

**AGENDA**

A Regular Council Meeting of the Town of Bowden  
to be held in Council Chambers, at 2101 – 20 Avenue, Bowden,  
on **Monday, April 27, 2026, 7:00 pm**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
  - 1.a Land Acknowledgement
- 2. ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA & ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**
- 3. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**
  - 3.a Regular Council Meeting (April 13, 2026)
- 4. PUBLIC HEARING**

None scheduled.
- 5. DELEGATIONS**
  - 5.a Dylan Thudium, CPA – BDO Canada LLP – Audit review (30 - 60 minutes)
- 6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**
  - 6.a Council Resolutions Follow-Up Action
    - ICF Feedback to Red Deer County
    - CAO recruitment
    - Strategic planning workshop
    - MDP/LUB workshop on April 20
    - CAEP AGM
  - 6.b Key Dates
- 7. BYLAWS & POLICIES**

None submitted
- 8. NEW BUSINESS**
  - 8.a CAEP membership
  - 8.b. Website upgrade
- 9. FINANCIAL**
  - 9.a Capital budget – sewer lining project
  - 9.b Capital Budget – concrete swales
- 10. CORRESPONDENCE**
  - 10.a → 10.b
- 11. REPORTS**
  - 11.a CAO's Report
  - 11.b Council Committee Reports.
  - 11.c Society & Other Reports.
- 12. MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

<b>Special Council Meeting:</b> 2026-04-27	<b>Agenda Item:</b> 3.a
<b>Prepared by:</b> Laurie Miller	<b>Approved By:</b> Mayor
<b>Report Type:</b> RFD	<b>Attachment(s):</b> As per content

**Content:****3.a**

Administration submits to Council the minutes of the previous Regular Council Meeting held on:

- Monday, April 13, 2026

**3****Adoption of Minutes of Previous Minutes:**

Council is requested to pass a motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meetings (as attached).

**Recommended Motion:****Motion 3.a**

Motion by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ that Council adopts the minutes, as presented, for the Regular Council Meeting of April 13, 2026.

Town of Bowden - Regular Council MeetingMINUTES (unapproved)

A Regular Council Meeting of the Town of Bowden  
to be held in Council Chambers, at 2101 – 20 Avenue, Bowden,  
on **Monday, April 13, 2026, 7:00 pm**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Laurie Miller called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

<b>PRESENT</b>	Mayor	Laurie Miller
	Councillor	Randy Brown (arrived at 7:02 pm)
	Councillor	Ryan Howlett
	Councillor	Cam Morrison
	Councillor	Amanda Peffers
	Councillor	Carol Pion
	Councillor	Marietta Tuckwell
	A/CAO	Jacqui Molyneux (Recorder)
	Delegate	Keith Bailey, President, Bowden Agricultural Society

**1.a Land Acknowledgement**

We respectfully acknowledge that we are gathered on the traditional territories of the Treaty 7 First Nations — including the Blackfoot Confederacy (Siksika, Kainai, and Piikani First Nations), the Tsuut'ina Nation, and the Îyârhe Nakoda Nations — as well as the homeland of the Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3.

We honour the Indigenous Peoples who have cared for this land, and we are grateful to live, learn, and build community on this land.

**2. ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA & ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA****Motion 2**

Moved by Councillor Marietta Tuckwell that Council adopt the agenda as amended with the addition of closed session item 12.c – Staffing.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**3. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**3.a** Regular Council Meeting (March 23, 2026)

**3.b** Special Council Meeting (March 31, 2026)

**Motion 3.a**

Motion by Councillor Carol Pion that Council adopts the minutes, as presented, for the Regular Council Meeting of March 23, 2026.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Motion 3.b**

Motion by Councillor Marietta Tuckwell that Council adopts the minutes, as presented, for the Special Council Meeting of March 31, 2026.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**4. PUBLIC HEARING**

None scheduled.

**5. DELEGATIONS**

**5.a** Bowden Agricultural Society, Keith Bailey, President

President Bailey gave highlights and noted the society's busy season is starting:

- Bowden Daze planning underway; sponsorship drive is started
- Strategic plan updated
- 35 days booked
- Ball diamonds booked 4 days/week (season from May long to end of summer)
- Last year was good and hoping for same.

**Motion 5.a**

Moved by Moved by Councillor Randy Brown that Council accept the presentation as information.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**6.a** Council Resolutions Follow-Up Action

- ICF Feedback to Red Deer County (discuss at LUB/MDP workshop, April 20)
- Scholarship update - Complete
- CAO recruitment - Ongoing
- Volunteerism – website design update – Tabled for RCM June 8
- Strategic planning workshop update (discuss at LUB/MDP workshop, April 20)
- ABmunis call for resolutions - Complete
- CPP list for RCMP – Approved; submit signed list
- MDP/LUB workshop on April 20
- Central AB Christian Mayor's Prayer Breakfast - Complete

**Motion 6.a**

Motion by Councillor Ryan Howlett that Council accepts all but Item 5.a of March 26, 2026 of the Council Resolutions Follow Up Action Report as information.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Motion 6.a.iii**

Motion by Councillor Amanda Peffers that Council directs Administration to submit the CPP approval to RCMP as per Item 5.a of March 26, 2026.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**6.b Key Dates****Motion 6.b**

Motion by Councillor Randy Brown that Council accepts agenda item 6.b as amended.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**7. BYLAWS & POLICIES**

None submitted

**8. NEW BUSINESS****8.a CAEP membership**

Current annual membership fee is \$1105.44.

**Motion 8.a**

Motion by Councillor Carol Pion that Council table the CAEP membership for review upon receipt of the 2027 renewal.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**9. FINANCIAL**

None Submitted

**10. CORRESPONDENCE**

- 10.a Dan Williams, ECA - Minister of Municipal Affairs  
 - 2026-04-01 Letter, Assesment Model Review (AMR) re: property assessment framework.  
 - Assessment Model Review – Policy Updates March 2026  
 - FAQs – Assessment Model Review – Policy Changes.
- 10.b Dan Williams, ECA - Minister of Municipal Affairs  
 - 2026-04-02 Letter, Highlights of Bill 28, Municipal Affairs & Housing Statutes Amendment Act.  
 - Excerpt of Bill 28 pertaining to the accountability framework.
- 10.c Dylan Bressey, President - Abmunis  
 - 2026-04-02 Email, Highlights of Bill 28.
- 10.d Tricia Guerra, Specialist, HSE – Public Awareness, Plains  
 - 2026-03-27 Email, Plains' Educational Grant Program  
 - Poster, Plains' Educational Grant Program  
 Committee representatives to share with Bowden Grandview School Council.
- 10.e Jade Scott, FCSS Community Navigator  
 - 2026-03-30 Email, Town of Olds, Webinars for Non-profits that use volunteers  
 - Poster, Support for Non-profits  
 Committee representatives to share with organizations.
- 10.f Devin Dreesen, MLA, Innisfail-Sylvan Lake  
 - 2026-04-02 Email, Invite to Stampede Reception
- 10.g Betty Ann Formstone, Legislative Exec Assistant, Sundre  
 - 2026-04-02 Email, Briefing Note regarding MTMC Caucus  
 - Briefing Sheet/Talking Points for MTMC Advocacy
- 10.h Angela Wilson, Curator, Bowden Historical Society  
 - 2026-04-06 Email, Request for Museum Storage Facility  
 Committee representative to discuss further at society meeting.

- 10.i CAEP  
- 2026-04-02 Email, Registration for AGM, Friday, May 8, 2026.

**Motion 10**

Motion by Councillor Cam Morrison that Council accepts agenda items 10.a to 10.h as information.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Motion 10.i**

Motion by Councillor Randy Brown that Council directs Administration to purchase two tickets to the CAEP AGM on May 8 as per item 10.i.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**11. REPORTS**

**11.a CAO's Report**

CAO reported updates regarding:

- summer student staffing
- sewer lining project and possible budget implications,
- water leak.

Council was also provided a report on LGFF and CCBF funding.

**Motion 11.a**

Motion by Councillor Cam Morrison that Council accepts the CAO's report as information.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**11.b Council Committee Reports.**

- i. Special Events Committee  
- Minutes – 2026-03-26

**11.c Society & Other Reports.**

- i. Bowden Frienship Club  
- AGM Minutes – 2025-03-19
- ii. Alberta Counsel  
- The News, Issue 244 March 2026  
- Session 2 Summary, Alberta 31st Legislature (March 16 to 19)  
- Session 2 Summary, Alberta 31<sup>st</sup> Legislature (March 30 to April 2)
- iii. Bowden Agricultural Society  
- Mayor's Report
- iv. MLA & Regional Mayors Meeting  
- Mayor's Report

- v. Parkland Foundation Board Meeting
  - 2026-03-26 Agenda Package
  - ASCHA Summary & Analysis of Alberta's 2026 Provincial Budget
  - Minutes
- vi. Red Deer County Enforcement Contract
  - March 2026 Enforcement Report
- vii. Chinook's Edge School Division
  - 2026-03-24 Board Highlights
- viii. Central Alberta Realtors Association
  - 2026-03-24 Letter – outlining advocacy priorities
- ix. Spring Caucus – Councillor's Reports/Hand-outs
  - The Evolution of Enforcement: Collaboration, Technology, Public Trust in Policing
  - Premier Smith's Speech
  - Minister Williams and Ministerial Panel
  - ABmunis President – Address Summary
  - Councillor Liability, Duties and Governance – Legal Panel (Report)
  - Councillor Liability & Governance Training Handout

#### **Motion 11.b / 11.c**

Motion by Councillor Carol Pion that Council accepts the submitted reports as information.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mayor Laurie Miller requested a short recess at 8:36 pm.

The meeting reconvened at 8:43 pm.

## **12. CLOSED SESSION OF COUNCIL**

### **12.a Local Public Body Confidences – MVRWSC Activities**

This is a closed meeting of Council as permitted by section 197 of the MGA.

An exception to disclose under Division 2 of Part 1 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, RSA2000, Chapter F-25 (as amended over time) therefore applies on the basis of: Section 28 "local public body confidences".

### **12.b Local Public Body Confidences – Governance**

This is a closed meeting of Council as permitted by section 197 of the MGA.

An exception to disclose under Division 2 of Part 1 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, RSA2000, Chapter F-25 (as amended over time) therefore applies on the basis of: Section 20 "harmful to personal privacy".

### **12.c Personal Information - Staffing (Confidential) (Added to agenda)**

This closed meeting of Council is permitted by section 197(2) of the MGA.

An exception to disclose under Division 2 of Part 1 of the Access to Information Act, Statutes of Alberta 2024, Chapter A-1.4 (as amended over time) therefore applies on the basis of: Section 20 "harmful to personal privacy".

**Motion 12**

Motion by Councillor Randy Brown at 8:43 pm that Council moves to an "in-camera" session.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

A/CAO, Jacqui Molyeaux left the meeting at 9:35 pm prior to discussions related to Item 12.c.

**Motion 12.i**

Motion by Councillor Randy Brown at 9:58 pm that Council return to an "open meeting" of Council.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Motion 12.ii**

Motion by Councillor Randy Brown at 9:58 pm that Council extend the meeting past the three-hour duration .

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Motions 12.a / 12.b**

No motions were made in respect of these closed session items.

**Motion 12.c**

Motion by Councillor Marietta Tuckwell at 9:59 pm that Council rescind the offer of employment.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Motion 12.iii**

Motion by Councillor Randy Brown at 10:02 pm that Council moves to an "in-camera" session.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Motion 12.iv**

Motion by Councillor Randy Brown at 10:17 pm that Council return to an "open meeting" of Council.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**13. MEETING ADJOURNMENT****Motion 13**

Motion by Councillor Carol Pion at 10:17 pm to adjourn the meeting.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Meeting adjourned.**

**Minutes signed by:**

---

**Mayor**  
Laurie Miller

---

**A/CAO**  
Jacqui Molyneux



Delegations

<b>Regular Council Meeting:</b> 2026-04-27	<b>Agenda Item:</b> 5.a
<b>Prepared by:</b> Laurie Miller	<b>Approved By:</b> Mayor
<b>Report Type:</b> RFD / Information	<b>Attachment(s):</b>

**Delegations**

**5.a Dylan Thudium, CPA – BDO Canada LLP – Audit Review**

**Motion 5.a**

Moved by Moved by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ that Council accept the presentation as information.

<b>Regular Council Meeting:</b> 2026-04-27	<b>Agenda Item:</b> 6.a
<b>Prepared by:</b> Laurie Miller	<b>Approved by:</b> Mayor
<b>Report Type:</b> Information	<b>Attachment(s):</b>

Matters arising from past minutes.

### **6.a Council Resolutions Requiring Follow Up Action Report**

A summary of past Council resolutions that require follow up action is attached.

#### **Recommended Motions:**

#### **Motion 6.a**

Motion by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ that Council accepts the Council Resolutions Follow Up Action Report as information.

**Town of Bowden**  
**COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS & FOLLOW UP ACTION**  
 (updated comments in red - updated 2026-04-22)

Meeting Date	Resolution	Action By Whom	Date back to Council
24 Apr 23	<p><b>Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework</b>            Motion 8.a ICF to be delayed for 2 years pending Provincial Government guidelines            Municipal Services Agreement (planning services) with RDC expires 31 December 2025            ICF changes to be introduced into the MGA reference Bill 50.            The current ICF expired in December 2022 – the provincial government's 2-year moratorium expired in December 2024.            The latest MGA is now published, dated May 15, 2025.            The requirement for an ICF is now a relevant statute.</p>	CAO/Council	Complete
23 Mar 26	<p>Following regional forum March 11/26: Item pending provincial direction to proceed. Council to discuss April 13 and provide ideas to Red Deer County. <b>April 22: Discussed with RD Cty mayor – complete until provincial framework is announced</b></p>		
23 June 25	<p><b>Role of the Chief Administrative Officer</b>            Motion 8.g Revision of Council Procedural Bylaw            This will also include amendments that are now required following the repeal of the FOIP Act.            The MAP audit requires an update to this bylaw.</p>	CAO	progress
24 Nov 25	<p><b>Agenda item 8.a</b>            Administration to adopt a scent-free environment policy.  <b>OHS tasked to complete.</b></p>	CAO	Progress
12 Jan 26	<p><b>Agenda Item 12.a – Recruitment</b>            Motion 12.a Recruitment Committee work ongoing.</p>	Cttee	Progress
26 Jan 26	<p><b>Agenda Item 10.h – Brownlee – Emerging Trends in Municipal Law</b>            Follow-up for offering later in the year.</p>	CAO	Pending
26 Jan 26	<p><b>Agenda Item 11.c – Enhance Volunteerism</b>            Council requested that Administration forward the mayor's report and JustServe PowerPoint to FCSS for research about the program and report back. Presentation 2026-03-09: CAO/FCSS to update website with volunteer opportunities similar to comparable sites. <b>2026-04-07 Work has begun, waiting on system upgrades and consultations; schedule update for RCM 2026-06-08</b></p>	CAO	Progress

26 Jan 26	<b>Agenda Item 12.a – Strategic Planning</b> Administration to engage McCarroll Consulting to provide ½ day workshop to the council. Determine availability for either February 20 or 21. <b>Tabled for review with LUB/MDP.</b>	CAO/Council	Pending
23 Feb 26	<b>Agenda Item 11.a – ATCO Renewal</b> To be reviewed at March 23 RCM. <b>2026-03-23: 1<sup>st</sup> reading of by-law. Application submitted to ATCO</b>	CAO	Pending
23 Mar 26	<b>Agenda Item 6.b – MDP – LUB</b> <b>April 20: drafts reviewed, waiting on second draft.</b>	CAO	Pending
23 Mar 26	<b>Agenda Item 11.a – Solar Energy Projects</b> <b>New CAO to investigate full cost/benefit report.</b>	CAO	Pending
13 Apr 26	<b>Agenda Item 10.i – CAEP AGM, May 8</b> <b>Admin to purchase two tickets</b>	CAO	Complete

<b>Regular Council Meeting:</b> 2026-04-27	<b>Agenda Item:</b> 6.b
<b>Prepared by:</b> Laurie Miller	<b>Approved by:</b>
<b>Report Type:</b> Information	<b>Attachment(s):</b>

**6.b Key Dates** *(for information)*
**APRIL 2026**

- April 16**                    **Central Alberta Christian Mayor's Prayer Breakfast 6:30am, Pidherney Centre, Red Deer**
- April 20**                    **LUB/MDP Workshop 5:00 to 9:00 PM Council Chambers**
- April 22**                    **Special Events Committee 6:30 PM Council Chambers**
- April 23**                    **CAEP, Future Goals & Deliveries (Business Plan) 9:00 am Innisfail**
- April 23**                    **Volunteer Appreciation Dinner 5:00pm Paterson Hall**
- April 27**                    **MPC 6:30 PM Council Chambers**
- April 27**                    **RCM 7:00 PM Council Chambers**
- April 29**                    **CAEP, Fundamentals of Rural Economic Development, 9:00am Blackfalds**

**MAY 2026**

- May 8**                        **CAEP, AGM 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM – Wolf Creek Golf Resort, Ponoka**
- May 11**                    **RCM 7:00 PM Council Chambers**
- May 25**                    **RCM 7:00 PM Council Chambers**

**Recommended Motion:**
**Motion 6.b**

Motion by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ that Council accepts agenda item 6.b as information.

<b>Regular Council Meeting:</b> 2026-04-27	<b>Agenda Item:</b> 8.a
<b>Prepared by:</b> Councillor Carol Pion	<b>Approved By:</b> Mayor
<b>Report Type:</b> RFD	<b>Attachment(s):</b> CAEP Membership Invoice Renewal Letter

### 8.b. Website

#### 1 Purpose

To discuss continued CAEP membership for 2026/2027.

#### 2 Reasons

Discussion from RCM April 13th was to stay with CAEP for this year only and explore further options for the Town of Bowden regarding Economic Development by CAEP councillors reps/CAO.

#### 4 Recommended Motion.

Councillor Pion recommends that council approve the CAEP membership for 2026/2027..

#### Motion 8.a

Motion by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ that Council approves Invoice No. 122915 to continue the CAEP membership for the period of April 2026 to March 2027.

OR

#### Motion 8.a

Motion by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ that Council decline Invoice No. 122915 to continue the CAEP membership for the period of April 2026 to March 2027.



April 16, 2026

Town of Bowden  
2101 20 Avenue  
Bowden, AB T0M 0K0

Attention: Councillor Carol Pion

Dear Councillor Pion,

On behalf of Central Alberta Economic Partnership (CAEP), thank you for your continued leadership and commitment to advancing economic development across our region.

Please find attached your membership renewal invoice for 2026 – 2027.

Your membership is more than a contribution—it is a partnership. Together, we are building a stronger, more competitive Central Alberta by working collectively to attract investment, support business growth, and strengthen the economic resilience of our communities.

CAEP exists to bring municipalities together around a shared purpose: regional collaboration. By aligning our efforts, we amplify our impact—ensuring Central Alberta is not only investment-ready, but also positioned as one of the best places to live, work, and do business.

Through your membership, you are part of a coordinated regional approach that:

- Advances investment attraction and community readiness
- Connects municipalities with industry, government, and opportunity
- Provides access to data, insights, and tools that support informed decision-making
- Creates opportunities for collaboration through committees, events, and regional initiatives



---

Equally important, CAEP serves as a convener—bringing members together to share knowledge, align priorities, and advocate collectively for the long-term prosperity of Central Alberta.

Also attached to this membership package is a Year-End Review document that outlines what CAEP has accomplished over the past year, as well as our plans for 2026-2027. More details will be presented at our Annual General Meeting on May 8, 2026 in Ponoka, Alberta. Register for your ticket now through the CAEP website at: [www.investcentralalberta.ca/event-list](http://www.investcentralalberta.ca/event-list)

Thank you again for your ongoing support and partnership. If you have any questions or would like to discuss how to further leverage your membership, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul Salvatore', is written over a light blue circular stamp.

**Paul Salvatore**  
Executive Director, Central Alberta Economic Partnership  
Phone: 587-447-2237  
Email: [psalvatore@investcentralalberta.ca](mailto:psalvatore@investcentralalberta.ca)



# Invoice

Town of Bowden  
Attn: Councillor Carol Pion  
2101 20 Avenue  
Bowden, AB T0M 0K0

**Invoice #    Date**  
122915    4/16/2026

**TERMS**  
Due Upon Receipt

Description	Population	Rate	Amount
<p>CAEP Municipal Membership Fee April 26 - March 27 GST on sales</p> <hr/> <p><b>Central Alberta Economic Partnership Mailing Address G11, 5550 - 45 St Red Deer, AB T4N 1L1</b></p> <p>Question regarding this invoice email to <b>Jan - caepfinance@investcentralalberta.ca</b></p> <hr/> <p>GST #    869653477</p> <hr/> <p><b>Bank Informaton for EFT 07129 219 121441124</b></p> <p><b>EFT &amp; Etransfers to caepfinance@Investcentralalberta.ca</b></p>	1,280	0.90 5.00%	1,152.00 57.60
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,209.60</b>

<b>Regular Council Meeting:</b> 2026-04-27	<b>Agenda Item:</b> 8.b
<b>Prepared by:</b> Jacqui Molyneux	<b>Approved By:</b> Mayor
<b>Report Type:</b> RFD	<b>Attachment(s):</b> Website Upgrade

### 8.b. Website

#### 1 Purpose

Currently we use All Net platform for our website, and we are being offered a new platform called Catalis. This is the same company we use for our accounting program.

#### 2 Reasons for new platform

All Net platforms will be losing some features and the main one will be our Enews not being able to send out our newsletter by email to the approximately 140 people signed up for this. The new platform will also be mobile friendly so we could delete having to use an independent company for an app. I have included a flyer that highlights things the platform can do.

#### 4 Recommended Motion.

Administration recommends that council approve the move to the new website platform.

Motion by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ that Council approves the move to the new website platform offered by Catalis.



# CATALIS WEBSITE MANAGEMENT

*Developed to meet the specific needs of a local government*

Our CMS provides you with the ability to refine all user accounts to restrict access to specific features. For example, you can create an admin user account and provide a specific user with access to edit only specific pages or have access to a specific application. This is a great feature for a larger government that may want to provide departments with access to edit specific sections of a website.

There is no limit to the number of user accounts, and you can enable/disable user accounts at any time. Catalis' CMS is also responsive for any mobile device, and you can edit any pages and use any admin features from a mobile phone, tablet, or computer.

**In addition to our standard dashboard and Single-Sign-On (SSO) portal, some key benefits to using Catalis' CMS Package include:**

## **Accessibility**

Accessibility Development, SSL Certificates, and North American hosting (AWS).

## **Strong Security**

Scan files and behaviour with monitoring and anti-virus software. We have annual penetration tests, and a security committee implementing and updating best practices.

## **Mobile Responsive Design**

This proposal includes a design that will be completely responsive on any mobile device. Your content management system is also responsive and provides you with the ability to edit your website on any mobile device including a smartphone.

## **Business Directory**

Map business locations.

## **Accordions**

The Accordion is a new data type within the CMS. It is like the Quick List data type, but each item is grouped in an expandable/collapsible region.

## **Air Quality**

Display air quality information on your website.

## **Notices/News**

The News content type is best for content you want to be scheduled for publication. This content type is also useful for creating a section of announcements that you can easily promote to the homepage using the Promotions feature. The News content type is sorted by publish date.

## **Documents**

Centralized file management where videos can be managed.

## **Cards**

Display the content of your items on a page either horizontally or vertically, and as properly fit in any screen size. Click on Add Item to add a new Box.

## **Calendar**

Enter community activities, which can be displayed as a list of events or in a calendar. With the Events content type, you can control when the event should automatically roll off the live site. This helps keep your site free from outdated content.

## **Intranet**

Create password-protected pages.

## **Maps**

List a series of addresses for tourism, park locations, and land available for development. To add a new location, click on Add Item.

## **Navigation Banner**

Add a hero image or opening photo.

## **Meetings**

Feature your local government's meeting minutes and agendas on your community's website. You simply upload the documents directly to the website and they will be categorized and displayed by date and meeting type.

### Image Gallery

Create an online photo album to post several images and control their order and captions. The images appear as thumbnails, and any image can be enlarged simply by clicking on it.

### Alert Banner (Alerts)

Manage alert messages that will appear as a banner to alert people to important information. This is a convenient tool to highlight people's attention to important matters such as service outages.

### Postings

Display details regarding job openings. It gives you the option of formatting your text in a standard flow or developing your own format by entering all the relevant information into the "Comments" text box.

### Dashboard

View and share information about traffic and engagement using Google Analytics 4, dedicated sections for meetings, events, form submissions, and open orders.

### Weather

Display weather information on your website.

### RSS Subscribe

Display local news and news from multiple news sources. You control the feeds and the news automatically appears on your website.

### Advance Admin Access Rights

Create unlimited access accounts for users to log in and update the website. Each user will have their own username and password and the website will track who last made certain edits. Each user will also have permissions set so they can only edit certain pages within the website. Our solution also provides group management.

### Polls

Allow visitors to answer a question on any topic. More than one question can be entered at a time, but each question is treated individually. Add a new item for each question in the poll.

### Promotions

Display the information from one section to another. An example would be taking an events section and placing the information on the home page in the form of a calendar without having to retype any information.

### Forms

Create your web forms. Along with the ability to design your forms, you can also edit the confirmation pages and emails for any form submissions. There is no limit to the number of forms you create and manage on your website.

### Milestones

The Milestone type is another new data type in the CMS. Milestones were inspired by looking into examples of accordions. The imagery is designed to represent a timeline of events.

### Social Media Icons

Create manageable links to your community's Facebook, Twitter, YouTube Instagram, LinkedIn, or Nextdoor accounts.

### People Directory

Display the personnel in your community.

### Lists

Display information on a page with index links at the top of the page. This is often used when creating a frequently asked questions section, links page, or department forms.

### Website Search

Provide visitors the opportunity to locate specific information, including documents, on your site.

Call us toll free to get started  
**+1 (855) 898-6864**

To learn more or to book a demo, scan the code or visit:  
[catalisgov.com](http://catalisgov.com)



<b>Regular Council Meeting:</b> April 27, 2026	<b>Agenda Item:</b> 9.a
<b>Prepared by:</b> Jacqui Molyneux	<b>Approved By:</b> Mayor
<b>Report Type:</b> RFD	<b>Attachment(s):</b> Sewer Lining quote and areas to be completed

**9.a Capital**

**1 Purpose**

Attached is the quote from Insituform for the areas to be completed this year.

**2 Reason for increasing capital project.**

The capital project we were proposing for the 2026 project has come in over the budget amount that was approved.

Attached is the areas we would like to proceed with this year with the quote being \$158,988.00 and the engineering cost being \$5,600.00. This puts the project just over budget with no contingency for the project. I am requesting that council approve to increase this project to \$175,000.00 which will include a contingency if any problems arise.

**4 Recommended Motion.**

Administration requests that council consider the increase to the capital project to proceed with all areas noted on the quote.

Motion by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ that Council approves the increase to the capital project from \$150,000.00 to \$175,000.00.

Motion by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ that council does not approve of the increased capital expenditure and that the recommendation from ISL to remove the 21 Ave from the project quote as recommended.



Worldwide Pipeline  
Rehabilitation

5743 68<sup>th</sup> Ave NW  
Edmonton, Alberta T6B 3P8

Tel: (780) 413-0200  
Fax: (780) 413-0777

April 2, 2026

File: W-26-53

ISL Engineering and Land Services Ltd.  
4015 - 7 Street SE  
Calgary, AB T2G 2Y9

Attention: Mr. Kevin Denischuk

**RE: 2026 Bowden Sanitary Mains**

---

Insituform® is pleased to provide you with the following price estimate for the Supply and Install of Insituform® CIPP Lining attached at the end of this letter for the Town of Bowden.

Our Rehabilitation price is based on the following parameters:

1. Information provided to us by ISL Engineering:
  - Email with pricing request dated March 17, 2026.
  - Specifications via email communication.
  - Drawings and CCTV were made available.

Insituform® has made the following assumption:

- 3 Day(s) for pipe preparation, 4 Day(s) for lining.
- Design Condition – Fully Deteriorated.
- Installation of the Insitutube® will be done in accordance with ASTM F1216 and/or ASTM F1743.
- Minimum four (4) weeks is required for material procurement if not in stock.
- Low flow conditions were observed on the CCTV. The pricing includes for expected flows utilizing two 2" pumps. If site conditions require a larger bypass set up this will be constructed at an extra cost.
- Traffic control and road signage based on lane closures. No flaggers included.
- Scope reduction may result in revised Unit Rates.

As a result, should any discrepancies be found between the assumptions stated above and the actual field conditions, Insituform® will confirm or adjust this proposal, or may have to advise that lining may not be possible.

To: ISL Engineering

File: W-26-53

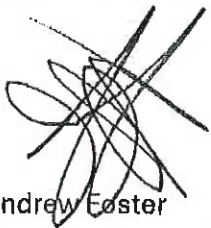
2. The Town of Bowden would be required to provide the following at no cost to Insituform®:
  - Unobstructed, road surface access to the pipe at both end and intermediary manholes and/or access points.
  - Access to the bulk water station for duration of pipe preparation and lining operations along with associated costs. *(Clean water from an adjacent hydrant and/or water truck to allow for installation and cleaning operations.)*
  - Obtain all necessary approvals, permits, etc., as required to allow work on private and/or public properties.
  - Advising affected citizens, business, and operational departments (as required).
  - All open-cut excavations (if required).
  - All surface restoration (if required).
3. Based on current backlog, Insituform® can complete this work in 2026 by the project substantial completion. This can be confirmed prior to award with a tentative schedule.
4. Insituform® will be paid by The Town of Bowden no more than 45 days after Insituform® has reached substantial completion for the work detailed in this proposal.
5. The pricing stated herein is open for acceptance for a period of 60 days, after this time the pricing and crew availability will need to be revisited.

If you have any questions, or would like clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (780) 982-4717.

We look forward to working with you, ISL Engineering, and the Town of Bowden on this project.

Yours truly

**INSITUFORM TECHNOLOGIES® LIMITED**



Andrew Easter  
Vice President & Area Manager Canada West

Attachment:

To: ISL Engineering

File: W-26-53

**Location: 25 Avenue - Lining (MH 39 to MH 121)**

Item No.	Description	Units	Unit Price	Total Quantity	Total
<b>1.0</b>	<b>General</b>				
1.1	Mobilization & Demobilization	L.S.	\$ 3,314.00	1	\$ 3,314.00
1.2	Traffic Accomodation	L.S.	\$ 330.00	1	\$ 330.00
1.3	By Pass Pumping	L.S.	\$ 100.00	1	\$ 100.00
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Sanitary</b>				
3.1	Lining DIA 200mm VCP	L.M.	\$ 228.00	80	\$ 18,240.00
3.2	Reinstate Service Connections	EA	\$ 150.00	7	\$ 1,050.00
<b>Project Total</b>					<b>\$ 23,034.00</b>

**Location: 17 Avenue - Lining (MH 121 to MH 30)**

Item No.	Description	Units	Unit Price	Total Quantity	Total
<b>1.0</b>	<b>General</b>				
1.1	Mobilization & Demobilization	L.S.	\$ 3,314.00	1	\$ 3,314.00
1.2	Traffic Accomodation	L.S.	\$ 330.00	1	\$ 330.00
1.3	By Pass Pumping	L.S.	\$ 100.00	1	\$ 100.00
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Sanitary</b>				
3.1	Lining DIA 200mm VCP	L.M.	\$ 271.00	61	\$ 16,531.00
3.2	Reinstate Service Connections	EA	\$ 150.00	6	\$ 900.00
<b>Project Total</b>					<b>\$ 21,175.00</b>

**Location: 23 Ave Close - Lining (MH 113 to MH 114)**

Item No.	Description	Units	Unit Price	Total Quantity	Total
<b>1.0</b>	<b>General</b>				
1.1	Mobilization & Demobilization	L.S.	\$ 3,314.00	1	\$ 3,314.00
1.2	Traffic Accomodation	L.S.	\$ 330.00	1	\$ 330.00
1.3	By Pass Pumping	L.S.	\$ 100.00	1	\$ 100.00
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Sanitary</b>				
3.1	Lining DIA 200mm VCP	L.M.	\$ 234.00	81	\$ 18,954.00
3.2	Reinstate Service Connections	EA	\$ 150.00	3	\$ 450.00
<b>Project Total</b>					<b>\$ 23,148.00</b>

**Location: 24 Ave Close - Lining (MH 27 to MH 28)**

Item No.	Description	Units	Unit Price	Total Quantity	Total
<b>1.0</b>	<b>General</b>				
1.1	Mobilization & Demobilization	L.S.	\$ 3,314.00	1	\$ 3,314.00
1.2	Traffic Accomodation	L.S.	\$ 330.00	1	\$ 330.00
1.3	By Pass Pumping	L.S.	\$ 100.00	1	\$ 100.00
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Sanitary</b>				
3.1	Lining DIA 200mm VCP	L.M.	\$ 590.00	23	\$ 13,570.00
3.2	Reinstate Service Connections	EA	\$ 150.00	2	\$ 300.00
<b>Project Total</b>					<b>\$ 17,614.00</b>

<b>Total All Locations :</b>	<b>\$ 158,988.00</b>
------------------------------	----------------------

Note: The G.S.T. is additional

To: ISL Engineering

File: W-26-53

**ISL Engineering**  
**2026 Bowden Sanitary Mains**  
**Insituform® Rehabilitation Pricing**  
**April 2, 2026**

Insituform® is pleased to provide ISL Engineering with the following price for the supply and install of Insituform® CIPP in the Town of Bowden.

**Location: 26 Avenue - Lining (MH 111 to MH 112)**

Item No.	Description	Units	Unit Price	Total Quantity	Total
<b>1.0</b>	<b>General</b>				
1.1	Mobilization & Demobilization	L.S.	\$ 3,314.00	1	\$ 3,314.00
1.2	Traffic Accomodation	L.S.	\$ 330.00	1	\$ 330.00
1.3	By Pass Pumping	L.S.	\$ 100.00	1	\$ 100.00
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Sanitary</b>				
3.1	Lining DIA 200mm VCP	L.M.	\$ 239.00	75	\$ 17,925.00
3.2	Reinstate Service Connections	EA	\$ 150.00	5	\$ 750.00
<b>Project Total</b>					<b>\$ 22,419.00</b>

**Location: Lawrence Lane - Lining (MH 28 to MH 29)**

Item No.	Description	Units	Unit Price	Total Quantity	Total
<b>1.0</b>	<b>General</b>				
1.1	Mobilization & Demobilization	L.S.	\$ 3,314.00	1	\$ 3,314.00
1.2	Traffic Accomodation	L.S.	\$ 330.00	1	\$ 330.00
1.3	By Pass Pumping	L.S.	\$ 100.00	1	\$ 100.00
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Sanitary</b>				
3.1	Lining DIA 200mm VCP	L.M.	\$ 212.00	100	\$ 21,200.00
3.2	Reinstate Service Connections	EA	\$ 150.00	2	\$ 300.00
<b>Project Total</b>					<b>\$ 25,244.00</b>

**Location: 21 Avenue - Lining (MH 21 to MH 44)**

Item No.	Description	Units	Unit Price	Total Quantity	Total
<b>1.0</b>	<b>General</b>				
1.1	Mobilization & Demobilization	L.S.	\$ 3,314.00	1	\$ 3,314.00
1.2	Traffic Accomodation	L.S.	\$ 330.00	1	\$ 330.00
1.3	By Pass Pumping	L.S.	\$ 100.00	1	\$ 100.00
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Sanitary</b>				
3.1	Lining DIA 200mm VCP	L.M.	\$ 196.00	110	\$ 21,560.00
3.2	Reinstate Service Connections	EA	\$ 150.00	7	\$ 1,050.00
<b>Project Total</b>					<b>\$ 26,354.00</b>

<b>Regular Council Meeting:</b> April 27, 2026	<b>Agenda Item:</b> 9.b
<b>Prepared by:</b> Jacqui Molyneux	<b>Approved By:</b> Mayor
<b>Report Type:</b> RFD	<b>Attachment(s):</b> Quotes for Swales (previous and new quote)

## 9.b Capital

### 1 Purpose

Attached is updated concrete quote and paving for the new concrete swales.

### 2 Reason for increasing capital project.

The reason for the increase was my error I had put in an expenditure of \$78,000 instead of a \$98,000 in the original capital that was brought to council on March 4, 2026. The concrete swales have increased from \$18,360.00 to \$22,820.00 and paving quote was \$67,584.00 for a total of \$90,404.00 I have added contingency as paving may have also increased from the last quote. I have also taken into consideration that we may need to cut back further on the swales to make the transition smooth for vehicles passing over the swales.

### 4 Recommended Motion.

Administration requests that council approved of the new amount to have this project completed this year and to improve the storm water run off.

Motion by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ that Council approves the increase to the capital project from \$78,000.00 to \$98,000.00.



# OLDS CONCRETE SERVICES (2014) LTD.

6508 - 48 AVENUE, OLDS ALBERTA T4H 1V1

PHONE (403) 556-2979

FAX (403) 556-2995

Date: November 19, 2025

Quote

To: Town of Bowden

Attn: Arno Glover, CAO  
Kole Molyneux, Public Works Operator

Re: Concrete Repairs 2026

Item	Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Subtotal
1	<b>20 Ave / 23 St - SW Corner</b>				
	a) remove and replace curb & gutter	7	lin.m.	\$210.00	\$1,470.00
	b) remove and replace wheelchair ramp	1	l.s.	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
	c) remove and replace monolithic sidewalk	3.5	lin.m.	\$310.00	\$1,085.00
	d) remove and replace 1.0m concrete swale	6.5	lin.m.	\$275.00	\$1,787.50
	- optional - finish swale - add 5 lin.m. @ \$275/lin.m. = \$1,375.00				
	* Includes slurry, asphalt by others				
2	<b>20 Ave / 23 St - SE Corner</b>				
	a) remove and replace curb & gutter	7	lin.m.	\$210.00	\$1,470.00
	* includes slurry, asphalt by others				
3	<b>21 Ave / 23 St - School Curb Crossing</b>				
	a) remove and replace dropped reinforced curb & gutter	13.1	lin.m.	\$225.00	\$2,947.50
	b) remove and replace sidewalk	3	m2	\$150.00	\$450.00
	* Includes slurry, asphalt by others				
4	<b>21 St / 25 Ave</b>				
	a) remove and replace curb & gutter	7.5	lin.m.	\$210.00	\$1,575.00
	b) remove and replace 1.0m concrete swale	21	lin.m.	\$275.00	\$5,775.00
	* includes slurry, asphalt by others				
				<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$18,360.00</b>
				<b>GST</b>	<b>\$918.00</b>
				<b>Total</b>	<b>\$19,278.00</b>

Quote is valid for work done in 2026 construction season.

GST to be added.

Olds Concrete is COR certified as per ACSA safety standards. COR Certificate 20240815-8186.

- quote does not include subscription or participation in external safety associations (ex. Avetta, ISNetworld)

If you have any questions, I can be reached on my cell at 403-559-9339.

Joel Vermeulen  
Olds Concrete Services



# OLDS CONCRETE SERVICES (2014) LTD.

6508 - 48 AVENUE, OLDS ALBERTA T4H 1V1

PHONE (403) 556-2979

FAX (403) 556-2995

Date: April 15, 2026

Quote - Revised

To: Town of Bowden

Attn: Kole Molyneux, Public Works

Re: Concrete Repairs 2026

Item	Description	Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Subtotal
<b>Spring 2026</b>					
1	<b>20 Ave / 23 St - SW Corner</b>				
	a) remove and replace curb & gutter	7 lin.m.		\$210.00	\$1,470.00
	b) remove and replace wheelchair ramp	1 l.s.		\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
	c) remove and replace monolithic sidewalk	3.5 lin.m.		\$310.00	\$1,085.00
	d) remove and replace 1.0m concrete swale	11.5 lin.m.		\$275.00	\$3,162.50
	e) ACP removal, supply and install gravel patch	7 m2		\$50.00	\$350.00
2	<b>20 Ave / 23 St - SE Corner</b>				
	a) remove and replace curb & gutter	7 lin.m.		\$210.00	\$1,470.00
3	<b>21 Ave / 23 St - School Curb Crossing</b>				
	a) remove and replace dropped reinforced curb & gutter	13.1 lin.m.		\$225.00	\$2,947.50
	b) remove and replace sidewalk	3 m2		\$150.00	\$450.00
4	<b>21 St / 25 Ave</b>				
	a) remove and replace curb & gutter	11 lin.m.		\$210.00	\$2,310.00
	b) remove and replace 1.0m concrete swale	23 lin.m.		\$275.00	\$6,325.00
	c) ACP removal, supply and install gravel patch	29 m2		\$50.00	\$1,450.00
				<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$22,820.00</b>
				<b>GST</b>	<b>\$1,141.00</b>
				<b>Total</b>	<b>\$23,961.00</b>

Quote is valid for work done in 2026 construction season.

GST to be added.

Olds Concrete is COR certified as per ACSA safety standards. COR Certificate 20240815-8186.

- quote does not include subscription or participation in external safety associations (ex. Avetta, ISNetworld)

If you have any questions, I can be reached on my cell at 403-994-1982.

Chris Wiffen  
Olds Concrete Services

1-8888-HOT MIX  
 1-888-846-8649  
 Asphalt@borderpaving.com  
 Quality - Service - Value



6711 Golden West Ave  
 Red Deer, Alberta  
 T4P 1A7

Branches in:  
 Stony Plain  
 Camrose  
 Hinton

<b>To:</b>	TOWN OF BOWDEN	<b>Contact:</b>	Kole Molyneux
<b>Address:</b>	BOX 338 BOWDEN, AB	<b>Phone:</b>	
		<b>Fax:</b>	
<b>Project Name:</b>	Bowden 2026 Patching	<b>Bid Number:</b>	Q#2025-0495
<b>Project Location:</b>	Various Locations, Bowden, AB	<b>Bid Date:</b>	12/3/2025
<b>Addendum #:</b>	N/A		
<b>Attachments:</b>	Terms & Conditions.pdf		

We are pleased to provide the following prices for your consideration.

Item #	Item Description	Estimated Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Total Price
1.0	Asphalt Patching	768.00	m2	\$88.00	\$67,584.00
	The Work To Be Undertaken Will Include:				
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Traffic Control And Flag Persons As Required.</li> <li>Wheel Cut The Perimeters Of The Pavement.</li> <li>Remove And Dispose To The Town Dumpsite Excess Materials To 100mm Below Finished Grade.</li> <li>Reshape And Compact The Existing Gravel Base Placed By Others And Acceptable For The Commencement Of Our Work.</li> <li>Supply, Place And Compact 100mm Of Hot Mix Asphalt.</li> </ol>				
	The Locations To Be Repaired Are The Following:				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>25<sup>th</sup> Ave &amp; 21<sup>st</sup> St. (Area TBD) – 531m<sup>2</sup></li> <li>Grandview School (Staff Parking Lot Entrance) – 63m<sup>2</sup></li> <li>2237 20<sup>th</sup> Ave. – 168m<sup>2</sup></li> <li>19<sup>th</sup> Ave &amp; 22<sup>nd</sup> St. (Fillet) – 4m<sup>2</sup></li> <li>20<sup>th</sup> Ave. &amp; 22<sup>nd</sup> St. (Fillet) – 2m<sup>2</sup></li> </ul>				
2.0	Westview Drive (Budget) - Asphalt Overlay	1,700.00	m2	\$41.00	\$69,700.00
	The Work To Be Undertaken Will Include:				
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Traffic Control And Flag Persons As Required.</li> <li>Mill The Pavement Below Existing Grade At Tie Ins And In Areas Where Drainage Is Minimal.</li> <li>Clean The Existing Pavement.</li> <li>Supply And Place An SS1 Emulsified Tack Coat.</li> <li>Supply, Place And Compact Up To 50mm Of Hot Mix Asphalt.</li> </ol>				

**Bid Price Subtotal:** \$137,284.00

**Total Bid Price:** \$137,284.00

**Notes:**

- Please note Item 2.0 Is for budget purposes only and can be reassessed closer to the start date.
- Final price will be based on actual area completed multiplied by the unit rates shown above.
- Should you have any questions with regards to this quotation or any other concerns, please contact the undersigned.
- Thank you for the opportunity to quote on this work.

<b>Regular Council Meeting:</b> 2026-04-27	<b>Agenda Item:</b> 10.a to 10.b
<b>Prepared by:</b> Laurie Miller	<b>Approved by:</b>
<b>Report Type:</b> Information	<b>Attachment(s):</b> As per content listing

**Agenda item 10**

**Content:**

- 10.a** Mountain View Hospice Society (MVHS)
  - 2026-04-15 Email: sponsorship request for silent auction – June 11 Golf Tournament
  - MVHS Sponsorship package
- 10.b** Barbara Tuttle
  - 2026-04-14 Email: requesting advocacy re AISH

**Suggested Motion(s)**

**Motion 10**

Motion by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ that Council accepts agenda items 10.a / 10.b as information.

**AND/OR**

**Motion 10**

Motion by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ that Council accepts agenda item \_\_\_\_\_ as information.

**Motion 10.a**

Motion by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ that Council \_\_\_\_\_

**Motion 10.b**

Motion by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ that Council \_\_\_\_\_

**Jacqui Molyneux**

---

**From:** Mary Smith <Mary@hospiceolds.com>  
**Sent:** April 15, 2026 11:11 AM  
**To:** undisclosed recipients  
**Cc:** Student Worker  
**Subject:** RE: MVHS Golf June 11, 2026 - Silent auction item request  
**Attachments:** Copy of 2026 MVHS Sponsorship Package.pdf

Dear Community member,

I hope this message finds you well!

We are excited to prepare for our upcoming **Mountain View Hospice Society Golf Classic**, and we are reaching out to invite your support in making this event a success.

One of the highlights of the tournament is our **silent auction**, which plays an important role in helping us raise funds to continue offering compassionate hospice, bereavement, and navigation services at no cost to individuals and families in our community.

We would be incredibly grateful if you would consider contributing an item, service, or experience to our silent auction. Popular items include:

- Gift baskets or gift cards
- Experiences (golf passes, event tickets, getaways)
- Services or professional offerings
- Unique or locally made items

Your generosity not only supports a meaningful cause but also provides great visibility for your business within our community.

Attached, you will find:

- Our **Sponsorship Package**, which outlines additional ways to get involved
- **Tournament Registration Information**, should you wish to join us on the course
- <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/olds-district-hospice-society/events/mvhs-golf-classic/>

This year's Golf Classic promises to be a fantastic day of connection, community, and purpose—and we would love to have you be part of it.

If you are interested in donating or have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out. We would be happy to arrange pick-up or discuss ideas with you.

Thank you for your continued support of Mountain View Hospice Society. Because of community partners like you, we are able to ensure that no one faces end-of-life or grief alone.

Warm regards,  
Mary Smith  
Executive Director  
Mountain View Hospice Society

--

**Mary Smith (she/her)**  
Executive Director, Mountain View Hospice Society  
Cell: (403) 415-9850 Email: [ed@hospiceolds.com](mailto:ed@hospiceolds.com)



**Confidentiality Notice:** *This email and any attachments are intended only for the named recipient and may contain confidential or privileged information. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete it from your system. Any unauthorized use, duplication, disclosure, or distribution is strictly prohibited. Even if you are the intended recipient, please do not share, copy, or distribute this message or its contents without explicit permission from the sender.*



## Mountain View Hospice Society

*Compassion - Community - Respect*

# 2026 Sponsorship Package

Your assistance greatly contributes to enabling individuals to age healthy and approach the end of their lives with the same peace, happiness, and dignity with which they lived their lives.

# WE ARE AN INVESTMENT YOU CAN TRUST

Our mission is to provide quality, compassionate care for those facing chronic and terminal illness by offering physical, psychological, emotional, spiritual and educational support to individuals, their families and community at the end of life and during bereavement.

We are a dedicated community collective in Mountain View County, committed to providing exceptional palliative care both locally and in neighboring areas. Our wide range of services includes hospice, grief & bereavement and Navigation support along with our community thrift store.

To achieve these objectives, we depend on a team of compassionate, well-trained volunteers who generously contribute their expertise and care to those in need, and community supporters like you.

Year	New Clients per year/ Includes Consults	Total Clients Served
2021	77	484
2022	60	544
2023	70	614
2024	164	772
2025	185	957

For more information, please contact Mary Marshall @ 403-415-9850 or [ed@hospiceolds.com](mailto:ed@hospiceolds.com)

## Navigation Care Support

Volunteer navigators enhance the lives of individuals living with chronic or terminal illness by offering compassionate emotional and social support, connecting them to essential community services through social prescribing, and providing transportation to medical appointments.

Year	New	Current
2021	10	28
2022	8	26
2023	26	45
2024	43	88
2025	31	93

## Bereavement Support

The Society provides meaningful, one-on-one bereavement support through our Bridging Program, which includes four complimentary individual sessions. Clients may choose to continue with their facilitator in private practice or join our free eight-week group sessions offered each spring and fall. Whether navigating the early days of grief or seeking ongoing support, our services offer care, connection, and understanding every step of the way.

Year	New	Current
2021	24	38
2022	15	31
2023	10	24
2024	31	55
2025	20	71

## Client Services

### Nu2U Thrift Store

Our thrift store supports the community by offering affordable items, reducing waste, and promoting reuse. Nu2U provides a welcoming space to connect, volunteer, and build social ties. It also helps newcomers and those rebuilding their lives with low-cost essentials and a sense of belonging.

### Hospice Support

The Society offers compassionate hospice support at home, in hospital, or in one of our two community hospice suites. These suites provide a peaceful, home-like space for clients and families to be together. With the support of our trained palliative volunteers, no family faces the journey alone. All services are free, offering comfort when it matters most.

# GOLF TOURNAMENT SPONSORSHIP

Thursday, June 11, 2026

Our annual golf tournament is a great opportunity to showcase your business while supporting a fun, engaging event in your community. We have a wide variety of sponsorship options that may suit your needs and your budget.



	Platinum Presenting Sponsor \$6000	Gold Prize Sponsor \$3000	Silver Golf Cart Sponsor \$2500	Bronze Welcome Sponsor \$1500	Breakfast Sponsor \$1000	Happy Cart Sponsor \$1000	Hole in One Sponsor \$700	Hole Sponsor \$750	Lunch Hole Sponsor Provide Food	Online Auction Sponsor \$500
Opportunities	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	10	3	1
# of entry fees included	8	4	2							
Opportunity to speak & present @ reception	✓	✓								
Company banner placement (you provide)	Unlimited	At your hole	Name & Logo on golf cart	Registration table	Breakfast table		At Hole	At Hole	At Hole	Auction table
H-Stand Signage (we provide)	5	4	2							
Opportunity for hole engagement	✓	✓								
Opportunity for volunteer participation	Several	Several	Several	Registration table	Breakfast table	Driving Happy Cart	At Hole	At Hole	At Hole	
Recognition on radio ads & in print	✓	✓	✓							
Recognition on all social media platforms	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Proud sponsor graphic provided	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

For more information, please contact Mary Marshall @ 403-415-9850 or [ed@hospiceolds.com](mailto:ed@hospiceolds.com)

**PLATINUM SPONSOR (Presenting)****\$6,000**

1 Opportunity

**Includes:**

- 8 entry fees, including carts
- Opportunity to speak & present @ reception
- Company banner(s) placed on site (you provide)
- 5 coroplast H-stands (we provide)
- Opportunity for hole engagement
- Opportunity for volunteer participation
- Recognition on radio & all social media platforms
- Proud sponsor graphic provided & sized for social media

**GOLD SPONSOR (PRIZE)****\$3,000**

2 Opportunities

**Includes:**

- 4 entry fees, including carts
- Opportunity to speak & present @ reception
- Name & logo @ prize holes & on prize table
- 4 coroplast H-stands signage (we provide)
- Opportunity for volunteer participation
- Recognition on radio & all social media platforms
- Proud sponsor graphic provided & sized for social media

**SILVER SPONSOR****(Golf Cart)****\$2,500**

1 Opportunity

**Includes:**

- 2 entry fees, including carts
- Name & logo on golf cart
- Option for company swag giveaway on cart
- 2 coroplast H-stands signage (we provide)
- Opportunity for volunteer participation
- Recognition on radio & all social media platforms
- Proud sponsor graphic provided & sized for social media

**BRONZE SPONSOR****(Registration Table)****\$1,500**

1 Opportunity

**Includes:**

- Company banner at registration table (you provide)
- Opportunity for volunteer participation (at registration table)
- Recognition on all social media platforms
- Proud sponsor graphic provided & sized for social media

**BREAKFAST SPONSOR****\$1,000**

1 Opportunity

**Includes:**

- Company banner (you provide) at breakfast table
- Opportunity for volunteer participation (at breakfast table)
- Recognition on all social media platforms
- Proud sponsor graphic provided & sized for social media

**HAPPY CART SPONSOR****\$1,000**

1 Opportunity

**Includes:**

- Name & logo on happy cart
- Opportunity for volunteer participation (driving happy cart)
- Cart will have coffee w/ Baileys in the morning and beer in the afternoon
  - Recognition on all social media platforms
  - Proud sponsor graphic provided & sized for social media

**HOLE SPONSOR****\$750**

10 Opportunities

**Includes:**

- Set up booth & company banner (you provide) at your hole
- Opportunity for volunteer participation
- Proud sponsor graphic provided & sized for social media

**HOLE IN ONE SPONSOR****\$1,000**

1 Opportunity

**Includes:**

- Set up booth & company banner (you provide)
- Opportunity for volunteer participation
- Proud sponsor graphic provided & sized for social media

**LUNCH HOLE SPONSOR  
PROVIDE FOOD**

3 Opportunities

**Includes:**

- Provide food for the golfers at your hole location
- Set up booth & company banner (you provide) placed at your hole
- Opportunity for volunteer participation at your hole
- Proud sponsor graphic provided & sized for social media

**ONLINE AUCTION SPONSOR****\$500**

1 Opportunity

**Includes:**

- Name & logo on silent auction table
- Logo placement on online auction link
- Proud sponsor graphic provided & sized for social media

## OTHER WAYS TO SUPPORT

- Donate an item for our silent auction for our Golf Classic
- One time donation or monthly donations through Canada Helps
  - Plan a third party fundraiser
  - Plan a legacy donation
  - Provide a gift in memory of a loved one
- Donate items to Nu2U Community Thrift Store
  - » Join the Board of Directors
  - » Become a client support volunteer
  - » Volunteer at Nu2U Community Thrift Store
  - » Become a volunteer driver

**Jacqui Molyneux**

---

**From:** Barbara Lyn Tuttle <babbstut@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** April 14, 2026 10:01 PM  
**To:** CAO  
**Subject:** This effects many Bowden residents.

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

I am writing to you as a resident of the Town of Bowden to respectfully request your leadership and support regarding the Alberta Government's decision to transition from the Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) program to the Alberta Disability Assistance Program (ADAP).

As you know, AISH has long provided essential income security along with access to supplementary health and personal benefits for Albertans with permanent disabilities who are unable to earn a living due to the severity of their condition. The transition to ADAP represents a significant restructuring of disability income supports in our province. Based on publicly available information, this new program proposes changes to eligibility criteria, assessment processes, benefit structures, and overall administration.

Many Albertans with disabilities, along with the organizations that support them, have raised concerns about:

- The lack of transparent and accessible public consultation prior to implementation
- Potential changes to eligibility definitions and reassessment requirements
- The risk of benefit reductions or interruptions during transition
- Increased administrative complexity
- Impacts on supplementary health benefits and disability-related supports
- The absence of a publicly released social and economic impact analysis

Municipal governments are often the first point of contact when residents experience instability or gaps in provincial support. Even in smaller communities such as Bowden, these changes can have meaningful impacts on housing stability, access to essential services, food security, and overall community well-being.

When income supports are reduced, delayed, or made more restrictive, municipalities and local organizations often absorb the downstream effects. This can place added pressure on community supports, volunteer networks, and limited local resources.

As you may be aware, Edmonton City Council recently passed a unanimous Notice of Motion calling on the Government of Alberta to pause implementation of these changes and undertake meaningful, accessible consultation with persons with disabilities, advocacy organizations, and community partners. Similar motions have also been advanced in other Alberta communities.

Municipal leadership plays an important role in elevating community voices and ensuring that policy changes affecting vulnerable residents are approached with care, transparency, and accountability. A

formal Notice of Motion from the Town of Bowden would demonstrate a commitment to inclusion, accessibility, and thoughtful governance.

This request is not about partisanship. It is about ensuring that significant changes to disability income supports are informed by those most impacted, and that municipalities are not left managing unintended consequences without adequate preparation.

As your constituent, I respectfully ask that you consider bringing forward a formal Notice of Motion to Council calling for:

- An immediate pause to the ADAP transition
- Meaningful and accessible consultation with persons with disabilities and community organizations
- A publicly released social and economic impact assessment
- Clear transition safeguards to prevent benefit interruptions

Thank you for your service to the residents of Bowden. I appreciate your time and consideration, and I would welcome the opportunity to provide further information if needed.

Sincerely,

Barbara Tuttle  
2402 20 Ave #116 Bowden Alberta T0M 0K0  
587-447-6622

<b>Regular Council Meeting:</b> 2026-04-27	<b>Agenda Item:</b> 11.a
<b>Prepared by:</b> Jacqui Molyneux	<b>Approved by:</b> Mayor Laurie Miller
<b>Report Type:</b> Information	<b>Attachment(s):</b>

### CAO's Report

Telus, phone bills have what they call cable mileage, I have been chasing this for about 4 years asking what this is as it costs the town approximately \$166.00 per month for this. I have had no success until I finally asked our IT person about it to see if he knew what it was. With the information he came up with I went to the CRTC and put in a complaint. They forwarded my complaint to Telus who finally had someone who has worked for Telus for years and knew what it was. This is finally being removed as we don't need this anymore as it was from years ago. As of our May billing this should be removed and we will be getting a credit of just over \$1000.00.

Water break across the tracks update I have emailed John VanDoesen and have a meeting with them at the site on Wednesday at 9:30 am with Kole to see what they plan to do going forward. I will give an update on the next CAO report for next RCM.

Interviews for a summer students are underway for the office and public works. We have had a lot of interest for the office position and only 4 applications for public works. I am confident that we should be able to have 2 people in place for public works and 1 for administration. The position for administration is to cover vacation for Jen and me to help with the extra this puts on each others desk and trying to coordinate that only one of us is on vacation with no overlap.

Curb stop at 2335 21 street is being repaired as homeowner needs water shut off at curb to fix small leak at shut off in the house and curb stop would not work. Hydrovac was called and will be repaired April 21<sup>st</sup>.

Olds concrete are in town starting on the swales as with school being out for the week it was a perfect time to get this one done at the teacher's parking lot entrance and should be completed for when school is back in. If not completed there has been provisions so teachers can still get into the parking lot and buses can still park there as well. Border paving will be coming out to check for paving to be done with swales and measuring up to make sure all the quotes are accurate. They should be in town shortly after the swales are completed so there will not be a long period of temporary fixes until paving can be completed.

**Recommended Motion:**

Motion by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ that Council accepts the submitted reports as information.

<b>Regular Council Meeting:</b> 2026-04-27	<b>Agenda Item:</b> 11.b / 11.c
<b>Prepared by:</b> Laurie Miller	<b>Approved by:</b>
<b>Report Type:</b> Information	<b>Attachment(s):</b> As per content

### Agenda Item 11.a / 11.c

#### Content:

#### 11.b Council Committee Reports

- None Submitted

#### 11.c Other Bodies and Organizations

- i. ABmunis
  - Preliminary Analysis of Bill 28: Municipal Affairs & Housing Statutes Amendment Act
- ii. Alberta Counsel
  - The News, Issue 245 April 2026
  - Session 2 Summary, Alberta 31<sup>st</sup> Legislature (April 13 to 16)
- iii. CAEP
  - Year-in-Review: 2025-2026
- iv. Expanding Horizons
  - Minutes: AGM: 2026-04-13
  - Minutes: Regular Meeting: 2026-04-13
- v. Mountain View Regional Water Services Commission
  - Press Release
- vi. Bowden Agricultural Society
  - Minutes: 2026-03-18

#### Note:

All meeting minutes where submitted should be assumed to be "unapproved".

#### Motion 11.b / 11.c

#### Recommended Motion:

Motion by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ that Council accepts the submitted reports as information.

# Preliminary Analysis of Bill 28: Municipal Affairs & Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026



 **Alberta  
Municipalities**  
Strength  
In Members

**Draft for member feedback – April 10, 2026**

DRAFT

## Preliminary Analysis of Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026

### Table of Contents

<b>Background</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>Changes to the Municipal Government Act</b> .....	<b>5</b>
Accountability – Councillor Accountability Framework .....	5
Governance .....	12
Municipal Transparency .....	13
Enabling Growth and Housing.....	15
Assessment & Property Taxation .....	17
Public Institutions & Utilities .....	19
Aggregate Pits (Environment and Protected Areas).....	20
<b>Changes to the Alberta Housing Act</b> .....	<b>21</b>
Seniors Lodge Program (Assisted Living & Social Services) .....	21
<b>Changes to the Libraries Act</b> .....	<b>22</b>

Note: What follows is a draft distributed for member feedback and has not yet been reviewed or approved by ABmunis Executive Committee or Board of Directors.

## Preliminary Analysis of Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026

# Background

On April 2, 2026, the Government of Alberta released Bill 28, the [Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act](#), which proposes amendments to the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA), the *Alberta Housing Act*, and the *Libraries Act*. What follows is a draft distributed for member feedback and has not yet been reviewed or approved by ABmunis Executive Committee or Board of Directors.

## ABmunis' Perspective

Some of the proposed legislative changes reflect ongoing advocacy on items first presented in Bill 50, the *Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2025*. ABmunis submitted recommendations and [analysis](#) on Bill 50 to Municipal Affairs related to:

- The elimination of codes of conduct
- Use of natural persons powers
- Standard meeting procedures
- Councillor information requests

We appreciate that Municipal Affairs acknowledged concerns raised by municipalities, ABmunis, and the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA). The Ministry has since introduced amendments through Bill 28 to mitigate those concerns.

ABmunis also supports the proposed introduction of a Councillor Accountability Framework, as well as the inclusion of third parties to investigate complaints under this framework. ABmunis, along with RMA and municipalities across Alberta, have expressed concerns with the elimination of codes of conduct since their repeal in Bill 50. In addition, under the previous code-of-conduct bylaws, ABmunis and RMA had advocated for an independent third-party integrity commissioner to investigate complaints. Although an independent office has not been established, we are pleased to see that Bill 50 introduces a third party to investigate complaints, ensuring a consistent and accountable investigation process.

Bill 28 does continue to raise concerns related to municipal autonomy and increasing cost pressures for municipalities across Alberta. ABmunis will continue to highlight mounting cost pressures and the cumulative impact that those pressures have on municipalities across Alberta through our [Property Taxes Reimagined](#) project.

The following analysis includes areas where ABmunis has identified risk to municipal autonomy, potential for increased financial strain, and areas where additional feedback from members is required to support future advocacy efforts.

## Next Steps and Change Management

ABmunis remains committed to raising our questions and concerns with Municipal Affairs so the Ministry is fully informed about what these proposed changes would mean for municipalities. If passed, Bill 28 will require significant work by ABmunis, other municipal associations, the Government of Alberta, and Alberta municipalities to develop the regulations enabled through the proposed legislation. Regulations are proposed for:

- The Councillor Accountability Framework
- Automatic Yes for development permits
- Non-statutory studies related to development
- Community Design Codes
- Assessment of Designated Industrial Property
- Governance of Utilities

Regulations will be extensive and ABmunis remains committed to working collaboratively with Municipal Affairs and other municipal associations on the development of all future regulations. These regulations will further clarify the requirements that have been introduced in Bill 28 and may have additional impacts on municipalities.

Preliminary Analysis of Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026

## Changes to the Municipal Government Act

Unless otherwise noted, the proposed changes to the *Municipal Government Act* will come into force upon Royal Assent.

### Accountability – Councillor Accountability Framework

Proposed Change	ABmunis Analysis
<p><b>Councillor Accountability Framework</b>                      Allows for the Minister to, by regulation, establish a universal councillor accountability framework for all municipalities across Alberta.                      (Division 1.01, s. 146.011)</p>	<p><b>Support in Principle</b>                      Bill 50, the <i>Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2025</i>, repealed provisions relating to municipal codes of conduct (s. 145(10)), as well as prohibiting any future bylaw or resolution in relation to the behaviour or conduct of councillors or council committees (s. 145(9)).</p> <p>Since the repeal of codes of conduct, ABmunis, along with other municipal associations and municipalities, has advocated for these codes to be reinstated to strengthen ethical, respectful, and accountable conduct for elected officials.</p> <p>Bill 28 outlines that any future accountability framework may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rules respecting pecuniary interest (subject to s. 170, 172, 173, and 174(1)(g) to (i))</li> <li>• Rules respecting the use of municipal assets and services</li> <li>• Rules respecting the confidentiality of information</li> <li>• Rules respecting egregious behaviour, threatening behaviour, or improper use of influence</li> <li>• Rules respecting the conduct and terms of investigators or appeals commissioners</li> <li>• Rules respecting processes for a complaint, an investigation, a preliminary review, a decision to apply sanctions, and appeals</li> <li>• An investigator's power</li> <li>• Rules respecting the publication of information</li> <li>• Rules respecting the contents of a pecuniary interest report</li> <li>• Custody and retention of records related to preliminary reviews, investigations, reports and appeals</li> <li>• Permitted sanctions</li> <li>• Timelines for making a complaint, appeals, making an order and releasing findings, and reasons provided by an appeals commissioner or Minister</li> <li>• Setting fees for complaints and appeals</li> </ul> <p>ABmunis understands that significant details related to the framework will need to be drafted as part of the regulation. We look forward to the opportunity to fully collaborate with the Ministry on regulations. We recognise that member engagement will be crucial to this process.</p>

Preliminary Analysis of Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026

Proposed Change	ABmunis Analysis
	<p><b>Gap in Accountability for Public Members on Council Committees</b>            We note that Bill 28 does not apply to council committees, which we see as a significant gap. Changes in Bill 50 prohibited councils from passing bylaws or resolutions pertaining to the behaviour of councillors or other members of council committees who are not councillors. While council may govern and establish basic requirements for council committees, they still lack a mechanism to hold non-elected committee members accountable for their behaviour.</p> <p><b>Costs to Municipalities</b>            ABmunis continues to be concerned about the cumulative impact of costs on municipalities. We understand that under the framework, municipalities will be required to cover costs related to preliminary reviews and investigations while the Minister covers costs associated with appeals or Minister-initiated investigations. Regulations related to costs, including establishing fees for complaints, and standard fee structures for preliminary reviews and investigations, will be critical to ensure that the framework is not only accessible to municipalities, but also reduces unintended financial strain. For example, consideration could be given to establishing fees to file a complaint that could be reimbursed if the complaint is found to merit investigation but would be put towards covering costs if the preliminary review finds the complaint to be frivolous or vexatious. This is discussed in further detail in the section on "Preliminary Review" Ongoing engagement with members will be required.</p>
<p><b>Complaints and Investigations</b>            If an accountability framework is established, the Minister must designate investigators for the purposes of investigating complaints received under the framework.            (s. 146.02)</p> <p>A councillor is permitted to make a complaint against another councillor if they have reasonable grounds to believe there has been a contravention of the accountability framework.            (s. 146.021)</p> <p>Upon receiving a complaint, a council will be required to appoint an investigator to conduct an investigation.            (s. 146.03)</p>	<p><b>Support in Principle and Further Details Required</b>  <b>Investigators</b>            ABmunis has advocated for an independent third-party ethics/integrity commissioner since the introduction of codes of conduct. Although Bill 28 does not formally establish an independent office, ABmunis supports the requirement for investigations to be completed by an independent third-party.</p> <p>ABmunis understands that the Minister must designate the individuals that the Minister considers qualified, "subject to any terms and conditions the Minister considers necessary." Consequently, ABmunis looks forward to working with Municipal Affairs to establish the criteria related to investigator qualifications and finalize a roster of investigators available to municipalities.</p> <p>We understand some municipalities already have independent offices of integrity commissioners and in principle, those commissioners would be eligible to apply to be appointed as investigators of complaints.</p> <p><b>Complaints</b>            Bill 28 allows for a councillor to file a complaint if they have reasonable grounds to believe that another councillor on the same council has contravened the framework. Councillors can file a complaint on</p>

## Preliminary Analysis of Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026

Proposed Change	ABmunis Analysis
	<p>behalf of the public or administration. Bill 28 requires that a councillor filing a complaint does so in a form acceptable by council.</p> <p>ABmunis recommends that considerations be made in the regulations for a mechanism where complaints emerge as part of intermunicipal collaboration discussions.</p> <p>Although we understand that the framework provides the authority for council to create a “form” for receiving complaints, ABmunis recommends establishing a form in the regulation to provide consistency across the province, rather than every municipality creating their own format via council policy.</p> <p>Further, the legislation doesn't specify if a group of councillors could jointly file a complaint against another councillor to prevent multiple complaints on the same violation. Additional clarification is required and consideration should be given to the potential for a joint complaint.</p> <p>ABmunis has noted that there appears to be a gap between how complaints are received and how investigation reports are shared with council. Bill 28 is unclear on whether complaints are submitted in closed session to protect confidentiality. It also does not clearly state whether a councillor named in a complaint can see it before it is formally submitted or reviewed by council.</p> <p><b>Investigations</b></p> <p>Upon receiving a complaint, councils must appoint an investigator to investigate the complaint, and the municipality is responsible for the costs of the investigation. The legislation is unclear as to whether accepting a complaint and passing a resolution to appoint an investigator must be done at the same meeting or within a time period specified in the regulation.</p> <p>ABmunis understands that the province intends to establish regulations respecting fees associated with filing a complaint. We support development of a fee structure that balances attraction of qualified investigators with the need to control costs for municipalities.</p> <p>An investigator has the power to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make inquiries of any person they believe has or may have information relevant to the investigation</li> <li>• Demand the production of records or documents</li> <li>• Make copies of any documents or records</li> <li>• Access any municipal land or facilities</li> <li>• Do anything permitted in the accountability framework</li> </ul>

**Preliminary Analysis of Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026**

Proposed Change	ABmunis Analysis
	<p>However, the legislation does not set out the responsibilities of the municipality, its employees, the complainant, or the person subject to the complaint.</p> <p>Prior to an Investigative report being submitted, if either the person who made the complaint or the person subject to the complaint is no longer a member of council, the investigation must end immediately. The Investigator must inform the council and the Minister that the investigation has ended and the reasons for the conclusion. ABmunis believes that unintended consequences may result if an investigation ends because the complainant is no longer on council, but the councillor subject to the complaint remains. There are many reasons why a complainant may resign, and their resignation does not mean that the contravention was fully investigated with a resolution being identified, nor will it guarantee that a similar complaint will not arise in the future given the inability to formally conclude the investigation. There are also risks that a councillor subject to a complaint could resign to end an investigation and then run again for council at a later point. In addition, concluding an investigation without disclosure of findings does not provide transparency to the public or the remainder of council. At the same time, concluding an investigation with resignations does save the municipality from spending additional time and money on an investigation.</p> <p>The legislation also permits the Minister to appoint an investigator if they are of the opinion that a councillor may have contravened the accountability framework.</p> <p><b>Outstanding Questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are municipalities required to establish a policy for the purposes of outlining the form in which a complaint is considered “acceptable by council”? If so, what is the timeline for councils to establish their policies after the implementation of any regulation?</li> <li>• Are municipalities permitted to establish a process for receiving complaints from the public that could then inform whether a councillor may wish to proceed with a complaint under the framework?</li> <li>• If a councillor resigns to end an investigation and then chooses to run in the by-election, is there a mechanism to ensure the investigation can continue or is a new complaint required if the person is re-elected to council?</li> <li>• Will the regulations include a mechanism to manage multiple complaints on the same issue or allow for multiple councillors to be named as complainants on the complaint?</li> <li>• Does council formally accept a complaint, if in the acceptable format, by resolution or is it submitted in closed session? Investigator reports are first submitted in closed session, but similar processes are unclear related to complaints.</li> <li>• Is there an intention to ensure a different mechanism for public or employee complaints that ensure accountability of elected officials?</li> <li>• Section 146.03 requires that council must appoint an investigator if it receives a complaint. What is the timeline for council to appoint an investigator after receiving the complaint?</li> </ul>

### Preliminary Analysis of Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026

Proposed Change	ABmunis Analysis
<p><b>Preliminary Review</b> An investigator is required to conduct a preliminary review prior to completing an investigation. (s. 146.05)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> Prior to proceeding to an investigation, Bill 28 outlines that an investigator must complete a preliminary investigation to determine if a complaint is frivolous, vexatious, or outside of the scope of the accountability framework.</p> <p>ABmunis supports the concept of a preliminary review since municipalities will be responsible for the costs associated with an investigation. If it is determined a complaint is frivolous or vexatious or falls outside of the scope of the framework, municipalities will only be responsible for the costs of the preliminary review rather than the full investigation.</p> <p>We also support requiring the investigator to file a report of the findings with council, as it ensures transparency.</p> <p>ABmunis recommends that related regulations establish a clear definition of “frivolous” and “vexatious” to ensure that the same standard is applied by all investigators. This also ensures clarity for all elected officials who may use the accountability framework in the future.</p> <p>As mentioned in a previous section, ABmunis also recommends establishing a fee payable to the municipality for filing a complaint. The municipality would hold the fee until the preliminary review has concluded. If the review finds that the complaint was frivolous or vexatious or falls outside of the scope of the accountability framework, the municipality would retain the fee. If the review determines the complaint falls within the framework, the fee is refunded to the complainant. The intention is not to deter complaints but rather to recognize the costs that municipalities will be responsible for when a complaint is received and ensuring there is accountability for the person filing the complaint. To reflect differences among municipalities in Alberta, a minimum and maximum fee could be set, while allowing each municipality to choose a fee that fits its needs, as long as it does not exceed the maximum.</p>
<p><b>Decisions and Sanctions</b> An investigator must prepare a report for council that summarizes the investigation, recommendations, and reasons for the recommendations. (s. 146.07)</p> <p>After receiving an investigation report, council must determine if the councillor has contravened the framework. (s. 146.08)</p>	<p><b>Support in Principle and Further Details Required</b> An investigator must submit an investigation report that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A summary of the investigation</li> <li>• Recommendations on whether council should find that the councillor has contravened the framework</li> <li>• Reasons for the recommendations</li> <li>• Recommended sanctions, if any</li> </ul> <p>This report ensures transparency and accountability of the framework and the investigative process. The report must be submitted to council via closed session and be made publicly available in accordance with the framework.</p>

**Preliminary Analysis of Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026**

Proposed Change	ABmunis Analysis
	<p>After receiving a report, council must pass a resolution determining if the councillor has contravened the framework. If council determines that a contravention has occurred, the council must apply the sanctions recommended in the report, apply one or more different sanctions, or apply no sanctions. A councillor who is the subject of a complaint is not permitted to participate in discussions related to the report nor any resolution. They cannot vote on any resolution related to the report and must leave the room until the discussion and voting has finished.</p> <p>Sanctions will be determined through regulation, and it remains unclear what type of sanctions will be available to investigators and councils. ABmunis looks forward to future engagement during the development of the regulations.</p> <p>There continues to be a gap in relation to Occupational Health and Safety (OHS), specifically complaints filed against a councillor by reason of unsafe work environments. Although a complaint may be filed by administration due to action or behaviour of a councillor under OHS, the councillor cannot be individually sanctioned at the conclusion of an investigation. The municipality is responsible for any necessary remedies or sanctions. This approach continues to lack the necessary accountability when complaints related to OHS have been filed against elected officials.</p> <p><b>Outstanding Questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The investigation report must be submitted in a closed session and made publicly available in accordance with the regulations. However, council is required to make a resolution after receiving the report. Is the intention that the investigation report and council resolution be dealt with at separate meetings to ensure the report is publicly available to support transparency?</li> <li>• Further, requiring the councillor subject to the complaint to leave the meeting room implies that they cannot be present in closed session where the investigation report is submitted. Does this mean that the councillor subject to the complaint will not have access to the report until it has been made public?</li> <li>• Although there is a requirement for the councillor subject to the complaint to leave the room when discussion regarding the report or a resolution takes place, the same requirement doesn't exist for the person who has filed a complaint. Is the intention that the complainant is still permitted to participate in discussion even though a bias may exist, but the person subject to complaint must leave the room due to perceived bias? ABmunis supports requiring the councillor subject to the complaint to abstain from discussion and voting, but in the spirit of transparency, any person who is the subject of a complaint should be afforded the ability to hear discussion related to the complaint.</li> </ul>
Pecuniary Interest Report	Support in Principle and Further Details Required

### Preliminary Analysis of Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026

Proposed Change	ABmunis Analysis
<p>Requires an Investigator to immediately stop an investigation and report to council if there are reasonable grounds to believe a councillor may be disqualified due to a pecuniary interest. (s. 146.06)</p>	<p>ABmunis understands that the intention of including pecuniary interest in the accountability framework is to enable an independent investigator to verify whether or not pecuniary interest rules have been violated prior to filing a court application. This initial check-and-balance is helpful to council and ensures as much information is gathered and provided to council prior to incurring the costs of a court application.</p> <p>If a pecuniary interest has been found by the investigator, council will be required to file a court application for disqualification if the councillor chooses not to resign. In all other instances of disqualification, council may still choose to file an application with the courts. Filing court applications for disqualification can have serious financial implications for municipalities.</p> <p><b>Outstanding Questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 174 of the <i>Municipal Government Act</i> includes several additional violations outside of pecuniary interest that are subject to disqualification: most notably, instances where a councillor may have been ineligible or has ceased to be eligible for council under the <i>Local Authorities Election Act</i>. Why are investigations related to pecuniary interest the only instances of disqualification included in the accountability framework? We believe there would be cost savings for municipalities for all instances of potential disqualification to be investigated given the financial impact of court applications.</li> <li>Given council will be compelled to file a court application if a councillor chooses not to resign, will the regulation outline a timeframe for council to act?</li> </ul>
<p><b>Appeals</b> If an accountability framework is established, the Minister must designate commissioners for the purpose of hearing appeals. (s. 146.09)</p>	<p><b>Support and Further Details Required</b></p> <p>This amendment supports independent investigations and principles of procedural fairness by ensuring that a person who has made a complaint, or the person subject to a complaint, may appeal the council's determination that there was or was not a violation of the accountability framework and/or the council's decision to apply or not to apply a sanction. We expect the associated regulation to specify the timelines for appeals and the fees for filing an appeal.</p> <p>ABmunis understands that this appeal process does not prevent a complainant or person subject to a complaint from filing a further appeal to the Court of King's Bench.</p> <p>Although ABmunis supports the appeal process, the drafted process requires the commissioner to recommend to the Minister whether to accept, reject, or vary the council's determination and the sanctions (or lack thereof). The Minister must then determine if there has been a contravention and may choose to apply one or more sanctions. ABmunis appreciates that this provision may have been included in legislation given Municipal Affairs' experience with select dysfunctional councils. At the same time, it limits municipal autonomy.</p>

### Preliminary Analysis of Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026

Proposed Change	ABmunis Analysis
	ABmunis recommends that the Appeals Commissioner be required to file their report with both the Minister and the council for transparency.
<b>Standard Meeting Procedures</b> Intention to create standard meeting procedures through regulation that municipalities will be required to follow at minimum (not included in Bill 28).	<p><b>Further Details Required</b></p> <p>Based on authority granted in Bill 50 (2025), ABmunis understands that the Minister of Municipal Affairs still intends to create a regulation or ministerial order outlining meeting procedures that set a minimum standard for all municipalities. We further understand that municipalities will be able to pass procedural bylaws that build on the standard procedures set by regulation. We also understand that the procedures are not expected to significantly impact municipalities.</p> <p>We will continue to engage with the Ministry on these procedures and look forward to future engagement on the regulation as it is developed.</p>

### Governance of Viability Reviews

Proposed Change	ABmunis Analysis
<b>Public Vote on Viability</b> The public vote from a viability review will be non-binding and the Minister will have discretion on what recommendation to make to Cabinet when considering whether a municipality should dissolve. (s. 130.1(2) and 130.1(3))	<p><b>Member Feedback Required</b></p> <p>Currently, when a viability review is complete and residents vote on whether the municipality should be dissolved, the Minister is bound by the results of the vote. For example, if residents vote to dissolve, the Minister must recommend to Cabinet that the municipality be dissolved.</p> <p>The proposed amendment will make the public vote non-binding, giving the Minister discretion on what recommendation to make to Cabinet.</p> <p>ABmunis' members have raised questions about whether the current viability review process adequately informs residents prior to a vote on viability. There are examples of communities that have gone through viability review processes and voted to remain, only to run into challenges soon thereafter that results in a review that ends in dissolution. One of our strategic initiatives for the year is to develop recommendations to enhance Municipal Measurement Indicators and the Viability Review process to better inform councils and residents of the factors impacting the municipalities finance and governance. We will engage members as we develop these recommendations. Currently, ABmunis does not have direction from members on whether the public vote should remain binding or if there is support for the Minister to have more authority based on their access to broader information.</p> <p><b>Outstanding Questions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Under what circumstances would the Minister consider recommending Cabinet disregard the results of vote.</li> </ul>

Preliminary Analysis of Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026

Municipal Transparency

Proposed Change	ABMunis Analysis
<p><b>Public Disclosure of Municipal Official Salaries</b> Beginning in 2027, municipalities will be required to disclose the total compensation and severance for each employee who exceeds the threshold outlined in the <i>Public Sector Compensation Transparency Act</i>. (Part 6.1, s. 215.1-215.7)</p>	<p><b>Further Details and Member Feedback Required</b></p> <p>This proposed change was expected, as the Premier's 2025 mandate letter directed the Minister of Municipal Affairs to "conduct a review of compensation and benefits for municipal officials to ensure taxpayer dollars are being respected and compensation levels are commensurate with time commitment and responsibility, including through the establishment of a salary disclosure".</p> <p>The proposed changes align with public disclosure in the Alberta public service, including the threshold established in the <i>Public Sector Compensation Transparency Act</i>. As of 2025, the threshold is \$133,813.</p> <p>Bill 23, the <i>Justice Statutes Amendment Act</i>, is currently being considered by the legislative assembly and proposes a base salary and severance threshold of \$130,000 for employees of the Government of Alberta, as well as employees of a public sector body, education body, or municipal authority. The bill has not yet been passed by the assembly.</p> <p>While municipalities already report the compensation of the Chief Administrative Officer through the annual financial statements, this amendment proposes to require municipalities to publish a listing on the municipality's website of all employees whose compensation exceeds the specified threshold. If no employee exceeds the threshold, the municipality must still publish that information and notify the Minister.</p> <p>The Minister has the authority to issue an order requiring an internal audit to ensure compliance, as well as requiring the results of the audit to be made public. If the Minister has ordered an audit, the municipality will be responsible for the costs that the Minister has incurred for the audit and publishing the results.</p> <p>ABMunis is uncertain of the problem the proposed amendment is trying to solve, as well as its overall purpose. Some members have highlighted that the proposed amendment increases public transparency in relation to municipal finances and increases accountability. Salaries in the municipal sector vary based on the size and location of communities, responsibilities of the position, and many other factors. There may be unintended consequences as it can lead to increased compensation due to being used as a bargaining tool for candidates. Unlike other orders of government, municipalities are already required to set their budgets, which include administration costs, in public. We will continue to gather feedback from members to inform our advocacy efforts on this topic.</p>
<p>Transparency of Policing Costs</p>	<p>Support</p>

## Preliminary Analysis of Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026

Proposed Change	ABmunis Analysis
<p>Allows municipalities to show the portion of the tax rates that are required to raise revenue to pay amounts owing under the <i>Police Act</i>. (s. 334(4)).</p>	<p>ABmunis supports this change to enable municipalities to proactively show the costs of policing under the <i>Police Act</i> on the tax notice. Municipalities are already empowered to show the total requisition required to be paid into the Alberta School Foundation Fund (education property taxes) under the <i>Education Act</i>.</p> <p>This change enhances transparency and clarity for the taxpayers in municipalities who are facing increased policing costs under the <i>Police Act</i>. Addressing policing costs will continue to be a priority for ABmunis for the foreseeable future.</p>
<p><b>Clarification of Reporting the Use of Natural Persons Powers</b> Clarifies when notice must be provided to council as it relates the use of municipality's natural person powers. (s. 208)</p>	<p><b>Support in Principle</b> Bill 50, the <i>Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2025</i>, introduced the requirement for the CAO to notify council in writing when exercising the use of natural persons powers. ABmunis noted at the time that this provision would add significant burden to municipal administrations.</p> <p>Bill 28 clarifies that reporting is not required when the use of natural persons powers is related to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A matter that has been approved by bylaw or resolution of council</li> <li>• A personnel matter</li> <li>• A routine operational matter</li> <li>• An emergency response</li> <li>• Seeking a legal opinion on behalf of the municipality.</li> </ul> <p>Although the CAO will still be required to report the use of natural persons powers within 14 days of their use, the additional clarity of when reporting is not required will significantly reduce reporting and the strain on administration.</p> <p>While we are pleased that Bill 28 brings greater clarity to provisions introduced in Bill 50, we still question the need for this provision in the first place.</p>
<p><b>Clarification of Councillor Access to Information</b> Clarifies when the CAO must fulfill information requests and enables municipalities to pass a bylaw defining "substantial information." (s. 208.1)</p>	<p><b>Support in Principle</b> ABmunis is pleased to see that Bill 28 includes clarification related to councillor information requests, given the concerns we raised following the introduction of Bill 50.</p> <p>The proposed amendment clarifies that when information has been provided to a councillor in response to an information request, and the information is publicly available, the CAO may provide the information to all other councillors but is not required to. Further, a council may pass a bylaw outlining "substantial information requests" and may identify when a resolution is required before the CAO complies with the request, as well as any reporting requirements in the case of substantial information requests by the CAO.</p> <p>The provisions in Bill 28 recognize that requests for substantial information can mean different things for different municipalities based on their size and administrative capacity. Enabling bylaw-making authority</p>

### Preliminary Analysis of Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026

Proposed Change	ABmunis Analysis
	recognizes municipal autonomy and ensures that the decision relating to information requests rests with individual municipalities, rather than a one-size-fits-all approach.
<b>Modernizing Business Improvement Area (BIA) Governance</b> Creates greater flexibility related to BIA governance. (s. 53)	<b>Support</b> ABmunis participated in consultations on this topic throughout 2025. Consensus was not reached during the engagement on significant changes to BIAs. The proposed changes are minor and consistent with ABmunis' recommendations to the province.

## Enabling Growth and Housing

Proposed Change	ABmunis Analysis
<b>Automatic Yes and Automated Technology</b> Clarifies that a municipality may authorize the use of an automated system for making decisions on applications for development permits and issuing development permits. (s.640.2(c.1) and s.694)	<b>Support and Further details required</b> Use of automated technology for the purpose of making decisions on applications for development permits is consistent with current practices in some large municipalities.  ABmunis understands that the province intends to establish regulations outlining requirements for automatic approvals of certain development permits. Initial conversations indicate the intention is to focus on low-risk permits, such as fences and decks. If this is what emerges from the regulatory development process, it will be consistent with feedback heard during the Enabling Growth and Housing Affordability Consultations held in 2025.
<b>Development Permit Statistics</b> Municipalities greater than 15,000 will be required to publicly report development permit activity and timelines. (s 683.2)	<b>Further Details Required</b> ABmunis broadly supports efforts to enhance transparency and notes that many municipalities are already proactively reporting some of the newly required statistics. Municipalities greater than 15,000 will be required to report no later than March 31 of every year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The total number of applications for development permits that were received</li> <li>• The total number of development permits issued</li> <li>• The average and median number of days from when the application for a development permit was received to when the application is complete or refused</li> <li>• The average and median number of days from when an application was complete to when the development permit was issued or refused</li> <li>• A comparison between the averages to the required timelines in the MGA</li> </ul> <p>While transparency is important, this legal requirement is a new layer of red tape which will add to the total of cost increases imposed upon municipalities.</p>

### Preliminary Analysis of Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026

Proposed Change	ABmunis Analysis
<p><b>Off-Site Levies (OSLs)</b> Clarifies costs that may be included in off-site levy charges and expands exemptions for charter and Independent schools. (s. 648(a) 1.2 and s. 648(b) 2.11)</p>	<p><b>Oppose and Member Feedback Required</b> Presently, the MGA itemizes what an OSL may be used for. The amendments seek to also itemize items that are explicitly exempt from OSLs, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Operational costs</li> <li>▪ Capital costs relating to commercial retail facilities included in the design of a facility referred to in s. 648(2) and (2.1) that are not related to the delivery of core services</li> <li>▪ Anything not permanently affixed to a facility (such as vehicles and furniture)</li> <li>▪ Capital costs incurred to build to a standard higher than the standard required under building codes</li> </ul> <p>The proposed changes limit municipal autonomy and the ability for municipalities to cover certain costs through OSLs under the principle of “growth paying for growth”. Any limits to the ability of municipalities to raise revenue to cover costs is concerning, especially during a time of increasing pressure on the property tax base. For example, as outlined in our <a href="#">Property Taxes Reimagined project</a>, the cost of purchasing a new fire truck to reach newly developed areas has increased by about 70 per cent over the last five years. We also note that, “core services” is not clearly defined.</p> <p>In addition, the provision excluding OSLs from covering capital costs beyond building codes limits the ability of municipalities to respond to local circumstances. For example, ensuring infrastructure is resilient to extreme weather risks.</p> <p>Bill 28 also expands exemptions from schools owned by or leased to a school board to now include Charter and Independent schools. ABmunis will need to engage members on whether they support the proposed expansion of exemptions related to Charter and Independent schools.</p>
<p><b>Non-Statutory Studies</b> Intention to create future regulations to streamline development approvals (not included in Bill 28).</p>	<p><b>Concerns - Further Details Required</b> The legislation related to non-statutory studies is vague and lacks clarity, limiting ABmunis analysis. The Bill 28 <a href="#">Information Guide</a> released by Municipal Affairs commits to a future regulation that will build on the amendments proposed for offsite levies by examining the role of non-statutory studies in the development process to further streamline approvals. More details are required to understand how the province intends to limit the use of non-statutory studies. ABmunis will remain engaged with Municipal Affairs to better understand the intention of a future regulation. We expect to participate in future engagements on this topic.</p>
<p><b>Reserve Land for Charter Schools</b> Charter schools accredited by the Ministry of Education and Childcare would be allowed to</p>	<p><b>Member Feedback Required</b> Bill 28 proposes to amend the MGA to expand the types of schools that can access reserve land. ABmunis understands that while this change makes reserve lands available to Charter and Independent schools, it</p>

### Preliminary Analysis of Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026

Proposed Change	ABmunis Analysis
access municipal and school reserve land. (s.616 (a) and 648(a) 1,2)	does not change the land allocation process. We understand the intention is to treat Charter and Independent schools the same as public schools. Members have also identified challenges with the process and costs associated with siting and servicing of new schools in addition to school site ownership. We Invite members to share their feedback on how this proposed change may impact municipalities and raise any related questions.
<b>Community Design Codes</b> Intends to establish Minister's authority to create design codes via regulation. (s.640.3)	<b>Concerns: Further Details Required</b> The proposed introduction of provincially established Community Design Codes represents a significant shift of land use planning authority from municipalities to the province. While ABmunis appreciates the province's desire to help communities remain attractive, competitive, and reflective of a unique sense of place, the ability of this code to override municipal statutory plans and land use bylaws, along with Ministerial authority to require municipalities to adopt design codes, raises concerns about municipal autonomy, local context, and community-driven planning outcomes. Many communities already struggle to attract development, and adding another provincial layer of requirements could further deter investment or slow projects in areas that can least afford additional barriers. Further details are required on how the design codes would be developed, applied, and tailored to reflect diverse municipal needs before the impacts on local planning authority, economic development, and governance can be fully assessed.  ABmunis understands there are no current plans for the Minister to impose a community design code on municipalities, but note an inconsistency between the stated intention and what has been drafted in Bill 28. Clarity is required to fully understand the future of the regulation, including any voluntary acceptance by municipalities. ABmunis is committed to remaining fully engaged with the Municipal Affairs during the future development of the design code regulation.

## Assessment & Property Taxation

Proposed Change	ABmunis Analysis
<b>Vacancy Property Tax</b> If a council creates a residential assessment sub-class for property that is not a primary residence, that sub-class may not be assigned to a residential property that is wholly or partially owned by one or more individuals that reside in Alberta. (s. 297(2.01))	<b>Opposed</b> This proposed change was expected as the Premier's 2025 mandate letter directed the Minister of Municipal Affairs to "protect Albertans from specialized municipal taxes directed at homes that are not a primary residence". The amendment only applies to situations where municipalities create a sub-class(es) under the Class 1 Residential assessment class. Therefore, if your municipality does not have sub-classes for residential property, there is no impact on your municipality.  <b>Application for Personally Owned Residences</b> The amendment still enables a municipality to charge a different property tax rate on vacation or rental homes, but it may only be applied to properties that are wholly owned by persons who live outside Alberta.

## Preliminary Analysis of Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026

	<p>If there are multiple owners of a property and at least one of the owners resides in Alberta, then the municipality is prohibited from assigning it a residential sub-class that is specific to not being a primary residence.</p> <p><b>Application for Residential Property Owned by a Corporation</b> The amendment only applies to properties owned by individuals. Therefore, if a corporation owns a vacation or rental home, the municipality is permitted to assign it a separate assessment class and levy a different tax rate.</p> <p>This amendment, if passed, is deemed to have come into force on January 1, 2026.</p> <p><b>Call to Action If Using Residential Sub-Classes</b> Municipalities who currently use assessment sub-classes for different types of residential property should ensure that their tax rate bylaw clearly defines what types of property are subject to that sub-class(es). Without sufficient definitions in your tax rate bylaw, your municipality may unintentionally be subject to the new requirements of section 297(2.01) related to residential property that is not a primary residence. Common examples may be where municipalities have sub-classes for vacant residential land or multi-family residential property.</p> <p>If your municipality has an assessment sub-class that triggers the proposed section 297(2.01), you will have 45 days after Bill 28 comes into force to either amend your bylaw or correct the assessment roll and reissue assessment notices for those properties for the 2026 taxation year. This is detailed in the proposed section 297.1 in Bill 28.</p> <p>ABmunis opposes limits to municipal autonomy to develop solutions tailored to local contexts. Municipalities across Alberta have unique challenges, including with affordable housing, that require flexible solutions. Given constraints on both municipal and provincial finances, we have questions as to how the province will work with municipalities to ensure much needed affordable housing will be built.</p>
<p><b>Equity in Assessment of Industrial Property</b> New clause clarifies that the assessment of a designated industrial property or machinery and equipment property is deemed equitable if the assessor has applied the standards and procedures set out in the regulations. (s. 293(1.1))</p>	<p><b>Support in Principle</b> Some industrial property owners have appealed their assessments on the basis that one property's valuation differs from industrial properties that they consider comparable. The proposed clause is intended to clarify that comparable properties do not have to have similar assessment valuations as long as the regulations have been followed consistently. The differentiation in valuations of comparable industrial properties is a product of Alberta's regulated assessment approach for industrial property, which is different from the market value approach used for residential and commercial property.</p> <p>ABmunis supports the amendment to increase clarity in Alberta's assessment system and ideally reduce assessment appeal costs for municipalities.</p>

### Preliminary Analysis of Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026

<p><b>Regulations for Designated Industrial Property</b> New provisions added to enable the Minister to make regulations related to designated industrial property and machinery and equipment. (s. 322(1))</p>	<p><b>Support in Principle and Concerns - Further Details Required</b> This amendment relates to Municipal Affairs' current <a href="#">multi-year review of how industrial property is assessed</a>. Historically, the Minister published a Construction Cost Reporting Guide that defines how some Designated Industrial Property and machinery and equipment are assessed. These amendments will enable the Minister to set these rules through standard regulations instead of a guide.</p> <p>ABmunis supports the province's intent to bring clarity to the assessment system through new regulations, as the existing system has not been updated since 2005. The current lack of clarity has led to significant legal costs for municipalities when managing costly appeals related to the assessment of Designated Industrial Property and machinery and equipment.</p> <p>However, ABmunis has concerns with some of the broader policy changes that will be formalized through these new regulations. The <a href="#">policy changes</a> were announced by the Minister of Municipal Affairs via letter to municipalities on April 1, 2026. ABmunis concerns will be shared with members through our <a href="#">The Weekly newsletter</a>.</p>
<p><b>Penalty for Non-Reporting</b> Enables the Minister to charge a penalty if a property owner does not provide the information requested by the provincial assessor within 60 days of the request. (s. 295(1.1))</p>	<p><b>Support</b> Under the regulated assessment system for designated industrial property, the provincial assessor requires annual reporting of information by property owners, but some property owners fail to report or do not report on time, which prevents assessors from developing accurate assessments. The regulations are expected to prescribe penalties of up to \$10,000 for non-reporting. ABmunis supports the amendment to increase accountability in the regulated assessment system.</p>
<p><b>Dismissal of Complaint Due to Non-Reporting</b> Adds a requirement for the Land and Property Rights Tribunal to dismiss an assessment complaint if the property owner did not provide the information requested by the assessor within 60 days of the request. (s. 499(2) and 295(4))</p>	<p><b>Support</b> This amendment is intended to strengthen accountability by property owners to report information to the assessor when requested so that assessors have increased clarity when determining an assessment. The Land and Property Rights Tribunal hears all assessment complaints on Designated Industrial Property, which often require annual reporting by the property owner. This amendment will therefore incentivize owners to report on time so that they maintain the option to lodge an appeal.</p>

## Public Institutions & Utilities

Proposed Change	ABmunis Analysis
<p><b>Governance of Utilities</b> Enable Cabinet to transfer ownership of a municipal public utility to a public utility entity (e.g. a controlled corporation or regional</p>	<p><b>Concerns - Further Details Required</b> The intent of this amendment is not clear, but ABmunis assumes that the province wants legal authority to take action to change the governance of a public utility (water and wastewater services) in situations where</p>

### Preliminary Analysis of Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026

Proposed Change	ABmunis Analysis
<p>commission). Details will be subject to the development of regulations. (s. 44.1).</p>	<p>a municipality is not managing the utility to what the province deems a reasonable standard. Our preliminary concern is the potential override of local autonomy.</p> <p><b>Outstanding Questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What situations will necessitate the province exercising this authority?</li> <li>• Will the regulations define a framework of criteria that must be triggered before the province transfers ownership of a public utility?</li> </ul>

### Aggregate Pits (Environment and Protected Areas)

Proposed Change	ABmunis Analysis
<p><b>Aggregate Pits</b> Clarifies how municipal land-use decisions interact with provincially approved aggregate pit registrations under the <i>Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act</i> and requires municipalities to approve a development permit where the registration has been approved by the province. (s. 619.1)</p>	<p><b>Concerns - Further Details Required</b></p> <p>The proposed changes will give aggregate pit registrations under the <i>Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act</i> precedence over municipal statutory plans, land use bylaws, subdivision decisions, and development approvals. Municipalities will be obligated to approve a pit application when it aligns with the registration filed under the <i>Environment Protection and Enhancement Act</i> within prescribed timelines, with limited ability to impose local conditions or hold hearings.</p> <p>While ABmunis understands the intent to provide regulatory clarity and certainty for aggregate resource development, these changes raise concerns about the erosion of municipal land use authority, reduced local decision making, and restricted opportunities for community input. Additional details are needed to understand how municipal planning objectives, Infrastructure Impacts, and community considerations will be incorporated into the provincial registration process.</p> <p>Proposed amendments would come into effect upon Proclamation.</p>

## Changes to the Alberta Housing Act

The proposed changes to the *Alberta Housing Act* will come into force on January 1, 2027.

### Seniors Lodge Program (Assisted Living & Social Services)

Proposed Change	ABmunis Analysis
<p><b>Seniors Lodge Program</b> The <i>Alberta Housing Act</i> will be amended to address the long-term sustainability of seniors' lodge housing. These changes would establish requirements for capital maintenance reserve funds for lodge assets; allow capital reserve contributions to be requisitioned from municipalities where appropriate; and strengthen governance practices for Housing Management Body boards. (<i>Alberta Housing Act</i> s. 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 33, and 34; Schedule 1)</p>	<p><b>Support in Principle</b> <b>Requisitioning for Capital Reserves</b> This amendment clarifies that housing management bodies may requisition funds for capital reserve funds for new or replacement lodge accommodations, with the agreement of member municipalities. ABmunis understands that some municipalities already allow this through local agreements.</p> <p>Keeping this authority voluntary allows municipalities to assess, case by case, whether this approach fits their local circumstances. Further, the legislation appears to respect municipalities' ability to pay by outlining that requisitions be shared based upon equalized assessment. This appears to resolve any conflicts about requisition amounts amongst member municipalities, as well as smaller municipalities who might have limited funds to contribute.</p> <p><b>Mandatory Capital Maintenance Reserve Funds</b> The requirement for mandatory capital maintenance reserve funds reflects a recommendation of the Seniors Lodge Review Panel, which included municipal representation. However, concerns remain about the financial impact on municipalities. Housing management bodies can already requisition municipalities to cover operating deficits and to establish or maintain reserve funds. Making reserve funds mandatory could increase and accelerate financial pressure on municipal budgets. While this change supports better maintenance of lodge assets, it adds to the cumulative strain on the property tax base, particularly given the Panel's related recommendation that the province retain responsibility for major capital projects and new lodge development unless otherwise agreed. ABmunis will seek further details from the department as to the potential impact on municipalities where there are no existing or low reserves funds.</p> <p>Ongoing changes to housing management body governance through ministerial order, have limited the number of council appointed members of the management body, effectively limiting municipal voice while these mandatory reserve fund changes are increasing financial demands on the property tax base. Bill 28 does not reflect the broader recommendation of the Seniors Lodge Review panel report to revisit the funding model between the province and municipalities.</p> <p><b>Ministerial Authority over Reserve Fund Types</b></p>

### Preliminary Analysis of Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026

Proposed Change	ABmunis Analysis
	<p>Clarifying the types of reserve funds the Minister may regulate appears to formalize the reserve fund categories that already exist in practice. However, additional information is needed on the intent and scope of these amendments. ABmunis will engage with the province as the regulations are developed.</p> <p><b>Lodge Rate Regulation</b> Moving the lodge rate from legislation to regulation does not, on its own, raise concerns. However, understanding the intent behind this change will be essential to advising municipalities on potential impacts to municipal finances and to vulnerable residents.</p>

## Changes to the Libraries Act

The proposed changes to the *Libraries Act* will come into force upon Royal Assent.

ABmunis is aware that the Coalition of Alberta Public Libraries (CAP Libraries) issued a [statement](#) on April 9, 2026, related to the proposed changes in Bill 28. The CAP Libraries represent all 324 public library service points across Alberta, serving 99 per cent of Albertans. The CAP Libraries has outlined the following broad themes of concern with Bill 28:

- Privacy and access
- Local decision-making
- Costs and practicality
- Scope and proportionality

Proposed Change	ABmunis Analysis
<p><b>Inspections</b> Enables the Minister to appoint inspectors to conduct inspections for any matter relating to the management, administration, or operation of the public library, and to determine if a board is complying with the Act and Regulations. (s. 39)</p>	<p><b>Concerns – Member Feedback Required</b> The proposed change expands provisions related to inspections to include the ability to conduct an inspection into any matter relating to the management, administration, or operation of a public library, as well as to determine if a board is complying with the <i>Libraries Act</i> and its regulations.</p> <p>Inspectors are permitted to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspect the public library property</li> <li>• Inspect the provisions of the services</li> <li>• Examine and make copies of records</li> <li>• Require an employee of the library board to reply to a question or provide any information requested by the inspector</li> </ul> <p>Following an inspection, the inspector is required to make a report to the Minister and provide a copy of the report to the board. The Minister is provided with the flexibility to make any order they consider</p>

### Preliminary Analysis of Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026

Proposed Change	ABmunis Analysis
	<p>appropriate upon receiving the Inspectors' report. Inspections are already permitted under the <i>Libraries Act</i>. However, the amendments expand the authority of inspections and provide further detail on the process, as well as the Minister's authority following an inspection.</p> <p>ABmunis does not have a position on this proposed change and is seeking member feedback to inform future advocacy, if required.</p>
<p><b>Regulations</b> Adds regulation-making authority respecting the access to and the use and borrowing of public library property by members of the public. (s. 40)</p>	<p><b>Concerns - Further Details Required</b></p> <p>Bill 28 proposes additional regulation-making authority that allows the Minister to make regulations regarding the access to and the use and borrowing of public library property by members of the public, including regulations restricting access, use, and borrowing based on age.</p> <p>The Minister also has authority to issue guidelines respecting a regulation as noted above. If guidelines are issued, the Minister is required to make them publicly available in a manner they consider appropriate.</p> <p>ABmunis does not have full details regarding potential regulations. However, many libraries are funded by their local municipalities. The additional regulatory authority of the Minister may lead to further financial implications for municipalities if renovations or retrofitting is required to align with the regulations.</p>



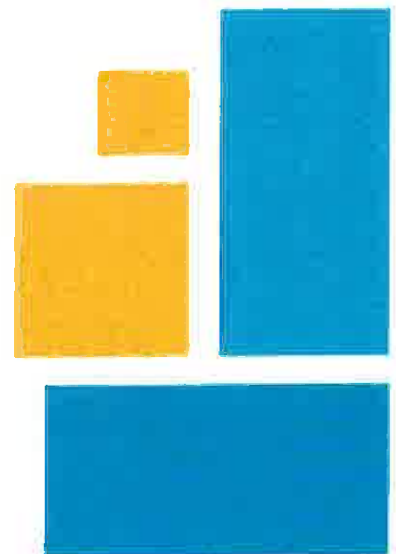
# Alberta Municipalities

## Strength In Members

### **Connect**

300, 8616 51 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T6E 6E6  
780.433.4431 ■ 310.MUNI

[abmunis.ca](http://abmunis.ca)





ALBERTA COUNSEL

Senior Editor: Mackenzie Blyth  
Publisher: Alberta Counsel

ALBERTA COUNSEL  
Legal and Lobby Professionals  
Management Consultants  
Trade-mark Agents

LEDGEVIEW BUILDING  
800, 9707-110 Street NW  
Edmonton AB T5K 2L9  
P: 780-652-1311  
F: 780-652-1312  
E: [Info@albertacounsel.com](mailto:Info@albertacounsel.com)  
[www.AlbertaCounsel.com](http://www.AlbertaCounsel.com)

The News from Alberta Counsel is Alberta's premier review of provincial politics and government vitality. As an original source of political news and commentary, The News will provide a fresh look at legislation, policy, committee debates, the civil service, along with party updates and events.

#### Alberta Counsel

We work with organizations to navigate their way through the confusing network that is associated with government. We help our clients connect with those who are important in shaping public policy and ensure your messaging is effectively communicated to decision makers.

To subscribe to The News from Alberta Counsel, please visit [www.albertacounsel.com/news](http://www.albertacounsel.com/news)

## AVI LEWIS AND THE NDP'S NEW DIVIDE

Mackenzie Blyth

On March 29th, Avi Lewis was elected leader of the federal NDP with 56 per cent of the vote on the first ballot. He campaigned on a populist left-wing platform that included a Green New Deal for Canada, government-run grocery stores, free transit, rent caps, and cracking down on the "corporate hoarding class." Lewis's victory does not just define the federal party, it forces every provincial wing of the NDP to respond.

Avi Lewis's overwhelming victory has clarified the direction of the federal NDP and exposed how unevenly that direction is being received across the country.



Source: X.com

For some, the reaction was immediate and enthusiastic. Newfoundland and Labrador NDP leader Jim Dinn described Lewis as a "fearless and principled voice" who brings "bold, unapologetic leadership" at a time when many feel left behind.

That sentiment is not isolated. Among activists and parts of the party's grassroots, Lewis's leadership is being interpreted as a shift away from incrementalism and toward a clearly defined left-wing ideological project centered on economic inequality, corporate power, and climate urgency.

In Ontario and Nova Scotia, the response was more measured. Leaders Marit Stiles and Claudia Chender have offered congratulations while emphasizing shared values, "lifting people up," "delivering for working people," and building a "progressive future." What is absent is direct engagement with Lewis's aggressive policy direction or ideological positioning.

The governing Nova Scotia Progressive Conservatives were quick to seize on Lewis's victory with a news release framing the provincial NDP as aligned with what they describe as an "extreme-left direction," tying Chender's response to a broader shift away from resource development toward policies they argue would undermine economic growth. The strategy is straightforward: collapse the distinction between federal and provincial parties and force alignment in the public mind. This is a dynamic likely to play out in every province with a competitive NDP.

In Saskatchewan, the federal-provincial relationship is much colder. Saskatchewan NDP leader Carla Beck, who has spent years building a broad coalition and bringing her party within striking distance of victory, declined a meeting with Lewis and



**MACKENZIE  
BLYTH**  
Associate

Mackenzie Blyth is an Associate, External Relations at Alberta Counsel, where he supports clients through strategic communications, stakeholder engagement, and government relations initiatives. Mackenzie brings extensive experience working within Alberta politics, having worked in communications roles with the United Conservative Government Caucus and as Press Secretary in multiple ministries.

Prior to joining Alberta Counsel, Mackenzie worked as Manager of Strategic Communications for the UCP Government Caucus, overseeing media monitoring, message development, and communications coordination with elected officials. His background includes drafting speeches and communications products, staffing cabinet ministers at events and announcements, and collaborating closely with policy advisors and department staff to deliver accurate messaging on complex and time-sensitive issues.

[m.blyth@albertacounsel.com](mailto:m.blyth@albertacounsel.com)



ALBERTA COUNSEL

openly criticized his positions as "ideological and unrealistic," warning they would harm workers, communities, and key industries. The language is blunt and rooted in economic reality, particularly regarding resource development, where Lewis's opposition to new fossil fuel projects cuts directly against Saskatchewan's priorities.

That reaction speaks to a deep divide within the NDP. In resource-dependent provinces, the relationship between environmental policy and economic opportunity is directly tied to jobs, investment, and fiscal stability. A federal platform perceived as hostile to energy workers creates friction that cannot easily be managed through messaging alone.

Even in British Columbia, Avi Lewis's home province, where his populist left message may have a large constituency, there was visible tension.

Within days of Lewis's victory, BC Conservative House Leader Aaliya Warbus seized on his comments opposing new LNG development. During question period, Warbus pressed the NDP government to reconcile Lewis's claim that the Ksi Lisims LNG project "should not proceed" with Premier Eby's support for LNG expansion.

Energy Minister Adrian Dix did not attempt to bridge the gap. Instead, he dismissed the premise entirely and used his response to promote the province's economic record. The BC government, he said, "supports the project," emphasizing jobs, growth, and the expansion of LNG capacity already underway. Rather than engaging with Lewis's opposition, the BC NDP attempted to frame federal positioning as irrelevant to provincial decision-making.

## Lewis's leadership is already providing opponents with a ready-made tool to challenge the vision and coherence of the NDP across jurisdictions.

Lewis's leadership is already providing opponents with a ready-made tool to challenge the vision and coherence of the NDP across jurisdictions. By forcing provincial leaders to respond to federal positions, internal tensions become visible, repeatable, and politically useful. Nowhere is that dynamic more apparent than in Alberta.

Alberta NDP leader Naheed Nenshi moved quickly to draw a clear line between the provincial and federal parties. In a statement following the leadership result, he argued the direction of the federal NDP under Lewis "is not in the interests of Alberta," going further to note that Lewis had previously "cheered for the defeat of the Alberta NDP government." Nenshi emphasized that Alberta's NDP supports pipelines, Canadian energy jobs, and emissions reduction alongside development.

Nenshi also sought to reinforce a structural separation between the federal and provincial parties. Pointing to the party's decision to make federal membership optional, Nenshi noted that he and many provincial members are not members of the federal NDP.

The day after Avi Lewis's leadership victory, the United Conservative Party moved to rapidly define what it meant for Alberta. A caucus release framed Lewis as Nenshi's "anti-pipeline boss" whose leadership would "spell trouble for the Alberta NDP, a central line of attack that would carry into the Legislature all week. It was framing that moved beyond caucus communications to direct attacks in the chamber during question period.

On the first sitting day after the leadership result, UCP MLA Chantelle de Jonge opened with a Members' Statement directly attacking Lewis and his record, highlighting his opposition to pipelines and fossil fuel development while tying those positions to the Alberta NDP. That strategy quickly extended into Question Period.

When Nenshi attempted to focus questioning on the UCP's handling of separatism and internal caucus tensions, Premier Danielle Smith repeatedly pivoted back to the federal leadership result, arguing that policies supported by Lewis were contributing to western alienation and fueling separatist sentiment. Rather than engage the opposition's line of questioning, the UCP reframed the separatist issue as being driven by federal policies supported by the NDP, not internal UCP dynamics.

Throughout the week, UCP MLAs raised Lewis in Members' Statements, in supplementary answers, and in rebuttals. By Thursday, Government House Leader Joseph Schow was still invoking Lewis and federal convention politics in response to opposition questions on separatism, reinforcing the link at every available opportunity.

Rather than engage directly with Lewis, the NDP attempted to redirect attention to the UCP's own vulnerabilities, particularly the role of MLA Jason Stephan. Questions from the NDP focused on Stephan encouraging Albertans to sign the petition calling for a separatist referendum, and the government's unwillingness to discipline an MLA openly supporting Alberta independence. Just as the UCP worked to tie Nenshi to Lewis, the NDP worked to tie Smith to separatism.

There is a long-standing tendency in Canadian politics to assume leaders who sit outside the political centre cannot translate that position into electoral victory, let alone relevance. Lewis's victory was decisive and reflects a mobilized constituency demanding rapid change.

A more sharply defined NDP offers a distinct political project, one increasingly in opposition to the Liberals drifting back to the centre under Prime Minister Mark Carney. The challenge for Lewis will be attracting left-wing voters who may feel left behind by the current direction of the Liberals without appearing to be electorally doomed.

THE **NEWS**  
from ALBERTA COUNSEL



## AILEEN BURKE

Director of Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector

Aileen is an experienced lobbyist, researcher, facilitator, and communicator. She has been a part of creating and adapting policy and procedure, and complex problem solving. She has significant knowledge of the non-profit industry, with more than 15 years of front-line, management, and volunteer experience in the non-profit sector. Aileen pursued her master's degree in political science from the University of Lethbridge, where her work focused on public policy and systems integration as it relates to the Housing First philosophy. Aileen has put her expertise in political advocacy into action with a run for office at the municipal, provincial, and federal levels.

[a.burke@albertacounsel.com](mailto:a.burke@albertacounsel.com)



ALBERTA COUNSEL



## CLIENT SPOTLIGHT

### INTELICA: TECH WITH A PURPOSE

Based in Alberta and serving organizations across Edmonton and Calgary, Intelica Solutions Inc. is a managed IT and consulting firm focused on helping businesses navigate an increasingly complex digital landscape. With more than two decades of experience, the company has built its reputation on a simple but powerful premise: technology should work for your business, not the other way around.

Intelica delivers a full spectrum of services, from proactive managed IT and cybersecurity to cloud solutions and executive-level IT strategy. Through offerings like IntelIMANAGE and IntelIGUARD, the team provides continuous monitoring, layered security, and hands-on support designed to keep operations running smoothly and securely.

Rather than acting as a reactive help desk, the firm works closely with leadership teams to align technology with long-term business goals. Through strategic planning, infrastructure audits, and ongoing advisory support, Intelica helps clients reduce risk, improve efficiency, and make smarter decisions about their IT investments.

From legal practices and municipalities to energy companies, nonprofits, and healthcare providers, Intelica tailors its solutions to the unique demands of each sector, ensuring that systems, security, and workflows are built to support real-world operations.

In an environment where downtime, cyber risk, and outdated systems can stall progress, Intelica offers something different: a steady, strategic partner committed to keeping businesses secure, efficient, and ready for what's next.



## Our Services

-  Political and Communication Strategy
-  Writing, Revising, & Refining Advertising Messaging
-  Designing/Editing Creative for all Platforms
-  Registration and Logistical Campaign Set-Up
-  Ad Targetting
-  Website Design
-  Ad Reporting/Website Analytics



800, 9707 110st NW | [albertacounsel.com](http://albertacounsel.com) | [campaigns@albertacounsel.com](mailto:campaigns@albertacounsel.com)

## POLITICAL EVENTS

### Powering Alberta's Future: A Conversation on Energy with Minister Brian Jean

Wed, April 22 – 9–11am

Location: World Trade Centre Edmonton

- The Edmonton Chamber of Commerce will host Energy and Minerals Minister Brian Jean for a discussion on Alberta's energy strategy and policy priorities.
- The event will focus on key issues including market access, pipeline development, electricity market reforms, and the role of energy policy in economic growth and competitiveness.

### Cocktails and Art with Dr. Luanne Metz

Wed, April 29 – 6–8pm

Location: The Artist Lounge, Calgary

- Alberta NDP MLAs Dr. Luanne Metz and Court Ellingson will host an evening fundraiser and discussion on provincial issues.
- The event will provide an opportunity for attendees to engage with MLAs, discuss policy priorities, and support the Alberta NDP's upcoming election campaign.

### South Edmonton Evening with Danielle Smith

Mon, May 4 – 6pm

Location: Holiday Inn Conference Centre, Edmonton

- UCP Leader Danielle Smith will headline a fundraising reception supporting local Edmonton constituency associations.
- The event will feature a fireside chat and Q&A focused on provincial priorities, with opportunities for attendees to engage directly with party leadership.

### Edmonton Chamber 2026 State of the City Address

Thurs, May 14 – 11am–1pm

Location: Edmonton Convention Centre

- Edmonton Mayor Andrew Knack will deliver his first State of the City Address, outlining priorities for growth, fiscal management, and urban development.
- The address will focus on key issues including public safety, housing, infrastructure, and the policy decisions shaping Edmonton's economic future.

### Calgary's New Chapter: A Fireside Chat with Mayor Jeremy Farkas

Wed, May 13 – 11:30am–1:30pm

Location: Petroleum Club (Devonian Room), Calgary

- The National Association of Industrial and Office Parks (NAIOP) Calgary will host Mayor Jeremy Farkas for a luncheon discussion on the city's economic outlook and development priorities.
- The conversation will focus on commercial real estate, urban growth, public safety, and strategies to support Calgary's long-term economic and population expansion.

## THE NEWS

from ALBERTA COUNSEL



**STEPHEN BLANCHETTE**  
Associate

Stephen Blanchette brings a results-driven background in real estate, public policy, and strategic communications to his role as an Associate Lobbyist with AB Counsel. He spent five years in the real estate sector as a valuation and property tax consultant, progressing from appraisal work to senior consulting roles. In 2025, Stephen transitioned into politics full-time, first managing a federal election campaign and later supporting an Indigenous self-government in the Northwest Territories, where he contributed to executive operations and communications strategy.

[s.blanchette@albertacounsel.com](mailto:s.blanchette@albertacounsel.com)



ALBERTA COUNSEL



Source: LinkedIn

### KEY INFLUENCER PROFILE

## PHILLIP PETERS

INCOMING AUDITOR GENERAL OF ALBERTA

Mackenzie Blyth

Phillip Peters has been recommended as Alberta's next Auditor General following a vote by a legislative committee, with a final appointment pending cabinet approval. If confirmed, he will assume leadership of the Office of the Auditor General at a time of heightened scrutiny over government spending and oversight, including an ongoing investigation into high-profile health-care contracting.

Peters currently serves as Legislative Audit and General Counsel and Ethics Officer within the Office of the Auditor General, where he has held senior responsibility for legal, ethical, and governance matters since 2017. His tenure within the office provides continuity at a time of transition, while also positioning him as a central figure in shaping how the office approaches complex and politically sensitive audits.

Prior to joining the Auditor General's office, Peters spent nearly a decade with Alberta Justice and Solicitor General as Tax Counsel, advising on complex tax and regulatory matters. His background also includes experience in private practice with Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP, as well as earlier roles with the Canada Revenue Agency and KPMG.

Peters holds extensive professional credentials, including King's Counsel designation, Chartered Professional Accountant (CFPA, FCA), and advanced legal training in tax law. His cross-disciplinary background in law and accounting positions him well to oversee audits across government ministries, agencies, and regulated funds, particularly in areas involving complex financial structures and procurement processes.

If appointed, Peters will immediately take on the continuation of a high-profile investigation into allegations surrounding multimillion-dollar health contracts, an issue that has drawn political attention and ongoing review. His appointment process has also attracted scrutiny from NDP MLAs, highlighting the broader political context in which the Auditor General's office will be operating.

# THE NEWS

Alberta's Premier Review of  
Politics and Government Vitality

from ALBERTA COUNSEL



**PASCAL RYFFEL**  
Senior Vice President

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

[pr@albertacounsel.com](mailto:pr@albertacounsel.com)



ALBERTA COUNSEL

## AT A GLANCE

### In the Media

#### **Alberta Expands Skilled Trades Pathways**

Alberta's government is launching the Alberta Trades Discovery Centre, a new industry-led initiative that will give junior high and high school students hands-on exposure to skilled trades careers before graduation. Opening in Calgary in fall 2026, the facility will offer a professional, work-like environment where students can explore construction trades, learn from experienced tradespeople, and better understand their interests and strengths.

Minister of Advanced Education, Myles McDougall, stated: "Alberta's prosperity depends on a strong, skilled workforce. The Alberta Trades Discovery Centre will help students see the real opportunities available in the trades, while complementing the world-class training offered by our post-secondary institutions."

#### **New Oversight for Alberta Immigration**

The Government of Alberta has introduced Bill 26, the Immigration Oversight Act, to strengthen oversight of employers, foreign worker recruiters and immigration consultants involved in hiring foreign nationals. The legislation aims to address fraud and worker exploitation by requiring employers to register with the province before using federal temporary foreign worker programs. It would also create a licensing system for recruiters and consultants.

Minister of Jobs, Economy, Trade and Immigration, Joseph Schow, stated: "Albertans deserve to know that immigration in Alberta is fair, transparent and addresses the real needs of Alberta's labour force. This legislation improves accountability and gives the province more control over how the immigration system is used and gives us tools other provinces use to ensure the system is working for Albertans."

#### **Continued Investments in the Arts**

Alberta's Budget 2026 commits \$40.1 million to the arts, including \$38.1 million for the Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA), marking the highest level of arts funding in the province's history. This investment aims to support artists and organizations, expand access to arts programming, and strengthen Alberta's growing creative economy.

"The arts enrich our lives, connect us as Albertans and contribute significantly to our economy. With record-high funding committed through Budget 2026, we are supporting creativity, strengthening communities and ensuring the arts remain accessible in every corner of the province," commented Minister of Arts, Culture and Status of Women, Tanya Fir.

#### **Updated Animal Protection Laws**

The province has introduced Bill 22, the Animal Protection Amendment Act, marking the first major update to the legislation in 20 years. The proposed changes aim to modernize definitions, align with other Canadian jurisdictions, and strengthen animal welfare protections. Amendments would give peace officers expanded authority to inspect more locations, including grooming and boarding facilities, and better tools to address animal distress.

"Bill 22 is an important step for Alberta, underscoring the province's commitment to animal welfare. Beyond updating the legislation, it sends a clear message that protecting animals is a top priority. Alberta is dedicated to ensuring all animals are treated with respect and protected by these safeguards," commented Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, RJ Sigurdson.



## QUINN HEFFRON

Associate,  
Government Relations

Quinn is a public policy and government relations professional specializing in energy policy, with expertise in legislative affairs, regulatory analysis, and stakeholder engagement. He has supported elected officials at all levels of government and served as a consultant for a leading think tank, contributing to policy development in Canada's energy sector. Quinn brings strong political insight, analytical skills, and a pragmatic approach to navigating complex political and regulatory environments.

He holds a Master of Public Policy from the University of Toronto's Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, specializing in energy policy, and an Honours Bachelor of Social Science in Political Science from the University of Ottawa.

[q.heffron@albertacounsel.com](mailto:q.heffron@albertacounsel.com)



ALBERTA COUNSEL



# BRINGING YOUR OWN POWER: DATA CENTRES, GRID CONSTRAINTS, AND LOCAL PUSHBACK IN ALBERTA

Quinn Heffron

Alberta's ambition to become a North American hub for hyperscale and AI-focused data centres is now being stress-tested by electricity system physics and by the politics of land use. In late 2024, the province published an AI data-centre strategy emphasizing abundant power, fast approvals, and Alberta's cold climate as a cooling advantage, while promising that grid affordability and reliability would remain paramount.

By spring 2025, the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) began quantifying the mismatch between demand and supply and noted that individual projects can be larger than most Alberta cities. The AESO also flagged why these loads are not "just another customer." Data centres can create grid stability issues through ramping and reactive power needs, raise power-quality concerns through harmonics and flicker, and complicate planning because project timelines can outpace transmission development.

The system operator's June 2025 Interim policy was blunt: connecting all large loads seeking access would impair reliability, so the AESO capped new large-load connections at 1,200 MW through 2028, using a qualification framework that includes municipal support and completed studies. This interim cap effectively made Bring Your Own Power (BYOP) the default pathway for projects that want scale and speed, whether through off-grid self-supply (outside the AESO connection queue), or through new generation aligned with the load.

Legislation followed the engineering logic. Bills 8 and 12 received Royal Assent in December of 2025. Bill 8 strengthens the legal basis for triage by requiring system access service be provided in a way that maintains "reliability and adequacy," and by granting the minister regulation-making power over data centres, including system access, load management, and load shedding. Bill 12, with modifications in the most recent budget bill, adds a Data Centre Levy on computing equipment and embeds a rate logic that varies with grid versus self-supplied/netted electricity. This policy decision clearly signals that heavy, purely grid-dependent load is disfavoured.

Local politics, however, may determine which projects survive to reach those regulatory gates. Rocky View County's rejection of a proposed ~1,100 acre campus shows that "data centres = economic development" is not universally persuasive when agricultural land use, water servicing, community consultation, and industrial impacts are in play. Olds shows a parallel constraint. The Town acknowledges a desire to attract data centres, but a recent Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) decision has already halted a notable gas-powered data centre proposal.

This is where the political contrast sharpens. The Alberta Government has justified tighter renewable siting rules partly by invoking "pristine views" and other land-use and environmental values. Yet many BYOP-aligned data centre projects are predicated on gas generation, often with tangible local externalities like air emissions, noise, traffic, water use, safety management. These are issues that communities increasingly scrutinize. A central legal and policy question moving forward is whether Alberta can maintain legitimacy by applying coherent, comparable land-use and environmental standards across technologies.

## Gaps and unresolved questions

Key rulemaking is still pending and vague. There is still broad regulation-making authority that remains outstanding for data centres that would be important for proponents to understand before making final investment decisions – namely clarity on definitions, classes, curtailment rights, performance requirements, and cost allocation mechanics. These issues will largely be determined through future regulations and the Restructured Electricity Market (REM) design currently being implemented by the AESO.



ALBERTA COUNSEL

## Legal and Lobby Professionals

Ethical. Experienced. Effective.  
[www.AlbertaCounsel.com](http://www.AlbertaCounsel.com)



Alberta 31<sup>st</sup> Legislature, Session 2 Summary  
April 13<sup>th</sup> to April 16<sup>th</sup>

## Alberta 31<sup>st</sup> Legislature, Session 2 Summary: April 13<sup>th</sup> to April 16<sup>th</sup>

### Bill Updates

#### Government Bills

- **Bill 15: Public Safety and Emergency Services Statutes Amendment Act, 2026:** Amends the *Police Act* and the *Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act* to support the transition of certain public safety functions to an independent agency police service in Alberta. The bill allows the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services to transfer employees from the Government of Alberta to the new police service through formal transfer orders while maintaining continuity of employment. It also establishes labour-relations provisions to ensure collective bargaining rights, existing bargaining units, and collective agreements continue following the transfer. In addition, the bill expands delegation authority under the *Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act*, allowing the Director to delegate powers to employees of the independent agency police service.

  - **Status: Has come into force as legislation.**
  - **Bill Text:** [Bill 15: Public Safety and Emergency Services Statutes Amendment Act, 2026](#)
  - **GOA Overview:** [Advancing the Alberta Sheriffs Police Service](#)
  
- **Bill 16: Traveller Protection and Destination Development Act:** Creates a new framework for destination marketing fees and tourism development in Alberta. The bill allows the Minister of Tourism and Sport to designate a destination marketing organization, an accommodation association (where applicable), and a trustee for each geographic area. Operators may choose to charge a destination marketing fee on accommodation or prescribed tourism experiences, but if charged, it must be collected at purchase and remitted in full to the designated trustee, who must hold the funds in trust and transfer them for regulated tourism promotion purposes. The bill adds enforcement tools (inspections, penalties, offences) and a limited right of appeal. It also amends the Consumer Protection Act to require disclosure of mandatory fees at booking.

  - **Status: Has come into force as legislation.**
  - **Bill Text:** [Bill 16: Traveller Protection and Destination Development Act](#)
  - **GOA Overview:** [Legislation targets tourism fee transparency](#)
  
- **Bill 17: Fiscal Measures Statutes Amendment Act, 2026:** Amends several provincial statutes to implement fiscal and regulatory updates across taxation, financial services, pensions, and tourism. Key changes include amendments to the *Alberta Corporate Tax Act* affecting the calculation of levies on data centres, and revisions to the *Alberta Personal Income Tax Act* to introduce an updated Alberta caregiver credit for dependants with mental or physical infirmities. The bill also modifies the *Credit Union Act* to strengthen oversight and liquidity standards, expands regulatory authority shared between the Minister and the Credit Union Deposit Guarantee Corporation, and modernizes governance and compliance rules. Additional amendments update the *Employment Pension Plans Act* to allow pension plan administrators to transfer assets to purchase annuities and adjust eligibility rules for multi-employer plans, revise provisions under the *Loan and Trust Corporations Act*, and increase Alberta's tourism levy from 4% to 6% on accommodation purchases made after April 1, 2026.

  - **Status: Has come into force as legislation.**
  - **Bill Text:** [Bill 17: Fiscal Measures Statutes Amendment Act, 2026](#)
  - **GOA Overview:** [Alberta advances budget legislation](#)

## Government Bills (continued)

- **Bill 18: Safeguards for Last Resort Termination of Life Act:** Establishes additional provincial safeguards governing the provision of medical assistance in dying (MAID) in Alberta. The bill sets out enhanced eligibility and procedural requirements, including that an individual's natural death must be reasonably foreseeable within 12 months and that requests cannot be based solely on mental illness. It requires practitioner assessments, documentation safeguards, and, where possible, the presence of a family member as a witness. The legislation also introduces new rules for health care facilities, including the right to refuse provision of MAID, the creation of exclusion zones around certain facilities, and restrictions on the display or provision of MAID-related information. Additionally, it establishes a care coordination service, outlines complaint and disciplinary processes for regulated health professionals, and imposes mandatory sanctions for non-compliance.
  - **Status: Passed Committee of the Whole.**
  - **Bill Text:** [Bill 18: Safeguards for Last Termination of Life Act](#)
  - **GOA Overview:** [MAID protections for Albertans with mental illness](#)
  
- **Bill 19: Appropriation Act, 2026:** Authorizes government spending from Alberta's General Revenue Fund for the 2026–27 fiscal year. The bill allocates funding across government operations, including approximately \$62.5 billion for public service expenses, \$4.76 billion for capital investments, \$1.45 billion for financial transactions, and \$2 billion in contingency funding, along with \$217.7 million for the Legislative Assembly. It also permits limited transfers between expense, capital, and financial transaction votes, subject to Treasury Board approval, and includes provisions for targeted infrastructure funding such as school and health facility projects.
  - **Status: Has come into force as legislation.**
  - **Bill Text:** [Bill 19: Appropriation Act, 2026](#)
  - **GOA Overview:** The government did not provide a news release.
  
- **Bill 20: Appropriation (Supplementary Supply) Act, 2026:** Authorizes additional government spending from Alberta's General Revenue Fund for the 2025–26 fiscal year to cover expenditures not previously approved. The bill allocates approximately \$326.2 million in additional operating expenses, \$17.8 million for capital investments, \$202.2 million for financial transactions, and \$18.2 million for the Legislative Assembly. It also includes targeted transfers between departments, notably reallocating funds to support social services, justice, and other priority areas.
  - **Status: Has come into force as legislation.**
  - **Bill Text:** [Bill 20: Appropriation \(Supplementary Supply\) Act, 2026](#)
  - **GOA Overview:** The government did not provide a news release.

Government Bills (continued)

- **Bill 21: Interprovincial Trade Mutual Recognition Act:** Establishes a framework to reduce internal trade barriers by requiring Alberta to recognize goods and services that meet regulatory standards in other Canadian jurisdictions. The bill implements “mutual recognition rules,” meaning goods and services approved elsewhere in Canada are generally treated as meeting Alberta’s requirements, with limited exceptions. It enables Alberta to participate in agreements such as the Canadian Free Trade Agreement and New West Partnership, while allowing Ministers to issue exemption orders where necessary. The legislation also provides regulatory authority to manage standards, approvals, and verification processes across jurisdictions.

  - **Status: Has come into force as legislation.**
  - **Bill Text:** [Bill 21: Interprovincial Trade Mutual Recognition Act](#)
  - **GOA Overview:** [Reducing barriers to interprovincial trade](#)
  
- **Bill 22: Animal Protection Amendment Act, 2026:** Amends the *Animal Protection Act* to strengthen animal welfare standards, enforcement powers, and penalties in Alberta. The bill expands the definition of “distress” to include conditions affecting an animal’s physical and psychological well-being, and introduces enhanced duties for persons responsible for animals, including requirements related to shelter, care, and the ability to express natural behaviours. It provides increased authority to peace officers, including new inspection powers, the ability to stop vehicles transporting animals, and expanded mechanisms to take animals into custody and ensure their care. The legislation also significantly increases penalties for offences, introduces prohibition orders restricting individuals from owning animals, and enables recognition of similar orders from other jurisdictions.

  - **Status: Passed Second Reading.**
  - **Bill Text:** [Bill 22: Animal Protection Amendment Act, 2026](#)
  - **GOA Overview:** [Modernizing Alberta’s Animal Protection Act](#)
  
- **Bill 23: Justice Statutes Amendment Act, 2026:** Amends several statutes related to elections, citizen initiatives, public sector disclosure, and justice processes. Key changes to the *Citizen Initiative Act* and *Recall Act* include restricting initiative activity around election periods, introducing “scrutineers” to observe petition verification processes, and enhancing transparency requirements. The bill also amends the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act* to regulate the creation and distribution of misleading “deepfakes” in political contexts, including enforcement powers and penalties. Additional amendments update public sector compensation disclosure thresholds and modernize various procedural and administrative provisions across justice-related legislation

  - **Status: Has come into force as legislation.**
  - **Bill Text:** [Bill 23: Justice Statutes Amendment Act, 2026](#)
  - **GOA Overview:** [Boosting transparency and election integrity](#)

## Government Bills (continued)

- **Bill 24: Alberta Whisky Act:** Establishes a regulatory framework and designation system for “Alberta Whisky” as a provincially recognized product. The bill sets out specific production standards, including requirements that whisky be produced entirely in Alberta using locally sourced grains and water, and limits post-distillation modifications. It designates the Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis Commission as the oversight body responsible for administering declarations, inspections, and enforcement, including the authority to revoke designations for non-compliance. The legislation also restricts the use of the term “Alberta Whisky” to products that meet the established standards, supporting product authenticity and geographic indication recognition.

  - **Status: Adjourned during Third Reading.**
  - Bill Text: [Bill 24: Alberta Whisky Act](#)
  - GOA Overview: [This is Alberta Whisky](#)
  
- **Bill 25: An Act to Remove Politics and Ideology from Classrooms and Amend the Education Act, 2026:** Amends the *Education Act* to introduce new requirements aimed at promoting neutrality, academic rigor, and intellectual diversity in Alberta’s education system. The bill revises curriculum and instructional standards to emphasize critical thinking, a range of perspectives, and the avoidance of political or ideological bias in educational programming. It also places new restrictions on school boards, including limits on taking positions unrelated to their statutory responsibilities, requirements for ministerial approval of superintendent contracts, and expanded provincial oversight through strategic priorities. Additional provisions address school governance, including rules respecting flags and the national anthem, naming of school buildings, and the transfer of certain school board-owned property to the Crown.

  - **Status: Adjourned during Second Reading.**
  - Bill Text: [Bill 25: An Act to Remove Politics and Ideology from Classrooms and Amend the Education Act, 2026](#)
  - GOA Overview: [Removing politics and ideology from classrooms](#)
  
- **Bill 26: Immigration Oversight Act:** Establishes a comprehensive regulatory framework governing the recruitment and employment of foreign workers in Alberta. The Act introduces mandatory registration requirements for employers hiring foreign nationals and licensing requirements for foreign worker recruiters and immigration consultants. It sets out codes of conduct, prohibits exploitative practices (including charging recruitment fees to foreign workers), and imposes disclosure and contract requirements. The legislation also creates enforcement mechanisms, including inspections, administrative penalties, compensation orders, and significant fines for non-compliance. Additional provisions address information sharing, complaint processes, and provincial selection programs aligned with federal Immigration agreements.

  - **Status: Passed Second Reading.**
  - Bill Text: [Bill 26: Immigration Oversight Act](#)
  - GOA Overview: [Restoring trust in the immigration system](#)

## Government Bills (continued)

- **Bill 27: Financial Statutes Amendment Act, 2026:** Introduces amendments to multiple financial statutes to support updated fiscal policy and program alignment in Alberta. The bill amends legislation including the *Alberta Enterprise Corporation Act*, *Automobile Insurance Act*, *Insurance Act*, *Seniors Benefit Act*, and other financial frameworks, reflecting changes to government financial operations, oversight, and program administration. As an omnibus bill, it bundles a range of technical and policy updates into a single piece of legislation, streamlining statutory changes related to Alberta's broader budget and financial management priorities.

  - **Status: Adjourned during Second Reading.**
  - Bill Text: [Bill 27: Financial Statutes Amendment Act, 2026](#)
  - GOA Overview: [Implementing Budget 2026](#)
  
- **Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026:** Amends the *Alberta Housing Act*, *Libraries Act*, and *Municipal Government Act* to introduce a broad range of changes affecting municipal governance, housing administration, planning, and public-sector transparency. Key measures include new rules for housing management body reserve funds and requisitions, expanded ministerial inspection and regulatory powers over public libraries, and the creation of a provincial councillor accountability framework with complaint, investigation, sanction, and appeal processes. The bill also introduces new municipal employee compensation disclosure requirements, changes to property tax and assessment rules, expanded provincial authority over planning and development matters, and new provisions respecting pits, automated permitting systems, community design codes, and off-site levies.

  - **Status: Passed First Reading.**
  - Bill Text: [Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026](#)
  
- **Bill 29: Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2026:** Amends multiple health-related statutes to update Alberta's health care administration, professional regulation, and provincial health governance framework. Key changes include amendments to the *Alberta Health Care Insurance Act* and *Health Professions Act* to create a framework for provincially funded preventative health testing services available through self-referral, with the Minister given authority to specify eligible services and set benefit rates. The bill also amends the *Pharmacy and Drug Act* to authorize the sale of certain Schedule 1 drugs to regulated health professionals through written orders, and updates several statutes to reflect changes in health system terminology, governance, and oversight, including provisions related to hospital services facility operators, provincial health corporations, and employee severance repayment obligations in certain re-employment circumstances.

  - **Status: Passed First Reading.**
  - Bill Text: [Bill 29: Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2026](#)
  
- **Bill 30: Expedited 120-Day Approvals Act:** Establishes a process for the Government of Alberta to designate certain major projects as "qualified projects" and expedite required regulatory decisions. Project proponents may apply for designation, and the Minister may recommend approval based on factors including strategic alignment with government priorities, economic importance, minimum capital spending of more than \$250 million, and the status of environmental and Indigenous consultation processes. For designated projects, decisions on prescribed approvals must be made within the lesser of 120 business days or the time frame otherwise set out in the applicable enactment. The bill also allows the Lieutenant Governor in Council to continue or rescind a project's designation and provides that the Act prevails over conflicting enactments unless another Act expressly states otherwise.

  - **Status: Passed First Reading.**
  - Bill Text: [Bill 30: Expedited 120-Day Approvals Act](#)

### Private Member Bills

- **Bill 205: Non-Disclosure Agreements Act:** Prohibits the use of non-disclosure agreements (NDAs) in cases involving sexual misconduct or sexual exploitation. The bill would prevent respondents and responsible persons from entering into agreements that restrict individuals from disclosing experiences of sexual misconduct or participating in related complaints or investigations. Any such agreements would be deemed void, and the legislation establishes penalties for contraventions, including fines for individuals and organizations. The bill also applies retroactively to invalidate existing NDAs that conflict with its provisions and affirms that rights under the Act cannot be waived.

  - **Status:** Referred to Standing Committee on Families and Communities.
  - **Bill Text:** [Bill 205: Non-Disclosure Agreements Act](#)
  
- **Bill 206: Accessible Alberta Act:** Proposes creating an Accessibility Standards Committee, composed primarily of persons with disabilities, to develop and recommend accessibility standards to the government. These standards may apply to areas such as employment, the built environment, information and communications technology, government services, housing, transportation, health, education, and procurement. The legislation aims to identify, prevent and remove barriers through regulatory standards and consultation with persons with disabilities, Indigenous Peoples, and affected organizations, with the broader goal of achieving a more accessible Alberta by 2040.

  - **Status:** Defeated on division.
  - **Bill Text:** [Bill 206: Accessible Alberta Act](#)
  
- **Bill 207: Primary Provincial Industries Recognition Statutes Amendment Act, 2026:** Amends the Education Act and the Special Days Act to promote awareness of Alberta's primary provincial industries, including fossil fuels, forestry, agriculture and construction. The bill would require the Minister of Education to incorporate age-appropriate curriculum content on the economic importance of these sectors, related career opportunities, and the role they play in provincial revenues. It also establishes February 13 as "Fossil Fuel Recognition Day" to recognize the contributions of Alberta's fossil fuel industry and increase public awareness of its economic impact.

  - **Status:** Passed Committee of the Whole.
  - **Bill Text:** [Bill 207: Primary Provincial Industries Recognition Statutes Amendment Act, 2026](#)
  
- **Bill 208: Tobacco, Smoking and Vaping Reduction Amendment Act, 2026:** Amends the Tobacco, Smoking and Vaping Reduction Act to prohibit the sale of flavoured vaping products in Alberta, with limited exceptions for tobacco-flavoured products. The bill defines "flavoured vaping product" to include single-use vaping devices with noticeable non-tobacco flavours and allows for additional products to be designated by regulation. The prohibition aims to reduce the appeal of vaping products, particularly among youth. The legislation would come into force one year following Royal Assent.

  - **Status:** Passed Committee of the Whole.
  - **Bill Text:** [Bill 208: Tobacco, Smoking and Vaping Reduction Amendment Act, 2026](#)

### Session Transcripts

- Monday, April 13, 2026, Afternoon: [Transcript](#)
- Tuesday, April 14, 2026, Afternoon: [Transcript](#)
- Wednesday, April 15, 2026, Afternoon: [Transcript](#)
- Thursday, April 16, 2026, Morning: [Transcript](#)



Central Alberta  
Economic  
Partnership



**Year-In-Review: 2025 - 2026**

March 31, 2026

## About CAEP

**Central Alberta Economic Partnership (CAEP)** is a regional economic development organization whose mission is to **strengthen and grow the economy across Central Alberta**. Originally created by the Government of Alberta, we are now an independent, not-for-profit organization that brings together communities, industry, and local businesses to align priorities, attract investment, and support economic growth—because we know we’re stronger and more competitive when we work collectively rather than individually. We are:

- **A catalyst** for regional competitiveness, investment readiness and attraction
- **Industry connectors** – improving industry awareness - leading to better opportunities
- An “Arms Length” Part 9 Corporation with 30+ municipal and industry members representing 300,000 Central Albertans, 175 Elected officials and the region’s 25,000 businesses.
- Powered by a dedicated Board of Directors and Industry partners.
- We amplify wins and build relationships—through member engagement, events, project sponsorship and creating a better understanding of economic development, **supporting all of our communities**.



---

[www.investcentralalberta.ca](http://www.investcentralalberta.ca)

## The Evolution of CAEP

- **1998** – CAEP is founded when a regional committee approaches the Government of Alberta (GOA) for funding. CAEP is funded as a “Part 9,” not-for-profit organization under the Municipal Government Act.
- **2004** – CAEP has 4 GOA staff, offices in the Red Deer Provincial Building and 40 member municipalities. **CAEP’s budget is \$1 million+ per year.**
- **2016** – The GOA changes its funding model and no longer provides staff for CAEP operations. CAEP hires its own Executive Director, who becomes CAEP’s only full-time staff person.
- **2016 – 2025** – CAEP’s membership model holds per capita membership fees to minimal year-over-year increases, straining service capacity; the GOA announces it will end CAEP’s funding in March 2027.
- **Today** – CAEP is actively redefining its role as a catalyst for economic development in Central Alberta, helmed by Paul Salvatore, Executive Director and Marta Bristow, Director of Strategic Initiatives.



## Your CAEP Team



**Paul Salvatore, Executive Director (full time role)**

Phone: 587-4474-2237

Email: [psalvatore@investcentralalberta.ca](mailto:psalvatore@investcentralalberta.ca)

As the leader of a membership organization, Paul's main focus is **building and strengthening CAEP's membership, regional partnerships, and government relations**

He is also responsible for overseeing CAEP Operations:

- Administration and Finance functions
- Marketing and Communications
- Membership Management and Development
- Project Development and Implementation



**Marta Bristow, Director of Strategic Initiatives (0.25 role / approx. 10 hrs per wk)**

Phone: 403-837-2190

Email: [mbristow@investcentralalberta.ca](mailto:mbristow@investcentralalberta.ca)

Marta's role involves helping to manage CAEP Operations, and leading special initiatives, e.g. grants, projects, courses and workshops, meetings and events.

---

[www.investcentralalberta.ca](http://www.investcentralalberta.ca)

## CAEP's Board of Directors



CAEP is overseen by a dedicated volunteer Board of Directors elected by CAEP members. Board meetings are held regularly throughout the year. Positions are three-year terms, with elections held annually at our Fall General Meeting to fill vacant positions (terms are staggered, to avoid a complete turnover of board members). CAEP's Board Members are:

Jean Barclay – Chair  
Town of Innisfail

Jordon Northcott  
Clearwater County

Ben Allan (*Associate Member Rep*)  
Red Deer Polytechnic

Barry Kletke – Vice-Chair  
Town of Trochu

Justin Sinclair  
Town of Rocky Mountain House

Leonard Standingontheroad  
Montana Nation

Bob Murray – Secretary  
Town of Didsbury

Neil Young  
Village of Beiseker

Amy Merrill (*Business Rep*)  
Kneehill County

Lee Girard – Treasurer  
Red Deer County

Brenda Knight  
Lacombe County

Kevin Stalker (*Business Rep*)  
Town of Rocky Mountain House

Chad Krahn  
City of Red Deer

## CAEP Strategic Plan 2025-2027



In February 2025, CAEP created a 2025 - 2027 Strategic Plan. At the heart of the strategy is CAEP's mission: **Empowering Investment Attraction in Central Alberta.**

We do this by:

- Providing access to **Economic Development expertise**
- Creating investor-focused **community economic profiles and data**
- Delivering **projects to advance regional economic development**
- Offering strategic **training and development** activities and timely **member communications**
- Developing and implementing a **government relations strategy**
- **Building and expanding relationships** with regional partners
- Providing **networking opportunities** through member events

At the 2026 Spring Annual General Meeting, **CAEP will unveil a new 3-Year Business Plan.** This new plan will build on the work accomplished over the past two years and set a bold new direction for regional economic development in Central Alberta.

---

[www.investcentralalberta.ca](http://www.investcentralalberta.ca)

## A Look Back at 2025 - 2026



## Key Projects and Events Delivered in 2025 - 2026

### Site Link Forum Event: September 3-5, 2025

CAEP hosted the SiteLink Forum Event in Red Deer County on September 3 – 5, 2025. The event was a valuable opportunity to hear from international site selectors and connect with leaders in economic development, construction, architecture, engineering, and real estate to network, gather insights, and share expertise.

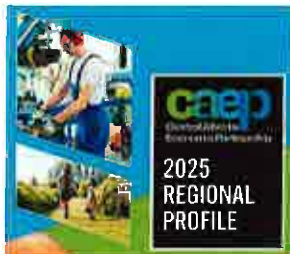


Highlights from the event included:

- Presentations and networking with 8 international site selectors, with expert advice on how to position the region for investment opportunities
- Complimentary registrations for CAEP member communities
- Exclusive dinner for CAEP members with the site selectors
- Expert speakers offering insights on regional competitive advantages
- Showcase tour of the CAEP region for the visiting site selectors



## Key Projects and Events Delivered in 2025 – 2026 (cont.)



### Community Investment Readiness Profiles

CAEP partnered with the Northern and Regional Economic Development (NRED) Program to commission Community Profiles for 10 CAEP member communities. These profiles support economic development efforts, build a common understanding of local economic development and community assets, improve overall investment readiness, and help members respond to investment inquiries. This project also included a Central Alberta Regional Profile that covers the full CAEP region, now on CAEP's website.



### Strategic Advocacy: The Connections Corridor Pre-Feasibility Study Update

CAEP and other regional partners commissioned an updated pre-feasibility study for the proposed "Howse Pass Corridor." This corridor is a road that would create a more direct transportation route between BC and central Alberta, running from Highway 1, just north of Golden BC, to Saskatchewan River Crossing in Alberta. This study update was initiated by CAEP's Transportation and Logistics committee, chaired by Ian Oostindie, and was completed in February 2026. The final report will provide the basis for future feasibility studies and discussions.

## Projects and Events Delivered in 2025 – 2026 (cont.)

### Economic Development Training and Courses

CAEP partnered with the Economic Developers of Alberta (EDA) Institute to deliver four economic development courses in 2025 – 2026. CAEP members received free registration to all courses:

**Business Retention and Expansion**

May 26, 2025, Olds

**Establishing the Foundation**

March 24, 2026, Red Deer

**Performance Measurement in Economic Development**

June 27, 2025, Red Deer County

**Fundamentals of Rural Economic Development**

April 29, 2026, Blackfalds

### The Secret Sauce: Economic Development for Elected Officials Workshop

CAEP developed a 1.5-hour workshop for elected officials to expand their understanding of how their decisions can help shape community growth and make a measurable impact. This session unpacks what actually moves the needle on economic development: aligning council priorities, streamlining permitting, packaging serviced land, and building investor confidence through clear, consistent data. Participants learn the “secret sauce” behind successful local economic growth—and how opportunities can lead to tangible investment with the support of CAEP and our regional partners. **This workshop was launched at the Fall 2025 Fall General Meeting and is delivered to CAEP members upon request.**



[www.investcentralalberta.ca](http://www.investcentralalberta.ca)

## Projects and Events Delivered in 2025 – 2026 (cont.):

### Launch of Team Central Alberta

At the Fall 2025 General Meeting, CAEP launched **Team Central Alberta**, an exciting new initiative to engage regional businesses and industries in working together to drive growth in key sectors. These include: transportation and logistics, agri-food and ag-tech, energy, carbon capture and storage, advanced manufacturing, and digital infrastructure. Team Central Alberta benefits include:

- Accelerated access to decision-makers, regional data, and support from the Team Central Alberta network and municipal leaders.
- Elevated exposure and profile through CAEP event sponsorships and promotional activities.
- Thought leadership opportunities such as speaking engagements and lunch and learn events.
- Invitations to networking events structured to strengthen regional connections.
- A seat at the table for developing regional economic policies that support certainty and success.
- Opportunities to participate in trade missions.

Team Central Alberta will take off more fully in the upcoming year, with numerous projects planned (details on the following pages).

## What to Expect in 2026 - 2027...



**Team  
Central  
Alberta**

**One Region  
Infinite Opportunities**

## New Initiatives for 2026 - 2027

Here are some of the many projects and initiatives CAEP has planned for 2026-2027. More details will be presented at the Spring General Meeting on May 8, 2026.

- Continued expansion of **Team Central Alberta**
  - Paul will work with regional partners to build the Team Central Alberta network, including local businesses, large companies, industry associations, post-secondary institutions and innovators—all of whom are committed to investment, job creation and productivity.
- A new **Economic Data Portal** with clear, consistent and current data for CAEP members
  - **Every CAEP municipal member will have a dedicated community dashboard of key economic data** to support economic development efforts, improve overall investment readiness, and help members respond to investment inquiries.
- **Regional Land Development and Investment Attraction Strategy** for Central Alberta
  - Phase 1: series of workshops to develop 3 aspects of the strategy:
    - Identifying investment-ready sites
    - Opportunities and trends in commercial real estate
    - Creating conditions for affordable housing

## New Initiatives for 2026 – 2027 (cont.)

- Strategic advocacy and international market development
- Economic development workshops and other events
  - Continue delivering the **Secret Sauce: Economic Development for Elected Officials** session
  - New EDA workshops; Lunch and Learns with regional industry partners
- CAEP Members-only Website Portal with economic development tools and resources
- Development of a digital marketing plan to enhance CAEP communications through website, newsletter, social media and other channels
- Completion of an MOU with Red Deer Polytechnic

### Other focus areas:

- **Government Relations:** Continue building and strengthening relationships with federal, provincial and municipal governments
- **Modernizing CAEP's Articles of Association** (revisions will be presented to CAEP members for a vote at the Spring 2026 AGM)

## CAEP Members 2026 Meeting Schedule



**2026 Spring Annual General Meeting**  
**Friday, May 8, 2026**

Wolf Creek Golf Resort, Ponoka

For more details and to register, visit:  
[www.investcentralalberta.ca/event-list](http://www.investcentralalberta.ca/event-list)



**2026 Fall General Meeting**  
**Wednesday, November 18, 2026**

Lacombe Golf and Country Club, Lacombe

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
Registration will open closer to the event.

## Contact Us



**Paul Salvatore, Executive Director**

Phone: 587-447-2237

Email: [psalvatore@investcentralalberta.ca](mailto:psalvatore@investcentralalberta.ca)



**Marta Bristow, Director of Strategic Initiatives**

Phone: 403-837-2190

Email: [mbristow@investcentralalberta.ca](mailto:mbristow@investcentralalberta.ca)

**Please reach out to us any time. We'd love to hear from you!**

---

[www.investcentralalberta.ca](http://www.investcentralalberta.ca)



Central Alberta  
Economic  
Partnership

Empowering Investment Attraction in **Central Alberta**



**Thank you for your support!**

[www.investcentralalberta.ca](http://www.investcentralalberta.ca)

## Expanding Horizons: Bowden Cultural Enhancement Society Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held on Monday, April 13 at the Paterson Community Centre Bowden with the following members in attendance: Debbie Bailey, Jessica Cardwell, Sheila Church, Brad and Kathy Dallas, Karen Fagan, Tara Rankin, Jade Scott, Rob and Sandra Wilcox, Sterling Wood, Dawn Zimmerman. Hall Manager Tanisha Street was also in attendance.

**Call to Order:** President Brad Dallas called the meeting to order at 6:38 pm.

**Agenda:** Deb Bailey moved the agenda be adopted as presented; seconded by Tara Rankin. Carried.

**Minutes of the 2025 AGM:** Tara Rankin moved the minutes be adopted as presented; seconded by Sena Urichuk. Carried.

### Election of Officers:

**President:** Dawn Zimmerman nominated Brad Dallas. Sena moved nominations cease. Carried

**Vice-President:** Sena Urichuk nominated Rob Wilcox. Deb Bailey moved nominations cease. Carried.

**Secretary:** Sena Urichuk stated that Sandra Gamble has volunteered to continue as Secretary. Jade Scott moved nominations cease. Carried

**Treasurer:** Rob Wilcox nominated Sena Urichuk. Jade Scott moved nominations cease. Carried.

**Directors:** Dawn Zimmerman withdrew as a director due to health concerns. Jade Scott withdrew as a director for personal reasons. The following members volunteered to continue as directors: Tara Rankin, Karen Fagan. The following members volunteered as new directors: Sandra Wilcox, Debbie Bailey, Sterling Wood.

**Review of events since the 2025 AGM:** Volunteer Supper, Dinner Theatre, Bowden Grandview Graduation, Hope Christian Graduation, Beef Supper, November Bingo, Fall Market, Christmas Market, Christmas Party, NFR party by Ag Society, March Bingo, Trike Races & Party, Spring Market, and various rentals for weddings, funerals, anniversaries throughout the year.

**New Ideas for the Coming Year:** 1) Sterling Wood volunteered to investigate a venue deal with 104.5, Olds. 2) Jade Scott suggested we continue the Christmas party with a less expensive band. 3) Jessica Cardwell suggested we revive the Halloween Party, and volunteered to explore ideas for reducing costs. 4) Brad suggested that in 2027 we set Trike Races date so as not to conflict with other groups such as 4-H Awards Night. 5) Jade Scott welcomed a continuing partnership with FCSS to host the two Bingo nights.

**Date of 2027 AGM:** April 13

**Adjournment:** Karen Fagan moved the meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm.

**Expanding Horizons: Bowden Cultural Enhancement Society  
Regular Meeting, April 13, 2026**

**Call to Order:** President Brad Dallas called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm. Members present were: Debbie Bailey, Jessica Cardwell, Sheila Church, Brad and Kathy Dallas, Karen Fagan, Tara Rankin, Jade Scott, Rob and Sandra Wilcox, Sterling Wood, Dawn Zimmerman. Hall manager Tanisha Street was also in attendance.

**Agenda:** Rob Wilcox moved the agenda be adopted as presented: seconded by Jessica Cardwell. Carried.

**Minutes of the March meeting:** Sterling Wood moved the minutes be adopted as presented. Carried.

**Business Arising from the Minutes:**

**1) Trike Races:**

- suggested we not limit racers on posters.
- PM Liquor store offered a good deal on prices so it was suggested that the Bowden Liquor store be asked to match the prices if they wanted to continue as an alternate liquor source.
- try to find a sponsor for T-shirts or hats to award to racers.
- check the dates to avoid conflicts with other events.

**2) Dinner Theatre:**

- Set up on Thursday, April 30 at 6:00 pm. Tables will still be set up from the Volunteer Supper, but volunteers still needed to set the tables etc.
- Door: Terry, with Karen Fagan as backup.
- Liquor: Rob and Sandra, and they will bar tend on Friday night. Brad will ask Annika and Tammy for Saturday night.
- Liquor ticket sales: Sterling and Brad
- Raffle Ticket Sales: Sandy Gamble on Friday, Debbie Bailey on Saturday.
- Draw will be made at the intermission on Saturday.
- Reminder that all volunteers enjoy a free meal.
- Louise is short two kitchen workers if anyone can volunteer.
- Ticket sales to date: Friday – 131, Saturday – 103.

**3) Rubber coating at front entry will be installed when warm weather allows. A three-week window of no foot traffic is needed for curing.**

## New Business:

- 1) **Cleaning Supplies.** The new cleaners can get supplies cheaper than our current source. Rob Wilcox moved that we have the new cleaners purchase supplies for us. Seconded by Jessica Cardwell. Carried.
- 2) **Hall Manager's Report, Tanisha Street:**
  - From May to December we have 23 open weekends. Sena Urichuk moved that we advertise a 10% discount on hall rental for any **local** person who buys a \$5.00 membership in Expanding Horizons. Seconded by Kathy Dallas. Carried. Suggested that this be locally advertised.  
Jessica Cardwell volunteered to investigate the possibility of the hall being part of party bus tours.
  - Question of table cloth charges. Sterling Wood suggested that we not make a separate charge for table cloth rentals, but just raise the rental price and include them in the rental.
  - Tanisha pointed out that we are losing money on rentals to groups such as 4-H for whom we charge \$150.00. Sterling Wood moved that we increase that price to \$500.0, including table cloths, with the group recognizing Expanding Horizons as a sponsor. Seconded by Kathy Dallas. Carried.
  - Tanisha also pointed out that \$500.00 is not enough rental for the markets. After cleaning costs etc. our profit is minimal. Sheila Church moved that we increase the rental to \$1250.00 plus a refundable damage deposit. Seconded by Debbie Bailey. Carried.
  - There are discrepancies on the Web Site about the cost of cleaning. Tara Rankin moved that one price for cleaning and taking down the tables and chairs be set at \$400.00. Seconded by Debbie Bailey. Carried.
  - Tara Rankin moved that we set a charge of \$200.00 to set up tables and chairs, with no discount for funerals, and that the usual daily rental rates apply to funerals. Seconded by Sterling Wood.
  - The daily rental times be set at 8 am to 8 pm.
  - Replacement tiles for the stained ones are no longer stocked. Brad Dallas will check to see if Lorne Bradshaw has some in storage.

**Financials:**

- General Account: \$714.84
- Casino Account: \$65.72
- Benevolent Account: \$26 41131
- Dinner Theatre Account: \$70 224.24
- Operating Account: \$26 342.25

The Trike Races made a profit of \$1065.96

The Bingo made a profit of \$399.94

Sena Urichuk moved the financial be adopted as presented. Seconded by Sandra Wilcox. Carried.

**Next Meeting:** June 2, 7:00 pm, Paterson Community Centre

**Adjournment:** Tara Rankin moved the meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm.

## **Province Invests \$6.7 Million to Strengthen Water Security in Central Alberta**

### **Raw Water Storage Project to Protect 50,000 Residents from Flood and High-Water Risks**

**Innisfail – April 6, 2026** — The Government of Alberta is investing **\$6,707,000** in regional water infrastructure to help protect Central Alberta communities from the impacts of flooding and high-water events.

Approved on April 2, 2026 by Grant Hunter, Minister of Environment and Protected Lands, the funding will support the Mountain View Regional Water Services Commission (MVRWSC) Raw Water Storage Pond Project.

#### **Project Overview**

The project will create raw water storage ponds to provide a reliable backup water source during adverse conditions affecting the Red Deer River. During past flood events, debris and high turbidity levels clogged intake systems at the Anthony Henday Water Treatment Plant, requiring emergency pumping measures to maintain supply.

With the addition of raw water storage, the system will be better equipped to:

- Maintain consistent water treatment operations
- Reduce reliance on temporary emergency measures
- Improve resilience during extreme weather events

#### **Who Benefits**

The project will help ensure safe, reliable drinking water for approximately **50,000 residents** in the communities of:

- Innisfail
- Bowden
- Olds
- Didsbury
- Carstairs
- Crossfield

#### **Background**

The MVRWSC has supplied potable water from the Anthony Henday Water Treatment Plant since 1992. Today, the Commission serves six municipalities through approximately **95 kilometres of transmission pipeline**, extending from north of Innisfail to Crossfield.

---

**Media Contact**

Mike Knight

Chairman

Phone: 1-403-941-7340

Email: [mike@prime-communications.com](mailto:mike@prime-communications.com)

## **BAS Meeting Minutes March 18, 2026**

### **Olde Library, Bowden Alberta**

1: 7:00pm meeting called to Order by Keith. Julie approved last meeting minutes, second by Ian, all in favor.

Attendees: Ian Marshall, Ky Marshall, Rob Stuart, Laurie Miller, Brad Dallas, Keith Bailey, Len Anderson, Dani Marshall, Julie Brestwer, Rick Jorgenson, Garnet Marshall

2: \$797.57 Casino Fund

\$66,580.94 General Fund

Cheque for Bowden Silent Santa went through this month, build a cowboy deposit of \$1000.00 was paid. Next large payments will be insurance and CPRA deposit if \$3000.00.

Next meeting we are to discuss the maintenance on equipment, mower & tractor will need oil changes etc.

3: Trick Riders agreed to the \$3,000.00 offered by Keith for the whole weekend.

Julie looked up buckles and screenshotted ones she liked, going to share with Keith and Len after meeting, they are to decide what they want to order for the rodeo.

Lenny booked the ambulance same guy as last year Aaron. Also sent out sponsorship letters to UFA and Red Deer County.

Keith is sending out sponsorship letters to all on list, will send out now, then again in May and possibly again in June.

Laurie Special Events Meeting with the town, theme for the weekend. Keith is going to attend the next meeting, discuss forward planning. They have booked the grills for the pancake breakfast. Keith is to attend the next town council meeting help April 13.

Keith has also confirmed Tim and Dennis, they are set for the weekend.

Ian filled out CPRA forms and sent them to Ward. Wards price is the same as last year, predicted higher cost for timed event stock, he is subcontracting Birds. Discussed the cost of timed event stock, very limited options and they seem to have the same price set anyway. Any forward questions about stock and contractors forward to Ian and he will answer.

Keith Randene text saying unable to attend the meeting, but she stated that she would be willing to line up visiting royalty if we would like some for the rodeo. Also said she can find flag girls if needed or wanted. She also said she can help at the casino. Left it to Keith to finalize that with her, stated that the Sundre Queen will be wanted as it is Jesse.

Keith stated next meeting we will run through sponsor list.

Ian asked about bands, Alicia Achielle is booked, will receive a list of bands to book Saturday nights.

4: Strategic planning, attached to minutes will be old copy and updated copy from Len.

Discussion was held and most inputted an idea of what they would like to see happen in short term and long term.

KEY points brought up – Rob stated the Bowden Daze Website is not good and hard to navigate, Keith said Jesse is to be correcting that and hoping to have that resolved so public can navigate it before the rode.

Keith would like to see if we could become self-reliant if the grants from government dry up. HE would like to remain focused on other events at the grounds IE concert.

Julie thought of auctioning off the chutes at the NFR night, raising money and creating a new element for the night. Maybe add horse races to the NFR night, grow the event to keep it from stagnating.

Ky added his idea of added purse money, could float into long term goal. Maybe bring more entries.

Dani sponsored area at the rodeo to show appreciation, possibly could work but would need more volunteers to direct and take care of area.

This spiraled into large group discussion of hosting sponsor's night, before after or during rodeo. Cook supper etc., have demos of events done by kids. Create a family night. Show thanks for not asking for more from them. Could use the beer gardens, doesn't cost the ag society then. Discuss more later. We could not host the rodeo without the sponsors. Some of the money goes back to rodeo most is used to run the rodeo.

5: Lenny – Old worker not returning. Facebook add is to be posted end of this month. Julie suggested using CAREERS. Students get paid and get credits towards graduating, not complicated and great opportunity, government has some grants for it as well. Money returned if used.

Laurie Bowden is putting together a volunteerism portion to add to their website, showing all opportunities within the town to get involved. Will need a small write up and contact information to submit to them and then the Ag society will be on the list. Trying to create an easy platform to help people get involved and be more active in the town.

Ky-no

Garnet-no

Julie- No

Rick- No

Brad- No

Ian-No

Keith – No

Dani – No

Meeting Adjourned: 8:02pm

Next meeting April 15<sup>th</sup>.