





MACKENZIE COUNTY

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

AUGUST 15, 2023
10:00 AM

FORT VERMILION COUNCIL
CHAMBERS

 780.927.3718

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 4511-46 Avenue, Fort Vermilion

 office@mackenziecounty.com



Mackenzie County

**MACKENZIE COUNTY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**

**Tuesday, August 15, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

Fort Vermilion Council Chambers

Fort Vermilion, Alberta

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER:	1.	a)	Call to Order	
AGENDA:	2.	a)	Adoption of Agenda	
ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:	3.	a)	Minutes of the July 11, 2023 Committee of the Whole Meeting	5
DELEGATIONS:	4.	a)	None	
BUSINESS:	5.	a)	Municipal Census	13
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		e)	Township Road 1050 (27 th Baseline Road) 2 Miles (2022) Project Update	133
		f)	Cheque Registers – July 10 – August 11, 2023	135
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		h)		
		i)		
POLICY REVIEW:	6.	a)	ADM056 Public Participation Policy	139
		b)	HR003 Workplace Violence and Harassment Policy	149
		c)		

CLOSED MEETING: *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act Division
2, Part 1 Exceptions to Disclosure*

7. a) 2020 Disaster Recovery Program (DRP) Sewer
 Repair in Fort Vermilion (*FOIP Section 25*)
- b) Family and Community Support Services (FCSS)
 Fort Vermilion (*FOIP Section 25*)
- c) Outstanding Taxes (*FOIP Sections 21 and 23*)
- d) Country Residential Growth Nodes (*FOIP
 Sections 23, 24, 25 and 27*)

**NEXT MEETING
DATE:**

8. a) Regular Council Meeting
 August 16, 2023
 10:00 a.m.
 Fort Vermilion Council Chambers
- b) Regular Council Meeting
 September 6, 2023
 10:00 a.m.
 Fort Vermilion Council Chambers

ADJOURNMENT:

9. a) Adjournment



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Committee of the Whole Meeting
Meeting Date:	August 15, 2023
Presented By:	Louise Flooren, Manager of Legislative & Support Services
Title:	Minutes of the July 11, 2023 Committee of the Whole Meeting

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

Minutes of the July 11, 2023 Committee of the Whole Meeting are attached.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

COMMUNICATION / PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Approved Council Meeting minutes are posted on the County website.

POLICY REFERENCES:

Author: T.Thompson **Reviewed by:** L.Flooren **CAO:** _____

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

That the minutes of the July 11, 2023 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adopted as presented.

Author: T.Thompson **Reviewed by:** L.Flooren **CAO:** _____

**MACKENZIE COUNTY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**

**Tuesday, July 11, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

**Fort Vermilion Council Chambers
Fort Vermilion, AB**

PRESENT: Walter Sarapuk Deputy Reeve
Jacquie Bateman Councillor
Peter F. Braun Councillor
Cameron Cardinal Councillor
Darrell Derksen Councillor
David Driedger Councillor (left the meeting at 12:55 p.m.)
Ernest Peters Councillor
Garrell Smith Councillor (arrived at 11:00 a.m.)
Lisa Wardley Councillor

REGRETS: Josh Knelsen Reeve

ADMINISTRATION: Byron Peters Interim Chief Administrative Officer/ Director
of Projects & Infrastructure
Don Roberts Director of Community Services
Jennifer Batt Director of Finance
Caitlin Smith Director of Planning & Agriculture
John Zacharias Director of Utilities
Andrew Banman Manager of Operations
Louise Flooren Manager of Legislative & Support Services/
Recording Secretary

ALSO PRESENT: Member of the Public
Cody Willoughby Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting for Mackenzie County held on July 11, 2023 in the Council Chambers at the Fort Vermilion County Office.

CALL TO ORDER: 1. a) Call to Order

Deputy Reeve Sarapuk called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

AGENDA: 2. a) Adoption of Agenda

MOTION COW 23-07-090 **MOVED** by Councillor Braun

That the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING: **3. a) Minutes of the June 27, 2023 Committee of the Whole Meeting**

MOTION COW 23-07-091 **MOVED** by Councillor Derksen

That the minutes of the June 27, 2023 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

BUSINESS: **5. a) Municipal Development Plan Revision**

Deputy Reeve Sarapuk recessed the meeting at 10:58 a.m., Councillor Smith joined the meeting at 11:00 a.m. and Deputy Reeve Sarapuk reconvened the meeting at 11:13 a.m.

DELEGATION: **4. a) Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) – Crime Statistics**

Deputy Reeve Sarapuk recessed the meeting at 12:21 p.m., Councillor Driedger left the meeting at 12:55 p.m. and Deputy Reeve Sarapuk reconvened the meeting at 1:07 p.m.

BUSINESS: **5. a) Municipal Development Plan Revision**

MOTION COW 23-07-092 **MOVED** by Councillor Cardinal

That the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council that administration advertise open houses for the Municipal Development Plan.

CARRIED

BUSINESS: **5. b) Cheque Registers – June 24 – July 7, 2023**

MOTION COW 23-07-093 **MOVED** by Councillor Peters

That the cheque registers and EFTs from June 24-July 7, 2023, be received for information.

CARRIED

BUSINESS: 5. c) **MasterCard Statements – May 2023**

MOTION COW 23-07-094 **MOVED** by Councillor Smith

That the MasterCard statements for May 2023 be received for information.

CARRIED

POLICY REVIEW: 6. a) **ADM053 Flags and Flag Protocol – Policy Amendment**

MOTION COW 23-07-095 **MOVED** by Councillor Braun

That a recommendation be made to Council that Policy ADM053 Flags and Flag Protocol be amended as presented.

CARRIED

POLICY REVIEW: 6. b) **ASB Policy 017 Rubber Mat Rental – Rescind**

MOTION COW 23-07-096 **MOVED** by Councillor Derksen

That a recommendation be made to County that Policy ASB 017 Rubber Mat Rental be rescinded.

CARRIED

POLICY REVIEW: 6. c) **Policy UT001 Utility Locates and Planning**

MOTION COW 23-07-097 **MOVED** by Councillor Braun

That a recommendation be made to Council that Policy UT001 Utility Locates and Planning be amended as presented.

CARRIED

CLOSED MEETING: 7. **Closed Meeting**

MOTION COW 23-07-098 **MOVED** by Councillor Peters

That Council move into a closed meeting at 2:30 p.m. to discuss the following:

7. a) Mackenzie Report – Newspaper Advertising and Readership Agreement (*FOIP Section 25*)

CARRIED

The following individual were present during the closed meeting discussion. (*MGA Section 602.08(1) (6)*)

- All Councillors Present
- Byron Peters, Interim Chief Administrative Officer/ Director of Projects & Infrastructure
- Don Roberts, Director of Community Services
- Jennifer Batt, Director of Finance
- Caitlin Smith, Director of Planning & Agriculture
- Andrew Banman, Manager of Operations
- Louise Flooren, Manager of Legislative & Support Services/ Recording Secretary

Administration left the meeting at 2:45 p.m.

MOTION COW 23-07-099 **MOVED** by Councillor Bateman

That Council move out of the closed meeting at 3:45 p.m.

CARRIED

CLOSED MEETING: 7. a) **Mackenzie Report – Newspaper Advertising and Readership Agreement**

MOTION COW 23-07-100 **MOVED** by Councillor Derksen

That the Mackenzie Report – Newspaper Advertising and Readership Agreement be received for information.

CARRIED

NEXT MEETING DATE: 8. a) **Meeting Dates**

Committee of the Whole Meeting
August 15, 2023
10:00 a.m.
Fort Vermilion Council Chambers

ADJOURNMENT: 9. a) Adjournment

MOTION COW 23-07-101 MOVED by Councillor Bateman

That the July 11, 2023 Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 3:46 p.m.

CARRIED

These minutes will be presented for approval on August 15, 2023.

Joshua Knelsen
Reeve

Byron Peters
Interim Chief Administrative Officer

UNAPPROVED



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Committee of the Whole
Meeting Date:	August 15, 2023
Presented By:	Byron Peters, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Title:	Municipal Census

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

A Municipal Census was completed in 2015, and again in 2018. Federal census' are completed every 5 years, the most recent being 2011, 2016 and 2021. The 2015 and 2018 Municipal census verified more residents in the County than the Federal census does, and also shows a faster growing population.

Mackenzie County population since 2006:

- **2021:** 12,804 (2021 Federal Census Data)
- **2018:** 12,512 ([2018 Municipal Census Data](#))
- **2016:** 11,171 ([2016 Federal Census Data](#))
- **2015:** 11,750 ([2015 Municipal Census Data](#))
- **2011:** 10,927 ([2011 Federal Census Data](#))
- **2010:** 10,323 ([2010 Unofficial Municipal Population Count](#))
- **2006:** 10,002 ([2006 Federal Census Data](#))

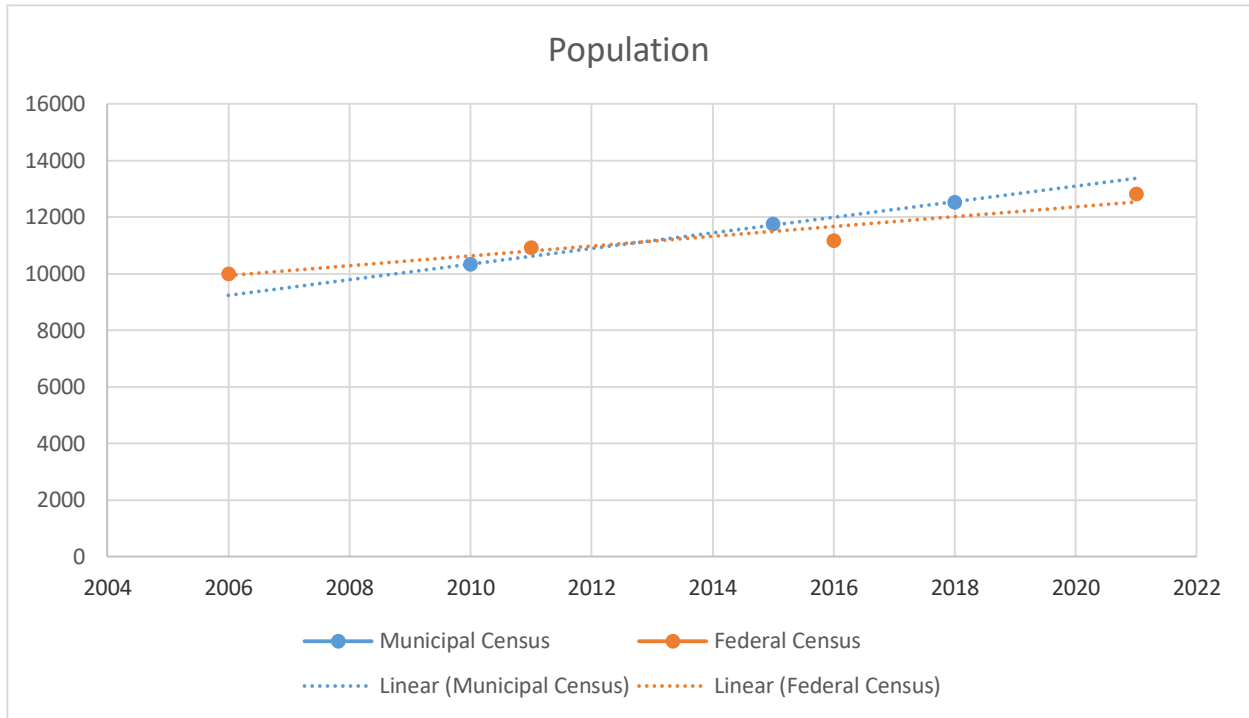
Alberta's Economic Dashboard indicates a 2022 population of 13,204

Alberta temporality removed the ability for municipalities to conduct their own census, however the province revised legislation and allows for it again, beginning in 2024. In the mean time the province created a statistics division, and administration believes that is where the info is derived from for the Economic Dashboard.

<https://regionaldashboard.alberta.ca/region/mackenzie-county/population/#/?from=2013&to=2022>

Utilizing the growth trends and the last municipal census data, administration estimates that the current population is 14,019.

Author: B Peters **Reviewed by:** _____ **CAO:** D. Derksen



OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

There are several reasons why current population information is important. Funding from other levels of government is partially dependent on population, so showing the increased population does increase municipal revenue. Current population information also allows for a better understanding of population movements within the County, and supports better decision making.

At this time administration believes that a housing needs assessment would provide greater value to the County. This would be utilized by the community when advocating for increased senior care in the region, and it is typically a requirement for any grant geared towards housing affordability and/or availability. As part of a housing needs assessment a component could include using local data to update population projections.

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Administration has not requested any quotes, but estimates that a municipal census would likely cost in the neighborhood of \$200,000 to complete.

A significant portion of the work would be contracted, but it also requires an employee working full time on the census for the duration of the project (several months), in addition to support from multiple County departments. It is a labour intensive process, and administration is not confident that the internal capacity is in place to support a municipal census.

Author: B Peters **Reviewed by:** _____ **CAO:** D. Derksen

COMMUNICATION / PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None at this time. Extensive communication if the project were to proceed.

POLICY REFERENCES:

N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

That the Municipal Census discussion be received for information.

Author: B Peters Reviewed by: _____ CAO: D. Derksen



ALBERTA
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary-Shaw

MINISTERIAL ORDER NO. MSD:001/23

I, Rebecca Schulz, Minister of Municipal Affairs, pursuant to Section 604 of the *Municipal Government Act*, make the Municipal Census Regulation as set out in the attached Appendix.

Dated at Edmonton, Alberta, this 28th day of March, 2023.

Rebecca Schulz
Minister of Municipal Affairs

FILED UNDER
THE REGULATIONS ACT

ALBERTA REGULATION 88/2023

ON APRIL 6 20 23

DEPUTY REGISTRAR OF REGULATIONS

APPENDIX
Municipal Government Act
MUNICIPAL CENSUS REGULATION

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Interpretation

1(1) In this Regulation,

- (a) “census day” means the date chosen by a municipal authority as the census date, occurring within a census period in which an enumeration is conducted, which can be a date prior to the start of enumeration;
- (b) “census period” means a 3-month consecutive period beginning on a date that is on or after March 1 and ending on a date that is on or before July 31 of the same year;
- (c) “municipal census” means a population count of the total number of individuals whose usual residence is in a municipal authority, conducted in accordance with this Regulation;
- (d) “shadow population” means the temporary residents of a municipal authority who are employed by an industrial or commercial establishment in the municipal authority and who have worked at least 120 hours for that employer in the 3-month period immediately preceding census day;
- (e) “temporary resident” means a person who resides in a municipal authority on census day but whose usual residence is located in another municipal authority or a place outside Alberta.

(2) For the purposes of this Regulation, the “usual residence” of a person is a location within a municipal authority with a residential street address or physical address that

- (a) is the main dwelling site of the person on census day, and
- (b) is the place where the person lives and sleeps and to which, when the person is absent from it, the person intends to return.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (2),

- (a) the “usual residence” of a person who has been in an institution, such as a correctional institution or hospital, for less than 6 months is deemed to be the place that was the person’s usual residence before the person entered the institution, and
- (b) a student who
 - (i) is in attendance at an educational institution within or outside Alberta,
 - (ii) is residing in a place temporarily for the purpose of attending an educational institution, and
 - (iii) has family members who are usually resident in Alberta and with whom the student usually resides when not in attendance at an educational institutionis deemed to reside with those family members.

Municipal Census Manual

2 The Minister, by order, shall issue a Municipal Census Manual and may amend the Manual from time to time.

Census rules

3(1) A municipal authority that wishes to conduct a municipal census must

- (a) notify the Minister’s department by February 28 of the year in which the census will be conducted that the municipal authority will be conducting a municipal census and whether the municipal authority will count the

- shadow population of the municipal authority when conducting the census,
- (b) choose a census period and census day before beginning enumeration,
 - (c) ensure that the person in charge of the census swears or affirms the oath prescribed in the Municipal Census Manual prior to the census being conducted,
 - (d) ensure that all census enumerators complete the statement of a census enumerator prescribed in the Municipal Census Manual prior to undertaking work on the census,
 - (e) conduct the census in accordance with this Regulation and the Municipal Census Manual, and
 - (f) submit the results of the census in the form prescribed by the Municipal Census Manual before September 1 of the year in which the census was conducted.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), if a municipal authority wants to conduct a census that is not in accordance with this Regulation and the Municipal Census Manual and have the results recognized by the Minister as the population of that municipal authority, the municipal authority must receive the Minister's approval prior to February 28 of the census year.

Shadow population

4(1) Subject to subsection (2), if the shadow population in a municipal authority is

- (a) greater than 1000 persons, or
- (b) less than 1000 persons but greater in number than 10% of the permanent population,

and the municipal authority has submitted its shadow population count to the Minister in the form prescribed by the Municipal Census Manual by no later than September 1 of the census year, a municipal authority may have the shadow population count included as part of the municipal authority's population total.

(2) The Minister shall determine whether the shadow population count in a municipal authority will be included as part of the municipal authority's population total.

(3) A shadow population count that is included in a municipal authority's population total shall be removed from the municipal authority's population total on the release of the next federal census for the municipal authority.

Review of census results

5 The Minister may direct a municipal authority to provide information regarding a municipal census to the Minister, in the form and manner determined by the Minister, for the purposes of reviewing a municipal census result.

Change in geographic area

6 If the geographic area of a municipal authority changes after June 30 in a year in which the municipal authority has conducted a municipal census, the Minister may require the municipal authority to update the results of the census and submit the updated results to the Minister in accordance with the directions of the Minister.

Use of census data

7 The Minister may use the results of a municipal census and shadow population count to determine the population of a municipal authority, as published by the Minister's department from time to time.

Expiry

8 For the purpose of ensuring that this Regulation is reviewed for ongoing relevancy and necessity, with the option that it may be repassed in its present or an amended form following a review, this Regulation expires on November 30, 2032.



Municipal Census Manual

Requirements and Guidelines for Conducting a Municipal Census

Alberta 

Alberta Municipal Affairs, Government of Alberta

December 2022

Municipal Census Manual: Requirements and Guidelines for Conducting a Municipal Census

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Special thanks to Statistics Canada for contributing their expertise and training material in the production of this manual.

This publication is issued under the Open Government Licence – Alberta <http://open.alberta.ca/licence>).

Questions concerning this Municipal Census Manual, or further information on census methodologies, terms, and techniques for conducting a census in Alberta are welcome and can be directed to:

Alberta Municipal Affairs
Municipal Policy and Engagement Branch
17th floor, Commerce Place
10155-102 Street
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4L4

Telephone: 780-427-2225
To be connected toll-free in Alberta, first dial 310-0000.

This publication is available online at <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/municipal-census-manual>

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Introduction

The Municipal Census Manual provides a step-by-step guide for conducting a census at the municipal level. It assists census coordinators and enumerators in complying with the Municipal Census Regulation, and all other procedures and policies related to the census.

The manual contains a list of mandatory requirements for conducting a census, as well as a number of guidelines and recommendations.

The first sections of the manual describe the authority for conducting a municipal census, the role of the municipal council, and how to apply the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act* to a municipal census.

The subsequent sections describe the role of the census coordinator and the census enumerator. The coordinator role focuses on preparing the census, choosing a methodology, supervising the census, and reporting on the results. The enumerator role section contains a list of potential enumerator materials, the methods for covering urban and rural enumeration areas (EAs), interviewing procedures, filling out the census forms, and preparing various types of census profiles.

The section, “Designing a Questionnaire,” provides a set of additional census questions that municipalities may choose to use in their census. The additional questions are based on the 2021 federal census.

The appendices contain various sample census materials, such as a letter of introduction, a standard census form, call-back materials, response category cards, and other materials related to the census. These are samples only; municipalities are free to develop their own census tools.

The methodologies, terms, and techniques for census-taking described in this manual are accepted by Alberta Municipal Affairs for determining the population of municipalities as described in the Municipal Census Regulation.

The statistical concepts and principles reflected in this manual are based on those recognized by Statistics Canada and other statistical agencies.

Important Terms for a Municipal Census

This section contains key terms and definitions for those that are conducting a municipal census in Alberta. These terms will be referenced throughout the document.

Census Day

A census is a snapshot of a community's population at one point in time. A specific Census Day must be chosen within the timeframe stated in the Municipal Census Regulation. The Census Day is either the first day of enumeration, or a date prior to the start of the enumeration period.

Collective Dwelling

A collective dwelling is a dwelling identified as being of a communal, institutional or commercial nature. It must provide care or services or have certain common facilities, such as a kitchen or bathroom, which are shared by the occupants. Examples include lodging or rooming houses, hotels, motels, tourist establishments, continuing care facilities, residences for senior citizens, hospitals, staff residences, military bases, work camps, correctional facilities, and group homes.

Enumeration

Enumerating an individual means obtaining their responses to questions in the census questionnaire. If a person is eligible to be enumerated, they should be enumerated at their main or usual residence, with the exception of the Shadow Population, as this population is enumerated at their temporary residence.

Enumeration Area

An EA is the geographic area canvassed by one or more census representatives. An EA is composed of one or more adjacent blocks. EAs are used for census data collection.

Enumeration Period

An enumeration period is a three month time period between March 1 and July 31 of the same year, where Alberta municipalities must choose to conduct a municipal census.

Gender

Gender refers to an individual's personal and social identity as a man, woman, or non-binary person (a person who is not exclusively a man or a woman).

Gender includes the following concepts:

- gender identity, which refers to the gender that a person feels internally and individually;
- gender expression, which refers to the way a person presents their gender, regardless of their gender identity, through body language, aesthetic choices or accessories (e.g., clothes, hairstyle and makeup), which may have traditionally been associated with a specific gender.

A person's gender may differ from their sex at birth, and from what is indicated on their current identification or legal documents such as their birth certificate, passport, or driver's licence. A person's gender may change over time.

Some people may not identify with a specific gender.

Household

Household refers to a person or group of persons who occupy the same dwelling and do not have a usual place of residence elsewhere in Canada or abroad. The dwelling may be either a collective dwelling or a private dwelling. The household may consist of a family group such as a census family, of two or more families sharing a dwelling, of a group of unrelated persons or of a person living alone. Household members who are temporarily absent on Census Day are considered part of their usual household.

Neighbour

A person living near or next door to the individual(s) being enumerated. The neighbour should be able to see the person's or persons' home within his private dwelling.

Non-Contacted Dwelling

A non-contacted dwelling is a dwelling where a census worker has not been able to make contact with a member of the household and the enumerator believes the dwelling was occupied by its usual residents on Census Day. Reasons why contact was not made include "not at home," "incapacity," and "refusal to come to the door" on an enumerator visit to the dwelling. This count does not include refusals where contact was made with a respondent of a household.

The number of non-contacted dwellings is used in the field report of the Municipal Census Form contained in [Appendix F](#).

Private Dwelling

A private dwelling means a separate set of living quarters designed for or converted for human habitation in which a person or group of persons could reside and that:

- has a source of heat or power; and
- is in an enclosed space that provides shelter from the elements, as evidenced by complete and enclosed walls and a roof, and by doors and windows that provide protection from wind, rain, and snow.

A private dwelling has a private entrance, either from outside or inside a common hall, lobby, vestibule, or stairway inside the building. The entrance to the private dwelling must be one that can be used without passing the dwelling of someone else.

The total number of private dwellings is the dwelling count that is to be used in the field report of the Municipal Census Form contained in [Appendix F](#). This includes occupied and unoccupied vacant dwelling units.

An occupied private dwelling is a private dwelling which is:

- occupied by one or more usual, temporary or foreign residents on Census Day, or
- the main residence of usual residents who are temporarily away on Census Day (such as on vacation).

An unoccupied private dwelling is a private dwelling:

- in which no usual, temporary or foreign residents resides on Census Day, and
- is not the main residence of anyone temporarily away on Census Day.

Example of unoccupied dwellings include:

- newly constructed homes in which no one has moved in as of Census Day; or
- homes where owners move out and no one moved in before Census Day.

A cancelled listing is one where the address does not exist or the dwelling:

- no longer exists as of Census Day (for example, was demolished);
- is unoccupied AND has no source of heat/power or provides no shelter;
- is no longer a residence (for example, was converted into a business); and
- is now a collective dwelling (rather than a private one).

Quality Assurance Checks

Quality assurance checks are random calls made by the municipality to verify that the dwellings have been visited by the enumerator and provide a check on the usual resident count question as well as the status of dwellings.

Refusal

Participation in a municipal census is not mandatory for residents. A refusal is when a household declines to participate in the municipal census. If a member of the household responds to the census question on the number of usual residents living in the household, and not to other questions in the census, the household is not classified as a “refusal”.

The number of refusals is used in the field report of the Municipal Census Form contained in [Appendix E](#).

Shadow Population

Shadow Population means the temporary residents of a municipal authority who are employed by an industrial or commercial establishment in the municipal authority and who have worked at least 120 hours for that employer in the three month period immediately preceding Census Day. These persons must reside temporarily in the municipality, but do not consider it to be their usual residence. Post-secondary students are not considered part of the shadow population.

Temporary Resident

A person who spends the night on Census Day in that dwelling which is not their main residence, and who has a main residence elsewhere in Canada. The count of temporary residents does not include the shadow population.

Usual or Main Residence

In general, this is the dwelling where a person lives and sleeps most of the time, that is, where they spend the majority of the year – a place one would call home.

If a person has several residences, the main or usual residence is the place where they spend most of the year, except for special circumstances.

Children in joint custody should be included in the home of the parent where they live most of the time. Children with 50 per cent custody in two homes should be enumerated where they spend the night on Census Day.

If a person does not have a usual residence on Census Day, the dwelling where they spend the night on Census Day is their usual residence.

Husbands, wives, or common-law partners who do not live with their families while working, but return to their families periodically (for example on weekends), should consider the residence that they share with their spouse or partner as their usual residence, even if they spend most of the year elsewhere.

Children who do not live with their parents while attending school or working at a summer job, but return to live with their parents during the year, should consider the residence they share with their parents as their main residence, even if they spent most of the year elsewhere.

Usual Residents

Any person in the target population and whose dwelling is their usual residence, as defined above. Please refer to [Table 1](#) for further details on how to enumerate usual residents.

Role of Municipal Council

The role of the municipal council is to decide whether to undertake a municipal census. This section provides some points to consider while making the decision.

Why Undertake a Census?

There are many potential benefits of conducting a municipal census in addition to the national census conducted every five years. With frequent and accurate population counts, municipalities may be better able to plan community services.

Municipalities experiencing high population growth may qualify for additional funding through provincial grants based on population counts. Municipalities may find a new census is warranted if they believe the population has changed significantly since the last federal census.

Using the same methods and asking consistent questions over several years will improve the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the census. This will also allow the municipality to compare population counts and any other information collected over time.

Other Considerations

Municipalities may wish to consider:

- whether the benefits of obtaining updated information and/or qualifying for provincial grants outweighs the costs of hiring and training enumerators, and conducting a municipal census;
- the current applicability of the last federal census and the amount of time that has elapsed since the last census;
- the opportunity to gather additional information, including dwelling lists, updated maps, and population demographics (age, sex, gender, etc.); and
- whether the municipality will include the shadow population in their census.

Métis Settlements

There are eight Métis Settlements in Alberta. Under the *Métis Settlements Act*, the Métis Settlements General Council has the authority to conduct a census within Settlement boundaries.

Métis Settlements do not fall within the definition of a municipal authority according to the *Municipal Government Act*, and they reserve the right to conduct their own census. Métis Settlements conduct their census in accordance with Section 85 of the *Métis Settlements Act*, which allows for the inclusion of Settlement members on leave of absence. However, if a Métis Settlement wishes to have a Settlement count included in the Municipal Affairs Population List, the population count must be undertaken according to the Municipal Census Regulation. The usual resident count submitted to Municipal Affairs from Métis Settlements would need to follow the definition for usual residency (see page 12).

The ministry has included members on leave of absence with the population counts, provided they were on a leave of absence approved by the settlement council for no more than five years before the census, and that the member has executed a written intent to return to the settlement. These conditions will allow members who are away for school and/or internship opportunities to be considered usual residents of the Settlement.

Métis Settlements must complete the Métis Settlement Members on Leave Verification Form, as per the attached form in [Appendix F](#). The form must be properly signed and sworn before a Commissioner of Oaths.

Duty to Submit Results

Completed forms must be submitted to Municipal Affairs by September 1 of the census year in which the census took place. Métis Settlements can submit by:

Scan and Email: ma.updates@gov.ab.ca

Mail: Alberta Municipal Affairs
17th floor, Commerce Place
10155 - 102 Street
Edmonton, AB T6J 2N7

All population reports and forms are reviewed by department staff. Métis Settlements may be contacted if there are any discrepancies or if forms are not properly completed. If the results are accepted by the Minister of Municipal Affairs, they are included in the annual Municipal Affairs Population List.

Applying the *FOIP Act* to a Municipal Census

A municipality is a local government body as defined in Section 1(i) of *the FOIP Act*. As a public body subject to the *FOIP Act*, municipalities must collect, use, disclose, protect, retain, and dispose of personal information, including census information, in accordance with the Act.

Section 57 of the *Municipal Government Act* authorizes municipalities to conduct a census. Section 33(c) of the *FOIP Act* authorizes a public body to collect personal information for the purposes of a census. This section authorizes public bodies to collect personal information that relates directly to, and is necessary for, an operating program or activity of the public body. Municipalities should first determine the types of personal information they need for future planning purposes or for operating programs or services, and then collect the information necessary. For example, if a municipality is only interested in a population count, it would not need to collect employment or educational information about its residents. However, if the municipality is determining whether a recreation facility needs to be built, or the future transportation needs of its population, the municipality may also want to collect additional information such as age, family structure, or location of employment.

The *FOIP Act* indicates that municipalities should:

- collect only the personal information they need to operate an authorized program or activity of the public body;
- use and disclose information only for those purposes for which it was collected; and
- safeguard the information they collect and retain.

Enumerators should address their FOIP questions to the census coordinator. Census coordinators requiring FOIP information should contact their municipal FOIP office.

Additional FOIP information can be found in [Appendix G](#).

For further information, go to the Government of Alberta website at <http://www.alberta.ca/FOIP/>

Mandatory Requirements and Optional Guidelines

This manual contains both mandatory requirements and recommended guidelines for conducting a municipal census.

Mandatory Requirements

The Municipal Census Regulation and Municipal Census Manual sets out the following mandatory requirements:

- The census must be conducted in a three consecutive month period between March 1 and July 31 of the same year and must reference a Census Day.
- Municipal Affairs will not recognize any municipal census undertaken in a federal census year.
- The municipality must notify the Minister's department by February 28 of the census year that the municipal authority will be conducting a municipal census, and whether the municipality will include a shadow population count.
- Before performing their duties, the census coordinator must take and subscribe to an [Oath](#); the enumerators must subscribe to a [Statement](#) (Appendix A). The Oaths and Statements are valid for the person's lifetime.
- The census must count the total number of usual residents in the municipality.
- A shadow population count must meet the requirements set out in the Municipal Census Regulation and Municipal Census Manual.
- The census must use one of the prescribed census-taking methodologies in this manual (online census, telephone interviews, mail-out surveys, enumerator interviews at the door, or "hybrid").
- The census must undertake [quality assurance activities](#).
- The census results must be reported to Municipal Affairs, including an affidavit and field report by September 1 of the census year.
- The census must comply with the *FOIP Act*.
- The municipality will be expected to respond to and submit any information, reports, or explanations to Municipal Affairs with regards to the municipal census.

Guidelines Only

To assist municipalities, the manual also contains some guidelines that can be used in conducting a municipal census. Municipalities are free to:

- ask additional census questions aside from the mandatory count of usual residents, in compliance with the *FOIP Act*;
- design their own census materials (maps, Notice of Visit cards, enumerator photo identification, census forms, websites, and other supporting materials and tools);
- report the results of the census to the public; and
- have the coordinator manage the census as they see fit (delegating responsibilities as necessary, supervising enumerators, etc.), provided they comply with the mandatory requirements.

Conducting a Municipal Census

Understanding Enumerating

Enumerating an individual means obtaining their responses to questions on the census. Usual residents should be enumerated at their main or usual residence. For example, a family who stayed at their cottage during an enumerator visit, but has their main residence elsewhere, should be enumerated at their main or usual residence.

A municipal census includes all usual residents of a municipality. The following table highlights who is eligible for enumeration.

TABLE 1: WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR ENUMERATION

Enumerate	Do Not Enumerate
Canadian citizens (by birth or naturalization).	Babies born on or after Census Day.
Landed immigrants (persons who have been granted the right to live in Canada permanently by Canadian immigration authorities).	Persons who died before Census Day.
Persons from another country with a work or study permit and family members living here with them.	Resident of another country, province, or municipality (for example on vacation or on a business trip).
Persons in Canada who claim refugee status and family members living here with them.	Government representatives of another country who are assigned to an embassy, a consulate, a high commission, or any other diplomatic or military mission, and family members living here with them (unless family member(s) are considered usual resident(s)).
All above persons, even if they are temporarily outside Canada on Census Day.	Members of the armed forces of another country who are stationed in Canada, and family members living here with them (unless family members are usual resident(s)).
Babies born before Census Day.	
Persons who died on or after Census Day.	
All persons whose main residence is at this address, even if they are temporarily away on Census Day.	

Statistics Canada (2021). Enumerator Non-Response Follow-up Training Workbook Form 55G-ENG, p. 14

Just because a person is eligible for enumeration does not mean they should be enumerated at the address. Table 2 serves as a guide to determine where to enumerate those who are eligible.

TABLE 2: WHERE SHOULD INDIVIDUALS BE ENUMERATED

If the person...	Enumerate them:	
Has one residence	<p>At their usual residence, even if they are temporarily absent. This is their main residence.</p> <p>Be sure to enumerate all persons who live at this address, including roommates, lodgers, employees, persons who moved in before Census Day, etc.</p>	
Has more than one residence	<p>At the residence where the person spends most of their time; for persons who spend equal time at each residence, or if unsure which to choose, include them at the address where they spent the night on Census Day. If the residence where they should be enumerated is not in the municipality, these persons should not be enumerated.</p> <p>Example: Children in joint custody or persons staying at a cottage or secondary home, etc.</p>	
	If the person is...	Then enumerate them:
	<p>A student who lives elsewhere during the school year or for their summer job but returns to live with their parents during the year.</p> <p>Example: on weekends, semester breaks after completing their studies.</p>	<p>At the residence of their parents' even if the student spends most of the year elsewhere.</p>
	<p>A spouse who is temporarily absent because of their work or studies but periodically returns to their family's residence.</p> <p>Example: on weekends or days off from work, etc.</p>	<p>At their family's residence even if the spouse spends most of the year elsewhere.</p>
Has no main residence	<p>At the residence where they stayed the night on Census Day</p> <p>Example: in transition between two residences, no fixed address, etc.</p>	
Is in an institution	If the person...	Then enumerate them:
	Was admitted less than six months before Census Day.	At their main residence.
	Was admitted for six months or more before Census Day.	At the institution.
	Was admitted on any date and has no other place of residence.	At the institution.

Statistics Canada (2021). Enumerator Non-Response Follow-up Training Workbook Form 55G-ENG, p. 15

Census Methodology

Municipalities have some flexibility in how they choose to conduct a census. Following is a brief summary of each census method approved for use by Municipal Affairs:

Online Census

- Completing the census questionnaire online is an easy, secure, and convenient option that could be used anywhere, at any time. A secure login process and strong encryption are needed to ensure confidentiality and security of census information collected.
- Consider sending out an introduction letter before sending the questionnaire to announce the upcoming census and its importance. Multiple contacts are likely to improve the response rate.
- Set a completion date so the questionnaires can be returned in a timely fashion.
- With this method, a Secure Access Code (SAC) for the census is mailed or delivered to all dwellings, along with a link to the census website. A telephone number can also be included to allow the respondent to request a paper questionnaire if they prefer.
- The respondents visit the website, which allows them to complete the census form online. The responses are automatically entered into the census central database. This means that the online questionnaire does not require an in-person interview.
- Online questionnaires have better response rates for individual questions and higher data quality. In the design of the questionnaire, respondents can be prompted when invalid data are entered or if data are missing. The online forms can also provide helpful information for respondents who wanted additional information on a census question.
- Enumerators are still needed to complete in-person interviews with individuals and/or telephone interviews from households who do not complete the census online. In a hybrid model, respondents can also request a paper questionnaire.

Telephone Interviews

- Residents can be given the option to call a Census Help Line to complete their questionnaire over the telephone.
- Municipalities can also choose to call dwellings to complete a telephone interview if they have phone numbers.

Mail-out Paper Census Forms

- A municipality may choose to send out paper questionnaires. These questionnaires, along with instructions, can be sent out through Canada Post or be delivered door to door by enumerators.
- A mail out questionnaire should have clear instructions and be easy to follow. It should be concise and ask only pertinent questions.
- Develop a mailing list for all residential properties. This requires municipalities to be able to link a mailing address for each residential street address. Municipalities can mail-out the questionnaire package or have enumerators deliver the survey to the street address.
- A municipality may choose to send an introduction letter before sending the questionnaire to announce the upcoming census and its importance. Multiple contacts are likely to improve the response rate.
- Set a completion date so the questionnaires can be returned in a timely fashion and can be included in your database.
- Consider including a Business Reply Envelope with the survey. People are more likely to mail back their questionnaire if they do not have to pay postage.

- Consider sending out a follow-up letter or postcard with another questionnaire to remind respondents to complete the census.

Interviews at the Door

- Enumerators conduct the interview in person and record the responses on paper forms using a pen or pencil, or on an electronic device such as an iPad or tablet.

Hybrid

- When conducting a census, municipalities are free to choose any of these census enumeration methods, or some combination of the four (a “hybrid” system). This manual includes instructions for approved census-taking methods.
- Generally, online or self-response using a paper questionnaire are unlikely to provide an adequate response rate and would need to be supplemented with follow-up interviews.
- Statistics Canada used a hybrid model for the federal census. On May 3, 2021, all private dwellings in the mail-out areas (approximately 90 per cent of private dwellings in Canada) received by mail a bilingual invitation letter to complete the questionnaire online. This letter contained a SAC, the web address of the 2021 Census website, and a telephone number to allow the respondent to request a paper questionnaire if they preferred.

Census Coordinator General Responsibilities

Once a municipality decides to conduct a census, the first step is to hire or assign a census coordinator to oversee and organize all aspects of the census. The duties of a census coordinator differ by municipality. Some roles discussed in the following pages may pertain to your particular situation, while others may be the duty of administrative staff, enumerators, or others. Duties may also vary depending on the type of census conducted (paper-based, online, telephone, or hybrid).

Oath of Census Coordinator

As a coordinator, you are required to take an Oath ([Appendix A](#)). This Oath says that you will act diligently, faithfully and to the best of your ability, ensure that personal information is not disclosed without authority, and you will undertake the census according to this Municipal Census Manual. The Oath made by the Census Coordinator is valid for the lifetime of the person making the oath.

Census Coordinator Responsibilities

A coordinator is responsible for the successful completion of the census. Depending on the size of the municipality, the coordinator may be an enumerator, or may have several enumerators working for them to support the census.

The coordinator's responsibilities could include:

- informing residents about the census;
- preparing the census (creating maps and a tracking system to monitor coverage);
- hiring and training enumerators;
- supervising the enumerators;
- managing the census;
- ensuring data security measures are in place;
- undertaking quality assurance activities;
- collecting and analyzing census data;
- reporting census results to Municipal Affairs by September 1 of the census year.

Informing Residents about the Census

Participation is key to a successful census. Since a municipal census in Alberta is not mandatory for residents, it is essential to increase participation through public awareness. Inform residents of the following:

- Why a census is taking place, and the benefits of census data to the municipality and its residents.
- How to complete the census online, by phone, or by mail.
- Dates an enumerator will visit residences if census information is not submitted.

This can be done using media, such as television and radio announcements, newspaper ads and articles, mail-outs, posters on community billboards/bulletin boards, and web-based or social media, such as online newspapers, Twitter, or Facebook.

Providing information on the municipal census to residents includes them in the process and also informs them why their participation is valued.

Preparation

Before a census can begin, the coordinator may arrange an initial mail-out or delivery to all households. For an online census, each letter or notification must contain a link to the census website and a SAC that the respondent will use to gain access to the online form.

The SAC performs the following functions:

- provides a secure way for each household to access the form; and
- ensures that census information can only be entered once for each dwelling.

The letters or notifications delivered to the respondents should contain specific instructions for completing the census. For an online census, there should be clear instructions on how to access the website and enter the SAC. For those who cannot, or would prefer not to, enter the information online, the letter should contain a phone number to contact. It should also include a statement saying that an enumerator will come to complete the form in-person if the dwelling does not complete the census form online by a given date.

Planning for Efficient Enumeration

Using lessons learned from previous censuses can help avoid potential pitfalls in future censuses and improve efficiency of the enumeration process. Following are some tips on carrying forward these lessons:

- Prepare a letter of introduction for all enumerators to carry. This letter identifies the enumerator as an official census taker and assures the confidentiality of all information collected. Enumerators can show the letter to respondents to legitimize the census and improve response rates. A sample is included in [Appendix B](#).
- Compile a list of enumerators and their EAs so this can be carried over into the next census. Efficiency may be improved by assigning an enumerator to the same area they previously covered. These enumerators will have knowledge of the area and may have a greater rapport with residents.
- Compile a list of issues or challenges that occurred and record actions taken in response. This could help avoid the same problem(s) in a future census.
- Estimate the time required to complete each EA, including travel distance within the area and the number of visits in the area during the previous censuses. If you do not have data on field visits, check the previous census data for the number of neighbour responses per EA, if available.

Census Materials

Municipalities use a variety of census materials to conduct a census. Examples include enumeration maps (these require regular updating), Notice of Visit cards, census forms, identification badges, letters of introduction, and others. In some cases, census coordinators may be able to use materials from a previous census. Otherwise, coordinators may be responsible for developing or updating census materials for the enumerators.

If using wireless devices such as an iPad or tablet:

- include how to use the wireless device as part of your enumerator training;
- inform enumerators that the device should be fully charged each day;
- provide enumerators with external charging devices while in the field; and
- provide them with paper forms, in the event of a wireless device failure or a gap in wireless service.

Enumeration Areas

As a starting base, municipalities can use their property tax information to gather a list of all residential properties within the municipality. Some municipalities may have an address registry from their previous census which may contain suites within dwellings that are not included in the property tax information.

Before enumerators are hired, the municipality needs to be divided into EAs to determine how many enumerators are needed for the census. EAs are small areas within the municipality that are established to collect and analyze information for various planning applications.

The number of dwellings an enumerator can visit in a single day will largely depend on the population density of the municipality, the estimated number of interviews to be made, the timing of the visit (daytime, evening, weekend), and the length of the census questionnaire. For example, an enumerator assigned to densely populated apartment blocks will likely visit significantly more households per day than an enumerator assigned to a sparsely populated rural area. However, populated apartment blocks may contain dwellings that will require more call-backs.

Enumeration maps can be made using a variety of maps. Some examples include county maps for rural municipalities, and ward maps for urban areas. Another option is to obtain the EA maps used for the most recent federal census from Statistics Canada.

Security of Staff, Offices, and Census Documents

The health and safety of employees come first, both in the field and in the office. Ensure that all census workers have read and discussed health and safety best practices.

Security of office space and census documents is critical to the integrity of and success of the census. The following is a list of guidelines that can be used by your municipality as part of enumerator training.

Do:

- Wear your identification card whenever you are performing census duties.
- Keep pre-printed, blank, and completed questionnaires separated.
- Lock questionnaires or other census material in your car trunk, or if this is not possible, out of view, while conducting delivery or field visits on any enumeration work.
- Store questionnaires and/or wireless devices in a secure place at home or in an office, preferably under lock and key.
- Report any suspected or actual security violations to your supervisor.
- Use a private room whenever you are performing census work.
- Report the loss or theft of any census documents to your supervisor immediately.

Do not:

- Share information about respondents with anyone other than census employees who need to know the information and are sworn to confidentiality.
- Discuss information about an individual unless you are speaking directly to that person.
- Leave census documents in your car overnight.
- Allow anyone, including members of your family, to access questionnaires or other census materials.
- Discuss confidential matters in public places.

Ensure that enumerators are aware that any breach or violation of security must be reported immediately to a supervisor. It is critical that action be taken as soon as possible to protect the information.

Health and Safety Issues

As census coordinator, you have a responsibility to ensure your own health and safety, and also to ensure your enumerators take all reasonable precautions to protect their health and safety. You are to help your census workers understand they are all responsible and accountable for health and safety in the workplace.

When an enumerator suffers an accident, illness or other type of health and safety incident during their duties, you must address health and safety issues in a knowledgeable and informed manner, by closely following the incident reporting procedures set out by your municipality.

Hiring and Training Enumerators

Often, census coordinators are involved in the hiring and training of enumerators for their municipality.

When the required number of enumerators is known, job postings can be placed in newspapers, job search websites, municipal letter inserts (e.g., utility bills), and/or social media websites. Recruitment could also target educational institutions with students who may be looking for a part-time or short-term job.

Qualities to look for in potential enumerators include professionalism, accuracy, attentiveness, and a friendly demeanor. Enumerators must be able to walk long distances, work for many hours at a time, and manage adverse weather conditions.

Enumerators will become liaisons between the municipality and residents, and they are key in the success of any census.

After the enumerators have been hired, the census coordinator must train them to carry out the municipal census. For the coordinator, this involves careful study of the Municipal Census Manual, and familiarity with the Municipal Census Regulation and the sections of the *FOIP Act* that apply to the census. A thorough knowledge of the residency definitions and a plan of how the census will be organized and undertaken are important.

Enumerators must understand the rationale for each question in the census, what the results will be used for (i.e., future programs, infrastructure), and how to handle personal information. Enumerators must be trained on how to answer questions from residents and how to direct queries to the census coordinator, if necessary.

The training session generally takes two to four hours and the enumerators are often paid to attend. In addition to a verbal training session, the enumerators should be given copies of the Municipal Census Manual for review prior to, and use during enumeration. The coordinator should be prepared to answer questions regarding the manner of enumerating and the challenges involved.

After training, it is useful to have the enumerators practice the actual process.

Supervising Enumerators

During the enumeration period, the coordinator needs to manage the enumerators and the census. Coordinators may take on various supervisory roles. For example, they may handle questions from enumerators, or questions from residents through the enumerators. They may also be responsible for ensuring that interviews are conducted properly so census forms are filled out correctly.

One approach is to check the first five to 10 census forms from each enumerator. In larger municipalities with more enumerators, the coordinator may not have the time to check this many forms and may need to hire additional staff to assist with quality control.

Direct observation of enumerators should be considered at the beginning to eliminate problems at the start.

Questions and comments can be addressed early in the enumeration process. However, quality control processes should continue over the entire collection period on a random basis since enumerators may develop interviewing short cuts over time.

Preparation is key to a successful municipal census.

Managing the Census

Census coordinators are responsible for managing the enumeration process. Coordinators may also be responsible for monitoring and tracking the enumerators' progress to ensure data are collected accurately and efficiently.

The following sections contain information on how to manage this enumeration process.

Overseeing and Tracking the Enumeration Process

- Create a system to track enumeration progress. This could include a master list recording all the pre-numbered census forms returned to the census office. Another possibility is creating a municipal map showing all properties, which can be marked off once forms for those properties are returned. For larger municipalities, it may be necessary to create one map per ward or region within the municipality. This will provide a picture of progress, speed of coverage, and response rates. Since these maps may be outdated, there must be a system in place allowing enumerators to add any new dwellings they discover to the map(s).
- If a paper-based census is conducted, create a “desk-checking” system where all completed census forms are examined when enumerators return them to the census office. Check that all information is present. Depending on the scope of the census (number of dwellings), the coordinator may be able to do this daily. The coordinator should “spot check” forms by reviewing a small randomly selected sample of forms daily to catch missing information or obvious errors.
- Track enumerators' errors on an ongoing basis. This enables the coordinator to monitor enumerator error rates and, if necessary, arrange for timely retraining or replacement of enumerators.
- Track respondent refusals per enumerator on an ongoing basis. Refusals will occur because the municipal census is voluntary; however, a high number of refusals may indicate specific enumerators need assistance, retraining, or replacement.
- Monitor non-contacted dwellings as well as unoccupied dwellings to ensure an adequate population count.
- Track and make note of the issues encountered in each EA, so issues can be addressed proactively for the next census. Some areas may show higher than average non-response rates due to type of household (e.g., high number of younger single residents who are hard to catch at home, people who may have language difficulties, or people who are wary of “official” inquiries).
- Take steps to ensure enumerators do not visit a residence that already completed the census. Coordinators should regularly check for completed interviews (telephone, online or mailed census forms) and update records so enumerators are aware of residences (per EA) that no longer require an interview. This requires regular communication between enumerators and the coordinator (or other staff, as appropriate). Larger municipalities may require a database of residences that have completed the online census, which enumerators would need to check periodically.
- Consider including a “translation book” with the questionnaire translated into a number of languages, if appropriate for your municipality. This will support inclusion and assist in dealing with language barriers.

Tracking Dwelling Occupancy

While the census is being conducted, census coordinators must verify that every dwelling has been contacted, and re-contacted as needed to secure a completed census questionnaire. The occupancy status (occupied, not occupied, cancelled) on Census Day should be noted for each address.

The Dwelling Occupancy Verification is conducted in order to identify as many unoccupied dwellings close to the chosen Census Day. This will reduce the workload for enumerators and improve data quality. By identifying unoccupied dwellings early, these dwellings can be removed from the enumerator list of dwellings to contact so that they will be able to focus on occupied dwellings only.

The Dwelling Occupancy Verification is completed by field staff. The following are the types of areas/dwelling structures that have been identified by Statistics Canada to have high rates of unoccupied dwellings are:

- student housing areas;
- low rental housing units;
- co-op housing units;
- Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation develop projects;
- mini home and trailer parks; and
- new construction areas.

To ensure a more efficient enumeration, census coordinators may wish to conduct apartment occupancy verification to verify the occupancy status of all units in an apartment building through one management contact. The information can be collected through a telephone interview with the contact person. This contact person could be the owner of the building, or the superintendent or the building manager. This will likely reduce the workload of enumerators as they will be visiting occupied dwellings only.

To capture this information and remain consistent with Statistics Canada, each census questionnaire will require two additional data fields. The type of private dwelling and its occupancy status. Statistics Canada primarily uses three codes for occupancy status - “occupied”, “unoccupied” and “cancelled”.

An occupied private dwelling is a private dwelling that is occupied by one or more usual, temporary or foreign residents on Census Day, or the main residence of usual, temporary or foreign resident who are temporarily away (vacation) on Census Day.




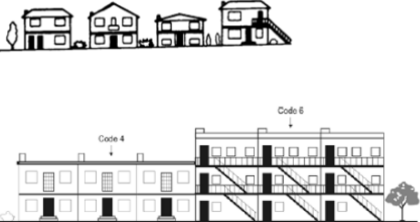

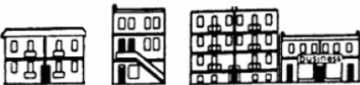
An unoccupied private dwelling is a private dwelling in which no usual, temporary, or foreign residents resides on Census Day, and is NOT the main residence of anyone temporarily away (vacation) on Census Day. Examples include newly constructed homes where no one moves in, or apartments that are vacant on Census Day.




A cancelled listing means that the dwelling does not meet the definition of private dwelling on Census Day and has no occupants. This includes demolished properties, incomplete homes which have no power or heat with no one living in them, as well as properties that may have been converted to businesses or collective dwellings.

Types of Private Dwellings

The type of dwelling is directly related to the average size of the household. A picture representation of the structural type of dwelling, and its definition should be used by the census coordinator and enumerators. This ensures consistency in the classification process across all Alberta municipalities.

TABLE 3: PRIVATE DWELLING TYPES AND DEFINITIONS

Dwelling Type	Description
<p>Single-Detached House (Code 1)</p> 	<p>This dwelling is not attached to any other dwelling or structure (except a garage or shed). A single detached house has open spaces on all sides, and no dwelling either above or below it.</p> <p>A mobile home fixed permanently to a foundation should be coded as a single-detached house. (Code 8.)</p>
<p>Semi-Detached House (Code 2)</p> 	<p>One of two dwellings attached side by side (or back to back) to each other, but not to any other dwelling or structure (except its own garage or shed). A semi-detached dwelling has no dwellings either above or below it, and the two units together has open spaces on all sides.</p>
<p>Row House (Code 3)</p> 	<p>One of three or more dwellings joined side by side (or occasionally side to back), such as a town house or garden home, but not having any other dwellings either above or below.</p> <p>If row houses are attached to high-rise buildings, assign code 3 to each townhouse.</p>
<p>Apartment or flat in a duplex (Code 4)</p> 	<p>One of two dwellings located one above the other. If duplexes are attached to triplexes or other duplexes or to other non-residential structure (e.g. a store), assign code 4 to each apartment or flat in the duplexes.</p>
<p>Apartment in a building that has five or more storeys (Code 5)</p> 	<p>A dwelling unit in a high-rise apartment building which has five or more storeys.</p> <p>Also included are apartments in a building that has five or more storeys where the first floor and/or second floor are commercial establishments.</p>
<p>Apartment in a building that has fewer than five storeys (Code 6)</p> 	<p>A dwelling unit attached to other dwelling units, commercial units, or other non-residential space in a building that has fewer than five storeys.</p>

Dwelling Type	Description
<p>Other single-attached house (Code 7)</p> 	<p>A single dwelling that is attached to another building and that does not fall into any of the other categories, such as a single dwelling attached to a non-residential structure (e.g., store or church) or occasionally to another residential structure (e.g., apartment building).</p>
<p>Mobile homes (Code 8)</p> 	<p>A single dwelling designed and constructed to be transported on its own chassis and capable of being moved to a new location on short notice. It may be placed temporarily on a foundation such as blocks, posts or a prepared pad and may be covered by a skirt.</p> <p>A mobile home must meet the following two conditions:</p> <p>It is designed and constructed to be transported on its base frame (or chassis) in one piece.</p> <p>The dwelling can be moved on short notice. This dwelling can be easily relocated to a new location, because of the nature of its construction, by disconnecting it from services, attaching it to a standard wheel assembly and moving it without resorting to a significant renovations and reconstructions.</p>
<p>Other movable dwelling (Code 9)</p> 	<p>A single dwelling, other than a mobile home, used as a place of residence, but capable of being moved on short notice, such as a tent, recreational vehicle, travel trailer, houseboat, or floating home.</p>

Dwelling Confirmation Status

There are visible signs that can be used by enumerators to identify the occupancy status of a dwelling.

For occupied dwellings:

- There are curtains in the window.
- Lights on at the dwelling, either inside or out.
- Garbage bin near the house or curb side.
- Presence of domestic animals.
- Well-kept flower beds or gardens.
- Lawn maintained.
- Toys or bicycles in the yard.

Unoccupied dwellings

- No curtain in the windows.
- No furniture in the house.
- A “for sale” sign on the lawn.
- The house is newly constructed.

Addresses can be cancelled if it is a

- Vacant lot.
- House under construction and does not meet the definition of a private dwelling.
- Business establishment, an institution or collective dwelling.

If it is not possible to determine the occupancy status based on observation, the enumerator may assign the dwelling as unknown or contact a neighbor to determine if the dwelling is occupied. However, the best strategy is to contact the people that could be living in the dwelling.

Identifying Hidden Dwellings

In some cases, an address may represent more than one household. Some dwellings may contain a set of living quarters not obviously recognizable or detectable from the street, road or highway. It should still meet the definition of a private dwelling: have a source of heat or power, and provide shelter from the elements.

This dwelling should be classified as a hidden dwelling attached to the dwelling. Enumerators will be required to ensure a census questionnaire is completed with a resident in the attached dwelling. This can be accomplished by having enumerators:

- leave a paper questionnaire for the residents of the attached dwelling to complete, and picking it up on a scheduled date; or
- leave a phone number to have a member of the household to complete an interview over the telephone.

Developing Estimates for Non-Contacted Dwellings and Refusals

In order for Municipal Affairs to develop estimates for refusals and/or non-contacted dwellings, you will be required to identify all unoccupied and occupied private dwellings. Municipalities must complete the Worksheet for Estimates for Non-Contacted Dwellings and Refusals found in [Appendix F](#), and must submit the completed form to Municipal Affairs by September 1 of the municipal census year.

Managing Completed Interviews and Enumerator Visits

Municipalities may choose to use online or mail-out questionnaires to collect census information. While many households will complete the questionnaire on their own, field and telephone follow-up will still be necessary to complete the response to the census.

Proper tracking of enumerator visits to dwellings is critical to the success of the municipal census. If no one is home on the first visit, it is very important that the enumerator leave a Notice of Visit card at the residence, and record the address in the Call-back Tracking Form ([Appendix B](#)). Each Notice of Visit Card should have a unique reference number. In the event that the call-back takes place over the phone, municipal census office staff will need to ask for the address and reference number left on the Notice of Visit Card. If the address and reference number match those in the Notice of Visit form, the municipal census office staff will have confirmed the response is coming from the correct dwelling.

Call-backs are the additional calls or visits made by enumerators after leaving a Notice of Visit Card. The municipality decides whether these call-backs will include in-person interviews or telephone interviews.

It is also important to manage call-backs and field visits so enumeration of the area is not delayed. Suggestions for managing call-backs include:

- Enumerators should typically do at least three call-backs per dwelling unit. Areas with lower response rates may require more call-backs. As one option, census coordinators could track the number, time, and date of planned visits per enumerator and maintain a schedule for each enumerator. Alternatively, enumerators could take responsibility for managing their call-backs. In general, the coordinator is free to manage this process as they see fit.
- Ensure the times are different for each visit. If a morning visit is unsuccessful, try an afternoon or evening visit. If weekdays or evenings do not work, enumerators should try weekend visits.
- Choose your best enumerators to re-contact households that are difficult to contact. You should aim to have the highest completion rate as possible.

Collection and Analysis of Census Data

Listed below are several key roles that census coordinators and enumerators play during the collection and analysis of census data.

Collecting Personal Information

“Personal information” is defined in Section 1(n) of the *FOIP Act* as recorded information about an identifiable individual, including the individual’s name, home or business address, telephone number, age, sex, marital or family status and information about the individual’s educational, financial, or employment history, etc.

Enumerators are collecting personal information during a municipal census. They are collecting individually identifiable information when attaching a name or other identifier to the information being collected.

Personal information can only be collected from a responsible adult (18 years old and up) in the dwelling. Coordinators should direct enumerators to ask to speak to adults, and if one cannot come to the door, to ask when an adult will be home. Notice of Visit Cards should be left for residents who are absent at the time of enumeration.

Review and Processing of Forms

The census coordinator is responsible for the accuracy and collection of all forms. This includes managing electronic forms as well as any paper-based forms from in-person interviews. It is suggested that the coordinator review the first five to 10 completed paper or electronic forms from each enumerator to ensure they are being completed accurately. It is important to continue checking forms on a random basis throughout the census to ensure quality. Depending on the size of the municipality, the coordinator may require additional staff to do this.

Data collected using wireless devices or a website, are automatically sent to a central database. Respondents enter their SAC and their complete address to begin the online questionnaire. The website may have other security features in place. The complete address is an identifiable piece of information, but it is only collected for the purposes of a quality assurance check or follow-up if there is a problem with the form.

Any data collected from paper-based forms must be transferred to electronic files. Smaller municipalities may be able to do this in-house, but may also outsource the data entry to data processors. In this case, to address privacy concerns, the processors should sign a statement regarding the treatment of personal information. The processors must dispose of personal information in accordance with municipal policies and procedures.

Analysis

Many types of analysis can be performed on the electronic data. This can also be done either in-house or contracted out. As with data processors, the contractors would need to sign a statement regarding the treatment of personal information. Again, they would need to dispose of personal information in accordance with municipal policies and procedures.

Reports may contain items such as frequencies (e.g. number of dwellings by type, age group, and sex distribution) or averages (income, age). Histograms and pie charts may also be included to show distributions. Some municipalities prepare reports and place them on the internet. Note that personal information should not be analyzed or reported to ensure confidentiality and anonymity.

Retention of Census Forms and Information

Under Section 38 of the *FOIP Act*, municipalities must protect census information by making reasonable security arrangements against such risks as unauthorized access, collection, use, disclosure, or destruction. Census enumerators are required to sign a Statement of Census Enumerator, outlining the information and privacy-related procedures they must adhere to. The Statement of Census Enumerator is valid for the lifetime of the person making the statement.

Census information needs to be protected throughout its life cycle, from the time it is collected until it is properly disposed of. For electronic forms, or for electronic data created from paper-based forms, there should be passwords and/or user verification protocols in place for accessing the data. If any information is stored online, using a firewall in addition to passwords will improve security. Municipalities may also consider using a protocol where encrypted data is transferred over a secure connection (HTTPS certification). Security measures will vary by municipality.

After the approved retention period, the information should be properly disposed of in accordance with the municipality's records retention policies and procedures. If personal information has been collected, particular care should be taken with respect to its deletion. FOIP personnel in each municipality can play a significant role in managing this process.

Quality Assurance

Quality assurance checks are an important part of supervising enumerators and ensuring high quality results for the census. The enumerator must make arrangements to have their completed work sent to you on a regular basis. The coordinator may arrange for enumerators to deliver completed census forms to your office or you may arrange to pick up completed forms. Tasks that may be undertaken by the coordinator include:

- Identifying enumerator mistakes early and quickly by checking the completed census questionnaires. All forms submitted by enumerators should be checked daily for completeness and accuracy.
- Conducting field visits with your enumerators. Observe your enumerators performing the interviews.
- Ensuring that enumerators complete their work quickly and efficiently. Check the progress made in relation to both the time available and the progress of other enumerators.
- Monitoring the hours worked by enumerators daily to ensure sufficient hours are worked each day at the appropriate time of day.
- Discussing performance issues with enumerators as quickly as possible. Low productivity and poor quality work slows the progress of enumeration and cause additional work for others.

Monitoring Enumerator Performance

Being part of the census can be daunting for some enumerators. Monitor their work on an ongoing basis and provide guidance to help them feel capable and confident. If problems arise, they can be corrected immediately before the error becomes systematic.

Census coordinators should keep a close eye on the productivity of enumerators on a daily basis to identify problems and issues that require corrective action. Completed census questionnaires must be reviewed daily for completeness and accuracy.

The census coordinator or supervisor is required to perform quality assurance checks by randomly contacting dwellings that were enumerated by an enumerator visit. The calls verify that the dwellings have been visited by the enumerator, and provide a check on the usual resident count question. Households that completed their surveys online do not require this quality assurance check. The following table shows the number of households that must be contacted for quality assurance checks.

TABLE 4: REQUIRED NUMBER OF RESIDENTS TO CONTACT FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE CHECKS*

Number of Census Forms Completed by Enumerators	Number of Households to Contact
3,501-5,000	357
5,001-7,500	365
7,501-10,000	370
10,001-25,000	378
25,001-50,000	381
50,001-75,000	382
75,001-100,000	383
100,000+	384

*based on a 95 per cent confidence interval with a 5 per cent margin of error.

Municipalities with enumerator-completed dwellings of 3,500 or less are required to contact 10 per cent of these dwellings completed by enumerators.

When contacting the dwelling, keep in mind that the individual may not know whether the dwelling completed the census. For example, they may say the dwelling was not enumerated, but might not be aware that another member of their family completed the census. If the individual says the dwelling was not enumerated, ask whether it is possible another family member completed the census interview. If they are unsure, ask the respondent if they would take part in the census interview to ensure that the collected information is valid.

The calls should be distributed across all EAs of the municipality and enumerators. Calls should be made within two to three weeks of a questionnaire being completed.

The main purpose of this check is to ensure the quality of the census results, not to assess the performance of enumerators. However, if the coordinator notices discrepancies in more than three per

cent of a particular enumerator's cases (occurrences of non-contact or wrong information), the enumerator may require follow-up training.

In these cases, there should be an additional round of calls (10 per cent) within the area covered by that enumerator to confirm that the collected information is accurate. Coordinators should keep records of their quality control strategies.

Enumerators must be made aware that quality assurance checks will be completed during the census period and up to August 31 of the same year in which the census occurred.

Data Quality

Municipalities are required to report the results of their census using the Municipal Census Form, included in [Appendix F](#) by September 1 of the municipal census year.

To ensure that the population count is valid and reliable, a Field Report is included in the Municipal Census Form. Municipalities are required to note the number of dwellings, the number of non-contacted dwellings, and the number of refusals, onto the form. Please note that you may be contacted by Municipal Affairs staff for further information to verify your census results after you submitted the Municipal Census Form.

Municipal Affairs calculates a non-response rate ((non-contacted dwellings + refusals) / number of dwellings). Municipalities with a non-response rate of five per cent or less may choose to complete the Worksheet for Non-Contacted Dwellings and Refusals for Occupied Dwellings ([Appendix E](#)). Municipal Affairs staff will calculate population estimates for refusals and non-contacted dwellings, and inform the municipalities within three weeks of the revised population count.

Reporting to Municipal Affairs

The Municipal Census Regulation requires that after completing a census, the municipality must submit the results to the Minister of Municipal Affairs by September 1 of the year in which the census took place.

Usual Resident Count

The designated officer must complete the Municipal Census Form ([Appendix F](#)). On the form, the designated officer is swearing that a municipal census was completed, states the chosen municipal Census Day, and reports the total usual resident count obtained. The census form has to be properly signed and sworn before a Commissioner of Oaths.

For quality assurance purposes, municipalities must also complete the field report on the form, which contains the usual resident count of the municipality, total count of private dwellings, total number of non-contacted dwellings, and total number of refusals. Please note that these should be actual counts obtained from the census. Do not provide estimates for these statistics.

If a municipality chooses to submit the Imputation Worksheet, Municipal Affairs will verify the results and will inform the municipality within ten days that the estimates will be included in the population count for Ministerial approval.

Worksheet for Non-Contacted Dwellings and Refusals for Occupied Dwellings

To obtain estimates for non-contacted dwellings and refusals, the Census Coordinator is required to complete the Worksheet for Non-Contacted Dwellings and Refusals for Occupied Dwellings and submit it with the Municipal Census Form. Municipal Affairs staff will calculate population estimates for refusals

and non-contacted dwellings, and inform the municipalities within three weeks of the revised population count.

Shadow Population Count

Municipalities that have informed Municipal Affairs that they plan to conduct a shadow population count along with their municipal census must include this count on the Field Report of the Municipal Census Form ([Appendix F](#)).

Duty to Submit Results

Completed forms must be submitted to Municipal Affairs by September 1 of the census year in which the census took place. Failure to do so may result in your census figures not being accepted.

Municipalities can submit by:

Scan and Email: ma.updates@gov.ab.ca

Mail: Alberta Municipal Affairs
17th floor, Commerce Place
10155 - 102 Street
Edmonton, AB T6J 2N7

Reporting to the Public

While not mandatory, municipalities could consider releasing reports on census results under certain conditions. These reports would increase residents' access to the census results, and may encourage future participation in the census. The reports would need to comply with the *FOIP Act* and must not release personal information, such as names, addresses, or personal contact information.

If the municipality decides to report to the public, it should consider the size of the population and its neighbourhoods. Suggested guidelines for releasing reports to the public include the following:

- For municipalities with more than 1,500 in population, and neighbourhoods with at least 50 residences, release the census counts by neighbourhood. The reports should contain the neighbourhood counts only and not other information such as age and sex compositions of the neighbourhoods.
- For communities with more than 5,000 population, and neighbourhoods with more than 100 residences, release the census counts by neighbourhood, but feel free to include other information. The reports could contain both neighbourhood population and dwelling counts, as well as other demographic details.
- If more detailed breakdowns are included, ensure that data groupings do not reveal confidential information about respondents. It is recommended that municipalities use random rounding. Under this method, all figures, including totals and margins, are randomly rounded either up or down to a multiple of '5,' and in some cases '10'. This process transforms raw counts into randomly rounded counts, which reduces the possibility of identifying individuals in the tabulations.

The Role of Census Coordinator for Managing an Online Census

With an online census, many respondents complete the census form on the census website. While this reduces the number of census enumerators needed for in-person interviews, the census coordinator will still require enumerators to conduct census interviews when individuals do not complete the census online. For example, some dwellings could be unoccupied. In other cases, individuals may forget to complete their online form, may not be comfortable entering the information online, or may not have access to the internet. In these cases, enumerators must still attempt to conduct the interview in person or over the telephone.

An online census has many potential benefits compared to mail and telephone survey methods such as:

- reduced need for paper and paper storage (census forms, call-back forms, etc.);
- reduced need for enumerators;
- improved data security (with passwords and firewalls in place);
- reduced errors made by census staff (enumerators entering responses incorrectly);
- enhanced monitoring of enumeration progress and identification of dwellings still needing enumeration;
- census responses are monitored in real time;
- little or no manual data entry;
- convenience for respondents, who may complete the online form at a time of their choosing;
- more assurance of respondent privacy (respondents are sometimes more willing to answer questions about education and income through an online form rather than with an enumerator); and
- more efficient administration of the census.

An online census also has some potential challenges, including:

- development of an online web application and census form that is secure and stable;
- generation of a unique SAC for each dwelling can present programming problems;
- creation of secure databases (address register, census responses) requires appropriate skills;
- implementation of security procedures (passwords, firewalls, HTTPS certification);
- obtaining responses from individuals without easy access to the internet, or without the technical knowledge required to use the internet; and
- licensing fees (operating systems such as Windows, SQL database etc.).

Minimum Requirements of an Online Census

The specific features of an online census will vary by municipality. However, certain features must be in place for the online census to be considered. These features are described below.

Secure Web Application and Census Form

Respondents must be able to access the census website, log in, and answer all of the questions on the census form. This requires a reliable and secure website containing all of the questions a municipality wishes to ask. There must also be security measures in place (such as passwords and firewalls) to protect census information stored online. While some municipalities may have staff with the technical

knowledge to develop the website and security measures, others may have to contract the work to an external consultant or technical expert.

Electronic Address Database

Municipalities should maintain an address database for the census. This will allow the municipality to monitor which dwellings have completed the online census. The census coordinator or staff member managing the database must have the ability to add new addresses during the census in the event that new dwellings are enumerated. Census responses will be linked to each address in the database.

Secure Access Codes (SAC)

Before the census begins, a series of unique SACs should be generated and linked with each address in the electronic register. The SAC should be unique enough so someone does not access the wrong information or address by mistake, and easy enough to enter so that the user can succeed with reasonable effort. Access codes should contain a string of letters or digits, or in alphanumeric combinations.

When the census begins, these SACs will be mailed out or delivered to the appropriate addresses, along with a link to the census website. When the respondent accesses the website, it should prompt them for their address and SAC before asking the census questions. This verifies that the response is coming from the correct dwelling, and also provides an easy way to track which dwellings have completed the online census.

In-person Enumeration Procedures

Not every private dwelling will have a respondent willing or able to complete the online census. Some respondents may not have easy access to the internet, and others may be uncomfortable entering the information online. Other private dwellings may be new and not yet part of the address database with an assigned SAC. This means that a number of responses will need to be collected in person or by telephone. This process requires enumerators and either paper-based census questionnaire forms or wireless devices with a digital version of the census questionnaire.

After receiving the mailed notice letter and SAC, enumerators may begin to visit private dwellings that have not completed the online census. Some municipalities launch their online and door-to-door interviews at the same time, and encourage residents to complete the survey online first, or at the door if the resident chooses. Others have opted a two to four week time period for the online census, and then begin their telephone or door-to-door interviews.

Use the address database to determine which dwellings have not yet responded. Enumerators should be informed when a private dwelling in their EA completes the online form, so the enumerator does not visit that private dwelling unnecessarily.

If an enumerator reports a new private dwelling or a dwelling not in the address database, the new address should be entered in the database and assign a SAC. Mail out or deliver the SAC to the dwelling, with instructions on how to complete the online questionnaire, or have the enumerator complete the interview in real time.

The in-person enumeration forms need to be entered by census staff as if they were using the online system. This means that a SAC needs to be generated for all dwellings.

Suggestions for Conducting an Online Census

The following are suggested procedures for preparing an online census, minimizing risks, and enumerating the population.

Before you begin

- Develop the web application, online census form, address database, security procedures, and a SAC generator (using external resources when needed).
- Generate the SACs and match them to all the dwelling addresses in the database.
- Test the census website extensively. Enter addresses and census data and make sure there are no problems with the website or database. Use extreme values to test the ability of the software to screen out of range and obviously invalid data. If using wireless devices test them and make sure that the municipality has reliable wireless coverage.
- Delete all test data before the actual census begins.
- Mail out or deliver the SACs to the dwellings. Include an explanation of the census, instructions for how to access the website, and suggestions for those who do not have Internet access (direct them to local libraries, etc.). Inform them that an enumerator will come in person to complete the interview if the online questionnaire is not filled out.

Risk Mitigation

- Census websites may temporarily go down. If possible, have a staff member on call to deal with this as quickly as possible.
- The database may crash or become corrupted. Back up the database daily to prevent losses.
- Ensure that the wireless device has the capacity to store census data if connectivity is lost. This can be especially problematic in rural areas.

Managing Enumeration

- When the census begins, monitor the address database to keep track of which dwellings are completing the online census. Look for systematic errors, which may indicate a problem with the questionnaire.
- To maximize efficiency of the online census, begin sending enumerators to visit dwellings that have not completed the online census form.
- Inform enumerators when a dwelling in their EA completes the online form, so enumerators do not visit the dwelling unnecessarily.
- If the system does not allow enumerators to enter new addresses in real time, enter the new address in the database and assign the address a SAC. Mail out or deliver the SAC to the dwelling, with instructions on how to complete the online questionnaire.

Designing a Census Questionnaire

Census questionnaires are a set of questions, in some cases with predefined answers, to gather aggregate information about the population. A municipality must decide what type of information they need to know about residents, and how that information will be used for planning and delivering services to residents.

Proper questionnaire construction is one of the most important steps in achieving a successful census. Good design will help to increase the willingness of residents to complete the census, as well as improve the accuracy of the data collected.

When it comes to designing a questionnaire, asking the right questions in the right way is crucial to collecting the data you need for decision-making. It is critical that each question is clear and reflects what you are asking and how you want it answered. For example, if you ask the question “What is your income?” respondents will not know whether you mean weekly, monthly or annually.

Questionnaire design requires work in choosing the type of questions, wording, answer choices provided and various other factors which contribute to a high-quality questionnaire instrument.

To reduce the burden on census coordinators, and to improve the quality of information collected, municipalities may use the same questions as the [2021 federal census \(www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/statistical-programs/instrument/3901_Q1_V7-eng.pdf\)](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/statistical-programs/instrument/3901_Q1_V7-eng.pdf).

A tracking system needs to be in place to link the questionnaire to the residential address. Each questionnaire should have:

- A unique form number. A form number for each response must be allocated and recorded so that it links back to each dwelling in the municipality. This task is usually the responsibility of the census coordinator.
- An urban or rural address:
 - For urban or residential addresses, municipalities should have a complete listing of all residential addresses from property tax information. Include the street name or number and house number, as well as the appropriate apartment (suite) number where applicable. If there is any question about the address, check with the residents during the interview.
 - For rural addresses, include the legal land description (quarter section, section, township, range, and west of meridian) and the dwelling location (farm, country residential parcel, hamlet, mobile home park, or other location). Some of this information will be outlined on your EA census map, but in all cases confirm the information with the resident.
- A telephone number: Each census form may contain a telephone number that can be obtained from different sources such as utility bills and property tax information. This information can be used if telephone interviews are an option for collecting census information.
- A usual resident count: A municipal census must include a question to count the total number of usual residents in a municipality.
- Quality assurance information: Municipalities are required to conduct quality assurance checks with a sample of households that complete the census through in-person or telephone interviews with an enumerator. Municipalities may request the name of the respondent, email address, telephone number, and an appropriate time to call to verify the census information.

Suggested Wording for Questions

Usual Residents Count

The primary purpose for conducting the census is to produce a total population count of usual residents.

To obtain the number of residents usually present, ask the question:

Including yourself, how many persons usually live at this address on Census Day?

Quality Assurance Questions

Municipalities are required to conduct quality assurance interviews with households that completed their interviews with an enumerator.

The municipality is required to conduct interviews with some residents to verify the accuracy of information collected. Can we contact you at a later date?

Can I please get your name and phone number?

Optional Questions

Municipalities may choose to ask additional questions to obtain a profile of their residents. More detailed information may be required for housing, land use planning, economic development, recreational facilities, etc.

1. Person Number

To obtain additional census information, you would require a list of every member of the dwelling unit in sequential order on the census form (person 1, person 2, etc.), as this helps to provide a quick check against the total number of residents.

Including yourself, can I have the first name of all persons who usually live here on Census Day?

Copy the first name of the persons on the form, and then have the respondent answer the following questions for each person.

2. Sex At Birth

Sex at birth and gender are distinct but interrelated. While sex at birth is primarily understood in terms of physical and biological features such as chromosomes, genitals and hormones, gender is a multidimensional concept that is influenced by several additional factors, including cultural and behavioural norms, and self-identity.

Sex-specific information is essential in any population analysis. It helps to indicate demographic changes in our society and, when used with other characteristics, is an important criterion in research and planning.

What was is this person's sex at birth?

Male

Female

3. Gender

Gender identity is understood to refer to each person's deeply felt internal and individual experience of gender, which may or may not correspond with the sex assigned at birth, including the personal sense of the body (which may involve, if freely chosen, modification of bodily appearance or function by medical, surgical or other means) and other expressions of gender, including dress, speech and mannerisms.

What is this person's gender? This refers to current gender which may be different from sex assigned at birth and may be different from what is indicated on legal documents.

Male

Female

Or please specify this person's gender _____

4. Age

Information on age is needed to help the community plan for its current and future needs. These needs include such things as schools, day care facilities, recreation facilities, housing requirements, and seniors' facilities.

The federal census asks for each person's date of birth and age.

What is this person's date of birth and age on Census Day?

Alternatively, municipalities may choose to add age categories.

In what age category does this person belong?

One suggestion is to code age categories based on Statistics Canada's life cycle groupings:

0-17

18-24

25-44

45-64

65+

You may experience some reluctance or even refusals to answer age-related questions. Explain to the respondent the importance of collecting age data. You may also reaffirm the confidentiality of the data. If the respondent still refuses to answer this question, do not persist.

5. Other Census Questions

The municipality may opt to add other demographic or household questions to the survey. To ensure that the questions are valid and reliable, municipalities may wish to refer to the 2021 federal census questions located here: www.statcan.gc.ca/en/statistical-programs/instrument/3901_Q2_V6

Mail-out Census Questionnaires

With a mail out census questionnaire, the municipality would mail their paper survey, and have it returned in a self-addressed or business reply envelope. In-person distribution, fax-based returns, and other varied methods can be blended in with a mail questionnaire format. After the census questionnaires are returned, the data is inputted into a software collection program, either manually or usually by optical recognition software.

Advantages

The pros of mailing out census forms compared to other methods include:

- convenience for the respondent as they can complete it when and where they want;
- easier for respondents than a telephone or enumerator visit as they cannot leave and come back to complete; and
- cost effective as it would be less expensive than having enumerators visit every household.

Disadvantages

Cons for mail-out questionnaires are that:

- literacy is assumed in mail-out surveys, as not everyone may be able to fill out the questionnaire properly;
- other census-taking methods would need to be considered to include homeless individuals and people in institutional settings; and
- low response rates may occur, requiring additional steps to improve response rates.

Steps for Achieving a Good Response Rate

Below are some suggested steps that may be taken to improve overall response rates on a mail-out census questionnaire.

Professional Looking Package

The initial package sent to respondents should be professional looking and contain the questionnaire, a cover letter, and a self-addressed return envelope or clear return instructions.

The cover letter should explain the purpose of the census, and that confidentiality is assured. This letter should be short and should provide a contact name and number. In general, it should be signed by a senior officer of the municipality such as the chief administrative officer.

The design of the questionnaire is critical. Careful use of graphics and overall design is more likely to encourage people to respond. The questions should be well-phrased and easy to understand.

Follow-up

Follow-up is essential to improve response rates. The second contact with respondents may occur a week or two later, and may consist of a reminder post card or follow-up letter. The third follow-up can include a letter and a replacement census questionnaire.

Other Factors to Consider

Other steps to improve response rates include:

- avoid mailing census questionnaires near holidays as people may be preoccupied with vacations;
- mail material early in the week. Mail that arrives on Fridays tends to get set aside; and
- consider using other methods such as telephone or online surveys to increase the response rate.

Conducting a Census in a Federal Census Year

Every five years, Statistics Canada conducts a national census. The next federal census will take place in 2026. It is in the best interest of Alberta municipalities to support the federal census since the accuracy of the federal census impacts federal transfer payments to the province, affects the demographic information that forms the basis of policy and planning for all levels of government, and provides a level of fairness to all municipalities who may not be able to undertake a municipal census. Alberta Municipal Affairs encourages all municipalities to support Statistics Canada with the census enumeration process.

Municipalities should be aware that the results from a federal census will be used to determine a municipality's population in the Municipal Affairs Population List for the year following a federal census.

Several challenges exist when municipal and national censuses occur simultaneously. To reduce these challenges and ensure fairness across the province, municipalities are encouraged to work with Statistics Canada to ensure the success of both censuses.

Census Timeframe

For the past federal census, Statistics Canada chose the second Tuesday in May as the Census Day. Starting at the beginning of May, Statistics Canada sends out invitation letters to encourage households to complete census questionnaires, preferably by internet.

While many households will complete the questionnaire online, enumerator visits and telephone follow-up will still be required to increase the response to the census.

Not all municipalities will conduct a census during a federal census year. However, among municipalities that conducted a census in 2016, Statistics Canada indicated that residents were unaware that a federal and municipal census was occurring during the same time. To minimize confusion by residents between the two censuses, it is suggested that municipalities work with Statistics Canada and include marketing information on both censuses during a federal census year.

Recruitment of Census Workers

In the past few censuses, Statistics Canada has experienced hiring difficulties in Alberta municipalities with tight labor markets due to Alberta's high economic growth and wages. For Statistics Canada, enumerators are hired by a network of local field offices according to standards and wage levels set by federal legislation. However, in 2016, some Alberta municipalities in high growth areas offered wages to census workers that were more than two times higher than Statistics Canada.

To assist Statistics Canada in the federal census, municipalities may direct their enumerators and residents to apply for census positions at the Statistics Canada website. These enumerators should be informed that they would still be required to undertake recruitment testing and training with Statistics Canada.

Address Register

The goal of a census is to count everyone once and in the right place. To ensure an accurate census count, both Statistics Canada and a municipality must have access to a complete list of residential addresses.

Statistics Canada has a complex and involved process to develop its address register from the previous census and administrative records; however, administrative records usually contain the mailing address

of residents. This poses challenges for Statistics Canada, as Canada Post requires many rural residents to use post office boxes in adjacent municipalities as their mailing address.

Compared to Statistics Canada, municipalities have a more complete inventory of residential addresses. Municipal records (assessment, planning and development permits, water and sewer services, and other administrative records) offer a more complete enumeration of all structures and typically will identify all residences in the municipality. In high growth communities, new housing developments that have occurred due to strong economic activity in the region may not be on Statistics Canada's inventory of residential addresses. In addition, some municipalities that conduct an annual census may have information on suites available in homes that may not be readily available to Statistics Canada.

To ensure accurate federal census counts, municipalities are encouraged to share their address register with Statistics Canada. They may also direct Statistics Canada to locations where transient populations may reside. A complete address list is vital to ensure a complete and accurate population count.

Hard to Count Individuals

All levels of government must work together to ensure that all groups are counted during a census. Undercounting may result in a loss of government supports or deprive a community of funding for vital services and programs.

Certain groups that are often missed in a census include: those who are First Nations (on- and off-reserves), immigrants, individuals in collective dwellings, and the homeless. Municipalities may be aware of the best way to enumerate these populations and may be able to assist Statistics Canada to ensure all residents are enumerated. They are also in the best position to suggest possible contacts with social agencies to locate some hard-to-reach groups.

ENUMERATOR TRAINING

The following sections reflect the role and responsibilities of the enumerator. Census enumerators may choose to use this material as part of their enumerator training manual.

Role of the Census Enumerator

A successful census cannot be conducted without conscientious and well-prepared enumerators obtaining accurate and complete information. The specific roles and responsibilities of the enumerators will vary depending on the type of census methodology used.

Statement of Census Enumerator

Enumerators are required to sign a statement. This statement says that you will follow all procedures and regulations related to your duties. This includes conducting the census according to the procedures outlined in this manual, and ensuring that personal information is protected as specified in the *FOIP Act* ([Appendix A](#)). The Statement of Census Enumerator is valid for the person's lifetime.

Your Responsibilities

As an enumerator, you will work under a census coordinator or supervisor who will assign you one or more enumeration areas (EAs). You will be responsible for collecting the required information on all usual residents of that area.

Responsibilities may include:

- becoming familiar with your EA(s);
- knowing how to systematically enumerate your area;
- knowing who is eligible to be counted;
- following all health and safety guidelines and instructions you received during training;
- knowing how to identify all private dwellings and their types, and indicate whether it is a occupied, unoccupied or cancelled dwelling;
- knowing what to do in cases of non-response or refusal to respond;
- knowing how to complete the census form accurately;
- creating and/or using a system to track completed properties;
- understanding and following confidentiality and security guidelines and procedures;
- accommodating a flexible work schedule, including days, evenings and weekends;
- meeting quality and productivity standards set out by the census coordinator;
- completing your EA within the time prescribed by the coordinator.

Confidentiality

All information obtained during the census must be kept confidential. Your letter of introduction should be readily available to show to the respondent. This letter identifies you as an official enumerator and assures the confidentiality of all information collected (a sample letter is included in [Appendix B](#), Letter of Introduction). Municipal issued photo identification identifying you as an enumerator may also help ease respondents' confidentiality concerns. If the municipality provides this identification, you should ensure it is easily visible to respondents. This photo identification must not be used for any other purpose and must be returned to the municipality upon request, or upon completion or termination of your role as enumerator. A lost or stolen identification card should be reported to your census coordinator immediately.

Do not leave completed census forms where other individuals may see them. Refer any requests for information that you cannot answer to your census coordinator.

Your Approach

It is imperative that you be courteous, tactful, confident, and appropriately dressed during the enumeration. A friendly approach and a tactful presentation of questions will help achieve a successful

interview. Should the respondent become uncooperative or unpleasant, politely leave and refer the case to your census coordinator.

Your Routine

During the census period, enumerating is a labour-intensive job that requires careful time management. Your work hours may have to be adjusted to the times that people are most likely to be home. This may mean your visit occurs in the evening. Enumerators can respectfully acknowledge any inconvenience, while also reminding the respondents of the importance of the census and the estimated time to complete the interview.

Enumeration hours will be set by the municipality but are often between 10:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.

Assistance From Your Census Coordinator

Always remember that your census coordinator is there to assist you should problems arise during enumeration. In the early stages of enumeration, some coordinators find it very beneficial to review a small sample (5 to 10) of your first batch of completed census forms. This helps to identify and clarify any problems before the census gets too far underway.

The procedures taken and the work pattern established will be determined by each coordinator. The primary role of the coordinator is to guide the enumerator in census procedures. Never hesitate to ask for assistance. If possible, enumerators should carry a cell phone while they work in case of emergencies or questions for the census coordinator.

The Enumerator's Materials

At an instructional meeting held prior to the census, you will be supplied with a package of materials for enumerating. If you find that any item is missing, contact your census coordinator. Below is an example of some materials that may be provided to census enumerators:

- an official letter of introduction ([Appendix B](#));
- an identification badge;
- the Municipal Census Manual (this manual);
- an EA census map;
- census forms and clipboard OR electronic device (such as a wireless device or laptop);
- a cover sheet for identifying information to be returned with the completed census forms;
- forms for recording call-backs ([Appendix B](#));
- Enumerator Notice of Visit Cards ([Appendix B](#));
- pencils and paper clips; and
- large envelope(s) to temporarily store completed census forms.

The Enumeration Area (EA) Census Map

The EA census map is one of your essential tools for conducting the census. An EA is a smaller area within the municipality that is established to collect and analyze information. The EA census map should depict all of these areas. Study your map carefully to become thoroughly familiar with your EA. Depending on your municipality's approach to mapping, your map may include outlined and numbered area identifiers (such as lot, block, and EA numbers), census zones, or possibly residential addresses. For rural areas, the quarter section, section, township, range, west of meridian, and EA numbers are generally shown on the map.

Other identifiers or landmarks may also be shown to assist in finding specific locations. It is essential that no part of your area, and no person living there, is overlooked.

Always inquire whether there are adjacent dwellings. A private dwelling is defined as a separate set of living quarters with a private entrance from the outside, or from a common hallway, parking garage, or stairway inside the building. This entrance should not be through someone else's living quarters.

Do not overlook the possibility of caretakers' quarters in commercial buildings, and other structures that are non-residential. In addition, there may be motels, tourist camps, trailer camps, or types of institutions such as continuing care facilities, jails and so on, that must be included if they house usual residents (see page 60 for information on enumerating "collective dwellings").

In summary, study your area map with care and investigate all places within your area where people live or might be living.

Method of Covering Your Area

Enumerators should go through their entire route before focusing primarily on call-backs.

Block Enumeration

When enumerating a block, it is most important that a consistent direction is maintained. Be careful not to miss houses situated back from the street or in lanes. The order or specific direction might be set up by the census coordinator.

The following instructions may be used as guidelines for covering urban and rural areas. Your municipality may also have best practice guidelines.

Urban Coverage: Cover your area on a block-by-block basis in a systematic fashion. For example, start in the north-east corner of a block, enumerate that block in a clockwise direction, then carry on to the next block and continue enumeration using this method. This will prevent you from going back and forth across the street and losing track of the dwellings you have enumerated and those not enumerated. Not all blocks are laid out the same way so this example may not apply in every case.

Of primary importance is selecting the most efficient system for your EA ensuring that no dwellings are left out or enumerated twice. After you enumerate each dwelling, place an "X" on the lot of your map. This will help you to know where you have enumerated, and assist you in locating your call-backs. An "X" should also be placed on lots with no dwelling units.

Figure 1: Urban Enumeration Area Map Example



Rural Coverage: Cover your area in a systematic fashion, quarter section by quarter section. There are 36 sections in a township. Beginning with the lowest numbered section in a township, take one quarter of this section at a time. If the quarter section is comprised of a farmstead, mark the appropriate location of the principal dwelling on your map using the number (1). If there are other farmstead dwellings where people live (such as cottages or trailers) mark their location in the quarter section using successive numbers (2), (3), etc.

If the quarter section is subdivided, use a similar method to locate each dwelling systematically. For example, mark the first dwelling you encounter as number (1) on your map and then number the remaining dwellings in the quarter section successively in the order in which they appear. When you start in the next quarter section, begin your numbering system over again with dwelling number (1).

It is also advisable to mark any other landmarks on your map that can serve as identifiers. This will prevent you from losing track of the dwellings you have not enumerated and assist you in finding Non-Response Follow-Up locations.

Note that rural coverage can be modified depending on the population density of the area, such as large residential subdivisions and hamlets.

In these cases, it may be more appropriate to cover the area on a block-by-block basis as described under urban coverage.

Figure 2: Township Showing Section Numbering Sequence

31	32	33	34	35	36
30	29	28	27	26	25
19	20	21	22	23	24
18	17	16	15	14	13
7	8	9	10	11	12
6	5	4	3	2	NW NE 1 SW SE

Completing the Census Form (Paper-Based Census)

Be Accurate

Read the instructions carefully to make sure that you are asking questions as instructed and obtaining the required information. Do not guess at any information; record only what you are given.

Print Clearly

With paper-based forms, someone else may have to interpret the information that you have gathered, so it is vital that the forms are legible. This is not an issue with electronic forms.

Code Carefully

If your municipality uses codes, be sure to select and enter the code numbers of response categories with care to eliminate confusion and error, and place only one digit in each box. Coding should be right justified. Adjust the position of the numbers so that the numbers are entered in boxes on the right-hand side and any blank box is filled with a zero. For example, 8 would be entered: 008; 38 would be entered: 038; and 138 would be entered: 138.

Check Blank Spaces

You may leave a blank space only when you are not able to obtain information from the respondent. In all other cases, all spaces should be filled. If data entry operators are used, they will be entering this information only as they see it on the forms. Thus, it is very important that you fill in all information. After completing the interview, recheck the form to make sure that you have not left blank spaces or boxes by mistake.

Do Not Destroy Paper Forms

Every census form must be accounted for. If you make errors on a paper-based form and must begin again, write VOID across the form and return it to your coordinator. If the number on the paper-form was pre-printed, or if there is a tracking system in place, make sure the new form can be linked to the dwelling. With an electronic form, if you make an error during the interview, simply delete the error and enter in the correct information.

Return All Paper Census Forms

Return completed census forms to your coordinator as requested when you have completed your enumeration.

Conducting Interviews at the Door

Once you are familiar with your map, your area, and how to cover your area efficiently and completely, you are ready to approach the dwellings and their household members. In preparation for this step, the following procedures may be of assistance.

Where to Interview

Generally, it will accelerate the enumeration process if the interview is conducted at the door of the residence.

Although you must attempt to complete the census questionnaire with the resident at the door, follow all health and safety guidelines you have been instructed on during your training. You may turn down an invitation to enter the dwelling by saying that all you need are a few questions answered concerning the household members. Check with your census coordinator or municipality regarding policies on entering dwellings during the interview process. Your safety is of utmost importance in these situations. Do not enter a dwelling if you feel unsafe.

Additional Safety Tips:

- Have your cell phone programmed with phone numbers for your coordinator and other enumerators in or near your EA.
- Check in regularly with the census coordinator.
- For areas where safety might be a concern, work in pairs with other enumerators.

Who to Interview

The person you interview must be a responsible adult (18 years of age or older) who is a member of the residence and who can answer the questions accurately. If a child answers the door, ask to speak to a responsible adult. If no one else is available, ask when an adult will be home. Also, avoid interviewing before a group other than the family unit. Point out that replies to census questions are confidential and that you would like to speak to the person alone.

Identification

If your municipality supplies you with an identification card, ensure you are wearing this prior to your arrival. This will aid in establishing yourself as an official census enumerator.

Letter of Introduction

This letter identifies you as an official census enumerator, explains the purpose of the census and importance of complete coverage, and assures confidentiality of individual responses. The letter should be available for the respondent to read, if requested.

The Interview

When an adult is available, introduce yourself, and then begin the interview. It is advised that an introductory statement be practiced so that you can say it automatically and smoothly. This will greatly boost your interviewing confidence as well as the cooperation of the person you are interviewing.

Pay Attention to Your Conduct During the Interview

- Project confidence and professionalism with your appearance, tone of voice and body language.
- Ask questions in a positive manner.
- Handle all questions with sensitivity.
- Maintain a moderate pace and keep the interview as brief as possible.
- Vary the tone of your voice to avoid sounding monotonous.

Completing the Questionnaire

- Recheck the address assigned to the questionnaire.
- Read the questions exactly as worded. If you change the wording of the question, you change the meaning.
- Do not skip questions unless they do not apply.
- Read all questions in the order they were written, even if the respondent happened to answer them previously.
- Repeat and clarify questions that are misunderstood. If the respondent gives you a partial or an incomplete answer even after you have probed, write down the answer.
- Check the questionnaire for completeness and try to obtain any missing information before you leave the dwelling.

Reacting to Situations That May Arise During an Interview

During enumeration you may encounter various situations to which you will have to react. Tips for dealing with situations that might arise are as follows:

Refusal to Give Information

Interview refusals may occur because a municipal census is voluntary and lacks the force of law, unlike the federal census conducted by Statistics Canada. The following tips can be used at the door to encourage residents to participate in the census:

- Show the person your letter of introduction, which identifies you as a census enumerator, shows the importance of complete coverage, and assures confidentiality of individual responses. Remind them that complete coverage is needed so the municipal government can better plan community services, and assist the municipality to secure population-based funding for community improvement projects (e.g., transportation projects, recreation facilities, parks).
- Inform the respondent that the interview will not take long. If inconvenient timing appears to be the problem, ask if there is a better time to do the interview or if they would like to arrange a Non-Response Follow-Up. Use the Notice of Visit Card to record the respondent's name and preferred Non-Response Follow-Up date and time.
- Ask the person if they would be more comfortable reporting their information directly to the census coordinator. If so, provide the census coordinator's contact information and the deadline for the census. The coordinator must confirm that the person calling is the proper census respondent, and that the response has not already been collected. After the interview, the coordinator should inform you that the response has been collected to avoid duplication.
- If the census questionnaire is available online, inform the occupant about their option to complete the census online. Completing the online census is fast, easy and confidential. For residents who do not have home internet access, inform them of local facilities that offer secure

public access to the internet (e.g., libraries). Inform the resident that an enumerator will return after a certain time if no internet response has been registered.

- If all else fails, try to at least obtain a population count of the household by asking how many people reside at the home.
- If the person continues to refuse, politely leave the residence. Note the refusal at the top of the census form, list the dwelling on the Non-Response Follow-Up form, and report the situation to your census coordinator.
- The coordinator should attempt to convert the refusal into a response by contacting the dwelling and persuading them to participate. Sometimes, respondents are more comfortable sharing information with the coordinator compared to an enumerator. If a completed questionnaire is obtained (by follow-up or online), the original census form is voided. The coordinator is responsible for the collection of all filled, void, and unused forms.
- In the event the municipality is unable to convert the refusal to a completed interview, the enumerator can ask a neighbour for the number of people residing in the household.

Respondent is Unable to Complete the Questionnaire at the Time of the Visit

You can present the respondent with the following options:

- Ask if there is another adult in the household that would be available to complete the interview.
- Offer to come back at the respondent's convenience.
- Obtain a contact number and offer to follow-up by telephone to complete the questionnaire at the respondent's convenience.

Respondent Claims that the Questionnaire was Already Completed

In these situations, let the person know that the questionnaire information was not received. Ask to complete a new questionnaire with them for their household.

- If the respondent agrees, proceed to complete the questionnaire.
- If the respondent does not wish to complete the questionnaire, make notes that the respondent claims that the questionnaire was completed and refused to be interviewed.
- If the municipality conducts checks and the survey has not been completed in the last seven days, inform the resident that a completed questionnaire has not been received, and give them options on how to complete the survey.

Language Difficulties

If you encounter language difficulties with a usual resident, check to see if another adult member of the household (who is also a usual resident) can provide the needed information. Alternatively, it may be possible for another individual to act as an interpreter. In such a case, the respondent would need to grant permission to conduct the interview using the interpreter. The interpreter can be anyone, as long as the respondent approves of them doing the interview. Typical interpreters include neighbours, children under the age of 18, visiting family members, etc.

If these options do not present themselves, another possible solution would be to return in the evening when others may be at home.

If you cannot make yourself understood, try to determine the language spoken and list the house for a call-back. Consider consulting with your coordinator, who may be familiar with, or have access to additional information about, the ethnicity of the household or EA. In some cases, the coordinator may

provide you with a booklet with all census questions translated into a variety of languages. Alternatively, it may be possible to have your coordinator arrange for an interpreter to accompany you on your return visit. The respondent should be informed that the interpreter accompanying you has been hired by the census coordinator and, like you, has also subscribed to a statement to ensure the confidentiality of census information.

Respondent Informs You They Are Not the Usual Residents at This Address on Census Day

In this situation, first ask them if the dwelling was occupied or unoccupied on Census Day.

- If the dwelling was occupied but the previous householders had moved, ask the current householder if they know how many people were in the previous household, and if they have contact information with the previous householders. Enumerators can contact the previous homeowner to obtain a count of usual residents only.
- If the dwelling was unoccupied on Census Day, enter the information on the census form.
- If the respondent tells you that the usual residents of this household will be away until after the enumeration date (e.g., on vacation, business trip), ask the person how many usual residents live there and record the number.

Respondent Wishes to be Interviewed Separately From the Rest of the Household

Occasionally, a person who is a usual resident at the address on Census Day may want to be enumerated separately for privacy or other reasons. You can interview the person in private. If they agree, record their answers in the same questionnaire.

You Discover a New or Missed Dwelling During the Interview

Occasionally, you may find a new dwelling that may need to be added to your address list. In some instances, you may also discover hidden dwellings. These are a set of living quarters not obviously recognizable for detectable from the street, road, or highway. It should meet the definition of a dwellings: have a source of heat and power, and provide shelter from the element. For example, a basement of a house has been converted into a separate basement suite that has its own entrance, and otherwise meets the definition of a private dwelling.

To help you find every hidden dwelling:

- Examine every structure from the outside for signs of dwelling(s) within (several doorbells, and/or mailboxes, side entrances, stairs at rear of building, gas and hydro meters, etc.)
- Ask stores, garages, restaurants, schools, churches, etc., if there are living quarters within, above or behind.
- Look up telephone wires, lanes, mailboxes, etc., which may lead you to a dwelling not visible from the road.
- During the contact with the resident, ask if there are any other separate living quarters in the dwelling.
- When making contact, ensure you follow health and safety guidelines and instructions you received in your training.

For each new dwelling, use a new questionnaire to enter the address and dwelling information, and interview the residents, and inform the census coordinator to update the address records for the census.

You Feel Harassed

Do not challenge the respondent and withdraw immediately. Note the circumstances on the survey form, report the situation immediately to your supervisor.

No One Answers and the Dwelling Appears Unoccupied

If a dwelling appears to be unoccupied (e.g., no curtains on windows or the house looks empty), do not assume that it was not occupied on Census Day. To obtain this information, speak to neighbours to determine if the dwelling was occupied and how many residents lived there on Census Day. Apply a note to the form that the information was obtained from neighbours. Please note that you will be required to obtain the name and phone number of the person who confirmed the occupancy status.

If you cannot determine the occupancy status of the dwelling, indicate that further followup is required.

There is No Private Dwelling at the Address

This may happen when a dwelling has been demolished, destroyed, or merged with another residence. This can also happen when the address corresponds to a different type of establishment such as a business or store. In this situation, record the information on the census form.

Telephone Interviews

Enumerators can contact a dwelling by telephone or in-person to complete the questionnaires. In general, it is a good idea to vary the way you contact the household to maximize your chances of reaching them.

In order for enumerators to contact residents, the municipality must have a database of telephone numbers by residential address. Municipalities should check with their FOIP Coordinator to ensure they are able to use other municipal databases to conduct their municipal census.

A municipality may also choose to provide residents with a telephone number to contact the municipality to complete the census. During telephone interviews, you will have to verify the address for the number you call since you are not able to see the dwelling itself.

Reacting to Situations That May Arise During the Interview

Many situations you will encounter by phone are similar to those for in-person interviews. For example:

- dealing with reluctant respondents;
- reassuring respondents about the confidentiality of information; and
- answering any questions related to the use of census data and its importance.

The following tips can be used to encourage residents to participate in the census.

Respondents Have Privacy Concerns About Using Their Cell Phone

If a respondent answers your call and expresses privacy concerns about data being transmitted over the cell phone or being overheard:

- Ask for a landline number, if one is available. If yes, call back at this number.
- If no, inform the respondent you will visit them to complete the questionnaire.

The Number You Dial is Invalid and Does Not Correspond to the Address

Occasionally, the number you dial could no longer be in service, may be that of a business, or may not correspond to the address.

- Assign code or note for incorrect phone number.
- Follow-up with a field visit to the address.

Refusal to Complete the Survey Over the Land Line or Cell Phone

Attempt to follow up with a field visit on the same day or no longer than 24 hours after the initial contact

- Note the appointment time on your assigned list.
- Enter refusal on the address list.
- Follow-up with a field visit to complete the questionnaire in-person and/or encourage the respondent to complete the survey online, if this option is available.

Someone Hangs Up

- Add code or note that this requires further follow-up and that someone hung up.
- Follow-up with a field visit to complete the questionnaire in person.

No One Answers the Phone

- Do not leave a message on an answering machine, or voicemail.
- Add a note that there was no answer on phone and that this requires further follow-up.
- Follow-up with a field visit to the address.

Enumerating Collective Dwellings

Collective dwellings are communal, commercial, or institutional buildings where multiple people live. To be a usual resident of a collective dwelling, a person must reside in the collective dwelling for six or more months on Census Day, or live there permanently as they have no other usual home.

In all cases, persons residing in collective dwellings must also fit the definition of usual resident to be enumerated. For complete information of how to enumerate usual residents, please refer to [Table 1](#), page 18 under definitions.

Types of Collective Dwellings

There are 10 types of collective dwellings:

- a hospital;
- continuing care facilities and/or residence for senior citizens;
- residential care facility, such as a group home for persons with disabilities or addictions;
- shelter;
- correctional or custodial facility;
- lodging or rooming house;
- religious establishment such as a convent, monastery, or seminary;
- Hutterite colony;
- establishment with temporary accommodation services such as a hotel, campground, YMCA, Ronald McDonald House or hostel;
- other establishment such as a school residence, military base, or work camp; and
- an establishment that is being used for non-residential purposes such as a business, commercial office, church, clinic, etc. is not considered to be a collective dwelling.

Usual Residents of Collective Dwellings

People can live in a collective dwelling either temporarily or permanently. For example, guests of hotels and motels are typically staying for a short time and are considered temporary residents. Some guests or hotel owners or managers could live there permanently as their main or only residence. These people are considered usual residents at the address and should be included in the census count.

Persons residing in collective dwellings must also fit the definition of usual resident to be enumerated. For a complete information on how to enumerate usual residents, please refer to [Table 1](#), page 18 under definitions.

The census includes usual persons living in the municipality on Census Day. Use the information in the following table to decide in which dwelling a person should be enumerated.

Table 4: Where to enumerate usual residents of a collective dwelling

Usual Resident	Where to Enumerate
Was admitted less than six months prior to Census Day and has a usual residence elsewhere.	At their usual residence.
Was admitted six or more months prior to Census Day.	At the collective dwelling.
Was admitted at any time AND has no usual residence.	At the collective dwelling.

Methodology

There are four methods to enumerate collective dwellings:

1. Request a headcount only: Access to the administrative records are not required. Only a headcount of those that satisfy the requirements of being a usual resident in a collective dwelling. For the usual resident count, the enumerator will need to ask the census contact how many people are living there as their main residence. If the collective dwelling contact cannot determine for the enumerator the number of “usual residents” living in their establishment, the enumerator must choose the three other approved methods to enumerate the collective dwelling.
2. For institutional residents: The person is considered a usual resident of the collective dwelling if they have no fixed address or has been at the collective dwelling for more than six months prior to Census Day.
3. Administrative records: The collective dwelling census contact may choose to provide the municipality with a printout of the required census information.
4. Face-to-Face interviews: Enumerators can conduct an interview with the census contact or usual residents of the collective dwelling with the census questionnaire if more detailed information is required.
5. Self-Enumeration: For non-institutional dwellings, you can leave census questionnaires with a census contact to distribute to all usual residents. The residents complete the questionnaire on their own and return it to the census contact. The enumerator then arranges a time to pick up the completed questionnaires.

You can also leave Municipal Census Cards with the census contact to distribute to all residents. Once completed, the resident can return the cards to the census contact or front desk.

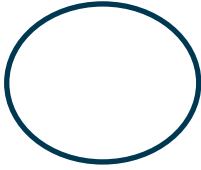
20__Municipal Census Card

The census provides a picture of all people to live in this municipality. You can make a difference in this municipality by being counted in the census.

If this is your only residence in Canada and you are:

- a Canadian Citizen
- a landed immigrant (permanent resident)
- in Canada asking for refugee status
- a person from another country with a work for study permit

MARK THIS CIRCLE WITH AN "X"



Please return your completed card to the front desk or manager.

Please complete one card per person. Should you require more cards, please contact the front desk or manager of the establishment to ensure that you and other persons living with you, are counted in the census.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Preparing for Enumeration

To help enumerators, the municipality may choose to call and/or send out a pre-contact letter to each collective dwelling ([Appendix D](#)).

Prior to an enumerator visit, the census coordinator or enumerator should:

- establish contact with an administrator of the collective dwelling;
- check to ensure that the collective dwelling is recorded correctly;
- confirm they reached the correct collective dwelling and the address;
- inform the administrator of the upcoming census enumeration;
- gather information about the collective dwelling contact who will be providing the required information;
- determine if the administrator prefers to submit administrative records or computer printouts. Information you will require are the admission date, and whether each usual resident or employee (including family members) residing in the collective dwelling has a main residence in the municipality (this information is required for usual residents only); and
- if administrative records are to be provided, request time for an enumerator to pick up a computer printout.

Take notes of any relevant information (i.e., optimal times for enumerator visits, preferred language of communication, how to obtain access to the building, etc.); and schedule a time and date for the enumerator to meet with the designated census contact.

Enumerator Visit

During the visit at the collective dwelling, the enumerator should:

- Ensure the name and addresses of the dwelling in the address portion of the census form are correct, and record the dwelling type. In the case of institutions (e.g., hospitals, continuing care facilities, prisons) include all patients or inmates who have been full-time residents for six months or more and meet the other qualifications of a usual resident.
- Ask the designated census contact of the collective dwelling the date of admission, type of resident (employee, employee's family, patient) and whether the resident has a usual residence elsewhere in Canada.
- Record the information on the units and use it later to track which units have been enumerated.
- Create a profile of the dwelling that contains its name, address, capacity, and contact information. Statistics Canada uses a similar approach to improve categorization of collective dwellings.
- Allow enough time to cover all of the occupied units within the building.
- Wear your identification upon arrival.
- If contact cannot be made with the census contact for the collective dwelling before enumeration, bring a cell phone and attempt to contact them before arriving at the building.

Before leaving the premises, and if administrative records are obtained, the enumerator must check to make sure the administrative records are complete. For usual residents, verify that all mandatory data requirements are completed.

- After the administrative records checks have been completed, the enumerator must follow-up on each outstanding data requirement, and mark it for follow-up. This can be done by speaking to the collective dwelling census contact, a knowledgeable staff member, or the resident (if granted permission to do so).
- The enumerator is required to complete the Collective Dwelling Record ([Appendix D](#)) and attach the administrative records to the form. The supervisor is required to check the information for completeness and accuracy.

Census Coordinator Quality Checks

Quality checks are an important part of supervising enumerators and ensuring high quality results for the census. The enumerator must make arrangements to have their completed work sent to a supervisor on a regular basis. The supervisor can have enumerators to deliver completed census forms to the office or the supervisor may arrange to pick up completed forms. Tasks that may be undertaken by a supervisor include:

- Identifying enumerator mistakes early and quickly by checking the Collective Dwelling Records daily. All collective dwelling information submitted by enumerators should be checked daily for completeness and accuracy.
- Conducting field visits with the enumerators. Observe the enumerators performing the interviews.
- Ensuring that enumerators complete their work quickly and efficiently. Check the progress made in relation to both the time available and the progress of other enumerators.

- Monitoring the hours worked by enumerators daily to ensure sufficient hours are worked each day at the appropriate time of day.
- Discussing performance issues with enumerators as quickly as possible. Low productivity and poor quality work slows the progress of enumeration and cause additional work for others.

Shadow Population

Within every municipality there is a portion of the population that may only use municipal services for a portion of the year. This “shadow population” resides within the municipality temporarily while using local services, much like the permanent population, but is not captured through municipal taxation. In resource rich areas of the province, there exists a gap between municipal services that are essential, and who within the population pay for them through taxation. Including a shadow population count with a municipal census allows municipalities to temporarily adjust their population counts to reflect the additional demand on utilities, roads, and other essential municipal services.

Mandatory Requirements for a Shadow Population Count

The Municipal Census Regulation sets out the mandatory requirements for conducting a shadow population count.

- The municipality must notify Municipal Affairs by February 28 of the year the census will be conducted that the municipality intends to include a shadow population count with its municipal census.
- The shadow population count must be conducted during the same three month enumeration period as the municipal census, and must reference the same Census Day.
- The shadow population must be significant (a minimum of 1,000 individuals or ten per cent of the permanent resident population).
- To be included in the shadow population count, a temporary worker must:
 - have a permanent residence in another municipality;
 - be a temporary resident of the municipality on Census Day; and
 - have been employed by an industrial or commercial establishment in the municipality and have worked for that employer at least 120 hours in the three month period prior to Census Day.
- The results of the shadow population count must be submitted on the Municipal Census Form to Municipal Affairs by September 1 of the municipal census year.
- The shadow population count will remain as part of the population figure in the Municipal Affairs Population until the release of the next federal population numbers.

Enumeration

The shadow population may reside in private dwellings or work camps within the municipality. The census coordinator may choose to add additional questions to the municipal census questionnaire or enumerate the shadow population at work camps only.

Work Camps

Resource based economies in Alberta use work camps to address chronic housing shortages in the municipality.

During different times of the year, there can be variations in the camp occupancy. To accommodate the seasonal variation in shadow population, municipalities are required to conduct the shadow population count during the same time period as the municipal census. This will provide a snapshot of the total population of the municipality on Census Day.

Enumeration Procedures

At work camps, administrators will be required to provide a count of temporary residents that meet the requirements for shadow population enumeration. The municipality can choose to contact the businesses that are using the camp to obtain a head count or choose to distribute shadow population cards to residents of the camp for self-enumeration.

Self-Enumeration Procedures – Shadow Population Cards

The census coordinator or enumerator can contact the administrator of the camp a week prior to the start of enumerator to explain the purpose of the shadow population census and to arrange a time to drop off and pick up the shadow population census forms. The census contact or administrator would be directed to drop off a shadow population form to each room in the camp the night prior to Census Day.

The Shadow Population Census Form has instructions and directs persons who are temporary residents of the work camp to place an “X” on the form placed in their room on the evening prior to Census Day. Each resident is instructed to return the form to the front desk. It is the enumerator’s job to count the number of cards with an “X”.

Form No: XXXXXXXX

20__ Municipal Census Shadow Population Form

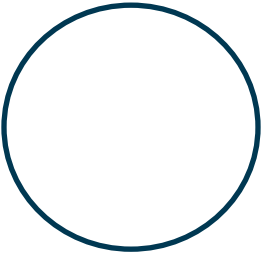
Within every municipality there is a component of the population that use municipal services for a portion of the year. Including a shadow population count with a municipal census allows municipalities to temporally adjust their population counts to offset the additional demand placed on utilities, roads, and other essential municipal services, such as policing and fire.

Completion of this form ensures that the municipality can better anticipate the needs of its community. No personal information is collected in this process, and completion of this card ensures that the municipality is able to secure the necessary funds to pay for roads, and other municipal services.

If you:

- Have your permanent residence in another municipality in Canada;
- Are employed in a commercial or industrial establishment in this municipality;
- Worked at least 120 hours in the municipality in the last 3 months.

MARK THE CIRCLE WITH AN “X”



Please return your completed card to the front desk or manager.

Enumeration in Private Dwellings

The municipality may choose to include questions on the census questionnaire to capture shadow population. The suggested questions are as follows:

Is there anyone in the household that lives here temporarily, and has a permanent residence in another municipality, and has worked at least 120 hours in an industrial or commercial establishment in this municipality for the past three months?

Yes No

IF THE RESPONDENT INDICATES THAT THEY DO NOT KNOW THE ANSWER, THE ENUMERATOR MAY LEAVE A SHADOW POPULATION CARD, AND HAVE THE TEMPORARY RESIDENT COMPLETE AND RETURN IT IN A SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE TO THE MUNICIPALITY OR MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO PICK UP THE CARD AT A LATER DATE.

Appendices

Appendix A: Oath and Statement

Oath of a Census Coordinator

MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY: _____, PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

MUNICIPAL CENSUS DAY: _____

I, (name of person taking oath), of (residential address), appointed census coordinator for (name of municipality), solemnly swear (affirm)

THAT I will act diligently, faithfully and to the best of my ability in my capacity as census coordinator;

THAT I will not, without authority, disclose or make known any information that comes to my knowledge by reason of my activities as a census coordinator; and

THAT I will supervise the municipal census and all census enumerators to the best of my ability and in accordance with the Municipal Census Manual approved by the Minister and published by the department.

SWORN (AFFIRMED) BEFORE ME at)
the _____ of _____, in the)
Province of Alberta, this _____ day of)
_____, 20____.)

(signature of Commissioner for Oaths)

) _____
) (signature of person taking oath)

IT IS AN OFFENCE TO SIGN A FALSE AFFIDAVIT

The collection of personal information on this form is authorized under Section 33(c) of the *Freedom of Information and Privacy (FOIP) Act* and will be used for the purpose of conducting a municipal census. All personal information will be managed in accordance with the privacy provisions of the *FOIP Act*. If you have any questions about the collection, contact (title and business phone number of the responsible municipal official).

Statement of a Census Enumerator

MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY: _____, PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

MUNICIPAL CENSUS DAY: _____

I, (name of person taking statement), of (residential address), appointed census enumerator for (name of municipality), solemnly state

THAT I will act diligently, faithfully and to the best of my ability in my capacity as census enumerator;

THAT I will not, without authority, disclose or make known any information that comes to my knowledge by reason of my activities as a census enumerator; and

THAT I will carry out the census of the area to which I have been assigned to the best of my ability and in accordance with the Municipal Census Manual approved by the Minister and published by the department.

(date)

(signature of census enumerator)

The collection of personal information on this form is authorized under Section 33(c) of the *Freedom of Information and Privacy (FOIP) Act* and will be used for the purpose of conducting a municipal census. All personal information will be managed in accordance with the privacy provisions of the *FOIP Act*. If you have any questions about the collection, contact (title and business phone number of the responsible municipal official).

Appendix B: Enumeration Materials

Summary of Enumeration Procedures

Before you begin:

- Sign the Statement of Census Enumerator. This statement is valid for the person's lifetime.
- Become familiar with your enumeration area (EA) and plan your route.
- Know all of the questions you will be asking.
- Adhere to the privacy provisions in the *Freedom of Information and Privacy Act* and respect respondent confidentiality.
- For your personal safety, check with your census coordinator or municipality regarding policies on entering dwellings during the interview process. Your safety is of utmost importance.
- Know your census coordinator's phone number. Do not hesitate to contact the coordinator if you have any questions or concerns, or if there is an emergency.
- Review and be clear on how to complete the census form accurately.
- Review and be clear on how to track completed properties and dwellings requiring enumerator visits.
- Practice your introductory statement for visiting dwellings before you start so you can say it automatically and naturally, without having to read from a paper. This will boost your confidence and increase the cooperation of the person you are interviewing.
- Make sure you have all the necessary census materials. The materials provided will vary by municipality. Some important materials may include the following:
 - photo identification and letter of introduction;
 - paper census forms or wireless device;
 - enumeration area map (EA map);
 - Notice of Visit Cards (to leave at dwellings when there is no one home);
 - Call-back Tracking form (for recording dwellings requiring enumerator visits);
 - Shadow Population Cards;
 - response category cards;
 - a cover sheet for identifying information to be returned with the completed census forms;
 - cell phone;
 - pencils and paper clips; and
 - the Municipal Census Manual.

Strategies to consider:

- Take note of landmarks on your EA map to assist in finding specific locations.
- Use a systematic approach to enumeration. For urban areas, cover your area on a block-by-block basis. For rural areas, cover your area quarter section by quarter section. Adapt as needed to ensure efficient enumeration in urban and rural areas.
- Mark an “X” on your map after you enumerate each dwelling. Also mark an “X” on lots with no dwelling units.
- For collective dwellings, plan how you will gain access to the building. Contact the building supervisor and arrange a time to visit the building.
- Manage your time carefully. Go through your entire route before returning for a field visit. Call-backs should be kept to a minimum and may be done in person or over the phone.

During enumeration:

- Be courteous, tactful, and professionally dressed.
- Prior to arrival, be sure your identification card (if available) is clearly visible. Be ready to show your letter of introduction if asked.
- Interview all usual residents within your EA.
- Make sure the respondent is a responsible adult who is a member of the dwelling and is able to answer questions accurately.
- If the respondent becomes uncooperative or unpleasant, politely leave and refer the case to your coordinator.
- When filling out the census form, record responses carefully and accurately.
- Write “Void” on any paper census forms that contain errors. Return voided forms to your coordinator. Do not destroy paper forms.
- Do not overlook any part of your area or any person living there. Be vigilant and take note of dwellings that may not be marked on your EA map (new dwellings or adjacent dwellings that are not obvious, for example). A dwelling is defined as a separate set of living quarters with a private entrance from the outside, or from a common hallway, parking garage, or stairway inside the building. The entrance should not be through someone else’s living quarters.
- Use the tips provided in the Municipal Census Manual if you encounter situations such as refusals to give information, language barriers, or if you are unsure about the different types of residents and dwellings in your EA.

Discuss any questions and concerns you have about the enumeration process with your census coordinator.

Letter of Introduction

Re: Municipal Census

This letter introduces _____ (name of enumerator) _____ who is an official municipal census enumerator for the Municipality of _____ (name of Municipality) _____.

The purpose of the census is to:

1. Help plan for improvements to our community such as transportation needs, recreational facilities, and parks, and
2. (May add additional rationale here).

This municipal census is being conducted under the authority of the *Municipal Government Act*. The collection of personal information is authorized by Section 33(c) of the *Freedom of Information and Privacy Act*.

The enumerators involved in the census have subscribed to a statement. All information collected will be kept confidential and used only for the production of anonymous statistics.

Your cooperation in providing the requested information is important to the census and is greatly appreciated.

If you have any other questions about the collection of this information or about the census in general, please call the census office at _____ (telephone number of the census office).

Yours truly,

Chief Administrator Officer

Example of Quality Assurance Check Script

Hello my name is (your name goes here), and I work for the (name of municipality). May I please speak to (name of person for quality assurance check)?

I am a supervisor for the municipal census. An enumerator had visited your home to obtain some basic census information. For the purpose of quality assurance, I am calling to confirm that we have the correct number of usual residents at this address. People are considered to be usual residents if they usually live at this address, and have no other usual place of residence.

How many people are considered, for census purposes, to be usual residents at this address?

Appendix C

Census Questionnaire Sample

Questionnaire No. Enumerator:
 Municipality:

MUNICIPAL CENSUS QUESTIONNAIRE

Section 1 - Identification						
Address of Dwelling:	<input type="text"/>					
Telephone Number:	<input type="text"/>					
Section 2 - Questions						
1 Including yourself, how many persons usually live at this address on < census day >? <input type="text"/>						
2 Did you leave anyone out because you were not sure the person should be included? <i>For example, a student, a child in joint custody, a person temporarily away, etc.</i>						
<input type="radio"/> Yes (specify name and reason) <input type="radio"/> No						
Name	<input type="text"/>					
Reason	<input type="text"/>					
3 Including yourself, can I have the first name of all persons who live here on < census day >?						
In the space provided, write the first names of the persons and ask the following questions for	Person 1 (First Name)	Person 2 (First Name)	Person 3 (First Name)	Person 4 (First Name)	Person 5 (First Name)	Person 6 (First Name)
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
4 What is this person's sex?	<input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female <input type="radio"/> Other	<input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female <input checked="" type="radio"/> Other	<input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female <input type="radio"/> Other	<input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female <input type="radio"/> Other	<input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female <input type="radio"/> Other	<input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female <input type="radio"/> Other
5 What is this person's age?	<input type="radio"/> 0-17 <input type="radio"/> 18-24 <input type="radio"/> 25-44 <input type="radio"/> 45-64 <input type="radio"/> 65+	<input type="radio"/> 0-17 <input type="radio"/> 18-24 <input type="radio"/> 25-44 <input type="radio"/> 45-64 <input type="radio"/> 65+	<input type="radio"/> 0-17 <input type="radio"/> 18-24 <input type="radio"/> 25-44 <input type="radio"/> 45-64 <input type="radio"/> 65+	<input type="radio"/> 0-17 <input type="radio"/> 18-24 <input type="radio"/> 25-44 <input type="radio"/> 45-64 <input type="radio"/> 65+	<input type="radio"/> 0-17 <input type="radio"/> 18-24 <input type="radio"/> 25-44 <input type="radio"/> 45-64 <input type="radio"/> 65+	<input type="radio"/> 0-17 <input type="radio"/> 18-24 <input type="radio"/> 25-44 <input type="radio"/> 45-64 <input type="radio"/> 65+
Section 3 - Quality Assurance Checks						
Municipalities are required to conduct quality assurance to verify the accuracy of the information collected. This would involve a supervisor contacting a sample of residents that took part in the census. Would you be interested in participating?						
4 Can I please have your first name? <input type="text"/>						
5 Would you prefer we contact you by telephone, text message or email?						
<input type="radio"/> Telephone <input type="text"/>						
<input type="radio"/> Text Message <input type="text"/>						
<input type="radio"/> Email <input type="text"/>						

Appendix D: Collective Dwelling Enumeration Materials

Contact Letter to Establishment with Temporary Accommodations

Dear Sir or Madam

The <name of municipality> will be conducting a municipal census on <Census Day>. All usual residents of this municipality should be counted in the census, including those living in facilities such as yours.

A census representative will be contacting your facility to request assistance in enumerating all persons who are residents, as well as employees and their family members living with them. To determine if these individuals are to be included in the census, we will need to confirm dates of admission and if residents have another address in Canada.

The <name of municipality> will collect this information with minimal inconvenience to your facility. Your assistance with the census is greatly appreciated.

There are four options for enumerating your facility:

- A headcount only: Only a headcount is required for residents who satisfy the requirements of being a usual resident as per the definition in the attached document.
- Administrative records: You may choose to submit administrative records with a printout of the required information. Administrative records are electronic records that contain information about residents who live in this facility. If your facility keeps electronic records that contain the required information to answer the census questions, we request that you print out this information and provide it to the enumerator. An example of an electronic print-out is included in this information package.
- Face-to-Face interviews: A census representative can conduct an interview with the census contact or the usual residents of the facility. <use this option if more detailed information is required of the residents in the facility>
- Self-enumeration: A census representative can drop off questionnaires with a census contact to distribute to residents and arrange to time to pick up the completed questionnaires.

All usual residents of < name of collective dwelling> must be counted in the census. The <name of municipality> will collect this information with minimal inconvenience to your facility. A census employee will contact you for assistance in completing the census for the residents who live in this establishment.

If you are not the administrator, please ensure that this letter is given to the person responsible for administration at your establishment so they can assist us with upcoming census activities. This municipal census is conducted under the authority of the *Freedom of Information and Privacy (FOIP) Act*. The collection of personal information is authorized by Section 33(c) of the *FOIP Act*.

Please ensure that this letter and the attachment is given to the administrator of your facility in order to help with the upcoming enumeration activities.

Thank you in advance for your help with the municipal census.

Chief Administrative Officer

Appendix D: Collective Dwellings Information Package

Municipal Census Information Package

What is the municipal census?

The municipal census provides information about the people who live in this municipality. Your responses ensure that the community has the census data it needs to for planning housing, emergency services, roads, public transportation and other community services.

What information is collected on the municipal census?

The census provides information on

- the number of usual residents in the community
- <list all required variables here such as age, sex, gender, marital status, etc.>

How is the municipality protecting the data?

The municipality places the highest priority on maintaining the confidentiality of the information it collects. Stringent instructions and procedures are followed to ensure that confidentiality is maintained at all times.

All census employees must take an oath or statement, which remains in effect for life – even after employment has ended.

Who must be included in the municipal census? <Choose the appropriate type of facility and response below>

Lodging and Rooming House

All persons living in this municipality must be counted in the census at their usual place of residence, including those living in an establishment such as yours. This will ensure that every person is counted only once in the census.

Hutterite Colony

All persons living in this municipality must be counted in the census at their usual place of residence, including those living in Hutterite colonies such as yours. This will ensure that every person is counted only once in the census.

Establishment with Temporary Accommodations

All persons living in this municipality must be counted in the census as their usual place of residence. People living in this establishment should be counted at this address if this is their only residence in Canada even if they are temporarily away.

These persons must fall under these categories:

- *Owners, if they live on site.*
- *Employees, if they live on site.*
- *Family member(s) of owner(s) and employee(s) living on site.*
- *Persons who rent a room for a long period of time, and have no other primary residence.*
- *Persons who usually live at this address, receive mail at this address, and have no other primary residence.*

Do not include:

- *Students who live at this location while attending school, but return to live with their parents during the year (on weekends, holiday breaks, study weeks, semester breaks, etc.).*
- *A spouse who lives at this location while working, but returns to live at their family residence periodically (on weekends, days off, etc.).*
- *Persons who live at this location temporarily, but have a primary residence elsewhere in Canada.*
- *Residents of another country who are visiting here or are taking a vacation or business trip in Canada.*
- *Government representatives of another country who are assigned to an embassy, a consulate, a high commission, or any other diplomatic or military mission, as well as family members living here with them.*
- *Members of the armed forces of another country who are stationed in Canada, and members of their family living with them.*

Institutional Collectives

Hospitals, continuing care, and/or residential care facilities (group homes for persons with disabilities or addictions), correctional or custodial facilities, religious establishments (convents, monasteries, seminaries)

All persons living in this municipality must be counted in the census as their usual place of residence.

People living in this establishment should be counted at this address if this is

- *their only residence in Canada; or*
- *was admitted to the facility for six months or more prior to Census Day.*

Shelter

All persons living in this municipality must be counted in the census at their usual place of residence, including those living in an establishment such as yours. This will ensure that every person is counted only once in the census.

People living in this establishment should be counted at this address if they stayed overnight at this address on Census Day, and have no main residence elsewhere in Canada.

How can you assist the municipality?

The <name of municipality> is requesting your help to enumerate this facility. We do not require personal information on usual residents but a count of those that meet the criteria for inclusion described above.

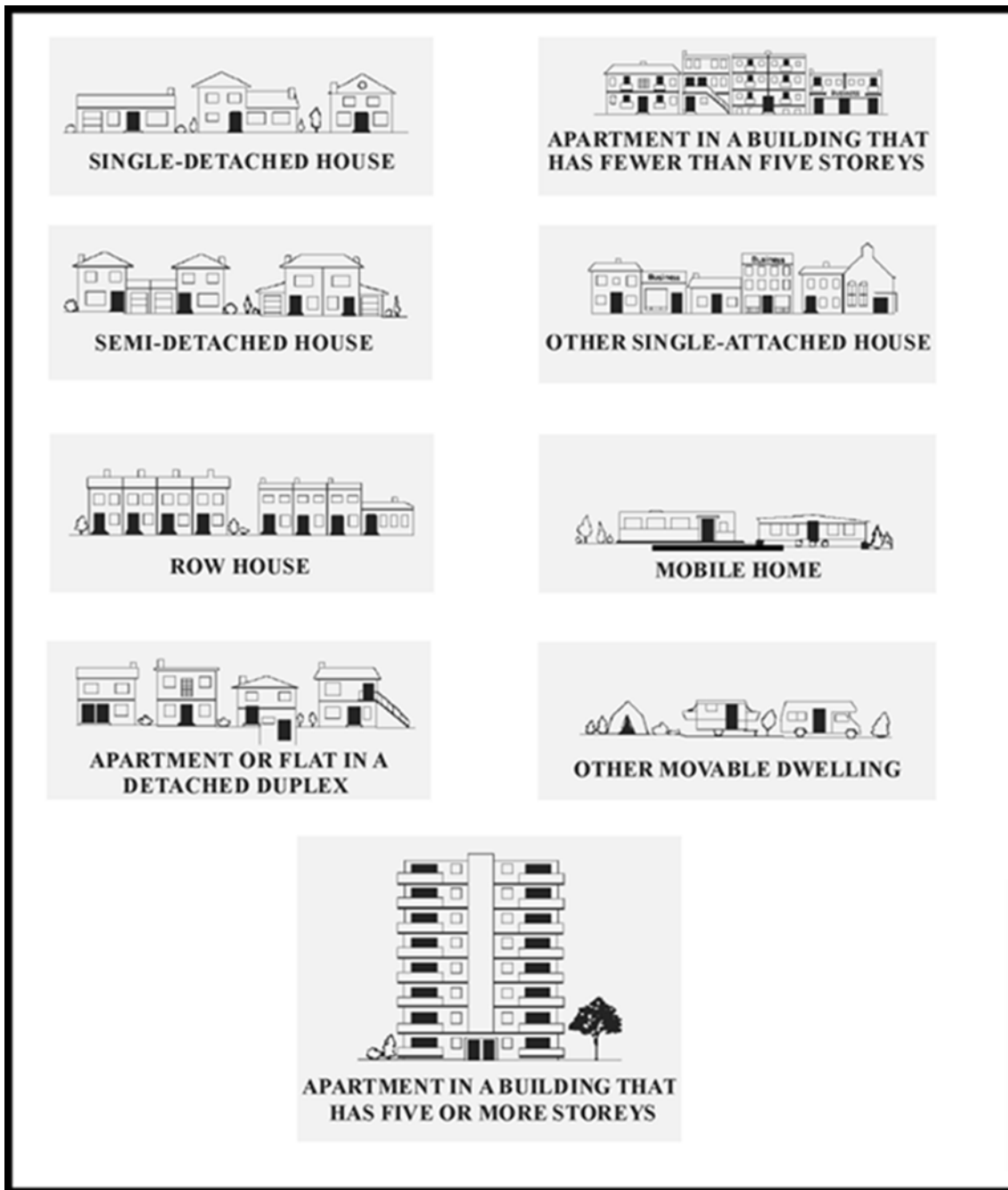
If you would like to verify an employee's identity, you can contact the Census Help Line at (XXX) XXX-XXXX. Hours of operation will be from 0:00 a.m. to 0:00 p.m.

Example of Administrative Records or Form for Collective Dwellings

Room No.	Occupancy Status (yes if usual resident(s))	Date of Admission	Number of Usual residents	Has residence elsewhere in the municipality	Address in municipality	Status at Facility (resident or employee)
101	Yes	5/1/2016	1	No		Patient
102	No	4/1/2012	2	No		Employee
103	No	6/1/2015	1	Yes	9901 99 Street	Patient
104	No	3/1/2016	1	No		Patient

Note: This table contains fictitious information.

Appendix E: Private Dwelling Types



Appendix F: Forms to Submit to Municipal Affairs

Municipal Census Form

Municipal Authority: _____, Province of Alberta.

I, _____, of
(Name of Person taking Oath)

_____, appointed designated officer for
(Municipal Office Address)

_____, solemnly swear/affirm
(Name of Municipality)

THAT I am the designated officer of the municipality of

(Name of Municipality)

THAT the enumeration period for the census began on the _____ day of _____, 20____ and was completed on the _____ day of _____, 20_____.

THAT the day chosen as the Municipal Census Day was the _____ day of _____, 20_____.

THAT (check off all that apply)

- the municipal census was conducted according to the Municipal Census Regulation and Municipal Census Manual;
- a count of temporary residents who worked at least 120 hours prior to Census Day for an industrial or commercial establishment for this municipality was conducted during the same time period as the municipal census;
- the Municipal Census Field Report is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge;
- the Estimates for Non-Contacted dwellings and Refusals For Occupied Dwellings Worksheet is attached and is complete to the best of my knowledge.

SWORN (AFFIRMED) before me at the _____)

_____ of _____,)

In the Province of Alberta.)

This _____ day of _____, 20_____)

Signature of Commissioner of Oaths)

Signature of Designated Officer

Municipal Census Field Report










Total count of usual residents	
Total count of shadow population (optional)	
Total count of private dwellings	
Total number of non-contacted dwellings	
Total number of dwellings completed by neighbor response	
Total number of refusals	








Private dwelling refers to a separate set of living quarters with a private entrance either from outside or from a common hall, lobby, vestibule or stairway inside a building. The entrance to the dwelling must be one that can be used without passing through the living quarters of someone else.









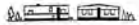

Non-contacted dwelling is where a census worker has been unable to make contact with a member of the household and believes that the dwelling was occupied by usual residents on Census Day.

Refusal is when a household refuses to participate in the census.

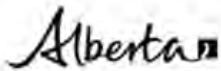
Estimates for Non-Contacted Dwellings and Refusals for Occupied Dwellings Worksheet

	Single Detached House	Semi-Detached House	Row House	Apartment						
				Flat in Duplex 	building that has 5 or more Storeys 	building that has < 5 storeys 	Other Single-Attached Home 	Mobile Home 	Other Movable Dwelling 	Total Private Dwellings
Number of Private Dwellings Enumerated										
Online	0									
Telephone	0									
Paper Survey	0									
Enumerator Visit	0									
Neighbor Contact	0									
Total Enumerated private dwellings	0									
Refusals	0									
Non-Contacted	0									
Total Dwellings Occupied by Usual Residents	0									
Not Occupied	0									
Cancelled Private Dwellings	0									
Number of Usual Residents Enumerated										
Online	0									

	Single Detached House	Semi-Detached House	Row House	Apartment			Other Single-Attached Home	Mobile Home	Other Movable Dwelling	Total Private Dwellings
				Flat in Duplex  	building that has 5 or more Storeys 	building that has < 5 storeys 				
Telephone	0									
Paper Survey	0									
Enumerator Visit	0									
Neighbor Contact	0									
Total Enumerated Usual Residents	0									
Estimates for Usual Residents										
Ratio : Total enumerated usual residents / Total enumerated private dwelling type										
Ratio x refusal dwellings										
Ratio x non-contacted dwellings										
Total Estimated Usual Residents (refusal estimate + non-contacted estimate)										
Total All Usual Residents (Total										

	Single Detached House	Semi-Detached House	Row House	Apartment						
				Flat in Duplex  	building that has 5 or more Storeys 	building that has < 5 storeys 	Other Single-Attached Home 	Mobile Home 	Other Movable Dwelling 	Total Private Dwellings
enumerated Usual Residents + estimated)										

Métis Settlements Members on Leave Verification Form



Métis Settlement Members on Leave Verification

Métis Settlement _____ Province of Alberta.

Municipal Census Date _____

I, _____ of _____
Name of Person taking Oath

_____, appointed designated officer for
Métis Settlement Office Address

_____, solemnly swear (affirm):
Name of Métis Settlement

THAT I am the designated officer of the Métis Settlement of _____

THAT the date chosen as the municipal census date for this Métis Settlement was the this _____ day of _____ 20 _____

THAT a count of the members on a leave of absence who have executed written intent that was approved by the council to return to the settlement within five years of the municipal census date is _____
Total Count of Members on Leave

SWORN (AFFIRMED) BEFORE ME

at the _____ of _____
in the Province of Alberta,
this _____ day of _____, 20 _____



Signature of Designated Officer

A Commissioner for Oaths in and for Alberta

Print Name

Expiry Date

LGS11849 Rev. 2018-10

[Reset Form](#)

[Save Form](#)

[Print Form](#)



FOIP Tips for Planning a Municipal Census

As public bodies subject to the FOIP Act, municipalities must collect, use, disclose, protect, retain and dispose of personal information, including census information, in accordance with the Act. The following tips are offered for consideration in planning a municipal census.

Decide whether personal information is needed

- Only collect the personal information that relates directly to and is necessary for an operating program or activity of the municipality (section 33(c)).
- Review the Municipal Census form and decide which data elements are needed. Only collect the data elements necessary for a municipal program or activity.
- For example, if a new program for children is in the planning stages, you may need to collect dates of birth of residents if you need to know the distribution of children of various ages in the community. Or if the municipality is planning programs to support home businesses, you may need to collect employment location information.
- If the purpose of conducting the census is to collect the municipal grant from Alberta Municipal Affairs, collect a head count of residents per dwelling. Do not collect any personal information such as names, birth dates, gender, etcetera.

Collecting personal information

- Personal information should be collected directly from each household, not from neighbours or caretakers.
- Households should be advised how the information will be used, to meet the requirement of the FOIP Act to give notice (section 34(2)). The "Letter of Introduction" in Appendix B of the census manual (available from Alberta Finance and Enterprise) can be revised for this purpose. The notice should cover the use of the information, the authority for collection (section 33(c) of the FOIP Act) and who to call if the resident has questions.
- The notice can be given orally or in writing.
- Households should be advised that participation in the census is voluntary.

Using and disclosing personal information

- Use and disclose the personal information only for the purposes given by the enumerator at the time the information is collected; for a consistent purpose (one that has a reasonable and direct connection to the original purpose and is necessary for operating a legally authorized program of the municipality); or for a purpose authorized under section 39 of the FOIP Act.

Protecting personal information

- Protect census information by making reasonable security arrangements against such risks as unauthorized access, collection, use, disclosure or destruction.
- Protect identifiable personal information from the time it is collected until it is properly disposed.
- Reasonable security arrangements include requiring enumerators to take the Oath of Office; keeping all identifiable information collected in locked cabinets; restricting access through the use of passwords or user verification for electronic information; and shredding the information after its approved retention period.

Retaining and disposing of personal information

- Retain for the period of time specified in the municipality's approved retention and disposition schedule for the type of record. Dispose of the information at the end of this period. If identifiable information has been collected, documents should be destroyed in a secure manner.

Questions? Call the FOIP Help Desk at 780-427-5848 (toll free dial 310-0000 first), e-mail the foiphelpdesk@gov.ab.ca of Access and Privacy, Service Alberta or visit our website at foip.alberta.ca.

September 2003, updated December 2006

Attention: Chief Administrative Officers, Municipal Clerks, and Census Coordinators

Re: Municipal Census Regulation and Municipal Census Manual

In 2019, the Government of Alberta announced its intention to move from municipal census counts to population estimates for the purposes of allocating provincial grants to municipalities. Over the last several months, former Minister of Municipal Affairs Ric McIver and I have both heard that municipalities strongly prefer that we revert to the recognition of municipal census counts. As a result of that feedback, and after consultation with my colleague the Honourable Travis Toews, President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance, I am pleased to announce the approval of the Municipal Census Regulation and Municipal Census Manual.

The attached regulation and manual not only outline municipal census requirements, but also incorporate the feedback we have received since 2019, including updating the definitions of “usual residence” and “shadow population.” In addition, we have extended the period for enumeration, and for how long the ministry will recognize a municipal shadow population count.

The manual was developed in partnership with Statistics Canada and addresses many of the concerns identified by you, our municipal partners. The manual, when used alongside the Municipal Census Regulation, provides municipalities with the tools necessary to conduct a municipal census that is consistent with best practices and ensures an accurate population count.

Some of the more notable enhancements over previous versions include:

- standardized methodology to enumerate persons with no usual residence;
- alignment of collection methodologies to reflect best practices and key learnings from the most recent federal census;
- updates to key census definitions including usual residence and shadow population;
- standardized approach to enumerating shadow population;
- the ability to include an estimated resident count for non-contacted dwellings and refusals recognized as part of the population total;
- a mechanism to review population submissions and verify population counts; and
- several other textual changes to the included forms, templates, and materials.

The new regulation and census manual will allow municipalities to conduct a census in 2024. Following the submission of the 2024 results, my department will be reaching out to you in an effort to capture what worked well, and what could be improved.

If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the regulation or manual, please contact a Municipal Information Advisor by email at ma.updates@gov.ab.ca or by telephone, toll-free by first dialing 310-0000, then 780-422-2555.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rebecca Schulz', with a stylized, cursive script.

Rebecca Schulz
Minister

Attachment: Municipal Census Regulation and Manual



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Committee of the Whole
Meeting Date:	August 15, 2023
Presented By:	Byron Peters, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Title:	Gravel Pit Update

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

Administration has been informally reviewing our gravel management practices as we know that there are operating and management deficiencies within our current program. Administration has included a brief summary of our current gravel pits, including their inventory and history. There is also information on potential additional gravel pits and a discussion around management practices.

Current Gravel Pits:

Fitler Pit (located in Rocky Lane)

Buttertown Pits – three separate pits/arrangements.

 Lizotte Pit

 River Lot 13 Pit

 Anderson Pit

Atlas Pit

Tompkins Pit

Administration has compiled estimated gravel inventory at each of our pits and the cost to the County to use gravel out of those pits.

Fitler Pit; gravel crushing was completed in 2022. This pit has significant overburden and undersized material. This pit is privately owned by the County.

Ramsey/Lizotte Pit; gravel crushing was completed in 2022. This was the first time during the lease that crushing had taken place at this pit. The 10-year gravel lease expired as of July 2023. Mackenzie County is in the process of renewing the gravel pit lease. No gravel has been removed from this pit. The Royalty Rate is \$1.25 per cubic meter. The full deposit amount had been reached and the last installment payment was paid to the landowner in August 2018. The 2022 stockpile inventory volume of the pit is 27,553.56 m³.

Author: S Gibson **Reviewed by:** _____ **CAO:** D. Derksen

River Lot 13 Pit; the County has never extracted material from this pit. AEP approvals are nearly complete. This pit is located on crown land and the County has a disposition. Although low risk, it is possible that we would not be granted an extension/renewal to our current disposition if we do not begin mining activities from this pit prior to disposition expiration. The disposition expires in October 10, 2029.

Anderson Pit; have mined extensively from this pit over the years. Completed a lot more testing in 2022 and there is a significant amount of gravel remaining on this property. Working through approvals to mine below the water table and update our AEP approval.

Atlas Pit; this pit has been thoroughly depleted (a small stockpile of 40mm material is on site but will be used in 2023). Have completed additional testing and the mineable aggregate has all been extracted. Only reclamation remains.

Tompkins Pit; this is an old pit but the County has only recently begun utilizing it. AEP approvals are in place and crushed in 2022. One caveat with this pit is that Alberta Transportation has a clause that allows them to mine from the pit, with no restriction to quantity.

Basic SWOT of existing pits:

Strengths:

We have an ample supply of gravel in the Fort Vermilion area with the three pits. The Tompkins Pit is a great resource and has a long-term supply.

Weaknesses:

The Fidler Pit is becoming increasingly cost-prohibitive due to the increasing amount of overburden and undersized material. We have no County owned supply in the greater La Crete area or in the Zama/Chateh vicinity.

Our current management practices are not as efficient as they could/should be. This includes in-pit processes as well as County-wide gravel management.

Opportunities:

There is additional gravel in Buttertown. The County has tested on additional private lands and confirmed the resource. The Smith Pit in Lambert Point may also be an option – the landowner has indicated a willingness to partner with the County to develop the pit (County would need to do due diligence before making any commitment).

In the La Crete area there is the possibility of accessing some gravel by mining the road allowance through the current Knelsen Pit. This would require AT approval and a working agreement with Knelsen.

There are additional known gravel resources in the Meander area that remain undeveloped. Wetlands and traditional uses have slowed the development of some of these resources, but there is also good competition on the private side.

The Tompkins area has additional confirmed gravel resources. All confirmed resources are privately held, but there is developing competition for these resources.

Author: S Gibson, M Wiebe, BP **Reviewed by:** _____ **CAO:** D. Derksen

There are opportunities to increase our efficiency and access to gravel.

Threats:

It is becoming increasingly difficult to develop new gravel pits. Traditional land uses, flood plains and wetlands are perhaps the biggest threat to obtaining new approvals.

AT's right to remove gravel from the Tompkins Pit is a big risk, especially with the pending bridge construction in the area.

Management Practices:

Administration has no direct experience maximizing value from gravel pits, and methods with which to be most efficient. That said, we know that we are not capitalizing on several aspects of our gravel inventory and there is a need to do better. Current methods of contracting overburden removal, crushing and reclamation separately decrease any opportunities for combined in-pit efficiency. We do not currently utilize stockpile sites or have any long-term agreements for any aspects of our gravel pits.

Administration has been considering various options and has discussed some options with current gravel suppliers within the County to increase efficiency. Several options would take further negotiation and confirmation of details, but some general ideas include:

1. "Share" gravel with other local operators. For example, we could trade 15,000 tonnes annually at our Tompkins Pit in exchange for 15,000 tonnes in La Crete. This would theoretically save both the County and a supplier a significant amount of trucking expense.
2. Enter into a third party agreement to have one of the local gravel suppliers manage our pit, including all crushing, reclamation, etc. We would specify a minimum amount that needs to be available annually and it would be their job to ensure it's available. To maximize efficiency and incentive, could allow the contractor to sell a certain amount to third parties. It would be most efficient in the pit if one entity controls access, rather than a combined County/contractor access.
3. Switch who we use to help us manage our pits. Currently we utilize an engineering firm, and switching to a contractor would likely increase the efficiency significantly. As a small aside, many County's have recently started asking contractors if they can provide this service due to the inefficiency of engineering firms managing this work.
 - a. There is a possibility that we can better manage some aspects of our pits in house, if key staff members can commit their time to it long-term.
4. Create long-term contracts
 - a. This could be crushing contracts, so one crusher knows they will have a significant amount of work over a longer term. This would help to eliminate the crusher crew from only following the best seam because they would likely be the ones needing to mine the poorer seam too.
 - b. This could be full supply contracts from private pits with a long-term, minimum usage clause. Some municipalities have 20 year agreements with prices locked-in for 5 year increments

Author: S Gibson, M Wiebe, BP **Reviewed by:** _____ **CAO:** D. Derksen

5. Pursue bulk-purchase opportunities. We recently received an offer from a contractor who wishes to sell 20,000 tonnes of ¾" (20mm) crush at \$10.50/tonne at one of their pits. If we can source a stockpile site this would be a good opportunity to pursue.
6. Sell reject/fines and other materials. We recently received an offer from a local contractor interested in purchasing all of the fines/sand from the Fidler Pit.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

There are many different ways of proceeding, as outlined above. Here are a few more specific questions based on the previous information:

1. Administration recommends that we pursue the purchase of 20,000 tonnes of gravel for \$10.50/tonne.
2. Administration recommends that we negotiate with the contractor that expressed interest in the sand from Fidler Pit.
3. Administration recommends that we pursue opportunities to share/trade gravel with local suppliers.
4. Administration recommends that we proceed with requesting approvals to access the gravel within the road allowance in the Knelsen Pit. This will require approval from Alberta Transportation and an agreement with Knelsen.
5. Administration recommends that we further pursue long-term crushing contracts (10 years), and bring back additional information and/or draft RFP before proceeding.

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Pits cost shown in the table below are from 2022, as 2023 costs will not be updated until the Finance Department completes the year end calculation.

Gravel Pit	Cost per Tonne	Volume (m ³)	Weight (T)
Fidler	\$15.84/m ³	36,986	66,575
Ramsey/Lizotte	unknown	27,553	49,596
Anderson	\$22.56/m ³	15,839	28,511
West La Crete (Atlas) – 16mm	\$15.28/m ³	N/A	N/A
West La Crete (Atlas) – 1½"	\$14.28/m ³	153	275
Tompkins	\$5.27/m ³	12,082	21,748
Wabasca	\$21.95/m ³		

Approximate inventory for gravel pits as of August 1, 2023, and are based on the November 2022 WSP Gravel Pit Stockpile Report, subtracting gravel that was removed in 2023 for projects.

Author: S Gibson, M Wiebe, BP Reviewed by: _____ CAO: D. Derksen

COMMUNICATION / PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

N/A

POLICY REFERENCES:

N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

That the Gravel Pit Update be received for information.

Author: S Gibson, M Wiebe, BP **Reviewed by:** _____ **CAO:** D. Derksen



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Committee of the Whole
Meeting Date:	August 15, 2023
Presented By:	Caitlin Smith, Director of Planning and Agriculture/Byron Peters, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Title:	Recreational Dispositions Update

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

Administration has compiled an updated list of all Mackenzie County obtained Recreational Dispositions. The list details the current status, expiration dates, and approvals of the various recreational dispositions Mackenzie County manages, including campgrounds, a walking trail and proposed winter snow mobile trails within Caribou Mountains Wildland Park.

Administration would like to present the recreational dispositions list to Council, as well as the corresponding maps to outline where the proposed snow mobile trails are located.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

N/A

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

N/A

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

N/A

COMMUNICATION / PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

N/A

Author: J Kramer **Reviewed by:** C Smith **CAO:** D. Derksen

POLICY REFERENCES:

N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

That the Recreational Dispositions Update be received for information.

Author: J Kramer **Reviewed by:** C Smith **CAO:** D. Derksen

Disposition	Project Name	Activity	Effective as of
REC2621/TCL2621	FV Rodeo Grounds	Received Tourism and Commercial Recreation Lease until 2083-07-06	2023-07-07
REC100003/TCL090007	Hutch Lake	Received Tourism and Commercial Recreation Lease until 2083-06-20	2023-06-21
TCL030012	LC Ferry Campground	Received Tourism and Commercial Recreation Lease until 2083-06-20	2023-06-21
TCL880027	Wadlin Lake Campground	Received Tourism and Commercial Recreation Lease until 2083-06-20	2023-06-21
DML170039/TCL170039	FV Bridge Campground	Received Tourism and Commercial Recreation Lease until 2083-06-20	2023-06-21
REC030013	Machesis Lake Campground	Drafting a Development Plan to send to Forestry and Parks and then applying for a Tourism and Commercial Recreation Lease	ongoing
REC820035	Lake Tourangeau	Applied for renewal 2022-08-22	Waiting
REC100008	La Crete Walking Trail	Lease is Active until 2046-05-19	2021-05-20
TFA232155	Trail to Margaret East within the Park	Received a 5 year TFA for trail grooming	2023-06-16
TFA232155	Trail to Pitchimi & Wentzel within the Park	Received a 5 year TFA for trail grooming	2023-06-16
DLO230065	Trail to Thurston & Platapus (Johnson)	Submitted in EDS 2023-04-11. <i>FNC202300159</i> <i>Waiting for direction from Forestry and Parks</i>	ongoing
DML230019	Platapus (Johnson) Lake Site N	Application is subject for merit review <i>FNC202300159</i> <i>Waiting for direction from Forestry and Parks</i>	ongoing
DML230020	Platapus (Johnson) Lake Site S	Application is subject for merit review <i>FNC202300159</i> <i>Waiting for direction from Forestry and Parks</i>	ongoing
DML230021	Thurston Lake Site NE	Application is subject for merit review. <i>FNC202300159</i> <i>Waiting for direction from Forestry and Parks</i>	ongoing
DML230022	Thurston Lake Site NW	Application is subject for merit review <i>FNC202300159</i> <i>Waiting for direction from Forestry and Parks</i>	ongoing

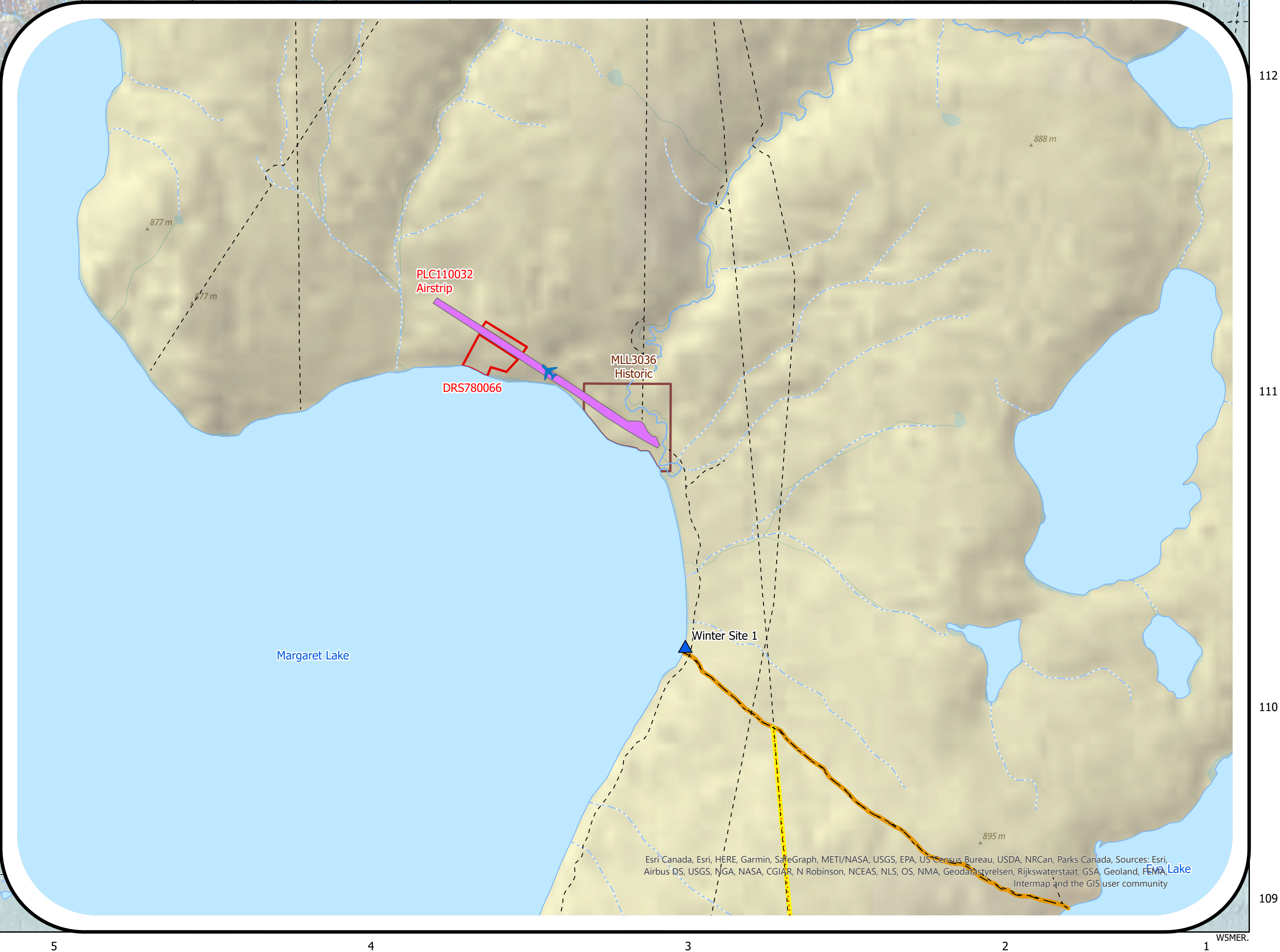
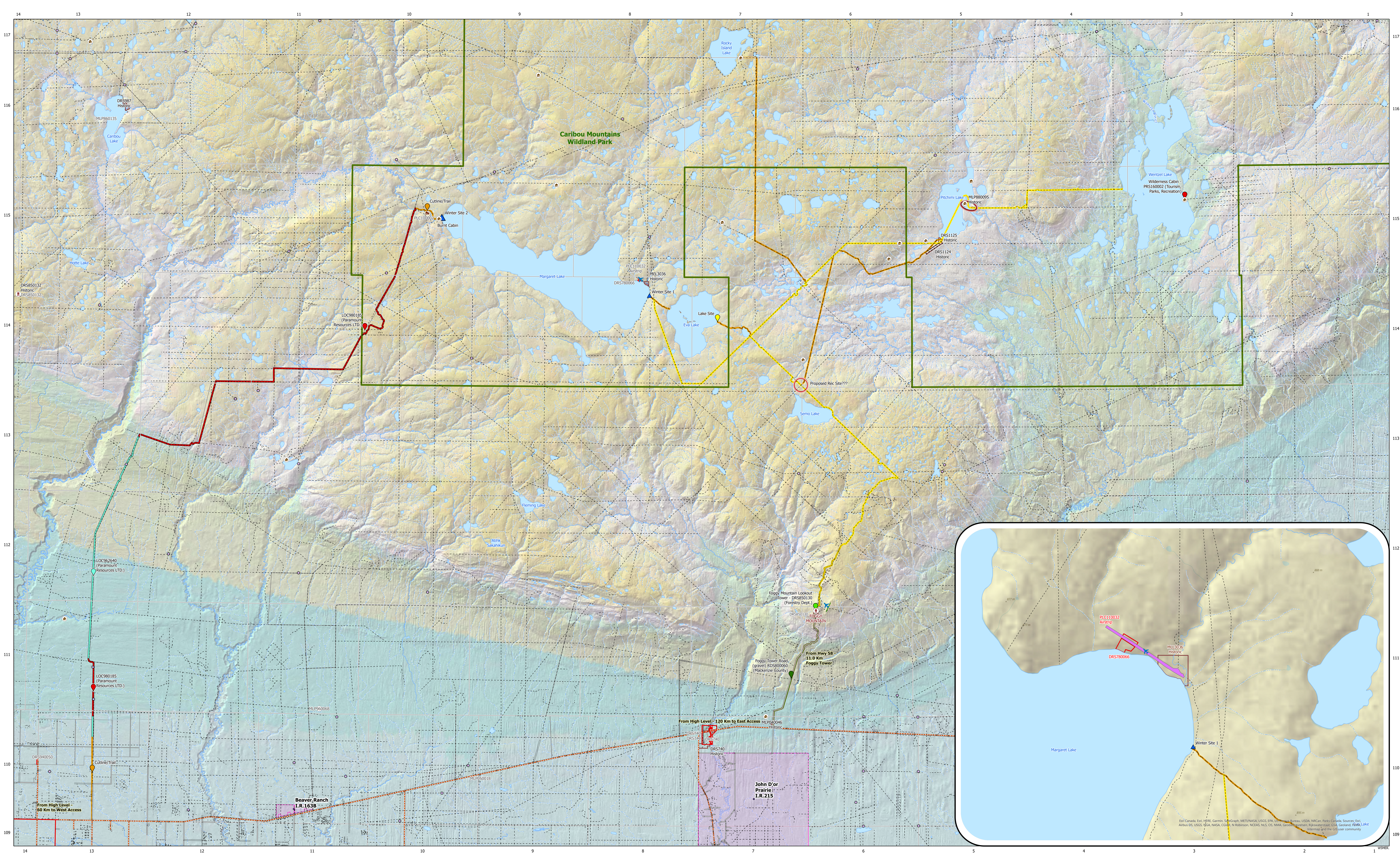
DLO230079	Trail to Bistcho S	Application is subject for merit review <i>FNC202300158</i> <i>Waiting for direction from Forestry and Parks</i>	ongoing
DLO230081	Trail to Bistcho NE	Application is subject for merit review <i>FNC202300158</i> <i>Waiting for direction from Forestry and Parks</i>	ongoing
DML230023	Bistcho Lake Site	Application is subject for merit review <i>FNC202300158</i> <i>Waiting for direction from Forestry and Parks</i>	ongoing
DLO230078	Caribou Mountains Trail	Application is subject for merit review <i>FNC202300160</i> <i>Waiting for direction from Forestry and Parks</i>	ongoing
DML230039	Caribou Mountains Site	Application is subject for merit review <i>FNC202300160</i>	ongoing
TFA_____	Trail to Margaret West within the Park	Emailed Forestry and Parks. Waiting for their guidance of what application is applicable for this trail	ongoing
TFA_____	Trail to Rocky Island within the Park	Emailed Forestry and Parks. Waiting for their guidance of what application is applicable for this trail	ongoing

Merit Review:

If the application meets the administrative and technical requirements, a "merit" review is done as per the Public Lands Administration Regulation: Section 9 5(b).

When assessing a disposition application based on merit, many factors may be considered including if:

- The land use is acceptable and in the best interest for that land base
- The proposed disposition is in compliance with Alberta land management regional plans (if applicable)
- The proposed disposition does not impact or conflict with any existing land uses or stakeholders
- The disturbance limits of applicable disturbance standards are being met

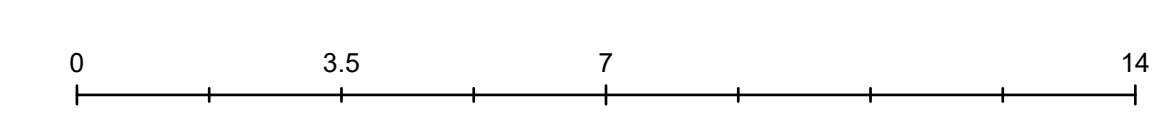


Mackenzie County Proposed Recreation
Margaret, Pitchimi, Eva, Wenzel, Rocky Island, and Semo Lake
Map 3

Map Created February 10, 2023
Updated February 14, 2023
Map Created by MHA Geospatial Field Unit,
Based on the
Base Data Provided by Govt of Alberta,
Under the Open Govt of Alberta License
© Govt of Alberta. Data depicted is subject to
change Govt of AB assumes no
responsibility at time of use.



- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|---|--|--|-------------------------|--|--|--|--|---|
| Recommended Access Route
Caribou Mtn Plan
Prop Access Routes
Cutline/Trail | Foggy Mountain Lookout Tower - DRS850130 (Forestry Dept.)
Foggy Tower Road - RDS800060 (Mackenzie County) | Untilled Polygon
Margaret LK Etc
Cutline/Trail | LOC962640 (Paramount Resources LTD.)
LOC980185 (Paramount Resources LTD.) | Name
Winter Site 1
Winter Site 2 | Foggy Mountain Lookout Tower - DRS850130 (Forestry Dept.)
Foggy Tower Road (gravel) RDS800060 (Mackenzie County) | Lake Site
Wilderness Cabin - PRS160002 (Tourism, Parks, Recreation) | Name
Cutline/Trail to Margaret Lake
LOC962640
LOC980185 | AERODROME
WF Lookout | Two Lane Gravel Road
Water Road
Dry-Weather Road
Cutline/Trail
Indian Reserves | Airfield Runway
Abandoned Airfield Runway
Airport Runway
Abandoned Airport Runway | Major Mill Site
Oil/Gas Plant
Caribou Mountains Wildland Parks
ATS
DIDs Applications | DIDs Misc
Historic Dispositions
Cabin Locations
Courtesy of WF VAR
Cabin | Wellsites
Abandoned
Wellsite
Other |
|--|--|--|--|--|---|--|--|-------------------------|--|--|--|--|---|



Note: Recreation point and route data provided by Mackenzie County
Margaret Lake West 80.40 km from Hwy 58
Margaret Lake East 50.6 km from Foggy Twr - Caribou Plan Access
Pitchimi Lake East 66.2 km from Foggy Twr - Caribou Plan Access
Wenzel Lake West 78.3 km from Foggy Twr - Caribou Plan Access



Mackenzie County Proposed Recreation Plan

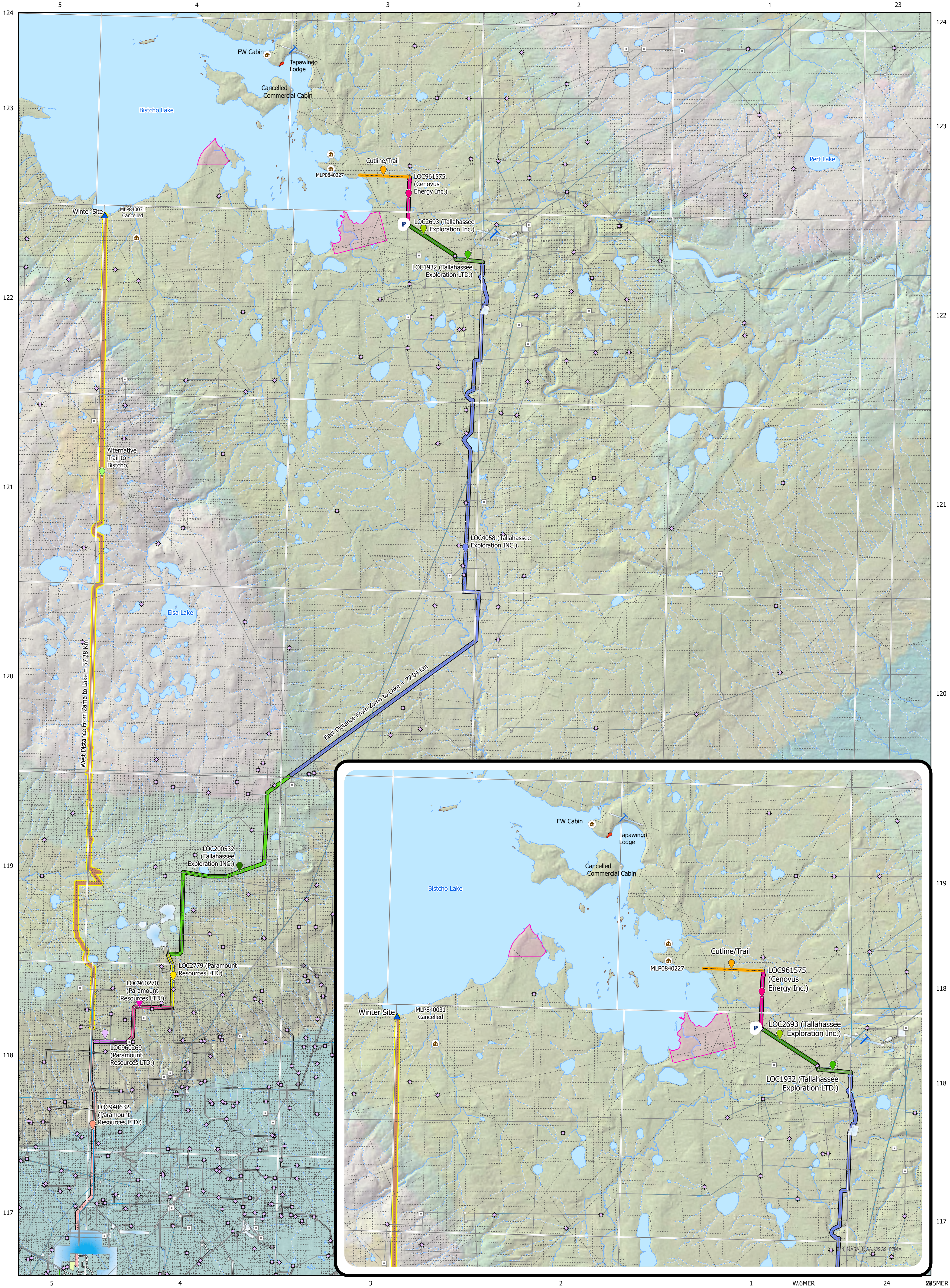
Thurston and Platapus (Johnson) Lake Map 2

Note: Recreation point and route data provided by Mackenzie County
High level to Cameron Hills Road = 147.37Km
Distance to Platapus Lk from Hwy 35 = 40.18 Km
Distance to Thurston Lake from Hwy 35 = 74.37 Km

Legend

- | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|-----------------------------|--|--|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Platapus and Thurston Lk Pnts | Cutline/Trail | Indian Cabins | LOC3946 (Tallahassee Exploration Inc.); LOC3946 (Tallahassee Exploration Inc.) | Summer Lake Site | Winter Lake Site (option 2) | Cameron Hills Access Road - LOC901153 (Tallahassee Exploration Inc.) | DLO960764 (High Level Airstrip) | LOC3946 | AERODROME | Well Type | Paved Road |
| Cameron Hills Access Road - LOC901183 (Tallahassee Exploration Inc.) | DLO960764 (477470 Alberta Ltd.) | LOC 3182 (Tallahassee Exploration Inc.) | LOC901176 (Tallahassee Exploration Inc.) | Winter Lake Site | Cameron Hills Access Road | Cutline/Trail | DPL002469 | LOC901176 | Abandoned Airstrip | Abandoned | Dry-Weather Road |
| DPL002469 (Strategic Oil & Gas LTD) | DPL002469 (Strategic Oil & Gas LTD) | LOC901176 (Tallahassee Exploration Inc.) | LOC901176 (Tallahassee Exploration Inc.) | Winter Lake Site (option 1, old DML960018) | Cameron Hills Access Road | Cutline/Trail | LOC3182 (Tallahassee Exploration Inc.) | Proposed Lake Site | Wellsite | Winter Road | Cutline/Trail |



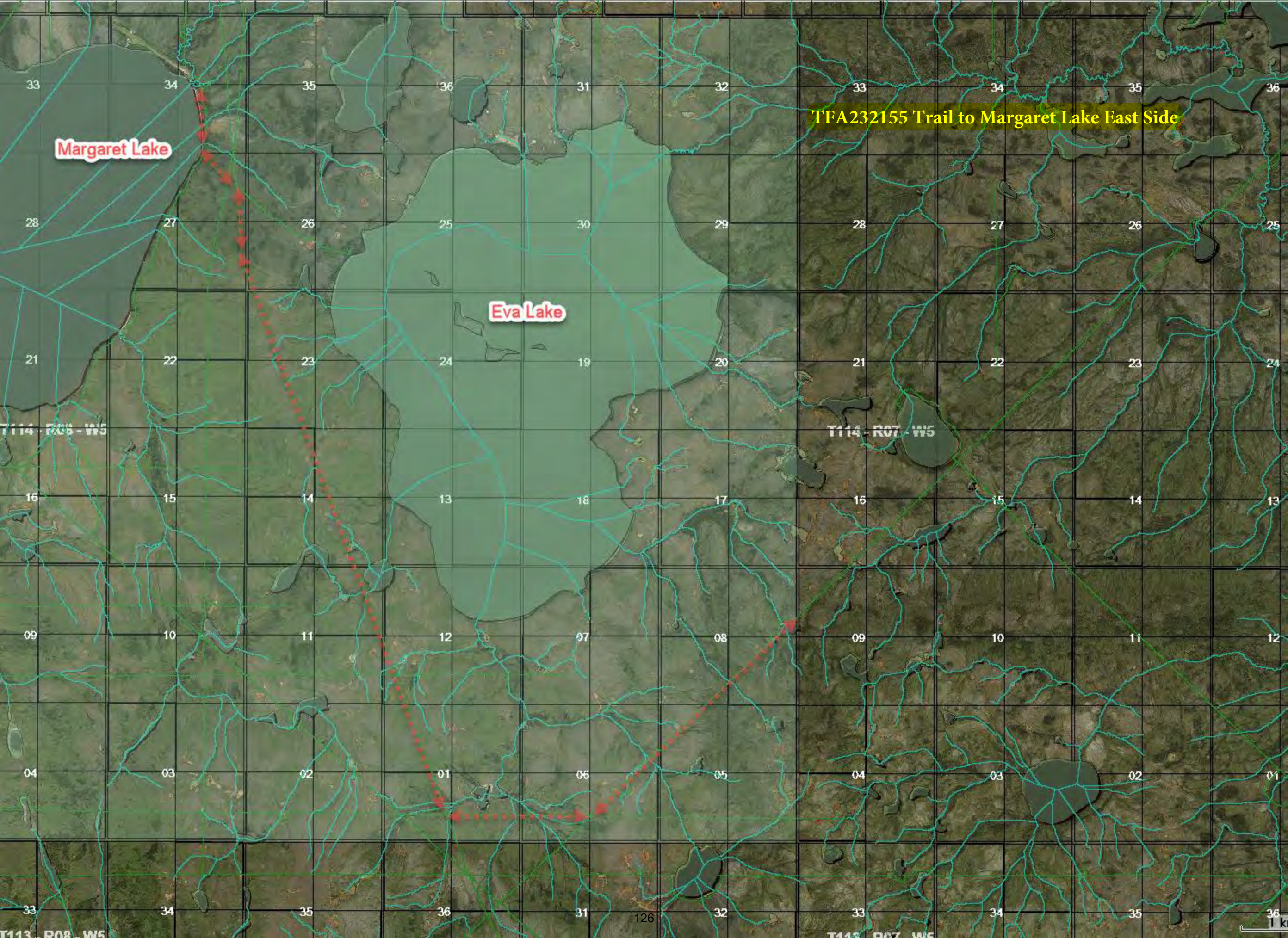


Mackenzie County Proposed Recreation Bistcho Lake Area

**Note: Recreation point and route data provided by Mackenzie County
West Access = 57.28 Km from Zama, East Access= 77.04 Km from Zama**

Legend

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| Bistcho Lake Pnts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Alternative Trail to Bistcho ● Cutline/Trail ● LOC1932 (Tallahassee Exploration LTD.) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● LOC200532 (Tallahassee Exploration INC.) ● LOC2693 (Tallahassee Exploration Inc.) ● LOC2779 (Paramount Resources LTD.) ● LOC940632 (Paramount Resources LTD.) ● LOC960269 (Paramount Resources LTD.) ● LOC960270 (Paramount Resources LTD.) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● LOC4058 (Tallahassee Exploration INC.) ● LOC940632 (Paramount Resources LTD.) ● LOC960269 (Paramount Resources LTD.) ● LOC960270 (Paramount Resources LTD.) ● LOC961575 (Cenovus Energy Inc.) ● LOC962640 (Paramount Resources LTD.) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● LOC980185 (Paramount Resources LTD.) ▲ Winter Site | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Cutline/Trail to Bistcho Lake — LOC1932 — LOC200532 — LOC2693 — LOC2779 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — LOC4058 — LOC940632 — LOC960269 — LOC960270 — LOC961575 — LOC962640 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Well sites ● Abandoned ● Well site ● Other | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bistcho LOCs DIDs Applications — Ford/Winter Crossing — One Lane Gravel Road | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Two Lane Gravel Road — Winter Road — Dry-Weather Road — Cutline/Trail Indian Reserves — WF Lookout | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ WF_VAR Cabins ■ Cabin ■ Tapawingo Lodge |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|



Margaret Lake

Eva Lake

TFA232155 Trail to Margaret Lake East Side

T114 R06 W5

T114 R07 W5

T113 R08 W5

T113 R07 W5

1 km



TFA232155 Trail to Pitchimi and Wentzel Lakes

Pitchimi Lake

Wentzel Lake

T115 - R05 - W5

T115 - R04 - W5

1 km



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Committee of the Whole
Meeting Date:	August 15, 2023
Presented By:	Willie Schmidt, Manager of Fleet Services
Title:	Grader Replacements - Budget

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

The grader replacement schedule identifies 3 graders to be purchased in 2022, 2023, and 2024. In November 2021, administration was notified of delays in receiving graders for the upcoming 2022 year, and recommended that Council provide a budget authorizing administration to order 2022 graders. Funding in the amount of

Project	Budget	MSI Grant	Other Source (non-grant)
AWD 160M Graders X3 (2021)	\$1,714,101	\$1,039,101	\$675,000

Unfortunately, these graders were delayed until 2023.

In May 2022, Council passed the following motions regarding the graders:

MOTION 22-05-406 *That administration advertise the 140M AWD Grader publicly for sale with a reserve bid of \$ 225,000.*

CARRIED

MOTION 22-05-407 *That administration advertise the 160M AWD Grader publicly for sale with a reserve bid of \$ 270,000.*

CARRIED

The 2021 budgeted graders (2022 graders) were delayed, and did not arrive until 2023.

Administration advertised a 2018 - 160M AWD grader and a 2016 -140M AWD grader for sale by public auction with reserves of \$275,000 and \$225,000 respectively.

Author: J. Batt **Reviewed by:** W. Schmidt **CAO:** D. Derksen

The 2018 – 160M AWD grader sold at auction for \$330,000 less consignment fees, and the 2016 grader received no bids.

In the 2023 budget, Council provided a budget authorizing administration to order 3 additional graders which are anticipated to arrive in 2024.

Project	Budget	MSI Grant	Vehicle & Equipment Reserve
AWD 160M Graders X3 (2023)	\$2,103,759	\$1,221,108	\$882,651

Since the 2021 budget (2022 graders) were approved, Council has amended the Organizational chart by including a full-time grader operator to Zama (2022), and adding a fulltime project operator (2023). Due to the delay in receiving the graders, there was some confusion between the 2022 & 2023 graders.

As the budget for the 2022 graders was developed on the sale or trade in of 3 graders to fund the Other Source (non-grant) portion of the budget, with the sale of only 1 grader, administration is requesting direction from Council on how to proceed. There is no Council motion actioning how to realize these funds.

Administration will provide a handout of all current graders for Councils review.

- There are currently 9 grader beats, a project grader and the 11th grader for Council to consider for disposal in fall of 2023.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

Options for sale:

- local public auction with a reasonable reserve;
- Ritchie Brothers Heavy Equipment Sale in September;
- listed on Gov Deals;
- consign at JPH Equipment;
- consign with Finning.

Any of the options chosen would be advertised and promoted on the County’s social media, proving additional exposure, and opportunities for increased interest and potential bidders.

Administration is recommending that they be able to negotiate the best option for the sale of the 2016 – 140M grader be sold.

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

\$354,000 required as per budget.

COMMUNICATION / PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

To advertised as per Policy FIN029.

Author: J. Batt Reviewed by: W. Schmidt CAO: D. Derksen

POLICY REFERENCES:

FIN029 – Asset Disposal Policy

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

That administration be authorized to negotiate the best publicly advertised option for the sale of the 2016 – 140M grader.

Author: J. Batt **Reviewed by:** W. Schmidt **CAO:** D. Derksen



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Committee of the Whole
Meeting Date:	August 15, 2023
Presented by	Darrell Derksen, Interim Chief Administrative Officer
Title:	Township Road 1050 (27th Baseline Road) 2 miles (2022) – Project Update

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

As part of the 2023 Capital Budget, Council approved 2 miles of road to be rebuilt on Township Road 1050 (27th Baseline Road). This project was tendered on 2 occasions, where tenders received exceeded the budget of \$700,000.

After reviewing the project scope, on April 26th, 2023 Council passed the following motion:

MOTION 23-04-395 *That administration be authorized to enter into a contract with Northern Road Builders Ltd. as discussed for the TWP RD 1050 (27 baseline) capital project.*

CARRIED

The approved scope of work was to rebuild the road by pulling dirt from the shoulder, and one borrow pit, however upon review on site, the material available is limited and continuing this action would not be fiscally responsible.

Administration is proposing to add additional borrow pits to ensure that the road rebuild is successful and stays within budget. A change order will need to be completed, with the anticipation of possible additional construction being completed due to the scope change.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

N/A

Author: J. Batt **Reviewed by:** _____ **CAO:** D. Derksen

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Municipal Sustainability Initiative grant

COMMUNICATION / PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

N/A

POLICY REFERENCES:

N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

That the Township Road 1050 (27th Baseline Road) 2 miles (2022) – Project Update be received for information.

Author: J. Batt Reviewed by: _____ CAO: D. Derksen



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Committee of the Whole
Meeting Date:	August 15, 2023
Presented By:	Jennifer Batt, Director of Finance
Title:	Cheque Registers – July 10 – August 11, 2023 (HANDOUT)

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

At the request of Council cheque registers, are to be viewed by Council during Committee of the Whole meetings.

All invoices are authorized by Managers, Directors, and or the CAO in accordance with the Purchasing Policy FIN025. Cheques and Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) payments are released on a weekly or bi-weekly basis unless otherwise required for operational needs, while other payments are withdrawn direct. Copies of June 2023 Online/Direct Debit payments, and the July 10 – August 11, 2023 cheque registers, and EFT reports will be available at the meeting.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

Administration will continue to present all new EFT & cheque registers at each Committee of the Whole meeting.

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

2023 Budget

COMMUNICATION / PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

N/A

Author: J.Batt **Reviewed by:** _____ **CAO:** D. Derksen

POLICY REFERENCES:

Policy FIN025 Purchasing Authority Directive and Tendering Process

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

That the July 2023 Online/Direct Debit payments, and the cheque registers and EFTs from July 10 – August 11, 2023, be received for information.

Author: J.Batt Reviewed by: _____ CAO: D. Derksen



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Committee of the Whole
Meeting Date:	August 15, 2023
Presented By:	Jennifer Batt, Director of Finance
Title:	MasterCard Statements – June 2023 (HANDOUT)

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

As per Policy FIN028, Mastercard statements are to be reviewed by Council at the Committee of the Whole Meetings.

Administration will provide a copy of the June 2023 Mastercard statements at this meeting for Councils review.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

N/A

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

2023 Budget

COMMUNICATION / PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

N/A

Author: J.Batt **Reviewed by:** _____ **CAO:** D. Derksen

POLICY REFERENCES:

Policy FIN028 Credit Card Use

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

That the MasterCard Statements for June 2023 be received for information.

Author: J.Batt **Reviewed by:** L. Flooren **CAO:** D. Derksen



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Committee of the Whole
Meeting Date:	August 15, 2023
Presented By:	Darrell Derksen, Interim Chief Administrative Officer
Title:	ADM056 Public Participation Policy

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

Section 216.1 (1) of the *Municipal Government Act*, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter M-26, current as of April 1, 2023, requires municipalities to establish a Public Participation Policy.

As per the provisions outlined in Policy Expectations #11 of ADM056 Public Participation Policy, a scheduled review is mandated at intervals of no more than four years. During this assessment, no amendments are being brought forward.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

Public participation promotes public awareness and enables the public to provide input in the local government decision-making process. An effective participation policy is essential for any municipality to receive important information out and provide a forum for resident feedback.

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

N/A

COMMUNICATION / PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

N/A

Author: L. Flooren **Reviewed by:** _____ **CAO:** D. Derksen

POLICY REFERENCES:

N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

That ADM056 Public Participation Policy be received for information.

Author: L. Flooren **Reviewed by:** _____ **CAO:** D. Derksen

Mackenzie County

Title	Public Participation Policy	Policy No:	ADM056
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Legislation Reference	Municipal Government Act Section 216.1 Public Participation Policy Regulation
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Purpose

Public participation is essential to the municipal decision making process. The purpose of this policy is to recognize the value of public participation and create opportunities for meaningful public participation in decisions that directly impact the public.

This Public Participation Policy does not modify or replace the statutory public hearing requirements in the *Municipal Government Act*.

General Principles

Council recognizes that good governance includes engaging Municipal Stakeholders in Public Participation by:

1. Creating opportunities for Municipal Stakeholders who are affected by a decision to influence the decision;
2. Promoting sustainable decisions by recognizing various Municipal Stakeholder interests;
3. Providing Municipal Stakeholders with the appropriate information and tools to engage in meaningful participations; and
4. Recognizing that although councillors are elected to consider and promote the welfare and interest of the Municipality as a whole and are generally required to vote on matters brought before Council, facilitating Public Participation for matters beyond those where public input is statutorily required can enrich the decision making process.

Definitions

“CAO” means the Chief Administrative Officer of the Municipality or their delegate.

“Consensus Building” means an agreement reached by Council and all interested stakeholders when all parties agree that they can live with the matter being proposed after every effort has been made to meet all relevant interests.

“Council” means the elected governing body of a municipality.

“Delegated decision” means the assignment of decision making authority to public members.

“Municipal Stakeholders” means the residents of the Municipality, as well as other individuals, organizations or persons that may have an interest in, or are affected by, a decision made by the Municipality.

“Participatory decision making” means involving public members in the decision making process through shared leadership and the exchange of information, ideas and perceptions.

“Public Advisory Committee” means a Council appointed ad hoc committee on which public members observe, advise and liaise on behalf of all citizens for consideration by Council and Administration. Committee terms of reference are to be developed as required for individual Council decisions.

“Public Participation” includes a variety of non-statutory opportunities where Municipal Stakeholders receive information and/or provide input to the Municipality.

“Public Participation Plan” means a plan in which identifies which Public Participation Tools to be used to obtain public input in a particular circumstance.

“Public Participation Tools” means the tools that may be used, alone or in combination, to create Public Participation opportunities including, but not limited to:

- a. in-person participation which may include at-the-counter interactions, door-knocking, interviews, meetings, round-tables, town halls, open houses and workshops;
- b. digital participation which may include online workbooks, chat groups, webinars, message boards/discussion forums, and online polls or surveys;
- c. written participation which may include written submissions, email, and mail-in surveys, polls and workbooks; and
- d. Representative participation which may include being appointed to an advisory committee, ad hoc committee or citizen board.

Council Responsibilities

5. Council shall:
 - a. Review and approve Public Participation Plans developed by the CAO in accordance with this Policy or as directed by Council;
 - b. Consider input obtained through Public Participation;
 - c. Review this Policy to ensure the Policy complies with all relevant legislation, municipal policies and the spirit and intent of Public Participation;
 - d. Ensure appropriate resources are available to solicit Public Participation in accordance with this Policy;

Administration Responsibilities

6. The CAO shall:
 - a. In accordance with this Policy or as directed by Council, develop Public Participation Plans, for Council approval;
 - b. Implement approved Public Participation Plans;
 - c. Report the findings of the Public Participation to Council;
7. Administration will assess and identify when public participation is necessary and which type of participation should be used. When there is no legislative requirement for public consultation, administration will recommend to Council the level of participation required as per this policy.

Policy Expectations

Legislative & Policy Implications

8. All Public Participation will be undertaken in accordance with the *Municipal Government Act*, the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and any other applicable legislation.
9. All Public Participation will be undertaken in accordance with all existing municipal policies.

10. This Policy shall be available for public inspection and may be posted to the Municipality's website.

11. This Policy will be reviewed at least once every four years.

Public Participation Standards:

12. Public Participation will be conducted in a sustainable and inclusive manner having regard to different levels of accessibility.

13. Public Participation activities will be conducted in a professional and respectful manner.

14. Public Participation Plans will consider early, ongoing and diverse opportunities to provide input.

15. Municipal Stakeholders who participate in any manner of Public Participation are required to be respectful and constructive in their participation. Municipal Stakeholders who are disrespectful, inappropriate or offensive, as determined by Administration, may be excluded from Public Participation opportunities.

Public Participation Plans

16. When so directed by this Policy or Council, the CAO shall develop a Public Participation Plan for approval by council which shall consider the following:

- a. the nature of the matter for which Public Participation is being sought;
- b. the impact of the matter on Municipal Stakeholders;
- c. the demographics of potential Municipal Stakeholders in respect of which Public Participation Tools to utilize, levels of engagement and time for input;
- d. the timing of the decision and time required to gather input;
- e. what information is required, if any, to participate; and
- f. available resources and reasonable costs.

17. "Schedule A" identifies various events which Public Participation is required and what type of participation will be used.

18. "Schedule B" identifies the Public Participation Tools that may be used.

19. The CAO or designate is responsible for ensuring that this policy is enforced.

	Date	Resolution Number
Approved	2015-09-30	15-09-669
Amended	2018-07-25	18-07-522
Reviewed		

**SCHEDULE “A”
Public Participation Plans**

Category	Event	Type of Participation
Council	Annual Budget	Inform
	Annual Report	Inform
	Strategic Plan	Inform
	Bylaw Review and Development	Inform or Consult
	Policy Review and Development	Inform
Planning and Development	New or Amended Municipal Development Plan, Area Structure Plans, Land Use Bylaw	Consult
	New or Amended Area Redevelopment Plans	Consult
	Planning Documents (ie. engineering standards, information management plans, etc.)	Consult or Collaborate
	New or Amended Community Sustainability Plan	Consult or Collaborate
Protective Services	Change in Service Level for Fire Department or Bylaw Enforcement	Inform
	Municipal Emergency Plan	Inform
Operations	Public Works Affecting Adjacent Landowners	Inform
	Construction of Infrastructure	Inform
	Traffic Management and Studies	Inform or Consult
Community Services	New Development Plans of Trail, Park or Green Space	Consult or Collaborate
	Public Access Buildings New Development or Closure	Consult or Collaborate
	Master Plans	Consult or Collaborate
Utilities	Construction of Infrastructure	Inform
	Studies	Inform or Consult

**SCHEDULE “B”
Public Participation Tools**

Type of Participation	Inform	Consult	Collaborate
Goal	Provide public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding decisions.	Obtain public feedback throughout the decision making process, listen and respond to concerns.	Partner with the public during the decision making process by obtaining direct advice and using it to implement a decision.
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision is routine and part of the operations • Disclosure is required by law • There is an urgent need to respond to the public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public notification and input is required by law • The decision is a known concern to other parties • The decision will affect the lifestyle or habits of citizens • There is perceived risk associated with the decision • Council or Administration requests public input prior to making a decision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing the decision making process • Incorporating recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible • Decision directly affects a large amount of the population
Process/Tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newspaper • Website • Social Media • Radio • Letters • Flyers • Notices to adjacent landowners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey • Polls • Open House • Public Hearing • Council Meeting Delegation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Advisory Committee • Consensus Building • Participatory Decision Making • Delegated decisions • Plebiscite



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Committee of the Whole
Meeting Date:	August 15, 2023
Presented By:	Louise Flooren, Manager of Legislative & Support Services
Title:	HR003 Workplace Violence and Harassment – Policy Amendment

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

In April of 2023 an internal Certificate of Recognition (COR) audit was completed. The COR Audit results were received May 31, 2023 and the COR Audit Action Plan was created to address some of the elements with low scoring.

The Health and Safety Committee reviewed the Action Plan on June 8, 2023. The following Elements received a low scoring:

- Element 3.11 Does the Violence Prevention Plan meet legislated requirements?
- Element 3.12 Does the Harassment Prevention Plan meet legislated requirements?
- Element 3.13 Have the Violence and Harassment plans been reviewed as per legislated requirements?

Legislation has changed since the implementation of the policy in 2020 and the suggested changes are included for your review, it is also suggested that the policy be reviewed every three years.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

Mackenzie County recognizes and accepts the responsibility to provide employees with a safe, healthy and productive work environment.

Author: L. Flooren **Reviewed by:** _____ **CAO:** D. Derksen

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

N/A

COMMUNICATION / PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

The updated policy will be communicated to all employees upon approval by Council.

POLICY REFERENCES:

ADM042 General Safety Policy
HR001 Employee Code of Conduct
Collective Agreement

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

That a recommendation be made to Council that Policy HR003 Workplace Violence and Harassment be amended as presented at the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Author: L. Flooren Reviewed by: _____ CAO: D. Derksen

Mackenzie County

Title	Workplace Violence and Harassment	Policy No:	HR003
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Legislation Reference	<i>Occupational Health & Safety Act Sections 40(1) and (2) Code Part 27</i>
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Purpose	<p>The purpose of this policy is to ensure, having completed an organizational risk of violence, sexual harassment, discriminatory harassment, general harassment assessment, that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Employees are aware of, and understand, that acts of violence, sexual harassment, discriminatory harassment and general harassment are considered a serious offense for which necessary sanction will be imposed, and a policy and procedures are in place to deal with the same; B. Those subjected to acts of violence, sexual harassment, discriminatory harassment and general harassment are encouraged to access any assistance they may require in order to make or pursue a complaint; C. Employees are advised of available recourse if they have been subjected to, or become aware of, situations involving violence, sexual harassment discriminatory harassment and general harassment; D. Action will be taken in response to complaints, and where complaints are substantiated, appropriate corrective and disciplinary action will be taken; E. Victims of violence will be supported and the effectiveness of the County's actions evaluated.
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Policy Statement

Mackenzie County (the "County") believes in the prevention of harassment, violence, sexual harassment and discriminatory harassment in the workplace and promotes a violence/harassment-free workplace in which all people respect one another and work together to achieve common goals. Any act of violence or harassment committed by or against any employee, member of the public or

Council member is unacceptable and such conduct will not be tolerated. The County believes that all individuals it employs have the right to work in an environment free from violence and harassment. This policy is in keeping with the County's dedication to providing and maintaining an environment that fosters respectful and responsible behaviours.

We are committed to:

- Eliminating or, if that is not reasonably practicable, controlling the hazards of violence/harassment;
- Educating our employees in the recognition of violence/harassment and operation of our policy and procedures in this regard;
- Investigating ~~reported~~ any incidents of violence/harassment in an objective and timely manner;
- Taking necessary **corrective and responsive** action in response to such reported incidents; and
- Providing appropriate support for victims.

Definitions

Sexual Harassment

For the purpose of this Policy, "sexual harassment" is unwanted sexual advances, requests for sexual favours, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature which:

- (a) Implicitly or explicitly makes submission of such conduct a term and condition of an individual's work;
- (b) Affects access to employment;
- (c) Creates a hostile or offensive environment which interferes with an individual's work;
- (d) Intimidates, embarrasses, coerces or humiliates an individual in the workplace; and/or
- (e) Arises out of a relationship which is not based on mutual consent.

Sexual harassment includes comments or conduct of a sexual nature that are unwelcome or offensive. This includes negative or inappropriate comments and conduct which is not necessarily sexual, but is directed at a person because of their gender.

The person engaging in the harassing behaviour does not necessarily have to have power or authority over the victim, although that is commonly the case.

Both men and women can be victims of harassment and someone of the same or opposite sex can be a harasser.

Sexual harassment is comprised of any of the following behaviours, though it is not limited to the behaviours listed herein:

- (a) Verbal abuse or threats associated with behaviour of a sexual nature;
- (b) Unwelcome remarks or jokes of a sexual nature;
- (c) Unwelcome invitations or requests of a sexual nature;
- (d) Staring, leering or inappropriate observation of a co-worker of a sexual nature;
- (e) Displaying or posting pornographic, offensive or derogatory materials of a sexual nature in the workplace;
- (f) Unwelcome physical contact of a sexual nature;
- (g) Exposing oneself sexually in the workplace;
- (h) Explicit or implicit demands of a sexual nature;
- (i) Sexual assault; and
- (j) Any other behaviour, conduct or activity of a sexual nature which is unwelcome or uninvited.

Discriminatory Harassment

Discriminatory harassment includes comments or conduct based on the protected grounds in human rights legislation which are unwelcome or offensive. The protected grounds include:

- (a) race, colour, ancestry or place of origin;
- (b) religious beliefs;
- (c) age;
- (d) gender;
- (e) sexual orientation;

- (f) gender expression, gender identity,
- (g) family or marital status;
- (h) source of income; and
- (i) conviction for an offence for which a pardon has been granted or in respect of which a record suspension has been ordered.

Examples of discriminatory harassment include:

- (a) offensive comments, jokes or behaviour that disparage or ridicule a person's membership in one of the protected categories;
- (b) imitating a person's accent, speech or mannerisms;
- (c) persistent or inappropriate questions about whether a person is pregnant, has children, or plans to have children; and
- (d) inappropriate comments or jokes about an individual's age, sexual orientation, personal appearance, or weight.

General Harassment

For the purpose of this policy, "harassment" is unwanted advances, requests for favours, or other verbal or physical contact which:

- (a) implicitly or explicitly makes submission of such conduct a term and condition of an individual's work;
- (b) affects access to employment;
- (c) creates a hostile or offensive environment which interferes with an individual's work;
- (d) intimidates, embarrasses, coerces or humiliates an individual in the workplace;
- (e) arises out of a relationship which is not based on mutual consent; and/or
- (f) involves bullying:
 - (i) verbal bullying – name calling, put-downs, sarcasm, teasing, spreading rumours, threats, making reference to one's culture, ethnicity, race, religion, negative comments or words intended to

denigrate a person's actual or perceived sexual orientation or against a person's actual or perceived gender identity or gender expression, or other unwanted comments;

- (ii) social bullying – exclusion, gossip, ganging up, mobbing, scapegoating, humiliating others, gestures or graffiti intended to put others down; or
- (iii) physical bullying – hitting, poking, pinching, chasing, shoving, coercing, damaging property, or destroying personal property.

Harassment is comprised of any of the following behaviours, though it is not limited to the behaviours listed herein:

- (a) Verbal abuse or threats;
- (b) Unwelcome remarks or jokes;
- (c) Unwelcome invitations or requests;
- (d) Staring, leering or inappropriate observation of a co-worker;
- (e) Unwelcome physical contact; and/or
- (f) Any other behaviour, conduct or activity which is unwelcome or uninvited.

Violence

For the purpose of this policy, “violence” shall mean the threatened, attempted or actual conduct of a person that causes, or is likely to cause, physical injury whether at the worksite or work-related.

Acts of violence can take the form of physical contact. The threat of violence, either overt or covert, can be just as detrimental and damaging as the physical act of violence itself. Abuse in any form erodes the mutual trust and confidence that are essential to the County's operational effectiveness. Acts of violence destroy individual dignity, lower morale, engender fear and break down work unit cohesiveness.

Acts of violence may occur as a single event or may involve a continuing series of incidents. Violence can victimize both men and women, and may be directed by or towards workers, visitors, and members of the public.

Domestic Violence

When Mackenzie County is aware that a worker is or is likely to be exposed to domestic violence at a work site, the employer must take reasonable precautions to protect the worker and any other persons at the work site likely be affected.

Poisoned Work Environment

Even if no one is directly targeted, harassing comments or conduct can poison the work environment, making it an uncomfortable place in which to work. This is also considered harassment.

Some examples of actions that can create a poisoned work environment include:

- (a) displaying offensive, discriminatory materials such as posters, pictures, calendars, web sites or screen savers;
- (b) distributing offensive or discriminatory e-mail messages or attachments such as pictures or video files;
- (c) practical jokes that embarrass or insult someone; and
- (d) jokes or insults that are offensive, racist or sexual in nature.

Preventing Harassment

It is the mutual responsibility of both the employee and the County to ensure a harassment free workplace.

The County will not tolerate or condone discriminatory, sexual harassment, general harassment or a poisoned work environment. This includes making everyone aware of what behaviour is and is not appropriate, investigating complaints and taking corrective measures.

Every employee must demonstrate appropriate behaviour that does not violate this policy and must foster a work environment that is based on respect and is free of harassment.

Instruction and Training for Employees

The County will provide training to its employees which will include a review and explanation of this policy and its procedures, as well as a description of the County's expectations of employees relative to their behaviour in the workplace. This training will include the following:

- (a) How to recognize workplace violence and harassment;
- (b) Appropriate response to incidents of violence, sexual harassment, discriminatory harassment, general harassment; and

- (c) The procedures for reporting, investigating and documenting incidents of workplace violence and harassment pursuant to policy and procedure.

Procedures

The procedure below outlines the process in place to give effect to the operation of this policy.

1. Right to Assistance

Any person who has been the subject of violence, sexual harassment, discriminatory harassment, general harassment has the right to access assistance in communicating their objections and, if warranted, in pursuing the complaint more formally. It is recognized that the issue of access to recourse is particularly critical where the alleged offender is in a position of authority over the victim or where there are other communication barriers.

An employee who has been subjected to violence, sexual harassment, discriminatory harassment, general harassment should advise their immediate supervisor and, if this is uncomfortable or inappropriate in the circumstances, the CAO should be advised of the incident. If the concern relates to the CAO concerns should be brought to the attention of the Reeve in conjunction with Human Resources.

2. Steps Prior to Formal Reporting

- (a) Where appropriate, the complainant can make his or her feelings known verbally to the alleged offender, either directly or with the assistance of a third party as outlined above. This first step is very important so that the alleged offender is immediately made aware that their conduct is offensive to the victim and must stop. Again, it is recognized that it will not always be possible for the complainant to make the alleged offender aware of the concern personally.
- (b) The complainant is encouraged to carefully record the details of the incident, including the date and time, nature of the violence, harassment, discriminatory harassment, general harassment, and the names of any persons who may have witnessed the violence. The Abuse Reporting Form should be utilized and completed as comprehensively as possible in this regard.
- (c) The complainant is not required to engage in the ~~informal complaint~~^{above} process prior to making a formal complaint.
- (d) At any time during the ~~informal complaint~~^{above} process, the complainant may choose to file a formal complaint.

3. Formal Reporting

The written record of the complaint should be provided to the CAO and, where the alleged offender is the CAO, the report should be provided to the Reeve in conjunction with Human Resources.

4. No Recriminations or Retaliation

No individual filing a complaint will be penalized nor subjected to any prejudicial treatment as a result of making a complaint. No correspondence pertaining to the complaint will be placed on the complainant's personnel file.

No employee shall take retaliatory action against a complainant with the intention of dissuading or punishing an individual for participating in the complaint process. Sanctions may be imposed for any such retaliation. Retaliation against individuals participating in the complaint process should not be confused with any sanction which may be imposed for making false allegations.

5. Investigation

The County is dedicated to conducting thorough and timely investigations of any complaints received, with the intention of accomplishing the following:

- protecting workers;
- limiting the damaging effects of violence, sexual harassment, discriminatory harassment, general harassment on victims and others;
- increasing productivity;
- increasing worker morale;
- avoiding negative publicity;
- avoiding costly and ~~time consuming~~ time-consuming legal proceedings; and
- lowering the rate of worker turnover.

~~The County will appoint an investigation team which may include the complainant's supervisor, human resources and the Chief Administrative Officer. This team may vary depending upon the position held by the alleged offender identified in the complaint.~~

Following receipt of the formal complaint under (3) above, the CAO or the Reeve, respectively, will appoint an investigation team which may include any or all of the following depending on the nature of the allegations: the complainant's supervisor, human resources, the CAO, the Reeve, or a third-party independent investigator. The makeup of this team will vary depending upon the position held by the alleged offender identified in the

complaint and the substance of the complaint. Upon appointment, this team will have broad discretion in their investigation, subject to the guidelines set out below.

Investigations of a formal complaint will be carried out in accordance with the following:

- incidents will be investigated as promptly as possible in accordance with the circumstances;
- the County will not disclose the circumstances related to an incident or names of the complainant, the person alleged to have committed the violence or harassment, and any witness, except:
 - where necessary to investigate the incident or to take corrective action, or to inform the parties involved in the incident the results of the investigation and any corrective action to be taken to address the incident;
 - where necessary to inform employees of a specific or general threat of violence or harassment or potential violence or harassment (in doing so, the County will disclose only the minimum amount of personal information that is necessary to inform employees of a specific or general threat); or
 - as required by law;
- only those individuals **absolutely considered** necessary to verifying the complaint will be interviewed in order to maintain the confidentiality of the complainant and the **offender/respondent** to the greatest extent possible. ~~In all cases, both the complainant and the accused will be interviewed and the accused will be advised of the allegations they face, and provided with an opportunity to answer the same;~~
- ~~in all cases~~ **where deemed necessary**, both the complainant and the respondent will be interviewed and the respondent will be advised of the allegations they face, and provided with an opportunity to answer the same;
- individuals with knowledge of the incident will be encouraged not to discuss the details with others; and
- the safety of the complainant will be a paramount consideration throughout the investigation process.

~~This prevention policy is not intended to discourage any employee from exercising the employee's rights pursuant to any other process or legislation.~~

6. Disposition of the Complaint

Following the investigation process, the County will determine whether or not the complaint has been substantiated. In the event that the complaint is not substantiated, the ~~complainant and the alleged offender will both be advised and~~ team will advise all necessary individuals of that the complaint is dismissed, including a removal from the alleged offender's record of any reference to the complaint. Consideration will be given to whether or not the complaint was made with malicious intent and what recourse should flow in the event that this conclusion is reached.

In the alternative, if the complaint is substantiated, the appropriate corrective and disciplinary measures will be identified and may include a range of responses. Consideration will be given to the specific circumstances of the incident and the role of the alleged offender within the organization. Recourse may include both disciplinary and corrective action. The following possible options exist in this regard:

- (a) Apology;
- (b) Training;
- (c) Referral for counseling;
- (d) Reassignment;
- (e) Limiting access to certain areas or individuals within the organization;
- (f) Discipline;
- (g) Discharge; or
- (h) Advising the local authorities of a potential criminal offense.

There shall be no appeal from this decision.

7. Systemic Harassment Investigation

Whether or not any complaint has been made, when concerns regarding a worksite are brought to the attention of the County, the County may direct a systemic review of any worksite, to ensure that employees are able to work free from violence and harassment.

8. Confidentiality

Throughout the process, to the greatest extent possible, reasonable efforts shall be made to respect the confidential nature of a complaint. However, absolute confidentiality cannot be guaranteed owing to the need for an investigation and the need to inform the alleged offender, union, and/or an Occupational Health & Safety (OHS) Officer.

Complaint Resolution Alternatives

~~The County recognizes that nothing in this policy or procedures takes away from the complainant's right to file a complaint with the Alberta Human Rights Commission, or commence proceedings in a civil or criminal court. Any individual has the right to pursue their concerns through alternate forums, including the exercise of rights through any law of Alberta or Canada.~~

~~This policy is not intended to discourage any employee from exercising the employee's rights pursuant to any other process or legislation, including the *Alberta Human Rights Act*.~~

Occupational Health and Safety Reporting Requirements

~~An employee should be aware that an incident involving workplace violence constitutes an "incident that has the potential of causing serious injury" pursuant to section 40(5) of the *Occupational Health & Safety (OHS) Act*. As a result, the County must investigate the incident, prepare a report, keep the report on file for a period of two years from the date of the incident and have it readily available for inspection by an OHS Officer. Only those events listed in section 40(2) of the *OHS Act* will need to be reported directly to Alberta Human Resources and Employment. Sections 40(1) and (2) of the *OHS Act* reads as follows:~~

~~40(1) When an injury or incident described in subsection (2) occurs at a work site, the prime contractor or, if there is no prime contractor, the employer shall report the time, place and nature of the injury or incident to a Director of Inspection as soon as possible.~~

- ~~-(2) — The injuries and incidents to be reported under subsection (1) are~~
- ~~(a) an injury or incident that results in the death of a worker,~~
 - ~~(b) an injury or incident that results in a worker being admitted to a hospital, and for the purposes of this clause, "admitted to a hospital" means when a physician writes admitting orders to cause a worker to be an inpatient of a hospital, but excludes a worker being assessed in an emergency room or urgent care centre without being admitted,~~
 - ~~(c) an unplanned or uncontrolled explosion, fire or flood that causes a serious injury or that has the potential of causing serious injury,~~
 - ~~(d) the collapse or upset of a crane, derrick or hoist,~~
 - ~~(e) the collapse or failure of any component of a building or structure necessary for the structural integrity of the building or structure, or~~
 - ~~(f) any injury or incident or a class of injuries or incidents specified in the regulations.~~

Please refer the Occupational Health and Safety Act Section 33(6)(b) to (d), (7) and (8) and section 36 and the Occupational Health and Safety Code Part 27.

Victim Support

The County understands that victims of violence, sexual harassment, discriminatory harassment and general harassment need support. As a result, the County will ensure that all victims are advised that they are not to blame for the aggressive/harassing behaviours directed at them and that being a victim of violence, sexual harassment, discriminatory harassment or general harassment does not reflect on them.

The County recognizes that victims of violence, sexual harassment, discriminatory harassment, general harassment or other workers who may have been exposed to a violent incident, may require emotional support and reassurance. The County will ensure that victims as well as others exposed to violence, sexual harassment, discriminatory harassment or general harassment, are advised to consult a health professional of their choice for treatment or referral. The County will also advise affected workers of the ability to access Employee Assistance Programs (EAP) if they wish. Below is a listing of the agencies, programs and materials which are available to assist you in seeking support in addition to the EAP and your personal professional service providers:

Who	Contact(s)	What
<p>Alberta Human Resources and Employment Workplace Health and Safety Occupational Health and Safety Contact Centre</p>	<p>Province-wide Call centre 1-866-415-8690 Web site https://www.alberta.ca/file-complaint-online.aspx</p>	<p>To report serious injuries and provide information on the requirements of the <i>Occupational Health and Safety Act</i> and regulations</p>
<p>Alberta Human Rights & Citizenship Commission</p>	<p>Phone: (780) 472-7661 (Northern AB) (403) 297-6571 (Southern AB) Toll Free: Dial 310-000, Enter the area code and phone number when prompted.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducts seminars and information sessions • Circulates a Newsletter entitled “The Citizen”

<p>The Support Network #320 Allarco Building 11456 Jasper Avenue NW Edmonton, AB T5K 0M1 400-10025 106 St NW Edmonton, AB T5J 1G4</p>	<p>Phone: (780) 482-0198 211</p>	<p>Produces two directories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directory of Community Services (Edmonton & Area) • Self-Help and Support Group Director (Edmonton & Area) Also provides: • Counseling Services (including Crisis Counseling) Courses and workshops in a variety of areas such as Assertiveness Training, Building Self Esteem, etc. <p>Edmonton And Area, Mental Health, Advocacy, Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIS, ASIST Tune Up), Community Resources & Presentations, Distress Line, Drop-In Single Session Counselling, Hoarding Support, Housing Program, Kids Have Stress, Too, Light Up Your Mind School Program, Little Cub, Mental Health First Aid (Basic Course), Mental Health Works, Online Crisis Chat, Peer Connections, Practical Supports Services (PSS), Ready To Rent</p>
<p>Alberta Justice Law Enforcement Division 10th Floor, 10365-97 St. NW Edmonton, AB T5J 3W7</p>	<p>Phone: (780) 427-3460 Fax: (780) 427-5916</p>	<p>“Victims’ Programs Assistant Fund” Surcharges imposed by the courts on individuals convicted of Criminal Code, Food and Drug Act and Narcotic Control Act offences are deposited into the Victims’ Program Assistance Fund. Groups providing services may apply for funding. Applications for funding are reviewed by a committee and recommendations are made to the Minister of Justice</p>

Victim Impact Statement Program	Information is available through police, Crown Prosecutor's Office , the Courts and other agencies providing services to victims. Forms may be obtained from the police.	Victims of crime are provided with the opportunity to express in writing to the courts, the harm done or loss suffered as a result of the crime. The judge considers the Statement in determining sentence.
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The County is dedicated to engaging in a process by which they follow up with the victim in order to ensure that their needs are being met post-incident. The Post Intervention Victim Questionnaire will be utilized in this regard.

Program Evaluation

The County will engage in a program evaluation process to monitor the effectiveness of its policy and procedures. Given that the purpose of this policy and procedure is to minimize the occurrence of workplace violence, sexual harassment, discriminatory harassment, general harassment and establish an environment of non-tolerance to workplace violence, sexual harassment, discriminatory harassment, general harassment, the process will be evaluated against that measure.

The evaluation program will include the following:

- a needs assessment;
- process evaluation in order to measure whether the program is meeting its intended objective;
- outcome evaluation to determine whether the program has met its objectives and whether additional opportunities for improvement in the program can be identified.

This process will include canvassing individuals who have made complaints as well as other employees as to their perception of the efficacy and fairness of the process.

This policy will be reviewed at least once every three years.

Related Policies & Procedures

- ADM042 - General Safety Policy
- HR001 - Employee Code of Conduct
- Collective Agreement Local 118 Chapter 008**

	Date	Resolution Number
Approved	2020-01-14	20-01-020
Amended		
Amended		