



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133 Council
Agenda for Regular Council Meeting RM.14.26
9:00 a.m., Wednesday, August 12th, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 will be held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Office situated at 4202 50th Street in the Town of Spirit River in the Province of Alberta on Wednesday, August 12th, 2026 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

1.	<u>CALL TO ORDER</u>	<u>PAGES</u>
2.	<u>AGENDA ADDITIONS</u>	
3.	<u>ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA</u>	
4.	<u>ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES</u>	
A.	Adoption of Minutes from the July 8th, 2026 Regular Meeting RM 13-26.	1 – 6
B.	Adoption of Minutes from the July 17 th , 2026 Special Meeting SM 02-26	7
5.	<u>DECLARATION OF INTEREST</u>	
6.	<u>COUNCILLOR ABSENCES</u>	
7.	<u>PUBLIC HEARING</u>	
8.	<u>DELEGATIONS</u>	
9.	<u>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</u>	
10.	<u>REPORTS</u>	
A.	<u>AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN REPORT</u>	8 - 9
B.	<u>PUBLIC WORKS REPORT</u>	10
C.	<u>FINANCE REPORT</u> <i>including Q2 Report</i>	11 - 22
D.	<u>CAO REPORT</u>	23 - 29

E.	<u>COUNCIL REPORTS</u>	
	i. Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance	30 – 38
	ii. Central Peace Regional Water Supply Project – July 2, 2026 Report --August 5, 2026 Report	39 – 53 54 - 66
11.	<u>TABLED ITEMS AND OLD BUSINESS</u>	
12.	<u>RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES</u>	
13.	<u>NEW BUSINESS</u>	
	A. RFD: Proclamation Request Rail Safety Week 2026	67 – 71
	B. RFD: Cemetery Funding Policy: for review & updating	72 – 75
	C. RFD: Grande Spirit Foundation Harvest Dinner Fundraiser Invitation	76 - 79
14.	<u>BYLAWS</u>	
15.	<u>CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION</u>	
	A. CORRESPONDENCE: Response Letter from Forestry and Parks regarding the Wildfire Invoice	80 – 81
	B. CORRESPONDENCE: Email response from Village of Rycroft CAO re: Traffic Safety Signs Invitation	82
	C. CORRESPONDENCE: Email request from Town of Spirit River Mayor re: MD of Spirit River 2025 Organizational Meeting Minutes for the purpose of updating Central Peace Fire Rescue Commission	83
	D. INFORMATION: Alberta Rural Connectivity Forum 2026 Invitation, September 17 th & 18 th , 2026	84 – 87
	E. INFORMATION: Strengthening Public Safety in Alberta Polling Results and Call to Action	88 – 129

F. INFORMATION: Updates to the Code of Practice for Pits (COPP) RMA Resource Release	130 – 131
G. INFORMATION: Changes to Code of Practice for Pits & Engagement Process from RMA President Kara Westerlund	132 – 133
H. INFORMATION: Government of Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (EPA) Invitation for Input regarding Code of Practice for Pits	134 - 135
I. INFORMATION: RMA Member Resource: Updates to the Code of Practice for Pits	136 – 150
J. CORRESPONDENCE: Email note of thanks from Grande Spirit Foundation regarding inclusion in MD Resident BBQ 2026	151
K. CORRESPONDENCE: Email note of thanks from MD of Spirit River to Groups that Participated and Supported the Resident BBQ 2026	152
L. CORRESPONDENCE: Letter to Reeve van Rootselaar from Minister McDougall regarding the Fairview Campus	153 – 154
M. INFORMATION: Bill 28: <i>Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act 2026 - Municipal Government Act</i> Change Summary	155 – 156
N. INFORMATION: Councillor Accountability Framework Engagement RMA Member Resource	157 – 169
O. INFORMATION: Councillor Accountability Framework Workshop Discussion Guide	170 - 179
P. INFORMATION: Councillor Accountability Framework Member Guide and Upcoming Deadline for Input Submissions Framework from RMA President Kara Westerlund	180
Q. INFORMATION: Municipal Affairs Request Summary and Invitation to submit input on Councillor Accountability Framework	181 – 182
R. INFORMATION: Peace Regional Energy Alliance: Position Paper: Building a Social License for Nuclear Energy Development in Northwestern Alberta	182 - 199

16. **COUNCIL ISSUES AND CONCERNS**

17. **CLOSED MEETING (FORMERLY IN-CAMERA)**

Closed Session as per Municipal Government Act R.S.A. 2000, Section 197 (4) to discuss:

- A. **Third Party Business Interests: (*Access to Information Act, Part 1, Division 2, Exceptions to Disclosure ATIA Section 16, Third Party Business Interests*)**
- B. **Intermunicipal Relations (*Access to Information Act, Part 1, Division 2, Exceptions to Disclosure ATIA Section 26*)**
- C. **Third Party Business Interests: (*Access to Information Act, Part 1, Division 2, Exceptions to Disclosure ATIA Section 16, Third Party Business Interests*)**
- D. **Economic and Other Interests: (*Access to Information Act, Part 1, Division 2, Exceptions to Disclosure ATIA Section 30, Economic and Other Interests*)**
- E. **Advice from Officials: (*Access to Information Act, Part 1, Division 2, Exceptions to Disclosure ATIA Section 24, Advice from Officials*)**
- F. **Intermunicipal Relations (*Access to Information Act, Part 1, Division 2, Exceptions to Disclosure ATIA Section 26*)**
- G. **Labour (*Access to Information Act, Part 1, Division 2, Exceptions to Disclosure, ATIA, Section 19*)**
- H. **Legal (*Access to Information Act, Part 1, Division 2, Exceptions to Disclosure, ATIA, Section 27*)**

18. **ADJOURNMENT**



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133 Council
Minutes for Regular Council Meeting RM.13.26
9:00 a.m., Wednesday, July 8th, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Office situated at 4202 50th Street in the Town of Spirit River in the Province of Alberta on Wednesday, July 8th, 2026 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

In attendance:

Council Members: Reeve Tony van Rootselaar
 Deputy Reeve Dean Wark
 Councillor Shelley Rozecki (*virtual via Teams, declared to be alone*)
 Councillor Evelyn Bzowy
 Councillor Bernie Schoorlemmer

Absent: No Councillor Absences

Administration: Shirley Hayden, CAO
 Monty Bremont, Assistant CAO
 Dave Johnson, Public Works Supervisor
 Simon Amting, Agricultural Fieldman
 Elena De Leon, CFO
 Rebecca Fitzsimmons, Recording Secretary

1.

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting RM 13-26 was called to order by Reeve van Rootselaar at 9:09 am on Wednesday, July 8th, 2026.

2.

AGENDA ADDITIONS

Deletion of Item 13.A. RFD: ASB Member Appointment – remove this item from agenda RM 13-26 due to lack of quorum at ASB meeting;

Addition of Item 13.D. RFD: VEK Labs Additional Expenses

3.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

335.07.08.26

Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark to approve the agenda for the July 8th, 2026 Regular Council meeting RM 13-26 with the following amendments:
 13.A. Remove Item 13.A. RFD: ASB Member Appointment
 13.D. Addition of Item 13.D. RFD: VEK Labs Additional Expenses

Carried unanimously.

4. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

- A. 336.07.08.26 Moved by Councillor Bzowy to approve the minutes for the June 24th, 2026 Regular Council Meeting RM 12-26 as presented.
Carried unanimously.

5. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

6. COUNCILLOR ABSENCES

7. PUBLIC HEARING

8. DELEGATIONS

9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

10. REPORTS

A. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

- 337.07.08.26 Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark that Council directs Administration to seek three quotes for weeping tile and sump pump remedial work due to the MD administration office basement flooding, and further that Administration will select the successful bid with the cost to be capped at \$20,000, to come from Reserves.
Carried unanimously.

- 338.07.08.26 Moved by Councillor Schoorlemmer to accept RM 13-26 Public Works report as presented by Public Works Supervisor Dave Johnson.
Carried unanimously.

B. AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN REPORT

- 339.07.08.26 Moved by Councillor Bzowy to accept the RM 13-26 Agricultural Fieldman Report as presented by Agricultural Fieldman Simon Amting.
Carried unanimously.

C. FINANCE REPORT

- 340.07.08.26 Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark to accept the RM 13-26 Finance Report as presented by CFO Elena De Leon.
Carried unanimously.

D.

CAO REPORT

341.07.08.26

Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark that Council direct Administration to table discussion regarding email signatures and bring back to a future meeting.
Carried unanimously.

342.07.08.26

Moved by Councillor Schoorlemmer to accept the RM 13-26 CAO report as presented by CAO Shirley Hayden.

Carried unanimously.

Agricultural Fieldman Simon Amting & Public Works Supervisor Dave Johnson left the meeting RM 13-26 at 9:58 am.

E.

COUNCIL REPORTS

i. Agricultural Services Board (ASB)

343.07.08.26

Moved by Councillor Schoorlemmer that Council direct the Agricultural Fieldman to look into rationale for exception to wild boar extermination, and further to bring the discovery back to a future Council meeting.
Carried unanimously.

Assistant CAO Monty Bremont left meeting RM 13-26 at 10:14 am and returned at 10:18 am.

ii. Central Peace Fire and Rescue Commission (CPFR)

No updates available for meeting RM 13-26.

iii. Peace Region Economic Development Alliance (PREDA)

344.07.08.26

Moved by Councillor Bzowy that Council accept the Peace Region Economic Development Alliance (PREDA) report as presented by PREDA Committee Member Councillor Rozecki.

Carried unanimously.

11.

TABLED ITEMS AND OLD BUSINESS

12.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

13.

NEW BUSINESS

A.

13.A. removed from Agenda.

Deputy Reeve Wark left meeting RM 13-26 at 10:48 am, and returned 10:50 am.

B. 345.07.08.26

Moved by Reeve van Rootselaar that Council establish the date for the 2026 Public Auction for roll number 136200 to be held on November 9th, 2026 at 2 pm.

Carried unanimously.

346.07.08.26

Moved by Councillor Schoorlemmer that Council resolve that the presented Terms and Conditions of Sale for the 2026 Public Auction for roll number 136200 are hereby approved.

Carried unanimously.

C. 347.07.08.26

Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark that Council, having ceded the lead role of Unit Authority for Central Peace Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) effective July 1st, 2026, hereby rescinds all FCSS Policies:

1. 1-A Comprisal of FCSS Board and Tenure of Board Members
2. 1-B FCSS Expenditure Policy
3. 1-C Designation of Responsibilities of Unit Authority
4. 1-D FCSS Board meeting and minutes
5. 1-E FCSS Board Member Collective and Individual Responsibilities
6. 1-F FCSS Board Budget
7. 1-G Request for Financial Statements
8. 1-H Employee Timesheets
9. 1-I Withdrawal and Addition of Participating Municipalities
10. 1-J Scope of Participating Programs and Funding
11. 1-K Grievance and Complaints Policy
12. 1-L FCSS Coordinator Job Description
13. 1-M FCSS Program Assistant Job Description
14. 1-N Code of Conduct and Guidelines

Carried unanimously.

D. 348.07.08.26

Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark that Council authorize Administration to add a full production day as per VekLabs' proposal, with the total cost to be reduced via Avion points where possible.

Carried unanimously.

14. BYLAWS

- A. 349.07.08.26 Moved by Councillor Bzowy that Bylaw 03-2026 for the purpose of repealing obsolete FCSS bylaws 01-2005, 02-2005, and 07-2005, is hereby read a first time.

Carried unanimously.

- 350.07.08.26 Moved by Councillor Schoorlemmer that Bylaw 03-2026 be read a second time.

Carried unanimously.

- 351.07.08.26 Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark that consent be given to read Bylaw 03-2026 a third and final time.

Carried unanimously.

- 352.07.08.26 Moved by Reeve van Rootselaar that Bylaw 03-2026 for the purpose of repealing obsolete FCSS bylaws 01-2005, 02-2005, and 07-2005, is hereby read a third and final time and finally passed.

Carried unanimously.

15. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION

- 353.07.08.26 Moved by Councillor Bzowy that Council of the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 hereby proclaims October 15th, 2026 as Pregnancy & Infant Loss Awareness Day, and October 2026 as Pregnancy and Loss Awareness Month, within the Municipal District, and further that Council directs Administration to promote the proclamation as presented, in the MD Newsletter and on MD social media sites.

Carried unanimously.

- 354.07.08.26 Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark to accept Correspondence and Information Items 15.A. through 15.I. for information.

Carried unanimously.

16. COUNCIL ISSUES AND CONCERNS

17.

CLOSED MEETING (FORMERLY IN-CAMERA)

355.07.08.26

Moved by Councillor Bzowy to enter into closed session at 11:35 am, for the purpose of discussing:

A. Intermunicipal Relations (*Access to Information Act, Part 1, Division 2, Exceptions to Disclosure ATIA Section 26*)

B. Third Party Business Interests (*Access to Information Act, Part 1, Division 2, Exceptions to Disclosure ATIA Section 16, Third Party Business Interests*)

Carried unanimously.

Meeting RM 13-26 entered closed session at 11:35 am.

356.07.08.26

Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark to leave closed session at 12:30 pm.

Carried unanimously.

Regular Meeting RM 13-26 resumed at 12:30 pm.

357.07.08.26

Moved by Councillor Schoorlemmer that Council direct Administration to obtain quotes from the consultants as presented.

Carried unanimously.

18.

ADJOURNMENT

Reeve van Rootseelaar adjourned Regular Council meeting RM 13-26 at 12:30 pm.



**Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 Council
Special Council Meeting Minutes SM 02-26
Friday, July 17th, 2026, 8:30 a.m.**

The Special Meeting of the Council of the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Office situated at 4202 50th Street in the Town of Spirit River in the Province of Alberta on Friday, July 17th, 2026, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

In attendance:

Council Members: Reeve Tony Van Rootselaar
Deputy Reeve Dean Wark
Councillor Bernie Schoorlemmer
Councillor Evelyn Bzowy
Councillor Shelley Rozecki

Administration: Monty Bremont, Assistant CAO

1. CALL TO ORDER

Reeve Van Rootselaar called meeting SM 02-26 to order at 8:35 a.m.

2. NEW BUSINESS

358.07.17.26

Moved by Councillor Bernie Schoorlemmer that the proposed e-mail response and counteroffer be sent to the Town of Spirit River regarding the development permit extension request.

Carried unanimously.

359.07.17.26

Moved by Councillor Evelyn Bzowy that a meeting be requested and the following stakeholders be invited to discuss daycare project updates:

MD of Spirit River Reeve and Deputy Reeve
Town of Spirit River Mayor and Deputy Mayor
Saddle Hills County Reeve and Deputy Reeve
Board Members of the Regional Childcare Solutions Steering Committee

Carried unanimously.

3. ADJOURNMENT

Reeve Van Rootselaar adjourned Special Meeting SM 02-26 at 8:40 a.m.

MD OF SPIRIT RIVER**AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN REPORT****DATE:** August 4th, 2026**SUBMITTED BY:** Agricultural Fieldman, Simon Amting**ANNUAL OPERATING PROGRAMS, PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES:**

<i>Program/Activity/Project</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Comments</i>
PRAAAF Update & Outreach/ Extension		PRAAAF Meeting on August 29 th – Saddle Hills County Chairs Meeting Aug 5 th was postponed till October Next ASB Meeting – End of Sept
Roadside Mowing	Ongoing	Shoulder cut – 95% of MD Completed
General		
Weed Management & Pest Managment	Ongoing	Weed inspecting on going, Seasonals inspected the whole MD and are starting over again to catch what was missed. Been contacting landowners regarding weeds, everyone has been compliant so far. Spraying and hand picking has been ongoing. Grasshopper and Clubroot/ Wheathead inspections mid August

Cemeteries	Ongoing	Ongoing Maintenance through out the season
Nardam Campsite	Ongoing	Consistently 2-4 campers staying. Ongoing Maintenance throughout the season Will be ordering mulch for orchard
Seasonal Staff	Ongoing	One roadside mower technician and three AVMT's



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

DATE: August 5th, 2026

Administrative	Reynold's Plumbing will be replacing sump pump in basement when they received the new pump & sump; Weeping tile is plugged with roots;
Grading	Ongoing;
Plowing	
Gravel	Gravel haul is about 80% complete;
Culvert Installation/Repair Washouts	Replacing culverts by priority;
Brushing	
Signage	Township Road 771 & Highway 2 was replaced and summer staff has been replacing and fixing damaged signs;
Bridge Files	Griffin Contracting will be working on bridge north of Highway 49 on Range Road 45;
Nardam	
Public Works Shop	
Equipment	
Training	
Ratepayer Comments	
Miscellaneous	Pulling shoulders on Range Road 70 from Township Road 770 to Township Road 772; Repacking and regravelling;

Overview

The Finance Department continues to focus on grant administration, financial reporting, investment oversight, taxation, and budget monitoring. The following updates are provided for Council's information.

LGFF Funding Update

- The Municipality's LGFF Capital Grant application has been approved.
- Administration anticipates requesting the approved funding by the end of September to offset the cost of this year's gravel crushing program.
- The LGFF Operating Grant is currently being processed by the Province. Administration will provide Council with an update once the funding has been released.

Investment & Market Update

Administration continues to monitor the Municipality's investment portfolio and market conditions.

During the second quarter of 2026, financial markets experienced a shift as significant investment in technology infrastructure began transitioning toward improved corporate profitability. While economic uncertainty remains due to ongoing geopolitical events, investment strategies continue to focus on protecting capital while allowing for long-term growth.

Some of the key economic highlights include:

- The U.S. economy continues to show resilience, with business investment helping offset the impact of higher interest rates.
- Although Canada's overall economic outlook remains modest, Western Canada—and Alberta in particular—continues to outperform with projected growth of approximately **2.6%**, supported by continued migration, energy development, and investment in data centers.
- Internationally, European markets have remained relatively flat while Asian markets have shown renewed growth as manufacturing and inventory demand continue to recover.

The Municipality's investment strategy continues to focus on:

- Maintaining a balanced portfolio that protects capital while allowing for long-term growth.
- Diversifying investments through high-quality fixed income and credit holdings to reduce the impact of market volatility.
- Remaining proactive rather than reactive as market conditions continue to evolve.

Now that we are starting to receive tax payments, administration will approach council in future meetings for investment review and transfers to reserves.

GST Update

- The Q2 GST Return has been completed and submitted.
- The remaining GST balance owing of approximately \$24,000 has now been cleared.
- Going forward, Administration anticipates returning to receiving GST refunds rather than carrying an outstanding balance.

Second Quarter Financial Reporting

- The Second Quarter Expense Report is attached for Council's review.
- To provide the most accurate financial picture possible, several expenses that were processed early in the third quarter have been included.
- As a general guideline, departmental expenditures should typically fall between 45% and 55% of the annual budget at this point in the year.

A review of departmental spending shows:

- Several departments exceeding this range have already completed the majority of their annual expenditures.
- The Medical Clinic budget is slightly over target due to higher-than-budgeted requisitions.
- Additional unplanned expenditures were incurred for the wildfire response, resulting in costs that were not included in the original budget.
- Administration, Public Works, ASB, Nardam, and Health & Safety remain within their expected budget targets.
- Economic Development is currently above target due to daycare-related expenses/studies. These costs were not originally budgeted for but were previously approved by Council to be funded from reserves while budget deliberations were completed up to \$350,000.00.

Overall, Administration is satisfied with the Municipality's financial position at the end of the second quarter and will continue to monitor departmental expenditures throughout the remainder of the year.

Property Tax Update

- Property tax collections continue to progress well.
- As of July 29, 2026, approximately 35% of the current year's property taxes have been collected.
- Administration will continue to monitor collections leading up to the tax due date and provide Council with additional updates as required.

General Reminder to council:

Please remember that council timesheets and expenses are due by the 25th of each month.



MD OF SPIRIT RIVER #133

Expenses All Operations

14

Page 1 of 9
2026-Aug-4
2:52:53PM

General Ledger	Description	2026 YTD Budget	2026 YTD Actual	2026 YTD % Variance
Council Expenses				
2-11-00-130-01	DIV. 1 BENEFITS-EB	5,000.00	2,962.47	59.25
2-11-00-130-02	DIV. 2 BENEFITS- SR	5,000.00	2,955.96	59.12
2-11-00-130-03	DIV. 3 BENEFITS-TV	5,000.00	1,805.22	36.10
2-11-00-130-04	DIV. 4 BENEFITS-BS	5,000.00	2,955.96	59.12
2-11-00-130-05	DIV. 5 BENEFITS-DW	5,000.00	2,949.45	58.99
2-11-00-132-00	C.P.P. - ER CONT.	3,000.00	2,522.46	84.08
2-11-00-135-01	HSA/WSA SPENDING ACCT	7,500.00	0.00	0.00
2-11-00-135-02	ADMIN FEES HSA/WSA	500.00	159.30	31.86
2-11-00-151-00	DIV. 5 SALARY-DW	20,000.00	14,903.39	74.52
2-11-00-151-01	DIV.1 SALARY-EB	20,000.00	16,359.23	81.80
2-11-00-151-02	DIV. 2 SALARY-SR	20,000.00	14,490.16	72.45
2-11-00-151-03	DIV.3 SALARY -TV	30,000.00	18,256.02	60.85
2-11-00-151-04	DIV.4 SALARY-BS	20,000.00	15,063.85	75.32
2-11-00-151-05	BOARD HONORARIUM	5,000.00	1,529.84	30.60
2-11-00-211-00	DIV.5 MILE & SUBSIST- DW	8,000.00	3,286.01	41.08
2-11-00-211-01	DIV.1 MILE.& SUBSIST-EB	8,000.00	4,889.89	61.12
2-11-00-211-02	DIV.2 MILE.& SUBSIST-SR	8,000.00	4,896.79	61.21
2-11-00-211-03	DIV.3 MILE.& SUBSIST -TV	8,000.00	3,702.18	46.28
2-11-00-211-04	DIV.4 MILE.& SUBSIST-BS	8,000.00	1,504.61	18.81
2-11-00-212-00	REGIST. FEES	10,000.00	4,350.00	43.50
2-11-00-214-00	DIV.5 TRAINING-DW	500.00	47.62	9.52
2-11-00-214-01	DIV.1 TRAINING-EB	500.00	208.70	41.74
2-11-00-214-02	DIV.2 TRAINING-SR	500.00	47.62	9.52
2-11-00-214-03	DIV 3 TRAINING-TV	500.00	47.62	9.52
2-11-00-214-04	DIV 4 TRAINING-BS	500.00	47.62	9.52
2-11-00-274-00	INSURANCE COVERAGES	2,350.00	1,933.00	82.26
2-11-00-275-00	WCB	1,600.00	1,154.43	72.15
2-11-00-277-00	MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTION FEES	240.00	0.00	0.00
2-11-00-500-00	COUNCIL EVENTS	8,000.00	6,687.75	83.60
2-11-00-510-00	COUNCIL MEETING SUPPLIES	8,000.00	4,300.67	53.76
2-11-00-520-00	REP & MAINT-CN COMPUTERS	2,500.00	1,499.00	59.96
2-11-00-990-00	COUNCIL MISC. SUPPLIES	500.00	1,251.02	250.20
* TOTAL Council Expenses		226,690.00	136,767.84	60.33

Admin Expenses



MD OF SPIRIT RIVER #133

Expenses All Operations

General Ledger	Description	2026 YTD Budget	2026 YTD Actual	2026 YTD % Variance
2-12-00-110-02	OFFICE STAFF, SALARY	641,000.00	359,614.13	56.10
2-12-00-110-03	CASUAL LABOUR	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-12-00-131-00	EMPLYR CONT. LAPP	50,000.00	32,568.15	65.14
2-12-00-132-00	EMPLYR CONT.CPP	30,000.00	20,079.07	66.93
2-12-00-133-00	EMPLYR CONT. EI	10,000.00	7,556.48	75.56
2-12-00-135-00	BENEFIT PREMIUMS	36,000.00	22,956.79	63.77
2-12-00-135-01	HSA/WSA SPENDING ACCOUNT	10,000.00	0.00	0.00
2-12-00-135-02	ADMIN FEES HSA/WSA	700.00	596.08	85.15
2-12-00-150-00	ELECTION - SALARIES ONLY	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
2-12-00-200-00	ELECTION -CONTRACT SERVICE	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
2-12-00-211-00	CAO. TRAVEL, SUBSISTENCE & REG	6,500.00	3,129.90	48.15
2-12-00-211-02	OFFICE STAFF TRAVEL,SUBSIS., & REG	4,000.00	0.00	0.00
2-12-00-214-00	CAO- TRAINING	3,000.00	763.05	25.44
2-12-00-214-01	ASSIS MUN. ADMIN TRAINING	0.00	261.90	0.00
2-12-00-214-02	OFFICE STAFF TRAINING	10,000.00	7,743.98	77.44
2-12-00-214-03	BOARD MEMBER TRAINING	750.00	742.64	99.02
2-12-00-215-00	FREIGHT- ADMIN	100.00	141.95	141.95
2-12-00-216-00	POSTAGE - ADMIN	2,500.00	745.72	29.83
2-12-00-217-00	PHONE/FAX/INTERNET-ADMIN	10,500.00	6,121.80	58.30
2-12-00-220-00	OFFICE ADVERTISING	2,500.00	923.00	36.92
2-12-00-220-05	RATEPAYER NEWSLETTER	27,600.00	25,766.90	93.36
2-12-00-230-00	LEGAL AND TAX RECOVERY COSTS	20,000.00	51,032.22	255.16
2-12-00-230-01	ASSESSMENT APPEAL EXPENSES	500.00	0.00	0.00
2-12-00-231-00	ASSESSOR FEES	46,500.00	0.00	0.00
2-12-00-232-00	AUDITOR FEES	24,000.00	15,525.00	64.69
2-12-00-250-00	GROUNDS MAINTENANCE	1,000.00	654.05	65.41
2-12-00-250-01	EQUIP. & COMPUTER - CONTRACTED SERVICES	55,000.00	46,454.27	84.46
2-12-00-250-02	JANITOR-CONTRACTED SERVICES	8,000.00	3,022.38	37.78
2-12-00-274-00	INSURANCE PREMIUMS	25,000.00	22,962.23	91.85
2-12-00-275-00	WCB	8,000.00	5,561.28	69.52
2-12-00-276-00	ASSOCIATION FEES AAMD&C, AUMA, RMA	5,700.00	200.00	3.51
2-12-00-277-00	MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTION FEES	6,000.00	4,328.13	72.14
2-12-00-280-00	ALBERTA LAND TITLES EXPENSES	400.00	175.13	43.78
2-12-00-281-00	TAXES, OFFICE AND HOUSE	3,500.00	3,138.36	89.67
2-12-00-299-00	CONTR. SER. -Paper Shred,Security, D.Van	30,000.00	15,214.21	50.71
2-12-00-299-02	CONTRACTED CONSULTATION SERVICES	90,000.00	21,123.95	23.47
2-12-00-341-00	PURCHASES FROM PROV. GOV. DEPART	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-12-00-450-00	PENNY PHASING OUT ACCOUNT	0.00	0.02	0.00
2-12-00-510-00	PURCHASE OF MISC. GOODS (PUBLIC RELAT	15,000.00	4,394.09	29.29



MD OF SPIRIT RIVER #133

Expenses All Operations

General Ledger	Description	2026 YTD Budget	2026 YTD Actual	2026 YTD % Variance
2-12-00-510-01	CANADA DAY EXPENSES	1,500.00	1,818.40	121.23
2-12-00-510-02	PURCHASE OF GOODS, JANITOR & GROUND SUP	2,000.00	640.00	32.00
2-12-00-510-03	ADMIN COFFEE/LUNCH ROOM SUPPLIES	1,500.00	966.06	64.40
2-12-00-511-00	ELECTION COSTS (PURCHASED GOODS ONLY)	500.00	0.00	0.00
2-12-00-512-00	MEETING SUPPLIES	2,500.00	737.91	29.52
2-12-00-513-00	OFFICE SUPPLIES	15,000.00	6,400.55	42.67
2-12-00-513-01	LEASED OFFICE EQUIPMENT	3,400.00	5,016.66	147.55
2-12-00-514-00	PURCHASE COMPUTER SOFTWARE & ENHANCEMENT	23,850.00	624.65	2.62
2-12-00-515-00	EE IT PURCHASE REPAYMENT PRG	1,500.00	1,298.75	86.58
2-12-00-520-00	PURCHASE OF OFFICE EQUIPMENT	10,000.00	225.21	2.25
2-12-00-520-01	REP. & MAIN.-BUILDING & EQUIP	7,000.00	12,322.12	176.03
2-12-00-520-02	REP. AND MAINT. - M.D. HOUSE	6,000.00	1,130.50	18.84
2-12-00-520-03	REP.& MAIN. - FIRE HALL	500.00	0.00	0.00
2-12-00-520-04	MD HOUSE - UTILITIES	6,500.00	2,334.22	35.91
2-12-00-520-05	FIRE HALL UTILITIES	6,000.00	2,793.91	46.57
2-12-00-521-01	CLOTHING ALLOWANCE	500.00	0.00	0.00
2-12-00-541-00	ADMIN - NATURAL GAS	4,000.00	1,609.56	40.24
2-12-00-542-00	ADMIN - POWER	10,000.00	4,583.69	45.84
2-12-00-543-00	ADMIN - WATER / SEWER / GARBAGE	1,500.00	732.96	48.86
2-12-00-544-00	BROWNLEE REP & MAINT	5,000.00	1,719.83	34.40
2-12-00-544-01	BROWNLEE UTILITIES	2,000.00	1,184.00	59.20
2-12-00-544-02	BROWNLEE JANITORIAL & SUPPLIES	250.00	1,176.67	470.67
2-12-00-544-03	BROWNLEE WATER & SEWER	200.00	0.00	0.00
2-12-00-710-00	DONATIONS TO LOCAL GROUPS & ORGS.	11,000.00	7,390.93	67.19
2-12-00-720-00	DONATIONS TO ORGANIZATIONS	3,000.00	657.14	21.90
2-12-00-810-00	BANK CHRGS & INTEREST CHARGES	3,000.00	1,852.58	61.75
2-12-00-815-00	ADMIN - BANK CHARGES FOR DEBIT MACHINE	2,050.00	0.00	0.00
2-12-00-820-00	INVESTMENT EXPENSES	10,000.00	0.00	0.00
2-12-00-990-00	TAX CANCELLATIONS	0.00	0.00	0.00
* TOTAL Admin Expenses		1,326,000.00	740,713.16	55.86
PW Expenses				
2-32-00-110-01	WAGES	638,000.00	386,402.71	60.56
2-32-00-131-00	ER CONT. L.APP	57,000.00	31,378.79	55.05
2-32-00-132-00	ER CONT.- CPP	30,000.00	15,798.12	52.66
2-32-00-133-00	ER CONT.- EI	10,400.00	8,768.50	84.31
2-32-00-135-00	BENEFITS PREMIUMS	36,000.00	21,253.13	59.04



MD OF SPIRIT RIVER #133

Expenses All Operations

General Ledger	Description	2026 YTD Budget	2026 YTD Actual	2026 YTD % Variance
2-32-00-135-01	HSA/WSA/SPENDING ACCT	9,000.00	0.00	0.00
2-32-00-135-02	ADMIN FEES HSA/WSA	900.00	504.30	56.03
2-32-00-211-00	SUPERVISOR TRAINING & TRAVEL	5,000.00	2,192.56	43.85
2-32-00-211-01	STAFF TRAINING & TRAVEL	1,500.00	186.51	12.43
2-32-00-214-01	EMPLOYEES - INSERVICE TRAINING	500.00	0.00	0.00
2-32-00-215-00	FREIGHT	100.00	0.00	0.00
2-32-00-217-00	TELEPHONE CHARGES	4,600.00	4,861.76	105.69
2-32-00-220-00	ADVERTISING	250.00	0.00	0.00
2-32-00-230-00	ENGINEERING FEES, SURVEY & LEGAL COSTS -	10,000.00	810.55	8.11
2-32-00-230-01	ENGINEERING FEES - BRIDGE INSPECTIONS	6,000.00	7,600.00	126.67
2-32-00-250-00	CONTRACTED SERVICES - FLEET TRACKER	9,000.00	4,726.55	52.52
2-32-00-250-01	OFFICE EQUIPMENT & COMPUTERS	1,500.00	2,326.98	155.13
2-32-00-250-02	JANITORIAL SERVICES AND SUPPLIES	2,500.00	350.80	14.03
2-32-00-251-01	HIRED EQUIPMENT - GENERAL	50,000.00	15,852.60	31.71
2-32-00-251-02	CONTRACTED PROJECTS - ROADS	70,000.00	0.00	0.00
2-32-00-251-04	CONTR. PRJTS- LINE PAINTING & SEALING	35,000.00	0.00	0.00
2-32-00-251-05	CONTRACTS - CN RAIL CROSSING UPGRADE	75,000.00	0.00	0.00
2-32-00-251-06	CONTRACTED EQUIPMENT REPAIRS	60,000.00	31,599.82	52.67
2-32-00-252-01	CONTRACTED PROJECTS- DRAINAGE PROJECTS	10,000.00	0.00	0.00
2-32-00-252-02	HIRED EQUIPMENT - BRIDGES	30,000.00	0.00	0.00
2-32-00-260-00	BRIDGE ENGINEERING	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-32-00-261-00	CONTRACTED PROJECTS - BRIDGES	0.00	12,725.00	0.00
2-32-00-274-00	INSURANCE PREMIUMS	35,000.00	34,466.05	98.47
2-32-00-275-00	WCB COMPENSATION COVERAGE	7,800.00	5,839.93	74.87
2-32-00-277-00	MEMBERSHIP FEES	1,000.00	800.00	80.00
2-32-00-278-00	LICENSES,REGISTRATION, DRIVERS ABSTRACT	1,200.00	271.90	22.66
2-32-00-410-00	REPAIRS - DAMAGE CAUSED	1,000.00	4,832.61	483.26
2-32-00-414-00	ROADATA EQUIP. MOVES	6,250.00	1,999.00	31.98
2-32-00-510-00	OFFICE SUP/ COFFEE SUP.& PUB. REL.	2,000.00	3,761.18	188.06
2-32-00-510-02	CULVERTS	48,000.00	5,958.02	12.41
2-32-00-510-03	BLADES, PICKS	55,000.00	2,090.38	3.80
2-32-00-510-04	SIGNS	12,000.00	918.23	7.65
2-32-00-511-01	ROAD SAND COSTS	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
2-32-00-511-04	RIP RAP PURCHASES	7,500.00	2,500.00	33.33
2-32-00-512-00	FUEL AND OIL	250,000.00	148,486.16	59.39
2-32-00-513-00	DUST CONTROL PRODUCTS	130,000.00	116,847.42	89.88



MD OF SPIRIT RIVER #133

Expenses All Operations

General Ledger	Description	2026 YTD Budget	2026 YTD Actual	2026 YTD % Variance
2-32-00-513-01	GRAVEL STOCKPILE PROJECT & EXPLORATION	630,000.00	0.00	0.00
2-32-00-514-00	PURCHASE OF GOODS - OTHER(EASEMENT, ROAD	1,500.00	400.00	26.67
2-32-00-515-01	TIRE REPAIRS & PURCHASES	30,000.00	3,468.94	11.56
2-32-00-519-00	SHOP SUPPLIES	6,000.00	4,330.38	72.17
2-32-00-520-00	REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE - GENERAL	95,000.00	77,986.60	82.09
2-32-00-520-01	REP & MAINT - BUILDINGS	10,000.00	1,531.25	15.31
2-32-00-520-21	REP & MAINT- ACETYLENE & OXYGEN SET	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
2-32-00-522-00	PUBLIC WORKS - TOOLS	3,000.00	0.00	0.00
2-32-00-523-00	RENTAL EQUIPMENT & REPAIRS	500.00	230.54	46.11
2-32-00-541-00	PUBLIC WORKS - NATURAL GAS	5,000.00	2,391.79	47.84
2-32-00-542-00	PUBLIC WORKS - POWER	7,200.00	3,450.10	47.92
2-32-00-543-00	PUBLIC WORKS - WATER/SEWER/GARBAGE	7,200.00	1,896.27	26.34
2-32-00-600-00	LOSS ON DISPOSAL OF P/W ASSETS	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-32-00-750-02	TRANSFER TO LOCAL GOVT - S.R. AIRPORT	5,000.00	5,000.00	100.00
2-32-00-810-00	INTEREST CHRGS & LATE FEES	0.00	47.61	0.00
* TOTAL PW Expenses		2,511,400.00	976,843.04	38.90
Fire Expenses				
2-23-00-750-00	TRSF TO OTHER LOCAL GOV.	205,000.00	202,183.20	98.63
2-24-00-300-00	PURCHASES FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS	8,500.00	76,867.70	904.33
* TOTAL Fire Expenses		213,500.00	279,050.90	130.70
Transit Expenses				
2-50-00-110-00	TRANSIT WAGES	44,000.00	18,453.43	41.94
2-50-00-131-00	EMPLOYERS LAPP	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-50-00-132-00	EMPLOYERS CONT. CPP	2,500.00	1,012.55	40.50
2-50-00-133-00	EMPLOYERS CONTR. EI	1,000.00	421.10	42.11
2-50-00-135-00	BENEFIT PREMIUMS	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-50-00-217-00	TRANSIT - MOBILE CELL	750.00	504.96	67.33
2-50-00-250-01	FLEET TRACKER/COMP. PRGS	480.00	119.00	24.79
2-50-00-274-00	INSURANCE	2,500.00	2,020.37	80.81
2-50-00-275-00	TRANSIT- WCB	620.00	269.41	43.45
2-50-00-280-00	LICENSES AND PERMITS	100.00	0.00	0.00
2-50-00-512-00	FUEL AND OIL	12,000.00	5,260.91	43.84
2-50-00-513-00	TRANSIT-MISC SUPPLIES	3,000.00	35.00	1.17



MD OF SPIRIT RIVER #133

Expenses All Operations

General Ledger	Description	2026 YTD Budget	2026 YTD Actual	2026 YTD % Variance
2-50-00-515-01	TIRE REPAIRS	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
2-50-00-520-00	REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE	2,000.00	1,333.42	66.67
2-50-00-651-00	AMORT - TRANSIT BUS	0.00	0.00	0.00
* TOTAL Transit Expenses		69,950.00	29,430.15	42.07
Medical Clinic Expenses				
2-53-00-250-00	CPMSC MUNICIPAL REQUISITION	8,000.00	22,949.12	286.86
* TOTAL Medical Clinic Expenses		8,000.00	22,949.12	286.86
Cemeteries Expenses				
2-56-00-520-00	MUNICIPAL CEMETERY - MAINTENANCE	3,000.00	0.00	0.00
2-56-00-520-01	Site Repairs - Ratepayers	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
2-56-00-710-00	CAPITAL FUNDING FOR CEMETARIES	1,200.00	0.00	0.00
2-56-00-762-00	CEMETERY OPERATING FUNDS	6,800.00	6,800.00	100.00
* TOTAL Cemeteries Expenses		12,000.00	6,800.00	56.67
Development Expenses				
2-60-00-162-00	DEVELOPMENT OFFICER TRAVEL	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-60-00-230-00	LEGAL - SUB., LAND, & DEVELOPMENT	5,000.00	10,182.40	203.65
2-60-00-214-00	TRAINING	0.00	2,867.37	0.00
2-60-00-250-00	CONTRACTED SERVICES	85,000.00	71,015.49	83.55
2-60-00-277-00	MEMBERSHIP FEES	0.00	150.00	0.00
2-60-00-510-00	PLANNING - SUPPLIES AND GOODS	0.00	3,690.00	0.00
* TOTAL Development Expenses		90,000.00	87,905.26	97.67
ASB Expenses				
2-61-00-110-00	SALARY AND WAGES	76,000.00	47,929.28	63.06
2-61-00-110-01	SUMMER STAFF WAGES	85,000.00	40,471.10	47.61
2-61-00-130-00	FIELDMAN BENEFITS	3,500.00	1,816.75	51.91
2-61-00-131-00	ER- CONTRIBUTION L.A.P.	6,000.00	4,535.22	75.59
2-61-00-132-00	ER - CONTR. C.P.P.	3,500.00	4,192.82	119.79
2-61-00-133-00	ER - CONTRIBUTION, E.I.	1,100.00	2,121.83	192.89
2-61-00-135-01	HSA/WSA SPENDING ACCT	1,500.00	0.00	0.00
2-61-00-135-02	ADMIN FEES HSA/WSA	150.00	150.00	100.00
2-61-00-151-01	COUNCIL MEMBER EXPENSES (2)	7,500.00	0.00	0.00
2-61-00-211-00	FIELDMAN EXPENSES	15,000.00	3,589.51	23.93



MD OF SPIRIT RIVER #133

Expenses All Operations

General Ledger	Description	2026 YTD Budget	2026 YTD Actual	2026 YTD % Variance
2-61-00-211-01	MILEAGE&SUBSIST. COUNCIL (2)	2,000.00	383.04	19.15
2-61-00-211-02	MILEAGE&SUBSIST. MEMBER AT LARGE(5)	5,000.00	514.97	10.30
2-61-00-213-01	MEMBER AT LARGE .EXPENSES (5)	7,900.00	1,637.49	20.73
2-61-00-214-02	INSPECTORS TRAINING	1,500.00	247.62	16.51
2-61-00-215-00	FREIGHT	100.00	0.00	0.00
2-61-00-216-00	POSTAGE	100.00	0.00	0.00
2-61-00-217-00	TELEPHONE / FAX	1,000.00	955.25	95.53
2-61-00-217-01	NATURAL GAS	1,000.00	422.08	42.21
2-61-00-217-02	POWER	1,100.00	478.72	43.52
2-61-00-217-03	WATER / SEWER / GARBAGE	300.00	0.00	0.00
2-61-00-217-04	OFFICE SUPPLIES	1,200.00	249.74	20.81
2-61-00-218-00	V.S.I. CONTRIBUTIONS	12,000.00	12,100.00	100.83
2-61-00-220-00	ADVERTISING	200.00	0.00	0.00
2-61-00-235-00	LEGAL FEES	1,500.00	0.00	0.00
2-61-00-250-00	OFFICE EQUIPMENT & COMPUTERS	500.00	1,215.30	243.06
2-61-00-250-01	CONT. SER. - FLEET TRACKER	650.00	285.60	43.94
2-61-00-251-00	HIRED EQUIPMEN	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
2-61-00-251-02	CONTRACTED SERVICES	5,000.00	2,000.00	40.00
2-61-00-274-00	INSURANCE	6,000.00	4,876.53	81.28
2-61-00-275-00	WCB	2,000.00	1,357.58	67.88
2-61-00-278-00	VEHICLE LICENSES & PERMITS	210.00	0.00	0.00
2-61-00-510-00	MISC. GOODS/PUBLIC REL	1,000.00	581.07	58.11
2-61-00-512-00	FUEL AND OIL	20,000.00	5,677.19	28.39
2-61-00-518-00	VEHICLE & EQUIPMENT REPAIRS	20,000.00	11,419.18	57.10
2-61-00-519-00	REP & MAINT BLDGS	500.00	0.00	0.00
2-61-00-520-00	REP & MAINT. TIRES & SUPPLIES	5,000.00	0.00	0.00
2-61-00-521-00	CHEMICAL PURCHASES	20,000.00	15,321.05	76.61
2-61-00-521-01	PEST CONTROL PURCHASES	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
2-61-00-522-00	TOOLS	1,800.00	363.73	20.21
2-61-00-523-00	EXTENSION PROGRAM-SUPPLIES	1,500.00	111.15	7.41
2-61-00-533-00	ROADSIDE SEEDING COSTS	1,000.00	680.00	68.00
2-61-00-601-00	SHELTERBELT PROGRAM	0.00	672.25	0.00
2-61-00-720-00	CONTR. INDIVIDUALS & ORGS	8,000.00	8,864.50	110.81
2-61-00-810-00	INTEREST CHARGES & BANK FEES	50.00	0.00	0.00
* TOTAL ASB Expenses		329,360.00	175,220.55	53.20

Economic Development Expenses

2-62-00-110-00	ED WAGES	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-62-00-131-00	ED LAPP	0.00	0.00	0.00



MD OF SPIRIT RIVER #133

Expenses All Operations

General Ledger	Description	2026 YTD Budget	2026 YTD Actual	2026 YTD % Variance
2-62-00-132-00	ED. CPP	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-62-00-133-00	ED. EI	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-62-00-135-00	ED BENEFITS	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-62-00-211-00	ED - TRAVEL, SUBSISTENCE & REGISTR	3,000.00	410.76	13.69
2-62-00-212-00	ED - INSERVICE TRAINING	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-62-00-250-00	ED - LEGAL SERVICES	3,000.00	7,257.81	241.93
2-62-00-275-00	ED - WCB	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-62-00-277-00	ED - ASSOC. & MEMBERSHIP FEES	650.00	0.00	0.00
2-62-00-299-01	ED CONTR. SERVICES	21,800.00	32,561.00	149.36
2-62-00-510-00	ED - PURCHASE OF SUPPLIES & GOODS	500.00	150.38	30.08
2-62-00-530-00	PROMOTIONAL ITEMS	2,000.00	4,804.40	240.22
2-62-00-710-00	SECURITY PROGRAM	0.00	0.00	0.00
* TOTAL Economic Development Exp		30,950.00	45,184.35	145.99
Parks & Recreation Expenses				
2-72-00-520-00	REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE-PARKS	5,000.00	0.00	0.00
2-72-00-720-00	RECREATION - GRANTS IND.& ORG - MSI Oper	24,000.00	24,000.00	100.00
* TOTAL Parks & Recreation Expen		29,000.00	24,000.00	82.76
Nardam/Culture Expenses				
2-73-00-110-01	NARDAM WAGES	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-73-00-132-00	NARDAM CPP	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-73-00-133-00	NARDAM EI	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-73-00-217-00	INTERNET/COMMUNICATION	0.00	251.62	0.00
2-73-00-220-00	NARDAM ADVERTISING	300.00	0.00	0.00
2-73-00-274-00	NARDAM INSURANCE	1,500.00	1,360.13	90.68
2-73-00-275-00	NARDAM WCB	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-73-00-513-00	NARDAM SUPPLIES	1,000.00	442.55	44.26
2-73-00-514-00	CAMP GROUND - REPAIR & MAINTENANCE	25,000.00	7,796.00	31.18
2-73-00-520-00	BUILDING MAINTENANCE	500.00	0.00	0.00
2-73-00-542-00	NARDAM POWER	8,000.00	2,890.92	36.14
2-73-00-543-00	NARDAM WASTE REMOVAL	5,000.00	419.05	8.38
2-74-00-710-00	CULTURE - TRANSFERS TO LOCAL BOARDS & AG	9,100.00	9,100.00	100.00
2-74-00-710-01	PEACE LIBRARY SYSTEM PAYMENTS	7,000.00	6,848.00	97.83
* TOTAL Nardam/Culture Expenses		57,400.00	29,108.27	50.71



MD OF SPIRIT RIVER #133

Expenses All Operations

22 Page 9 of 9
2026-Aug-4
2:52:53PM

General Ledger	Description	2026 YTD Budget	2026 YTD Actual	2026 YTD % Variance
Health & Safety Expenses				
2-63-00-110-00	WAGES	25,000.00	9,617.24	38.47
2-63-00-130-00	ER CONT. BENEFITS	1,000.00	501.12	50.11
2-63-00-131-00	ER CONT. LAPP	3,000.00	799.29	26.64
2-63-00-132-00	ER CONT. CPP	1,200.00	554.32	46.19
2-63-00-133-00	ER CONT. EI	400.00	219.43	54.86
2-63-00-211-00	TRAVEL & SUBSISTANCE	1,500.00	0.00	0.00
2-63-00-214-00	AUDITOR TRAINING	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-63-00-214-02	STAFF TRAINING/MEETINGS	3,000.00	174.60	5.82
2-63-00-217-04	SAFETY SUPPLIES	7,500.00	1,347.55	17.97
2-63-00-250-00	SAFETY COMPUTER PROGRAMS	3,500.00	3,435.05	98.14
2-63-00-275-00	WCB	325.00	140.40	43.20
2-63-00-512-00	FUEL	0.00	0.00	0.00
* TOTAL Health & Safety Expenses		46,425.00	16,789.00	36.16

*** End of Report ***

Reporting Period: July 8th - August 8th , 2026

Daycare Development Project

The Development permit has officially been approved by the Town of Spirit River for the proposed Regional Daycare Project. Special recognition to Monty Bremont for her unwavering efforts in **Multiple** grant writing processes and ongoing communications with different levels of government officials regarding project details and funding. Supported by the Reeve, past Council members and current Council member commitment to regional residents, this project extends far beyond standard childcare. It serves as a vital economic driver-improving local workforce retention and recruitment, attracting new families to the area, and encouraging regional investment. Communication with the GOA is ongoing, will provide further update as things progress.

Welcome to Keir Gervais, CAO for the Town of Spirit River:

I have dedicated some time over the past few weeks to connecting with Keir, sharing insight and introducing connections and stakeholders to ensure a seamless transition, Keir brings a wealth of municipal knowledge to the role, Administration is looking forward to connecting and developing a solid relationship with him and are excited for this new chapter for our municipalities to collaborate and work together on potential opportunities as they arise.

Organizational Meeting - Proposed date: October 28th- seeking feedback from Council on proposed date.

MD Resident and Seniors Appreciation B.B.Q

Thank you so much to Staff and Council for all their help with the resident BBQ on July 23rd. Big thanks to Public Works and Ag department for organizing the set up and ensuring seasonal staff had the grounds looking fantastic. And to the Admin staff for everything you contributed to make the day special for our community - the event was an absolute hit and the feedback from residents was very positive. I appreciate your hard work on this event.

Note Re Expense Sheets – Friendly reminder to please ensure all submitted expense forms include the full name and a brief description of the specific event or meeting attended (e.g., committee meeting, regional conference, community function). Event details are required for processing and statutory disclosure compliance.

Alberta Forestry Wildfire Invoice (GMD-004-24)

The Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 received a formal "Demand for reimbursement" from the Government of Alberta's Department of Forestry and Parks. The province is seeking cost-recovery for mutual aid assistance provided during Wildfire GMD-004-24 on August 24, 2024 (Location: 08-08-078-4-W6M). The Invoice Amount is \$76,867.70 and was Issued pursuant to Section 6 of the *Forest and Prairie Protection Act* and the 2024 Mutual Aid Fire Control Plan.

Follow up - Contact with Forestry Operation has been ongoing, because this invoice was only recently issued and received by our administration, we were unable to initiate or apply within the standard MWAP program timelines following the incident. Given these unique circumstances and the delayed billing, our Protective Services and Fire Department management have indicated that these expenses would otherwise meet the criteria for MWAP support. I have continually reached out to differing levels of government to confirm if the province will allow a retroactive application through the HARP program in this scenario so that we may potentially recover up to 75% of these emergency costs. We compiled the necessary supporting documentation, including the final invoice and a detailed expense breakdown from our Fire Chief and a drafted Letter of Intent to apply. We were advised by Shawn Barraclough Executive Director, Forestry Operations to refer our request to AEMA for review and initial discussion. **I received a response from Mike Kingsbury RPFT - Wildfire Prevention Officer - Grande Prairie Forest Area, Forestry and Parks:**

Hi Shirley,

I am currently dealing with a lady by the name of Brenda [REDACTED]. I have reached out to her a few times this week (regarding some other files) as well as this one, I plan to contact her again next week so I will get her to call you regarding this file.

I will continue to follow up and will provide updates as they are available.

Central Peace Fire and Rescue Commission

The Commission meeting was cancelled June/ July with the next meeting scheduled for August 13th. No status updates regarding Fire Hall design plan currently.

IT and Cybersecurity Upgrade

Trevor Matkowski from InfoTech visited the admin office last week to complete an inventory of our IT room and assess our equipment and operational needs. InfoTech is currently compiling their findings, which will help guide future hardware upgrades, system security enhancements, and long-term IT budget planning.

Cenera - Policy Compliance and Governance Update

Administration is currently collaborating with access and privacy experts at Cenera to draft and customize a comprehensive municipal policy framework. The primary goal of this project is ensuring absolute compliance with Alberta's governing provincial legislation—the *Access to Information Act* (ATIA) and the *Protection of Privacy Act* (POPA).

As drafting has progressed, it has become evident that compliance under ATIA/POPA requires a significantly more advanced operational framework than initially anticipated.

Rather than a simple set-and-forget policy, the legislation mandates an active, ongoing **Privacy Management Program**. This introduces significant administrative care and long-term maintenance obligations, including:

Mandatory Privacy Impact Assessments (PIAs): Required prior to launching new municipal programs, software, or digital services handling sensitive personal data.

Proactive Breach Protocols: Formalized reporting mechanisms to detect, contain, and report potential privacy breaches.

Data Classification & Information Inventories: Ongoing tracking and categorization of how municipal records are collected, stored, and disposed of.

Continuous Staff Training: Routine onboarding and refresher training to ensure day-to-day administrative adherence across all departments.

Administration will keep Council informed as Cenera finalizing these deliverables , schedule training sessions as implementation schedules are established.

MD Road Tour

The recent municipal road tour on was successful, allowing Council to conduct on-site evaluations of key infrastructure challenges across the municipality. The primary items observed and brought forward by residents included but not limited to:

Reviewed access concerns at residential property where a single rail crossing approach is frequently blocked by railway cars, posing services access issues.

Inspected a intersection approach; Safety concerns were noted regarding winter conditions, icing, and the hazards posed for school bus routes and residential traffic. Identified several approach crossing locations requiring structural review or maintenance following resident inquiries. Erosion & Washouts; Evaluated severe road erosion in two locations where adjacent steep riverbanks may impact road stability and require remediation. Discussion around applying for grant funding and the challenges of meeting STIP funding requirements. Drainage & Roadway Stability; Inspected ongoing soft spots across the road network and assessed culverts to ensure proper water management.

Council Motions & Workload Status: Reached Motion #360 mid-way through the year. A substantial amount of administrative and operational work has been completed to date. Sincere recognition is extended to all dedicated staff members whose hard work is evident in maintaining this pace. Active legal files and follow-ups are progressing. (Specific legal details maintained in a separate confidential update).

G5 Municipalities Meeting (July 8)

TOPIC 1 - Health Complex Outlook: The Future of Central Peace Healthcare

The first half of the meeting focused heavily on the future of local medical services.

Ryan Squires, Director of the Central Peace Health Complex, provided an extensive update on the facility's operations and the broader outlook for healthcare delivery in the region.

Squires spoke candidly about the ongoing operational hurdles rural healthcare facilities face, particularly regarding staffing pressures and resource allocation. However, he emphasized that the strength of the region lies within its collaborative identity, describing the surrounding municipalities not just as separate towns, but collectively as a unified "healthcare community."

We are a health care community - Squires noted, highlighting that there are approximately **120 healthcare workers** operating within the Spirit River area alone.

He stressed that maintaining the long-term viability of the Central Peace Health Complex relies on the community's continued support to keep these vital workers rooted in the region. Local healthcare foundations and municipal partnerships remain central to addressing staffing challenges by advocating for rural retention programs and facility upgrades.

Topic 2 - Strategic Unity: Western Sky Land Trust on Regional Growth

The second half of the meeting shifted the focus to long-term community development, the second half of the meeting featured **Max Fritz, Executive Director of the Western Sky Land Trust**. Fritz shared insights into how municipalities like the G5—a partnership model consisting of the MD of Spirit River, Town of Spirit River, Village of Rycroft, Birch Hills County and Saddle Hills County can work together strategically to elevate the quality of life for their residents.



Fritz focused on the power of community-minded, collaborative frameworks. Drawing from the ethos of land trusts and strategic regional groups, he explained that when neighboring municipalities align their environmental, agricultural, and infrastructural goals, they unlock far greater bargaining power and resource efficiency.

Key Takeaways from Fritz's G5 Address:

Rural communities thrive when they stop competing for individual pieces of funding and the duplication of key services for the area and instead present unified, multi-municipal initiatives to provincial bodies. Preserving Local Heritage; Strategic planning isn't just about development; it's about safeguarding natural landscapes, watersheds, and agricultural assets and encouraging a collaborative quality of life. The meeting concluded with G5 leadership discussing internal updates and welcoming the New CAO for the Town of Spirit River, Kier Gervais.

Part 2. Strategic Planning - Max Fritz, Western Sky Land Trust**Full day and a Half Day session: July 9th and 10th**

Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 Council and members of Administration convened for a two-day strategic planning session on July 9th and 10th, 2026. Led by facilitator Max Fritz of the Western Sky Land Trust, the sessions focused on a powerful conviction: rural municipalities are stronger, more resilient, and more economically viable when they build the future together by collaborating with their neighbors. Council and administration drafted notes for a future blueprint for long-term viability, focusing heavily on industrial growth, community readiness, and attraction of working professionals and families.

Tour of the Central Peace Water project

On July 8th, Saddle Hills County organized a tour of the Central Peace Water project. The tour included on-site inspection to showcase key infrastructure developments across the region. Peace River Intake Progress; Construction along the Peace River intake site continues to advance, including river trestle/cofferdam works, site grading, and pumping station infrastructure. Progress remains steady on raw water reservoir, site preparation designed to secure long-term raw water storage for the region.



Alberta Councillor Code of Conduct Framework Review:

The Government of Alberta (Municipal Affairs) is currently reviewing the statutory framework governing Councillor Codes of Conduct under the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA) and is actively seeking feedback and input from municipalities. This provincial engagement focuses on evaluating existing code of conduct requirements, complaint mechanisms, enforcement processes, and sanction structures to ensure accountability while addressing common municipal operational challenges. Links to enter feedback can be found on the GOA and RMA websites.

Upcoming Meetings:

1. **Central Peace Fire and Rescue Meeting August 13th @ 4 p.m.**

2. **RMA DISTRICT FOUR ZONE MEETING**

RMA District Four Zone Meeting - Friday, August 14th, 2026- Pioneer Threshman's Hall
(located 14km west of High Prairie)

3. **South Peace Regional Archives – August 20th 4 -6 p.m.**

4. **Alberta Sheriffs Police Service Presentation**

Confirmed Date: Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 9:00 a.m. In-person at the Regular MD Council Meeting. Attendees are:

Brian Kostyniuk: Executive Officer (former Acting Staff Sergeant / Resource Officer with the Calgary Police Service). **Satpal Parhar:** Chief / Chief of Police, Alberta Sheriffs Police Service (and former Deputy Chief of the Calgary Police Service).

5. **R360 Delegation -**

Ongoing collaboration with the R360 delegation; confirmed attendance by Grant Roswell Site Manager , GP Area Landfills or the September 23rd, 2026 Council meeting.

[View this email in your browser](#)



Mighty Peace
Watershed Alliance
Diverse, Responsible, Connected



Summer Has Arrived!

With summer in full swing, the team at MPWA has been busy continuing our vision of a healthy, sustainable watershed that supports our social, environmental, and economic objectives in the first half of 2026.

Projects

State of the Watershed Update

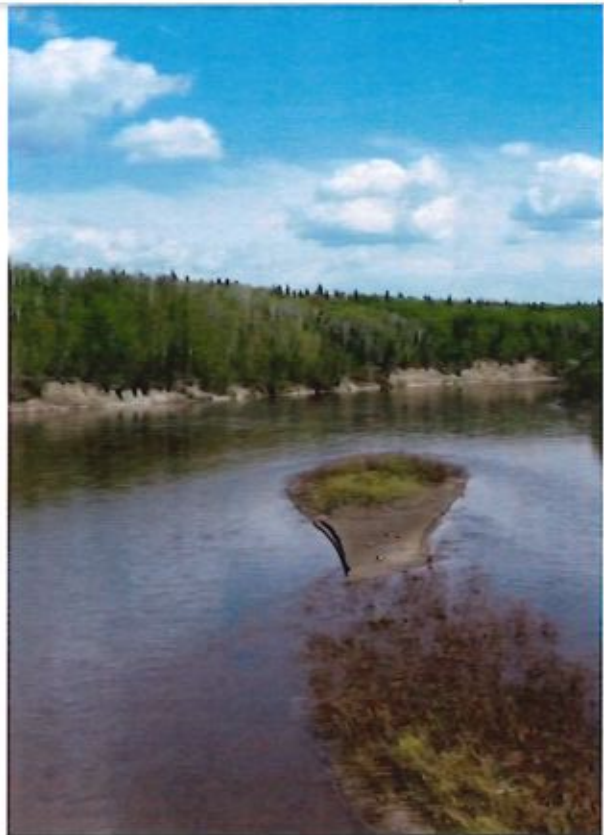
report to be completed in March 2027. The consultant hired to aid in the data collection and analysis provided the steering committee with the updated technical report. The committee is working to make sense of what is happening on the landscape. Concerns, conversations, and information are being collected from the community through Indigenous and public engagement events. Hearing different perspectives and experiences from people impacted by the state of the watershed is extremely valuable when discerning the changes in the watershed. If you have resources or information that may be relevant to the State of the Watershed report please contact us.

Exciting News!

The next State of the Watershed report will include data from the BC side of the Peace Watershed. Most of the headwaters of the Peace watershed are in BC, and we now are able to include this side of the Peace in our SoW analysis. We would like to thank the Government of Alberta (Alberta Environment and Protected Areas) and Canada Water Agency (Mackenzie Freshwater Ecosystem Initiative) for their support.

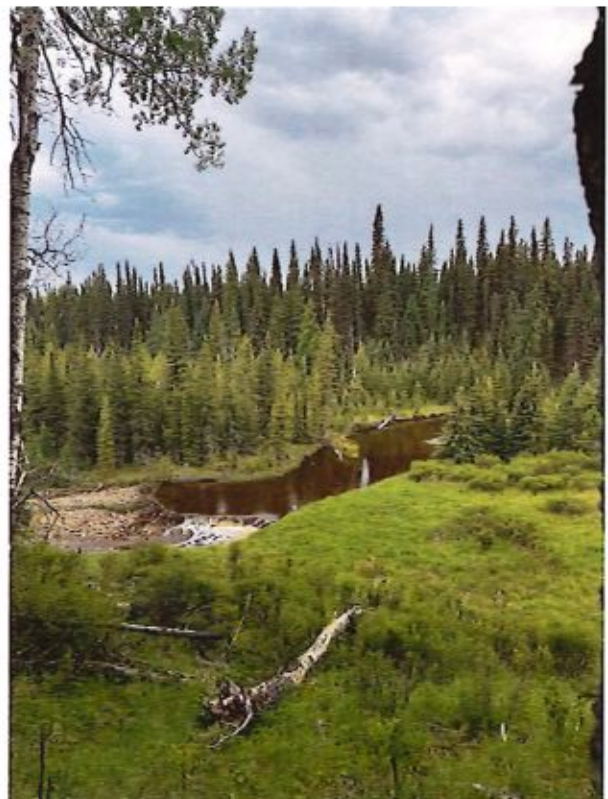
Tallcree First Nation Water Monitoring

MPWA has been working with Tallcree First Nation on a plan to monitor and protect their vital water source for the South Tallcree Community (Tallcree I.R. 173), which is the Wabasca River. This spring, MPWA installed two sondes within the Wabasca River which will monitor general water quality parameters. The Wabasca Sub-watershed is the largest sub-basin of the Peace River watershed in Alberta. To understand risks to drinking water we need to know what is happening on the landscape, the human footprint, as well as the water quality. Future work may include risk assessment analysis



Temperature Loggers in Smoky Headwaters

In June, MPWA went into the field and installed temperature loggers in the headwaters of the Smoky River in the Kakwa area as part of the Smoky Headwaters Initiative. The loggers will continuously monitor changes in temperature caused by canopy cover. We also observed increased sediment loading due to road crossings. In 2022, this project aimed to reduce threats to native cold water fish like the Arctic Grayling (*Thymallus arcticus*) and the Bull Trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) as these fish need cool waters. MPWA went to the sites to check in on



3 new beaver dams since the last time we visited this area - the beavers are busy this year!

Project with MacEwan University

In the winter months of 2026, Adam Norris (MPWA Watershed Coordinator) guided a group of students working towards their Bachelor of Science at Grant MacEwan University in Edmonton through a Work - Integrated - Learning Project. The students analyzed the potential environmental effects of Bill 7 (The Water Amendment Act) which merges management of the Peace River and Athabasca River. Various subjects were covered like water use in industry, the increased risk of whirling disease, and risks for fish species like the Athabasca Rainbow Trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and Northern Pikeminnow (*Ptychocheilus oregonensis*).

New Staff

Hello! I am Michaela Regimbald and I am working with the MPWA as the Watershed Steward until the Fall. I just graduated with my BSc in Biology from MacEwan University. I am very happy to be here in the Peace Region, exploring its beauty, and spreading information about the watershed. If you see me around the watershed - please say hi!



Outreach

Wetland Centre

In June, MPWA collaborated with Ducks Unlimited and had 40+ youth from GP Christian school out to the Boreal Wetland Centre to learn about the watershed, wetlands, and aquatic insects. With a plant - ID scavenger hunt, various science stations, and a sunny day - the day was a success!



Beaverlodge High School

Riparian Tour

In May, MPWA manned one of seven stations at Hommy Park, where students from Beaverlodge and La Glace rotated through. We talked about water quality, watershed influences and human activity. Teaming up with the County of Grande Prairie, Montrose Environmental, Alberta Conservation Association, Peace Airshed Zone Association and AgroForestry Woodlot Extension Society allowed us to provide well-rounded learning for a lot of students along the banks of the Beaverlodge River.



Walk Through the Forest

This event has been held at the Boreal Wetland Centre for the last several years and is headed up by Grande Prairie and Area Environmental

schools and move between stations, of which there are many. About 700 students participated this year! We had the pleasure of talking about peat, peatlands and their role in the Peace and Slave Watersheds.



AGM 2026

Thanks to everyone who came out to our AGM on June 15th held in Peace River! We welcomed members and new board members, saw familiar faces, and shared our most recent updates on the State of the Watershed. Conversations took place about what the community would like to see included in the report. A special thanks to our three speakers who presented:



Barbara Berger (Human Footprint Interpreter) and Scott Vetger (Human Footprint Lead) from the **Alberta Biodiversity Institute (ABMI)** who presented the Human Footprint Overview and methodology which we are using in the SoW.

Director) from the **Alberta Lake Management Society (ALMS)** who discussed Trends in Lake Water Quality in Alberta and the research at ALMS.

Manager from **Bigstone Cree Nation** who discussed the Wabasca Area Source Water Protection Plan - by Looking Back at the process of the project.

Events

MPWA Watershed Exhibit

MPWA is working on an exhibit named "Journey Through the Peace" which will provide educational and informational displays and will be set up this Fall. While the exhibit is on display in the Peace River library, it will be complemented by a large quilted wall-hanging made by the talented Peacemakers Quilt Guild which will depict the entire Peace Watershed - be sure to come take a look!



Take a Journey Through the Peace MPWA Watershed Exhibit

Come and learn about *your* watershed that you live, breathe, and play in!

Key Features:

- Updates on State of Watershed
- Educational and Informational posters
- Beaver dam model & Beaver scavenger hunt
- Quilted wall - hanging by the Peacemakers Quilt Guild



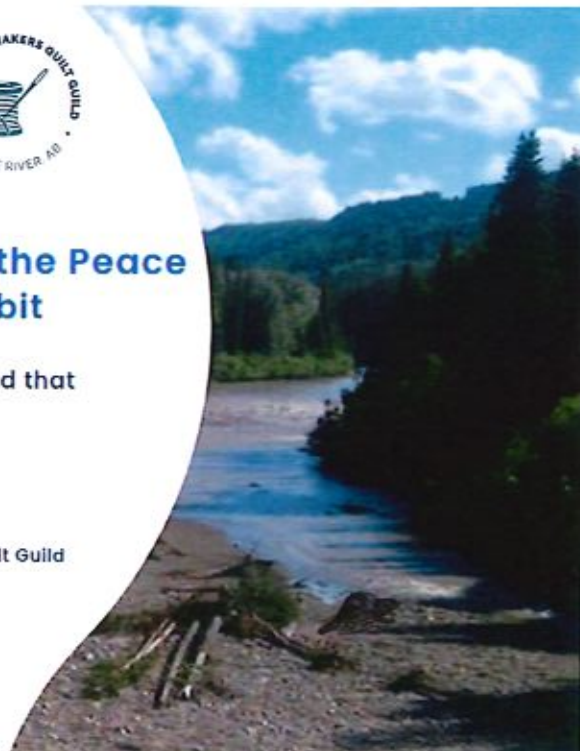
Formal Launch Event September 12th, 2026



Peace River Library



September 1st-28th, 2026



MPWA in the watershed

The MPWA will be at the following events:

- Peace River Brigade - Voyager Canoe Expedition - July 9th, 2026
- MD of Spirit River Annual Ratepayers BBQ & Seniors Appreciation Day - July 23, 2026
- PCBFA Field Day at the Research Farm - July 25th, 2026
- Paddle the Peace at Strong Creek - August 15th, 2026

Have other events?

MPWA often provides adult educational presentations, informational booths, as well as youth activities. If you have a community event that would like MPWA to attend.

Please reach out to projectcoordinator@mpwa.ca

News

• **Bill 7; Water Amendment Act**

Bill 7 was introduced to amend the Water Act, and received royal assent December 11, 2025. Notable changes include changes to water licensing, enhanced information on water use, and the amalgamation of the Peace and Athabasca watersheds. [See the Government of Alberta news release here.](#)

• **Whirling Disease in the Athabasca Watershed**

In late May, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CIFA) identified the Upper Athabasca and McLeod sub - watersheds as infection areas for whirling disease. This puts the Peace Watershed at risk for the introduction of whirling disease. More here: [Whirling disease found in another Alberta watershed | CBC New](#)

This is a reminder to follow the **clean - drain - dry practice!** This practice prevents the spread of invasive species.



MPWA Board

MPWA Board of Directors – as of June 15 2026 AGM			
Government	Industry	Non-Governmental Organizations	Indigenous Communities
Federal-Transboundary Relations (2025-2027) Trevor Kent	Agriculture (2026-2028) Kate Winterford	Conservation/Environment (2026-2028) David Walty	Métis Nation of Alberta (2026-2028) Bobbi Paul-Alook
Provincial (2026-2028) Bonnie Segal	Forestry (2025-2027) Wayne Thorp	Watershed Stewardship (2025-2027) Cathy Newhook	Métis Settlement General Council (2025-2027) Vacant
Large Urban (2025-2027) Chris Thiessen	Oil & Gas (2026-2028) Michael Krawetz	Research/Education (2026-2028) Bin Xu	Upper Watershed First Nation (2025-2027) Vacant
Small Urban (2026-2028) Robert McLeod	Utilities (2026-2028) Ashley Rowney	Member-at- Large (2) (2025-2027) Audrey DeWit Hannah Anderson	Middle Watershed First Nation (2025-2027) Gaylene Whitehead
Rural Municipality (2026-2028) Danny Roy	Mining (2025-2027) Vacant	Tourism/Fisheries/Recreation (2025-2027) Vacant	Lower Watershed First Nation (2026-2028) Jim Webb, LRRCN



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a division of Englobe

CENTRAL PEACE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM PHASES 1, 2, and 3

PROJECT OVERVIEW

July 02, 2026

NOTE: Sections that include notable updates are highlighted in bold text.

1. **Steel Pipe Contract for Peace River Valley Hill (Phase 1 & 2 Contract 2):** *The General Contractor for the Contract 2 work is Option Excavating Inc. Horizontal drilling of steel portion of the pipe was completed on February 04, 2025, which was then followed by reaming of the hole with a 26" reamer head. Reaming operations were completed and the 16" (400 mm) diameter steel pipe was successfully pulled back through the reamed drill passage on March 04, 2025. The total length of the HDD steel pipe installation was 1,770 m. The HDD Subcontractor, The Crossing Company, then demobilized their equipment off site. The transition of the pipeline material to high density polyethylene (HDPE) plastic at the top of the hill with installation of the section of HDPE pipe to reach the road allowance at the west end of the field (approximately 900 m) commenced in April 2025 and was completed in May 2025, installed by open cut trenching method of installation. Installation of a valve and temporary pig launch riser was completed in June 2025. Work remaining for the Contract 2 project includes the final installation of the pig launching/receiving concrete vault at the bottom of the hill on the steel pipe portion of the pipeline. The vault at the top of the hill was installed in April 2026. Re-mobilization of equipment to site for the vault installations occurred in February 2026. Construction of a temporary ice road was completed in early March 2026 with D6 dozer and two water trucks to provide access to the pipe location and protect against damage to the farm field. The concrete valve chamber vaults with long delivery dates were delivered to site on March 10, 2026. Installation of the pig launch/receiving vault at the top of the Valley hill together with the corresponding pipe connections were completed in April before the crew moved to the Dunvegan location to install the vault and balance of piping at the bottom of the Valley hill. The vault at the bottom of the hill was confirmed to be undersized to accommodate the higher-pressure valves so a larger vault has been ordered with delivery scheduled for summer 2026. Coordination between the Contract 1 Contractor, Greenfield Construction, and the Contract 2 Contractor, Option Excavating, must be executed for sharing of the work area at the Dunvegan site during the lower vault installations. Option Excavating returned to site in June 2026 to temporarily move some of their materials to provide more working area for Greenfield Construction and to de-mobilize some of their equipment until their return to site later in the 2026 summer season. Option Excavating may coordinate installation of the bottom concrete valve chamber vault and the final sections of steel piping that connect into the vault structure to be completed in August 2026 followed by pipe flushing and leakage testing in September following harvesting of the crop from the field at the top of the Valley hill by the farmer. Final site restoration around the concrete vault locations will follow the installation work.*

2. **River Intake and Raw Water Transfer Station (Phase 1 & 2 Contract 1):** Following award of the Contract by Saddle Hills County in late May 2025, Greenfield Construction mobilized to the Dunvegan project site and commenced construction on site in July 2025 with the access road construction down the hill to the raw water transfer station location. Bulk excavation of the project site continued through the month of September 2025 and the access roadways were constructed including the access down to the River's edge for the temporary trestle bridge and river structures construction. A 275 Ton crane with 170 foot boom was utilized on the River for the assembly and disassembly of the temporary trestle bridge that provides access to the river intake structure. Construction of the trestle bridge was started in mid-October 2025 and was completed in November 2025. The decision was then made by the Contractor in November to cease further works on the water to avoid the risk of getting caught by the upcoming freezing of the River. Disassembly was completed of the trestle bridge deck platform in December 2025 to protect the structure from the impending high water ice forces of the freeze up and spring thaw ice floes. The driven pile supports for the trestle bridge were left in place for the winter. Installation of the temporary cofferdam isolation system for the river intake structure shall proceed in July 2026 following the re-assembly of the trestle bridge deck that was completed in June. Assembly of a finger pier at the end of the trestle bridge is being completed to provide additional working platform space adjacent to the river intake cofferdam. Work on the trestle bridge was temporarily halted due to the high river water levels from the heavy rains in early July 2026. Work on the trestle bridge will resume this month when the river level recedes. The second 275 Ton crane is being utilized at the Raw Water Transfer Station wet well location. Excavation of the 28 m deep wet well within the secant pile wall shoring system was completed on October 27, 2025. Boring of the 42 inch diameter steel casing for the intake pipes was commenced on October 31, 2025 and was completed on November 27, 2025. A temporary tower staircase into the wet well was installed in to allow for worker access to the bottom of the wet well without use of cranes. The Contractor's winter shutdown schedule consisted of an extended Christmas break from December 12, 2025, to January 18, 2026. Following their return to site on January 19 to resume construction for the 2026 season, the initial work completed was the installation of the river intake piping (three individual pipes) within the previously installed 42 inch steel casing. The pipe sections were welded and then hydraulically pushed into the casing under the river bottom. All weld connections were radiographically inspected prior to acceptance. Following installation of the river intake piping the Contractor completed grout fill installation in the 42 inch steel casing during the week of April 06, 2026 to fill the spaces between the three river intake pipes and the casing. The Contractor then proceeded with contouring (machine grinding) of the interior concrete surfaces of the secant pile wall in advance of commencing construction of the concrete wet well tank structure within the perimeter of the secant pile wall shoring system. The remaining valleys between the secant piles are bridged by plywood backing strips and perimeter drainage panel material is being installed between the secant pile wall and the concrete wet well interior structure. A keyway was cut into the interior surface of the secant pile wall at its base in late May 2026 to provide structural connection between the wet well concrete base slab and the secant pile wall shoring system. Following installation of the reinforcing steel (rebar) for the wet well base slab, the concrete pour for the base slab was completed on June 19, 2026. Wet curing procedures were then implemented for the finished base slab. Construction of the wet well concrete walls shall follow the base slab installation. Photos of the Phase 1 & 2 Contract 1 construction are attached. Construction completion of the Contract 1 facility remains scheduled for autumn 2027.

3. **HDPE Raw Water Transfer Piping Contracts (Phase 1 & 2 Contracts 3+):** The contracts for the balance of the raw water transfer pipeline that extends from the top of the river valley, south to the new Central Peace Regional Water Treatment Plant site are yet to be tendered. Working together with the County, the adjusted pipeline alignment has been determined, and the County is awaiting notification of additional grant funding from the Province. The design of the piping was re-started in April 2026 and shall be finalized in anticipation of pending approval of funding, to prepare for tendering of the contract(s) in 2026 for construction.

4. **Electrical Service to the Pumping Station:** *The route for servicing of the Raw Water Transfer Station facility shall be from the Village of Rycroft which is the nearest connection point for the required three-phase power supply. Representatives from the County and MPE met with ATCO in Edmonton on February 01, 2023 to review the potential for decreasing the high servicing cost for the Raw Water Transfer Station. An adjusted servicing amount was received from ATCO on March 10, 2023 with an 80% load investment from ATCO as an update on the previous 60% load investment resulting in a cost reduction of approximately \$164K to the previous cost proposal. ATCO has completed site review of the finalized routing of the power line to the River location. Further to meeting with ATCO on March 07, 2024 in Edmonton, a more detailed schedule of the pumping facility usage for the initial years of operation was forwarded to ATCO for re-assessment of the projected monthly billing charges. The County then received a more updated servicing proposal agreement from ATCO in November 2024. The servicing proposal from ATCO was accepted and executed by the County in 2025. The ATCO field crew confirmed their design assumptions on site during September 2025, and a project coordination meeting with ATCO, Saddle Hills County, and MPE Engineering was held on October 17, 2025. ATCO are presently in the process of acquiring regulatory approvals, crossing agreements, laydown areas, and land easements along their powerline route to the Dunvegan project site. A coordination meeting was held on April 01, 2026 between ATCO, Saddle Hills County, and MPE to coordinate details such as the transformer location and grounding requirements at the Dunvegan Raw Water Transfer Station site. The tentative schedule for provision of power service to the Dunvegan location is late autumn 2026.*

5. **Water Treatment Plant Site Raw Water Reservoirs (Phase 3 Contract 1A):** *The tender for the Raw Water Reservoirs contract closed on March 03, 2026. Award of the Contract by Saddle Hills County occurred in early March 2026 to the low bidder, Northern Road Builders, who then initially mobilized to the project site in late March 2026 with a limited contingent of heavy equipment to construct a temporary dugout to capture spring runoff water. The purpose of the dugout was to provide a source of water that could be utilized for the duration of the project earthwork construction for compaction and dust control. Following completion of the temporary dugout excavation, the Contractor then de-mobilized from the project site to allow for the spring melt and runoff. The Contractor re-mobilized to site in mid May 2026 to commence construction of the raw water reservoirs. Topsoil stripping of the site was completed by late May 2026 and excavation of the reservoir cells and construction of the reservoir berm embankments is continuing. The Contractor also commenced installation of the underground piping for the Reservoir Cells in June 2026. Heavy rainfalls that have occurred recently in late June and early July have caused only short disruptions of the earthworks on site. Photos of the Phase 3 Contract 1A construction are attached. Construction completion of the Contract 1A work is scheduled for September 2026.*

6. **Project Budget:** An updated preliminary opinion of probable costs for the project was developed and provided to the County. The estimated costs had increased significantly since the 2018 Pre-Design Report and the County made a request to the Province for additional grant funding under the Water for Life program to make up the projected cost difference. The County had follow up meetings related to the grant request with representatives from the Province and had presented a cash flow projection to the Province that provided a schedule of expenditures over the course of the next three years as it relates to grant funding. The County met with the Province again in March 2024 and again in April 2024, and ultimately received formal response from the Province this June 2024 that confirmed additional grant amounts for the 2025 construction year. A subsequent meeting between the County and the Province for funding support occurred in early November 2024. More recently, the Grant Funding administrators for Alberta Transportation completed a tour of the project construction sites on October 02, 2025, together with the County and MPE Engineering. Saddle Hills County then had a meeting with the Provincial Minister on November 03, 2025 to review the upcoming grant requirements for the overall Central Peace Regional Water Supply System project. Updates to the previous grant applications were completed by the County and forwarded to the Province in November 2025.

NEXT STEPS

7. Continue with the construction for Phase 1 & 2 Contract 2, continue with construction for Phase 1 & 2 Contract 1, detailed design including the drafting of revised plan and profile drawings for the pipeline (Phase 1 & 2 Contract 3+), continue with construction for Phase 3 Contract 1A, continue with regulatory approvals for final construction details, coordination with ATCO for power service to the Raw Water Transfer Station, assist the County to obtain Provincial support for the balance of grant funding for project ultimate completion.

Haj Oshiki, P.Eng.

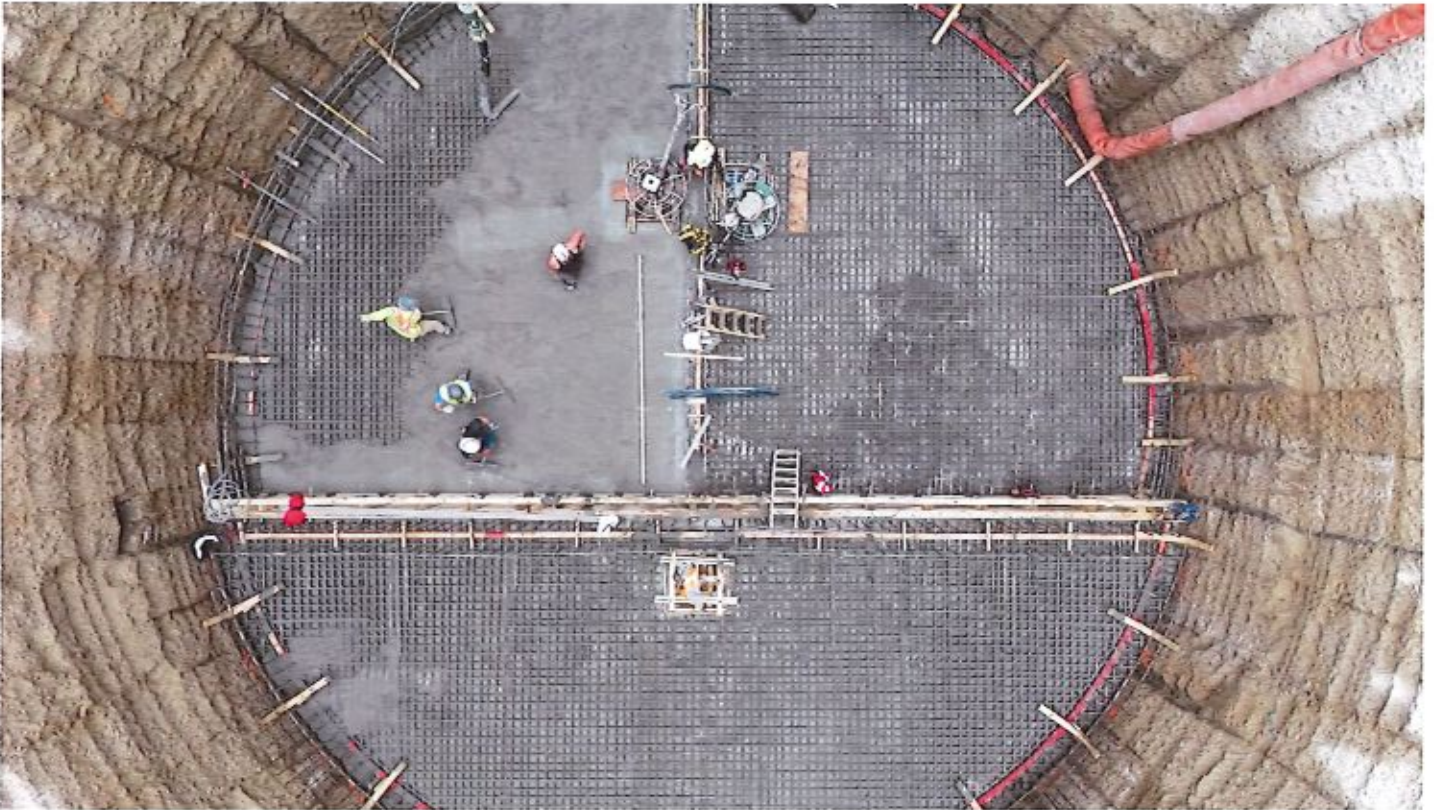
Attachments:

1. Phase 1 & 2 Contract 1 Construction Photos (5 total photos)
2. Phase 3 Contract 1A Construction Photos (3 total photos)
3. Phase 3 Contract 1A Comparison View Photos July 01, 2026 by Trevor Siemens, C.E.T.

1. Phase 1 & 2 Contract 1 River Intake and Raw Water Transfer Station – Wet Well Base Slab Reinforcing Steel Installation



2. Wet Well Base Slab Concrete Pour



3. Wet Well Concrete Base Slab Wet Curing of Finished Concrete



4. Re-Assembly of Temporary Trestle Bridge at River Intake and Construction of Finger Pier



5. High River Level at Trestle Bridge



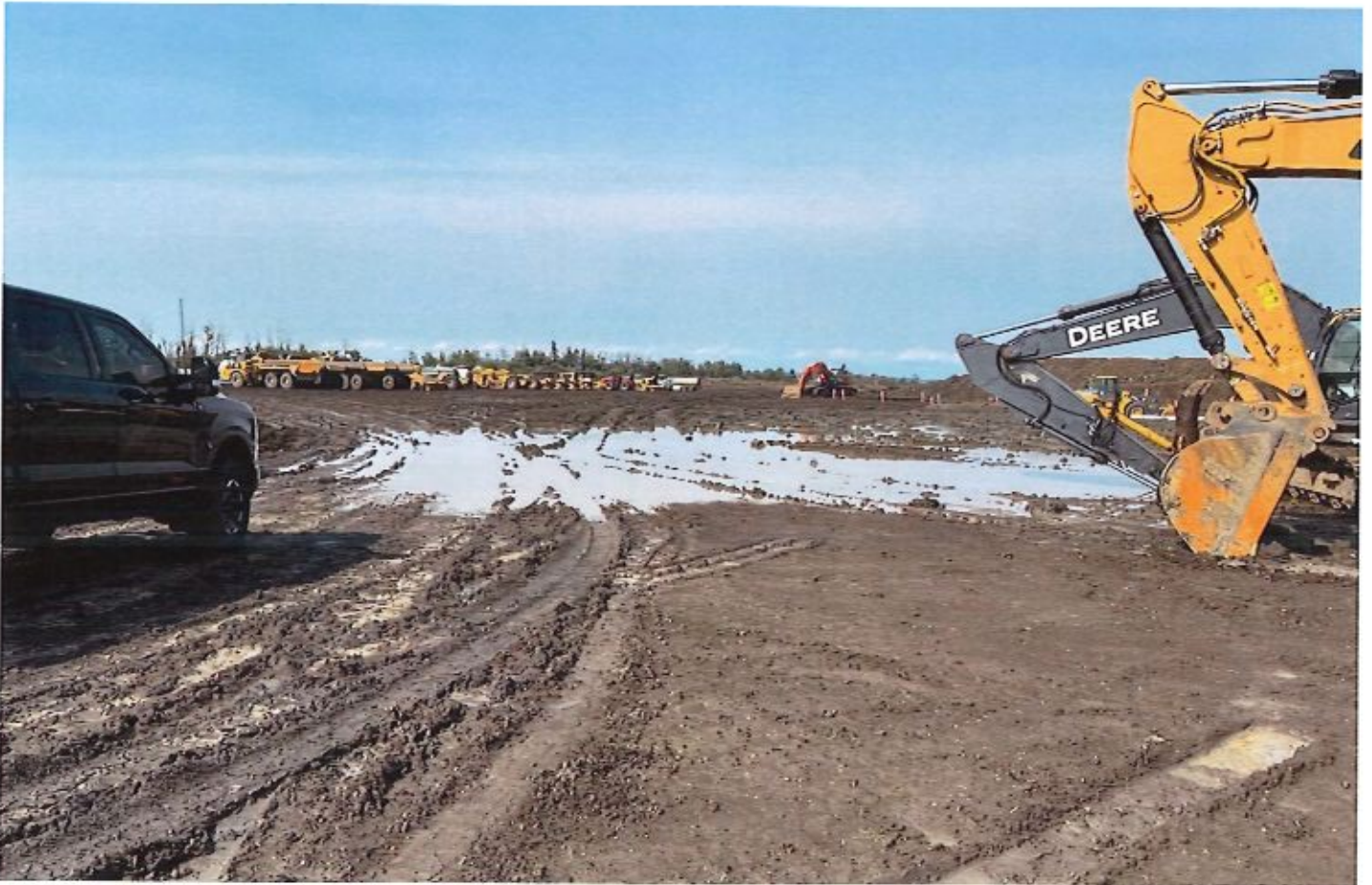
6. Phase 3 Contract 1A – Raw Water Reservoir Berm Construction



7. Raw Water Reservoir Underground Piping Installation



8. Raw Water Reservoir Site Temporary Rain Delay



Central Peace Regional Water Treatment Plant

Phase 3 Contract 1A: Raw Water Reservoirs
5201-006-01



Project Progress

- 80% of subcut for all reservoirs complete
- Moved laydown area to the east to allow more stockpile area
- Secured water source and TDL for moisture conditioning water



Central Peace Regional Water Treatment Plant

Phase 3 Contract 1A: Raw Water Reservoirs
5201-006-01



2026-05-22 NW Corner, Looking SE

Project Progress

- 80% of subcut for all reservoirs complete
- Moved laydown area to the east to allow more stockpile area
- Secured water source and TDL for moisture conditioning water



2026-06-14



2026-07-01

Central Peace Regional Water Supply System

*Phase 3 Contract 1A: Raw Water Reservoirs
5201-006-01*



2026-05-22 NW Corner, Looking S

Project Progress

- 80% of subcut for all reservoirs complete
- Moved laydown area to the east to allow more stockpile area
- Secured water source and TDL for moisture conditioning water



2026-06-14



2026-07-01



a division of Englobe

CENTRAL PEACE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM PHASES 1, 2, and 3

PROJECT OVERVIEW

August 05, 2026

NOTE: Sections that include notable updates are highlighted in bold text.

1. **Steel Pipe Contract for Peace River Valley Hill (Phase 1 & 2 Contract 2):** *The General Contractor for the Contract 2 work is Option Excavating Inc. Horizontal drilling of steel portion of the pipe was completed on February 04, 2025, which was then followed by reaming of the hole with a 26" reamer head. Reaming operations were completed and the 16" (400 mm) diameter steel pipe was successfully pulled back through the reamed drill passage on March 04, 2025. The total length of the HDD steel pipe installation was 1,770 m. The HDD Subcontractor, The Crossing Company, then demobilized their equipment off site. The transition of the pipeline material to high density polyethylene (HDPE) plastic at the top of the hill with installation of the section of HDPE pipe to reach the road allowance at the west end of the field (approximately 900 m) commenced in April 2025 and was completed in May 2025, installed by open cut trenching method of installation. Installation of a valve and temporary pig launch riser was completed in June 2025. Work remaining for the Contract 2 project includes the final installation of the pig launching/receiving concrete vault at the bottom of the hill on the steel pipe portion of the pipeline. The vault at the top of the hill was installed in April 2026. Re-mobilization of equipment to site for the vault installations occurred in February 2026. Construction of a temporary ice road was completed in early March 2026 with D6 dozer and two water trucks to provide access to the pipe location and protect against damage to the farm field. The concrete valve chamber vaults with long delivery dates were delivered to site on March 10, 2026. Installation of the pig launch/receiving vault at the top of the Valley hill together with the corresponding pipe connections were completed in April before the crew moved to the Dunvegan location to install the vault and balance of piping at the bottom of the Valley hill. The vault at the bottom of the hill was confirmed to be undersized to accommodate the higher-pressure valves so a larger vault has been ordered with delivery scheduled for summer 2026. Coordination between the Contract 1 Contractor, Greenfield Construction, and the Contract 2 Contractor, Option Excavating, must be executed for sharing of the work area at the Dunvegan site during the lower vault installations. Option Excavating returned to site in June 2026 to temporarily move some of their materials to provide more working area for Greenfield Construction and to de-mobilize some of their equipment until their return to site later in the 2026 summer season. Option Excavating may coordinate installation of the bottom concrete valve chamber vault and the final sections of steel piping that connect into the vault structure to be completed in September 2026 followed by pipe flushing and leakage testing prior to winter freeze up following harvesting of the crop from the field at the top of the Valley hill by the farmer. Final site restoration around the concrete vault locations will follow the installation work.*

2. **River Intake and Raw Water Transfer Station (Phase 1 & 2 Contract 1):** Following award of the Contract by Saddle Hills County in late May 2025, Greenfield Construction mobilized to the Dunvegan project site and commenced construction on site in July 2025 with the access road construction down the hill to the raw water transfer station location. Bulk excavation of the project site continued through the month of September 2025 and the access roadways were constructed including the access down to the River's edge for the temporary trestle bridge and river structures construction. A 275 Ton crane with 170 foot boom was utilized on the River for the assembly and disassembly of the temporary trestle bridge that provides access to the river intake structure. Construction of the trestle bridge was started in mid-October 2025 and was completed in November 2025. The decision was then made by the Contractor in November to cease further works on the water to avoid the risk of getting caught by the upcoming freezing of the River. Disassembly was completed of the trestle bridge deck platform in December 2025 to protect the structure from the impending high water ice forces of the freeze up and spring thaw ice floes. The driven pile supports for the trestle bridge were left in place for the winter. Assembly of a finger pier at the end of the trestle bridge was completed in June 2026 to provide additional working platform space adjacent to the river intake cofferdam following the re-assembly of the trestle bridge deck. Installation of the temporary sheet pile cofferdam isolation system for the river intake structure proceeded in July 2026. Work occurring from the trestle bridge deck was temporarily halted at various times during the month due to the high river water levels from the heavy rains that recurred throughout the entire month of July 2026. Work on the trestle bridge was performed during the intervals when the river level receded to safe levels. Installation of the sheet pile cofferdam shall be completed prior to fish salvage from within the isolated area and removal of the water from within the cofferdam interior. The excavation within the cofferdam shall then be completed in preparation for the permanent river intake structure. The second 275 Ton crane is being utilized at the Raw Water Transfer Station wet well location. Excavation of the 28 m deep wet well within the secant pile wall shoring system was completed on October 27, 2025. Boring of the 42 inch diameter steel casing for the intake pipes was commenced on October 31, 2025 and was completed on November 27, 2025. The Contractor's winter shutdown schedule consisted of an extended Christmas break from December 12, 2025, to January 18, 2026. Following their return to site on January 19 to resume construction for the 2026 season, the initial work completed was the installation of the river intake piping (three individual pipes) within the previously installed 42 inch steel casing. The pipe sections were welded and then hydraulically pushed into the casing under the river bottom. All weld connections were radiographically inspected prior to acceptance. Following installation of the river intake piping the Contractor completed grout fill installation in the 42 inch steel casing during the week of April 06, 2026 to fill the spaces between the three river intake pipes and the casing. The Contractor then proceeded with contouring (machine grinding) of the interior concrete surfaces of the secant pile wall in advance of commencing construction of the concrete wet well tank structure within the perimeter of the secant pile wall shoring system. The remaining valleys between the secant piles are bridged by plywood backing strips and perimeter drainage panel material is installed between the secant pile wall and the concrete wet well interior structure. A keyway was cut into the interior surface of the secant pile wall at its base in late May 2026 to provide structural connection between the wet well concrete base slab and the secant pile wall shoring system. Following installation of the reinforcing steel (rebar) for the wet well base slab, the concrete pour for the base slab was completed on June 19, 2026. Construction of the wet well concrete walls then followed the base slab installation with the first section of the wall at the bottom of the wet well poured on July 13, 2026. Photos of the Phase 1 & 2 Contract 1 construction are attached. Construction completion of the Contract 1 facility remains scheduled for autumn 2027.

3. **HDPE Raw Water Transfer Piping Contracts (Phase 1 & 2 Contracts 3+):** The contracts for the balance of the raw water transfer pipeline that extends from the top of the river valley, south to the new Central Peace Regional Water Treatment Plant site are yet to be tendered. Working together with the County, the adjusted pipeline alignment has been determined, and the County is awaiting notification of additional grant funding from the Province. The design of the piping was re-started in April 2026 and is being finalized in anticipation of pending approval of funding, to prepare for tendering of the contract(s) in 2026 for construction.

4. **Electrical Service to the Pumping Station:** The route for servicing of the Raw Water Transfer Station facility shall be from the Village of Rycroft which is the nearest connection point for the required three-phase power supply. Representatives from the County and MPE met with ATCO in Edmonton on February 01, 2023 to review the potential for decreasing the high servicing cost for the Raw Water Transfer Station. An adjusted servicing amount was received from ATCO on March 10, 2023 with an 80% load investment from ATCO as an update on the previous 60% load investment resulting in a cost reduction of approximately \$164K to the previous cost proposal. ATCO has completed site review of the finalized routing of the power line to the River location. Further to meeting with ATCO on March 07, 2024 in Edmonton, a more detailed schedule of the pumping facility usage for the initial years of operation was forwarded to ATCO for re-assessment of the projected monthly billing charges. The County then received a more updated servicing proposal agreement from ATCO in November 2024. The servicing proposal from ATCO was accepted and executed by the County in 2025. The ATCO field crew confirmed their design assumptions on site during September 2025, and a project coordination meeting with ATCO, Saddle Hills County, and MPE Engineering was held on October 17, 2025. ATCO are presently in the process of acquiring regulatory approvals, crossing agreements, laydown areas, and land easements along their powerline route to the Dunvegan project site. A coordination meeting was held on April 01, 2026 between ATCO, Saddle Hills County, and MPE to coordinate details such as the transformer location and grounding requirements at the Dunvegan Raw Water Transfer Station site. The tentative schedule for provision of power service to the Dunvegan location is November 2026.

5. **Water Treatment Plant Site Raw Water Reservoirs (Phase 3 Contract 1A):** The tender for the Raw Water Reservoirs contract closed on March 03, 2026. Award of the Contract by Saddle Hills County occurred in early March 2026 to the low bidder, Northern Road Builders, who then initially mobilized to the project site in late March 2026 with a limited contingent of heavy equipment to construct a temporary dugout to capture spring runoff water. The purpose of the dugout was to provide a source of water that could be utilized for the duration of the project earthwork construction for compaction and dust control. Following completion of the temporary dugout excavation, the Contractor then de-mobilized from the project site to allow for the spring melt and runoff. The Contractor re-mobilized to site in mid May 2026 to commence construction of the raw water reservoirs. Topsoil stripping of the site was completed by late May 2026 and excavation of the reservoir cells and construction of the reservoir berm embankments is continuing. It is anticipated that most of the berm construction for the reservoir cells shall be completed by the first week in August 2026. The earthworks will then transition to constructing the clay liner for the floor of the three reservoir cells. The Contractor also commenced installation of the underground piping for the Reservoir Cells in June 2026. Heavy rainfalls that have occurred recently in late June and early July have caused only short disruptions of the earthworks on site. Photos of the Phase 3 Contract 1A construction are attached. Construction completion of the base Contract 1A work is scheduled for September 2026. Some additional work items are then anticipated to be completed for other sitework tasks that are likely to be added to the scope of the original work.

6. **Project Budget:** An updated preliminary opinion of probable costs for the project was developed and provided to the County. The estimated costs had increased significantly since the 2018 Pre-Design Report and the County made a request to the Province for additional grant funding under the Water for Life program to make up the projected cost difference. The County had follow up meetings related to the grant request with representatives from the Province and had presented a cash flow projection to the Province that provided a schedule of expenditures over the course of the next three years as it relates to grant funding. The County met with the Province again in March 2024 and again in April 2024, and ultimately received formal response from the Province this June 2024 that confirmed additional grant amounts for the 2025 construction year. A subsequent meeting between the County and the Province for funding support occurred in early November 2024. More recently, the Grant Funding administrators for Alberta Transportation completed a tour of the project construction sites on October 02, 2025, together with the County and MPE Engineering. Saddle Hills County then had a meeting with the Provincial Minister on November 03, 2025 to review the upcoming grant requirements for the overall Central Peace Regional Water Supply System project. Updates to the previous grant applications were completed by the County and forwarded to the Province in November 2025. The County is meeting with the Province on August 06, 2026 to review grant funding direction.

NEXT STEPS

7. Continue with the construction for Phase 1 & 2 Contract 2, continue with construction for Phase 1 & 2 Contract 1, finalize the detailed design of the revised plan and profile drawings for the pipeline (Phase 1 & 2 Contract 3+), continue with construction for Phase 3 Contract 1A, proceed with additional work items at the raw water reservoir site, continue with regulatory approvals for final construction details, coordination with ATCO for power service to the Raw Water Transfer Station, assist the County to obtain Provincial support for the balance of grant funding for project ultimate completion.

Haj Oshiki, P.Eng.

Attachments:

1. Phase 1 & 2 Contract 1 Construction Photos (7 total photos)
2. Phase 3 Contract 1A Construction Photos (2 total photos)

1. Phase 1 & 2 Contract 1 River Intake and Raw Water Transfer Station – Wet Well Bottom
Section Wall Concrete Pour



2. Wet Well Bottom Section Concrete Wall Following Stripping of Formwork





4. Commence Installation of Temporary Sheet Pile Cofferdam for River Isolation at Intake Structure



5. Sheet Pile Vibratory Hammer Driver













MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133

MEETING:
MEETING DATE:
ORIGINATED BY:
TITLE:

RM 14-26
August 12th, 2026
Shirley Hayden, CAO
Rail Safety Week Proclamation
MD Spirit River No.133

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL

Rail Safety Week is an annual event held in partnership with Operation Lifesaver Canada, a national public/private partnership dedicated to raising awareness about rail safety. The event aims to educate citizens on the dangers of ignoring safety warnings at level crossings and trespassing on railway property.

CN, a major railway operator with routes in our community, works to promote a culture of safety. According to Operation Lifesaver, hundreds of avoidable incidents occur annually in North America, resulting in serious injuries or fatalities. These incidents are preventable through increased public awareness and education.

A proclamation from Council would demonstrate our community's commitment to this important public safety issue and support the efforts of CN and Operation Lifesaver to save lives and prevent injuries.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION

That Council declare September 21st to 27th, 2026, as Rail Safety Week in the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133.

Or

That Council direct Administration accordingly.

Proclamation Request | Rail Safety Week 2026

Rail Safety is a shared responsibility, and your leadership plays a vital role in educating the public. We would be honoured to publicly acknowledge your commitment to this cause if you agree to participate.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Julianne Threlfall, your local CN Public Affairs representative, at julianne.threlfall@cn.ca.

For more information:

- Questions or concerns about rail safety in your community, contact our Public Inquiry Line at 1-888-888-5909 or contact@cn.ca
- For additional information about Rail Safety Week 2026 visit cn.ca/RailSafety or <https://www.operationlifesaver.ca>
- Let us know how you promote rail safety in your community by posting on cn.ca/RSW2026
- For any questions about this **proclamation**, please email RailSafety@cn.ca
- Visit cn.ca/RSW-toolkit to access the Rail Safety Week toolkit which includes resources to help you further promote rail safety education in your community

Thank you in advance for your support.

Rail Safety Week will take place across Canada from September 21 to 27, 2026.

CN has partnered with Operation Lifesaver Canada (OL) to raise public awareness about the dangers of crossing and trespassing on railway property for more than 20 years. Unfortunately, we have recently seen disturbing spikes in deaths and serious injuries related to both. Inattention and distraction at crossings, risky behaviour on and around trains, the rise of homeless encampments along rail corridors, and mental health crises are all factors.

CN and OL ask your council to help keep communities safe by raising awareness about the critical issue of rail safety. Options include adopting the enclosed [Rail Safety Week proclamation](#) and promoting rail safety on your social media platforms.

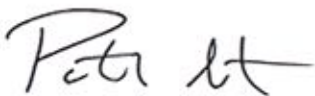
Rail Safety is a shared responsibility, and your leadership plays a vital role in educating the public. We would be honoured to publicly acknowledge your commitment to this cause if you agree to participate.

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For more information:

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- For additional information about Rail Safety Week 2026 visit [cn.ca/RailSafety](https://www.operationlifesaver.ca) or <https://www.operationlifesaver.ca>
- Let us know how you promote rail safety in your community by posting on [cn.ca/RSW2026](https://www.operationlifesaver.ca)
- For any questions about this **proclamation**, please email RailSafety@cn.ca
- Visit [cn.ca/RSW-toolkit](https://www.operationlifesaver.ca) to access the Rail Safety Week toolkit which includes resources to help you further promote rail safety education in your community

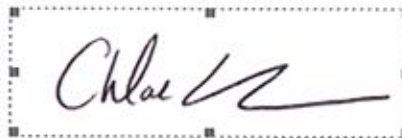
Thank you in advance for your support.



Patrick Lortie
Senior Vice-President and
Chief Strategy and
Stakeholder Relations Officer

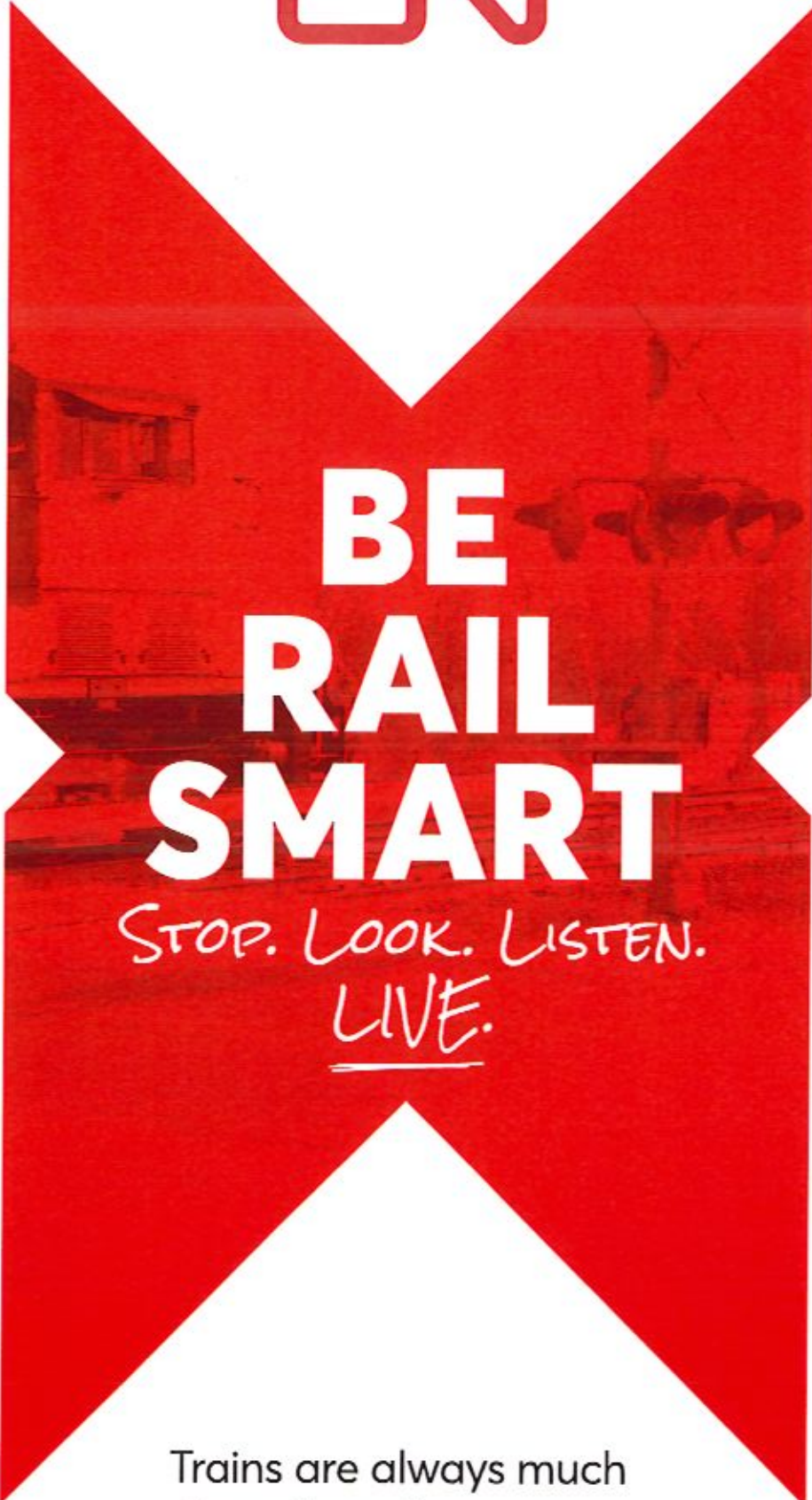


Shawn Will
CN Chief of Police
and Chief Security
Officer



Chloé Devine Drouin
Director, Marketing and
Engagement
Operation Lifesaver Canada



A large, red 'X' shape is superimposed over a faded background image of a train. The 'X' is formed by two large triangles meeting at the center. The background image shows a train car and tracks, but it is mostly obscured by the red 'X'.

BE RAIL SMART

STOP. LOOK. LISTEN.
LIVE.

Trains are always much
closer than they appear.
Look, listen and be ready to stop.

RAIL SAFETY TIPS

1 • SPEED MISPERCEPTION

Because of their size, trains appear to be much farther away and travelling much slower than their actual speed. Don't be fooled!

2 • TRAINS CAN'T STOP QUICKLY

The average train needs at least 2 km to stop. Trains can stop, but they can't stop quickly!

3 • TRESPASSING

Taking a shortcut across the tracks or being on railway property is illegal, and trespassers can be seriously injured or killed.

4 • WEIGHT RATIO

An average freight train weighs over 5,500 tonnes. Compare that to a car, which weighs about 1.5 tonnes. A train hitting a car is like a car hitting a pop can.

5 • RAILWAY CARS

Stopped railway cars can move at any time. If you're on one or near one when it moves, you could lose a limb — or worse, your life.

6 • TUNNELS AND BRIDGES

Tunnels, bridges, and trestles are designed only for trains. Trespassers can be seriously injured or killed.

7 • OVERHANG

Trains can carry loads that are wider than the railroad cars themselves. They can have chains, straps or other equipment that may extend outside the car. If you are standing too close, you could get hit.

8 • ANY TIME IS TRAIN TIME

Trains do not always run on schedule. They can run at any time, on any track and come from either direction.

9 • CN POLICE NUMBER

Together we can help save lives! If you witness any unsafe situation near a railroad, please call **1-800-465-9239**.

10 • SAFETY PLEDGE

Act today. Take the pledge at www.cn.ca/railsafety



#RAILSAFETY



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133

MEETING:
MEETING DATE:
ORIGINATED BY:
TITLE:

RM-14-26
August 12th, 2026
Shirley Hayden CAO
Cemetery Funding Policy Update

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL

Administration has completed a review of the Cemetery Funding Policy to improve clarity, accountability, and consistency in the annual funding process. The proposed amendments establish clear annual reporting requirements, including the submission of financial information, updated cemetery records, photographs, and an updated cemetery map. The revisions also define submission deadlines, clarify that documentation must relate to the preceding calendar year, establish the timing for the annual release of funds, and introduce a standardized compliance checklist to assist Administration in verifying that all policy requirements have been satisfied. These updates are intended to strengthen accountability for the use of municipal funding, ensure cemetery records remain current, and provide a transparent and consistent process for both applicants and Administration.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION

That the Cemetery Policy Updates be reviewed and be approved as presented
Or
That Council directs Administration accordingly

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133 POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL  Cemetery Funding Department: Cemetery Related Procedure(s): Past Review Date(s):	Function: Policy No. Effective: Review Date: Amends: Resolution No:	CEMETERY CEM.06 August 12th, 2026 August 12th, 2026 March 5th, 2026 RM 14-26
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Policy Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to provide fair and uniform funding to cemetery groups and organizations for improvements to cemeteries located within the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133's boundaries.

There are numerous cemeteries located within the municipality that require ongoing care and maintenance. Typically, these cemeteries are maintained by not for profit groups. The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines and procedures for distributing operational & capital funding.

1) GUIDELINES:

A. Cemetery Operating Grants

- i. The Council of the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 will on an annual basis provide grants to cemetery organizations for the maintenance of cemeteries located within the Municipal boundaries.
- ii. Cemetery operating grant funding shall be provided as follows:

Acreage:	Occupancy (based on occupied plots):
0 – 2 acres = \$100	0 – 100 = \$500
2 – 4 acres = \$200	101 – 200 = \$1,000
4 – 6 acres = \$300	201 – 300 = \$1,500
6 – 8 acres = \$400	301 – 400 = \$1,750
>8 acres = \$500	>401 = \$2,000

Total acreage + total occupancy for the application year = total funding eligibility

B. Cemetery Capital Grants

- i. The Council of the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 will on an annual basis provide grants to organizations for the enhancement or upgrade of cemeteries located within the Municipal boundaries. The grants are to be conditional grants

for improvement and maintenance purposes. The organization shall provide a full accounting for the grant funds advanced.

- C. Grantees can apply to Council to consider proposed options for grants not utilized within two years.
- D. Grantees must return grant funds which have not been utilized within two years unless otherwise authorized by Council.

E. Grantees Shall:

- i. Provide a yearly financial and pictorial (picture) report to Council for filing on a yearly basis;
- ii. Provide a yearly update to the plot map with buried and reserves identified for filing on a yearly basis;
- iii. No grant will be issued unless the requirements stated below are met fully:
 - a) Yearly financial statements (Beginning and closing bank statements are sufficient)
 - b) Pictures (updated yearly, picture of the site by electronic copy is sufficient, pictures of every grave would be preferred)
 - c) Updated list of cemetery graves- Lot, Block, Plan (Buried & Reserved)
 - d) Cemetery map (updated with new internments from the previous year);
- iv. Utilize grants, for improvement and maintenance purposes, within two years;
- v. Provide the MD of Spirit River (upon request) with documented records for evaluation or audit, in the form of:
 - a) Expense invoices for the project, paid in full;
 - b) Statements of cash contributions;
 - c) Statements of grant funding from other sources.

vi. To be eligible for funding for the current fiscal year, applicants must submit all required documentation for the immediately preceding calendar year. All required documentation must be received on or before March 1 of the current fiscal year, and all eligibility requirements outlined in this policy must be satisfied. Approved funding will be issued by the end of June of the current fiscal year.

Annual Cemetery Funding Compliance ChecklistCemetery Name: _____Reporting Year: _____Submission Date: _____

<u>Requirement</u>	<u>Satisfied (✓/X)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
☐ Submitted on or before March 1 of the applicable fiscal year.	☐ Yes ☐ No	
☐ Yearly financial statements submitted (Beginning and ending bank statements are acceptable.)	☐ Yes ☐ No	
☐ Updated photographs of the cemetery submitted (Electronic copies are acceptable. Photographs of each grave are preferred.)	☐ Yes ☐ No	
☐ Updated cemetery grave listing submitted, including Lot, Block, Plan, Identifying Buried and Reserved plots.	☐ Yes ☐ No	
☐ Updated cemetery map submitted, reflecting all new interments from the previous calendar year.	☐ Yes ☐ No	

Municipality ReviewReviewed By: _____Date Reviewed: _____☐ Approved for Full Funding☐ Additional Information Required☐ Funding Withheld – Requirements Not MetComments:



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133

MEETING:
MEETING DATE:
ORIGINATED BY:
TITLE:

RM 14-26
August 12th, 2026
CAO, Shirley Hayden
Friends of the Grande Spirit Foundation
Harvest Dine & Dance Fundraiser

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL

The Grande Spirit Foundation is hosting their annual Harvest Dine & Dance fundraiser on Saturday, October 3rd, 2026, at the Pomeroy Hotel and Conference Centre in Grande Prairie. Doors will open at 5:00 pm. Dinner will be served at 6:00 pm, and will be followed by a live and silent auction, as well as a dance with live music by Night Ryders. Corporate tables are \$850 which includes eight dinner tickets, two bottles of wine, signage and advertising. Individual tickets are available at \$80 each.

Attached is the promotional poster and a letter of request from Paula McGregor, Friends of the Foundation representative.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION

1. That the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 purchase a corporate table in the amount of \$850.00 for the annual Friends of Grande Spirit Foundation Harvest Dine & Dance, further, tickets for the event be donated to residents of the Spirit River Pleasantview Lodge who may want to attend.
2. That the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 council members be appointed to attend the Friends of Grande Spirit Foundation Harvest Dine & Dance on behalf of the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 on Saturday, October 4th, 2025 hosted by the Friends of the Grande Spirit Foundation.
3. That financial support be given to the Grande Spirit Foundation in the form of a cash donation or donation of an item for the Silent Auction.
4. That the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 provide the MD Transit Bus service at no charge, for the purpose of ensuring the safe transportation of the ticket recipients to and return from the Grande Spirit Foundation Annual Harvest Dine and Dance event, where the MD transit bus costs may total up to \$750.00 including driver, to come from Reserves.

That Council direct Administration accordingly.



HARVEST DINNER FUNDRAISER

OCTOBER 3, 2026

**POMEROY HOTEL &
CONFERENCE CENTER**

ENTERTAINMENT BY

NIGHT RYDERS

SILENT & LIVE AUCTIONS

ALL FUNDS RAISED
SUPPORT OUR SENIORS



Grande Spirit Foundation

"We provide quality housing that serves the needs of our seniors, families and individuals."

May 1, 2026

The Friends of the Grande Spirit Foundation are pleased to invite you to support our upcoming fundraising events, both dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for seniors in our care.

We will be hosting our Golf Tournament Fundraiser on Friday, May 29, 2026, at Morningview Park Golf Course, with registration at 11:30 AM and a shotgun start at 12:30 PM. Entry is \$125 per golfer and includes 9 holes of golf, shared carts, a beef burger supper, door prizes, and a silent auction.

How you can support the Golf Tournament:

- Register as a golfer or team
- Donate a prize or silent auction item
- Make a direct financial contribution

Our annual Harvest Dinner & Dance will take place on October 3rd, 2026 at Pomeroy Hotel and Conference Centre in Grande Prairie, AB. Doors will open at 5:00 pm. Dinner will be served at 6:00 pm and will be followed by a live & silent auction as well as a dance with live music by Night Ryders. Corporate tables are \$850 which includes 8 dinner tickets, 2 bottles of wine, signage and advertising. Individual tickets are available at \$80 each.

How you can support the Harvest Dinner & Dance:

- Purchase tickets or a corporate table
- Donate an item for the silent auction
- Make a direct financial contribution

Funds raised through both events support meaningful additions not covered by operational budgets, including recreational equipment, social activities, furnishings, and transportation for our residents.

Please return your Donation and/or Ticket Request Form for the Harvest Dinner to friends@grandespirit.org by September 18, 2026.

To register or learn more about the Golf Tournament, please contact Paula McGregor at (780)532-2905 ext 155 or friends@grandespirit.org

We sincerely appreciate your support.

On behalf of the Friends of the Foundation,

Paula McGregor
Friends of the Foundation



Grande Spirit Foundation

"We provide quality housing that serves the needs of our seniors, families, and individuals "

Silent & Live Auction Item Donation

Donor Representatives Name: _____

Donor Company Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

Description of item or service being donated:

Approximate Retail Value: _____

Public recognition will be given for significant contributions.

To Purchase Tickets for The Event

- Return this form to friends@grandespirit.org

_____ Individual tickets \$80.00/ticket

_____ Corporate Table \$850.00/table (incl 8 tickets & 2 bottles of wine on the table and sponsorship signage)

☐ I would like my company to be invoiced for the tickets (is the contact information the same as above?)

☐ I will pay by e-transfer to accounting@grandespirit.org

Thank you for your support!
Please return this form by Friday, September 18th

25928

July 21, 2026

Via email: mdsr133@mdspiritriv.ab.ca

Tony Van Rootselaar,
Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133
Spirit River AB

Dear Reeve Van Rootselaar:

Thank you for your letter of June 29, 2026, regarding the invoice issued for Alberta Forestry and Park's mutual aid response to the August 24, 2024, wildfire. Thank you as well for your recognition of the efforts of Alberta Wildfire personnel during the incident and the strong working relationship between the Municipal District of Spirit River and the Department.

Forestry and Parks acknowledges the MD's concerns regarding the time between the wildfire response and the issuance of the invoice, and recognizes the impact this has had on the Municipality's budgeting and financial planning. The department is reviewing its invoicing and reconciliation processes to support more timely communication following mutual aid responses. Forestry and Parks regrets the delay and appreciates the Municipality's patience as the final costs were confirmed.

As you are aware, the invoice reflects costs incurred by Forestry and Parks in responding to the Municipality's mutual aid request in accordance with the terms of the Mutual Aid Agreement, and Fire Control Plan.

With respect to the Municipality's request regarding assistance through the former Municipal Wildfire Assistance Program (MWAP), which has since been replaced by the Hazard Assistance and Resilience Program (HARP), Forestry and Parks is not responsible for administering these programs or determining eligibility. If the Municipality chooses to pursue consideration under HARP, discussions should be initiated with the Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA). Forestry and Parks would be pleased to provide AEMA with any relevant information or context regarding the mutual aid response and invoicing timeline to assist in their assessment.

To allow the Municipality an opportunity to pursue those discussions, Forestry and Parks is prepared to defer the payment due date for the invoice until AEMA has completed its review and advised the Municipality of its determination. Once that process is complete, departmental staff will work with the Municipality to determine the appropriate next steps.

Forestry and Parks values its longstanding partnership with the Municipal District of Spirit River and remains committed to working collaboratively with municipalities across Alberta. Thank you for bringing these concerns forward.

Sincerely,



Shawn Barraclough
Executive Director, Forest Operations

Email response from CAO Keller, Village of Rycroft

Re: Invitation to participate for Intersection Traffic Safety Signs

From: CAO <cao@rycroft.ca>
Sent: July 28, 2026 9:41 AM
To: Shirley Hayden <cao@mdspiritrivier.ab.ca>
Subject: Requested information on Grant Project participation Rycrft

Shirley:
Please see attached.

9.2 MD of Spirit River participation and funding request on Traffic Study

2026-07-21-142 **MOVED** by Deputy Mayor Dreger that council accepts the MD of Spirit River request for participation in the four projects under the Alberta Traffic Safety Fund request for information. **CARRIED**

Kevin Keller

From: Tammy Yaremko <tyaremko@townofspiritriver.ca>

Sent: July 28, 2026 12:56 PM

To:

Cc: Keir Gervais <cao@townofspiritriver.ca>; CAO <cao@rycroft.ca>; Shirley Hayden
<cao@mdspiritriver.ab.ca>

Subject: 2025 October org meeting minutes

Hello everyone.

I am sending this email to _____, CPFRC accountant so that she can update our current members using her access through Represent a Client.

_____ needs the Town, Rycroft and MD's Organizational meeting minutes from October 2025 to complete this task.

Each member has already personally been reached out to provide the personal details required.

Please send those minutes direct to _____ so she can complete this task.
:)

Thanks!

Tammy Yaremko
Mayor
Town of Spirit River
780-331-0000

From: Darren Young <Darren.Young@ruralconnect.ca>
Sent: July 27, 2026 10:02 AM
Subject: 2026 Alberta Rural Connectivity Forum Early Bird Reminder!

This is a friendly reminder that there is **just one week remaining** to take advantage of **Early Bird registration** for the **Alberta Rural Connectivity Forum (ARCF)**, taking place **September 17-18**.

As Alberta's premier forum on rural connectivity and digital infrastructure, ARCF brings together municipal leaders, provincial representatives, industry experts, and technology innovators to explore the opportunities and challenges shaping the future of rural communities.

This year's program will examine the role of broadband as critical infrastructure and its connection to economic development, artificial intelligence, data centres, sovereign data, cybersecurity, and the technologies driving Alberta's digital economy.

We encourage municipalities to have both elected officials and administrative leadership attend together to gain a shared understanding of the issues and opportunities that will influence local decision-making in the years ahead.

If you are planning to attend, now is the time to register and secure the Early Bird rate before pricing increases.

We look forward to welcoming you on **September 17-18**.

Please see the attached information for registration and accommodations information or scan the QR code at the bottom of this message.

Also, feel free to contact our conference coordinator:

Katrina Browning

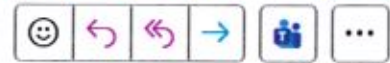
Email: | _____ [@ruralconnect.ca](mailto:_____@ruralconnect.ca)

Phone:

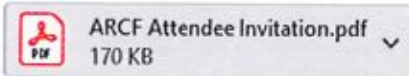
FW: Rural Connect Invites You to the Alberta Rural Connectivity Forum ...



MD of Spirit River 133
To Rebecca Fitzsimmons
Cc Monty Bremont



2026-07-15



From: Darren Young <[ruralconnect.ca](mailto:darren.young@ruralconnect.ca)>

Sent: July 15, 2026 1:55 PM

Subject: Rural Connect Invites You to the Alberta Rural Connectivity Forum September 17-18 2026

The future of rural Alberta is exponentially being shaped by digital infrastructure, and we invite you to join the conversation.

After a two-year hiatus, the **Alberta Rural Connectivity Forum** returns this September under the leadership of **Rural Connect Ltd.** Building on the strong foundation established by Cybera, the Forum has long been Alberta's premier event focused on the economic and social value that broadband brings to rural communities.

This year's Forum comes at a pivotal moment. Broadband is no longer simply about internet access - it is the critical infrastructure that supports economic development, healthcare, education, agriculture, emergency services, and business growth. It is also the platform upon which emerging opportunities in **Artificial Intelligence, data centres, digital innovation, and sovereign data** are being built.

Municipal elected officials, Chief Administrative Officers, provincial representatives, industry experts, technology leaders, and community innovators will come together to explore practical strategies, hear from leading experts, and share ideas that will help rural Alberta remain competitive in an increasingly digital economy.

Your municipality's success depends on informed leadership and strong partnerships. Whether your community is expanding broadband infrastructure, considering new economic development opportunities, or simply preparing for what comes next, the Alberta Rural Connectivity Forum will provide valuable insights, practical ideas, and meaningful connections.

We encourage both members of Council and your administrative leadership to attend together, creating an opportunity to return home with a shared understanding of the opportunities and strategies that can benefit your community.

We hope you will join us on **September 17 - 18** as we help shape the next chapter of rural connectivity and digital innovation in Alberta.

Please see the attached invitation for conference accommodations and access.

Let's Make The Future Work For Alberta

CONNECT



Alberta Rural Connectivity Forum

SEPTEMBER 17TH - 18TH
2026

2026

HOLIDAY INN & SUITES
GASOLINE ALLEY



alberta rural connectivity coalition

CONNECT

The Alberta Rural Connectivity Coalition, in partnership with Rural CONNECT Ltd, invites you to attend the 2026 Alberta Rural Connectivity Forum.

Bringing together municipal leaders, service providers, policymakers, and industry experts from across Alberta, the Forum offers a focused opportunity to explore emerging technologies and practical solutions shaping rural broadband.

Gain insight into current and future connectivity initiatives, hear from leading voices, and connect with decision-makers advancing infrastructure across rural Alberta.

Tickets include full access to sessions and networking opportunities—space is limited, so early registration is encouraged.

Scan to Register! ↘



If you have any questions please reach out to:

Katrina Browning – Business Services Assistant
403.304.2723 | Katrina.browning@ruralconnect.ca

FW: Call to Action: Strengthening Public Safety in Alberta | Polling Results



MD of Spirit River 133

To Rebecca Fitzsimmons



2026-07-14

Call to Action to the Government of Alberta_2026.pdf
210 KBNPF Alberta W9 .pdf
811 KBFrom: Melissa Barnes <@npf-fpn.com>

Sent: July 14, 2026 10:29 AM

To: MD of Spirit River 133 <mdsr133@mdspiritriv.ab.ca>Cc: MD of Spirit River 133 <mdsr133@mdspiritriv.ab.ca>

Subject: Call to Action: Strengthening Public Safety in Alberta | Polling Results

Dear Reeve Tony Van Rootselaar and Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 Council,

On behalf of the National Police Federation,

As the Government of Alberta continues to consider changes to policing and public safety across the province, municipalities have an important opportunity to speak with a unified voice on issues that directly affect their communities.

The National Police Federation (NPF) proudly represents nearly 20,000 RCMP Members serving across Canada and internationally, including over 3,100 who serve in Alberta. We are inviting municipalities and stakeholder groups to support the attached Call to Action. It urges the Government of Alberta to pause further investment in an Alberta Sheriffs Police Service (ASPS) until a comprehensive, independent, and publicly available feasibility study is completed. It also calls for evidence-based investments in policing, the justice system, mental health and addiction support, and community-based crime prevention.

Also attached is our latest public opinion polling, which confirmed once again that 76% of Albertans are satisfied with the RCMP and 67% feel they have not been adequately consulted by creating an Alberta Sheriffs Police Service. The polling also indicates that most Albertans do not support replacing the RCMP and believe the province should prioritize other public safety needs.

If your municipality or stakeholder group is interested in signing onto the Call to Action, please reply to this email and include your municipality's logo no later than **September 30th, 2026**. Your logo will be included alongside the other participating organizations in the final public release.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss the initiative further, we would be pleased to set up a presentation or meeting time with you or members of your Council.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We hope the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 will join us in advocating for transparent decision-making and practical investments that strengthen public safety for all Albertans.

Sincerely,

Melissa Barnes, Government Relations Advisor

Melissa Barnes

Government Relations Advisor | Conseiller, relations gouvernementales

National Police Federation | Fédération de la Police Nationale

+1 (613) 212-7883

npf-fpn.com

NATIONAL
POLICE
FEDERATION



FÉDÉRATION
DE LA POLICE
NATIONALE™

 @NPFFPN

 NPF_FPN

 nationalpolicefede

 National Police Fec

The mission of the National Police Federation is to provide strong, professional, fair and progressive representation to promote and enhance the rights of RCMP Members. La mission de la Fédération de la police nationale est de fournir une représentation forte, professionnelle, juste et progressive afin de promouvoir et faire avancer les droits des Membres de la GRC.

This email may contain PRIVILEGED AND/OR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION intended only for the use of the addressee. If you are not the addressee or the person responsible for delivering it to the person to whom it was addressed, you may not copy or deliver this to anyone. If you receive this email by mistake, please immediately notify us.

2026

CALL TO ACTION TO THE GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA

Dear Premier,

Albertans deserve safe and healthy communities where residents can rely on essential public safety, health, social, and justice systems. Provincial and municipal governments share responsibility for achieving these outcomes, and municipalities expect the Government of Alberta to be a transparent, accountable, and reliable partner in delivering them.

Municipalities are on the front lines of community safety, working closely with residents, businesses, and law enforcement partners every day. Despite this, municipalities have not been provided with a clear, transparent, and evidence-based plan outlining the full financial, operational, and public safety implications of establishing an Alberta Sheriffs Police Service (ASPS) or transitioning policing responsibilities away from the RCMP. No comprehensive feasibility study, detailed costing model, or long-term funding framework has been made available to inform municipal decision-making or public understanding.

At the same time, Alberta's existing policing and public safety systems are under increasing pressure. Challenges related to rural crime, mental health and addictions, and violent repeat offenders require immediate and sustained investment. Rather than diverting significant public funds towards the creation of a new police service, the Government of Alberta should prioritize strengthening and properly resourcing the systems already in place.

Policing reform must be guided by evidence, transparency, and public confidence. Decisions of this magnitude, affecting community safety, municipal budgets, and taxpayer dollars, must be made in partnership with municipalities and with the clear support of Albertans.

We, the undersigned, call on the Government of Alberta to:

- Cease further investment in and advancement of the Alberta Sheriffs Police Service as a replacement for RCMP municipal policing.
- Release a comprehensive, independent, and publicly available feasibility study, including full lifecycle costing, governance structures, and operational impacts of any proposed policing model changes.
- Seek explicit public support before proceeding with any plan to replace or significantly restructure policing in Alberta.
- Strengthen Alberta's existing policing model by:
 - Increasing RCMP officer levels and resources in communities, while ensuring sustainable and predictable funding; and
 - Invest in the Alberta Sheriffs' existing mandate as a complementary public safety service, including targeted enforcement, rural crime initiatives, and court security.
- Strengthen the justice system by addressing bail reform challenges and repeat violent offending; increasing the number of Crown prosecutors and Provincial Court judges; and ensuring timely access to justice.
- Expand integrated public safety approaches, including police and mental health crisis teams, addiction supports, and community-based crime prevention initiatives that address root causes of crime.

NATIONAL
POLICE
FEDERATION



FÉDÉRATION
DE LA POLICE
NATIONALE

National Police Federation Alberta

Wave 9

May 2026

pollara
strategic insights

Methodology

2

Field Window	Wave 9 – April 24 to May 11, 2026
Sampling	Online survey of randomly-selected sample of 1,210 Adult (18+) Alberta Residents
Reliability	As a guideline, a probability sample of this size carries a margin of error of ± 2.8% , 19 times out of 20. The margin of error is larger for sub-segments.
Weighting	Data has been weighted using the most current age, gender, region, and education Census data, to ensure the sample reflects the actual population of adult Albertans.

REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION		
REGION	UNWEIGHTED Counts	Margin of Error
Calgary	215	±6.7%
Edmonton	214	±6.7%
Calgary Suburbs	100	±9.8%
Edmonton Suburbs	105	±9.6%
Rural North	176	±7.4%
Rural Central	200	±6.9%
Rural South	200	±6.9%
TOTAL ALBERTA	1,210	± 2.8%

WAVE	DATES IN FIELD	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
W1	Oct 21 – 28, 2020	1,300
W2	Apr 30 – May 7, 2021	1,228
W3	Oct 21 – Nov 4, 2021	1,221
W4	Jul 6 – 19, 2022	1,206
W5	Sept 15 – Oct 4, 2023	1,202
W6	Jun 14 – 24, 2024	1,200
W7	April 17 – 28, 2025	1,201
W8	Aug 8 – 20, 2025	1,200
W9	April 24 – May 11, 2026	1,210

Priorities & Impressions



Affordability & Cost-of-Living tops list of priority issues for Albertans

- Affordability & cost-of-living (46%) remains top priority that respondents would like Premier Danielle Smith and the Alberta government to address, far ahead of health care (22%) and Alberta's economy (16%).
- Affordability & cost-of-living is top priority of majority of 18-34s (50%) and 35-54s (51%).
- Policing and public safety is the top priority of only 2% of Albertans.

Priority Issues	TOTAL				REGION								GENDER		AGE		
	W9	W8	W7	W6	Cal	Edm	Cal Subs	Edm Subs	Rural North	Rural Cent	Rural South	All Rural	M	F	18-34	35-54	55+
Affordability and Cost-of-Living	46	43	41	48	48	41	46	41	50	49	49	49	44	49	50	51	39
Health Care	22	20	27	24	13	27	22	36	20	25	24	23	19	26	15	16	33
Alberta's Economy	16	19	16	14	19	18	19	8	14	15	10	13	20	11	16	14	16
Climate Change & Environment	3	3	4	4	5	4	2	1	1	-	3	1	3	3	4	5	2
Education	3	4	3	3	4	3	0	2	3	2	2	3	3	3	4	4	1
Policing and Public Safety	2	1	2	1	2	3	4	-	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	2
Indigenous Reconciliation	1	2	1	0	-	1	1	-	2	3	-	1	1	1	1	1	0

Q 2. When it comes to the following issues facing Alberta today, which is your top priority that you would like the Premier Danielle Smith and the Alberta government address? Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210); W8 (N=1,200); W7 (N=1,201); W6 (N=1,200).

Two-thirds of Albertans have favourable impression of RCMP Officers

- Favourable impressions of RCMP Officers (66%) within range of results over past eight waves (65% to 71%).
- Favourable impressions of RCMP Officers are highest in Calgary suburbs (77%) and Edmonton suburbs (76%).

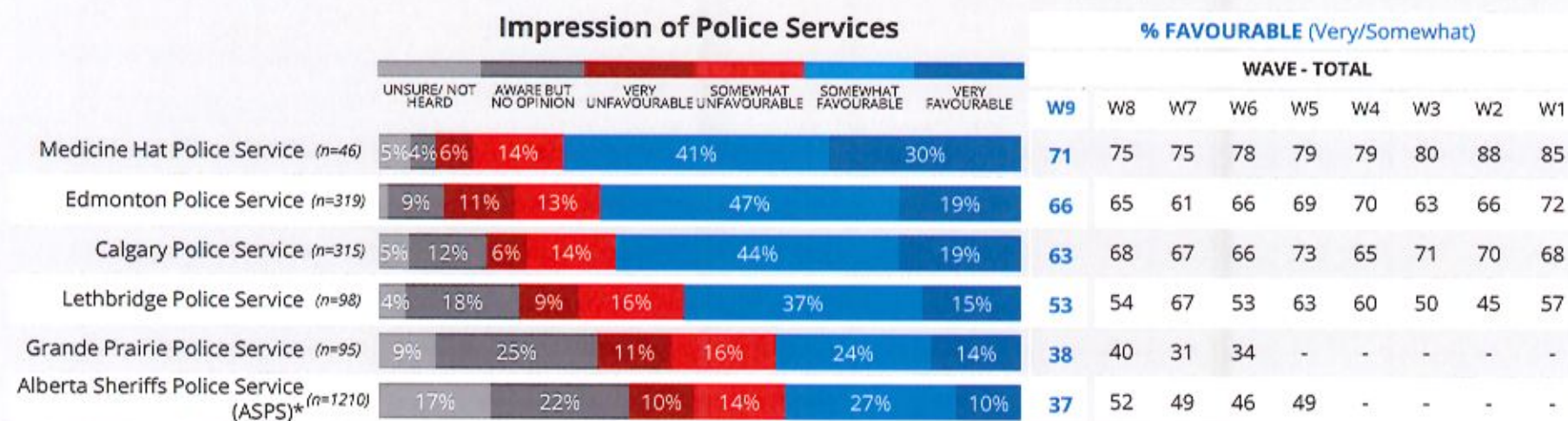


3. Do you have a favourable or unfavourable impression of the following people or organizations? If you are unaware of any, please click that response option.
 Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210); W8 (N=1,200); W7 (N=1,201); W6 (N=1,200); W5 (N=1,202); W4 (N=1,206); W3 (N=1,221); W2 (N=1,228); W1 (N=1,300).

Police and Sheriff services in Alberta have net-favourable impressions

6

- Awareness of Alberta Sheriffs Police Service (ASPS) (61%) is lower relative to "Alberta Sheriffs" in wave 8 (74%).
- ASPS has net-favourable impressions with 37% favourable and 24% unfavourable.
- Police services tested are net-favourable. Edmonton Police Service (66%) is within range of wave 1-8 results, while Calgary Police Service (63%) is at a lower level relative to previous waves.



3. Do you have a favourable or unfavourable impression of the following people or organizations? If you are unaware of any, please click that response option.
 Base: TOTAL W9 (N=Varies). Note: Data <2% not labeled. *Previous versions listed "Alberta Sheriffs"

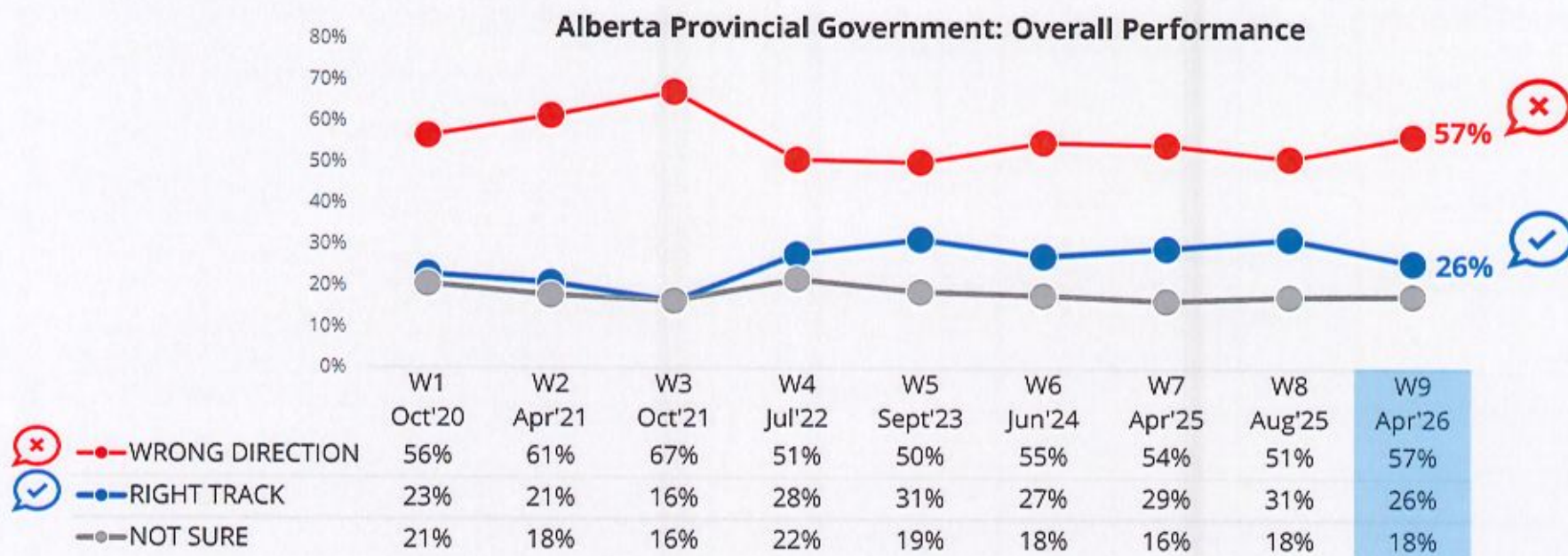
National Unity

pollara
strategic insights

Majority of Albertans say provincial government heading off in wrong direction

8

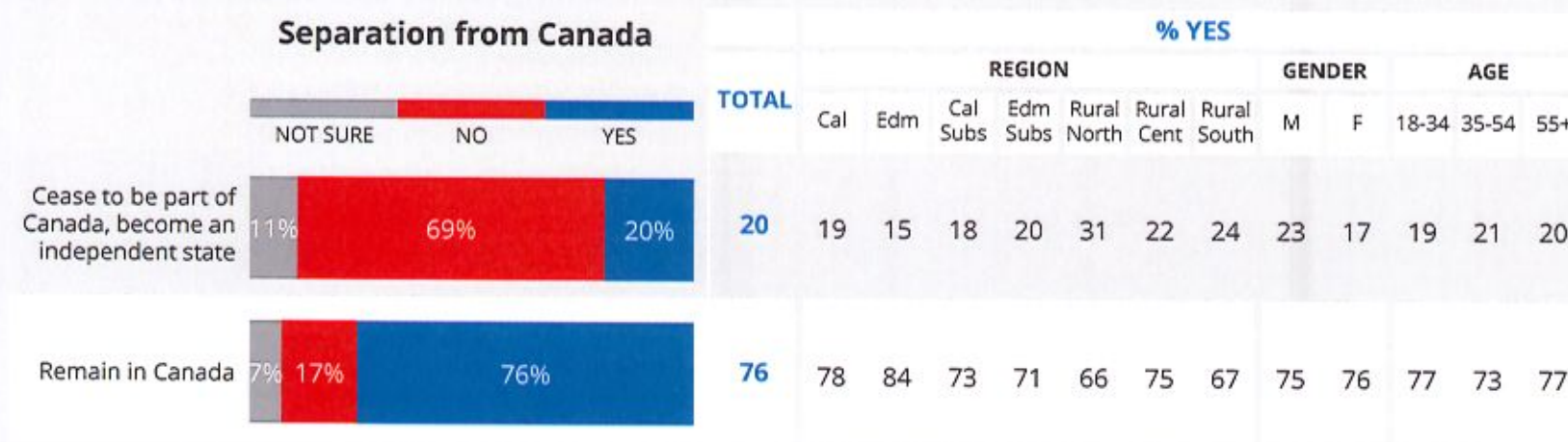
- Those saying provincial government is on "right track" declines 5% since wave 8.



Q 1. In Alberta today, do you think the provincial government is on the right track, or do you think it is heading off in the wrong direction?
 Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210); W8 (N=1,200); W7 (N=1,201); W6 (N=1,200); W5 (N=1,202); W4 (N=1,206); W3 (N=1,221); W2 (N=1,228); W1 (N=1,300).

Three-quarters choose remaining in Canada

- 76% agree Alberta should remain in Canada while 17% disagree. In an alternate question, 20% agree Alberta should cease to be a part of Canada to become an independent state, while 69% disagree.
- Results are consistent by age, but marginally different by gender (23% men, 17% women) with women more likely to be undecided (15%) vs. men (7%).



4A. Do you agree that the Province of Alberta should cease to be a part of Canada to become an independent state?

4B. Do you agree that Alberta should remain in Canada?

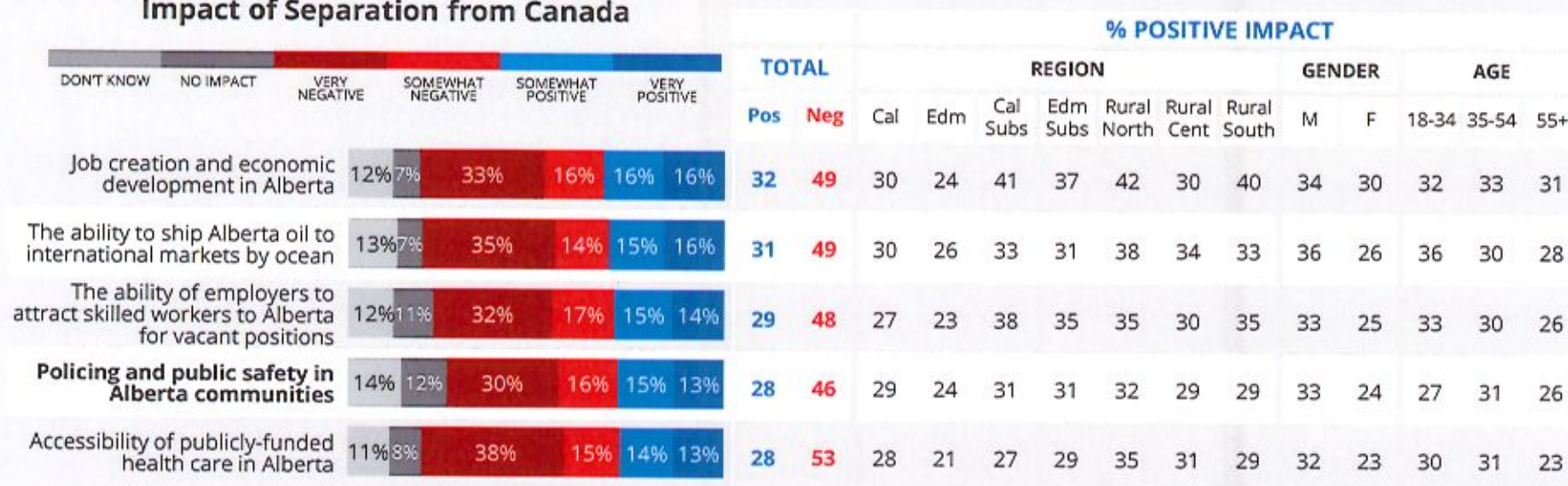
Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210)

Plurality say separating from Canada will have negative impact on a range of issues, but positive impact is higher than current support for separation

10

- With support from separation ranging from 17% to 20%, those saying separation will have a positive impact on Canada in key areas is at a higher level (28% to 32%) suggesting that there is room to grow for separatist sentiment.
- On policing and public safety in Alberta communities, 28% say separation would have a positive impact.

Impact of Separation from Canada



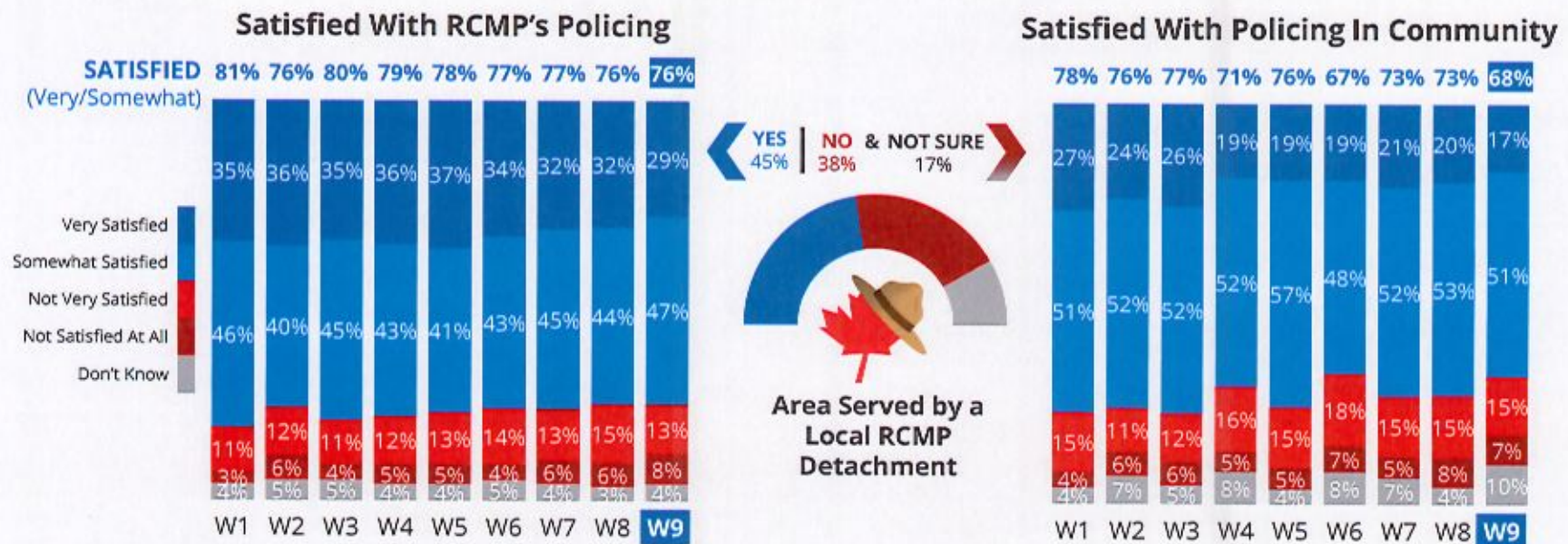
5. If Alberta were to separate from Canada and become an independent country, what impact do you think this would have on each of the following?
Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210)

RCMP Satisfaction, Confidence, and Believability

Over three-quarters satisfied with RCMP's policing

12

- Satisfaction with RCMP's policing of their community (76%) consistent with wave 8; those very satisfied (29%) marginally declined.
- Satisfaction with policing in non-RCMP communities (68%) declines 5% compared to wave 8, and level of those very satisfied (17%) lower than RCMP-served communities.

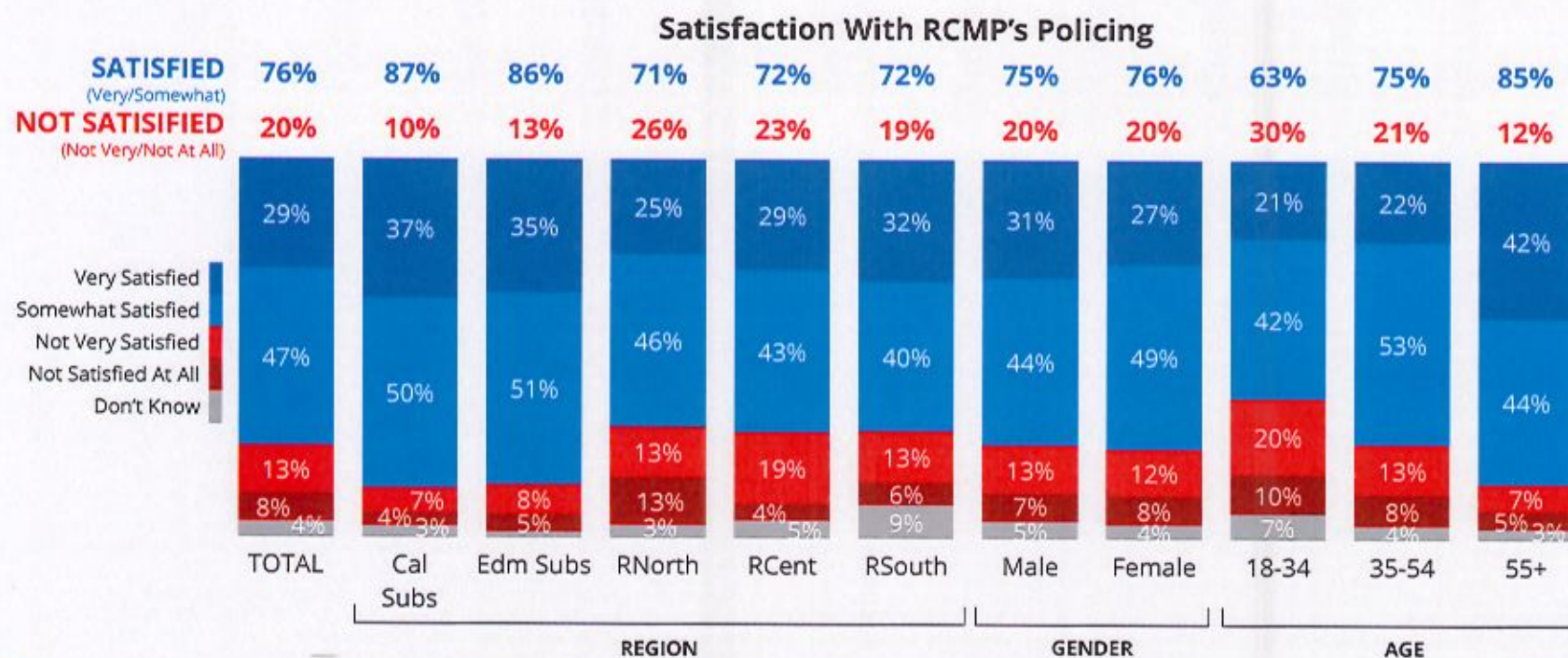


Now, here are some questions about policing in Alberta. | 12. Is your municipality or local area served by a local RCMP detachment? Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210); W8 (N=1,200); W7 (N=1,201) | 13. How satisfied are you with the RCMP's policing of your community? Base: TOTAL W9 (N=687); W8 (N=729); W7 (N=718); W6 (N=678); W5 (N=699); W4 (N=696); W3 (N=727); W2 (N=733); W1 (N=809) | 14. How satisfied are you with the policing in your community? Base: TOTAL W9 (N=523); W8 (N=471); W7 (N=483); W6 (N=522); W5 (N=503); W4 (N=510); W3 (N=494); W2 (N=495); W1 (N=491).

Satisfaction with RCMP's policing 71% or above across RCMP-served regions

13

- Regionally, satisfaction ranges from 71% in Rural North to 87% in Calgary suburbs.
- 55+ age group most satisfied with RCMP's policing (85%); men (75%) and women (76%) at about same level of satisfaction.



Q 13. How satisfied are you with the RCMP's policing of your community?
 Base: Local Area Served by RCMP W9 (N=687). Note: Data <2% not labeled.

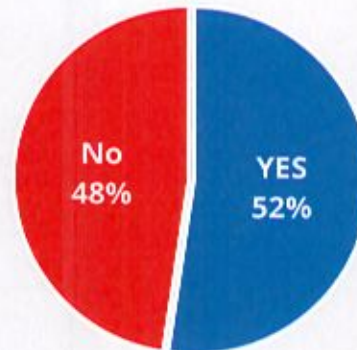
RCMP Contract Renewal and Alberta Sheriffs Police Service (ASPS)

Slim majority aware of Alberta government's plan to create the Alberta Sheriffs Police Service (ASPS)

15

- 52% awareness of Alberta government's plan to create the ASPS, with higher level of awareness among 55+ age group (69%), men (59%), and rural Alberta residents (56%).

**Awareness of Alberta's Plan to
Replace RCMP with Alberta
Sheriffs Police Service**

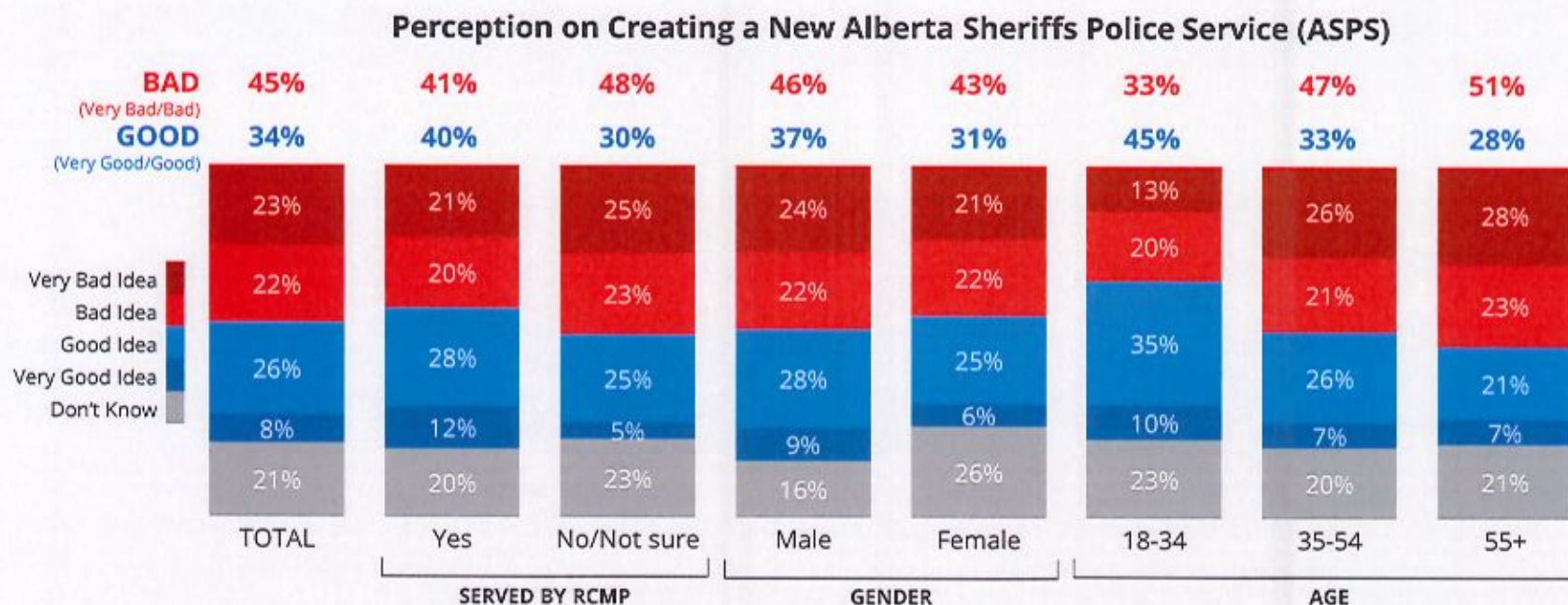


22. Before responding to this survey, had you read, seen or heard anything about the Alberta government's plan to create a new provincial police service called the Alberta Sheriffs Police Service (ASPS)?
Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210)

Plurality says creating a new ASPS at this time is a “bad idea”

16

- 45% say creating the ASPS at this time is a bad idea, including 23% who say it's a “very bad idea”. Young people – 18-34 age group – are more likely to say it's a good idea (+12% good vs. bad) compared to 35-54 (-14%) and 55+ (-23%).

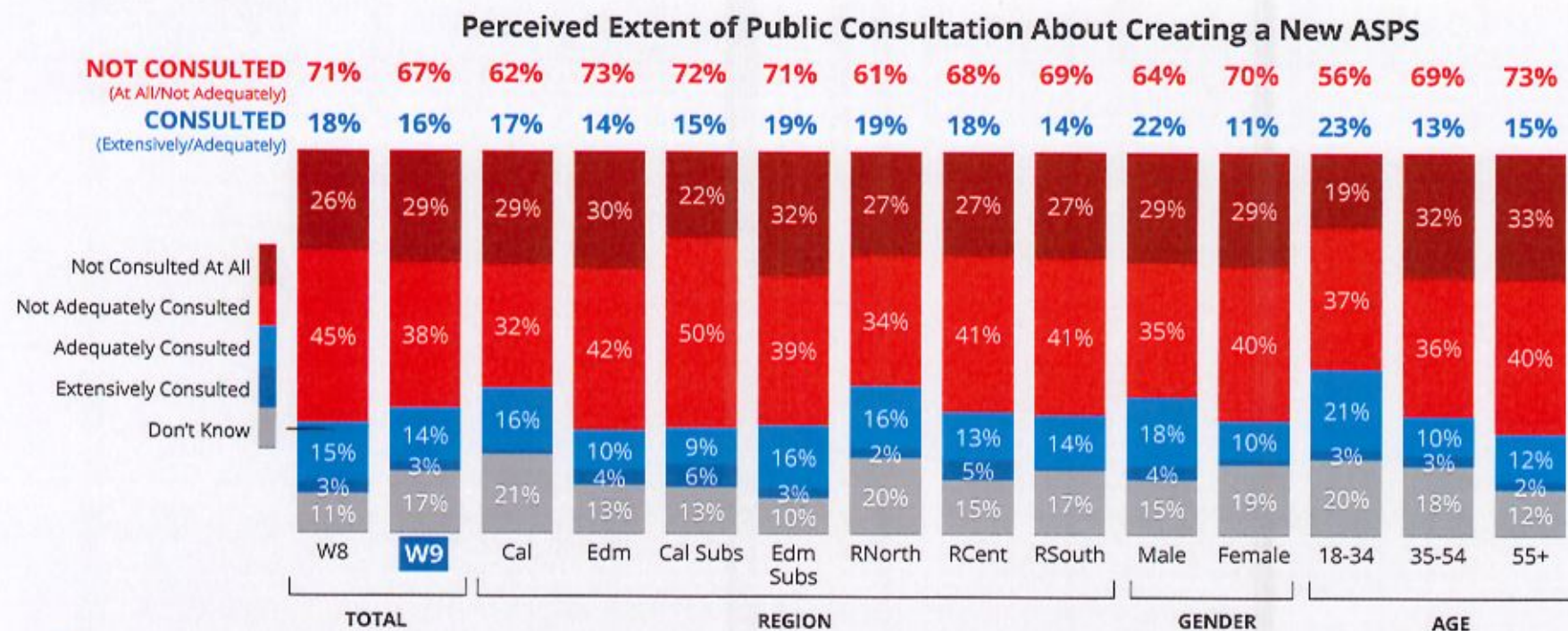


Q 23. In February 2026, the Alberta government announced its plan to create a new Alberta Sheriffs Police Service (ASPS). Thinking about this, do you feel the Alberta government creating an additional provincial police service – the Alberta Sheriffs Police Service (ASPS) – at this time is a good idea or a bad idea?
Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210)

Two-thirds say that the public has not been adequately consulted about creating a new Alberta Sheriffs Police Service

17

- Broad consensus across gender, age, and region groups that consultation has not been adequate.

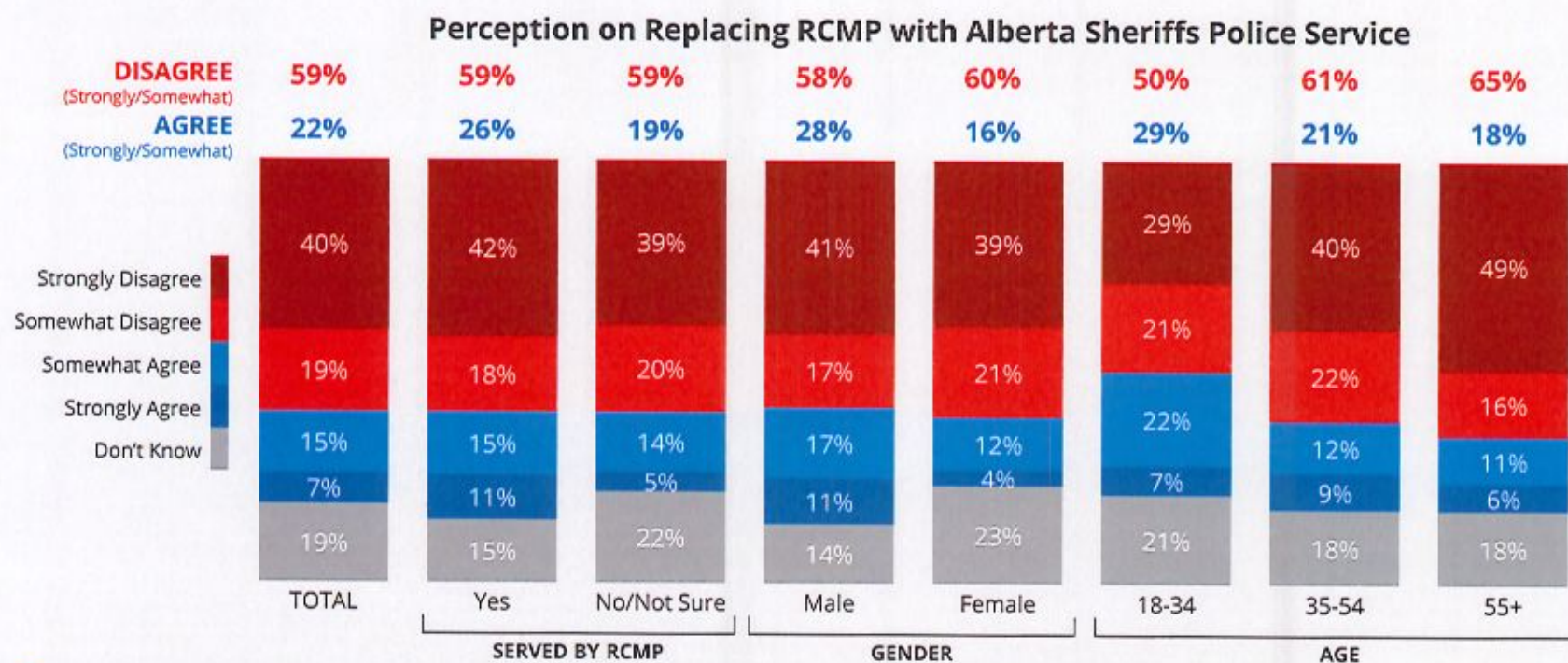


Q 24. To what extent do you think the public has been consulted about creating a new Alberta Sheriffs Police Service?
 Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210); W8 (N=1,200). Note: Data <2% not labeled.

Majority disagree that ASPS should replace the RCMP in all RCMP-served communities in Alberta when RCMP contract expires in 2032

18

- Majority disagree across age, gender, and region groups that ASPS should replace RCMP in 2032.

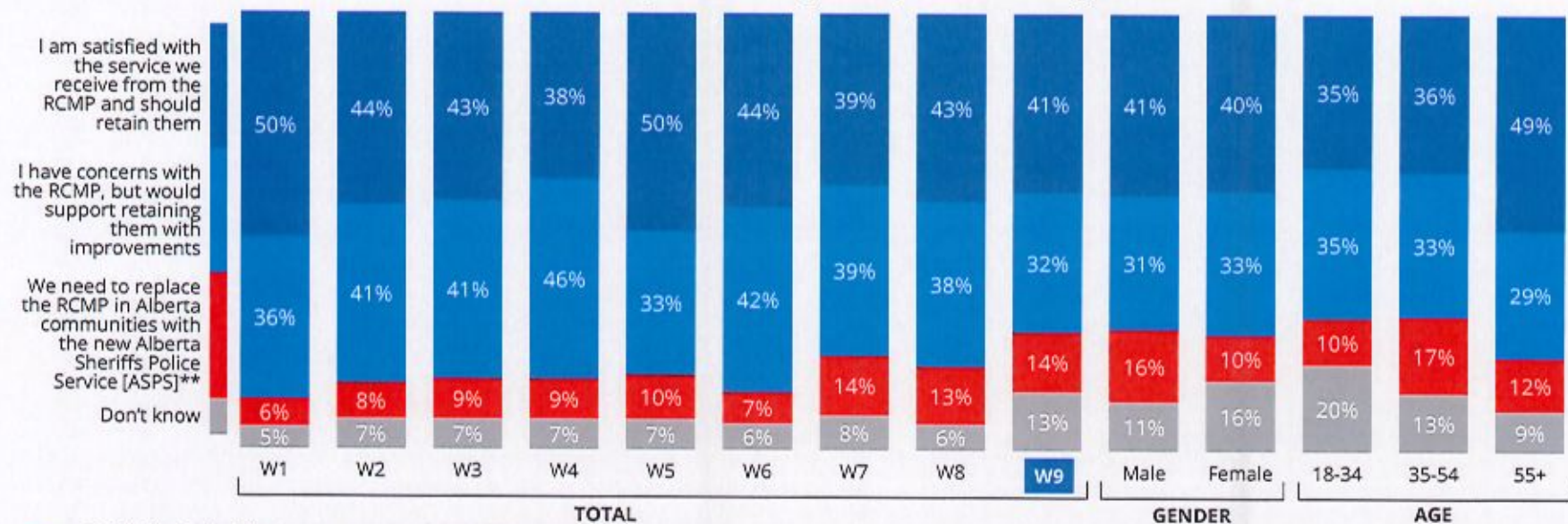


Q 25. Do you think the Alberta Sheriffs Police Service should replace the RCMP in all RCMP-served communities in Alberta when the RCMPs contract expires in 2032?
Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210).

In RCMP-served areas, over 7-in-10 satisfied or prefer retaining them with improvements, while 1-in-7 choose replacing the RCMP with ASPS

- Separatist voters are split with 18% satisfied with RCMP, 26% choosing to retain with improvements, and 42% choosing to replace RCMP with ASPS.
- Level of satisfied/retain with improvement has declined from 86% in wave 1 to 73% in wave 9; the replace RCMP option has moved from 6% to 14% across wave 1 to 9, while undecided has risen to 13%. Undecided is higher among 18-34s (20%) and women (16%).

Viewpoint on Replacing or Retaining the RCMP



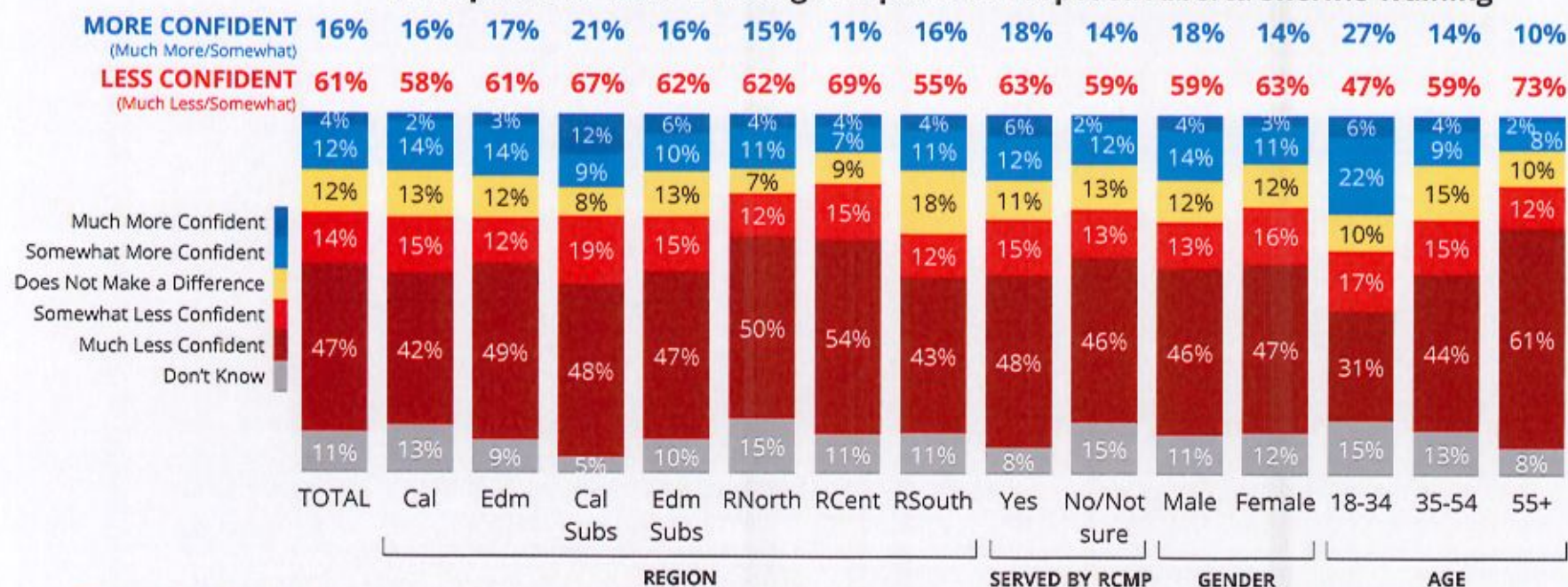
26. Which of the following statements best reflects your point of view?

Base: Local Area Served by RCMP W9 (N=687); W8 (N=729); W7 (N=718); W6 (N=678); W5 (N=699); W4 (N=695); W3 (N=727); W2 (N=733); W1 (N=809). *W1 Read: "...if there were significant improvements". **Note: The name of the agency has changed from APPS to ASPS..

Training comparison between RCMP and ASPS makes majority feel less confident about Alberta government's policing plan

- Plurality much less confident based on comparison of training for RCMP officers (26 weeks) and ASPS (6 weeks). Overall, 47% are much less confident (61% overall less confident). Almost half (48%) of those in RCMP-served areas are much less confident.

Perceptions of RCMP Training Compared to Proposed Alberta Sheriffs Training



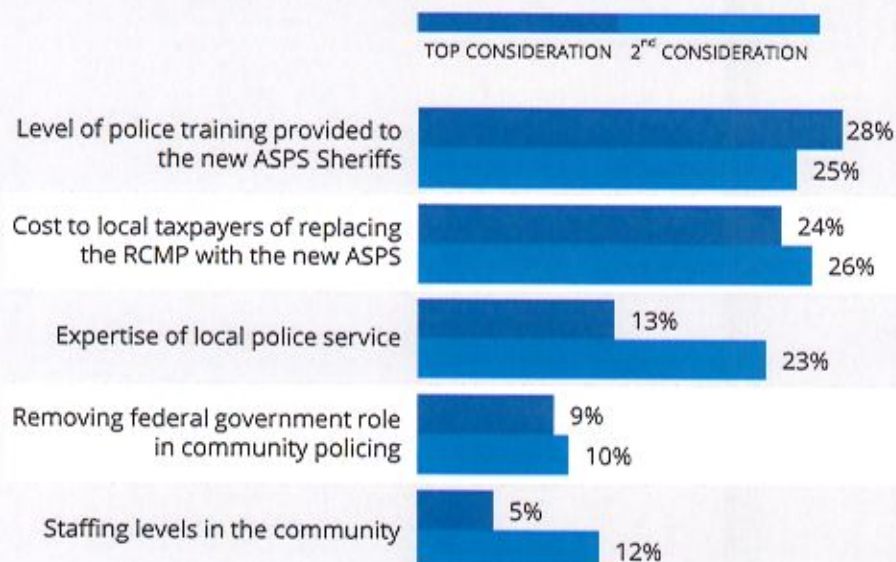
27. RCMP officers undergo 26 weeks of training at the RCMP Training Depot in Regina. The Alberta government is proposing that Alberta Sheriffs receive 6 weeks of training to become police officers. Thinking about this, does it make you feel more confident or less confident about the Alberta government's policing plan for communities in Alberta, or does it make no difference? Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210).

Level of police training and taxpayer cost are leading considerations for those in RCMP-served areas

21

- 18-34 place equal importance on level of training and cost to taxpayers, while 35-54 place higher importance on cost to taxpayer, and 55+ place higher importance on level of training.

Most Important Considerations If Replacing RCMP with ASPS



OVERALL CONSIDERATION

TOTAL	REGION						GENDER		AGE		
	Cal Subs	Edm Subs	Rural North	Rural Cent	Rural South		M	F	18-34	35-54	55+
48	53	49	45	48	53		45	52	43	44	56
47	47	55	44	46	40		45	49	40	52	46
33	31	42	25	33	33		34	32	30	33	35
18	29	16	18	18	22		21	13	18	19	16
15	16	9	14	22	12		20	11	21	13	14

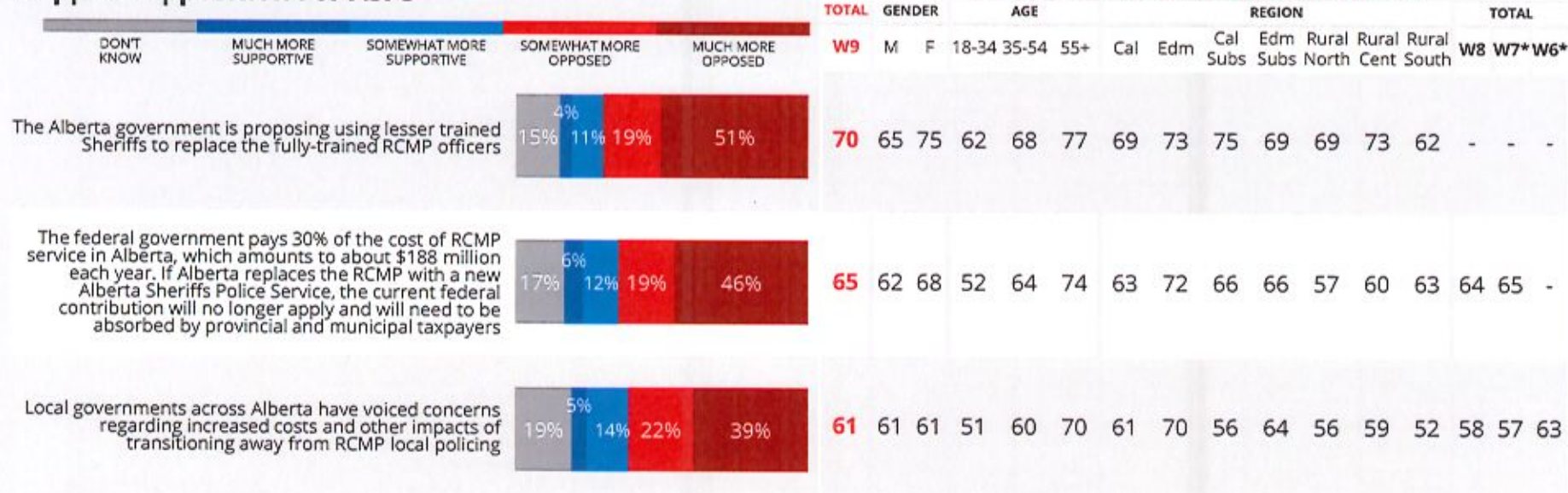
Q 28/29. The Alberta government has stated that its intention is to offer the Alberta Sheriffs Police Service (ASPS) as an option to communities for their local policing, to replace the RCMP. What do you think should be the most important consideration for communities in considering whether to replace the RCMP with the newly-created Alberta Sheriffs Police Service? Base: Local Area Served by RCMP W9 (N=687)

Using lesser trained officers/sheriffs makes half much more opposed to creation of new ASPS

22

- 7-in-10 (70%) more opposed to ASPS based on Alberta government proposing to use lesser trained Sheriffs to replace fully trained RCMP officers. Messaging outlining federal government 30% contribution and local governments voicing concerns make over 6-in-10 (65%) more opposed, and consistent with previous waves.

Support/Opposition For ASPS*



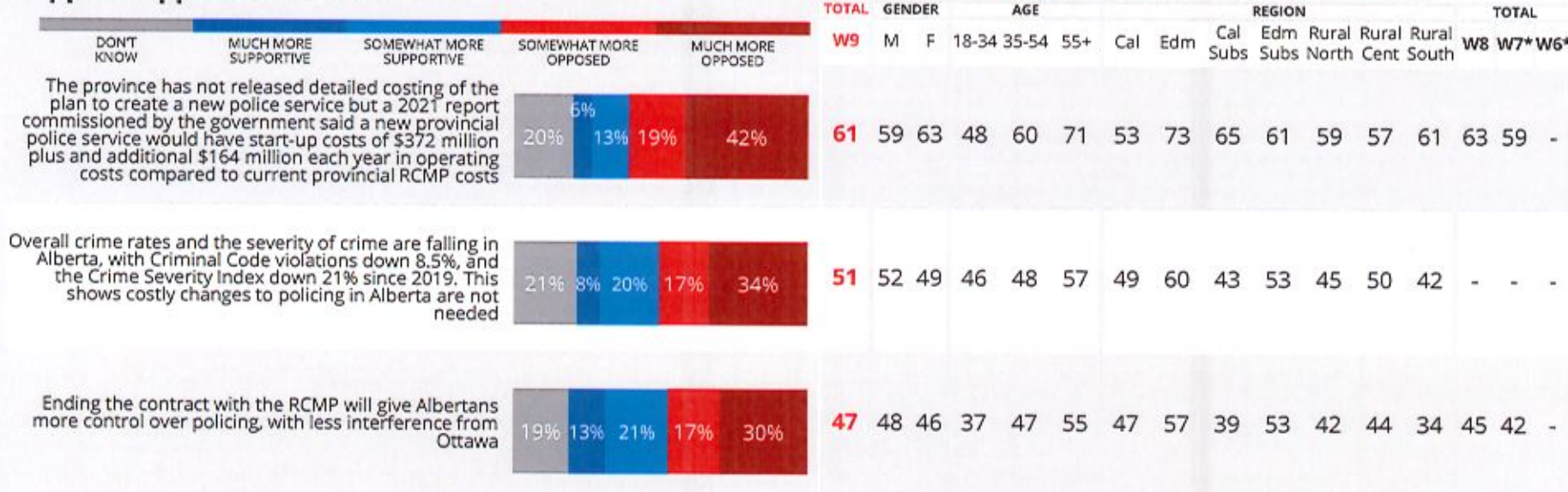
Q 30. Here are some general statements about policing in Alberta. Please indicate whether they make you more supportive or more opposed to the creation of a new Alberta Sheriffs Police Service (ASPS)?
 Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210); W8 (N=1,200); TOTAL Sample Split W7 (600-601). *Note: The name of the agency has changed from APPS to ASPS.

Non-disclosure of detailed costing makes majority more opposed to ASPS plan

23

- Of those who say replacing the RCMP with the ASPS is a good idea, 33% become more opposed to the plan based on non-disclosure of detailed costing. 55+ age group more likely to be more opposed (71%).

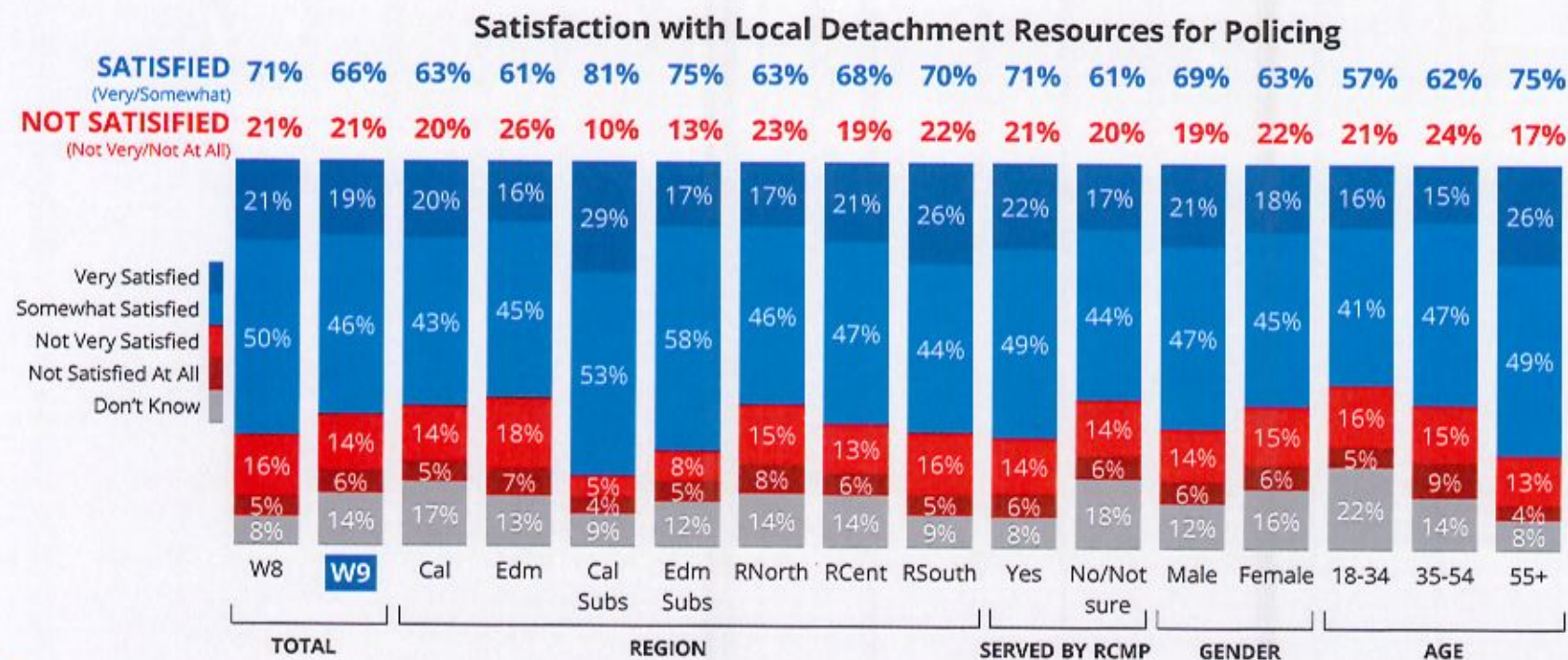
Support/Opposition For ASPS*



30. Here are some general statements about policing in Alberta. Please indicate whether they make you more supportive or more opposed to the creation of a new Alberta Sheriffs Police Service (ASPS)?
Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210); W8 (N=1,200); TOTAL Sample Split W7 (600-601). *Note: The name of the agency has changed from APPS to ASPS.

Two-thirds satisfied that their local detachment has adequate resources to police their community

- 66% say they are satisfied with resources for local detachment, with higher level in RCMP-served areas (71%).



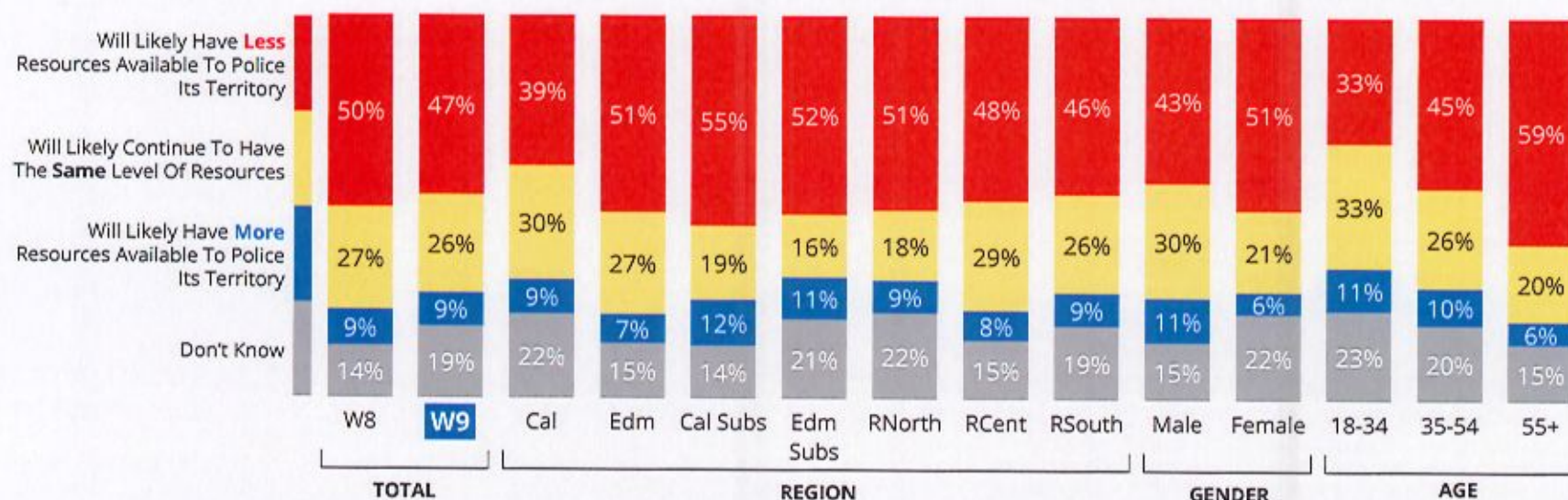
Q 31. Thinking about policing in your community, how satisfied are you with your local detachment having adequate resources to police your community?
 Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210); W8 (N=1,200).

About half say there will likely be less resources available to police its territory if RCMP is replaced with ASPS

25

- 47% say there will likely be less resources available to police its territory if RCMP is replaced with ASPS, including half of those in RCMP-served areas (50%), women (51%) and 55+ age group (59%).

Expected Resource Levels if RCMP is Replaced with Alberta Sheriffs Police Service



32. Do you feel that your community's police service will have more, less, or the same level of resources available to police its territory?
Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210); W8 (N=1,200).

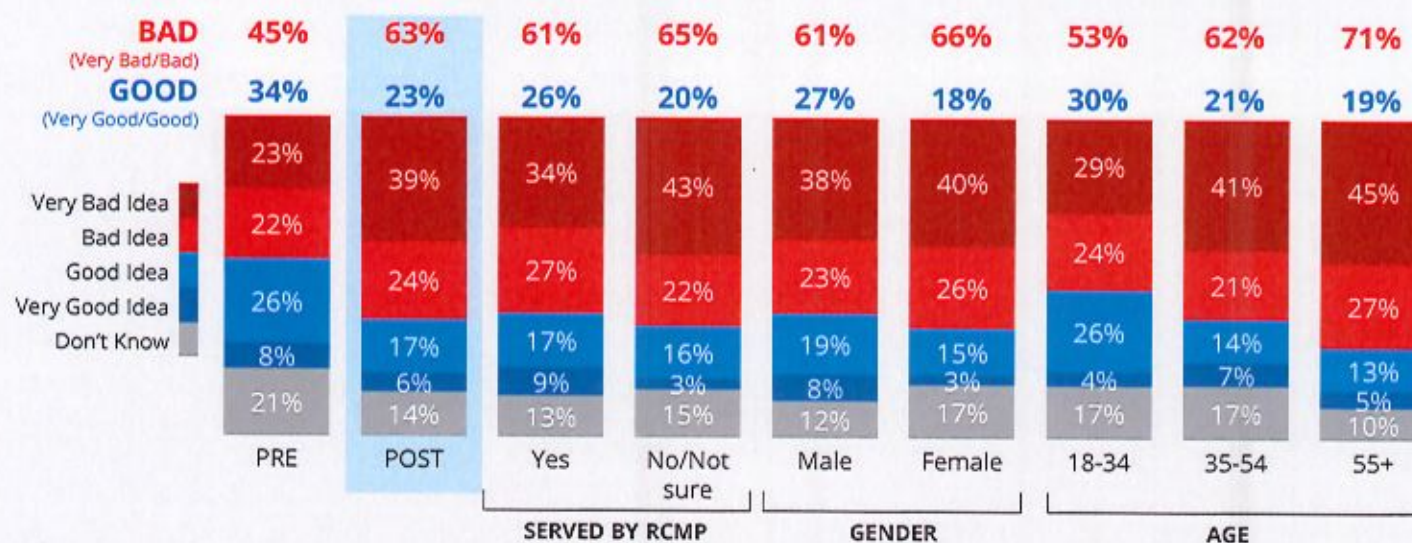
Post-Tests:
RCMP Contract Renewal and
Alberta Sheriffs Police Service (ASPS)

Post-test: Majority now say creating a new ASPS at this time is a “bad idea” after more information is provided

27

- Proportions feeling it's a bad idea increases 19pts from 45% to 63%, with 16pt increase in those who say it's a “very bad idea”.
- Majority of those in RCMP-served areas feel it's a bad idea (61%); increase of 21pts compared to pre-test.
- Increase of +21pts among 18–34-year olds and +20pts among 55+ year olds who feel it is a “bad idea”.

Post Test: Perception of Creating a New Alberta Sheriffs Police Service (ASPS)



23. In February 2026, the Alberta government announced its plan to create a new Alberta Sheriffs Police Service (ASPS). Thinking about this, do you feel the Alberta government creating an additional provincial police service – the Alberta Sheriffs Police Service (ASPS) – at this time is a good idea or a bad idea?

34. Based on the additional information you've reviewed, do you feel the Alberta government creating an additional provincial police service – the Alberta Sheriffs Police Service (ASPS) – at this time is a good idea or a bad idea?

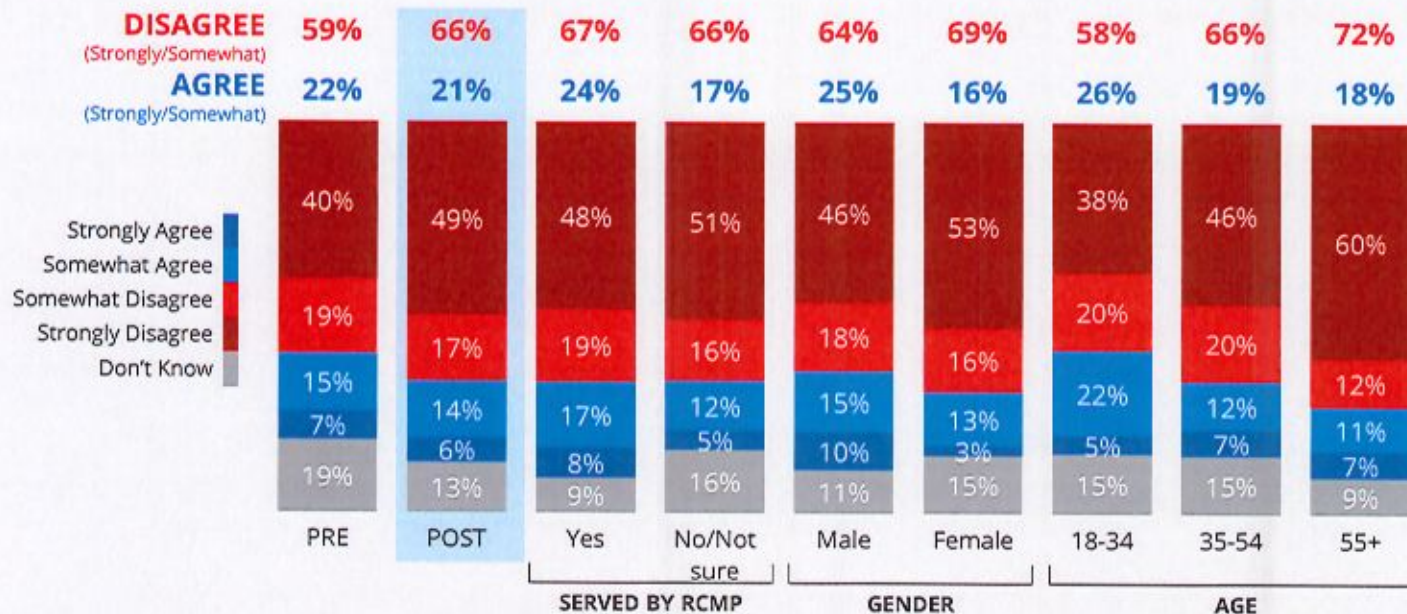
Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210)

Post-Test: Majority continue to disagree that ASPS should replace the RCMP; 7pt increase in disagreement, while proportions who agree remain steady

28

- 7pt increase in disagreement among RCMP-served region, and 9pt increase among 18-34 year olds after receiving more information.

Post Test: Perception on Replacing the RCMP with the Alberta Sheriffs Police Service



25. Do you think the Alberta Sheriffs Police Service should replace the RCMP in all RCMP-served communities in Alberta when the RCMPs contract expires in 2032?

35. And, do you think the Alberta Sheriffs Police Service should replace the RCMP in all RCMP-served communities in Alberta when the RCMPs contract expires in 2032?

Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210).

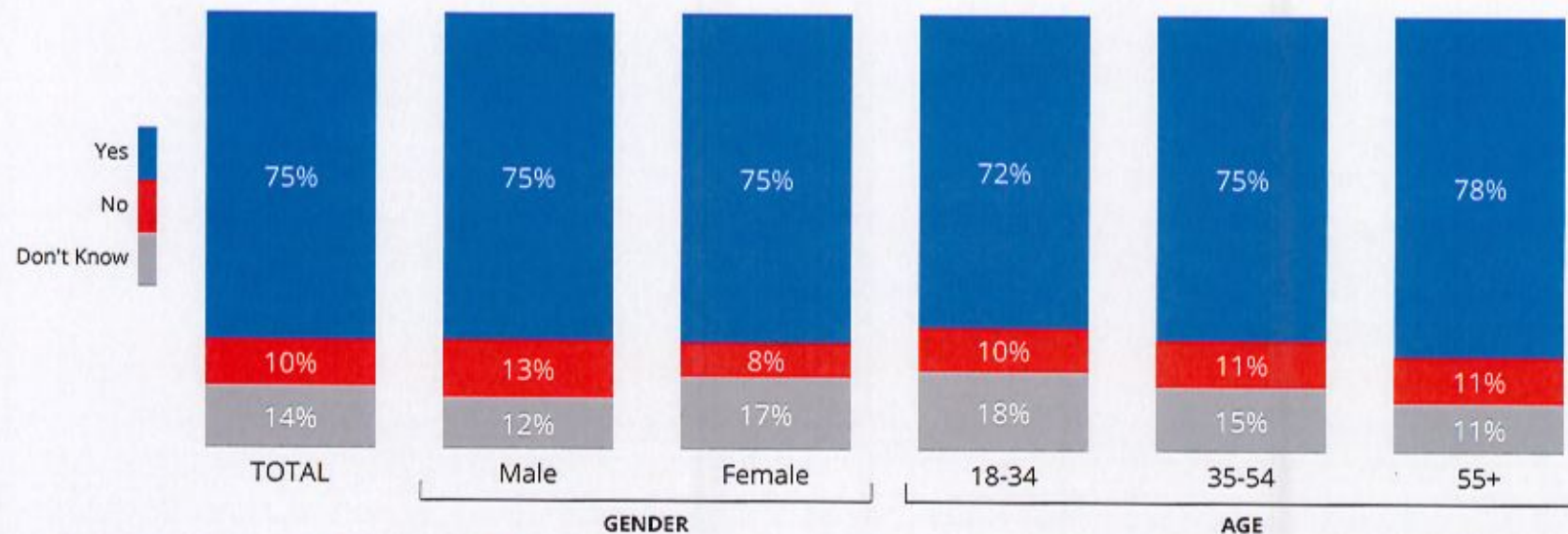
Public Safety & Politics

3-in-4 Albertans say the government should ask voters for approval in a province-wide referendum before proceeding with plan to replace the RCMP

30

- Broad consensus (75%) among Albertans to have province-wide referendum before proceeding with any plan to replace the RCMP with a provincially run Alberta Sheriffs Police Service (ASPS). Consistent support among age and gender groups.
- Remain voters (78%) more likely to support province-wide referendum compared to Separatist voters (68%).

Public Views on Whether Alberta Should Replace the RCMP with a Provincially Run Police Service



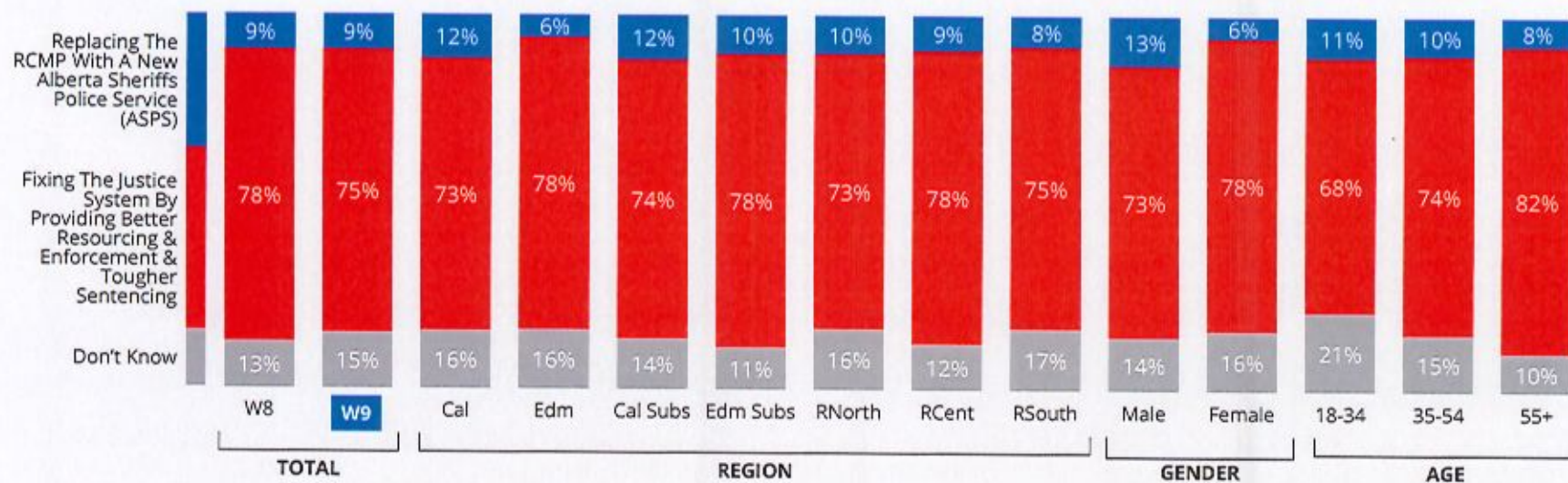
36. The Alberta government is putting forward nine referendum questions to voters this fall, none of which relate to policing. Before proceeding with any plan to replace the RCMP with a provincially run Alberta Sheriffs Police Service (ASPS), should the government ask Alberta voters for their approval in a referendum?
Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210).

Almost 3-in-4 Albertans prefer focus on fixing the justice system instead of replacing the RCMP with a new Alberta Sheriffs Police Service (ASPS)

31

- Most Albertans prefer Premier to focus on fixing the justice system by providing better resourcing and enforcement and tougher sentencing (75%) compared to replacing the RCMP with a new ASPS (9%).

Premier Danielle Smith and UCP Government's Focus on Public Safety in Alberta



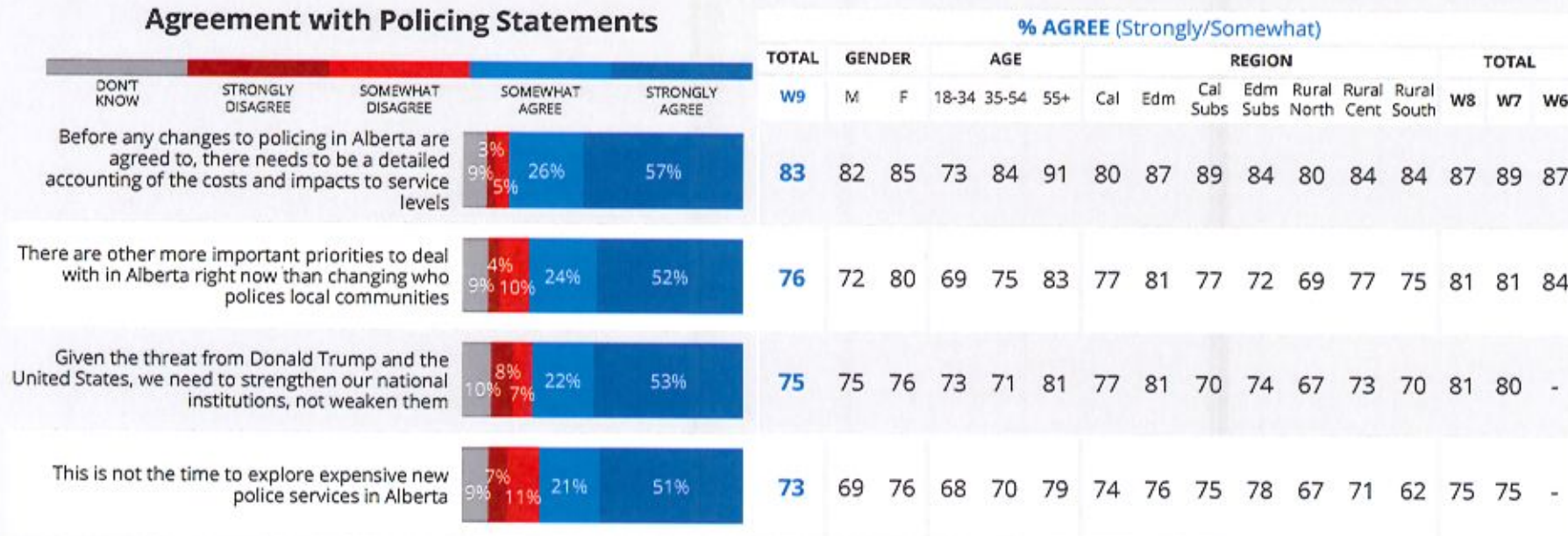
Q 37. When it comes to public safety in Alberta, do you think the Premier and the United Conservative Party (UCP) governments focus should be on...
Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210); W8 (N=1,200).

3-in-4 agree that we need to strengthen national institutions, not weaken them

32

- Over 8-in-10 (83%) Albertans agree that there needs to be a detailed accounting of costs/impacts to service levels.
- Over 3-in-4 (76%) agree that there are "more important priorities to deal with in Alberta right now than changing who policies local communities", including 83% of 55+ voters.

Agreement with Policing Statements

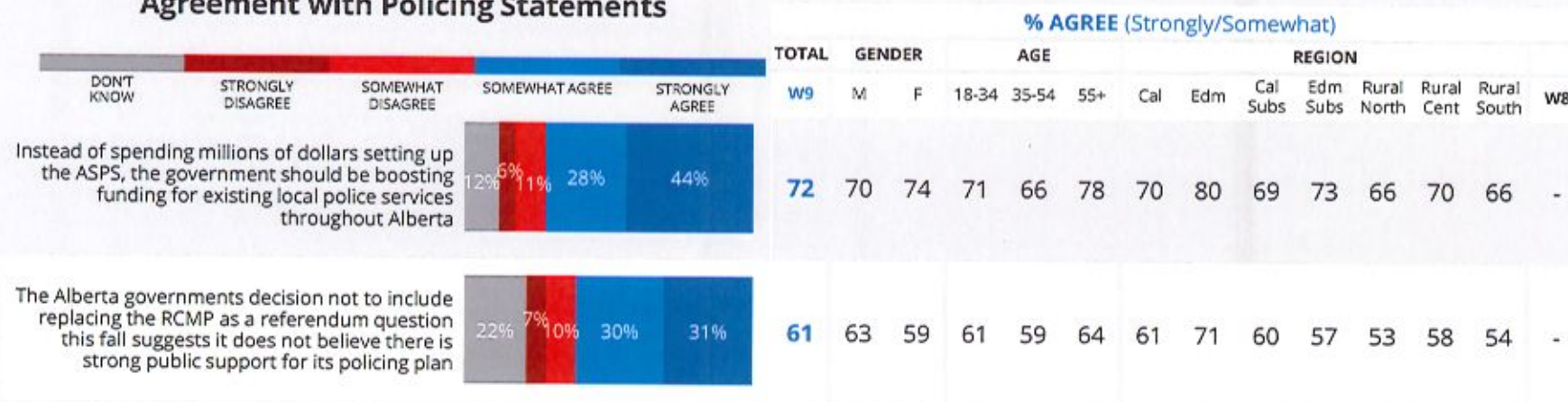


Q 39. Please indicate to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements:
 Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210); W8 (N=1,200); W7 (N=1,201); W6 (N=1,200). *W6 Scale Read: SUPPORT (Much More/Somewhat).

Over 7-in-10 agree government should be boosting funding for existing local police services instead of spending millions of dollars on setting up ASPS

- Majority (72%) agree that Alberta government should be boosting funding for local police services than spending dollars setting up the ASPS and majority (61%) agree that not putting policing on referendum ballot suggests government does not believe its plan has strong support.

Agreement with Policing Statements



Q 39. Please indicate to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements:
 Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210); W8 (N=1,200); W7 (N=1,201); W6 (N=1,200). *W6 Scale Read: SUPPORT (Much More/Somewhat).

Post-Test: Retaining RCMP

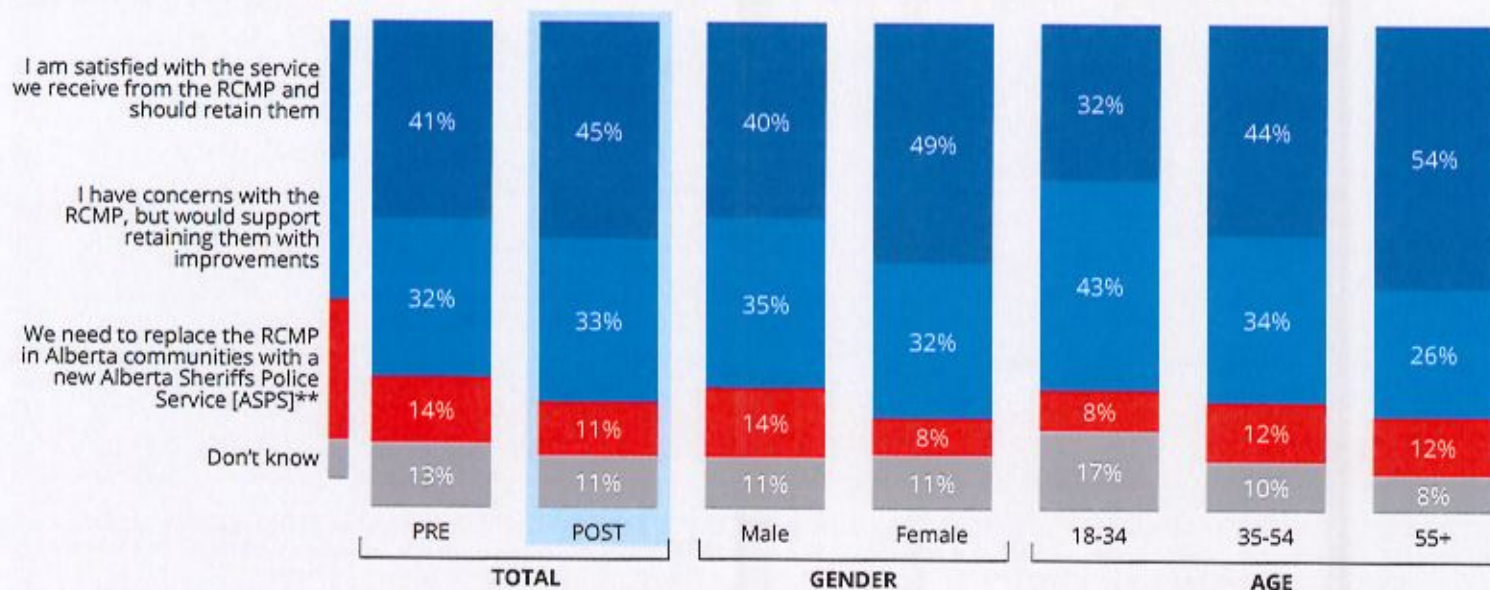
pollara
strategic insights

Post-test: Almost 4-in-5 in RCMP-served communities say they are satisfied with the service from RCMP and should retain them / with improvements

35

- In the post-test, those saying that the RCMP needs to be replaced in Alberta communities with a new ASPS drops from 14% to 11%, while retain / retain with improvements rises from a combined 73% to 78%.

Post Test: Viewpoint on Replacing or Retaining the RCMP



26. Which of the following statements best reflects your viewpoint?

40. Now that you reviewed additional information, which of the following statements best reflects your point of view?

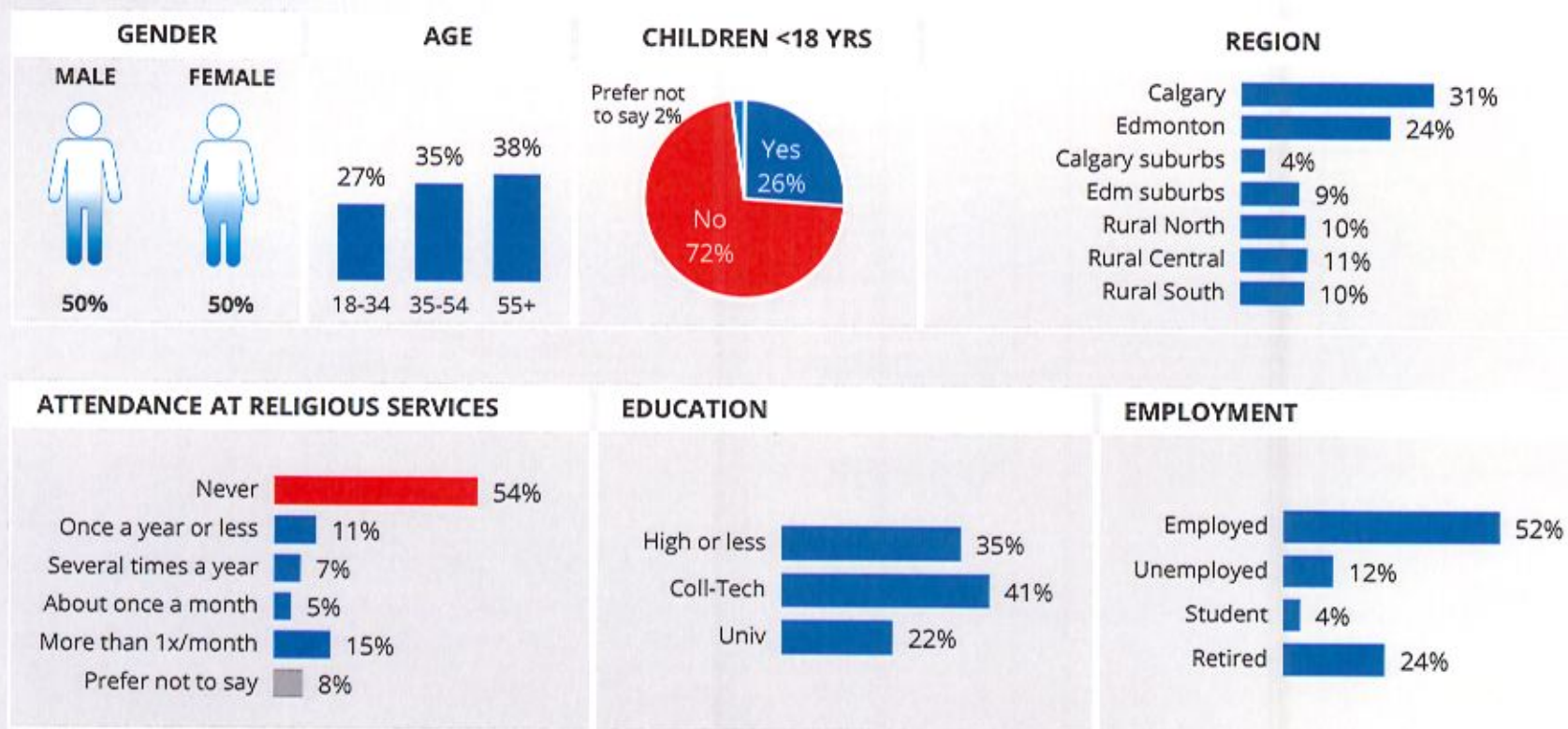
Base: Local Area Served by RCMP (N=687) **Note: The name of the agency has changed from APPS to ASPS.

APPENDIX

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Demographics

37



Q Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210).

Demographics

38

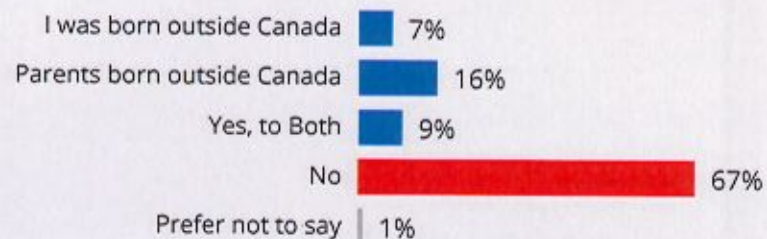
INCOME



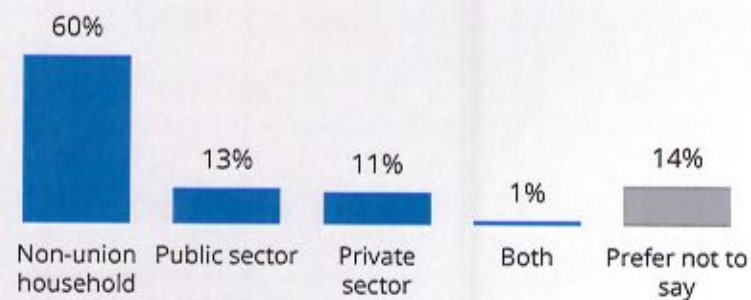
ETHNICITY



BIRTHPLACE OUTSIDE CANADA



UNION MEMBERSHIP



Base: TOTAL W9 (N=1,210).

NATIONAL
POLICE
FEDERATION



FÉDÉRATION
DE LA POLICE
NATIONALE

National Police Federation Alberta

Wave 9

May 2026

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strategic insights

FW: RMA Member Resource: Updates to Code of Practice for Pits (CO...

 Summarize

MD of Spirit River 133

 Reply Reply All Forward

Thu 2026-07-16 3:57 PM

From: Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) <rma@rmalberta.com>

Sent: July 16, 2026 3:13 PM

To: MD of Spirit River 133 <mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca>

Subject: RMA Member Resource: Updates to Code of Practice for Pits (COPP)

[View this email in your browser](#)

Member Resource Release: Updates to the Code of Practice for Pits (COPP)

Dear Mayors, Reeves, and CAOs,

Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (EPA) is seeking municipal input on updates to the **Code of Practice for Pits** (COPP). According to EPA, updates to the COPP will focus on implementing Bill 28 changes related to **paramountcy of provincial approvals** on aggregate pit applications, as well as recommendations from the recent GOA **Sand and Gravel Task Force**.

As indicated in the July 8, 2026 email from RMA's President, Kara Westerlund, RMA is providing members with an engagement guide. The guide provides an overview of Bill 28 changes and the Task Force recommendations, the current provincial approval process, key messages and questions, and general engagement strategies. It also highlights specific priorities that members can raise with the EPA that must be addressed prior to simply considering how to expand the scope of the provincial approval process.

>> Download the Engagement Guide Now (PDF) <<

If you have any questions ahead of the kick-off session on July 21, 2026, feel free to reach out to Policy and Advocacy staff. If you have not yet indicated interest in participating, please RSVP by emailing brian.brassard@gov.ab.ca.

Sincerely,

Rural Municipalities of Alberta

[View this email in your browser](#)



A Message from RMA President, Kara Westerlund: Changes to Code of Practice for Pits & Engagement Process

Dear Mayors, Reeves, and CAOs,

As you are likely aware, yesterday Alberta Environment and Protected Areas distributed a **letter** to municipalities announcing an engagement on the Code of Practice for Pits (COPP). According to EPA, updates to the COPP will focus on implementing Bill 28 changes related to **paramountcy of provincial approvals** on aggregate pit applications, as well as recommendations from the recent GOA **Sand and Gravel Task Force**. The introduction of section 619.1 in the *Municipal Government Act* allows provincial approval of pits to take paramountcy over municipal approvals. Municipalities now must amend land use bylaws, planning documents, and permits to align with provincial approvals. Opportunities for public input prior to approval is limited. The approval process for pits is now likely to raise challenges similar to quasi-judicial agency approval of certain provincially regulated developments like renewable energy generation, oil and gas facilities, and confined feedlot operations.

RMA is concerned with the introduction of s. 619.1, and whether municipalities will have an opportunity to provide meaningful input into the provincial approval process. It is crucial that RMA members actively participate in this engagement and emphasize the risks that weakening or eliminating the municipal voice in aggregate approvals will have on landowners, municipalities, industry, and the Government of Alberta. RMA is also concerned as to which Task Force recommendations will be implemented and their impacts in the context of Bill 28, which was not in place when the Task Force completed their work.

Prior to the commencement of the engagement process on July 21, RMA will provide members with an engagement guide with an overview of Bill 28 changes and the

different extents based on the degree of aggregate development in their boundaries and their relationship with industry. In general, the changes have the potential to significantly undermine municipal autonomy, introduce major local planning and infrastructure risks, and create further precedent for continued centralization of planning powers for other property types.

RMA will share further information with members in the coming days. In the meantime feel free to reach out to an RMA board member or Policy and Advocacy staff with questions.

Also note that EPA is requesting interested municipalities to RSVP prior to July 15 by emailing Brian.Brassard@gov.ab.ca.

Sincerely,

Kara Westerlund

President, Rural Municipalities of Alberta



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[utm_source=Contact+Newsletter&utm_campaign=0d52ddb050-](https://rmalberta.com/news/goa-seeking-input-to-update-the-code-of-practice-for-pits/?utm_source=Contact+Newsletter&utm_campaign=0d52ddb050-Contact_2025_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_ad7c2a0493-0d52ddb050-390811449)

[Contact_2025_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_ad7c2a0493-0d52ddb050-390811449](https://rmalberta.com/news/goa-seeking-input-to-update-the-code-of-practice-for-pits/?utm_source=Contact+Newsletter&utm_campaign=0d52ddb050-Contact_2025_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_ad7c2a0493-0d52ddb050-390811449)

GOA Seeking Input to Update the Code of Practice for Pits

Posted on: July 10, 2026

Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (EPA) is seeking municipal input on updates to the **Code of Practice for Pits** (https://kings-printer.alberta.ca/1266.cfm?page=PITS.cfm&leg_type=Codes&isbncln=9780779765560) (COPP). According to EPA, updates to the COPP will focus on implementing Bill 28 changes related to **paramountcy of provincial approvals** (<https://rmalberta.com/news/rma-releases-report-on-bill-28-impacts-on-aggregate-pit-approval-process/>) on aggregate pit applications, as well as recommendations from the recent **GOA Sand and Gravel Task Force** (<https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/46b6eb21-1544-4a7c-a700-30045506dc17/resource/30aee12a-87c4-4eeb-98c6-0a64d225a473/download/epa-sand-and-gravel-task-force-final-report-2025-12.pdf>).

The introduction of section 619.1 in the *Municipal Government Act* allows provincial approval of pits to take paramountcy over municipal approvals. Municipalities now must amend land use bylaws, planning documents, and permits to align with provincial approvals. RMA is concerned with the introduction of s. 619.1, and whether municipalities will have an opportunity to provide meaningful input into the provincial approval process.

RMA members will have received an email from RMA's President, Kara Westerlund, on July 8, 2026. It is crucial that RMA members actively participate in this engagement and emphasize the risks that weakening or eliminating the municipal voice in aggregate approvals will have on landowners, municipalities, industry, and the Government of Alberta.

RMA will share further information with members in the coming days. In the meantime, feel free to reach out to Policy and Advocacy staff with questions. Please note that EPA is requesting interested municipalities to RSVP prior to **July 15** by emailing **Brian.Brassard@gov.ab.ca** (**<mailto:Brian.Brassard@gov.ab.ca>**).

For more information, contact RMA's Policy and Advocacy Team at advocacy@rmaalberta.com (<mailto:advocacy@rmaalberta.com>) or 825.319.2383.



Updates to the Code of Practice for Pits

RMA Member Resource

July 2026

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION	3
OVERVIEW OF PIT APPROVAL PROCESS	5
OVERVIEW OF THE CODE OF PRACTICE FOR PITS	6
RMA POSITIONS ON IMPACTS OF BILL 28 CHANGES	7
MEMBER ADVOCACY	8
HAVE QUESTIONS?	10
QUICK REFERENCE: REGULATORY CHANGES	11

Introduction

Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (EPA) is updating the [Code of Practice for Pits](#) (COPP) to implement changes to the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA) resulting from [Bill 28](#) and recommendations from the provincial [Sand and Gravel Task Force](#). Among other changes, this may involve adding additional environmental conditions to the COPP, some of which may be conditions that municipalities currently attach to development permits for aggregate pit operations. Addressing local concerns through operating conditions has been a key municipal component of the approval process.

Bill 28 shifts the broader regulatory context associated with the COPP and Task Force recommendations. Bill 28 changes raise the importance of the COPP for municipalities and makes the applicability of the Task Force recommendations unknown. For example, the potential risks of streamlining provincial approval processes (as recommended by the Task Force) may be significantly higher in a regulatory context in which municipal oversight of similar factors is no longer permitted.

Under section 619.1(5) of the MGA, municipalities can include conditions in a development permit if they do not conflict with the provincial pit registration. It was not clear how the provincial approval process would address issues with both environmental impacts and localized, off-site health and nuisance impacts. If the Government of Alberta (GOA) intends to further restrict the conditions that a municipality may include in a development permit, or to further centralize and standardize certain development conditions, it is critical that members proactively emphasize in their feedback during this engagement that:

- ◆ Operators and EPA must confirm alignment with municipal planning documents
- ◆ The approval process must allow for meaningful input from municipalities
- ◆ The province must introduce mechanisms to increase operator accountability
- ◆ The province must improve monitoring and enforcement
- ◆ Municipalities require flexibility to vary development permit conditions.

It is currently unclear whether the municipal priorities above will be directly addressed by EPA as part of this engagement process. Regardless, it is crucial that members raise these as high-risk impacts of Bill 28 changes that must be addressed prior to simply considering how to expand the scope of the provincial approval process, which appears to be the primary purpose of the engagement. The current provincial approval process is insufficient to support public interest decision-making without the parallel municipal process. Rebuilding the process to properly integrate the local perspective is necessary before expanding its scope to allow provincial control over a broader range of issues related to aggregate development.

Rural municipalities approve thousands of development permits each year, shaping residential, commercial, and industrial growth while balancing infrastructure and environmental impacts. Further centralizing local planning and development processes risk increasing local land use conflicts, creating unexpected infrastructure strain, and interfering with long-term municipal plans for community growth. Communicating risks, unintended consequences, and gaps in the government's planned approach, as well as emphasizing the importance of ensuring a local planning lens continues to be applied to aggregate approvals, will be critical for maintaining community safety, 'good neighbour' relations, and environmental assurance while ensuring local factors are properly considered in the approval process.

How to Use this Document

This guide is intended to support RMA members to participate in the EPA's engagement process on updates to the COPP in light of regulatory changes introduced through MGA section 619.1 and the provincial Sand and Gravel Task Force.

This document provides members with an overview of the pit approval process, general engagement strategies, and key messages to emphasize to government the risks that weakening or eliminating the municipal voice in aggregate approvals will have on landowners, municipalities, industry, and the GOA.

If you have any specific questions about this guide, please reach out to Policy and Advocacy staff.

Overview of Pit Approval Process

Historically, the GOA and municipalities each played a role in the approval of aggregate pits on private land. The provincial process under EPA primarily focused on environmental management (air, water, land and biodiversity) while the municipal process focused on land use considerations.¹

Bill 28 introduced section 619.1 of the MGA, replacing the dual-stream approval process with one in which provincial approvals are paramount. Municipalities now must amend land use bylaws, planning documents, and permits to align with provincial approvals. The approval process for aggregate pits is now likely to raise challenges similar to quasi-judicial agency approval of certain provincially regulated developments like renewable energy generation, transmission lines, oil and gas facilities, and confined feedlot operations.

Proponents apply to the EPA, and applications are evaluated by approval coordinators against the requirements in the Code of Practice for Pits (COPP) and other provincial requirements under the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act (EPEA)*, *Water Act*, Conservation and Reclamation Regulation, and associated regulations, incidental policies, and guidelines. An approval or authorization under the *Water Act* is required if the aggregate pit involves withdrawing water, altering natural water flow, draining a water source or any other impact on a water body or groundwater source.

The approval coordinator may request supplementary information from the proponent and will assess the application solely against provincial legislation and regulations. The number of supplementary information requests that can be made may be limited following implementation of Task Force recommendations. The approval coordinator makes a recommendation on the application to the Director (as defined under the EPEA).

Provincial notification requirements for aggregate pit applications or proposed changes to an existing pit registration are set out in EPEA section 72 rather than the COPP. This remains unchanged following Bill 28. However, because there is no requirement for the Director or EPA to hold a public hearing for a pit application or amendment to an existing pit registration, opportunities for municipal and public input in the current provincial approval process are now limited. The Director's final decision is documented in a decision memo and the Director's record; these are not released publicly. EPA's service target for approval of initial COPP registrations is 120 days.

Once all necessary provincial authorizations are received, the proponent applies to the municipality for all relevant rezoning and permits. The MGA requires that municipalities provide notice to applicants and affected persons of any plans or land use bylaw amendment, along with opportunities for public engagement. The introduction of section 619.1 under Bill 28 severely restricts the ability for council to hold hearings to discuss provincially approved pit registrations. Under the previous dual-stream process, municipal conditions or requirements as part of a development permit could address issues (such as dust) that are also the subject of provincial approval process through the lens of nuisance or off-site impacts. Municipalities are no longer permitted to place conditions on or otherwise address any areas referenced in the provincial approval.

¹ Government of Alberta. 2021. [Aggregate pits: municipal and provincial processes](#)

Overview of the Code of Practice for Pits

In Alberta, a Code of Practice is a legally enforceable instrument linked to primary legislation such as the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act* (EPEA) or the *Water Act* and adopted as part of a regulation. They set out province-wide, mandatory requirements for a specific activity, operation or sector. Codes usually require registration or notice with the GOA before the activity or operation begins. Codes are developed for activities and operations that the government has assessed as producing relatively minor emissions, occur frequently, and have comparatively low environmental impact. Public notice is not required for activities or operations under a Code of Practice, and the government does not provide the ability to appeal the activity or appear before an appeal board for those who are opposed or have concerns.²

The GOA introduced the [Code of Practice for Pits](#) in 2004. It has not been updated since its introduction. The COPP establishes the provincial pit registration process and operational requirements for pits that are five hectares (12.5 acres) or larger on private land. These are classified as Class I pits. Class I pits include any sand, gravel, clay or marl (aggregates) in a processed or unprocessed form. Pits smaller than five hectares (Class II pits) or on public land are not required to register under the EPEA or COPP.

The requirements set out in the COPP relate to the activities plan, soil conservation, monitoring, reclamation, reclamation security, reclamation certificate, reporting and record keeping. An activities plan is a detailed technical description of pit operations, ranging from the texture(s) of the topsoil at the pit to a description of the mitigative measures to prevent adverse results from pit activities. The activities plan must cover the expected life of the pit, and any changes must be authorized in writing by the Director. Schedule 2 of the COPP outlines all the information that must be included in the activities plan.

Updating the COPP

EPA began updating the COPP in 2024. According to supporting documents provided by EPA, the update was intended to support “a more efficient regulatory system that continues to support desired environmental outcomes for pits on private land.” Specific areas of focus were technical in nature and included:

- ◆ Updated dust and erosion control provisions
- ◆ Improvements to pit water monitoring
- ◆ Professional sign-off of technical data and reports
- ◆ Five-year reporting requirements
- ◆ Requirements for progressive reclamation plans and reclamation reports
- ◆ Alternative reclamation material reporting
- ◆ Requirements for landowner consultation and consent.

EPA paused work on the COPP in early 2025 and resumed in early 2026. The original scope of work for the review did not contemplate changes to provincial and municipal roles and responsibilities, existing tensions between provincial and municipal processes, or significant shifts in the regulatory environment introduced through MGA section 619.1 and recommended by the provincial Sand and Gravel Task Force.

² Registrations under the EPEA cannot be appealed to the Environmental Appeals Board. Appeals can be brought forward under the *Water Act*.

According to the EPA, the current engagement with municipalities will relate to Task Force recommendations and implementing Bill 28 changes related to paramountcy of provincial approvals on aggregate pit applications. Tentative timelines provided by the EPA are:

- ◆ Kick-off webinar: July 21
- ◆ Second and third engagement sessions: July and August (TBC)
- ◆ Deadline for feedback: first week of September (TBC)

EPA has indicated that written feedback can be submitted but is not mandatory. It will be important for RMA members to provide clear, verbal feedback during the engagement sessions.

At this point, details on the engagement process are not known. While this guide is intended to support members in participating effectively based on currently available information, RMA may provide members with updated or additional resources based on details shared during the kick-off webinar.

RMA Positions on Impacts of Bill 28 Changes

RMA's analysis on Bill 28 aggregate pit approval process changes is outlined in a recent [report](#) and [summary document](#). These documents build on the RMA's [initial analysis](#) of the most significant amendments introduced through Bill 28, released in April 2026.

RMA has no active resolutions focused specifically on aggregate pit developments, but members have raised concerns in the past around reclamation of pits, community aggregate payment levy rate, access to provincially held aggregate data, provincial compliance monitoring of pit operations, and quasi-judicial agency approval processes. Increasing restrictions on municipal autonomy and centralized decision-making interact with several of RMA's advocacy themes.

While the focus of the EPA's engagement is on updates to the COPP, changes under Bill 28 increase the importance of the role of the COPP in the approval process.

RMA has significant concerns around a standalone provincial aggregate approval process, which clearly was not designed to serve as the sole approval process for a development type with significant potential local impacts.

Municipal and landowner risk

- ◆ Residents may still hold municipalities accountable for land use conflicts, nuisance issues or infrastructure impacts created by provincially approved pits.
- ◆ May create infrastructure or land use impacts that increase municipal costs without any corresponding provincial support or the ability to require pit owners to contribute.
- ◆ Pits approved near existing or planned development could sterilize or devalue land, reducing long-term economic development and assessment growth.
- ◆ Forced application of an "aggregate-centric" lens to land use planning through changes introduced through Bill 28³ and Bill 20 (2024).⁴

³ Bill 28 enables an automatic yes approval framework. The GOA has also signaled its intent to develop a future regulation restricting the scope of non-statutory studies that municipalities may request during the development process.

⁴ Bill 20 *Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act 2024* allows Cabinet to amend or rescind municipal bylaws that do not align with provincial priorities.

Reduced public accountability and input

- ◆ No plans on how municipal plans or landowner input will be considered in the provincial approval process.
- ◆ Aggregate extraction may occur closer to populated areas with limited or no development conditions, consideration of municipal long-term plans, or community input.
- ◆ Risk of decreased notification for aggregate pits that are deemed low risk, low complexity or subject to an “automatic yes” type of approval framework

Expansion of existing centralized processes

- ◆ While EPA is not a quasi-judicial agency, they will play a similar unilateral project approval role for aggregate pits as that of the NRCB, AUC and AER for other provincially regulated developments.

A standalone provincial aggregate approval process must properly consider local land use perspectives and ensure operators are accountable to neighbouring landowners and businesses.

Member Advocacy

General Engagement Strategies

While the changes are likely to impact municipalities to different extents based on the degree of aggregate development in their boundaries, their relationship with industry, etc., the implementation approach (through the COPP) has the potential to significantly undermine municipal autonomy, introduce major local planning and infrastructure risks, and create further precedent for continued centralization of planning powers for other property types.

Municipalities will be provided an overview of EPA’s scope for the review of the COPP at the kick-off meeting. At the time of writing, RMA has not received confirmation of specific areas of focus. However, EPA has indicated interest in better understanding the municipal development permit approval process including how land use redesignation decisions are made, what factors are considered, and how approval conditions are determined. Shifting the decision-making authority for some development permit conditions from municipalities into the COPP risks creating further precedent for continued centralisation of planning decisions for other property and development types.

It is crucial for RMA members to actively participate in this engagement and communicate to EPA their experience with local aggregate pit operators and the importance of applying a local lens to approval decisions. Members may take different approaches to preparing for and participating in this engagement with the EPA, depending on individual contexts:

- ◆ Review local planning documents to identify where provincial primacy could create conflicts or undermine long-term planning
- ◆ Communicate why the integration of local planning and knowledge into the approval process matters, locally and provincially
- ◆ Highlight risks when aggregate approvals proceed without a local lens, including increased costs, infrastructure strain, cumulative impacts, and landowner concerns
- ◆ Emphasize the need for meaningful, municipally-focused engagement on Bill 28 implementation, the Code of Practice, and Task Force recommendations
- ◆ Reinforce that municipal land-use authority must be preserved, and provincial pit approvals should not override local plans without municipal input

- ◆ Tell your story: share types and frequency of complaints, enforcement issues, non-compliant operators, community and environmental impacts.

Suggested Questions

Alignment with municipal planning documents

- ◆ Will the provincial approval process be modified to better accommodate municipal and public input? If so, how? If not, why not?
- ◆ What “environmental conditions” is the EPA seeking information on in relation to development permits, and what is their intended use for the information?
- ◆ Will the activity-based framework and checklist application require the applicant to consult with municipalities and confirm non-objection/no conflicts? If not, why not?
 - ◇ Does the EPA plan to further engage with municipalities on the development of such a framework or checklist as recommended by the Task Force?
 - ◇ Does a checklist application mean that the Director will automatically waive notice requirements as set out in EPEA section 72(1) and (2)?

Meaningful engagement with municipalities and community

- ◆ What requirements will be placed on operators to undertake pre-application engagement with municipalities and the local community?
- ◆ Will formalization of an option for “discovery meetings” in the standard application process require applicants to invite municipalities?
- ◆ How will EPA ensure that municipalities are notified and consulted in a timely manner to ensure infrastructure capacity is available for increased aggregate pit activities e.g., ensuring road use agreements are in place ahead of development?
- ◆ How will conflicts between the community and pit operators be addressed in a provincial model where municipalities cannot hold a public hearing to discuss matters that conflict with a registration?

Operator accountability

- ◆ Will municipalities also be enabled to track applications within their boundaries in the Digital Regulatory Assurance System (DRAS)?
Will delinquency in complying with community aggregate payment levy bylaws be considered as part of the provincial approval process?

Improved inspection, monitoring and enforcement

- ◆ How does the province currently conduct inspection and enforcement for non-compliant aggregate pits?
 - ◇ What are the compliance tools available to EPA?
 - ◇ What mechanisms are available to municipalities to trigger provincial compliance and enforcement action?
- ◆ How does the EPA envision “increasing visibility” of groundwater assurance?
- ◆ What are the best management practices for dust management that will be included in the Digital Regulatory Assurance System (DRAS)?

Flexibility for municipalities

- ◆ The new approval system continues to allow municipalities to impose development conditions on matters such as noise, hours of operation, setbacks, and road use. Given that the EPEA registration has primacy, will a municipality be empowered to enforce an operator's development permit conditions and halt operations if the aggregate operator is in violation of those conditions?
- ◆ Does provincial primacy alter the application package requirements (e.g., technical documents) operators must submit to municipalities?
- ◆ If land is reserved by the province for future aggregate pits, what compensation will municipalities receive for the quasi-expropriation of land?

Key Messages for Government

- ◆ Municipal governments make decisions in the best interest of their local communities, which facilitate effective service delivery, economic development, and responsible land use planning. These processes create resilient communities across the province.
- ◆ The Sand and Gravel Task Force Report was completed prior to the introduction of Bill 28. The Report's recommendations and their implementation now take on new meaning given the changes made by Bill 28 to the MGA and therefore require additional analysis in light of the new legislative regime.
- ◆ If the GOA intends to further restrict the conditions that a municipality may include in a development permit, or to further centralize and standardize certain development conditions, it is critical that the province introduce mechanisms that increase operator accountability, improve monitoring and enforcement, and provide flexibility for municipalities to vary those conditions.
- ◆ The provincial Sand and Gravel Task Force identified significant weaknesses with current provincial regulatory capacity and processes. Such weaknesses would be amplified if the province were to act as a sole regulator.
- ◆ If the GOA takes on a broader and more impactful role in the approval process, it should be accompanied with an equivalent enhancement in capacity and transparency related to monitoring and holding industry accountable to ensure environmental and "good neighbour" objectives are met.
- ◆ Given the paramountcy of a provincial aggregate pit registration and significant potential local impacts, the provincial approval process must be improved prior to expanding the scope of the registration.

Have Questions?

Please feel free to reach out to Policy and Advocacy staff at advocacy@rmalberta.com.

Quick Reference: Regulatory Changes

Sand and Gravel Task Force Recommendations

In May 2025, the GOA formed a Sand and Gravel Task Force to review the provincial role in relation to regulation of aggregate pits on private land. The terms of references clarify the Task Force's scope as focused on "regulatory requirements for sand and gravel pits required by the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act* (EPEA), the *Water Act*, and supporting policies and processes used by EPA to apply these requirements." The Task Force was not intended to consider or make recommendations related to municipal pit approval powers; its purview was solely on the provincial role as related to regulation of pits on private land, with a focus on EPA.

The final report, publicly released in December 2025, included 15 recommendations to amend provincial policies, processes and industry support to balance economic development and environmental assurance.

Policy Actions

1. Implement an activity-based framework that identifies a checklist of standard application requirements for specific kinds of pits.
2. Clarify the roles and responsibilities of regulatory partners.

Process Streamlining

3. Expand and formalize service standards for authorizations as related to the *Water Act* and EPEA.
4. Enable application tracking for operators/applicants.
5. Process applications concurrently across regulators.
6. Use a more proactive approach to communicating policy changes to operators.
7. Continue to automate and digitize the process where possible.

Industry support

8. Share information on what a good application looks like.
9. Create a one-stop approach for information about the EPA regulatory process.
10. Have a clear point of contact for applicants to reach out to during the process, ensuring timely response to their questions.
11. Undertake relationship building.
12. Formalise discovery meetings as an option for standard applications

Balancing economic development and environmental assurance

13. Explore the creation of a provincial data set on the volume and locations of extractable aggregate resources to support planning for scarcity and resource depletion.
14. Guarantee authorization within a set-timeframe for low-risk development.
15. Proactively mitigate common concerns of land users to help enable more developments closer to markets.

Suggestions for further discussion that were out of scope for the Task Force

These items were not included as recommendations; however, their inclusion gave some ideas of where the Government of Alberta was looking to explore next. RMA expressed significant concern about the

inclusion of the items that would limit the autonomy of municipalities in a report where these ideas were explicitly out of scope.

At the municipal level

- ◆ More proactive consideration of aggregate potential in municipal land use planning may help prevent resource stranding by reserving land for future sand and gravel pits or encouraging the extraction of aggregate in the short term to enable the use of land for other purposes in the longer term. For example, this might include restricting some kinds of development – such as housing – in / near areas where there are aggregate reserves until the aggregate has been extracted, thereby preventing future land use conflicts.
- ◆ Education and advocacy, led at the local levels to help foster a balanced public discourse, which recognizes the importance of sand and gravel pits to quality of life.

At the provincial level

- ◆ Codifying setbacks to help standardize the distance required between pits and other kinds of development (e.g. residential) – potentially through updating tools such as the Matters Related to Subdivision and Development Regulation. Further discussion between Municipal Affairs and municipalities may be warranted.
- ◆ Assuming a primary role in regulatory authorizations for pits that are considered high impact or have generational significance in relation to major infrastructure projects. A clear and narrowly defined interpretation of 'high impact' and/or 'generational' is essential to prevent all projects from being deemed to require provincial oversight. The intention would be for the Province to undertake long-term planning through a strategic foresight process, and set aside land needed far in advance of key projects being undertaken.
- ◆ Facilitating regional aggregate access planning in partnership with municipalities to help ensure appropriate local supply of affordable aggregate to meet communities' economic growth and infrastructure needs. This should be informed by available data on the amount and locations of aggregate resources.
- ◆ Future engagement with stakeholders on strategies to address regulatory issues with Class II pits, including, but not limited to reclamation.

Bill 28 Provisions

Amendment	Implications
619.1(1) In this section, (a) "Director" means a Director as defined in the <i>Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act</i>; (b) "registration" means a registration issued by a Director under section 68 of the <i>Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act</i>.	Section 619.1(1) confirms the connection between the <i>Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act</i> (EPEA) and MGA and provides some clarity around roles and responsibilities. RMA is concerned that this provides the Director and Alberta Environment and Protected Areas with a level of authority that appears to exceed that of quasi-judicial agencies listed in section 619. The NRCB, ERCB, AER, AEUB and AUC are now required, to varying degrees, to consider municipal statutory plans in their decision making. There is no similar requirement under EPEA section 68. Rather, "the Director may issue approval subject to any terms and conditions the Director considers appropriate".

619.1(2) A registration in respect of a pit prevails, in accordance with this section, over any statutory plan, land use bylaw, subdivision decision or development decision by a subdivision authority, development authority, subdivision and development appeal board, or the Land and Property Rights Tribunal or any other authorization under this Part.	Section 619.1(2) establishes a provincial level primacy for pit registrations issued under EPEA section 68. EPEA pit registrations override any municipal statutory plans, land-use bylaws, subdivision decisions, development permits, or Tribunal decisions. This shifts decision making authority to the province and infringes on municipal jurisdiction. It limits the ability to ensure that local factors, risks and impacts associated with improper pit developments or operating practices are mitigated. Without a requirement on the Director to give due consideration to municipal planning documents, this risks longer term unintended consequences for land use and management. It undermines the municipality's ability to balance economic growth, infrastructure needs, environmental constraints, and community expectations. The amendment also goes beyond recommendations or areas noted for further discussion from the Sand and Gravel Task Force.
619.1(3) When a municipality receives an application for a statutory plan amendment, land use bylaw amendment, subdivision approval, development permit or other authorization under this Part and the application is consistent with a registration in respect of a pit, the municipality must approve the application to the extent that it complies with the registration.	Section 619.1(3) requires a municipality to approve pit applications and amend their planning documents to align with the registration. Municipalities cannot amend the plan or matters that have been approved by the Director. This amendment effectively requires the municipality to amend their planning and zoning framework to prioritize aggregate development, undermining long-term planning undertaken by the municipality. It may also place the Council in direct conflict with residents who may not support prioritization of aggregate development over other land uses.
619.1(4) An approval of a statutory plan amendment or land use bylaw amendment under subsection (3) (a) must be granted within 90 days after receipt of the application or a longer time agreed on by the applicant and the municipality, and (b) is not subject to the requirements of section 692 unless, in the opinion of the municipality, the application relates to matters not included in the registration.	Section 619.1(4) introduces a 90-day timeframe for approval and integration of amendments. The 90-day timeframe does not appear to be based on historical application processing data or other evidence. While aggregate pits have typically been classified as "low risk" development by EPA, there is no clear provision for more complex applications or higher risk developments, particularly if a longer time cannot be agreed upon. Section 692 requires council to hold a public hearing on a proposed bylaw or amendment. As section 619.1(4)(b) would no longer require municipalities to hold a public hearing, broader public input, intervenor participation and public accountability is removed. This poses a risk to the municipality, particularly if the community is not aware of the shift in provincial regulatory oversight. This risk is

	further increased due to the lack of clarity as to whether the provincial approval process will be broadened to allow for greater municipal or public input. The municipality can still hold a public hearing if it is of the opinion that the application relates to matters not included in the registration.
619.1(5) A subdivision approval or development permit under subsection (3) may include one or more conditions permitted under section 640(2)(c)(iv) or 655 if the condition does not conflict with the registration.	Section 619.1(5) retains some municipal planning authority and provides for the inclusion of conditions in a subdivision approval or development permit that do not conflict with the registration. Clarity is needed regarding what conditions are regulated under provincial legislation and which remain under municipal authority. For example, dust is regulated at both the provincial and municipal level but for different purposes. Section 640(2)(c)(iv) requires that a municipality's land use bylaw establish a decision-making framework for development permit applications, including the conditions that may be attached to a permit. This provision ensures that the bylaw sets out both the general and permit-specific conditions a development authority may impose, providing a clear statutory basis for conditioning approvals and regulating how development permits are issued. It will be important that the decision-making framework is not overridden or modified by the registration. Section 655 sets out conditions of subdivision approvals.
619.1(6) If a municipality that is considering an application under subsection (3) holds a hearing, the hearing may not address matters already decided by a Director in the registration, except as necessary to determine whether an amendment to a statutory plan or land use bylaw is required.	Section 619.1(6) states that if a municipality holds a hearing, the hearing can only be held to determine whether an amendment to a statutory plan or land use bylaw is required. Any matters decided by a Director in the registration cannot be discussed or modified. However, section 619.1(4)(b) states that a municipality can hold a public hearing if it is of the opinion that the application contains matters not included in the registration. Further clarity is required.
MGA S. 488(1) and S. 619.1(7) – (12): • give the LPRT authority to hear cases where municipal statutory plans are not amended to enable an EPA registration • define the appeal application process • establish hearing timelines	These amendments give the LPRT authority to hear and make decisions in the case where an aggregate proponent with an EPEA registration may appeal a municipal decision in the case that municipal statutory plans conflict with the EPEA registration or municipal approvals have not met the set timelines. However, provincial pit registrations have primacy over LPRT decisions. A hearing may not change the outcome

• establish that the scope of a hearing is limited to whether or not a statutory plan conflicts with a registration • give the LPRT authority to order a municipality to revise a statutory plan • includes clarity that an LPRT decision may be appealed to the Alberta Court of Appeals	and may result in significant resources spent by municipalities. RMA previously published a report regarding the LPRT that highlights concerns with some of their processes. Introducing aggregate approval appeals to the LPRT may necessitate further review to ensure procedural fairness.
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MD of Spirit River 133

From: MD of Spirit River 133
Sent: July 24, 2026 4:27 PM
To: Steve
Cc: 'Jill' <jill@grandespirit.org>; 'Diane' <diane@grandespirit.org>; 'Darlene' <darlene@grandespirit.org>
Subject: RE: Informational Booth Display

Hi Steve,

Thank you so much for your kind note!

We are thrilled to hear that you enjoyed the event and that you were able to reconnect with so many wonderful people who support your organization.

The weather certainly cooperated, and it was a pleasure having you there with us. We will definitely keep you in mind for next year!

Warm regards,

Jeanie Roode

MD #133 of Spirit River
 780-864-3500
mdsr133@mdspiritrivier.ab.ca

From: Steve Madden <smadden@grandespirit.org>
Sent: July 24, 2026 2:58 PM
To: MD of Spirit River 133 <mdsr133@mdspiritrivier.ab.ca>
Cc: Shari Hrehoruk <shari@grandespirit.org>; Jill <jill@grandespirit.org>; Diane <diane@grandespirit.org>; Darlene Neuman <dneuman@grandespirit.org>
Subject: RE: Informational Booth Display

Hi Jennie, just a note of thank you to the MD for inviting us to attend this event yesterday.

There were so many people we each were able to interact with while having chances to chat with some long-lost people we haven't seen in a few years that have been a big help to our organization. I couldn't have imaged a nicer setting on a more beautiful day that made it so worth it!

Thanks so much and we hope the MD keeps us in mind for next year,

Enjoy summer!

MD of Spirit River 133

Subject: BBQ Thank You

It was so nice to see you at our Annual Ratepayers BBQ and Seniors Appreciation Day this year, and we look forward to your return next year.

We hope you enjoyed the day as much as we all did!

Your information booth was wonderful, and we all learned something new because of your efforts.

Thank you once again for all your hard work and support—it is truly appreciated.

Kind regards,

Jeanie Roode

MD #133 of Spirit River
780-864-3500
mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca



ALBERTA
ADVANCED EDUCATION
*Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary-Fish Creek*

AR 73995

July 7, 2026

Reeve Tony Van Rootselaar
Municipal District of Spirit River No. 33
mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca

Dear Reeve Van Rootselaar:

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the future of post-secondary education at the Fairview Campus. Alberta's government has heard how important continued local access to post-secondary education is for Fairview and the wider Peace Country. I recognize the deep connection that many instructors, students, and industry partners have with the campus and the community.

On March 17, 2026, government announced that following consultation with community and regional partners, Northern Lakes College (NLC) will be the post-secondary learning provider at the Fairview Campus beginning in September 2026. This decision supports ongoing, sustainable access to post-secondary education and training close to home for learners across the region.

Learners in the Peace Country will continue to have local access to post-secondary education through NLC's Fairview Campus and Northwestern Polytechnic (NWP) in Grande Prairie. Together, these two public post-secondary institutions will complement one another and support workforce, industry, and community needs across northwestern Alberta.

As part of this transition, and with support from Advanced Education and the Fairview community, NLC will deliver a programming mix of apprenticeship, health care, expanded online learning, and industry training opportunities at the Fairview Campus. Potential additional programming will be explored in the future based on student and industry demand and cost of delivery. For questions related to NLC's programming at Fairview Campus, please use the online webform at northernlakescollege.ca/contact-us-form to contact NLC.

Reeve Tony Van Rootselaar
Page 2

Ensuring the successful delivery of NLC's post-secondary programming at the Fairview Campus remains a priority for both the province and surrounding communities. I appreciate the continued collaboration of NLC, NWP, and the Fairview Regional College Society as this work progresses.

Thank you again for sharing your thoughts and for your commitment to strengthening post-secondary education in the Peace Country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Myles McDougall', with a stylized, cursive script.

Honourable Myles McDougall, ECA
Minister of Advanced Education

cc: Honourable Danielle Smith
Premier of Alberta

Honourable Todd Loewen, ECA
MLA, Central Peace-Notley

Municipal Government Act Change Summary

Bill 28, *Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026*

Governance and Accountability

This fact sheet has been developed as an information resource. It is not legal advice and cannot be used in place of consulting with a lawyer. In the event of a conflict between the legislation and this fact sheet, the legislation prevails.

Relevant *Municipal Government Act* sections

- Section 130.1
- Section 146.011(1)
- Section 146.02(1)
- Section 146.021(1)
- Section 146.03(1)
- Section 146.04
- Section 146.05(1)
- Section 146.06(1)
- Section 146.07(1)
- Section 146.08(1)
- Section 146.09(1)
- Section 153
- Section 201.1(1)(b)

Councillor Accountability Framework

Previous *Municipal Government Act* requirements

Since the repeal of councillor codes of conduct in 2025, municipalities cannot pass or continue to implement or enforce bylaws or resolutions related to councillor behavior.

What has changed

A new councillor accountability framework will address unacceptable councillor behaviour including misuse of municipal assets and services, confidentiality of information, and rules regarding egregious or threatening behaviour and improper use of influence.

New provisions in the Act establish rules, processes, and procedures for submitting a complaint, conducting preliminary reviews, investigations, and appeals.

Only councillors are eligible to file a complaint, and a complaint can only be made against a councillor on the same council. The Minister can also initiate an investigation at the local level.

Preliminary reviews and investigations will be conducted by an investigator chosen by council from a roster designated by the Minister. For any complaint filed by a councillor, a preliminary review must occur to determine if the complaint, in whole or in part, is frivolous, vexatious, or out of scope. If the investigator determines that any part of the complaint is frivolous, vexatious, or out of scope, the investigator must end that part of the investigation.

After conducting the preliminary review, the investigator must report the results to the Minister and council and advise if all or a part of the investigation has ended.

If the complaint is potentially valid following the preliminary review, it must proceed to an investigation. Once the investigation is complete, a report is prepared that contains a summary of the investigation, as well as a recommendation as to whether a contravention has occurred and what sanctions, if any, should be applied. It is the council's decision, by resolution, to determine if the framework was contravened and whether to apply sanctions.

The framework establishes an appeal mechanism for council's decisions as to whether there was a contravention and imposition of any sanctions. An appeal commissioner appointed by the Minister hears the appeal and provides recommendations to the Minister on whether to accept, reject, or vary the council's resolution. If the appeal commissioner's recommendations are different from council's decisions, the appeals commissioner must provide reasons.

To conclude the appeal, the Minister, by order, determines if there was a contravention and may apply sanctions. When issuing an order, the Minister must publish the appeal commissioner's recommendations and, if applicable, reasons for the recommendation as well as the Minister's decision. If the Minister's decision varies from the appeals commissioner's, the Minister must include reasons in writing.

If at any point during the preliminary review or investigation, the investigator finds that a complaint, or part of a complaint, pertains to pecuniary interest, the framework establishes a process for mandatory referral to the Court of King's Bench.

What it means

Municipal Affairs will establish, by regulation, further details to implement the councillor accountability framework. The regulation is expected to include types of contraventions, sanctions, fees, timelines for each step, and further guidance on investigator and appeal commissioner rosters.

While the framework includes a process for complaints related to pecuniary interest matters, existing disclosure and disqualification requirements continue to apply. These rules have not changed.

What do municipalities have to do?

It is recommended that municipalities and their councillors review the rules, processes, and procedures regarding the accountability framework established in the *Municipal Government Act (MGA)*. Further information and requirements to support implementation will be in a forthcoming regulation.

Viability Reviews – Vote of Electors

Previous *Municipal Government Act* requirements

The *MGA* establishes a municipal viability review process administered by Municipal Affairs. Following a review, electors vote on whether the municipality should dissolve. The Minister could only recommend dissolution of the municipality to Cabinet if electors voted in favour of it.

What has changed

Changes to the *MGA* retain the step for electors to vote on a question of dissolution after a viability review has been completed and before dissolution can occur. However, the results of this vote are no longer binding, though they remain an important consideration in the Minister's decision. This change is in effect immediately.

What it means

This change enables the Minister and Cabinet to consider the results of the vote alongside other considerations when making recommendations and decisions on the dissolution of a municipality.

What do municipalities have to do?

No action is required from municipalities.

Effective Date

The amendments to the *MGA* took effect upon Bill 28's Royal Assent on May 14, 2026.

While provisions in the Act related to the accountability framework are in force, implementation requires the creation of a forthcoming regulation.

Resources

To learn more, please refer to:

- Amendment summary for Bill 28: <https://www.alberta.ca/system/files/ma-bill-28-legislation-information-guide.pdf>
- [Municipal Government Act](#)

Contact us

Phone:	780-427-2225
Toll-free in Alberta:	310-0000
Email:	ma.advisory@gov.ab.ca



Councillor Accountability Framework Engagement

RMA Member Resource

July 2026

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION	3
EVOLUTION OF COUNCILLOR ACCOUNTABILITY IN ALBERTA	4
RMA ANALYSIS ON BILL 28 CHANGES	7
MEMBER ADVOCACY	10
HAVE QUESTIONS?	13

Introduction

Municipal Affairs (MA) is conducting engagement related to the introduction of a mandatory Councillor Accountability Framework (CAF). The CAF was introduced through Bill 28 following the repeal of municipal codes of conduct through Bill 50 in 2025.

At a high-level, the CAF is intended to:

- ◆ establish provincially prescribed councillor conduct standards;
- ◆ permit councillors to file complaints against other councillors for perceived contravention of those standards;
- ◆ allow the Minister to initiate investigations;
- ◆ require a preliminary investigation to determine if a complaint has merit;
- ◆ if a complaint is determined to have merit, require a third-party investigation to occur;
- ◆ following the completion of the third-party review, require councils to determine whether a contravention occurred and determine if, and which, sanctions should be imposed;
- ◆ establish a provincial appeal process; and
- ◆ give the Minister final decision-making authority on appeals.

A notable feature of the CAF is the extent to which it relies on regulations. While Bill 28 establishes the structure of the framework, many details including conduct standards, sanctions, timelines, fees, investigator qualifications and selection process, appeal processes, and cost allocation will be determined in regulation. MA has shared a [discussion guide](#) for the engagement. MA staff have noted that the questions in the guide are intended to foster discussion and gather input from stakeholders and should not be interpreted as reflecting any policy decisions.

While this engagement included four targeted in-person meetings for municipal associations and select municipal representatives, MA has indicated that they are seeking written input from all interested municipalities. This input is to be submitted to ma.engagement@gov.ab.ca by August 14, 2026.

How to Use this Document

This guide provides RMA members with a concise overview of the CAF, highlights key implementation considerations and areas requiring clarification, summarizes relevant RMA advocacy themes, and identifies discussion topics that members may wish to reflect in their written submission.

While MA has created an engagement guide, they have indicated they are open to written submissions providing information and perspectives on a wide variety of topics to be determined through this engagement. For example, members may choose to use this guide to address:

- ◆ Contraventions – pecuniary interests, use of municipal assets and services, confidentiality of information, egregious and threatening behaviour, and improper use of influence;
- ◆ Sanctions – permitted sanctions for a contravention of the accountability framework;
- ◆ Fees – for complaints and costs of appeals;
- ◆ Timelines – for processes of the accountability framework;
- ◆ Investigators and Commissioners – the qualification, conduct and term of an investigator and appeals commissioner, investigator powers; and
- ◆ Operational considerations – processes for complaints, reviews, investigations, sanctions, appeals, contents of pecuniary interest reports; publication of information, record retention.

If you have any specific questions about this guide, please reach out to Policy and Advocacy staff.

Evolution of Councillor Accountability in Alberta

Municipal Codes of Conduct – 2015–2025

Legislative Background

Municipal councillor accountability in Alberta was governed primarily through municipal codes of conduct from 2017 until their repeal in 2025. Mandatory municipal codes of conduct emerged through updates to the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA) introduced between 2015 and 2017. These [amendments](#) resulted in the creation of section 146.1 of the MGA, which required all municipal councils to establish a code of conduct bylaw governing the conduct of councillors.

Under the [Code of Conduct for Elected Officials Regulation](#), municipalities were required to address specific subject areas within their codes of conduct, including:

- ◆ representing the municipality;
- ◆ communicating on behalf of the municipality;
- ◆ respecting the decision-making process;
- ◆ adherence to municipal policies, procedures, and bylaws;
- ◆ respectful interactions with councillors, administration, the public, and others;
- ◆ confidential information;
- ◆ conflicts of interest;
- ◆ improper use of influence;
- ◆ use of municipal assets and services; and
- ◆ orientation and training attendance.

Codes of conduct were also required to include a complaint system outlining who could make complaints, how complaints would be submitted, how complaints would be assessed, and how sanctions would be imposed. While the legislation prescribed topics that codes of conduct had to address, it provided little direction regarding the procedures municipalities should follow when administering complaints. Matters such as complaint screening, investigations, timelines, sanctions, appeals, confidentiality, and procedural fairness were largely left to municipalities to determine.

As a result, municipalities adopted a range of approaches to administering codes of conduct. Some established Integrity/Ethics Commissioner models, some retained independent third-party investigators when required, and others relied primarily on council-led complaint and sanctioning processes.

Bill 50 and the Repeal of Municipal Codes of Conduct – 2025

In April 2025, the Government of Alberta introduced Bill 50, [the Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2025](#). Among other changes, Bill 50 repealed the MGA provisions requiring municipal codes of conduct and prohibited municipalities from establishing or enforcing councillor conduct rules through municipal bylaws or resolutions. The changes represented a significant shift in Alberta's approach to municipal accountability. Under the amended legislation:

- ◆ all existing municipal codes of conduct were effectively repealed;
- ◆ municipalities were prohibited from adopting new conduct bylaws or resolutions governing councillor conduct;
- ◆ ongoing complaints, investigations, and sanctions processes were terminated, except for matters already before the courts; and

- ◆ municipalities were left without a dedicated mechanism to address most councillor conduct concerns outside of existing MGA provisions related to matters such as pecuniary interest and disqualification.

Universal Code of Conduct Discussions – 2025-2026

Ministerial Mandate Letter

Following the repeal of municipal codes of conduct through Bill 50, Municipal Affairs continued to indicate that it was considering future reforms related to councillor accountability and governance.

Further direction became available with the release of the [Minister of Municipal Affairs' September 22, 2025 mandate letter](#), which instructed the ministry to:

Complete work on a universal code of conduct for elected municipal officials and senior municipal staff that strengthens decorum and protects the freedom of speech of elected members, while ensuring an elected member cannot be impeded from fulfilling their duties as an elected representative by their elected colleagues.

The mandate letter provided the first indication of government's intended direction following the repeal of municipal codes of conduct. However, little information was provided regarding the scope, purpose, delivery model, oversight structure, or implementation timeline associated with the proposed universal code of conduct.

Following the release of the mandate letter, it was RMA's understanding that government intended to pursue a province-wide universal code of conduct framework. This represented a notable shift from earlier discussions that focused primarily on the potential creation of an Integrity Commissioner model.

While details remained limited, the mandate letter suggested that the proposed framework would address issues relating to:

- ◆ councillor conduct and accountability;
- ◆ decorum;
- ◆ freedom of expression for elected officials;
- ◆ the ability of elected officials to fulfill their duties without interference from fellow council members; and
- ◆ conduct expectations involving senior municipal administrators.

The reference to both accountability and freedom of speech raised important policy questions regarding how government intended to balance standards of conduct with the rights and responsibilities of elected officials. Similarly, the reference to senior municipal staff raised questions regarding how municipal administrators would interact with, or be subject to, any future framework.

Introduction of the Councillor Accountability Framework – 2026

In May 2026, Bill 28, [the Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026](#), received royal assent. Among other changes, Bill 28 established a new Councillor Accountability Framework (CAF) within the MGA, creating a province-wide process for addressing councillor conduct concerns.

Through the creation of sections 146.01 to 146.09 of the MGA, Bill 28:

- ◆ authorizes the Minister to establish a binding accountability framework through regulation;
- ◆ enables the Minister to establish conduct standards, complaint procedures, investigative powers, sanctions, appeal processes, and related requirements;

- ◆ enables creation of formal complaint, preliminary review, investigation, reporting, and sanctioning processes;
- ◆ enables establishment of provincially designated investigator and appeal commissioner rosters;
- ◆ following a third-party investigation, requires councils to determine whether a contravention has occurred and, if applicable, impose sanctions; and
- ◆ establishes a provincial appeal process in which the Minister has final decision-making authority.

Unlike the former code of conduct framework, which relied on locally developed bylaws and complaint processes, the CAF shifts responsibility for many substantive and procedural elements of councillor accountability from municipalities to the province. The framework also provides broad regulation-making authority, including the ability to establish detailed conduct standards and modify or replace existing MGA provisions related to councillor conduct.

RMA Analysis on Bill 28 Changes

In response to Bill 28, RMA created several analysis documents including an [initial analysis](#) and [Rural Municipal Impact Analysis](#). The first resource provides a summary of the change, links to specific legislative changes, and an analysis. The second resource evaluates several high importance changes made in Bill 28 from the lens of impact on municipal autonomy and financial considerations.

Initial Analysis (April 2026)

The new accountability framework is intended to fill the gap created by Bill 50, but does so by centralizing control over the scope of issues that warrant a formalized complaint process, as well as by introducing significant standardization of the process itself. The legislation is largely enabling, as many substantive elements – conduct standards, complaint procedures, investigative powers, timelines, sanctions, publication rules, fees, and even key definitions – will be set through regulation. Regulations may also modify or replace existing MGA provisions, giving the Minister broad discretion to shape how councillor conduct is governed.

This shift means that procedural and substantive rules related to the scope of issues addressed through the framework, which were previously set locally, will now be determined provincially. The process related to complaints, investigations, sanctions, and appeals will be standardized, and municipalities will need to align their practices with the provincially established framework once released.

For municipalities, the framework is likely to introduce more formal and resource-intensive processes, including investigation management, documentation, and compliance with prescribed timelines and reporting requirements. The scale of these impacts remains uncertain until regulations are developed.

Given the breadth of the Minister's regulation-making authority, it will be important for Municipal Affairs to engage closely with municipalities ensure the final framework reflects local capacity, governance realities, and operational constraints.

Rural Municipal Impact Analysis (June 2026)

Summary	
- Bill 28 introduces a new MGA section establishing the broad parameters of a “councillor accountability framework,” with many of the details related to how the framework would be applied deferred to regulation-making authority. - Details of the framework that will be addressed through regulation include rules of conduct that may warrant a complaint, complaint submission processes, investigative processes, sanctioning processes, appeal processes, and others. - The Minister has broad authority to develop the overall process and shape individual complaint processes, including through defining the scope of complaints, qualifications and powers of investigators, and many other areas.	
Potential Autonomy Impact	Potential Cost Impact
 - Potential for the Minister to direct complaints risks politicization of the framework, undermining its intent. - Minister discretion to accept, reject, or adjust recommendations from an appeal commissioner risks weakening independence of the process.	 - The requirement that all complaints be referred to a third-party investigator could result in significant cost implications for municipalities and be subject to process abuses in the form of repeated filing of vexatious complaints. - Costs for investigation, appeals, and record retention, will depend on future regulations, leaving municipalities with significant uncertainty about financial implications.
Outstanding Questions	
- What will the engagement process look like, and how will municipal input be incorporated into the final model and regulation? - How will the GOA ensure that the framework is practical, proportionate, and workable for municipalities of all sizes and capacities? - Will municipalities retain ability to supplement the framework with local expectations or values, or will provincial rules be exhaustive?	

- How will municipal costs associated with third-party investigations, appeals, and process requirements be determined, and will funding support be made available to municipalities incurring significant or disproportionate costs?

RMA Priorities

- Submit to government policy positions to ensure the framework supports accountability, local autonomy, and efficient processes.
- Clarify government policy intent related to framework based on 2025 decision to repeal initial codes of conduct completely.
- Better understand role of Minister in complaint, investigation, and appeal processes.
- Undertake ongoing monitoring and evaluation of framework in effectively addressing local conduct issues.

Member Advocacy

As mentioned earlier, Municipal Affairs is accepting written submissions from municipalities until **August 14, 2026**. The information presented below is intended to provide prompts or questions members may wish to utilize to develop their submissions.

General Engagement Strategies

While the decision to impose a province-wide CAF has already been made and is included in legislation, Municipal Affairs is open to feedback on many of the specific items regarding how the process will function. This gives municipalities an opportunity to shape practical considerations and inform the development of any future regulation(s).

RMA is aware that member perspectives on the need for a councillor accountability framework or similar mechanism varies. As a CAF will be implemented in the coming months, RMA encourages all members to provide input on implementation. The themes outlined below are based on a priority to ensure that CAF mechanism is as clear and administratively simple as possible, will not impose unreasonable costs or administrative burdens on municipalities, and will be appropriately scoped to hold councillors accountable for inappropriate or disruptive behaviour without allowing for "weaponization" or misuse.

Members are encouraged to utilize the [MA discussion guide](#) to inform their specific input, either by responding to relevant questions or structuring more open-ended input to align with the engagement themes in the guide.

Suggested Key Themes to Address

The themes below were developed by RMA to help guide member submissions. As mentioned above, while the MA guide may be helpful to structure input, some of the themes below do not align with themes in the guide but are still relevant to ensuring that the CAF is developed effectively.

Regulatory Uncertainty

Summary

- ◆ Many of the framework's most consequential elements remain subject to future regulations, including:
 - ◇ conduct standards;
 - ◇ sanctions;
 - ◇ investigator qualifications;
 - ◇ appeal procedures;
 - ◇ timelines;
 - ◇ fees; and
 - ◇ cost allocation.
- ◆ There is also considerable uncertainty about the definitions of several terms used in the legislation and how they will be applied. For example, MA has stated an intent to ensure that frivolous and vexatious complaints do not trigger full investigations. However, there is a subjective element to determining whether a complaint is "frivolous" or "vexatious." Similarly, the legislation refers to governing egregious and threatening behaviour, but what meets that

standard is still to be defined. Clear definitions are required to limit uncertainty in how the CAF will be applied.

Suggested Input

- ◆ If the municipality has an existing position on some or all the areas addressed in the bulleted list of elements subject to regulation, provide this to MA through a written submission.
- ◆ Emphasize the importance of clear and consistent definitions that minimize subjectivity and uncertainty as much as possible in areas such as conduct that warrants a CAF complaint, identification of frivolous or vexatious complaints, expectations and requirements for third-party investigators, decision-making and justification of sanctions, and other areas.

Costs and Administrative Burden

Summary

- ◆ The framework may introduce new administrative and financial responsibilities related to:
 - ◇ investigations;
 - ◇ appeals;
 - ◇ record retention;
 - ◇ reporting requirements; and
 - ◇ compliance activities.
- ◆ These impacts may be particularly significant for municipalities with limited administrative capacity.
- ◆ The CAF only allows current elected officials to initiate complaints. While a councillor is permitted to initiate complaints on behalf of another person such as municipal staff or member of the public, this process raises potential administrative challenges including:
 - ◇ If a filing fee exists, who should be responsible for paying it in the case of a councillor raising a complaint on someone's behalf?
 - ◇ Is this mechanism the most appropriate way for third-party complaints to be initiated?
 - ◇ How can councils address a scenario where one elected official is repeatedly filing complaints on behalf of other non-elected individuals, and therefore creating significant administrative burden and cost for the municipality?

Suggested Input

- ◆ Emphasize the potential cost and capacity impacts that the CAF could have on municipalities and the importance of ensuring the process is straightforward and clearly defined to eliminate ambiguity and mitigate the risk of the weaponization or misuse of the process.
- ◆ Request that the process provide consistent guidance as to how a complaint should proceed while allowing for some level of local autonomy in terms of timeframes, investigator costs, etc. to allow for mitigation of potentially excessive costs or capacity impacts.

Municipal Autonomy

Summary

- ◆ The CAF represents a shift from locally developed accountability processes toward a provincially prescribed model.

- ◆ Future regulations may establish conduct standards, procedures, sanctions, and appeals processes that municipalities will be required to follow.
- ◆ The Minister has significant power to influence local use of the CAF process, including launching complaints and intervening in the appeal process.

Suggested Input

- ◆ Emphasize that the CAF process should be designed in a way that maintains local autonomy to the greatest extent possible to resolve complaints regarding specific councillors, and does not impose unreasonable risks or impacts on municipalities related to governance, capacity, or costs.
- ◆ Indicate that the Minister's role within the CAF process should be clearly defined and based on specific reasons or thresholds.

Purpose/Effectiveness

Summary

- ◆ It is unclear how various "conduct standards" will be defined or described, whether they will be prescriptive, and if/how thresholds to warrant complaints will be developed.
- ◆ It is unclear if/how non-elected officials (municipal staff and public) will have access to the CAF process. Currently the process requires a councillor to initiate a complaint; they may do so on behalf of a staff member or resident, however this raises additional considerations if a filing fee is involved and if a councillor is comfortable launching the process on someone else's behalf.
- ◆ It is unclear what recourse is available to municipalities who impose a sanction but the sanctioned councillor does not abide by the requirements.

Suggested Input

- ◆ Consider providing feedback on appropriate level of specificity and thresholds for various conduct standards based on need to balance councillor accountability with risk of weaponization or misuse of the CAF.
- ◆ Seek clarity on how overall process effectiveness will be evaluated if complaint identification and investigative processes are prescribed but determination of sanctions are fully within council control.

Additional Implementation Uncertainties

- ◆ Several broader implementation questions remain unresolved that may be worth highlighting in a submission, including:
 - ◇ how occupational health and safety considerations will interact with the CAF;
 - ◇ how the Minister's authority to initiate investigations will function in practice;
 - ◇ how the GOA will ensure fairness and equity in the process across Alberta's various municipality sizes and types. There is a need for reasonable access for all municipalities to the approved roster of investigators and some mechanism to ensure that costs are fair and proportionate; and
 - ◇ how the proposed Council Meeting Procedures Ministerial Order will interact with the CAF and existing municipal governance practices.

Key Messages for Government

- ◆ The CAF restores a formal councillor accountability mechanism following the repeal of municipal codes of conduct in 2025. While some RMA members supported the repeal of codes of conduct and viewed them as unnecessary, ineffective or susceptible to misuse, other members have continued to express concerns regarding the absence of a dedicated accountability process.
- ◆ The framework establishes a high-level structure for complaints, investigations, sanctions, and appeals, but many of the most significant details remain unknown. This openness represents both opportunities and risks in terms of the effectiveness of the final model. Conduct standards, sanctions, investigator qualifications, fees, appeal processes, timelines, and cost allocation mechanisms will largely be established through future regulations.
- ◆ RMA's previous advocacy has generally focused on principles rather than a specific accountability model. Consistent themes include independent investigations, procedural fairness, transparency, accessible appeals, practical implementation, and appropriate safeguards for both complainants and respondents.
- ◆ Implementation details will be particularly important for rural municipalities. Investigation costs, appeal costs, administrative requirements, reporting obligations, and access to qualified investigators may have disproportionate impacts on smaller municipalities with limited capacity.

Have Questions?

Please feel free to reach out to Policy and Advocacy staff at advocacy@rma1berta.com.

Councillor Accountability Framework Workshop

Discussion Guide

Preamble

Page | 1

From 2017 to 2025, the *MGA* and the Code of Conduct for Elected Officials Regulation required all councils to have a councillor code of conduct bylaw. These provisions and the regulation were repealed as part of the *Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2025*, due to concerns about misuse.

The *Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026*, amended the *Municipal Government Act (MGA)* to create a new councillor accountability framework. The *MGA* now establishes rules, processes, and procedures for submitting a complaint, conducting preliminary reviews, investigations, and appeals under the framework. A regulation is required to implement the councillor accountability framework to address topics such as contraventions, sanctions, fees, timelines, investigator and appeal commissioner qualifications, and other operational considerations.

Purpose

This workshop is designed to discuss implementation of the councillor accountability framework. Facilitators will walk participants through the process as it is outlined in the *MGA* and provide an opportunity for discussion on areas requiring clarification, additional information, and operational considerations. Feedback will be summarized and used to inform the policy options for a new councillor accountability regulation for consideration by the Minister.

Scope

The questions in this document are designed to guide the conversation. Other questions will arise as the discussion progresses and will be welcomed.

In Scope

The workshop will focus on the following topics:

- Contraventions - pecuniary interests, use of municipal assets and services, confidentiality of information, egregious and threatening behaviour, and improper use of influence;
- Sanctions - permitted sanctions for a contravention of the accountability framework;
- Fees - fees for complaints and costs of appeals;
- Timelines - timelines for processes of the accountability framework;
- Investigators and Commissioners - the qualification, conduct and term of an investigator and appeals commissioner, investigator powers; and
- Operational considerations - processes for complaints, investigations, preliminary reviews, decision to apply sanctions, appeals, contents of a pecuniary interest report; the publication of information and custody and retention of records.

Out of Scope

The discussion will not focus on concerns unrelated to the implementation of the councillor accountability framework or any other processes or requirements that are set out in the *MGA*.

Discussion Questions

Discussion questions are ordered by complaint stage and theme.

Background information is in blue.

Opening Roundtable

Roundtable introductions

1. Please share your name, role, and municipality.
2. Briefly, from your perspective, what is the most important outcome of a councillor accountability framework?

Page | 2

Stage 1: Complaint Process

Please refer to the process map on page 7.

Contraventions

- 1.1. The following categories are in scope for a councillor accountability complaint (in addition to egregious and threatening behaviour, and pecuniary interest which will be discussed separately):
 - Misuse of municipal assets
 - Misuse of confidential information
 - Improper use of influence

What details or definitions should be considered for these categories in the regulation?

- 1.2. How should egregious or threatening behaviour be defined for the regulation? For reference, please consider the table below.

Egregious or Threatening Behaviour	Non-Egregious or Threatening Behaviour
• Physical Force: Hitting, shoving, kicking, or throwing objects at an individual. • Weaponry: Brandishing or attacking someone with a weapon or improvised tool. • Intimidation: Aggressive gestures, such as shaking a fist or using a vehicle to frighten someone. • Criminal Harassment: Stalking or repeated, unwanted contact that causes a person to fear for their safety. • Criminal Acts: Theft, fraud, embezzlement, or deliberate destruction of property. • Sexual Misconduct: Violence, coercion, or sexualized communications. • Verbal/Written Threats: Expressive conduct that incites violence or promotes hatred against protected groups. Statements expressing intent to cause death, bodily harm, or property damage.	• Private Conversations: Engaging in open dialogue or debates with friends, family, or colleagues outside of a professional setting or service delivery. • Dissenting Professional Views: Sharing opinions on professional standards or government policies that differ from the stance of municipality. • Constructive Criticism: Providing feedback or criticism of leadership that does not cross into criminal harassment or incitement of hatred. • Unpopular or Offensive Speech: Expressing ideas that others may find offensive or controversial, provided they do not involve threats of violence or illegal discrimination. • Workplace Disagreements: Professional conflicts or "heated" debates regarding tasks or strategy that do not involve physical intimidation or verbal threats of harm. • Personal Opinions: Expressing viewpoints on social, political, or cultural issues on personal social media accounts or in public forums.

Fees

- 1.3. Should there be a fee for submitting councillor accountability complaints during the preliminary review process?
- a) If 'yes', what should the fee be?
 - b) If 'no', why not?

For context, there is a \$500 fee for recall petitions, and for filing a court order if a councillor is disqualified.

Page | 3

Timelines

- 1.4. During the preliminary review process, should there be timelines for:
- a) Selecting an investigator?
 - b) Submitting the preliminary review report?

Operational Considerations

- 1.5. Should there be publication requirements for a preliminary report?
- a) If 'yes', what should the requirements be?
 - b) If 'no', why not?
- 1.6. Who should be responsible for the custody and retention of records related to preliminary reviews?
- 1.7. How long should preliminary review records be retained?

Additional Thoughts on Preliminary Reviews

- 1.8. Is there anything else you would like to add about the preliminary review process?

Stage 1: Complaint Process – Pecuniary Interest

Please refer to the process map on page 8.

Operational Considerations

- 1.9. Do you have any operational concerns about the process described in the map?
- a) If 'yes', what concerns do you have?
 - b) If 'yes', do you have any suggestions for how to solve or mitigate these concerns?
- 1.9.1. Should there be a timeline for a councillor who is subject to a councillor accountability complaint, investigation, or finding to resign voluntarily?

Additional Thoughts on Pecuniary Interest

- 1.10. Is there anything else you would like to add about the pecuniary interest complaint process?

Stage 2: Investigation and Sanctions

Please refer to the process map on page 9.

Sanctions

This list is sanctions that were permitted under the former councillor codes of conduct:

Page | 4

- issuing a letter of reprimand addressed to the councillor;
- requesting the councillor to issue a letter of apology;
- publishing a letter of reprimand or request for apology and the councillor's response;
- requiring the councillor to attend training;
- suspending or removing the appointment of a councillor as the chief elected official under section 150(2) of the Act;
- suspending or removing the appointment of a councillor as the deputy chief elected official or acting chief elected official under section 152 of the Act;
- suspending or removing the chief elected official's presiding duties under section 154 of the Act;
- suspending or removing some or all council committees and bodies to which council has the right to appoint members; and
- reducing or suspending remuneration as defined in section 275.1 of the Act corresponding.

1.4. What are appropriate sanctions for violating the councillor accountability framework?

Timelines

- 1.5. What should the timeline be for:
- a) Initiating full investigation?
 - b) Submitting investigation report?
 - c) Passing resolution to accept the investigator's report?
 - d) Making a decision to apply/not apply sanctions?

Investigators and Commissioners

When conducting an investigation, an investigator has the power to do any or all of the following:

- make inquiries orally or in writing of any person the investigator believes has or may have information relevant to the subject-matter of the investigation;
- demand the production for examination of records and documents, including electronic records and documents, that are or may be relevant to the subject matter of the investigation;
- make copies of any of the things referred to in clause (b);
- access municipal land and facilities for the purposes of clauses (a) to (c);
- do anything permitted in the accountability framework.

1.6. Are the powers of the investigator in the Act sufficient? Why or why not?

- a) If 'insufficient', what do you feel is missing?

1.7. What qualification should investigators/appeal commissioners have?

- a) Is there a specific occupation or profession that should be eligible to be a commissioner based on education, role requirements, or professional experience?

- 1.8. What criteria that should be considered when reviewing applications for these roles?
- 1.9. Should there be a term limit for these roles?
 - a) If 'yes', how long should the term be?

Page | 5

Operational Considerations

- 1.10. Should there be publication requirements for an investigation report?
 - a) If 'yes', what should the requirements be?
 - b) If 'no', why not?
- 1.11. Who should be responsible for the custody and retention of records related to investigation reports?
- 1.12. How long should investigation report records be retained?

Additional Thoughts on Investigations and Sanctions

- 1.13. Is there anything else you would like to add about the investigation and sanction process?

Stage 3: Appeal Process

Please refer to the process map on page 10.

Fees

- 3.1. Should there be a fee for a councillor to file an appeal?
a) If 'yes', what should the fee be?

Page | 6

Timelines

- 3.2. What should the timeline be for:
- a) Submitting a complaint regarding the outcome of the investigation and sanctioning process?
 - b) Filing an appeal?
 - c) Appointing an appeal commissioner?
 - d) Conducting appeal hearing?
 - e) Submitting recommendations to the Minister on appeal?
 - f) Minister decisions/order on recommendations?
 - g) Publishing required documents?

Operational Considerations

- 3.3. Who should be responsible for the custody and retention of records related to appeals?
- 3.4. How long should records related to appeals be retained?

Additional Thoughts on Appeals

- 3.5. Is there anything else you would like to add about appeals process?

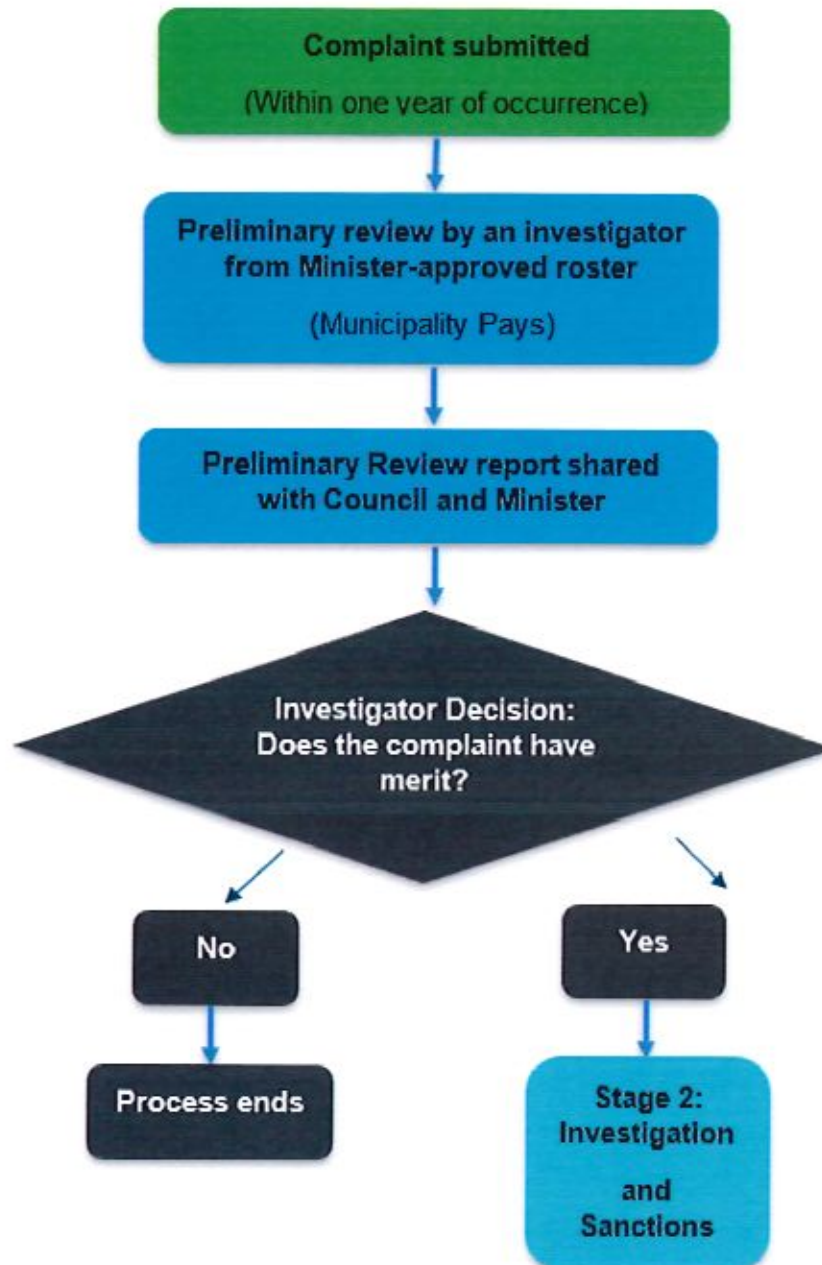
Final Thoughts

- 4.1. Is there anything else you would like to add to today's discussion?

Appendix 1: Process Flow Charts

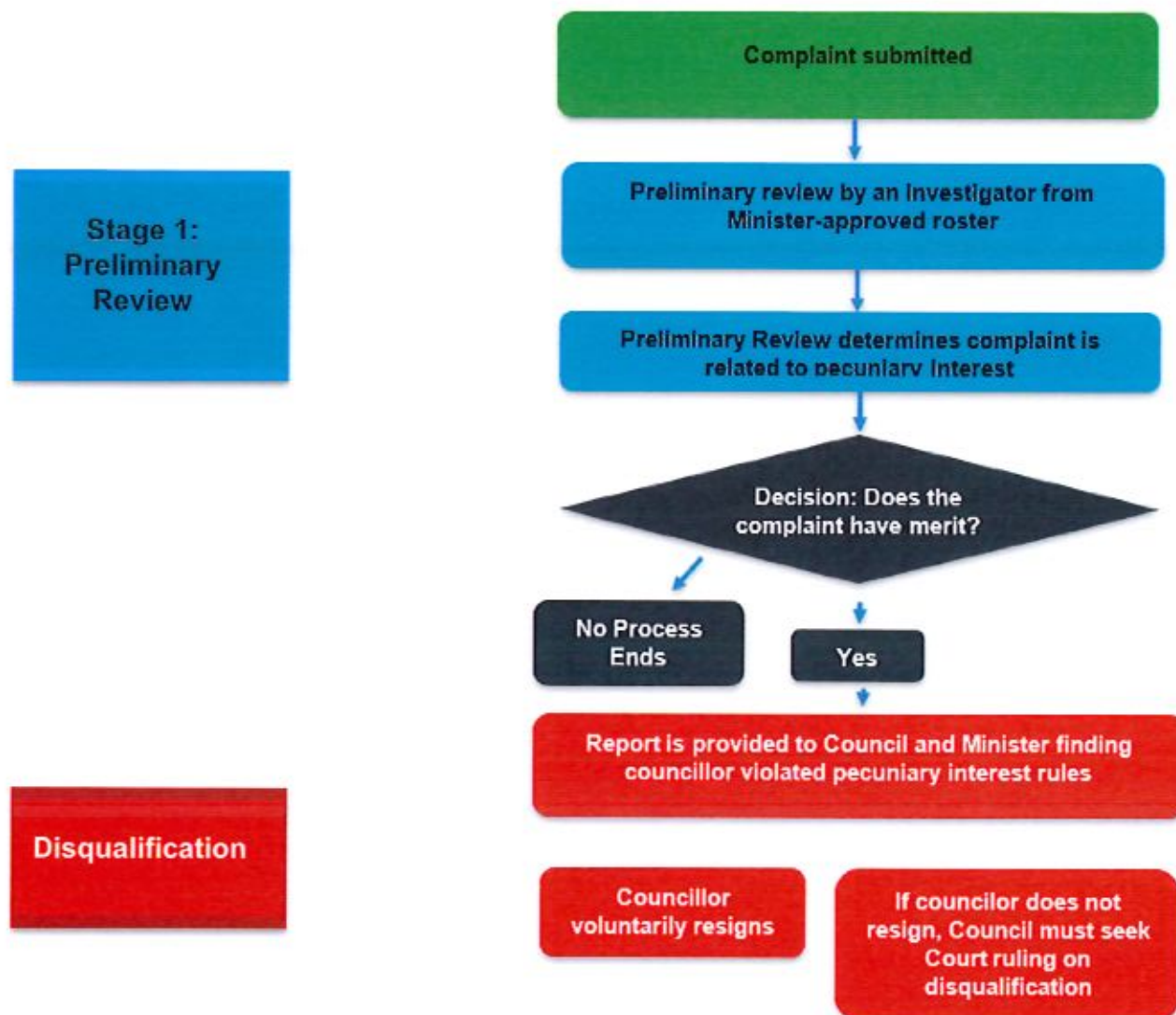
Stage 1: Complaint Process

Page | 7



Stage 1 – Complaint Process, Pecuniary Interest

Page | 8



Stage 2: Investigation and Sanctions

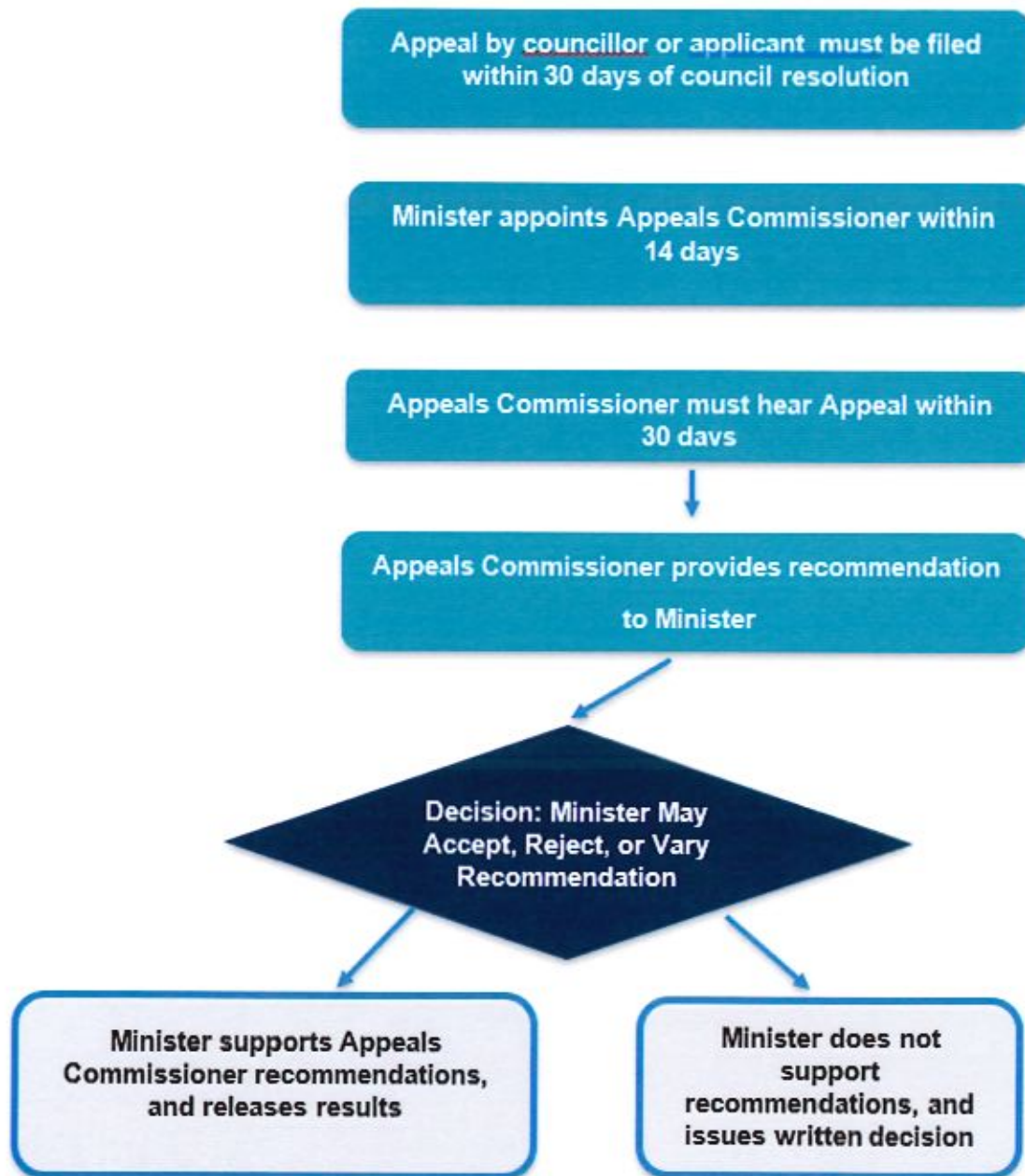
Page | 9



*Note that the Minister may also initiate an investigation and in this case the province would pay.

Stage 3 – Appeal Process

Page | 10



[View this email in your browser](#)

A Message from RMA President, Kara Westerlund: Councillor Accountability Framework Member Guide & Upcoming Deadline for Input Submissions

Dear Mayors, Reeves, and CAOs,

As you are likely aware, Bill 28 amended the *Municipal Government Act* to create a new **Councillor Accountability Framework (CAF)**. According to Municipal Affairs, the CAF is intended to prescribe councillor conduct standards and create a process by which municipalities can address potential contravention of the standards by one or more councillors.

While Bill 28 establishes the general CAF framework, implementation details will be developed through regulation. Municipal Affairs is currently seeking municipal input on how the CAF should be operationalized, including how conduct standards should be defined. As the CAF process will have a significant impact on municipal governance, RMA encourages members to share their input with Municipal Affairs.

Attached to this email below is an **RMA member guide** to support members in linking their specific perspectives on the CAF with broader key themes. The guide also provides members with an overview of the recent history of councillor accountability mechanisms in Alberta. Also attached is a **discussion guide** provided by Municipal Affairs. Members are not required to complete all (or any) of the questions in the discussion guide, but it may be helpful to generate ideas and considerations for written input.

The deadline to submit input to Municipal Affairs is August 14. Input may be submitted by email to ma.engagement@gov.ab.ca. Feel free to share input directly with RMA or reach out to a board member or staff to discuss the issue further.

Source URL: rmalberta.com/news/municipal-affairs-seeking-input-on-councillor-accountability-framework-design/?utm_source=Contact+Newsletter&utm_campaign=7c58d2f2fa-Contact_2025_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_ad7c2a0493-7c58d2f2fa-390811449

Municipal Affairs Seeking Input on Councillor Accountability Framework Design

Posted on: July 24, 2026



The Councillor Accountability Framework was introduced in Bill 28 but details will be defined through regulation

Municipal Affairs is seeking input on the design of the **Councillor Accountability Framework (CAF)** (<https://rmalberta.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/GOA-Bill-28-CAF-Summary.pdf>), which was added to the *Municipal Government Act* through Bill 28 in spring 2026. Earlier in July, Municipal Affairs hosted four in-person engagement sessions for municipal associations and some municipalities and is open to receiving input from all municipalities.

Early next week, RMA will share by email an engagement guide with members. The engagement guide is intended to support members in aligning local input with key themes and high-level priorities identified by RMA.

Municipal Affairs has also developed a **discussion guide** (<https://rmalberta.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/Discussion-Guide-Councillor-Accountability-Framework.pdf>) with a series of questions related to different aspects of the CAF. While it is not necessary for members to answer all

(or any) of the questions directly, the discussion guide will provide context as to the various decision points and opportunities for input related to the development of regulations to support the implementation of the CAF.

The deadline for submissions is **August 14**. Input can be submitted by email to ma.engagement@gov.ab.ca (<mailto:ma.engagement@gov.ab.ca>).

For more information, contact RMA's Policy and Advocacy Team at advocacy@rmalberta.com (<mailto:advocacy@rmalberta.com>) or 825.319.2383.



Position Paper

BUILDING A SOCIAL LICENSE FOR NUCLEAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT IN NORTHWESTERN ALBERTA

PREPARED BY THE PEACE REGIONAL ENERGY ALLIANCE (PREA)

FINAL

MAY 15, 2026



PEACE REGIONAL
ENERGY
ALLIANCE



Executive Summary

The Peace Regional Energy Alliance (PREA), representing a coalition of municipalities in Northwestern Alberta, is united in its support for advancing nuclear energy development in the Peace Region. As a coordinated alliance of municipal leaders, PREA is committed to ensuring communities are informed, prepared, and positioned to benefit from this transformative opportunity.

Alberta is entering a period of growth in electricity demand alongside a transition in how energy is generated. Nuclear energy offers a reliable, affordable, and zero-emission baseload solution that supports long-term energy security and economic stability. PREA supports the Government of Alberta in advancing nuclear energy as part of its long-term energy strategy and positions itself as an essential **regional partner** in this work. With appropriate resources and capacity, municipalities will be well-positioned to support planning, engagement, and infrastructure readiness.

PREA is equally committed to ensuring that communities are engaged early and meaningfully throughout the process. Through strong partnerships, transparent communication, and shared benefits, Northwestern Alberta is ready to lead responsible nuclear energy development and growth alongside both the provincial and federal governments.

PREA serves as the strong united voice of energy and economic diversification, committed to an advocacy role for the dissemination of unbiased and evidence-based information to Northwestern Albertans. PREA stands ready to work with the Government of Alberta as the province formalizes their nuclear energy stance and respective framework/policies.

PREA understands and supports the concept of reliability, sustainability and affordability of nuclear energy as outlined in the Province of Alberta's press announcement in April of 2026.

PREA also strongly supports the National Electricity Strategy released on May 14, 2026 in its statement that electricity is the clear solution to Canada's energy security, affordability, and competitiveness. This includes the funding and development of new nuclear projects in our country.



Position Summary

PREA, through its existing mandate and representative local and regional role in Northwestern Alberta, will advocate for and advance new energy projects and boldly endorse nuclear development for its region. Furthermore, PREA encourages the Government of Alberta to advance their public policy platform and framework on nuclear development and officially designate the Peace River region of **Northwestern Alberta (PEACE REGION)** as the location for such developments in Alberta.

The creation of jobs, new business development, environmental stewardship and careful advancement of energy related projects will enhance the economic prosperity of the entire region.

Who We Are: Background

The Peace Regional Energy Alliance (PREA) brings together municipal leaders from across the Peace Region to provide a unified, region-first voice on major energy and economic development opportunities.

PREA includes:

- County of Northern Lights
- Municipal District of Peace No. 135
- Northern Sunrise County
- Town of Grimshaw
- Town of Manning
- Town of Peace River
- Village of Berwyn
- Village of Nampa

PREA represents both elected officials and administrative leadership, working collaboratively to advance regional priorities. PREA's role is to advocate for responsible development, support economic diversification, and ensure communities are informed, engaged, and prepared for emerging energy opportunities.

With strong regional alignment and established leadership, PREA serves as a trusted bridge between government, industry, and communities. PREA is committed to establishing the Peace Region as Alberta's nuclear hub, supporting responsible development, regional prosperity, and long-term energy leadership. PREA's priorities are also closely aligned with those of the Northern Alberta Development Council (NADC), including workforce readiness, infrastructure planning, regional coordination, and long-term economic opportunities.



Community sentiment demonstrates both interest and concern, with a large component of residents seeking accessible, clear science-based information from unbiased third parties. Engagement must be proactive, transparent, and sustained, particularly regarding economic benefits, emergency preparedness, land-use compatibility, water use regulations, infrastructure impacts, proponent financing and long-term waste as well as environmental stewardship.

Drawing on Canadian precedents such as Bruce Power's expansion in Ontario, where public support exceeds 80% when engagement is robust, PREA can position the Peace Region as **Alberta's model nuclear hub**.

SOCIAL LICENSING FOR THE PEACE REGION

Defining "Social License" for Nuclear in the Peace Region

A social license is built through trust, transparency, and ongoing engagement. In the Peace Region, it will be achieved through clear communication, accessible information, and meaningful opportunities for community participation.

PREA will facilitate and lead, when necessary, a coordinated regional approach to engagement, ensuring residents receive credible, science-based information and have opportunities to participate in the conversation throughout the lifecycle of any project.

Strong public confidence is supported by demonstrated safety, environmental stewardship, and the delivery of tangible local benefits. Ongoing transparency and open communication will continue to strengthen trust across the region.

PREA defines social license in the Peace Region as:

- A trusted voice and advocate for safety oversight across the entire lifecycle (site, construction, operation, decommissioning).
- Leadership on regional economic prosperity through shared decision making.
- Transparent third-party facilitation of public engagement, where information is accessible, questions are answered, and participation influences project regulators, influencers and both Provincial and Federal government decisions.
- Identify tangible local benefits (jobs, training, supply chain, municipal revenues, community investments) through, in part, the development, negotiation and execution of a long-term Regional Benefits Agreement for the area.
- Credible waste and emergency management information through official networks.
- Measurable accountability via public reporting and independent verification, to ensure transparency, accountability and integrity for the Peace Region.

PREA supports nuclear development in the Peace Region contingent on these principles being upheld.



Background: Learning and Best in Class

PREA will apply proven, best-in-class approaches from across Canada, where early engagement, transparent communication, and clear community benefits have supported strong public confidence in nuclear development. PREA is also a member of the Canadian Association of Nuclear Host Communities (**CANHC**) and is learning from experienced host communities across Canada as the Peace Region prepares for its potential role as an emerging nuclear host community.

Provincial engagement is underway. Alberta launched a province-wide engagement process in 2025 (surveys, information sessions, and an expert panel that traveled across Alberta) to determine how nuclear could fit into Alberta's electricity mix. The panel reported to the Minister of Affordability and Utilities in March 2026, and a final report was publicly released in April 2026. This will be followed up by a comprehensive nuclear roadmap and regulatory framework to support nuclear energy in Alberta in early 2027.

Indigenous Rights-Respecting Engagement

As a regional alliance, we recognize the importance of meaningful Indigenous consultation and collaboration with First Nations and Métis communities. We are dedicated to being good neighbours by building strong, respectful relationships grounded in trust, open dialogue, and a shared willingness to listen and learn.

We affirm that project proponents must undertake full, meaningful, and ongoing consultation with Indigenous communities throughout all phases of project planning, assessment, and development. Consultation processes must be conducted in good faith and ensure that Indigenous perspectives, traditional knowledge, rights, interests, and concerns are appropriately considered and reflected in project decision-making processes and outcomes.



Waste Management

PREA recognizes the significance of public concerns related to the long-term management, transportation, and oversight of spent nuclear fuel and the importance of addressing those concerns through transparency, accountability, and ongoing engagement. Providing communities with clear, accurate, and accessible information regarding Canada's national used-fuel policy, transportation oversight, and emergency preparedness measures is essential to building public confidence. Ongoing communication and transparency are critical to supporting public understanding of the regulatory framework, safety standards, and long-term management approaches associated with used nuclear fuel. We support continued collaboration with the Nuclear Waste Management Organization to advance meaningful public and stakeholder engagement initiatives that encourage open dialogue, information sharing, and responsiveness to community questions and concerns.

Canada's used-fuel plan is to construct a Deep Geological Repository (DGR) in the Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation–Ignace area, selected after years of technical studies and community willingness processes. This national solution is progressing under federal oversight; transport planning will be regulated and publicly scrutinized.

The CNSC regulates packaging and transport of nuclear substances, and the IAAC/CNSC processes require robust accident prevention and emergency response plans developed in conjunction with nuclear proponents—key components for a social license in our region.

CLOSING

PREA, representing the Peace Region, will steward a people-first approach grounded in openness, inclusion, and measurable benefits. PREA formally supports advancing nuclear energy development in Northwestern Alberta and stands ready to act as the unified regional voice in partnership with government, industry, and communities. With this plan, the Peace Region can demonstrate how Alberta responsibly earns a **social license** for nuclear energy—setting a national standard while building prosperity at home in Northwestern Alberta.

The Peace Region is ready to lead—demonstrating how Alberta can successfully build public confidence while advancing a reliable and sustainable energy future.



ENDORSEMENT SIGNATURES

PEACE REGIONAL ENERGY ALLIANCE MEMBERS:

Reeve, County of Northern Lights

Reeve, Municipal District of Peace

Reeve, Northern Sunrise County

Mayor, Town of Grimshaw

Mayor, Town of Manning

Mayor, Town of Peace River

Mayor, Village of Berwyn

Mayor, Village of Nampa

Peace Regional Energy Alliance (PREA) Establishes Leadership Role in the Advancement of Nuclear Energy Development in Northwestern Alberta

July 13, 2026, Peace River, AB – Today, PREA proudly released its **Position Paper** on the potential advancement of nuclear energy development in the Province of Alberta, indicating its strong and bold support for positioning itself as a leader and advocate for economic prosperity in Northwestern Alberta.

The Peace Regional Energy Alliance (PREA) brings together municipal leaders from across the Peace Region to provide a unified, region-first voice on major energy and economic development opportunities. PREA represents both elected officials and administrative leadership, working collaboratively to advance regional priorities. PREA's role is to advocate for responsible development, support economic diversification, and ensure communities are informed, engaged, and prepared for emerging energy opportunities.

With strong regional alignment and established leadership, PREA serves as a trusted bridge between government, industry, and communities. PREA is committed to establishing the Peace Region as Alberta's nuclear hub, supporting responsible development, regional prosperity, and long-term energy leadership. PREA will encourage the highest standards from both provincial and federal partners to ensure health, safety, and environmental stewardship remain critical components of any project development.

"The release of our Position Paper, which was endorsed by eight municipalities in our Region, provides strong support to the Province of Alberta in its journey to create a new public policy framework around the development of nuclear energy in our province. This Position Paper strongly endorses our Region as the potential location for nuclear energy development and sets out a commitment to the people in Northwestern Alberta that the dialogue, learning, education and full engagement around nuclear energy needs to continue to take place," stated Chair Terry Ungarian.



Today's release of the Position Paper entitled "**Building a Social License for Nuclear Energy Development in Northwestern Alberta**" outlines a careful balance of support for nuclear energy while maintaining a strong commitment to continued education, conversation, dialogue and engagement with the communities and residents of the Peace Region. PREA and Northwestern Alberta have the opportunity to become an advocate to advancing next

generation energy development by responsibly advancing discussions, dialogue, and encouraging engagement around nuclear technologies that support economic growth, grid reliability, industrial competitiveness, and emissions reduction.

"We fully understand as a Region, that nuclear energy development in Alberta may be years away. We also comprehend that by understanding, learning and educating ourselves through best practices and practical learning as well as engagement with experts, proponents, government stakeholders and bringing together a venue for professional conversations, that we are preparing our communities, our residents and business infrastructure for the future of nuclear energy development," stated Vice Chair Robert Willing.



"We definitely want the Province of Alberta, the Canadian Government, nuclear energy development proponents and future nuclear chain supply management businesses to understand and be advised that the Peace Region is ready to support these new energy development projects in the future. We also realize that as communities, we need to be prepared to review our infrastructure, be positioned for nuclear growth and be a leader in advocating for economic prosperity for the entire Peace Region," stated Chair Ungarian.

"Alberta's grid needs reliable, affordable and sustainable baseload power to support our province. PREA's leadership in Northwestern Alberta is exactly the kind of forward-thinking partnership we need to build a strong, modern foundation for our energy future that will secure long-term economic prosperity for Albertans." – Honourable RJ Sigurdson, Minister of Affordability and Utilities

"Bringing reliable, affordable, and sustainable power to our region isn't just about stabilizing the grid—it's about securing the future of our communities. PREA's leadership right here in Northwestern Alberta proves that local partnerships can drive provincial success, creating the stability our families and businesses need to thrive for generations to come." – Honourable Dan Williams, Minister of Municipal Affairs, MLA Peace River

The release of the Position Paper by PREA, establishes a clear and concise message to stakeholders that the Peace Region is prepared to partner and lead the conversation, initiate the dissemination of information and act as the voice for potential nuclear energy development in Northwestern Alberta.

Executive Summary

The Peace Regional Energy Alliance (PREA), representing a coalition of municipalities in Northwestern Alberta, is united in its support for advancing nuclear energy development in the Peace Region. As a coordinated alliance of municipal leaders, PREA is committed to ensuring communities are informed, prepared, and positioned to benefit from this transformative opportunity.

Alberta is entering a period of growth in electricity demand alongside a transition in how energy is generated. Nuclear energy offers a reliable, affordable, and zero-emission baseload solution that supports long-term energy security and economic stability. PREA supports the Government of Alberta in advancing nuclear energy as part of its long-term energy strategy and positions itself as an essential **regional partner** in this work. With appropriate resources and capacity, municipalities will be well-positioned to support planning, engagement, and infrastructure readiness.

PREA is equally committed to ensuring that communities are engaged early and meaningfully throughout the process. Through strong partnerships, transparent communication, and shared benefits, Northwestern Alberta is ready to lead responsible nuclear energy development and growth alongside both the provincial and federal governments.

PREA serves as the strong united voice of energy and economic diversification, committed to an advocacy role for the dissemination of unbiased and evidence-based information to Northwestern Albertans. PREA stands ready to work with the Government of Alberta as the province formalizes their nuclear energy stance and respective framework/policies.

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416-508-4389

Chair

Terry Ungarian, Reeve, County of Northern Lights

Vice Chair

Robert Willing, Reeve, MD of Peace



Position Paper

BUILDING A SOCIAL LICENSE FOR NUCLEAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT IN NORTHWESTERN ALBERTA

PREPARED BY THE PEACE REGIONAL ENERGY ALLIANCE (PREA)

FINAL

MAY 15, 2026



PEACE REGIONAL
**ENERGY
ALLIANCE**



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PREA understands and supports the concept of reliability, sustainability and affordability of nuclear energy as outlined in the Province of Alberta's press announcement in April of 2026.

PREA also strongly supports the National Electricity Strategy released on May 14, 2026 in its statement that electricity is the clear solution to Canada's energy security, affordability, and competitiveness. This includes the funding and development of new nuclear projects in our country.



Position Summary

PREA, through its existing mandate and representative local and regional role in Northwestern Alberta, will advocate for and advance new energy projects and boldly endorse nuclear development for its region. Furthermore, PREA encourages the Government of Alberta to advance their public policy platform and framework on nuclear development and officially designate the Peace River region of **Northwestern Alberta (PEACE REGION)** as the location for such developments in Alberta.

The creation of jobs, new business development, environmental stewardship and careful advancement of energy related projects will enhance the economic prosperity of the entire region.

Who We Are: Background

The Peace Regional Energy Alliance (PREA) brings together municipal leaders from across the Peace Region to provide a unified, region-first voice on major energy and economic development opportunities.

PREA includes:

- County of Northern Lights
- Municipal District of Peace No. 135
- Northern Sunrise County
- Town of Grimshaw
- Town of Manning
- Town of Peace River
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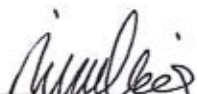
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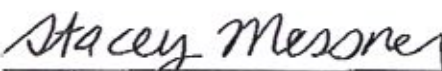
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