipal staff, including planners, about potential groundwater contamination risks.

Potential Implementers: SRWA, NSWA, GOA, AER/AGS, municipalities

Performance Measures:

- The number of rural residents reliant on drinking water wells who test their water regularly.
- Number of municipalities utilizing groundwater policies and management tools.

Taking a Closer Look at Groundwater in the Sturgeon River Watershed

As they learn more about it, water managers are increasingly aware of the significant role groundwater plays in a watershed. In the Sturgeon River watershed, groundwater is an important domestic, agricultural and municipal resource. Groundwater also can contribute to surface water river flows and lake levels.

Hence to learn more about it, the SRWA commissioned the report [*Summary of Groundwater Conditions in the Sturgeon River Basin*](#) (Oiffer 2019). This report provides an overview of the hydrogeological conditions in the Sturgeon River Basin based on existing information and takes a look at the role of groundwater in sustaining the Sturgeon River and several lakes in the basin. Additionally, the report identifies key data gaps in the understanding of the potential interactions of groundwater with the Sturgeon River and lakes and provides a number of recommendations for addressing these gaps.

Managing Activities around High Groundwater Levels

Areas with high groundwater levels exist throughout the Sturgeon watershed, affecting activities such as gravel mining, sub-surface construction and septic field placement. In particular, high groundwater levels make any grading or excavation difficult, with inundation and sloughing likely to occur.

Depending on where excess water is directed to, disturbances can also affect the water quality and flows of downstream receiving waters. In particular, the areas around Stony Plain and Spruce Grove are known to have high groundwater levels, affecting how development occurs in this rapidly growing area. Generally, developers try to avoid sub-surface dewatering. Residential housing is designed and constructed at elevations that are higher than the normal groundwater level to ensure that dewatering does not occur and that subsurface flows are maintained.

This is particularly important around sensitive areas such as the [*Wagner Natural Area*](#), a unique fen wetland, just south of Highway 16. The City of Spruce Grove's *East Pioneer Area Structure Plan* and Parkland County's *Acheson Industrial Area Structure Plan* both identify this ecologically significant area. Tools such as 'Estate Residential' districting can be used to maintain large areas of open space, reducing the amount of runoff and allowing water to infiltrate the soil. Additionally, buildings developed in the area must be constructed at an elevation greater than the normal groundwater level in order to ensure that sump pumps do not affect sub-surface flows. Geotechnical studies are also required before development occurs.

Where dewatering is required, pumped groundwater must be directed somewhere. In the case of gravel mining, excess waters are usually held in a dewatering pond, rather than contaminating local surface water bodies. In urban areas, dewatering is usually routed to local stormwater systems, which in turn empty to small creeks.

Outcome 3. Aquatic ecosystems, including our rivers, lakes, wetlands and other water bodies, are healthy.

IMPROVED WATER QUALITY

In the past, water quality in the Sturgeon watershed was generally sufficient for uses associated with gravel operations, agriculture, and small commercial enterprises such as golf courses and sod farms. Water quality is also important to the aquatic ecosystems it supports, and for the recreational opportunities, such as swimming and fishing, it provides. However, in more recent years, more frequent blue-green algae blooms, excessive plant growth, concerns about contaminants and aesthetics (i.e., smell, appearance) have many users re-considering activities like swimming or consuming fish.

Small, shallow rivers like the Sturgeon tend to be warmer than larger, deeper water bodies, and higher in nutrients, with more plant growth and lower oxygen levels. Smaller tributaries can be more sensitive than the mainstem. Although naturally rich in nutrients such as phosphorus and nitrogen, our recreational lakes are also sensitive to additional nutrient loading. Waste water releases, stormwater and diverse (non-point) source loadings (such as sediment, fertilizers, pesticides, manure and other contaminants) can all affect water quality. However, without comprehensive water quality monitoring and assessment, their impact may not be well understood or addressed until a major event, such as a fish kill or blue-green algae advisory draws attention to the issue.

- **Goal 3.1: Water quality in the Sturgeon watershed is improved.**
 - **Strategy 3.1.1. Improve understanding of the health and resiliency of the Sturgeon River watershed by monitoring, evaluating and reporting on water quality and other aspects of aquatic ecosystem health.**
 - Action: Use both technical and traditional knowledge to inform the selection of a suite of indicators (e.g., fish communities, benthic invertebrates, water quality parameters) to monitor the aquatic ecosystem health of the Sturgeon River watershed including the mainstem, priority tributaries and key lakes.
 - Action: Periodically assess indicator information collected and use this assessment to publicly report on the state of the Sturgeon River watershed every five years.
 - **Strategy 3.1.2. Identify and reduce point and non-point sources of nutrient and contaminant loading in the Sturgeon watershed.**
 - Action: Ensure awareness and if required, enforcement of existing federal, provincial and municipal regulations such as the *Water Act*, *Public Lands Act*, *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act*, *Agricultural Operational Practices Act*, municipal Land Use bylaws, etc.
 - Action: Reduce contaminant loading from point sources by improving waste water management and centralizing sewage lagoon systems.

- Action: Reduce sediment and salt loading from road and snow facilities by promoting transportation and roads BMPs such as Alberta Transportation and Transportation Association of Canada Guidelines and federal required Salt Management Plans and snow facilities melt water best practices.
- Action: Reduce nutrient loading from rural non-point sources by working with rural residents, businesses and agricultural producers to promote beneficial practices (e.g., to reduce fertilizer and pesticide use near water bodies).
- Action: Reduce nutrient loading from urban non-point sources by improving stormwater management, addressing increased flows created by development, incorporating Low Impact Development (LID) principles and promoting educational programs (e.g., Yellow Fish Road).
- Action: If needed, incorporate more stringent guidance on setbacks, as promoted by *Stepping Back from the Water*, into bylaws.

Potential Implementers: SRWA, NSWA, municipalities, stewardship groups and conservation programs (e.g., ALUS Canada programs and similar initiatives by County Ag Services departments), landowners

Performance Measures:

- Water quality parameters meet guidelines and/or show improvements.

City of St. Albert Water Quality Monitoring Program

As the Sturgeon River passes through the outlet of Big Lake, it runs through the heart of the City of St. Albert. Since its early days, the city has grown up around the river's banks and city residents have used the river for a variety of activities such as swimming, fishing, boating, skating and skiing. Even today, residents, walk, bike and roller blade along the Red Willow Trail system of which the Sturgeon River is a major component.

With this strong attachment to the river, it is no surprise that St. Albert has a long history of involvement in watershed management. The City commissioned the State of the Watershed report in 2012 and is a founding member of the SRWA. City staff have undertaken several initiatives along the river, including shoreline clean-ups, riparian plantings, and invasive plant removal. The City conducts annual water quality testing on the Sturgeon River, stormwater management facilities and stormwater outlets along the river (since 2006), reporting on several key parameters (e.g., total phosphorus, total nitrogen, chlorides, total suspended solids and *E. coli*) in their annual *Report on the Environment*. In 2017 and 2018, the City of St. Albert partnered with Alberta Environment and Parks in an invasive species program that saw the removal of approximately 45,000 goldfish from city stormwater management facilities.

For more information on the City of St. Albert's work on the Sturgeon River, see their [Sturgeon River Watershed webpage](#).

HEALTHY AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS

Aquatic environment is defined on page 9 of Alberta's [Water Act](#) (2000) as the *"components of the earth related to, living in, or located on water or its shores, including its organic and inorganic matter, living organisms and their habitats, and their interacting natural systems."* A Healthy Aquatic Ecosystem is defined by the Alberta Water Council (in *Healthy Aquatic Ecosystems – a Working Definition 2008*, page 1) as *"an aquatic environment that sustains its ecological structure, processes, functions, and resilience within its range of natural variability."*

The Sturgeon River watershed aquatic ecosystem includes the Sturgeon River mainstem, its named and unnamed tributaries, lakes, wetlands, aquifers, floodplains and riparian areas. It also includes the plants, fish, and other wildlife (biodiversity) that inhabit these spaces. The Sturgeon watershed aquatic ecosystem provides numerous benefits such as:

- A source of traditional food (e.g., fish, berries etc.) and medicinal plants
- Aesthetically pleasing areas for recreation and cultural activities
- Improved water quality through the trapping and filtering of sediment, nutrients and pollutants by riparian areas and wetlands
- Water storage; conveyance (delivering water to downstream users); flushing flows (important for maintaining the river channel); and waste water dilution
- Biodiversity by providing habitat, wildlife corridors, cool and clean waters, etc.
- Economic value (real estate premiums, forage/woodlot production, dollar value of water, etc.).
- Moderating local climate, mitigating floods and droughts and reducing erosion by storing/slowly releasing run-off and other waters

The health of aquatic ecosystems can be affected by activities that occur on or around them. Several reports suggest that the Sturgeon aquatic ecosystem is under stress from a number of pressures.⁹ These include:

- Declining water quality due to point (end of pipe waste water/stormwater discharge) and non-point (diffuse runoff) sources of pollution such as sediment, nutrients and other contaminants
- Land use decisions (such as agriculture, urban development, vegetation clearing, wetland drainage and floodplain development) that affect the volume, quality and rate of run-off flow over the landscape
- Degraded habitat through the loss of wetlands and riparian areas resulting in warmer surface water, lower dissolved oxygen, decreased biodiversity and increased invasive species. The loss

⁹ For more information on aquatic ecosystem health in the Sturgeon, see [Sturgeon River 2017 Aquatic Ecosystem Assessment](#) (CPP Environmental 2019).

of these areas reduces the ability of landscapes to collect water for retention, infiltration and the slow release of water

- Harvest pressure on fish populations (subsistence harvest, previous history of recreational catch and keep, mortality from current catch-and-release practices)
- Regulatory compliance and enforcement issues (e.g., encroachment/damage to public lands or environmental reserves or not obeying development setbacks)
- Water withdrawals (for agriculture, industry and domestic use) together with climate change (particularly warmer temperatures) leading to periods of low flows resulting in beach closures, blue-green algae, fish die-offs, and poor aesthetics

In particular, the health of riparian lands (the shores of lakes and rivers) have declined in the Sturgeon watershed. From a recent (2018) riparian assessment, the current state of riparian intactness shows that approximately 25% of riparian areas in the Sturgeon watershed have *very low intactness*, 20% have *low intactness*, 15% have *moderate intactness* and 40% have *high intactness*.¹⁰

Similar to riparian areas, wetlands also play an important role in the watershed, contributing to water quality, the storage and slow release of water, and providing habitat for a variety of wildlife species. Over time, about two-thirds of the wetlands in the Sturgeon watershed have been drained to make way for agriculture or urban expansion. Further work needs to be done to understand how this has affected river flow and basin hydrology.

Fisheries, an important resource for Indigenous subsistence use and for recreational anglers, are another area of concern. The Sturgeon River is named after the Lake Sturgeon; however, this species is no longer found in the river.¹¹ Other species of importance include walleye, pike, perch, burbot, goldeye, whitefish, and sauger. Today, low flows, warming waters and a lack of shady shorelines can lead to low dissolved oxygen and fish kills.

Together with fisheries, all biodiversity is important and more work needs to be done to improve our understanding of the state of aquatic plants, invertebrates and other wildlife in the Sturgeon watershed. Unfortunately, invasive species are present in the watershed and these also need to be inventoried and managed.

- **GOAL 3.2. Aquatic ecosystems in the Sturgeon watershed are healthy.**
 - **Strategy 3.2.1. Improve our knowledge about the current state of aquatic ecosystem health in the Sturgeon River watershed.**

¹⁰ For more information on riparian intactness, see the [Sturgeon Watershed Riparian Area Assessment report](#).

¹¹ For more about this species, see the [Alberta Lake Sturgeon Recovery Plan 2011 - 2016](#).

- Action: Seek research partnerships to study/ model the impact of cumulative effects on aquatic ecosystem health and its components, including its connection to water quality and quantity.
- Action: Seek funding to establish more continuous flow gauging stations, particularly at lake outflows to improve lake water balance calculations.
- Action: Conduct an ecosystem valuation of the Sturgeon River watershed (considering ecological services, water supply and regulation, climate regulation, social and recreational values, etc.) to inform local government planning and development.
- **Strategy 3.2.2. Improve aquatic health by developing and implementing a wetland and riparian area protection and restoration strategy.¹²**
 - Action: Improve the public availability and use of common wetland and riparian management tools (e.g., education programs, incentive programs, land reserves, restoration programs).
 - Action: Complete a drained and existing wetland inventory for the watershed (Parkland County portion has been done).
 - Action: Develop wetland, riparian and flood plain conservation and restoration goals and targets and advocate for their inclusion in municipal planning documents, as they are developed and renewed.
 - Action: Support the work of land managers/stewardship programs to protect/restore riparian buffers along wetlands, lakes and creeks of the Sturgeon River watershed.
- **Strategy 3.2.3. Improve the fisheries resource.**
 - Action: Conserve priority fish habitat (areas known to be well oxygenated with good flows) for key fish species and/or life stages.
 - Action: Improve fish habitat where conditions (e.g., dissolved oxygen, flow) are known to be poor and where such conditions have led to fish kills in the past.
- **Strategy 3.2.4. Prevent the occurrence and/or spread of aquatic invasive species.**
 - Action: Conduct surveys, inventory occurrences, and prioritize areas/actions to prevent, contain, mitigate and where possible eradicate invasive species.
 - Action: Work with invasive species organizations to educate residents and visitors about what they can do to minimize the introduction and spread of invasive species.

Potential Implementers: SRWA, NSWA, AEP (Fisheries), ACA

Performance Measures:

- Measurable and continual improvements to aquatic ecosystem components particularly water quality, riparian areas and wetlands, and fisheries.

¹² A riparian and wetland protection and restoration strategy should build on the findings of the watershed land use and hydrology modelling work done in [*An Identification and Evaluation of Strategic Priorities for Conservation and Restoration to Improve Watershed Resiliency in the Sturgeon River Watershed* \(Macdonald et al. 2019\)](#)

NAIT Sturgeon Research and Restoration Projects

Inspired by the fish that the Sturgeon River is named after, Laurie Hunt and Debbie Webb, both instructors at NAIT's Biological Sciences Department, undertook a five-year project looking at the health of the Sturgeon River. From 2010–2015, working with students and volunteers, they assessed conditions at 23 sites across the watershed in order to better understand water quality, aquatic biodiversity and riparian health. They also assessed several stream crossings/roads affecting sedimentation or blocking fish passage. The pair also conducted a public survey to gauge perspectives on watershed issues and engaged local school and community groups in shore restoration projects (tree and shrub planting).

Assessment results showed that the Sturgeon River has become shallower, slower, more polluted and starved for oxygen, over time. Biodiversity has declined and the river has less recreational and aesthetic appeal than it once did. While these qualities can be restored, recovery of the Sturgeon River will take time. *"If every community said 'we're going to work to re-implement riparian buffers', that would have an overall, long-term, positive effect," says Hunt.* For more information about this work, see their [project YouTube video](#) or this article in [Tech Life Today](#).

Aquatic Ecosystem Health – Digging Deeper

Aquatic ecosystem health is a large, complex topic with many different components. To improve our understanding of the health of aquatic ecosystems in the Sturgeon River watershed, the SRWA commissioned two comprehensive studies.

The first study used a digital desktop method to assess the condition of riparian areas as reported in [Sturgeon Watershed Riparian Area Assessment](#) (Fiera 2018). The second study looked at several components of the aquatic ecosystem, including fish, benthic invertebrates, habitat and water quality, as reported in [Sturgeon River 2017 Aquatic Ecosystem Assessment](#) (CPP Environmental 2019).

While both these reports provide only a snapshot in time, their message is similar to that of the NAIT project. The health of the Sturgeon River and its watershed have declined. Additionally, one can also derive from these findings that the current suite of management processes and tools being used to manage the watershed are not working to maintain aquatic health throughout all parts of the basin. If the status quo isn't changed, decline will likely continue to occur in some areas.

RESILIENT LAKES

Large, deep lakes, with good water clarity for recreation, are a very limited resource in Alberta. As the population continues to grow, the value of lakes, particularly near urban centres, also increases. As a finite public resource, the importance of lakes and their management needs to be recognized by both provincial and municipal land and water managers.

In the Sturgeon watershed, Lake Isle and Lac Ste. Anne are well developed recreational lakes with a number of summer villages located along their shorelines.¹³ The [Lake Isle and Lac Ste. Anne Water Quality Management Society](#) and [Lake Isle Aquatic Management Society](#) are active advocates for these lakes. In 2017, the [Isle Lake and Lac Ste. Anne State of the Watershed report](#) provided a closer look at these two lakes, identifying a number of issues (e.g., water quality, blue-green algae, invasive species, etc.) and making several recommendations to improve lake health.

Lakeshore Communities in the Sturgeon Watershed	
Summer Village	Water body
Silver Sands	Isle Lake
South View	Isle Lake
West Cove	Lac Ste. Anne
Castle Island	Lac Ste. Anne
Sunset Point	Lac Ste. Anne
Ross Haven	Lac Ste. Anne
Val Quentin	Lac Ste. Anne
Yellowstone	Lac Ste. Anne
Sandy Beach	Sandy Lake
Sunrise Beach	Sandy Lake
Village	Water body
Alberta Beach	Lac Ste. Anne
Spring Lake	Spring Lake
Unincorporated Communities	Water body
Lake Isle	Isle Lake

Additionally, several smaller and/or less developed lakes, such as Sandy Lake, Matchayaw Lake and Big Lake¹⁴ also provide recreational opportunities for fishing, boating, and swimming. The [Big Lake Environmental Stewardship Society](#) is an important advocate for Big Lake. Similarly, a number of local Fish and Game Clubs are stewards for several smaller lakes in the watershed. For example, Onoway District Fish and Game Association and Gun Club maintain Salter's Lake as well as Imrie Park on Matchayaw Lake. Spruce Grove and Stony Plain Fish and Game Associations have assisted the provincial government and Alberta Conservation Association with stocking several local lakes such as Spring Lake, Star Lake and East Pit Lake. For more information, see the [ACA Stocked Lakes webpage](#).

While lake health varies in the Sturgeon watershed, issues are common across the watershed. Agricultural development at the turn of the century converted forested lands into fields and has contributed to sediment input and nutrient loading to lakes since that time. Lakeside cottage development during the 1950s and 1960s altered riparian shorelines, impairing water quality and fish habitat. During the 1980s and 1990s, lake levels fell in connection with a period of drought.¹⁵ Today, increased development adjacent to lakes means more impervious surfaces and issues with stormwater run-off. Additionally, the threat of invasive species is being experienced first-hand in this watershed with flowering rush and other species. As well, the introduction of aquatic mussels is only a matter of time, given the high volume of boat traffic at recreational lakes in this watershed. Asian goldfish have also been documented in stormwater facilities in Edmonton, St. Albert and Spruce Grove.

¹³ Note that the NSWA commissioned the [Isle Lake & Lac Ste. Anne State of the Watershed report \(2017\)](#) and the [Isle Lake & Lac Ste. Anne Water Balance Assessment \(2016\)](#).

¹⁴ For a description of Big Lake, see the BLESS [website](#).

¹⁵ See Buendia, C. and D. Trew. 2017. [Lake Level Trends in the Sturgeon River Basin Bulletin \(2017\)](#). Prepared for the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance, Edmonton, AB.

Major Lakes in the Sturgeon River Watershed

While there are numerous small 'kettle' lakes throughout the Sturgeon River watershed (formed by hydro-geological processes associated with the unique Carvel Pitted Delta), a few stand out for their importance for recreation and other opportunities.

Lake Isle

Lake Isle is an important recreational lake in the Sturgeon watershed and home to the Hamlet of Gainford and the Summer Villages of Silver Sands and South View. As well as boating and swimming, the lake is also popular for fishing. However, recreational activities can be limited by frequent blue-green algae blooms in the summer. Flowering rush, an invasive species, has also become a recent issue. See more about this lake in the [Atlas of Alberta Lakes](#).

Lac Ste. Anne

Lac Ste. Anne was called "Manito Sakahigan" or "Spirit Lake" by the Cree people before Father Jean-Baptiste Thibault blessed the lake and renamed it Lac Ste Anne in 1842. Father Thibault also built a Catholic mission on the lake, and still today, the west end of the lake is considered a pilgrimage destination. See more about this lake in the [Atlas of Alberta Lakes](#).

Matchayaw (Devil's) Lake

Matchayaw (Devil's) Lake is a small waterbody (with a lake area of about 2.11 km²) east of Onoway. The Sturgeon River enters the lake from the northwest and exits from the north shore, contributing to relatively consistent lake levels. The community of Bilby is located on the south shore. The lake is a popular fishing site with sport fish including burbot, northern pike, walleye, whitefish, and yellow perch.

Big Lake

Immediately west of St. Albert, Big Lake is both fed and drained by the Sturgeon River. Long known as a significant birding area, the Alberta Government created the Big Lake Natural Area in May 1999 comprising 1,119 hectares of lake and wetlands. On June 5, 2001 the lake became an Important Bird Area site. In 2005 Big Lake became Alberta's newest protected area, named [Lois Hole Centennial Provincial Park](#).

Sandy Lake

West of Morinville, Sandy Lake is a transboundary lake, shared by the counties of Lac Ste. Anne and Sturgeon. Highway 642 crosses the top portion of the lake. [Sandy Beach](#), [Sunrise Beach](#), [Pine Sands](#), the [Sandy Lake Wilderness Area](#) and the [Alexander First Nation Reserve](#) are all situated on the lake's shoreline. Once a fishing destination, Sandy Lake has had almost no fish in it for years due to low nutrient-rich waters, dense vegetation and poor under-ice oxygen levels.

Manawan (Egg) Lake

Manawan (or Egg) Lake, about five km north of Morinville, is an interesting example of an aquatic ecosystem with multiple values, uses, and issues affecting its health. At one time, the lake was used as a drinking water source, and can still be an emergency source for the Town of Morinville. This area was designated as the Manawan Drainage District in the 1940s, as efforts to improve agriculture in the area were made. In the 1970s and 1980s, lake levels declined. A weir, built in 2004 by Ducks Unlimited Canada, restored water levels, making the lake globally significant as an Important Bird Area for staging, moulting and breeding waterfowl, shorebirds, gulls (particularly Franklin's gull and black terns) and other species. The weir, however, created some local flooding issues resulting in the province expropriating floodplain lands around the lake. Today the lake is still a part of a local drainage system. The Manawan Canal is a small channel that flows southwest from Manawan Lake to meet the Sturgeon River near Carbondale. The canal drains agricultural land north of the Town of Morinville. Today, the Manawan Drainage District, Ducks Unlimited and Alberta Environment and Parks continue to manage the lake and the weir.

- **GOAL 3.3. Lakes and their surrounding watersheds are recognized as a highly valued, limited resource and managed such that they are healthy for current and future generations.**
 - **Strategy 3.3.1. Improve knowledge about the state of lakes in the Sturgeon watershed and issues affecting their health.**
 - Action: In conjunction with other 'state of' reporting (see strategy 3.1.1), identify and collect data on indicators of lake health and release in a timely fashion to inform decision-making.
 - **Strategy 3.3.2. Educate lake residents and visitors/users about their impacts and what they can do to lessen their footprint.**
 - Action: Ensure the public and elected officials understand lake ecology, have realistic expectations of what a healthy Alberta lake looks like, and know what they can do to reduce their impact.
 - Action: Engage existing and support new lake watershed stewardship groups and stewardship programs and products (e.g., Nature Alberta's Living by Water).
 - **Strategy 3.3.3. Improve lake watershed management by aligning policies and regulations such that land use and recreation on the water and in the uplands do not irreparably harm the lake resource.**
 - Action: Develop land use bylaws and policies (e.g., pesticide and fertilizer bylaws, setback distances, building standards) that are consistent between municipalities that border a shared waterbody.
 - Action: Ensure the referral system between government regulators is working and development applications are being reviewed such that the cumulative effects of nutrient and sediment loading is reduced.

Potential Implementers: SRWA, NSWA, municipalities

Performance Measures:

- Lake health is maintained or improved.

Fisheries and Invasive Species Management at Lake Isle

At one time, Lake Isle supported a healthy fishery, with a number of different large sport fish such as walleye, jackfish, burbot, whitefish and perch. However, in recent years, fishing has declined. Hence a Fisheries Restoration Program was initiated by ACA in 2015. This initiative included a stakeholder survey; an updated lake nutrient budget; water quality monitoring; and some habitat restoration work, with the ultimate goal to restock the lake with sport fish populations and restore recreational fishing capacity. More recently, Lake Isle has been tackling [flowering rush](#), an invasive species that has spread along the shorelines of much of the lake. In 2018, a number of groups and volunteers made a concerted effort to hand pull this noxious weed. However, chemical treatment is probably required to completely eradicate this species and stop its spread further downstream into Lac Ste. Anne and the Sturgeon and North Saskatchewan Rivers. Alberta Environment and Parks, local stewardship groups, the Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation and others are working together to try and address this issue. Their learnings will be important to other communities facing similar threats from invasive species.

Lac Ste. Anne County – Land of Lakes

Lac Ste. Anne County is home to two large well-utilized recreational lakes, Lake Isle and Lac Ste. Anne, and several smaller lakes utilized for fishing and other recreational activities. The County, with a population of about 11,000, sees the value of this resource and maintains a number of policies and programs for managing its waterbodies. Lakes, and the recreational lands that surround them, are recognized in the County's municipal development plan ([MDP](#)), which includes a number of rules for development adjacent to waterbodies such as prohibiting shoreline vegetation removal or the creation of artificial beaches. Additionally, Lakeside residential sub-divisions greater than 10 units require an Area Structure Plan (fewer than 10 require a concept plan).

The County has also produced a number of map overlays that inform its decision-making including its environmentally sensitive areas, potential flood hazard areas, priority conservation wetlands, and priority vegetation conservation areas. In their [Land Use Bylaw](#) (LUB), lakes are managed as Lakeside Residential Districts: setback from any waterbody from 20 to 100m; environmental reserve is determined using the Riparian Setback Matrix Model; and lakeside parcels must retain 50% of existing vegetation and meet landscaping standards.

The County also manages a large agricultural landscape which can affect watershed health if not managed properly. In 2015, the [Alternative Land Use Services Canada \(ALUS\)](#) program debuted in Lac Ste. Anne County. Since then, ALUS has worked with numerous landowners to implement a number of projects such as installing off-site livestock watering systems, fencing off waterways from livestock, protecting riparian areas, planting native vegetation on degraded land, and installing beaver-friendly management devices. The goal of these projects is to reduce the impacts of flood and drought events on the landscape, improve water quality, enhance wildlife habitat, prevent soil erosion and loss, and increase biodiversity.

Finally, the County also collaborates with a number of smaller communities in the area. For example, the Town of Onoway is located at the junction of Highway 37 and Highway 43, immediately east of Lac Ste. Anne and south of the Sturgeon River. With a population of about 1,000 people, the Town's name is a transliteration of a First Nation equivalent of "rich, lush meadow" (See [History of Onoway](#)). Today, the Town itself is managed under several statutory documents including an IDP with Lac Ste. Anne County. The Town also recognizes a number of watershed features surrounding it including several small lakes (Chickakoo, Muir, Salter's Lakes), tributaries (Kilini Creek) and recreational areas (Imrie Park, Bilby Natural Area) (for more information on these areas, see the [Stony Plain – Onoway Nature Tour](#) website).

Outcome 4. The importance of water quantity is recognized and reliable, quality water supplies are available for people, livestock, and a sustainable economy.

SECURE WATER SUPPLIES

Although it only contributes about one percent (1%) of the flow of the North Saskatchewan River (as measured as a proportion of flow at the Alberta-Saskatchewan border), the Sturgeon River (as well as its associated lakes and tributaries) is an important water supply providing numerous local benefits such as:

- Water for agriculture (livestock watering including cow/calf, hog and dairy operations; large-scale poultry farming; crop irrigation including sod, potatoes, greenhouse and market gardens, tree and berry farms; crop spraying, etc.)
- Water for industry (e.g., gravel dewatering and washing) and commercial enterprises (e.g., golf courses)
- River flow and lake levels conducive to recreation (canoeing, hiking, fishing) and cultural activities
- Water to maintain the aquatic ecosystem health of numerous lakes, streams, and wetlands
- Water for ecological goods and services such as flushing flows, water and waste water conveyance downstream, waste dilution, moderating flood/drought, etc.

The Sturgeon River is a precipitation-fed river system (i.e., it does not receive any glacier melt). Winter precipitation, in the form of snow melt/spring surface run-off, is important for determining stream flows and lake levels, which generally peak during spring runoff and drop throughout the summer open water season. Summer precipitation is usually exceeded by evapotranspiration, leaving a moisture deficit. As the Sturgeon River flows through Lake Isle and Lac Ste. Anne, annual lake level variation, aquatic vegetation and beaver activity can all influence downstream river flow. Similarly, tributary flows, which are generally highly variable, can affect flows of the Sturgeon River mainstem.¹⁶

Under the *Water Act*, water allocation is managed by the Province, and aside from use for domestic purposes, users must have a licence or registration to withdraw water from any waterbody. In managing this resource, the Province balances supply and demand, making sure allocations don't exceed the amount of water flow that must remain in the lake or river for the protection of aquatic ecosystem health.

As each licence application is reviewed, approval is based on water availability. Licences may be granted with conditions that are protective of the river ecosystem. There are currently 2,641 water licences¹⁷

¹⁶ For more information on water supply for the Sturgeon River, see the Figluizzi, S. 2017. [Assessment of Existing Water Supply & Demand Data for the Sturgeon River Basin \(2016\)](#). Also, see [Lake Level Trends in the Sturgeon River Basin Bulletin \(2017\)](#).

¹⁷ Note that domestic use (up to 1250 cm per household per year or 3400 litres per household per day) does not require a water licence. For more information, see the Environmental Law Centre's [Factsheet: Water Rights and Property Rights](#).

issued in the Sturgeon watershed; 64% are from surface water and 36% are from groundwater. Net annual allocation accounts for approximately 13% of the average annual water available in the watershed (including both surface and groundwater). However, most withdrawals occur during the warm summer months, potentially adding stress to instream flow needs, as the river is naturally drawing down during this time period.

Future climate change with warmer summer temperatures may further exacerbate low summer flows. It might also create greater demand for activities such as irrigation, particularly if agricultural activity is intensified. Demand for surface water may also increase due to increasing industrial and commercial development in such areas as the Industrial Heartland, Industrial Parks, Villeneuve Airport, etc.

Land uses (e.g., clearing, wetland drainage, floodplain development, stormwater run-off) as well as interactions between surface water and groundwater also influence run-off and flow patterns. Hence, municipal land managers also have a role to play in meeting water quantity goals in low flow years, as well as managing excess waters in high flow years such as those seen in 2019.

- **GOAL 4.1. Water supply is managed effectively to support aquatic ecosystems, communities and the economy.**
 - **Strategy 4.1.1. Collaborate with the province, academia and others to fill information gaps on the Sturgeon River mainstem and its major tributaries including seasonal instream flow needs (IFN) and aquatic health needs, current water use and future demand and supply.**
 - Action: Examine existing data and estimates around domestic entitlements, agricultural registrations, licenced water allocations, actual use/consumption and compare to instream flow needs calculations.
 - Action: Encourage all licencees to accurately and consistently report actual water use through the GOA Water Use Reporting System.
 - Action: Maintain existing mainstem gauges and seek funding to establish more gauging stations on tributaries to improve water balance calculations and determine long-term trends in lake levels/river flows.
 - Action: Explore the most appropriate method of calculating IFNs and calculate IFNs under current and anticipated future conditions. If/where required, use the appropriate regulatory tools to limit water withdrawals during low flow periods for the protection of aquatic ecosystem health.
 - **Strategy 4.1.2. Ensure water supply meets future growth and demand.**
 - Action: Ensure the economic value of water as well as trade-offs are understood and inform local and regional decision-making. (NSWA, SRWA, AEP, EMRB, municipalities)
 - Action: Identify and promote beneficial practices, incentives and other tools that encourage water conservation and reduce water use by agriculture, industry, municipalities and the public.

Potential Implementers: NSWA, SRWA, AEP, EMRB, AUMA, RMA, water allocation licensees, agricultural producers

Performance Measures:

- Instream flow needs are met in the Sturgeon watershed.
- Water conservation targets (for household, municipalities, industry etc.) are met.

Understanding Water Quantity in the Sturgeon River Watershed

To improve our understanding of water quantity in the Sturgeon River watershed, the SRWA and its partners commissioned several reports. In 2016, the [Assessment Of Existing Water Supply And Demand Data For The Sturgeon River Basin](#) (NSWA 2016) examined the hydroclimatic data, water use data and a water management model suitable for the Sturgeon watershed. This report also made several recommendations on work required to update and/or improve the reliability of the data for future water quantity modelling.

Continuing the investigation of water quantity, in 2017, the NSWA produced the Technical Bulletin - [Influence of Climate, Landscape Change and Licenced Water Removal on Flows in the Sturgeon River Basin](#). This bulletin provides an overview of the temporal changes in river flows and water supply in the Sturgeon River and analyzes the main drivers causing these changes. The document notes that flows in the Sturgeon River have decreased significantly over the past few decades following a rapid expansion of urban areas and changes in land use across the basin. However, it also noted that there are many uncertainties with respect to water supply in the Sturgeon River. Within a context of climate change and continued economic and population growth, it is crucial that we gain an understanding of which drivers are having the most impact on the Sturgeon River flows. Water quantity is also a concern for lake users in the watershed. Hence the NSWA produced a second Technical Bulletin [Lake Level Trends in Alberta](#). This document showed that lake level trends are different for different lakes, and can vary significantly over time.

Finally, in order to understand how changes in land cover and land use are affecting watershed resiliency measured as hydrology, the SRWA commissioned ALCES to model the watershed. This work, as reported in [An Identification and Evaluation of Strategic Priorities for Conservation and Restoration to Improve Watershed Resiliency in the Sturgeon River Watershed](#) (Macdonald et al. 2019) showed that wetland restoration has the greatest potential to restore flows in the watershed.

Outcome 5. Wise land use ensures the cumulative effects of growth and development are mitigated, the land is resilient to climate change, and individuals and communities are well prepared for flood and drought events.

WISE LAND USE

Decisions about protecting natural land cover or using the land for activities such as agriculture, urban expansion, or industry, can affect how water moves (water quantity) over the landscape as well as what it carries (water quality) downslope to the nearest waterbody. Additionally, land use development decisions that result in the loss or impairment of riparian habitat, wetlands and floodplains can also affect water quantity and quality. Finally, land use decisions can also affect how the public access water bodies for cultural, recreational and other purposes.

Because of its potential impact on the water resource, land use planning must be well informed, and its cumulative impacts considered at the watershed level. The Sturgeon River watershed is a highly developed landscape. Currently, land cover in the Sturgeon watershed is largely made up of agricultural lands. However, urban development is the fastest growing land use. Overall, the watershed is composed as follows:

- Approximately 20% of lands under natural cover (forests, wetlands, lakes, etc.)¹⁸
- About 70% of lands used for agricultural activities (crops and livestock)
- The remaining 10% of lands are 'developed': i.e., it is either urban area or another linear disturbance such as roads, pipelines, right of ways, industrial parks, gravel mines¹⁹)

Land use decision making in itself is complex. Adding to this complexity is the need to understand how land use decisions made today affect watershed health in the future. Towards this end, the SRWA commissioned the development of a model as described in the report [*An Identification and Evaluation of Strategic Priorities for Conservation and Restoration to Improve Watershed Resiliency in the Sturgeon River Watershed*](#). This and other work have informed the following goals, strategies and actions.

- **Goal 5.1. The cumulative effects of land use detrimental to watershed health are understood, considered in decision-making processes, and where possible, addressed.**
 - **Strategy 5.1.1. Protect important areas of existing natural land cover, such as wetlands, riparian areas, key groundwater recharge areas and key habitat and wildlife corridors in the Sturgeon watershed.**
 - Action: Compile existing or commission new maps showing important areas of natural cover/environmentally significant areas and ensure this data is available to municipal planners and decision-makers.

¹⁸ For more on natural areas remaining in the sturgeon watershed, see [Natural Areas Mapping For The Sturgeon River Watershed \(2019\)](#).

¹⁹ For more on gravel mining, see [Information Bulletin Gravel Operations in the Sturgeon River Watershed \(2018\)](#)

- **Strategy 5.1.2.** *Use land use planning and development processes to ensure built landscapes maximize water capture, infiltration and slow release (through protection and restoration of riparian areas, wetlands and floodplains and through stormwater management best practices).*
 - Action: Promote low impact development (LID) that integrates with the environment.
 - Action: Identify and prioritize areas where there is more value from LID, or where different LID elements are more useful (e.g. enhanced infiltration will be less useful in areas dominated by shallow clay sediments).
 - Action: Conduct a study to see what the impacts would be of developing a conservation and protection zone along each side of the Sturgeon River with limited types of industrial development (e.g., No hazard waste transfer, landfill, lagoon, refinery, salt yard, any facility handling contaminants of concern, etc.) allowed within the corridor.
- **Strategy 5.1.3.** *Promote a stewardship ethic and increase the adoption of best management practices for agricultural lands and acreages.*
 - Action: Support programs like (but not limited to) [ALUS Canada](#), the [Green Acreages Program](#) and [Environmental Farm Planning](#).

Potential Implementers: SRWA, NSWA, municipalities

Performance Measures:

- Maintain or improve percent of the watershed in wetland, forest, or riparian area.
- Number (and area) of protected areas
- Number of agricultural BMP stewardship projects undertaken
- Human footprint is maintained or decreased in the Sturgeon watershed.

What do we mean by “Low Impact Development Principles” for Stormwater Management?

Low Impact Development (LID) is generally considered a more environmentally friendly way of managing stormwater runoff closer to its source, ensuring less runoff and better-quality water reaches the receiving water body. LID attempts to manage rainfall at the source through site planning and physical infrastructure that mimic natural hydrologic characteristics. Some examples of management tools include limiting non-permeable areas, green roofs, rain gardens, permeable paving, rain barrels or cisterns and native plant landscaping in priority areas such as groundwater recharge areas and lots adjacent to water bodies.

A wide body of knowledge is available around LID techniques that offer proven, effective, and affordable options to mitigate the environmental impacts of urbanization. The City of Calgary and City of Edmonton have comprehensive LID guidelines available for developers. Consistent terminology, standards and guidelines are important for achieving beneficial outcomes for all.

City of Edmonton's Land Use Planning around Big Lake

Although only a small portion of the Sturgeon River watershed (including a portion of the south shore of Big Lake) falls within the jurisdiction of the City of Edmonton, a great deal of planning has gone into residential development in this area. The City produced the [Big Lake Area Structure Plan](#) in 1991 and followed up with five neighborhood plans (Trumpeter 2008, Hawks Ridge 2010, Starling 2010, Kinglet Gardens 2016 and Pintail Landing 2019). Currently, a neighborhood plan for [Pintail Landing](#) is in draft form.

The City of Edmonton was also a partner in the 2004 Big Lake Stormwater Master Plan and continues to research innovative approaches to reducing run-off volumes. The City's [River for Life](#) program provides public education around low impact development principles, stormwater management and river health.

Sturgeon County – Keeper of the Lower Sturgeon

As the name suggests, the Sturgeon River plays a major role in Sturgeon County, with a good portion of the lower mainstem located in this municipality. Additionally, a number of smaller tributaries (e.g., Rivière Qui Barre and Little Egg Creek) drain county lands in the north, south to the Sturgeon River. Additionally, the mouth of the Sturgeon River (where it meets the North Saskatchewan River), an area important for fish and other biodiversity, occurs within Sturgeon County boundaries.

Recognizing this important relationship with its namesake, Sturgeon County, with a population of approximately 20,000 residents, is guided by a strategic plan that lists environmental stewardship as one of five key focus areas. However, the county also has a significant agricultural and industrial footprint it must balance with environmental outcomes. To achieve this balance, Sturgeon County relies on its MDP and LUB, as well as a number of other strategic tools, to guide the County's growth and development.

To support its agricultural community, the county maintains an Agricultural Services Board that promotes the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices. The county is also participating in the EMRB's initiative to develop a [Regional Agricultural Master Plan](#).

A portion of Alberta's Industrial Heartland, an area of chemical, petrochemical, oil and gas investment, lies on the eastern edge of the county. Gravel extraction operations are an important activity in the west. Development in both areas are guided by [Area Structure Plans](#).

Sturgeon County also recognizes the need to work with its neighboring municipalities including Gibbons, Bon Accord and Morinville. The County consults with these neighbors on planning initiatives and may use *joint use agreements* to make effective use of community facilities and programs. The County also has an Intermunicipal Affairs Committee to discuss shared interests and issues with its St. Albert neighbor. Working together, these municipalities recognize the value and are realizing the opportunities associated with maintaining the integrity of the Sturgeon River valley and its surrounding uplands.

CLIMATE CHANGE PREPAREDNESS

Most municipalities in Alberta have dealt with flood and/or drought conditions at one time or another and the municipalities in the Sturgeon watershed are no different. Municipalities are also increasingly aware of climate change, and how the frequency of large weather events may be changing. Topics such as air quality, energy efficiency and green house gas reduction are being discussed by municipalities and other stakeholders in the Sturgeon River watershed. The effects of climate change might also impact our land use decision-making as we look at the resiliency of the watershed and its ability to withstand an increase in floods, droughts or other climatic extremes.

- **Goal 5.2: The effects of climate change on the Sturgeon watershed are understood and mitigated.**
 - **Strategy 5.2.1.** *Build awareness and knowledge about the impacts of climate change on the Sturgeon River watershed.*
 - **Strategy 5.2.2.** *Promote flood/drought preparedness to agriculture, industry, municipalities, Indigenous communities and the public.*
 - **Strategy 5.2.3.** *Promote energy efficiency and other air quality and carbon reduction strategies.*

Potential Implementers: SRWA, NSWA, municipalities

Performance Measures:

- air quality indicators, carbon indicators, number of flood hazard mapping studies, etc.

Outcome 6. Residents and stakeholders support the Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan and are willing to participate in local and regional initiatives to improve watershed health.

ENGAGED RESIDENTS

It is important that the public support the work of municipalities and the SRWA. It is also important that residents in the basin have the knowledge, skills and tools to be good stewards of the watershed. However, the public are not always aware of water issues or the impacts their actions have on the watershed. Hence, education and outreach should be a key component of the SRWMP. The SRWMP should provide opportunities for residents to engage in hands-on stewardship activities that build an appreciation and awareness of the Sturgeon watershed.

- **Goal 6.1. Residents are engaged in watershed management through education, outreach and stewardship opportunities.**
 - **Strategy 6.1.1.** Building on the GOA's [water literacy program](#), develop an education and outreach strategy specific to the Sturgeon watershed and its stakeholders.
 - Action: Align key messages and develop shared materials on key watershed issues (riparian health, lakeshore issues, wetland loss, water quality, invasive species, etc.) between GOA, NSWA, SRWA municipalities and NGOs.
 - Action: Continue to maintain a dedicated SRWA webpage as a central hub for posting SRWMP updates, reports, FAQ sheets, etc.
 - Action: Facilitate regular SRWA forums to report on progress of SRWA SRWMP and / or participate in major municipal events to share information on SRWMP implementation.
 - Action: Provide opportunities for improving understanding of Indigenous values and traditional knowledge.
 - **Strategy 6.1.2.** Engage the public through hands-on learning and stewardship activities by supporting the formation and maintenance of stewardship groups such as Big Lake Environmental Support Society (BLESS), Lake Isle and Lac Ste. Anne Water Quality Management Society (LILSA), local Fish and Game Clubs, etc.
 - Action: Provide financial, technical and other support to [BLESS](#), [LILSA](#), local Fish and Game clubs and other stewardship and conservation groups to carry out education and activities such as shoreline clean-ups, riparian plantings and invasive plant monitoring.
 - **Strategy 6.1.3.** Celebrate and communicate successes.

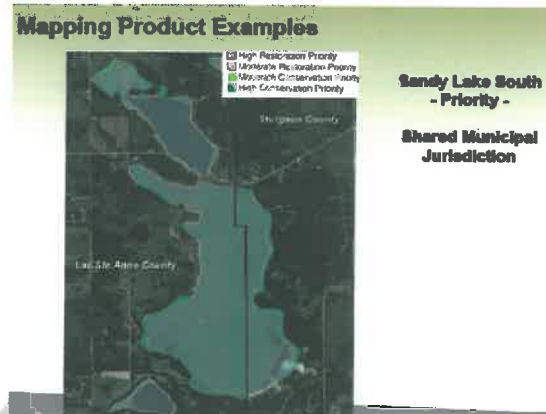
Potential Implementers: SRWA, NSWA, municipalities, GOA, conservation and stewardship groups
Performance Measures:

- Water literacy of residents in the Sturgeon watershed is improved as measured by the number of residents who know where their water comes from, water conservation measures, riparian projects, etc.

STRONG COLLABORATIONS

Watershed management, particularly where water bodies cross jurisdictional boundaries, or in areas of intense development pressure, is challenging. Individually, few municipalities have the time or resources to tackle all watershed issues. Fortunately, collaborating, sharing and leveraging resources, and learning from one another, can help fill gaps in capacity for effective watershed management.

The SRWA, as a group of municipalities and other interested parties working together, has been very effective in the past in filling information gaps and building momentum and support for developing the SRWMP. Now they must turn their attention to SRWMP implementation through the continued use of inclusive governance combined with empowered local decision-making supported by sustainable funding.



Sandy Lake is a good example of a transboundary water body, with both Lac Ste. Anne and Sturgeon counties responsible for development around the lake's perimeter.

- **Goal 6.2: The SRWA is representative, well attended and effective at using a collaborative approach to implement the SRWMP.**
 - **Strategy 6.2.1.** Continue to provide a platform for the province, municipalities, Indigenous communities, NGOs, industry and other stakeholders to collaborate on SRWMP implementation through participation on the SRWA Steering and Technical Committees.
 - Action: Provide support such that the Steering Committee meets a minimum of three times a year to oversee and report on SRWMP implementation.
 - Action: Provide support such that the Technical Committee meets a minimum of four times a year to address information gaps and technical issues with implementation.
 - Action: Develop a workplan and budget and apply for municipal and other grant funding to support the work of the Steering and Technical Committees.
 - Action: Encourage Indigenous communities, agriculture and industry to participate on the Steering and Technical Committees or their initiatives.
 - Action: Prepare an annual report on SRWMP implementation progress and present it to municipal councils and other interested stakeholders.

Potential Implementers: NSWA, SRWA, municipalities, GOA

Performance Measures:

- Regular meetings of the SC and TAC are held and well-attended by all jurisdictions and stakeholders.

PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

As many people have noted, it took a long time for the Sturgeon River watershed to get into the condition it is in, and it will take a long time to address the many issues affecting it. Hence, the SRWMP is meant to provide guidance over the long term, with a vision and goals that look outward for at least the next 25 years.

However, participants also expressed an eagerness to get busy, asking what can be done today and in the near future to improve watershed health. Hence, the plan also includes a number of strategies and actions that can be implemented over the next 5–10 years. Strategies, actions and performance measures will be refined as the plan is implemented and as more knowledge becomes available to inform our activities.

BASIN-WIDE SRWA PRIORITIES

To be successful, SRWA members will need to continue to work together to find capacity and tools for plan implementation. Even with this leveraging, resources will continue to be limited, hence it is imperative that priorities are identified, agreed to, and acted on as capacity allows.

Ideally, progress should be made on all six key outcomes, as they are interrelated and all required to achieve the plan's vision. However, some strategies and actions may be more beneficial to implement sooner than others. Additionally, some strategies are better implemented using the SRWA basin-wide collaborative approach, while others are more suited to implementation by a single jurisdiction or local partnership.

While additional strategies will be addressed by the SRWA as time and resources permit, the Steering Committee has identified five basin-wide priority strategies (Figure 4) that it will begin implementing collaboratively in the short term. These include the following:

1. Undertaking policy review and alignment work (*Strategy 1.1.2*).
2. Developing a watershed monitoring, evaluation and reporting framework (*Strategy 3.1.1*).
3. Developing and implementing a riparian and wetland strategy (*Strategy 3.2.2*).
4. Striking a small working group to resolve water quantity knowledge gaps (*Strategy 4.1.1*).
5. Continuing to use the SRWA platform to engage others (*Strategy 6.2.1*).

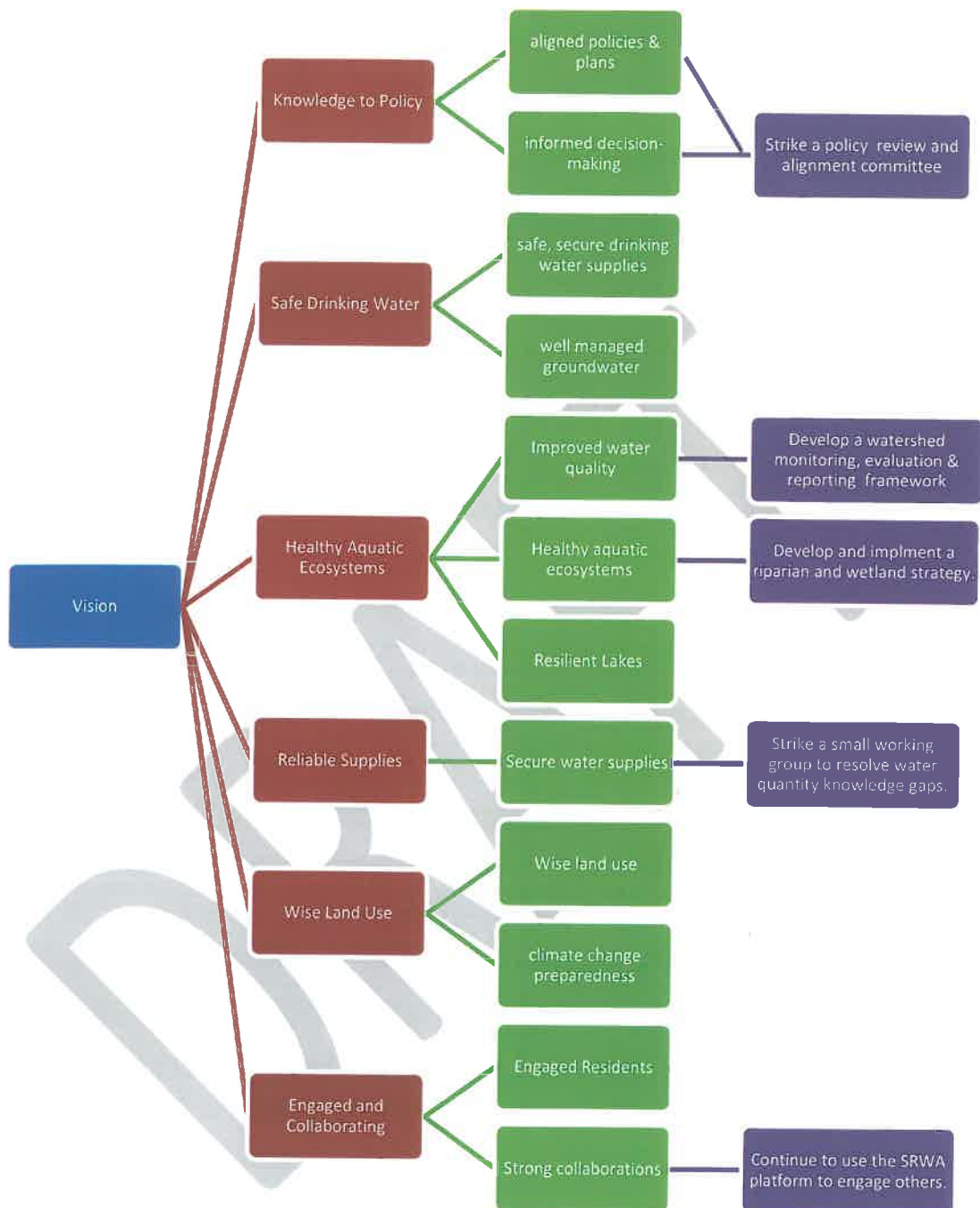


Figure 4. Vision (blue), outcomes (red), goals (green) and priority strategies (purple) of the SRWMP to be implemented collaboratively in the short term through the work of the SRWA.

PLAN PRIORITIES BY RIVER REACH, TRIBUTARY AND JURISDICTION

In addition to having basin-wide implementation strategies, SRWA members asked that the SRWMP also identify priorities in each region and/or jurisdiction. Most municipalities are already engaged in several aspects of water and watershed management. To support the SRWMP, municipalities can continue to support activities that achieve the following:

- Ensuring safe, secure drinking water supplies from both public and private surface and groundwater sources (*Strategies 2.1.1. and 2.1.2*);
- Ensuring wise land use planning and management (*Strategies 5.1.1. and 5.1.2*) and climate change preparedness (*Strategies 5.2.2 and 5.2.3*); and
- Engaging residents (*Strategy 6.1.2*).

Additionally, looking at issues on a local basis, individual municipalities, time and resources permitting, might continue to focus/ or renew focus on the following local priorities:

UPPER HEADWATERS REACH (ABOVE LAKE ISLE) / PARKLAND COUNTY

- Improving water quality and river flow in the headwaters of the Sturgeon River above Lake Isle (including the headwaters of Kilini and Atim Creeks) through education and incentive programs aimed at encouraging private landowners (including agricultural producers and acreage owners) to conserve and restore natural land cover including woodlands, wetlands and riparian areas (*Strategy 5.1.3*).
- Considering a headwaters conservation zone with limited types of development and adequate setbacks.

RECREATIONAL LAKES (LAKE ISLE, LAC STE. ANNE AND SANDY LAKE) / LAKE COMMUNITIES

- Managing invasive species (*Strategy 3.2.4*).
- Reducing nutrient and contaminant lake loading by implementing policies and regulations such as cosmetic pesticide and fertilizer bylaws, setback distances, building standards for lakeshore and near-shore development, etc. (*Strategy 3.3.3*).
- Conserving and restoring natural cover along lakeshores (*Strategies 3.2.2. and 5.1.1.*).

UPPER RURAL REACH (RURAL AREA BELOW LAC STE. ANNE AND ABOVE BIG LAKE) / LAC STE. ANNE COUNTY, ONOWAY, STURGEON COUNTY, WESTLOCK COUNTY

- Promoting a stewardship ethic and beneficial management practices on agricultural and country residential lands around Toad Creek, the middle reaches of the Sturgeon River above Big Lake, and the Rivière Qui Barre drainage (*Strategy 5.1.3.*).

MIDDLE URBAN REACH /SPRUCE GROVE, STONY PLAIN, ST. ALBERT, EDMONTON

- Reducing the impact of urban development around Big Lake and its tributaries (including Atim and Carrot Creeks) through collaborative municipal efforts for stormwater management, low impact development, etc. (*Strategy 5.1.2.*)

LOWER RURAL REACH (DOWNSTREAM OF ST. ALBERT TO THE CONFLUENCE INCLUDING EGG LAKE DRAINAGE)/ MORINVILLE, STURGEON COUNTY

- Improving awareness of the importance of riparian lands and wetlands on an agricultural landscape, as well as the resources available to producers to implement beneficial management practices to reduce contaminant loading, protect and restore riparian areas and wetlands (*Strategies 3.2.2., 5.1.1. and 5.1.3.*)

CONFLUENCE REACH / STURGEON COUNTY, GIBBONS

- Work with local stakeholders (Sturgeon County, Industrial Heartland, Town of Gibbons, recreation groups, landowners, land trusts, etc.) to protect high value fish habitat and biodiversity in this area (*Strategy 5.1.1.*)

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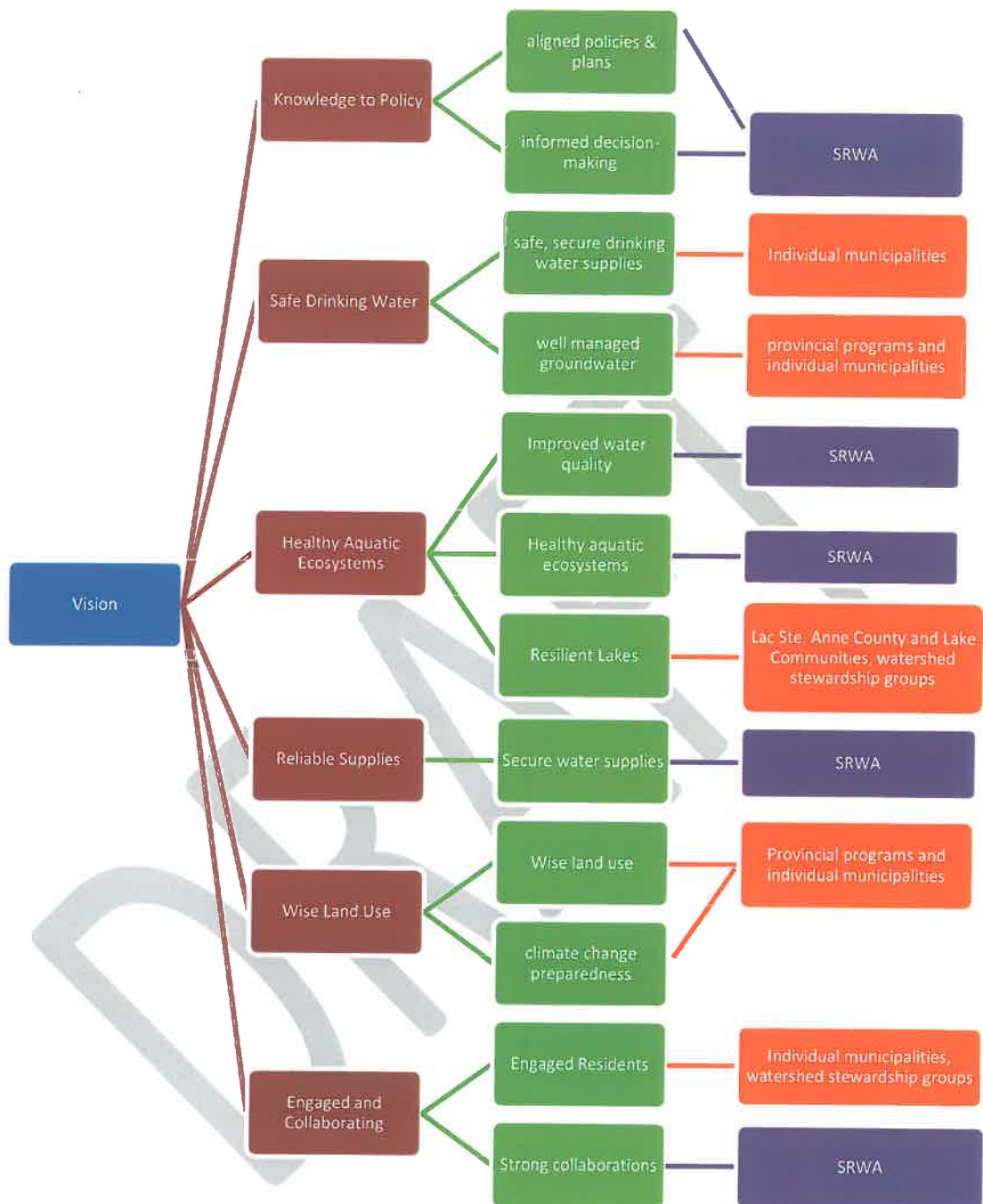


Figure 5. Vision (blue), outcomes (red), goals (green) and priority strategies (orange) of the SRWMP to be implemented through the ongoing work of individual municipalities and programs.

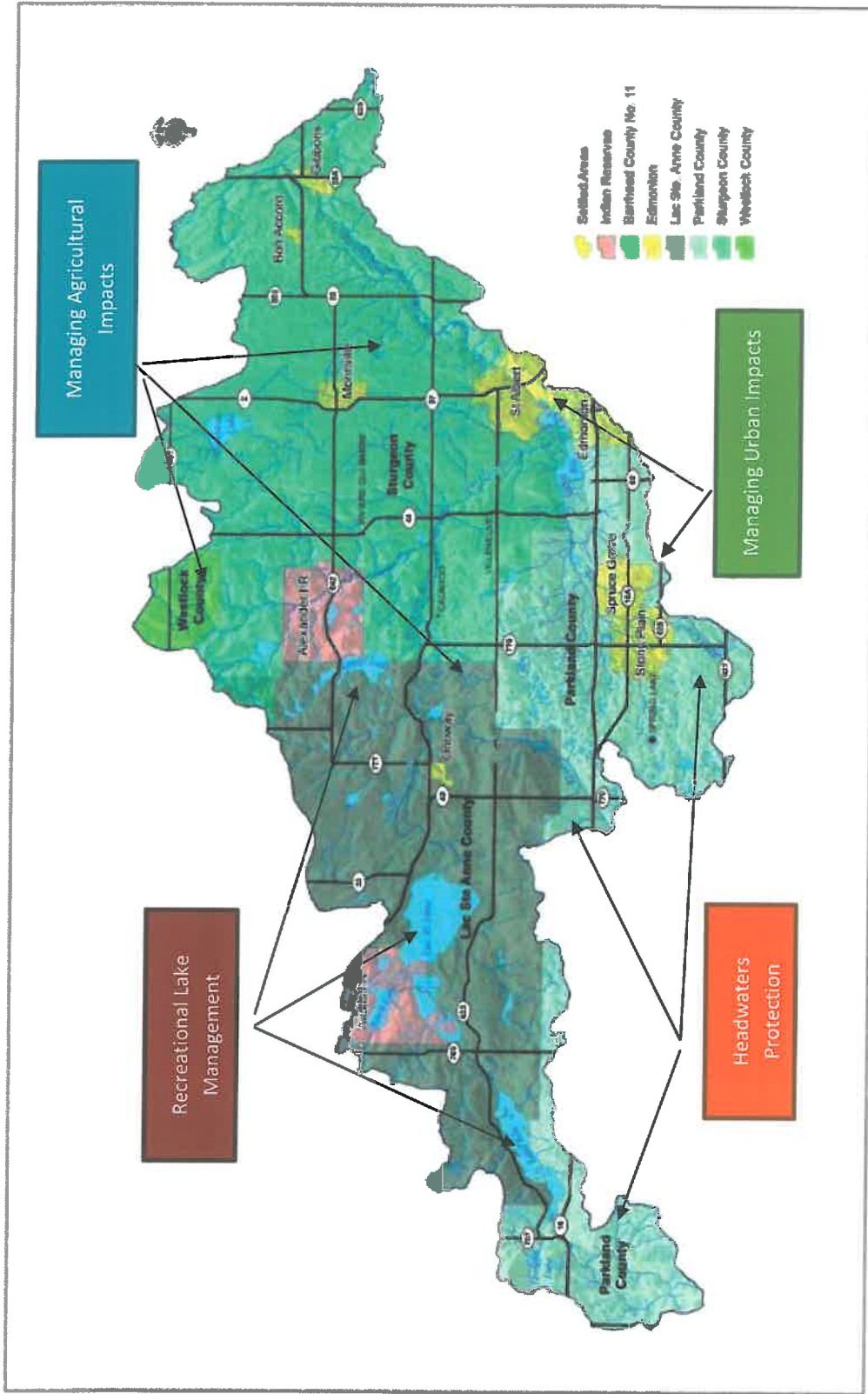


Figure 6. Graphic showing that there are different issues and different priority strategies in different parts of the Sturgeon watershed.

PLAN REPORTING AND REVIEW

For watershed management plan implementation to succeed, a performance management approach is required. This approach includes reporting on the completion of outputs. It also includes reporting on the progress made towards the successful achievement of desired outcomes (i.e. vision, goals, targets, etc.), as measured by a suite of performance measures or metrics. Hence progress on both outputs and outcomes of the Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan will be reported on annually, within the NSW annual reporting process.

Additionally, watershed management plans are meant to be 'living' documents, in that the conditions leading to their development may change over time and the plans themselves, may need to be updated to address these changes. Hence the SRWMP will be reviewed by the SRWA Steering Committee every four years (one year after municipal elections), or as needed in response to a significant event, to ensure the plan remains relevant and timely.

IN CLOSING

This watershed management plan has been a collaborative effort by a number of jurisdictions and organizations, each concerned with the health of the Sturgeon River Watershed. As such, it is but one step in the adaptive management process. To be successful in the next step—plan implementation—sustained effort by all jurisdictions within the watershed is required.

Fortunately, through the continued work of the SRWA, jurisdictions in the watershed have a strong foundation of sharing knowledge and collaborating to find solutions. These traits will continue to serve the organization and its members well as they move to the next phase of watershed management, and as they widen their circle to engage others in achieving their shared vision for the Sturgeon River watershed.

*“Plans to protect air and water, wilderness and wildlife
are in fact plans to protect man.”*

Stewart Udall, United States politician and author of *The Quiet Crisis* (1963)

APPENDIX 1. STEERING AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Past and Present SRWA Steering Committee Members		
Name	Surname	Affiliation
Rebecca	Balanko	Town of Morinville
Judy	Bennett	Alternate – Town of Stony Plain
Dan	Derouin	Sturgeon County
Angela	Duncan	Alberta Beach
Nick	Gelych	Lac Ste. Anne County
Jacque	Hansen (Vice-chair)	City of St. Albert
Bevan	Janzen	Alexis Heritage and Language
AnnLisa	Jensen (Chair)	Parkland County
Jocelyn	Johnson	Alternate - City of Edmonton
Leah	Kongsrude	North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance
Melissa	Logan	Support - City of St. Albert
Arin	MacFarlane-Dyer	Alberta Environment and Parks
Eric	Meyer	Town of Stony Plain
Jay	Millante	Town of Gibbons
Aaron	Paquette	City of Edmonton
Bernie	Poulin	Summer Villages of Lac Ste. Anne & County East
Wayne	Rothe	City of Spruce Grove
Petra	Rowell	North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance
Pat	St. Hilaire	Alternate - Town of Onoway
Lynne	Tonita	Town of Onoway

Past and Present SRWA Technical Committee members		
Name	Surname	Affiliation
Achyut	Adhikari	City of Edmonton
Peter	Aku	Alberta Conservation Association
Bridget	Bull	Alexis Heritage and Language
Miles	Constable	Big Lake Environmental Support Society
Rachel	Davies	Sturgeon County
Natasha	De Sandi	Sturgeon County
Matthew	Ferris	Lac Ste. Anne County
Brendan	Ganton	Alberta Conservation Association
Patrick	Inglis	City of Spruce Grove
Bevan	Janzen	Alexis Heritage and Language
Mike	Klassen	Sturgeon County
Leah	Kongrude	North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance
Melissa	Logan	City of St. Albert
Arin	MacFarlane-Dyer	Alberta Environment and Parks
Jason	Madge	Town of Onoway
Krista	Quesnel	Parkland County
Michael	Silzer	City of Edmonton
Lorraine	Taylor	Lac Ste. Anne County
David	Trew	North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance
Rachelle	Trovato	Parkland County
Petra	Rowell	North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance
Robin	Beukens	City of St. Albert
Christian	Benson	City of St. Albert
Dianne	Allen	Town of Bon Accord
Alex	Oiffer	Alberta Environment and Parks
Louise	Verstegg	Parkland County

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Devon and Fort Saskatchewan – North Saskatchewan River - Flood Hazard Study

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APPENDIX 3. STURGEON RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN - 10 YEAR WORKPLAN

Goals	Strategies	Short Term Actions (2020 – 2022) (Lead)	Longer Term Actions (as time and resources permit)	Performance Measures
Outcome 1. Policies and plans are well-informed and align to support a healthy watershed.				
1.1. Policies, plans and management actions are aligned to sustain the <i>health</i> of the Sturgeon River watershed.	1.1.1. Incorporate values that support watershed health into federal, provincial, regional, municipal, resource and other policies, plans and actions by ensuring a watershed 'voice' is present in all policy and planning processes affecting the Sturgeon watershed.	<p>Action: Submit the SRWMP to the GOA as information to inform its development of the North Saskatchewan Regional Plan (NSRP) as well as other relevant provincial initiatives. (SRWA)</p> <p>Action: Submit the SRWMP to the Edmonton Metropolitan Regional Board (EMRB) as information for their consideration and continue to encourage partnering on future policy and planning projects. (SRWA)</p>	<p>Action: Continue to work with other municipalities through Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA) and Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) processes to bring attention to the role of municipalities in watershed management.</p> <p>Action: Encourage individual municipalities to use the SRWMP to inform their own municipal policy and planning over time and as their documents and processes are renewed.</p>	Every municipality in the Sturgeon watershed supports a collaborative watershed approach as outlined in their governing documents.
	1.1.2. Encourage policy and plan alignment by ensuring technical water and watershed information informs the development of policies, plans and other management tools (e.g., bylaws, districting, reserves, setbacks, standards, map overlays, definitions).	<p>Action: Identify policy and planning gaps between municipalities in the Sturgeon River watershed and compare, develop and share model policy statements, bylaws, definitions and other tools to fill such gaps and resolve differences (e.g., septic bylaws, pesticide bylaws, setback definitions). (SRWA)</p> <p>Action: Recognizing the value of riparian intactness in securing water quality, make it a priority to work towards development of consistent policies and tools in protecting water bodies and riparian buffer setback within the watershed. (SRWA, Municipalities)</p>	<p>Action: Wherever possible, develop and share spatial overlay maps (flood hazard areas, wetlands, natural areas, riparian setbacks, groundwater recharge/discharge areas) to inform land use planning and development processes. (NSWA, SRWA, GOA, municipalities)</p>	

Goals	Strategies	Short Term Actions (2020 – 2022) (Lead)	Longer Term Actions (as time and resources permit)	Performance Measures
1.2. Decision-making in the Sturgeon River watershed is based on the best available knowledge.	1.2.1. Identify, prioritize and fill information gaps, using both Indigenous knowledge and Western science, about the watershed.	<p>Action: Work with Indigenous communities to create opportunities to identify and appreciate Indigenous knowledge or ways of knowing and values related to the Sturgeon watershed. (SRWA, Indigenous communities)</p> <p>Action: Building off of existing monitoring programs (e.g., City of St. Albert; Creek Watch, Alberta Lake Management Lake Watch program), establish a watershed-wide monitoring, evaluation and reporting framework. (SRWA, City of St. Albert)</p>	<p>Action: Develop a research strategy that identifies and prioritizes information gaps and methods to fill such gaps.</p>	<p>Municipal Councillors, Indigenous leaders and other decision-makers are knowledgeable about water issues in the Sturgeon watershed.</p>
	1.2.2. Continue to develop and utilize mechanisms (e.g., meetings, workshops, Council presentations, reports, newsletters, technical studies, success stories and case studies, gap analysis) to share information to ensure decision-makers and others are well-informed about technical water issues in the Sturgeon watershed.	<p>Action: Continue to engage the Province and municipalities (i.e., elected officials, senior management and technical staff) on key watershed issues through ongoing SRWA Steering and Technical Committee meetings, forums, workshops, publications, etc. (SRWA)</p> <p>Action: Provide guidance to municipalities on best practices around water management (e.g., stormwater management, low impact development, riparian restoration, etc.). (NSWA, SRWA, municipalities)</p>		<p>Technical information gaps required by decision-makers to achieve watershed health are identified, prioritized and addressed.</p> <p>Legislation gaps affecting water management practices are identified, prioritized and addressed.</p>

Goals	Strategies	Short Term Actions (2020 – 2022) (Lead)	Longer Term Actions (as time and resources permit)	Performance Measures
Outcome 2. All residents have access to safe, secure drinking water supplies, whether they are on public or private systems that draw from surface or groundwater.				
2.1. Residents in the Sturgeon watershed have access to safe, secure drinking water supplies.	2.1.1. Improve understanding of the current state of drinking water demand and supply systems including both public and private sector and the issues residents are encountering with these systems. 2.1.2. Promote source water protection.	Action: Encourage municipalities to use presentations, surveys, workshops and other means to better understand private water systems (including wells, dugouts and cisterns) and the issues residents are encountering with these systems. (SRWA, municipalities) Action: Ensure the public are knowledgeable about private drinking water system management and potential impacts to water supplies by encouraging participation in Alberta's Working Well Program and Drinking Water testing programs. (SRWA, municipalities)	Action: Provide educational materials and promote agricultural, household and commercial beneficial management practices to protect source water quality. (SRWA, municipalities)	Treated drinking water quality parameters meet provincial guidelines. Domestic groundwater wells are not impacted by anthropogenic contaminants (e.g., <i>E. coli</i> , nutrients, etc.) and other pollutants.
2.2. Groundwater is understood and managed sustainably.	Strategy 2.2.1. Improve our knowledge about the quality and quantity of groundwater in the Sturgeon watershed and how it interacts with surface water.	Action: Encourage the GOA to maintain and/or enhance groundwater well monitoring programs (e.g., GOA well database, groundwater observation well network). (SRWA, GOA)	Action: Undertake trend analysis of existing well information to understand temporal changes in groundwater quality and supply within the Sturgeon River watershed. Action: Encourage the province to undertake groundwater studies at the watershed and sub-watershed scale, providing relevant maps and tools to municipalities for land management planning and decision-making. (SRWA, GOA)	Number of rural residents reliant on drinking water wells who test their water regularly. Number of municipalities utilizing groundwater policies & mgmt tools.

Goals	Strategies	Short Term Actions (2020 – 2022) (Lead)	Longer Term Actions (as time and resources permit)	Performance Measures
	<p>Strategy 2.2.2. Manage land use development such that key groundwater recharge and discharge areas are not impaired.</p>	<p>Action: Educate municipal staff, including planners, about potential groundwater contamination risks. (NSWA)</p>	<p>Action: Identify key recharge and discharge areas and areas at risk of contamination and use provincial (e.g., the Alberta Wetland Policy) and municipal tools (e.g., map overlays, environmental reserve, aquifer signage) to protect such areas as they are identified. (NSWA, SRWA)</p> <p>Action: If/where required, under the North Saskatchewan Regional Plan, develop Groundwater Management Frameworks that protect well heads, artesian flow areas, important recharge and discharge areas, and aquifers; and prevents contamination, and the cumulative effects of development on groundwater quantity and quality. (GOA)</p>	
<p>Outcome 3. Aquatic ecosystems, including our rivers, lakes, wetlands and other water bodies, are healthy.</p>				
<p>3.1. Water quality in the Sturgeon watershed is improved.</p>	<p>Strategy 3.1.1. Improve understanding of the health and resiliency of the Sturgeon River watershed by monitoring, evaluating and reporting on water quality and other aspects of aquatic ecosystem health.</p>	<p>Action: Use both technical and traditional knowledge to inform the selection of a suite of indicators (e.g., fish communities, benthic invertebrates, water quality parameters) to monitor the aquatic ecosystem health of the Sturgeon River watershed including the mainstem, priority tributaries and key lakes. (SRWA, Indigenous communities)</p>	<p>Action: Periodically assess indicator information collected and use this assessment to publicly report on the state of the Sturgeon River watershed every five years.</p>	<p>Water quality parameters meet guidelines and/or show improvements.</p>

Goals	Strategies	Short Term Actions (2020 – 2022) (Lead)	Longer Term Actions (as time and resources permit)	Performance Measures
	<p>Strategy 3.1.2. Identify and reduce point and non-point sources of nutrient and contaminant loading in the Sturgeon watershed.</p>	<p>Action: Ensure awareness and if required, enforcement of existing federal, provincial and municipal regulations such as the Water Act, Public Lands Act, Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act, Agricultural Operational Practices Act, municipal bylaws, etc. (SRWA, Provincial and municipal regulators)</p> <p>Action: Reduce sediment and salt loading from roads by promoting transportation and roads BMPs such as Alberta Transportation and Transportation Association of Canada Guidelines and federal required Salt Management Plans and snow facilities melt water best practices. (municipalities)</p>	<p>Action: Reduce contaminant loading from point sources by improving waste water management and centralizing sewage lagoon systems.</p> <p>Action: Reduce nutrient loading from rural non-point sources by working with rural residents, businesses and agricultural producers to promote beneficial practices and reduce fertilizer and pesticide use near water bodies.</p>	
<p>3.2. Aquatic ecosystems in the Sturgeon watershed are healthy.</p>	<p>3.2.1. Improve our knowledge about the current state of aquatic ecosystem health in the Sturgeon River watershed.</p>	<p>Action: If needed, incorporate more stringent guidance on setbacks, as promoted by <i>Stepping Back from the Water</i>, into bylaws. (municipalities)</p> <p>Action: Seek funding to establish more continuous flow gauging stations, particularly at lake outflows to improve lake water balance calculations. (SRWA, GOA)</p>	<p>Action: Reduce nutrient loading from urban non-point sources by improving stormwater management, addressing increased flows created by development, incorporating Low Impact Development (LID) principles and promoting educational programs.</p> <p>Action: Seek research partnerships to study/ model the impact of cumulative effects on aquatic ecosystem health and its components, including its connection to water quality and quantity.</p> <p>Action: Conduct an ecosystem valuation of the Sturgeon River watershed (considering ecological services, water supply and regulation, climate regulation, social and recreational</p>	<p>Measurable and continual improvements to aquatic ecosystem components particularly water quality, riparian areas and wetlands, lakes and fisheries.</p>

Goals	Strategies	Short Term Actions (2020 – 2022) (Lead)	Longer Term Actions (as time and resources permit)	Performance Measures
			<p>values, etc.) to inform local government planning and development.</p>	
	<p>3.2.2. Improve aquatic health by developing and implementing a wetland and riparian area protection and restoration strategy.</p>	<p>Action: Improve the public availability and use of common wetland and riparian management tools (e.g., education programs, incentive programs, land reserves, restoration programs). (SRWA, municipalities)</p>	<p>Action: Complete a drained and existing wetland inventory for the watershed (Parkland County portion has been done).</p>	
		<p>Action: Develop wetland, riparian and flood plain conservation and restoration goals and targets and advocate for their inclusion in municipal planning documents, as they are developed and renewed. (SRWA TAC and SC)</p>	<p>Action: Support the work of land managers/stewardship programs to protect/restore riparian buffers along wetlands, lakes and creeks of the Sturgeon River watershed.</p>	
	<p>Strategy 3.2.3. Improve the fisheries resource.</p>	<p>Action: Conserve priority fish habitat (areas known to be well oxygenated with good flows) for key fish species and/or life stages. (SRWA, ACA, AEP-fisheries)</p>	<p>Action: Improve fish habitat where conditions (e.g., dissolved oxygen, flow) are known to be poor and where such conditions have led to fish kills in the past.</p>	
	<p>Strategy 3.2.4. Prevent the occurrence and/or spread of aquatic invasive species.</p>	<p>Action: Work with invasive species organizations to educate residents and visitors about what they can do to minimize the introduction and spread of invasive species. (NSWA, SRWA, municipalities, AEP)</p>	<p>Action: Conduct surveys, inventory occurrences, and prioritize areas/actions to prevent, contain, mitigate and where possible eradicate invasive species.</p>	

Goals	Strategies	Short Term Actions (2020 – 2022) (Lead)	Longer Term Actions (as time and resources permit)	Performance Measures
<p>3.3. Lakes and their surrounding watersheds are recognized as a highly valued, limited resource and managed such that they are healthy for current and future generations.</p>	<p>Strategy 3.3.1. Improve knowledge about the state of lakes in the Sturgeon watershed and issues affecting their health.</p>	<p>Action: In conjunction with other 'state of reporting' (see strategy 3.1.1) identify and collect long-term data on indicators of lake health and release in a timely fashion to inform decision-making.</p>		<p>Lake health is maintained or improved.</p>
	<p>Strategy 3.3.2. Educate lake residents and visitors/users about their impacts and what they can do to lessen their footprint.</p>	<p>Action: Ensure the public and elected officials understand lake ecology, have realistic expectations of what a healthy Alberta lake looks like, and know what they can do to reduce their impact.</p> <p>Connect with the GOA Respect our Lakes program for educational resources. (SRWA, lake groups)</p>	<p>Action: Engage existing and support new lake watershed stewardship groups and stewardship programs and products (e.g., Nature Alberta's Living by Water).</p>	
	<p>Strategy 3.3.3. Improve lake watershed management by aligning policies and regulations such that land use and recreation do not irreparably harm the lake resource.</p>	<p>Action: Ensure the referral system between government regulators is working and development applications are being reviewed such that the cumulative effects of nutrient and sediment loading is reduced.</p>	<p>Action: Develop land use bylaws and policies (e.g., pesticide and fertilizer bylaws, setback distances, building standards) that are consistent between municipalities that border a shared waterbody.</p>	

Goals	Strategies	Short Term Actions (2020 – 2022) (Lead)	Longer Term Actions (as time and resources permit)	Performance Measures
Outcome 4. The Importance of water quantity is recognized and reliable, quality water supplies are available for people, livestock and a sustainable economy.				
4.1. Water supply is managed effectively to support aquatic ecosystems, communities and the economy.	4.1.1. Collaborate with the province, academia and others to fill information gaps on the Sturgeon River mainstem and its major tributaries including seasonal instream flow and aquatic health needs, current water use and future demand and supply.	<p>Action: Examine existing data and estimates around domestic entitlements, agricultural registrations, licenced water allocations, actual use/consumption and compare to instream flow needs calculations. (SRWA, AEP)</p> <p>Action: Explore the most appropriate method of calculating IFNs and calculate IFNs under current and anticipated future conditions. Where required, use the appropriate regulatory tools to limit water withdrawals during low flow periods for the protection of aquatic ecosystem health. (AEP)</p>	<p>Action: Encourage all licencees to accurately and consistently report actual water use through the GOA Water Use Reporting System.</p> <p>Action: Maintain existing mainstem gauges and seek funding and establish more gauging stations on tributaries to improve water balance calculations and determine long-term trends in lake levels/river flows.</p>	<p>Instream flow needs are met in the Sturgeon watershed.</p> <p>Water conservation targets are met.</p>
4.1.2. Ensure water supply meets future growth and demand.		<p>Action: Identify and promote beneficial practices, incentives and other tools to promote water conservation and reduce water use by agriculture, industry, municipalities and the public. (SRWA)</p>	<p>Action: Ensure the economic value of water as well as trade-offs are understood and inform local and regional decision-making.</p>	

Goals	Strategies	Short Term Actions (2020 – 2022) (Lead)	Longer Term Actions (as time and resources permit)	Performance Measures
Outcome 5. Wise land use ensures the cumulative effects of growth and development are mitigated, the land is resilient to climate change, and individuals and communities are well prepared for flood and drought events.				
<p>Goal 5.1. The cumulative effects of land use detrimental to watershed health are understood, considered in decision-making processes, and where possible, addressed.</p>	<p>Strategy 5.1.1. Protect important areas of existing natural land cover, such as wetlands, riparian areas, key groundwater recharge areas and key habitat and wildlife corridors in the Sturgeon watershed.</p>	<p>Action: Promote LEED standards and low impact development (LID) principles that integrate with the environment. (SRWA, NSWA)</p>	<p>Action: Compile existing or commission new maps showing important areas of natural cover/environmentally significant areas and ensure this data is available to municipal planners and decision-makers.</p>	<p>Maintain or improve percent of the watershed in wetland, forest, or riparian area.</p>
	<p>Strategy 5.1.2. Use land use planning and development processes to ensure built landscapes maximize water capture, infiltration and slow release (through protection and restoration of riparian areas, wetlands and floodplains and through stormwater management best practices).</p>	<p>Action: Identify and prioritize areas where there is more value from LID, or where different LID elements are more useful (e.g. enhanced infiltration will be less useful in areas dominated by shallow clay sediments).</p>	<p>Action: Conduct a study to see what the impacts would be of developing a conservation and protection zone along each side of the Sturgeon River with limited types of industrial development (e.g., No hazard waste transfer, landfill, lagoon, refinery, salt yard, any facility handling contaminants of concern (COCs), etc.) allowed within the corridor.</p>	<p>Number (and area) of protected areas</p> <p>Number of agricultural BMP stewardship projects undertaken</p> <p>Human footprint is maintained or decreased in the Sturgeon watershed.</p>
	<p>Strategy 5.1.3. Promote a stewardship ethic and increase the adoption of best management practices for agricultural lands and acreages.</p>	<p>Action: Support programs like (but not limited to) ALUS, the Green Acreages Program and Environmental Farm Planning. (SRWA, NSWA, municipalities)</p>		

Goals	Strategies	Short Term Actions (2020 – 2022) (Lead)	Longer Term Actions (as time and resources permit)	Performance Measures
5.2 The effects of climate change on the Sturgeon watershed are understood and mitigated.	Strategy 5.2.1. Build awareness and knowledge about the impacts of climate change on the Sturgeon River watershed.	TBD		air quality indicators carbon indicators
	Strategy 5.2.2. Promote flood/drought preparedness to agriculture, industry, municipalities, Indigenous communities and the public.	TBD		number of flood hazard mapping studies
	Strategy 5.2.3. Promote energy efficiency and other air quality and carbon reduction strategies.	TBD		
Outcome 6. Residents and stakeholders support the Sturgeon River Watershed Management Plan and are willing to participate in local and regional initiatives to improve watershed health.				
6.1. Residents are engaged in watershed management through education, outreach and stewardship opportunities.	6.1.1. Building on the GOA's water literacy program , develop an education and outreach strategy specific to the Sturgeon watershed and its stakeholders.	<p>Action: Continue to maintain a dedicated SRWA webpage as a central hub for posting SRWMP updates, reports, FAQ sheets, etc.</p> <p>Action: Facilitate regular SRWA forums to report on progress of SRWA SRWMP and / or participate in major municipal events to share information on SRWMP implementation. (NSWA, SRWA)</p>	<p>Action: Align key messages and develop shared materials on key watershed issues (riparian health, lakeshore issues, wetland loss, water quality, invasive species, etc.). (GOA, NSWA, SRWA, municipalities and NGOs)</p> <p>Action: Provide opportunities for improving understanding of Indigenous values and traditional knowledge.</p>	<p>Water literacy of residents in the Sturgeon watershed is improved as measured by the number of residents who know where their water comes from,</p>

Goals	Strategies	Short Term Actions (2020 – 2022) (Lead)	Longer Term Actions (as time and resources permit)	Performance Measures
	<p>6.1.2. Engage the public through hands-on learning and stewardship activities by supporting the formation and maintenance of stewardship groups such as Big Lake Environmental Support Society (BLESS), Lake Isle and Lac Ste. Anne Water Quality Management Society (LILSA), local Fish and Game Clubs, etc.</p>	<p>Action: Provide financial, technical and other support to BLESS, LILSA, local Fish and Game clubs and other stewardship and conservation groups to carry out education and stewardship activities such as distributing educational materials, hosting workshops, organizing shoreline clean-ups, riparian plantings and invasive plant monitoring, etc. (NSWA, SRWA, municipalities)</p>		<p>water conservation measures, riparian projects, etc.</p>
	<p>6.1.3. Celebrate and communicate successes.</p>	<p>TBD</p>		
<p>6.2: The SRWA is representative, well-attended and effective at using a collaborative approach to implement the SRWMP.</p>	<p>6.2.1. Continue to provide a platform for the province, municipalities, Indigenous communities, NGOs, industry and other stakeholders to collaborate on SRWMP implementation through participation on the SRWA Steering and Technical Committees.</p>	<p>Action: Provide support such that the Steering Committee meets a minimum of three times a year to oversee and report on SRWMP implementation. (NSWA)</p> <p>Action: Provide support such that the Technical Committee meets a minimum of four times a year to address information gaps and technical issues with implementation. (NSWA, SRWA SC)</p> <p>Action: Develop a workplan and budget and apply for municipal and other grant funding to support the work of Steering and Technical Committees. (SRWA)</p>	<p>Action: Encourage Indigenous communities, agriculture and industry to participate on the Steering and Technical Committees or their initiatives.</p> <p>Action: Prepare an annual report on SRWMP implementation progress and present it to municipal councils and other interested stakeholders. (NSWA)</p>	<p>Regular meetings of the SC and TAC are held and well-attended by all jurisdictions and stakeholders.</p>