



Mackenzie County

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

JANUARY 9, 2017

10:00 A.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS
FORT VERMILION, AB

**MACKENZIE COUNTY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**Monday, January 9, 2017
10:00 a.m.**

**Fort Vermilion Council Chambers
Fort Vermilion, Alberta**

AGENDA

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CALL TO ORDER:	1.	a) Call to Order	
AGENDA:	2.	a) Adoption of Agenda	
ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:	3.	a) Minutes of the December 13, 2016 Regular Council Meeting	7
DELEGATIONS:	4.	a) Jeff Anderson, Chair, Fort Vermilion and Area Seniors and Elders Lodge Board 1788 (1:30 p.m.)	17
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TENDERS:	7.	a) None	

PUBLIC HEARINGS:	8.	a)	None	
ADMINISTRATION:	9.	a)	Natural Gas Supply Issues - Letter to the Minister of Energy	101
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		b)		
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OPERATIONS:	13.	a)	Policy PW004 Winter Road Maintenance/Snowplowing Indicator Policy	127
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PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT:	14.	a)	Bylaw 1050-16 Land Use Bylaw Amendment to Rezone Part of SE 16-106-15-W5M from La Crete General Commercial District "GC1" to Manufactured Home Subdivision 1 "MHS1"(La Crete)	143
		b)	Sandhills Road DLO750355	153
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UTILITIES:	15.	a)		
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INFORMATION / CORRESPONDENCE:	16.	a)	Information/Correspondence	159
IN CAMERA SESSION:	17.	a)	Legal	
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		c)	Land <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sale of County Properties	
NOTICE OF MOTION:	18.	a)		
NEXT MEETING DATES:	19.	a)	Committee of the Whole Meeting January 10, 2017 10:00 a.m. Fort Vermilion Council Chambers	
		b)	Council Budget Meeting January 11, 2017 10:00 a.m. Fort Vermilion Council Chambers	
		c)	Regular Council Meeting January 23, 2017 10:00 a.m. Fort Vermilion Council Chambers	

ADJOURNMENT: 20. a) Adjournment



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	January 9, 2017
Presented By:	Carol Gabriel, Director of Legislative & Support Services
Title:	Minutes of the December 13, 2016 Regular Council Meeting

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

Minutes of the December 13, 2016, Regular Council Meeting are attached.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

COMMUNICATION:

Approved Council Meetings minutes are posted on the County website.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

That the minutes of the December 13, 2016, Regular Council Meeting be adopted as presented.

Author: C. Gabriel Reviewed by: CG CAO: _____

**MACKENZIE COUNTY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**Tuesday, December 13, 2016
10:00 a.m.**

**Fort Vermilion Council Chambers
Fort Vermilion, Alberta**

- PRESENT:** Bill Neufeld Reeve
Lisa Wardley Deputy Reeve
Jacquie Bateman Councillor
Peter F. Braun Councillor
Elmer Derksen Councillor
John W. Driedger Councillor
Eric Jorgensen Councillor
Walter Sarapuk Councillor
Ray Toews Councillor
- REGRETS:** Josh Knelsen Councillor
- ADMINISTRATION:** Len Racher Chief Administrative Officer
Ron Pelensky Director of Community Services
David Fehr Director of Operations
Byron Peters Director of Planning & Development
Fred Wiebe Director of Utilities
Peng Tian Director of Finance
Carol Gabriel Director of Legislative & Support
Services/Recording Secretary
Jessica Ruskowsky Executive Assistant to the CAO
- ALSO PRESENT:** Members of the Public and the Media

Minutes of the Regular Council meeting for Mackenzie County held on December 13, 2016 in the Fort Vermilion Council Chambers.

CALL TO ORDER: 1. a) Call to Order

Reeve Neufeld called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

AGENDA: 2. a) Adoption of Agenda

MOTION 16-12-898 MOVED by Councillor Driedger

That the agenda be approved with the following additions:

- 6. a) CAO Report
- 9. c) Aquality Environmental Consulting Ltd. Open House

CARRIED

**ADOPTION OF
PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

- 3. a) Minutes of the November 23, 2016, Regular Council Meeting**

MOTION 16-12-899

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Wardley

That the minutes of the November 23, 2016, Regular Council Meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

- 3. b) Minutes of the December 12, 2016, Budget Council Meeting**

MOTION 16-12-900

MOVED by Councillor Braun

That the minutes of the December 12, 2016, Budget Council Meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

UTILITIES:

- 15. b) Potable Water**

MOTION 16-12-901

MOVED by Councillor Bateman

That a letter be sent to Alberta Transportation and Solicitor General requesting that potable water haulers be exempt from legal axle weights as an essential service and for the interim be eligible to apply for an overload permit.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**COUNCIL
COMMITTEE
REPORTS:**

- 5. a) Council Committee Reports**

MOTION 16-12-902

MOVED by Councillor Driedger

That the Council committee reports be received for information.

CARRIED

5. b) Community Services Committee Meeting Minutes

MOTION 16-12-903 **MOVED** by Councillor Toews

That the unapproved minutes of the November 24, 2016 Community Services Committee Meeting be received for information.

CARRIED

5. c) Agricultural Service Board Meeting Minutes

MOTION 16-12-904 **MOVED** by Deputy Reeve Wardley

That the unapproved minutes of the December 2, 2016 Agricultural Service Board Meeting be received for information.

CARRIED

GENERAL REPORTS: **6. a) CAO Report**

MOTION 16-12-905 **MOVED** by Councillor Braun

That the CAO report for November 2016 be received for information.

CARRIED

Reeve Neufeld recessed the meeting at 10:54 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

DELEGATIONS: **4. a) Arnold Viersen, MP – Peace River-Westlock (via Teleconference)**

Discussion with MP Arnold Viersen regarding the species at risk impact.

TENDERS: **7. a) None**

PUBLIC HEARINGS: **8. a) None**

ADMINISTRATION: **9. a) G7G Railway Project – Letter of Support**

MOTION 16-12-906 **MOVED** by Councillor Jorgensen

That a letter of support be sent in support of the G7G Railway Project.

CARRIED

9. b) Caribou Update

MOTION 16-12-907

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Wardley

That Mackenzie County proceed with applying for the Inter-municipal Collaboration grant for creating an Integrated Resource Management Plan in partnership with the County of Northern Lights and other northwest municipalities.

CARRIED

9. c) Aquality Environmental Consulting Ltd. Open House (ADDITION)

MOTION 16-12-908

Requires Unanimous

MOVED by Councillor Toews

That Councillor Jorgensen be authorized to attend the Aquality Environmental Consulting Ltd. Open House on December 14, 2016 in Edmonton.

DEFEATED

AGRICULTURE SERVICES:

10. a) None

COMMUNITY SERVICES:

11. a) None

FINANCE:

12. a) Policy FIN028 Credit Card Use

MOTION 16-12-909

MOVED by Councillor Toews

That Policy FIN028 Credit Card Use be amended as presented.

CARRIED

12. b) Accredited Supportive Living Services (ASLS) – 2017 Property Tax Exemption Request

MOTION 16-12-910

Requires 2/3

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Wardley

That Accredited Supportive Living Services be exempt from paying 6% of the 2017 property taxes for the office that they lease in La Crete.

CARRIED

12. c) Tax Recovery Matter – Winter Petroleum Ltd.

MOTION 16-12-911

Requires 2/3

MOVED by Councillor Bateman

That Mackenzie County continue to hold the assets seized from Winter Petroleum Ltd.

CARRIED

12. d) Insured Assets

MOTION 16-12-912

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Wardley

That the insured assets be TABLED until after lunch.

CARRIED

DELEGATION:

4. b) RCMP (ADDITION)

S/Sgt. Bill Mooney and Cst. Dean Hull were present to introduce their newest member Cst. Kouyami to Council.

Reeve Neufeld recessed the meeting at 12:06 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 12:54 p.m.

FINANCE:

12. d) Insured Assets

MOTION 16-12-913

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Wardley

That the insured assets be put back on the table.

CARRIED

MOTION 16-12-913

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Wardley

That administration change equipment values as determined and to engage in an appraisal for buildings over \$100,000 as per amended list in 2017.

CARRIED

OPERATIONS:

13. a) Request to Tender – Zama City Vegetation Management

MOTION 16-12-914 **MOVED** by Deputy Reeve Wardley

That the tender be issued for the Zama City Vegetation Management project with a closing date of January 23, 2017.

CARRIED

13. b) Unit #2250 – Damaged 580 Case Backhoe

MOTION 16-12-915 **MOVED** by Councillor Toews

That the County not purchase the salvage unit (Unit #2250 – damaged 580 Case Backhoe) from our insurance provider.

CARRIED

**PLANNING &
DEVELOPMENT:**

14. a) Bylaw 1057-16 Amending Bylaw 1022-16 Service Road Closure

MOTION 16-12-916 **MOVED** by Deputy Reeve Wardley

That first reading be given to Bylaw 1057-16 being a bylaw amending the road description in Bylaw 1022-16 as required by Alberta Land titles.

CARRIED

MOTION 16-12-917 **MOVED** by Councillor Braun

That second reading be given to Bylaw 1057-16 being a bylaw amending the road description in Bylaw 1022-16 as required by Alberta Land titles.

CARRIED

MOTION 16-12-918 **MOVED** by Councillor Jorgensen
Requires Unanimous

That consideration be given to go to third reading of Bylaw 1057-16 being a bylaw amending the road description in Bylaw 1022-16 as required by Alberta Land titles.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 16-12-919 **MOVED** by Councillor Bateman

That third reading be given to Bylaw 1057-16 being a bylaw amending the road description in Bylaw 1022-16 as required by

Alberta Land titles.

CARRIED

UTILITIES:

15. a) Fort Vermilion 50th Street – Water and Sewer Extension

MOTION 16-12-920
Requires 2/3

MOVED by Councillor Bateman

That administration proceed with the water and sewer extension to the east of the college and church properties (future 49th street) and apply an off-site levy to the property owner to the east of these properties (Fort Vermilion Settlement, Range 3, Lot 8) for future development and that the budget be amended to include an additional \$16,000 with funding coming from the General Capital Reserve.

CARRIED

Reeve Neufeld recessed the meeting at 1:50 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 2:03 p.m.

INFORMATION:

16. a) Information/Correspondence

MOTION 16-12-921

MOVED by Councillor Driedger

That the information/correspondence items be received for information.

CARRIED

**IN-CAMERA
SESSION:**

17. In-Camera Session

MOTION 16-12-922

MOVED by Councillor Braun

That Council move in-camera to discuss issues under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Regulations 18 (1) at 2:14 p.m.

17. a) Legal

- Legal File Summary

17. b) Labour

17. c) Land

- Sale of County Properties

CARRIED

MOTION 16-12-923

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Wardley

That Council move out of camera at 3:30 p.m.

CARRIED

17. a) Legal – Legal File Summary

MOTION 16-12-924

MOVED by Councillor Braun

That the legal file summary be received for information.

CARRIED

17. b) Land – Sale of County Properties

MOTION 16-12-925

MOVED by Councillor Bateman

That the sale of county properties be TABLED to the next meeting for more information.

CARRIED

MOTION 16-12-926

MOVED by Councillor Jorgensen

That the Caribou update be received for information.

CARRIED

NOTICE OF MOTION:

18. a) None

**NEXT MEETING
DATES:**

- 19.**
- a) Regular Council Meeting
Monday, January 9, 2017
10:00 a.m.
Fort Vermilion Council Chambers
 - b) Committee of the Whole Meeting
Tuesday, January 10, 2017
10:00 a.m.
Fort Vermilion Council Chambers
 - c) Budget Council Meeting
January 11, 2017
10:00 a.m.
Fort Vermilion Council Chambers

ADJOURNMENT: 20. a) Adjournment

MOTION 16-12-927 MOVED by Councillor Driedger

That the council meeting be adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

CARRIED

These minutes will be presented to Council for approval on January 9, 2017.

Bill Neufeld
Reeve

Len Racher
Chief Administrative Officer

UNAPPROVED



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	January 9, 2017
Presented By:	Len Racher, Chief Administrative Officer
Title:	DELEGATION Jeff Anderson, Chair, Fort Vermilion and Area Seniors and Elders Lodge Board 1788

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

See attached email from Jeff Anderson dated December 10, 2016 for background information.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

COMMUNICATION:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

For discussion.

Author: C. Gabriel Reviewed by: CG CAO: _____

From: [Jeff Anderson](#)
To: [Len Racher](#)
Cc: [Carol Gabriel](#); [Bill Boese](#); [Noreen McAteer](#); [Daniel Oneill](#); [Raymond Friesen](#); [Keith Lambert](#); [Eric Jorgensen - Home](#); [Marilynn Boissy](#); [Jed Randle](#); [Danny Friesen](#); [Sarah Schmidt](#); [Erick Carter](#); johnbsimpson@hotmail.com; [Frank Beuckert](#); [Ray Toews - HOME](#)
Subject: Municipal Funding for the Purpose of Lodges in the Mackenzie County Region
Date: December-10-16 6:34:48 AM

Mr. Racher:

Good morning sir. At the Fort Vermilion and Area Seniors and Elders Lodge Board 1788 ('FVASELB1788') Annual General Meeting on November 25, 2016; Councillor Ray Toews informed the 65 Registered Members of the possibility of a \$500,000.00 per-year municipal requisition being available. As I understand it through my conversations with both Councillor Ray Toews and Eric Jorgensen, this funding originated from an internal County Council motion some years ago and now, with the High Level Lodge being fully funded, this funding is earmarked to come to an end. This is how I understand all of the information that has been given to me as of today's date.

As you are becoming aware through your and I's conversations, the FVASELB1788 is an organization that has been set by a grass-roots community vision of planning and constructing a level 3/4/4D Designated Assisted Living ('DAL') Lodge here in Fort Vermilion. Much work has been done in developing our organization including becoming a Registered Society in Alberta, developing our own set of Bylaws, North Peace Tribal Council First Nation Appointed Directors positions, Memorandum of Understanding between us and the River Road Trading Post Board, a strategic plan (developed within the framework provided to us by the Ministry of Culture) and the completion of our Registered Charity application with Canada Revenue Agency. Additionally, we have secured five (5) acres of land with Alberta Health Services and have been offered land from other community members all of which will form as 'options' in the very near future as one of our potential construction sites.

Last night I spoke to my mother, Cheryl Anderson, who is a Municipal Official for the County of Northern Lights; on the protocol(s) around these types of things. Hence, I send you this email requesting time to present to your Council as the FVASELB1788 Chairman with a mandate of requesting Council to consider a continuance of the \$500,000.00 funding motion for the purpose of planning and constructing our DAL lodge in Fort Vermilion.

Mackenzie County's website indicates to 'Please provide a minimum of one week notice' for those who wish to become a delegation and present to Council. If the County were to consider me as a delegate for Council's December 13, 2016 meeting I would appreciate that very much. However, I fully understand if my presentation would need to wait until a more amicable time in January 2017. Please let me know this Monday if you could sir so that I may be prepared. *I have cc'd all of the current members of the FVASELB1788 and the River Road*

*Trading Post Board and have included Carol Gabriel and FVASELB1788's liaison to the County,
Ray Toews.*

Thank you,

Jeff Anderson
Chairman



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	January 9, 2017
Presented By:	Peng Tian, Director of Finance
Title:	Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

The unapproved minutes of the December 15, 2016 Finance Committee meeting are attached.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

N/A

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

N/A

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

N/A

COMMUNICATION:

Finance Committee minutes are posted on DocuShare.

Author: C. Robinson Reviewed by: _____ CAO: _____

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

That the Finance Committee unapproved meeting minutes of December 15, 2016 be received for information.

Author: C. Robinson **Reviewed by:** _____ **CAO:** _____

**MACKENZIE COUNTY
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**December 15, 2016
12:00pm**

**Fort Vermilion Corporate Office
Fort Vermilion, Alberta**

PRESENT: Peter F. Braun Councillor- Chair
Lisa Wardley Deputy Reeve – Vice Chair
Bill Neufeld Reeve, ex-officio
Jacquie Bateman Councillor
Josh Knelsen Councillor (Via Teleconference)

ADMINISTRATION: Len Racher Chief Administrative Officer
Peng Tian Director of Finance
Ron Pelensky Director of Community Services
Carol Gabriel Director of Legislative and Support Service
Louise Flooren Acting Finance Controller/HR Coordinator
Carlee Robinson Finance Clerk/ Recording Secretary
Jannelle Batt Finance Officer

CALL TO ORDER: 1. a) **Call to Order**
Councillor Braun, Chair called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

AGENDA: 2. a) **Adoption of Agenda**

MOTION FC-16-12-141 **MOVED** by Councillor Knelsen

That the Agenda be approved with the following additions:

- 7. a) Auditors report
- 7. b) CAO per diem

CARRIED

**MINUTES FROM
PREVIOUS MEETING:** 3. a) **Minutes of the November 7, 2016 Finance
Committee Meeting**

MOTION FC-16-12-142

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Wardley

That the minutes of the November 7, 2016 Finance Committee meeting be approved as presented.

CARRIED

**BUSINESS ARISING
FROM PREVIOUS
MINUTES:**

4. a) None

DELEGATIONS:

5. a) None

IN CAMERA

7 a) Auditors Report

7 b) CAO Per Diem

MOTION FC-16-12-143

MOVED by Councillor Bateman

That Council move in camera at 11:05 a.m. to discuss the CAO per diem and auditor report.

CARRIED

Administration staff left the meeting with the exception of the Chief Administrative Officer and the Director of Finance.

MOTION FC-16-12-144

MOVED by Councillor Bateman

That Council move out of camera at 11:47 a.m.

CARRIED

MOTION FC-16-12-145

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Wardley

That Administration prepare applicable policies related to the upcoming yearend and that it be brought back to the Finance Committee for review.

Discussed CAO per diem.

CARRIED

MOTION FC-16-12-146

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Wardley

That the CAO per diem be received for information.

CARRIED

Reeve Neufeld and CAO Len Racher left the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

BUSINESS:

6. a) 2016 Bursaries

MOTION FC-16-12-147

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Wardley

That Policy ADM049 Bursaries be presented to Council with recommended amendments.

CARRIED

6. b) Emergent Request – La Crete Recreation Board

MOTION FC-16-12-148

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Wardley

That the emergent request by the La Crete Recreation Board for the repair of the water leak inside the curling lobby be approved in the amount of \$1,044.30 (incl. GST) with funding coming from the Recreation Emergent Funding.

CARRIED

6. d) Zamboni – Fort Vermilion Recreation Board

MOTION FC-16-12-149

MOVED by Councillor Knelsen

That the Fort Vermilion Recreation Board Zamboni repairs, in the amount of \$1,996.79 be funded through Recreation Emergent Funding.

CARRIED

6. c) Interest

MOTION FC-16-12-150

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Wardley

The discussion on Interest is received for information.

CARRIED

6. e) Councillors' Honorariums and Expense Claims

MOTION FC-16-12-151

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Wardley

That the June 2016 Councillors' Honorarium and Expense Claim for John W. be approved.

CARRIED

MOTION FC-16-12-152 **MOVED** by Councillor Bateman

That the September 2016 Councillors' Honorarium and Expense Claim for Eric be approved.

CARRIED

MOTION FC-16-12-153 **MOVED** by Councillor Knelsen

That the September 2016 Councillors' Honorarium and Expense Claim for John W. be received for information.

That the Councillors' Honorariums and Expense Claims for October 2016 and November 2016 be adjusted as discussed.

CARRIED

6. f) Member At Large Expense Claims

MOTION FC-16-12-154 **MOVED** by Deputy Reeve Wardley

That the October and November 2016 Member At Large Expense Claims be accepted as reviewed.

CARRIED

6. g) Cheque Lists

MOTION FC-16-12-155 **MOVED** by Councillor Bateman

That the November 7, 2016 to December 15, 2016 Cheque lists be received for information.

CARRIED

6. h) MasterCard Statements

MOTION FC-16-12-156 **MOVED** by Councillor Bateman

That the October and November 2016 MasterCard Statements be received for information.

CARRIED

**ADDITIONS TO
AGENDA:**

8. a) Emergent Request – Zama Recreation Board

MOTION FC-16-12-157

MOVED by Councillor Bateman

That the emergent request by the Zama Recreation Board for the repairs at the hall and the furnace at the old county office building be approved in the amount of \$1,872.57 (incl. GST) with funding coming from the Recreation Emergent Funding.

CARRIED

**NEXT MEETING
DATE:**

9. a) January 12, 2017 at 12:00 p.m.
Fort Vermilion Corporate Office

ADJOURNMENT:

10. a) Adjournment

MOTION FC-16-12-158

MOVED by Councillor Braun

That the Finance Committee meeting be adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

CARRIED

These minutes were approved by the Finance Committee on _____.

Peter Braun
Chair, Councillor

Len Racher
Chief Administrative Officer



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	January 9, 2017
Presented By:	Byron Peters, Director of Planning & Development
Title:	Municipal Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

The minutes of the November 3rd, November 24th, and December 8th 2016 Municipal Planning Commission meetings are attached.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

N/A

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

N/A

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

N/A

COMMUNICATION:

N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- Simple Majority
 Requires 2/3
 Requires Unanimous

That the Municipal Planning Commission meeting minutes of November 3rd, November 24th, and December 8th 2016 be received for information.

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

**MACKENZIE COUNTY
Municipal Planning Commission Meeting**

**Mackenzie County Office
La Crete, AB**

Thursday, November 3, 2016 @ 10:00 a.m.

PRESENT: John W. Driedger Chair, Councillor, MPC Member
Jacquie Bateman Councillor, MPC Member (via teleconference)
Erick Carter Vice Chair, MPC Member
Jack Eccles MPC Member
Beth Kappelar MPC Member

ADMINISTRATION: Byron Peters Director of Planning and Development
Liane Lambert Planner
Caitlin Smith Development Officer
Lynda Washkevich Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary

MOTION

1. Call to Order

Byron Peters called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

MPC-16-11-176

MOVED by Beth Kappelar

That the agenda be adopted with the addition of the following item:

**7. b.) 263-DP-15 Knelsen Sand & Gravel Ltd
Tarp Shelter in La Crete Highway Commercial "HC2"
Part of SW 15-106-15-W5M**

CARRIED

3. Elections

a.) Chair

Byron Peters called for nominations for the position of Chairperson.

First Call: Jack Eccles nominated John W. Driedger. Accepted.

Second Call: No further nominations.

Third Call: No further nominations

MPC 16-11-177

MOVED by Beth Kappelar

That the nominations cease for the position of Chairperson.

CARRIED

Byron Peters declared John W. Driedger Chairperson by acclamation.

b.) Vice Chair

Byron Peters called for nomination for the position of Vice Chairperson.

First Call: John W. Driedger nominated Erick Carter. Accepted.

Second Call: No further nominations

MPC 16-11-178

MOVED by John W. Driedger

That the nominations cease for the position of Vice Chairperson.

CARRIED

Byron Peters declared Erick Carter Vice Chairperson by acclamation.

Byron Peters turned the meeting over to Chair John W. Driedger at 10:05 a.m.

4. Review of MPC's mandate, role & responsibilities

MPC 16-11-179

MOVED by Jacquie Bateman

That the MPC mandate, role and responsibilities be received for information.

CARRIED

5. Review of Procedural Bylaw 977-14

MPC 16-11-180

MOVED by Beth Kappelar

That the Procedural Bylaw 977-14 be received for information.

CARRIED

6. Minutes

a) Adoption of Minutes

MPC-16-11-181

MOVED by Beth Kappelar

That the minutes of October 20, 2016 Municipal Planning Commission meeting be adopted as presented

CARRIED

b) Business Arising from Previous Minutes

None.

7. DEVELOPMENT

**a) 235-DP-16 Knelsen Sand & Gravel
Natural Resource Extraction Industry
(Gravel Pit Expansion) in A (Fort Vermilion Rural)
Range 02; Lots 5-6, Plan 962 1809; Block 01,
Plan 812 0388; Lot B**

MPC-16-11-182

MOVED by Jacquie Bateman

That Development Permit 235-DP-16 on Fort Vermilion Settlement; Range 02; Lots 4,5 & 6, Plan 812 0388;;Lot B in the name of Knelsen Sand & Gravel Ltd. be APPROVED with the following conditions:

Failure to comply with one or more of the attached conditions shall render this permit Null and Void

1. This permit approval is subject to an acceptable Reclamation Plan being submitted to the Planning and Development department before December 15, 2016, which includes a Reclamation timeline, areas to be reclaimed, and the standard to which the pit will be reclaimed.

2. This development permit is temporary and will expire

on November 3, 2026, should you require a time extension contact the Planning and Development department at 780-928-3983.

3. **PRIOR to the use of a County road allowance, the developer must enter into a Road Allowance Use agreement with Mackenzie County. To enter into an agreement contact the Operations Department at the Fort Vermilion office at 780-927-3718.**
4. **All transporting/hauling will be done on the designated Mackenzie County truck route. Failure to comply will render this permit null and void.**
5. **The developer must adhere to the regulations of the Mackenzie County Noise Abatement Bylaw 590-06. Failure to comply will render this permit null and void.**
6. Developer shall obtain all applicable Provincial approvals prior to commencing development. Copies of all approvals shall be submitted to Mackenzie County.
7. The developer shall be responsible for the maintenance of their hauling and access roads which include dust control.
8. Setbacks shall be as shown in the Additions to Development Permit aerial photo including a 5 meter (16.4 feet) minimum setback from the East road allowance.
9. The site, when depleted, must be reclaimed to Alberta Environmental Protection standards.
10. PRIOR to installation of a new access or changing location of existing access, complete a Request for Access form by contacting the Operations North Department for Mackenzie County at 927-3718. Access to be constructed to Mackenzie County standards and at the developer's expense.

CARRIED

- b) **263-DP-15 Knelsen Sand & Gravel Ltd
Tarp Shelter in La Crete Highway Commercial "HC2"
Part of SW 15-106-15-W5M**

MPC-16-11-183

MOVED by Erick Carter

That a time extension for 263-DP-15 on Part of SW 15-106-15-

W5M in the name of Knelsen Sand & Gravel Ltd. be granted to expire on November 3, 2017.

CARRIED

8. SUBDIVISION

a) None

9. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

a) **Land Use Bylaw Amendment Update**

For Information.

b) **Action List**

For information.

10. IN CAMERA

a) None

11. MEETING DATES

❖ November 24, 2016 in Fort Vermilion

12. ADJOURNMENT

MPC-16-11-184

MOVED by Jack Eccles

That the Municipal Planning Commission Meeting be adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

CARRIED

These minutes were adopted this 24th day of November, 2016.

John W. Driedger, Chair

**MACKENZIE COUNTY
Municipal Planning Commission Meeting**

**Mackenzie County Office
Fort Vermilion, AB**

Thursday, November 24, 2016 @ 10:00 a.m.

PRESENT: John W. Driedger Chair, Councillor, MPC Member
Jacquie Bateman Councillor, MPC Member
Erick Carter Vice Chair, MPC Member
Jack Eccles MPC Member
Beth Kappelar MPC Member

ADMINISTRATION: Byron Peters Director of Planning and Development
Liane Lambert Planner
Caitlin Smith Development Officer
Lynda Washkevich Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC: Wilhelm Friesen

MOTION

1. Call to Order

John W. Driedger called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

MPC-16-11-185

MOVED by Erick Carter

That the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

3. Minutes

a) Adoption of Minutes

MPC-16-11-186

MOVED by Jack Eccles

That the minutes of November 3, 2016 Municipal Planning Commission meeting be adopted as presented

CARRIED

b) Business Arising from Previous Minutes

None.

4. DEVELOPMENT

- a) 059-DP-16 Tervita Corporation (Time Extension)
Class II Industrial Landfill (Additional Cell (13 acres))
with Fence in Forestry "F" (Rainbow Lake)
SE 05-111-05-W6M**

MPC-16-11-187

MOVED by Jacquie Bateman

That a time extension for 059-DP-16 on SE 05-111-05-W6M in the name of Tervita Corporation be granted, for development to commence by May 11, 2018.

CARRIED

- b) 240-DP-16 William L Driedger- Garage –Detached
Hamlet Residential 1A "HR1A" (La Crete)
Plan 932 3026, Block 21, Lot 01**

MPC-16-11-188

MOVED by Jack Eccles

That Development Permit 240-DP-16 on Plan 932 3026, Block 21, Lot 01 in the name of William L Driedger be APPROVED with the following conditions:

Failure to comply with one or more of the attached conditions shall render this permit Null and Void

1. **Minimum building setbacks:**
 - a) 7.6 meters (25 feet) front (South) yard;
 - b) 1.5 meters (5 feet) side (East & West) yards;
 - c) 1.5 meters (5 feet) rear (North) yard; from the property lines.
2. **The Garage – Detached shall meet all Alberta Safety Code requirements and any other requirements specified by Superior Safety Codes. Failure to do so shall render this permit Null and Void.**
3. **The Garage – Detached is approved for residential purposes only and no commercial activity is permitted in this building. If the developer/landowner/occupant or other person or persons intend to use the Garage – Detached for**

commercial or industrial uses, a new development permit is required prior to the commencement of the commercial use.

4. The architecture, construction materials and appearance of buildings and other structures shall be to accepted standards.
5. No construction or development is allowed on or in a right-of-way. It is the responsibility of the developer/owner/occupant to investigate the utility rights-of-way, if any, that exist on the property prior to commencement of any construction and to ensure that no construction or development is completed on any utility right-of-way.
6. This permit approval is subject to the access to the property being constructed to County standards. PRIOR to installation of a new access or changing location of existing access, complete a Request for Access form by contacting the Operational Services Department for Mackenzie County at 780-928-3983. Access to be constructed to Mackenzie County standards and at the developers' expense.
7. The total site area (lot) shall have a positive surface drainage without adversely affecting the neighbouring properties.
8. The Developer shall at all times comply with all applicable Federal, Provincial and Municipal legislation and regulations and County Bylaws and resolutions relating to the development of the lands.

CARRIED

5. SUBDIVISION

- a) **40-SUB-15 Danny Friesen (Rubicon Housing Inc.)
(Fort Vermilion)
Plan 2938RS, Block 7, Lots 15 & 16**

MPC-16-11-189

MOVED by Jacquie Bateman

That 40-SUB-15 be TABLED in order to invite the developer to the next meeting.

CARRIED

**b) 53-SUB-15 Peter & Anne Derksen
(La Crete Rural Airport Road)
NW 32-105-13-W5M**

MPC-16-11-190

MOVED by Jacquie Bateman

That a one year Time Extension request for Subdivision Application 54-SUB-15 in the name of Peter & Anne Derksen on NW 32-105-13-W5M be GRANTED.

CARRIED

**c) 34-SUB-16 Peter Driedger
(88 Connector Area)
NW 24-106-13- W5M**

MPC-16-11-191

MOVED by Jacquie Bateman

That Subdivision Application 34-SUB-16 in the name of Peter Driedger on NW 24-106-13-W5M be APPROVED with the following conditions:

1. This approval is for a **TYPE A** single lot subdivision, 11.59 acre parcel in size (4.69 hectares) in size.
2. Applicant/developer shall enter into and abide by a Development Agreement with the Mackenzie County which shall contain, but is not limited to:
 - a) Prior to any development on the proposed subdivision, the developer shall obtain a development permit from the Municipality.
 - b) Provision of access to both the subdivision and the balance of the lands in accordance with Mackenzie County standards at the developer's expense.
 - c) All sewage disposals shall conform to the Alberta Private Sewage Systems Standard of Practice 2009.
 - d) **Provision of a storm water management plan. Contact Planning and Development staff at 780-928-3983 to discuss the requirements for your subdivision.**
 - e) Any outstanding property taxes are to be paid on the land proposed to be subdivided prior to registration.

- f) Provision of utility right-of-way as required by ATCO Electric, Telus and Northern Lights Gas and others.
- g) Provision of and negotiations for utility rights-of-way and/or easements as required by utility companies. The Developer shall be responsible for any line relocation or correction costs that occur as a result of this development. Responses from utilities companies are shown in Schedule "C" hereto attached.
- h) **Mackenzie County shall not be held liable for any concerns, issues or damages related to and/or resulting from the water tables and any other water problems as a result of any low land levels of the proposed development. It is the responsibility of the developer to ensure that adequate drainage and other precautions are taken to avoid water seepage into the dwellings/basement and/or flooding of the basement, and/or any ancillary buildings.**

CARRIED

- d) **35-SUB-16 Sommerfeld Mennonite Church
(Wolfe Lake Road East)
SW 1-107-13-W5M**

MPC-16-11-192

MOVED by Beth Kappelar

That Subdivision Application 35-SUB-16 in the name of Sommerfeld Mennonite Church on Plan 142 3878, Block 1, Lot 1 (SW 1-107-13-W5M) be APPROVED with the following conditions:

1. This approval is for a CEMETERY PLOT subdivision, 3.04 acre parcel in size (1.22 hectares) within a 10 acre (4.04 hectare) subdivision.
2. Applicant/developer shall enter into and abide by a Development Agreement with the Mackenzie County which shall contain, but is not limited to:
 - a) Prior to any development on the proposed subdivision, the developer shall obtain a development permit from the Municipality.
 - b) Provision of access to both the subdivision and the CEMETERY PLOT in accordance with Mackenzie County standards at the developer's expense.

- c) All sewage disposals shall conform to the Alberta Private Sewage Systems Standard of Practice 2009.
- d) **Provision of a storm water management plan. Contact Planning and Development staff at 780-928-3983 to discuss the requirements for your subdivision.**
- e) Any outstanding property taxes are to be paid on the land proposed to be subdivided prior to registration.
- f) Provision of utility right-of-way as required by ATCO Electric, Telus and Northern Lights Gas and others.
- g) Provision of and negotiations for utility rights-of-way and/or easements as required by utility companies. The Developer shall be responsible for any line relocation or correction costs that occur as a result of this development. Responses from utilities companies are shown in Schedule "C" hereto attached.
- h) **Mackenzie County shall not be held liable for any concerns, issues or damages related to and/or resulting from the water tables and any other water problems as a result of any low land levels of the proposed development. It is the responsibility of the developer to ensure that adequate drainage and other precautions are taken to avoid water seepage into the dwellings/basement and/or flooding of the basement, and/or any ancillary buildings.**

CARRIED

- e) **36-SUB-16 Old Colony Cemetery Company
(Wolfe Lake Road East)
SE 26-106-14-W5M**

MPC-16-11-193

MOVED by Erick Carter

That Subdivision Application 36-SUB-16 in the name of The Old Colony Cemetery Company on Plan 152 2958, Block 1, Lot 2 (SE 26-106-14-W5M) be APPROVED with the following conditions:

1. This approval is for a **CEMETERY PLOT** subdivision, 2.57 acre parcel in size (1.04 hectares) within a 10 acre (4.04 hectare) subdivision.

2. Applicant/developer shall enter into and abide by a Development Agreement with the Mackenzie County which shall contain, but is not limited to:
 - a) Prior to any development on the proposed subdivision, the developer shall obtain a development permit from the Municipality.
 - b) Provision of access to both the subdivision and the CEMETERY PLOT in accordance with Mackenzie County standards at the developer's expense.
 - c) All sewage disposals shall conform to the Alberta Private Sewage Systems Standard of Practice 2009.
 - d) **Provision of a storm water management plan. Contact Planning and Development staff at 780-928-3983 to discuss the requirements for your subdivision.**
 - e) **A drainage ditch shall be constructed around the north end of the existing subdivision or to the lowest elevations, diverting any runoff coming from the swale from entering the proposed Cemetery Plot.**
 - f) Any outstanding property taxes are to be paid on the land proposed to be subdivided prior to registration.
 - g) Provision of utility right-of-way as required by ATCO Electric, Telus and Northern Lights Gas and others.
 - h) Provision of and negotiations for utility rights-of-way and/or easements as required by utility companies. The Developer shall be responsible for any line relocation or correction costs that occur as a result of this development. Responses from utilities companies are shown in Schedule "C" hereto attached.
 - i) **Mackenzie County shall not be held liable for any concerns, issues or damages related to and/or resulting from the water tables and any other water problems as a result of any low land levels of the proposed development. It is the responsibility of the developer to ensure that adequate drainage and other precautions are taken to avoid water seepage into the dwellings/basement and/or flooding of the basement, and/or any ancillary buildings.**

CARRIED

6. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

a) Action List

For information.

7. IN CAMERA

a) None

8. MEETING DATES

❖ December 8, 2016 in La Crete

9. ADJOURNMENT

MPC-16-11-194

MOVED by Jack Eccles

That the Municipal Planning Commission Meeting be adjourned
at 10:34 a.m.

CARRIED

These minutes were adopted this 8th day of December, 2016.

John W. Driedger, Chair

**MACKENZIE COUNTY
Municipal Planning Commission Meeting**

**Mackenzie County Office
La Crete, AB**

Thursday, December 8, 2016 @ 10:00 a.m.

PRESENT: John W. Driedger Chair, Councillor, MPC Member
Jacquie Bateman Councillor, MPC Member (via teleconference)
Erick Carter Vice Chair, MPC Member
Beth Kappelar MPC Member

ADMINISTRATION: Caitlin Smith Development Officer
Lynda Washkevich Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary

MOTION

1. Call to Order

John W. Driedger called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

MPC-16-12-195

MOVED by Beth Kappelar

That the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

3. Minutes

a) Adoption of Minutes

MPC-16-12-196

MOVED by Erick Carter

That the minutes of November 24, 2016 Municipal Planning Commission meeting be adopted as presented

CARRIED

b) Business Arising from Previous Minutes

None.

4. DEVELOPMENT

a) 241-DP-16 1144963 AB Ltd. o/a Budget Financial

**Home Based Business (Vehicle & RV Sales and Finance) Hamlet Residential 1A "HR1A" (La Crete)
Plan 072 5060, Block 06, Lot 20**

MPC-16-12-197

MOVED by Jacquie Bateman

That Development Permit 241-DP-16 on Plan 072 5060, Block 06, Lot 20 in the name of 1144963 AB Ltd. o/a Budget Financial be APPROVED with the following conditions:

Failure to comply with one or more of the attached conditions shall render this permit Null and Void

1. **The Home Based Business portion of the business is approved to be operated out of the dwelling only and the area for it shall not exceed an area of 200 square feet (18.58 square meters).**
2. This permit may be revoked at any time, if, in the opinion of the Development Authority, the Home Based Business has become detrimental or otherwise incompatible with the amenities of the neighborhood.
3. This permit approval is subject to approval from the Alberta Motor Vehicle Industry Council (AMVIC). The developer is required to obtain written approval from the Alberta Motor Vehicle Industry Council regarding the proposed development prior to commencement of the development. Failure to do so shall render this permit Null and Void.
4. All conditions and requirements by the Alberta Motor Vehicle Industry Council "AMVIC" are to be met to their specifications and standards.
5. At all times, the privacy of the adjacent dwellings shall be preserved and the Home Based Business shall not unduly offend the surrounding residents by way of excessive lighting, noise, traffic, congestion, late visitations by clients, etcetera.
6. **There shall not be any outdoor business activity or storage on site related to the Home Based Business.**
7. The Municipality has assigned the following address to the noted property (**8810 – 102nd Street**). You are required to display the address (**8810**) to be clearly legible from the street and be on a contrasting background. The minimum size of the characters shall be four inches in height.

8. No construction or development is allowed on a right-of-way. It is the responsibility of the developer/owner/occupant to investigate the utility rights-of-way, if any, that exist on the property prior to commencement of any construction and to ensure that no construction or development is completed on any utility right-of-way.
9. Home Based Businesses are limited to one sign not exceeding 1.1 square meters (12 square feet) in area.
10. The sign shall not be placed within the Road Right of Way.
11. The site and sign shall be kept in a safe, clean, and tidy condition, or may be required to be renovated or removed.
12. The sign shall:
 - a. Not obstruct the orderly and safe flow of vehicular and pedestrian traffic,
 - b. Not unduly interfere with the amenities of the district,
 - c. Not materially interfere with or affect the use, enjoyment or value of neighbouring properties, and
 - d. Not create visual or aesthetic blight.
13. The total site area (lot) shall have a positive surface drainage without adversely affecting the neighbouring properties.
14. The Developer shall at all times comply with all applicable Federal, Provincial and Municipal legislation and regulations and County Bylaws and resolutions relating to the development of the lands.

CARRIED

5. SUBDIVISION

- a) None

6. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

a) Action List

For information.

7. IN CAMERA

a) None

8. MEETING DATES

- ❖ January 12, 2017 in La Crete
- ❖ January 26, 2017 in Fort Vermilion
- ❖ February 9, 2017 in La Crete
- ❖ February 23, 2017 in La Crete

9. ADJOURNMENT

MPC-16-12-198

MOVED by Erick Carter

That the Municipal Planning Commission Meeting be adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

CARRIED

These minutes were adopted this 12th day of January, 2017.

John W. Driedger, Chair



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	January 9, 2017
Presented By:	Len Racher, Chief Administrative Officer
Title:	CAO Report

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

The CAO and Director reports for December 2016 are attached for information.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

COMMUNICATION:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

That the CAO report for December 2016 be received for information.

Author: C. Gabriel Reviewed by: _____ CAO: _____

MONTHLY REPORT OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER TO COUNCIL

Len Racher, CAO

For the month of December

Date	Comments
December 15	Deputy Minister Andre Corbould Meeting in Fort Vermilion.
Other December Meetings	2 nd ASB Meeting 5 th Brownlee Insurance Session 12 th Council Budget Meeting 13 th Regular Council Meeting 13 th Managers Meeting 15 th Finance Committee Meeting

Other	Comments
Natural Gas Update	<p>December 8th natural gas pressures were slowly dropping off a noticeable level and gas companies requested large consumers such as lumber mills shut down kilns and dramatically decrease natural gas usage.</p> <p>December 9th the natural gas pressures dropped so low that a few customers in Blue Hills lost their residential gas. Schools and offices were closed so indoor temperatures could be decreased. After meeting with both AltaGas and Northern Lights Gas Co-op and finding out the low pressures were beyond their control, the county remained on emergency standby in the case more people lost gas, or the seniors residences or hospitals needed evacuation from lack of heat. AltaGas and Northern Lights worked with Long Run to have natural gas shipped, helping stabilize the dropping pressures.</p> <p>December 10th pressures came back to a maintaining level and residents were back in their homes. Luckily, no evacuation plan was activated.</p> <p>December 16th -18th the same issues stemmed once again, but with no definite answer as to why the pressures were plummeting so fast and two weekends in a row.</p> <p>Jessica did some research to try and figure out what the cause of these pressure fluctuations stemmed from. She called the president of AltaGas, Northern Lights, the Alberta Utilities Commission to discuss the issues, possible causes, and solutions. All pointed out that the TransCanada pipeline did not have the amount of gas needed to supply its other pipelines. Discussions pointed to the lack of economy that cannot afford to pay people to</p>

MONTHLY REPORT OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER TO COUNCIL
Len Racher, CAO

go to the field and open wells, or thaw those that have frozen off.

Finance
Controller

We are undergoing interviews for the finance controller position.

Engineering

Met with Stantec to discuss the upcoming projects in 2017.

Respectfully,

Len Racher
Chief Administrative Officer

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE CAO

For the month of December, 2016

From: Byron Peters
Director of Planning & Development

Strategic Priorities for Planning & Development

Program/Activity/Project	Timeline	Comments
Land Use Framework	TBA	Waiting for province to initiate the actual LUF process for the LPRP. Province has initiated the process internally, and it is mentioned in the AEP Business Plan
Community Infrastructure Master Plans	Q2 2017	Final copies of all drafts have been received. MPE has started offsite levy review, anticipate the next steps occurring this month.

Annual Operating Programs, Projects and Activities

Program/Activity/Project	Timeline	Comments
Community Investment Readiness package	Q1 2017	REDI is purchasing the Townfolio web portal for each of the member municipalities. Our info will be available from Townfolio and as an extension from our website.
Economic Development Strategy	ongoing	Continue to do visitations. Have been focusing on broadband, and also on other opportunities that align with provincial grant opportunities. Some REDI projects overlap with both our ec dev strategy and the streetscape project, so we are working with REDI to ensure that projects align.

Capital Projects

Projects	Timeline	Comments
Rural Addressing	2016	Sign installation is substantially complete, but there are signs that still need to be installed. Information has been sent to Telus/911 in order for the system to 'go live'.

Land Use Bylaw review	2016-17	Project progressing on schedule. Draft copies of proposed changes are anticipated in mid-January.
Airport Planning	2016-17	PAPI light paperwork/verification is complete from the consultants, just need verification from NavCanada that we can publish the update. During various inspections several deficiencies have been noted at the airports. Will spend 2017 correcting the smaller ones and creating a work plan to address more significant deficiencies in 2018 and beyond.

Personnel Update:

Nothing new to report, which I consider a good thing.

Other Comments:

Caribou is addressed under it's own update.

Currently working on compiling the year end development stats, should be complete by the end of the January.

After taking the fall 2016 semester off, I'm once again enrolled in courses, working towards the Applied Land Use Planning (ALUP) certificate through the UofA.

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE CAO

For the Month of December 2016

From: David Fehr
Director of Operations

Annual Operating Programs, Projects and Activities

Program/Activity/Project	Timeline	Comments
Ice bridge	ongoing	Ice bridge opened for 5 tonne traffic on December 28 th .
Snow removal	ongoing	Cleaned snow off of street's before Christmas.
PAPI lights	ongoing	Working with MMM group engineer to correct the deficiencies so PAPI lights can be switched on.

Projects	Timeline	Comments
Blue Hills New Bridges	ongoing	Engineering phase almost complete Have entered into Native Consultations
Atlas Gravel Pit	ongoing	Working on rectifying Environment and Parks concerns. Waiting on final approvals.

Respectfully,

David Fehr
Director of Operations

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE CAO

For the Month of December 2016

From: Ron Pelensky
Director of Community Services

Program/Activity/Project	Timeline	Comments
Dogs	Ongoing	One dog picked up in Fort Vermilion & La Crete- both sent to the Humane Society. Two dog concerns at LaCrete post office. Continue patrols for dogs in Fort Vermilion & Rocky Lane school
Bylaw	Ongoing	Working with farmers in the Blue Hills area, and Highway 88 area to minimize smoke from burning brush piles.
Emergency/Disaster Service	Ongoing	2 separate incidents where Mackenzie County was notified of natural gas shortages. Notified the ratepayers, and conversed with ratepayers and gas suppliers.
Health and Safety	Ongoing	Assisted in hazard assessments. Training new roads supervisor on completion of field hazard assessment forms. Assisted with reports on county incidents. Working with AHS Health Inspector to assist with site inspection at ratepayers house. Startup meeting with Ice Bridge Contractor, Alberta Transportation, Director of Operations.
Peace Officer	Ongoing	No contracted Peace Officer for the month of December. Working on schedule for 2017. Prepare final application form for Peace Officer.
Fire Department	Ongoing	Fort Vermilion Responded to 2 Motor Vehicle fires, 1 Medical Assists, 1 Fire alarm La Crete responded to 3 Medical Assist, 4 Motor Vehicle Collisions, 1 Motor Vehicle fire, 2 Fire Alarm, 2 FV assists Zama Notified of aH2S gas release South of Zama. Upon notification leak was under control.
Fire Department Training	Ongoing	Regular practices held La Crete & Fort Vermilion & Zama

Building Repairs	Dec	<p>Repaired pump on La Crete office heating system.</p> <p>Investigate/repair heat issues with Zama office.</p> <p>Repair chimney, replace ceiling fan- Zama Water Plant</p> <p>Adjust thermostats in Fort Vermilion and La Crete multiple times due to low natural gas pressures</p> <p>Repair multiple lights- Fort Vermilion and La Crete</p> <p>Install freeze/leak detector in County house – Fort Vermilion</p> <p>Install window in interior door La Crete shop</p> <p>Numerous minor repairs</p>
Gravel Crushing	Dec	Advertised for Gravel Crushing Tender-closing date January 23, 2017
Inventory	Dec	Completed 2016 Inventory counts

Capital Projects

Snow Plow Truck	Dec	Truck arrived – project complete
Wadlin Lake Campground	Dec	<p>Toured site with AEF employees. Renewed TFA for construction of 5 campsites.</p> <p>Participated in Deputy Minister meeting regarding Wadlin Lake.</p>
Bridge Campground	Dec	Archaeological report submitted to Alberta Government. Awaiting Government acceptance.
Oil Recycling Facilities	Dec	Buildings are set up, project complete.
Fort Vermilion Sand/Salt shed	Dec	Project awarded to Alpine Builders. Construction postponed to 2017
Fort Vermilion Shop extension	Dec	Project awarded to Alpine Builders. Construction is complete.
Fort Vermilion Airport Shop	Dec	Project awarded to Mackenzie Custom Builders, Project to be complete by March 2017

Other Comments:

- Corresponding with DRP assessor on outstanding projects
- Peace Officer position, waiting for MOU to be returned so we can submit application to Sole Gen
- Contract amendment signed for the Transfer Station Waste Hauling Contractor

Personnel Update:

- Completed agreement and job description advertised for RCMP admin position

REPORT TO CAO
December, 2016

From: Grant Smith
Agricultural Fieldman

Annual Operating Programs, Projects and Activities

Program/Activity/Project	Timeline	Comments
Weed Inspections	2016	Weed notices have been issued to Alberta Transportation for Canada Thistle and Perennial Sow Thistle along hwy's 58, 88 & 697.
Water Pumping Program	Complete	The Water Pumping Program was completed on October 31 st . There were 21 rentals in 2016.
Ag Fair & Tradeshow	2016	2017 Ag Fair dates are August 11 th & 12 th . Letters were sent to local Auction companies requesting that they refrain from holding auctions on these dates so attendance won't be affected.
Wolf Bounty	2016	We've received 55 wolf carcasses as of December 31 st . Carcasses have been received from High Level, Zama, Meander River, Buffalo Head Prairie, Blue Hills and Jean D'or Prairie.
ALUS (Alternative Land Use Systems)	2016	I attended an ALUS Conference in Red Deer October 5,6 &7 th . There was intense discussion pertaining to applications, approvals, funding and inspections. There was also a field day to look at ALUS projects in the area.
Organic Growers Meeting	2016	An organic growers meeting was held in La Crete on October 27 th . Items discussed were challenges and issues Producers face in Mackenzie County as well as the possibility of the formation of a local Organic association. An Organic Conference is being scheduled in La Crete for the first week of April, 2017.

Capital Projects

Projects	Timeline	Comments
Erosion Repairs	2016	Outback Ventures of La Crete has been selected to do the erosion repairs identified in the RFP. Completion date was October 31 st .
Buffalo Head/Steephill Flood Control Project	2017	A meeting was held in La Crete on September 6 th . The scope of the project has been changed to include road building and eliminating the retention pond. This will assist in obtaining the approval under the Water Act and with easement difficulties. A project meeting was held in La Crete on October 27 th to discuss updated plans, grant funding and possible re-routing of the channel to avoid Wetland Policy requirements that continue to delay the project.

Personnel Update:

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Other Comments:

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MONTHLY REPORT TO THE CAO

For the month of December 2016

From: Peng Tian
Director of Finance

Annual Operating Programs, Projects and Activities

Program/Activity/Project	Timeline	Comments
2017 Operating Budget	December 12, 2016	2017 operating budget draft was completed for the Council meeting on December 12, 2016.

Capital Projects

2017 Capital Budget	December 12, 2016	2017 capital budget draft was completed for the Council meeting on December 12, 2016.
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Personnel Update:

Janelle Batt accepted the Finance Officer position and started working at her new position in December. Also, we advertised the Payroll Clerk position in December, and Rhonda Smith accepted this position. Finally, we offered the Finance Controller position to a candidate in December. We are waiting for the response from this candidate.

Other Comments:

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REPORT TO THE CAO

For the Month of December, 2016

From: Carol Gabriel
Director of Legislative & Support Services

Meetings Attended

- 2016-12-02 attended an elections workshop held by the Alberta Municipal Clerks Association.
- 2016-12-05 attended the training session by Brownlee LLP regarding the MPC and SDAB jurisdiction, planning department reporting and discussion regarding motions. The session was held at our Fort Vermilion office and was attended by some of our MPC and SDAB members, our planning staff, myself and the CAO. I am following up with additional information regarding motion writing as it relates to negative motions.
- 2016-12-08 attended the Composite Assessment Review Board preliminary hearing as the Clerk. Decision was issued by the Board and the matter will proceed to a Merit Hearing which is scheduled for March 7, 2017.
- 2016-12-09 attended several meetings related to the natural gas shortage in the region.
- 2016-12-12 attended the Budget Council meeting.
- 2016-12-13 attended the Regular Council meeting.
- 2016-12-13 attended a Managers meeting following council meeting.
- 2016-12-15 attended the Finance Committee meeting and lunch with the Deputy Minister of Environment & Parks.
- 2016-12-23 attended the office safety meeting.
- Various other individual or departmental meetings.

Council

- Preparing for various meetings of Council including budget meetings and regular meetings.
- A FOIP request was received on December 20, 2016 requesting copies of Councillor expense claims from April 1, 2016 to November 30, 2016. Information has been collected and will be released upon receipt of final payment of fees.
- Followed up with Canada Post regarding the status of the La Crete Post Office. They have advised that they have made significant progress towards a project that they feel they can execute in 2017 and meet the needs of the community. They are finalizing an internal approval package and expect final approvals by the end of January and hope to be in a position to share their plans with us in February.

Assessment Appeals

- Preparation for the upcoming Merit Hearing scheduled for March 7, 2017.

Bylaws/Policies/Reports/Publications:

- Requested changes to the Procedural Bylaw will be coming forward at the January 23, 2017 council meeting as additional research was being done with regard to the requested rotation of the chair.
- The next issue of the County Image is scheduled for end of January early February.

Citizen Engagement:

- Various postings on the County's website and Facebook page regarding Request for Proposals, Tenders, development permits, meetings, etc.

Human Resources:

- HR Coordinator is continuing to assist the Finance Department due to existing vacancy in the department until a replacement can be found.
- AUPE agreement was ratified by both parties on November 1st. Received and reviewed the draft copy of the revised agreement from the AUPE. Submitted the recommended corrections to the AUPE and await a reply and review of revised draft.
- Manulife is working on implementing our Health Spending Account for a start date of January 1, 2017. Information regarding the program has been sent to employees.
- The update to the Diamond payroll system was started before Christmas and anticipate staff training in the next couple of weeks.

Front Desk Services:

- Inter-office courier service provider has changed effective January 1, 2017. We anticipate an increase in service and efficiency.

Events:

- Organized and attended the annual County Christmas supper and long service awards evening on December 9th.

Miscellaneous:

- Ongoing updates to the County website
- Ongoing updates to the County Facebook page regarding upcoming events, etc.
- Ongoing form review and updating.
- Preparing for various meetings, including council, budget planning, etc.
- Travel and meeting coordination.
- Assisting with the natural gas shortage in the region in December, including attending meetings, issuing notices on social media and notifying the radio stations, etc.
- Plus much, much more 😊

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE CAO

For the Month of December 2016

From: Fred Wiebe
Director of Utilities

Annual Operating Programs, Projects and Activities

Program/Activity/Project	Timeline	Comments
Water Distribution and Wastewater Collection Maintenance	Sept/16	Complete.
Strategic Priorities	Dec/16	Hamlet Easement Strategy – coming back with more details and recommendations.

Capital Projects

Projects	Timeline	Comments
Master Meters	Sept/16	Complete.
FV- Hydrant Replacement	July/16	Complete.
FV-Frozen Water Service Repairs	Nov/17	Completed 6 services for this year. Started with the most shallow services where we didn't have to destruct road as it was already late in the year.
FV-Raw Water Truckfill Upgrade	Complete	Treated truckfill has been piped to east side of building for non-potable use.
LC-Raw Water Truckfill Upgrade	Complete	Deficiencies are corrected and just require O&M documentation.
LC- Lagoon Upgrade	Complete	Complete with final inspection to be completed next year.
LC- Main Lift Station Repair/Upgrade	Complete	Concrete island for rv fill that had to be removed needs to be replaced after ground settlement.
LC- Sanitary Sewer Main Upgrade	Complete	Complete.

FV- 48 th Ave Water Services	Complete	Complete.
Rural Potable Water Infrastructure	Mar/17	Top slab complete at both sites. Booster station concrete work underway, and truckfill enclosures to be completed mid-January to February.
FV- Dechlorination	Complete	Dechlorination equipment is installed, tested and working.
FV- Lagoon Desludge	Complete	Complete.
LC- Paving Raw Water Fill	Jun/17	Done in conjunction with 94 th ave road improvement. Delayed until 2017.
FV- Paving FV WTP	Jun/17	Done in conjunction with the street improvements in FV. Delayed until 2017.
LC,FV,ZA- Exhaust Thimbles	Feb/17	Thimbles on order, contractor to install in January.
FV- Filter Media Replacement	Complete	Both filters have media replaced and are performing well.
FV- 49 th Ave Water Re-servicing	Sept/17	2 services are complete to ensure property owner is not delayed this year or early next year with his mobile home setup. Will complete in 2017.
FV 50 th Street Water Extension	Sep/17	Currently in discussions with property owners to review options and re-affirm if there is committed interest.

Personnel Update:

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Other Comments:

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Respectfully submitted,

Fred Wiebe
 Director of Utilities
 Mackenzie County

January 1, 2017

Report to Len Racher, CAO- Mackenzie County

From William Kostiw

This is a brief report on the projects I am involved in during the last part of 2016, and some of my plans for 2017.

a) Caribou

I think our joint effort to get the Province & Feds to back off a bit and listen to our concerns has been getting results. The AFPA conference in Jasper certainly was very beneficial in engaging with senior Government officials and who are making the decisions.

The Federal contacts have been also helpful and I am hopeful that engaging Diana will help our cause. My intent is to keep meeting Industry and both the Government of N.W.T. & Government of B.C. with some of the Mackenzie County Council members.

b) Buffalo Head Flood Management Project

We are still chasing the Provincial grants and hopefully will get positive results by March 2017. I think A.S.B. should proceed with final design and tenders for early March.

c) Jack Wiebe

We are still pursuing a more hospitable humane solution. I am pursuing this through the farmers advocate, AEP, and legal.

d) Other Projects

The other projects in the works are stage III land sales, Site C Dam mitigation funding the Fort Vermilion land exchange, and other as directed.

- e)** The attached information is a bit old but still relevant to Mackenzie County overall go forward master plans. (The Big Picture)

Attachments:

Northern Highway Strategy

Developing Agriculture in Northwest Corridor

Thanks and I would be pleased to review this with you or provide more info at your pleasure.

Regards,

William "Bill" Kostiw

Northern Highways Strategy

Building For Tomorrow Today

... Advancing The Alberta Economy



Prepared by:
Northern Alberta Development Council
October 2008

Northern Highways Strategy

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Northern Highways Strategy

Building For Tomorrow Today ... Advancing The Alberta Economy

Northern Alberta will continue to make a significant contribution to the Alberta economy as the Province of Alberta moves into the future. The building of northern highways will be a key factor in realizing the many northern economic development opportunities and the provincial benefits associated with them.

The proposed northern highways included in this proposed "Northern Highways Strategy" are all priorities. They will provide enhanced access to resources, tourism routes for the Province's growing tourism industry and connections to communities. These highways will also play a critical role in the integration of the Province of Alberta's highway system with neighbouring provincial and territorial jurisdictions.

When looking to the future of the Province of Alberta, the North will be an important cornerstone to the advancement of the Alberta economy. In order to advance, northern highways must be developed as a priority program for the Provincial Government.

The Western Premiers approved the Northwestern Canada Integrated Road Network Plan in 1998. It identified a number of highways as critically important. The NADC has identified Highway 40 and its importance as a strategic link between Grande Prairie, Grande Cache, Hinton, southern Alberta and British Columbia. Given the importance of the north to the Alberta economy, the NADC is asking the provincial government to identify how these roads fit in the strategic implementation plan.

The Alberta Economy - A Northern Perspective

Introduction

The Northern Alberta Development Council understands the importance of a highway transportation network, as it is vital to develop the social and economic fabric of northern Alberta. Communities and businesses require a road network that links the regions of northern Alberta with each other and with Western Canada.

The Northwestern Canadian Integrated Road Network Plan has seen considerable progress over the last 10 years. More work, however, is required. Some highways have not been completed, and changing circumstances have led to the identification of further highways as being critically important to Alberta's economic development.

Overview of Economic Activity

Northern Alberta (defined as the area covered by the Northern Alberta Development Council) is a *significant contributor to the economy of Alberta*. This is clearly shown by the following table.

Table 7.1
Economic Contribution of the NADC Region

Economic Contributions	Year	Total Contribution (\$ Billions)			Value Per Capita (\$ Thousands)		
		NADC Region	Rest of Alberta	NADC as % of Alberta	NADC Region	Rest of Alberta	Alberta Average
Exports	2005	37.1	92.6	28.6	125.7	31.4	40.0
	2010	40.3	96.3	29.5	124.5	29.5	38.1
Investment	2005	13.2	36.6	26.4	44.5	12.4	15.4
	2010	12.0	40.5	22.8	37.0	12.4	14.6
Materials for manufacturing	2003	1.4	30.6	4.3	5.3	11.0	10.5
Materials and labour for oil sands investment	2006-10*	1.2	23.9	4.9	4.0	7.7	7.4
Employment earnings	2005	7.3	76.2	8.8	24.8	25.9	25.8
	2010	9.3	96.5	8.8	28.7	29.6	29.5
Government revenues - Alberta	2004-05**	5.9	23.5	20.0	21.7	8.4	9.6
	2008-09**	6.0	24.5	19.7	19.2	7.8	8.9
Government revenues - Federal	2005	2.6	24.2	9.8	8.9	8.2	8.3
	2010	3.3	29.7	9.9	10.1	9.1	9.2

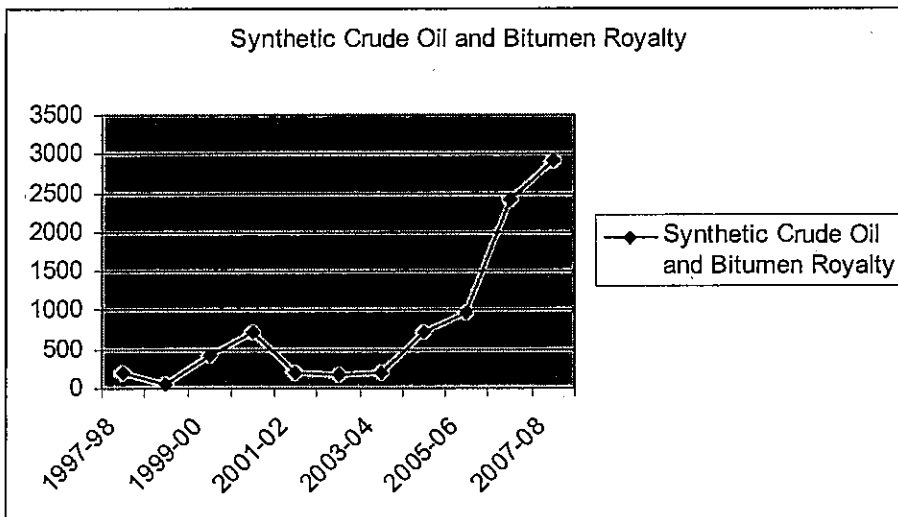
Source: GTS Group International. "Analysis of the Economic Contribution of the Northern Alberta Development Council Region to Alberta and Canada: July 31, 2008." Website: www.nadc.gov.ab.ca, accessed October, 2008.

The north is rich in a variety of resources. Northern Alberta is a major producer of agriculture, forestry and energy products. Northern highway projects are an investment in Alberta's future. Highway infrastructure projects help communities and industry to grow and prosper. In turn, this allows the Province to collect more revenues through royalties, timber fees, corporate taxes, and personal taxes. Resource developments in northern Alberta are closely tied to Government's ability to fund other priorities such as health and education.

Oil sands developments are just one example of the significant contribution the overall northern energy sector makes to the provincial economy. All of Alberta's oil sands deposits are located in northern Alberta. In 1999, oil sands production amounted to 585 thousand barrels per day. Today's forecast is to see that number grow to five million barrels per day by 2020. More than 204 billion dollars of oil sands investment is expected for the 2008 – 2012 period. Excluding construction jobs there are 6,000 permanent jobs locally in the oil sands and 18,000 nationally. By 2010 this is forecasted to exceed 13,000 locally and 39,000 nationally.¹

Based on the following charts, northern Alberta will continue to contribute substantially to the Alberta economy. Efficient and interconnected transportation routes will create new opportunities to expand on northern Alberta's economic contribution.

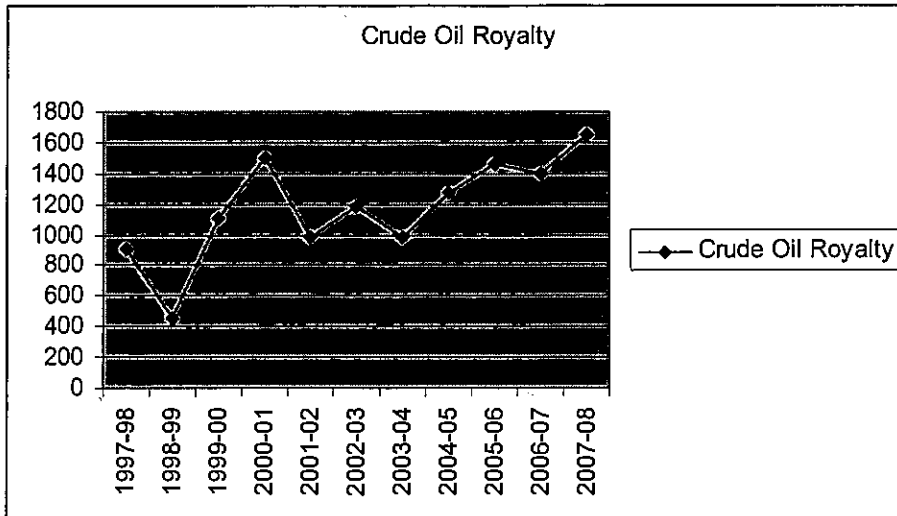
The following chart shows Alberta oil sands. In the period 1997- 2008 Alberta royalties amounted to \$8.9 Billion.



Alberta Energy Annual Report 2001/2002 and 2007/2008

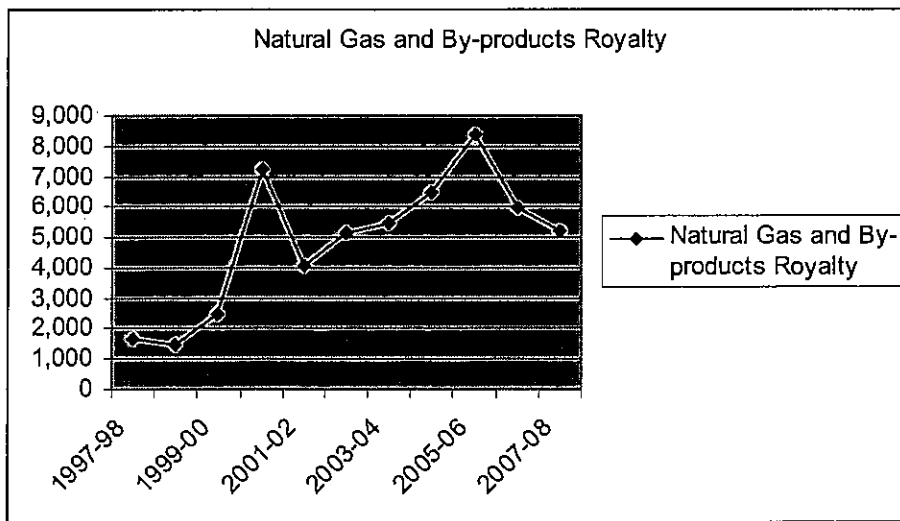
¹The Oil Sands Developers Group: Energy from Athabasca. "Oil Sands Developers Group 2008 Survey and Forecast Results – August 2008" Webpage. www.oilsandsdevelopers.ca accessed October 2008.

This chart shows Alberta crude oil royalties. In the period 1997 - 2008 Alberta royalties amounted to \$12.8 Billion. Northern Alberta accounts for 42 % of Alberta's conventional oil production.



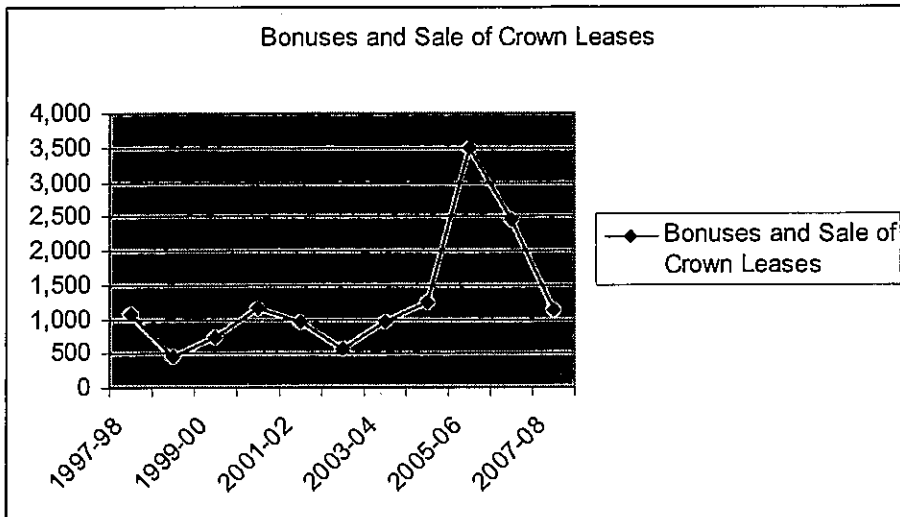
Alberta Energy Annual Report 2001/2002 and 2007/2008

The following chart shows Alberta natural gas and by-products royalties. In the period 1997 - 2001 Alberta royalties amounted to \$53.3 Billion. Northern Alberta accounts for 37 % of Alberta's natural gas production.



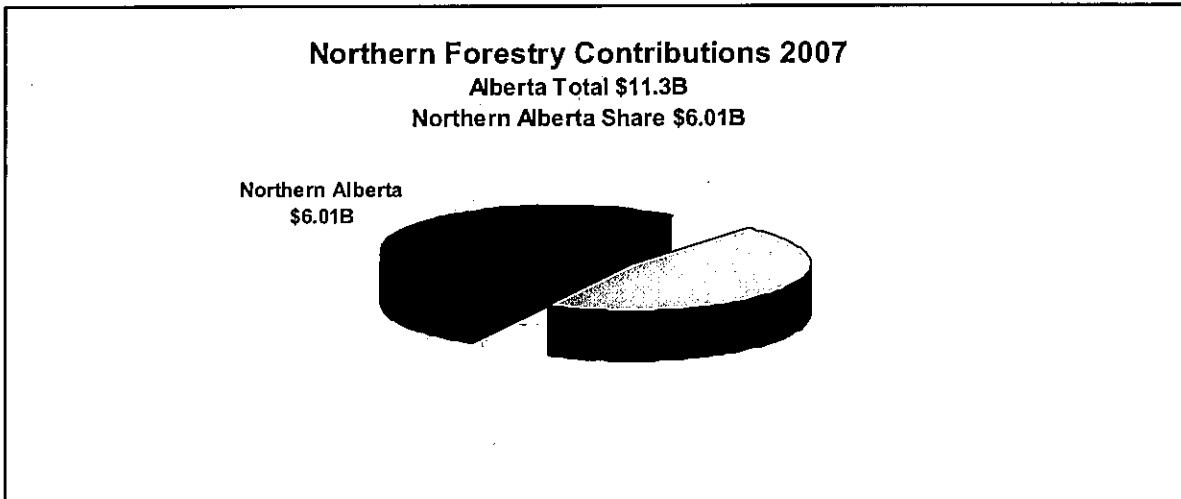
Alberta Energy Annual Report 2001/2002 and 2007/2008

The following chart shows Alberta royalties collected through bonuses and sales of crown land leases. In the period 1997- 2008 Alberta royalties amounted to \$14.2 Billion.



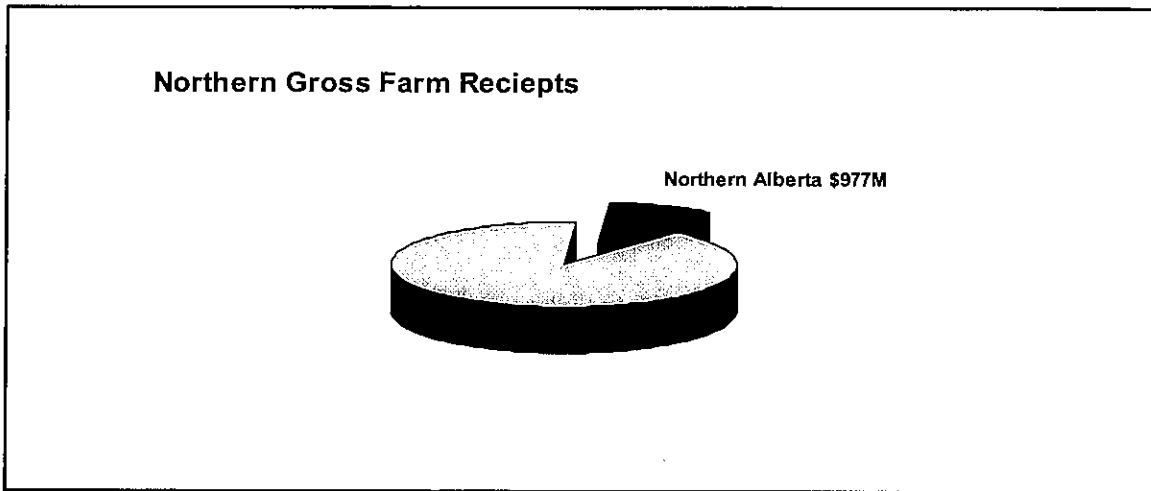
Alberta Energy Annual Report 2001/2002 and 2007/2008.

This chart shows the overall forestry sector contribution to Alberta for 2007. The total revenues of all product sales including direct and indirect benefits, corporate and personal income tax, property tax and stumpage and protection charges amount to \$11.3 billion. Of this amount, \$6.0 billion can be attributed to northern Alberta.



Source: Alberta Forest Products Association, Economic Impacts of the Alberta Forest Industry, June 2008

The following chart shows northern Alberta's portion of 2006 provincial gross farm receipts. This amounts to more than \$977 million or about 10 % of Alberta's total gross farm receipts.



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Agriculture, 2006.

Future Northern Prospects

Northern Alberta has immense resource exploration and development potential such as mining, tourism, new commercial ventures and value added activities. Mining includes exploration, development and commercialization stages and each stage provides many spin-off benefits. In 2006 \$6.5 million was spent on exploration in Alberta as reported by the Alberta Geological Survey. There have been encouraging discoveries throughout northern Alberta, including iron, uranium, diamond, and titanium deposits. At present no commercial mines (non-energy type mine) operate in northern Alberta,

Restrictions

Without adequate transportation networks future opportunities for wealth creation for the province will be restricted. This is particularly important with the uncertainty of world energy markets. Effective transportation leads to value added opportunities, and additional commodities.

Tourism

Highway infrastructure is necessary to support the development of a strong and vibrant tourism industry. Improvements in transportation will increase the North's ability to participate in expanding tourism markets. The abundance of lakes, forests and wildlife provide excellent resources for this industry. Each year, more visitors are attracted to the northern experiences which include outdoor recreation, historic, cultural and urban attractions.

Value -Added Industries

Northern Alberta is reliant on primary resource activities. As demand and markets change there is huge potential for northern Alberta to add value to products in the oil/gas, agriculture and forestry sectors. Secondary processing can be further advanced in northern Alberta if transportation challenges are addressed. Transportation of finished product out of the region is becoming an issue.

New Commercial Ventures

Road infrastructure projects strengthen businesses and industries that are already part of the region. Road development helps to diversify existing industries and spur new ventures that bring new employment and income to the north and Alberta.

One Priority - The Role of Northern Highways

Highways are critical in the economic growth and development of northern Alberta. Due to the current and potential economic activity in northern Alberta there is a need to make the highways identified in the Northwestern Canada Integrated Road Network Plan (NCIRNP) the priority for highway development. All of the identified highways provide vital connections to resources, communities and neighbouring jurisdictions. The integration of this system will result in opportunities to further advance the economic development and diversity of northern Alberta.

Much of northern Alberta's economy is tied to the development of natural resources, movement of commodities, and the inter-relationship between regions. Based on these considerations, the Province of Alberta must strive to build and maintain an effective highway system in northern Alberta. Highways are also vital in reducing the isolation of northern communities and expanding lifestyle options for northerners.

The rationale for this "one priority approach" is based on the significant need for northern highways and the significant revenues generated as a result of resource development in northern Alberta. It makes economic sense to undertake these projects now as a way to capture the future potential of the north while provincial revenues are available. It also insures that infrastructure is in place for future value added and non-energy development.

Northwestern Canadian Integrated Road Network Plan

In June 1998, the Western Premiers adopted a concept plan, the Northwestern Canadian Integrated Road Network Plan (NCIRNP), for the future development of highways in northwestern Canada. The NCIRNP provides a vision for the integration of road development in northwestern Canada, while recognizing the importance of highways to the advancement of northern development.

Many northern highways have been extensively studied and discussed amongst community, industry and provincial officials. Based on these consultations, key northern Alberta highway development projects were identified in the Network Plan. These highways support the current northern road network, while providing new regional and inter-provincial linkages.

Purpose

The overall goal of the Network Plan is to provide a framework for the future development of an integrated road network in northwestern Canada, including northern Alberta.

Northern Alberta Highway Projects

Northern regions have enormous development potential and will provide increased levels of wealth in all levels of government. Northern-based jurisdictions, including the Province of Alberta, share common opportunities and challenges in relation to future highway transportation needs.

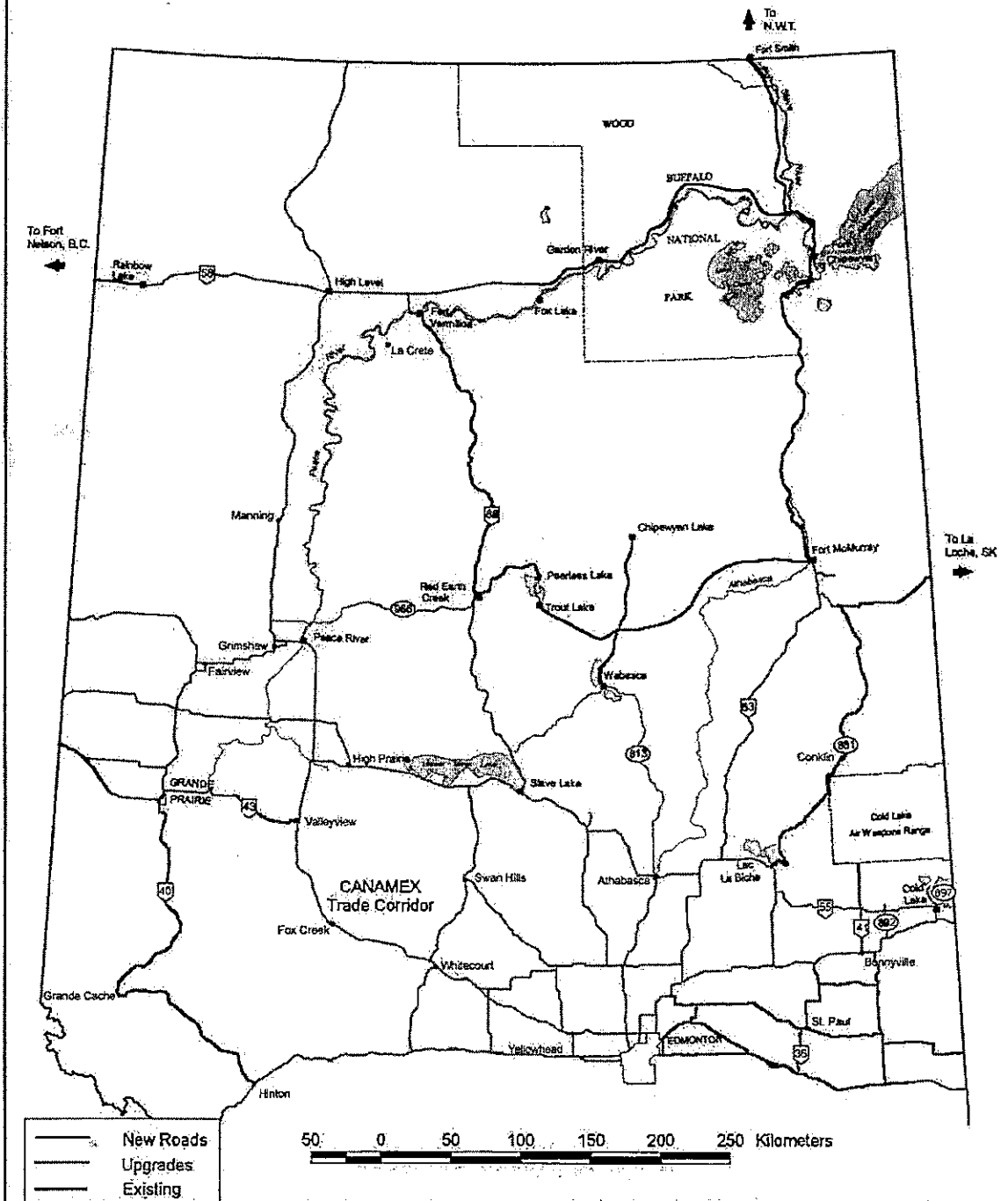
The Northwestern Canadian Integrated Road Network Plan identified the following highway projects:

- Northern Alberta East-West Highway Corridor
- Highway #58
- Highway #88
- Secondary Highway # 881
- La Loche Road
- Highway #41 (added due to resource activity)
- Highway #63
- Secondary Highway #813
- CANAMEX Trade Corridor - Highway # 43

The Northern Alberta Development Council has recommended the following highway project be added to this plan:

- Highway # 40

Northern Highways Strategy



Northern Highways Strategy

A Priority For Alberta

The overall implementation of the NCIRNP should be a major priority for the Province of Alberta. This position is based on the following:

- significant contribution to the Alberta economy made by the north;
- provincial revenue generation resulting from resource development in northern Alberta;
- advancing new opportunities in agriculture, tourism, non-energy mineral, forestry and resource development;
- enhancing connections to northern, remote communities; and greater highway integration across northwestern Canada.

While the development of northern Alberta's highway system is a priority for northerners, the realization of the above-noted benefits should make this initiative a priority for all Albertans. Northern Alberta drives the Alberta economy.

Strategic Directions

Highway infrastructure proposed for northern Alberta supports a western Canada integrated road network system. Roads support economic development by providing access to resources and the transportation of commodities, products and services. Roads facilitate an industry expansion plan which in turn generates provincial resource revenues. The economic and social well being in northern communities is tied closely to efforts to strengthen the northern economy. Some communities experience unemployment rates above the provincial averages. More northern roads will promote economic activity and improve labour participation rates, especially for young Aboriginal people living in this region.

Implementation Strategies

Alberta Transportation Business Plan

Alberta Transportation incorporates all road transportation projects in its three year business plan. The ministry's planning horizon should not be limited to this time frame. Road projects are dependant upon availability of funds and overall priority importance to Alberta. Construction projects are often phased over several construction seasons. Where possible, the ministry is encouraged to adopt a "start to finish" strategy. In some instances it would be more practical to apply sufficient resources to a single project and complete it sooner. This would reduce the costs of moving construction equipment and personnel and allow roads to be commissioned sooner. The ministry of Transportation is doing an exceptional job given the resources they have and the requirements of Alberta's transportation network, but there are priorities that should be made.

Special Funding Program

Based on its consultation with northerners, the Northern Alberta Development Council believes that access to resources, services to industry/people, access to overseas markets and community de-isolation are key drivers for northern development. The implementation of the Northwestern Canadian Integrated Road Network Plan will help leverage many benefits related to the economy such as increased mobility of local residents, better labour supply, new employment opportunities, small business growth, and revenues for all levels of government. Roads are important to industry because they reduce resource extraction and transportation costs, and provide an incentive to increase exploration activities which brings new projects to completion more quickly.

The Western Premiers approved the Northwestern Canada Integrated Road Network Plan in 1998. It identified a number of highways as critically important. The NADC has identified Highway 40 and its importance as a strategic link between Grande Prairie, Grande Cache, Hinton, southern Alberta and British Columbia. Given the importance of the north to the Alberta economy, the NADC is asking the provincial government to identify how these roads fit in the strategic implementation plan.

Rationale

The rationale for this special funding request is based on the significant royalty revenues which accrue as a result of energy projects in northern Alberta. There is also a need to integrate growth across Alberta's northern regions including British Columbia and Saskatchewan. It makes economic sense to invest in these projects now, to compliment resource development activities and the accrual of royalties.

Existing Road Commitments and Maintenance

This request for special project funding will be separate from existing commitments except where the existing commitment is connected to the implementation of the Northwestern Canadian Integrated Road Network Plan.

This initiative would also be separate from the regular operation, upgrading and maintenance of highways in northern Alberta.

Northern Highways Projects

The Northern Alberta Development Council knows there will continue to be significant growth in northern Alberta in the years ahead. This growth is integral in the overall economic health of the province. Road infrastructure will be a catalyst for northern Alberta economic development. Therefore the implementation of this northern highways strategy must be an essential part of the Province of Alberta's economic strategy.

New Road Developments

NORTHERN ALBERTA EAST-WEST HIGHWAY CORRIDOR Fort McMurray - Peace River

Description

The original plan includes the paving of Highway 986 between Peace River and Red Earth. The highway connection between Red Earth and Fort McMurray would be built passing through the Peerless Lake region. This northern connection would: provide greater access to natural resources; tourism development opportunities; increasing labour supply for high growth areas; mobility related to employment, and increased access to western ports and overseas markets.

Current Status

There is a high degree of industry and community support for this project due to the following: lever many economic development and tourism opportunities; provide access to existing and undeveloped resources including mineral exploration; de-isolation of northern communities (Chipewyan Lake); access to services and employment opportunities and greater connections to markets/ocean ports. There is a significant road network already in place, and further development by industry is on-going. This project will provide a coordinated approach to resource access development and provide a new much needed northern east-west public travel route.

This highway corridor will provide another means of access to the Fort McMurray area, a critical consideration in light of events that, from time-to-time, close other access routes into the area. Alberta Transportation has completed a corridor study, and is currently working on a planning study led by Stantec Consulting to be completed in the fall of 2009. Open houses will be held in Fort McMurray, Red Earth, and Wabasca.

Highway 58

Description

As part of the original Northern Highway Strategy this project included four components: 1) the extension of Highway 58 west to the British Columbia border; 2) upgrades to the existing highway between High Level and Rainbow Lake; 3) the extension of Highway 58 to Garden River in Wood Buffalo National Park, and 4) the construction of a new winter road within Wood Buffalo Park from Garden River to Peace Point. Component one is new road construction: component two is widening of primary highway: component three is new road construction to Garden River: and component four is a new winter road. This project would provide access to resources, improve public safety and help to de-isolate Aboriginal communities, (Garden River and communities in the Lake Athabasca region) and provide another connection to Fort Smith NWT.

Current Status

1) The Province of British Columbia has not made any commitments regarding the construction of its portion of the Fort Nelson - Rainbow Lake connector. Alberta does not have any immediate plans to construct a road from Rainbow Lake to the B.C border. 2) The widening of Highway 58 between High Level and Rainbow Lake is currently under way. 3) Extension of the road to Garden River is ready to begin, however the shortage of diesel fuel has hindered the commencement of the project. Alberta and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) are partnering on the construction this road. 4) In the past the Federal Liberal Government indicated an interest in the construction of a viable winter road with in the park. Currently there is yet to be a decision about road access through the Wood Buffalo National Park.

Highway 88

Description

This project originally included the upgrading and paving of Highway 88, from Red Earth to Highway 58. This road is an integral part of the northern road system which will connect east-west regions of northern Alberta. The project is expected to enhance economic development, reduce safety concerns and improves access to services. It facilitates public travel and resource extraction activities across a vast region and also provides a more direct route for the shipment of goods and supplies to northern communities.

Current Status

Northern portions of this road from, Highway 58 to a point just south of Fort Vermillion have recently been paved. The remainder of Highway 88 south to Red Earth is being maintained as a graded gravel road. Highway 88 is paved from Red Earth south to Slave Lake.

Highway 881

Description

This project originally involved two components: 1) the completion of upgrades planned for Highway 881 between Lac La Biche and Fort McMurray; and 2) the alternate connection between Conklin and Highway 55 once the first part of the project is complete. Highway 881 serves as an alternate to Highway 63; it provides emergency route access for the Fort McMurray area in case Highway 63 is cut off, it is an alternate route for oil sands development, and it enhances inter-jurisdictional trade and community access to Janvier and Conklin.

Current Status

Paving of the highway has been completed and a new truck staging area has been built just east of Lac La Biche. There are no further plans for capital improvements.

La Loche Road

Description

The project originally promoted building the connector road from Fort McMurray to La Loche, Saskatchewan. The completion of the La Loche road will provide access to Saskatchewan labour for the Fort McMurray region and open up lifestyle opportunities for Fort McMurray residents to enjoy recreation and tourism opportunities in Saskatchewan. The project helps fulfil a two year old commitment between former Saskatchewan Premier, Lorne Calvert and former Alberta Premier, Ralph Klein.

Current Status

In Alberta, the design of road alignment and a new bridge is in progress for the connector road to La Loche. Saskatchewan has completed their portion of an all weather road to the Alberta border.

Highway 63

Description

This project originally involved the extension of Highway 63, north of Fort McMurray to Fort Chipewyan. This project will provide an all weather road to residents of Fort Chipewyan. It will reduce costs to service the region, create new economic opportunities and compliment the Northwestern Integrated Road Network Plan.

Current Status

Highway 63 is now four lanes from Fort McMurray to Syncrude. Sections of the winter road, which is administered by the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, are anticipated to be improved by industry to meet their needs. There are no plans, at this time, to transfer these roads to the Provincial Highway network.

Highway 813

Description

Originally, this project was the extension of Highway 813 from Wabasca north to Chipewyan Lake. The project includes the completion of Highway 813 paving and bridge replacement over the Athabasca River within the Town of Athabasca. This road will increase access to a large geographic area rich in resources. This road will also de-isolate the community of Chipewyan Lake. This project ties in to the proposed extension of Highway 686 connecting Peerless Lake to Fort McMurray.

Current Status

Resource roads are being built by industry. There are no plans, at this time, to transfer these roads to the Provincial Highway network.

CANAMEX Trade Corridor - Highway 43

Description

Alberta is part of the CANAMEX Trade Corridor system. This corridor consists of the American States of Arizona, Nevada, Utah, Idaho and Montana and several Mexican States. The key purpose of this international initiative is to facilitate transportation distribution, commerce and tourism between three countries.

The twinning of Highway 43 from Edmonton northwest to Grande Prairie and then to the British Columbia border is part of Alberta's contribution to the CANAMEX project.

Current Status

This project is underway and will remain a high priority under the Northern Highways Strategy. The Milk River bypass replaces the last two lane section of Highway 4 and will be complete in 2009. Highway 43 west of Grande Prairie to the British Columbia border is still undergoing design and planning studies, with parts of it undergoing construction in Alberta Transportation's Three Year Plan. Still to be twinned is a portion of the highway at Sturgeon Lake.

Highway 41

Description

This project originally is the extension of Highway 41 to the Department of National Defence Air Weapons Range near Cold Lake. The air weapons range is of significant importance to Canada, especially our commitment to meet North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) air training exercises. 4 Wing Cold Lake conducts annual international training operations in this area; a better road access would be beneficial. The energy sector is optimistic about the area's development potential.

Current Status

There are no plans, at this time, for capital improvements.

Highway 40**Description**

This project is an addition to the original Northwestern Canadian Integrated Road Network, but needs to be included due to changing circumstances. Increased economic and tourism development has seen a large increase in traffic on this north south connector. The highway is seeing a much higher volume of traffic than it was designed for, and is becoming a major commercial route between the Yellowhead Highway and Grande Prairie. There is increasing activity around coal and natural gas interest and activity in the area. Improved road access would help industry and communities in the area and address major safety concerns on this highway.

Current Status

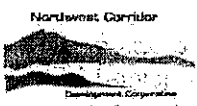
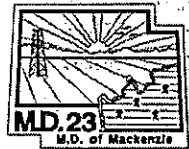
Alberta Transportation has initiated a functional planning study to determine future transportation requirements just south of Grande Prairie. There is no formal commitment to review the highway south of Grande Cache. Straightening and widening the highway south of Grande Cache to Hinton is critical to meet safety and development concerns.

Northern Alberta will continue to make a significant contribution to the Alberta economy as the Province of Alberta moves into the future. The building of northern highways will be a key factor in realizing the many northern economic development opportunities and the provincial benefits associated with them.



DEVELOPING THE NORTHWEST CORRIDOR

The Potential for Agricultural Development in the Fort Vermillion – Fort Nelson Corridor



Prepared by the



**Mackenzie
Municipal
Services
Agency**

For the:

- Northwest Corridor Development Corporation
- Northern Alberta Development Council
- Fort Nelson – Northern Rockies Regional District
- Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23
- Town of Fort Nelson
- Town of High Level
- Town of Rainbow Lake

December 10, 2003

Executive Summary

Agriculture is Alberta's third largest industry behind oil and gas and forestry. Northwest Alberta is a significant contributor to the agricultural sector in Alberta and contains a large portion of the last remaining undeveloped agricultural areas in Canada. It is thought that there may be potential to expand the agricultural land base in northwest Alberta and northeast British Columbia in an attempt to advance the north and encourage the development of the Northwest Corridor.

The Mackenzie Municipal Services Agency was commissioned in January 2003 to prepare a preliminary feasibility study in order to determine if there is potential to expand the agricultural industry in the area between Fort Nelson, British Columbia and Fort Vermillion, Alberta. In order to conduct this study, the best-available data was analyzed using a geographic information system (GIS) software (ArcInfo and Arcmap).

The intent of this study is to assess, at a reconnaissance level, if there is potential for agricultural expansion in northwest Alberta and northeast British Columbia based on the fact that there are existing viable agricultural operations within the region. The findings of this study are intended to be used as a platform for further detailed study and as a preliminary assessment tool for the identification of areas with agricultural potential.

This study has identified areas with the potential to support the growing of agricultural crops and grazing and haying at a reconnaissance level based on a set of predefined criteria outlined in this report. Of the 1.4 million hectares (3.5 million acres) of land within the study area, approximately 667,464 hectares (1.6 million acres or approximately 47%) have agricultural potential. In addition, approximately 540,023 hectares (1.3 million acres or approximately 39%) have potential for forage and grazing. The remaining approximate 192,513 (475,693 acres or approximately 14%) does not appear to have any agricultural potential.

All areas identified with agricultural potential, may not reflect pockets of land within the study area that are subject to microclimatic variations undetectable by this study. Therefore, further ground-level investigation is required to identify those areas not suitable for agricultural purposes within the areas identified by this study as having agricultural potential.

The findings of this study indicate that the climatic conditions (effective growing degree days, season length, temperature, etc) are not the limiting factor to agriculture in the study area. Short-season, frost-resistant crop varieties are best suited for those areas identified as having the agricultural potential. Spring-seeded small grains and/or other crops, which reach maturity within 90-115 days, are best suited to the study area. With regard to the above, crop variety selection will be dependent on the agro climatic resources available on the land in question. The study area is estimated to have variations in growing season length from 100-125 days and crops should be selected that reach maturity approximately 10 days prior to the end of the growing season. It is also assumed that virtually all forage varieties especially native grasses and fescue are suitable for the study area given adequate drainage and soil conditions.

The single most limiting factor to agricultural productivity in the study area appears to be soil type and structure. Certain soil types within the study area, such as Gleysols, and Gray Solonetzics may have undesirable structure and/or drainage. These soils may respond favorably to management, but without further detailed investigation it is difficult to determine the extent of

their response. Soil management techniques and technologies are constantly improving and may increase the productivity of these soils.

Moisture deficit is not of significant concern. It appears as though there is adequate moisture available to support viable agriculture. Water conservation and erosion techniques such as zero till and direct seeding may increase productivity.

A comparative analysis of the agricultural areas in the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23, the Northern Rockies – Fort Nelson Regional District, and the areas identified as having agricultural potential concluded the following:

- 1) In general, the agro climatic resources found in the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 and Northern Rockies – Fort Nelson Regional District portions of the study area are similar. All things considered equal, it is noted that there is little variation estimated in the effective growing degree days, season length, frost free period, growing season start, and growing season end. Therefore, strictly in terms of agro climatic resources, there appears to be relatively similar potential throughout the study area.
- 2) Soil conditions are variable throughout the study area. However, soil conditions surrounding the Town of High Level appear to be similar to soil conditions that exist elsewhere in the study area. In view of the fact that there is no significant variation in agro climatic resources throughout the study area, all other things considered equal, areas with similar soil properties are likely to display similar potential for agricultural activities.
- 3) Given similar soil, topographic, and agro climatic conditions, yields in the study area will likely reflect those yields found in the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 and Northern Rockies – Fort Nelson Regional District.

There is a high probability that agricultural crops such as barley, rye, wheat, canola, flax, field peas, and feed oats can be grown in the study area. However, there exists a certain level of uncertainty as to the economic viability of such agricultural pursuits in the study area. This conclusion is premised on a number of factors such as:

- 1) land clearing costs,
- 2) distance to markets,
- 3) remoteness and lack of highway corridor,
- 4) market conditions

Not considering these extenuating factors and given similar soil, topographic, and agro climatic conditions throughout the study area, it is estimated that there is potential for total yearly revenues of \$156 million for growing crops (barley, rye, wheat, canola, flax, field peas, and feed oats). This estimate does not include the revenues generated from other forage and hay grown in areas with potential for foraging and haying.

However, inter-provincial cooperation is required between the provinces of British Columbia and Alberta to further explore the economic viability of opening up study area for agricultural purposes. Further detailed studies are also necessary to identify local soil nutrient regimes, drainage patters, pH, salinity, microclimatic conditions, among others.

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1.0 Introduction

In January 2003, the Mackenzie Municipal Services Agency was commissioned by Northern Alberta Development Council, Northwest Corridor Development Corporation, the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23, Fort Nelson – Northern Rockies Regional District, the Town of Fort Nelson, the Town of High Level, and the Town of Rainbow Lake to conduct an agricultural feasibility study for the lands between Fort Vermillion, Alberta and Fort Nelson, British Columbia. The general intent is to determine, at a reconnaissance level, if there are any areas capable of supporting agricultural activities.

Agriculture is a significant economic driver of Northwest Alberta. According to a study entitled "Loss and Fragmentation of Farmland" prepared by Alberta Agriculture, Food, and Rural Development, the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23 currently has 173,047 hectares (427,594 acres) of agricultural land in production as of April 2002 (based on the 1996 Statistics Canada Census of Agriculture). The study identified a total of 669 farms of which the mean size is 288 hectares (711 acres). Of the total agricultural land base in the Municipal District of Mackenzie, 55.4% is land in crops, 8.1% is land in summer fallow, and 36.6% is land in pasture.

British Columbia's North Peace Region, as defined by Statistics Canada, is the most significant agricultural area in British Columbia east of the Rocky Mountains with approximately 455,426 hectares (1,125,383 acres) in agricultural production. In 2001, the number of farms reporting total gross farm receipts greater than \$2499 was 736 with the majority of activity occurring in the cattle, field crop, grain and oilseed, miscellaneous specialty crop, and wheat industries. Forage crop production is also a significant contributor to the agricultural production of the area.

There may be an opportunity to expand the agricultural land base in the study area. This study provides the basis for an in depth feasibility study for determining the potential for agriculture in the study area.

1.1 The Study Area and Scope of the Study

Due to the large size of the region, the corridor along the proposed Highway 58 extension connecting Rainbow Lake to Fort Nelson was selected for in-depth investigation for this study. The region is broken into two components. The first component is a general overview of the area of northwest Alberta and northeast British Columbia (refer to Schedule 1) between the 55th and 60th parallel. The second component focuses on the corridor between Fort Vermillion, Alberta, and Fort Nelson, British Columbia (refer to Schedule 2).

The detailed study area includes the corridor between Fort Vermillion, Alberta and Fort Nelson British Columbia and is approximately 392 kilometers (243.6 miles) in length.

In addition to the above, and in recognition of the large land requirements necessary to sustain economically viable agricultural activities, the width of the detailed study area will include all those adjacent lands approximately 29.0 kilometers (18 miles) (three townships wide) in width following the proposed highway 58 route.

The level of detail in the study will be limited to identifying those areas with agricultural potentials at a reconnaissance scale only. In addition to the above, areas requiring

special attention may be investigated at a larger scale depending on data availability. The general scope of this study is of a reconnaissance nature intended for use as a preliminary assessment tool for determining the potential for expanding the agricultural land base throughout the study area.

This study does not consider the impacts of agriculture on the environment, the economy, and on other stakeholders in any great detail. Where lands are identified as having agricultural potential, further detailed studies will be required to determine the potential impacts of agriculture and how those impacts can be identified and mitigated.

The intent of this study is not to determine an accurate estimate of potential yields or economic returns for agricultural activities. This would require further detailed studies that would include a yield and cost-benefit analysis.

1.2 Study Background

A portion of the study area is being considered for the extension of Highway 58 from Rainbow Lake in Alberta to Fort Nelson in British Columbia known as the "Rainbow Lake – Fort Nelson Connector". Previous studies have been conducted on the feasibility of extending highway 58 including the economic impacts and the engineering constraints of the proposed extension. However, our records indicate that there have never been any studies conducted to determine the feasibility of opening this area for agricultural activity.

For the purpose of this study, and as defined in the Agricultural Operations Practices Act (AOPA), an agricultural operation or activity means an agricultural activity conducted on agricultural land for gain or reward or in the hope or expectation of gain or reward, and includes:

- the cultivation of land,
- the raising of livestock, including game-production animals within the meaning of the Livestock Industry Diversification Act and poultry,
- the raising of fur-bearing animals, pheasants or fish,
- the production of agricultural field crops,
- the production of fruit, vegetables, sod, trees, shrubs and other specialty horticultural crops,
- the production of eggs and milk,
- the production of honey,
- the operation of agricultural machinery and equipment, including irrigation pumps,
- the application of fertilizers, insecticides, pesticides, fungicides and herbicides, including the application by ground and aerial spraying, for agricultural purposes.
- The collection, transportation, storage, application, use, transfer and disposal of manure, and
- The abandonment and reclamation of confined feeding operations and manure storage facilities.

This study addresses the following objectives:

- 1) To determine the suitability of the study area for agricultural activities such as the

- 2) To produce a graphical display showing areas with potentials for supporting agricultural activities.

- 3) To provide recommendations and suggestions on areas that require further detailed study.

1.3 Study Limitations and Uncertainties

The primary limitation of this study is the lack of high quality data. The Canada Land Inventory (CLI) soils information is not available for a large portion of lands east of Fort Nelson to the Alberta border. Other sources of data include forest cover maps, surficial materials maps, and air photo interpretation. There is small scale soil mapping data available from the Canadian Soil Information System (CANSIS) website. The CANSIS soil data proves to be the most valuable soils resource available at the time of preparing this study.

Digital mapping information is not produced at a consistent scale in the provinces of Alberta and British Columbia. This can be seen on the soil map where there is an obvious inconsistency of soil types along the provincial border. It is assumed that when these soils were interpreted, the surveyors in British Columbia and Alberta worked independently of each other and/or did not use a standard survey method. This inconsistency is an error that this study can not control or correct. This error may have a significant effect on the accuracy of the study findings, especially in the areas in close proximity to the provincial border. For the purpose of this study, the available data was presumed to be accurate as it was used in the querying process.

The only scale at which complete coverage is provided for the study area is 1:1,000,000. Therefore, this scale will form the basis for the study area map. There are digital information available at other scales for certain portions of the study area, but not in its entirety.

The remoteness of the study area presents some difficulties with data collection and ground proofing¹. It is suggested that this component be implemented as part of a further detailed study at a later date.

Soil surveys in the area were performed through interpretation. Environmental and climatic data are provided from point source locations such as weather and climate measuring stations, and may not be representative of the region. The study area is located in an area that has not been subject to intense surveying and data collection for agricultural projects in the past. All analyses are based on the best available data to produce an acceptable level of accuracy for a reconnaissance type study.

The focus of this report is to provide a preliminary assessment tool for further detailed site inspection and economic cost benefit analysis. The findings of this study are not

¹ Ground proofing refers to conducting on the ground surveys at random or predefined intervals to determine the accuracy of mapping and analysis conducted at a reconnaissance level.

intended for use as a sole resource to base a decision for the expansion of the agricultural sector. Detailed site investigation is required to further investigate the findings of this study, and to identify site-specific conditions relating to agricultural productivity.

The available data was produced at a very broad level. This limits the accuracy of this study to the quality of available data. Other limitations include lack of reliable data on soil structure, salinity, stoniness, pH, flooding, and risk of erosion. Budgetary restraints did not permit the use of orthorectified² air photo interpretation, vegetation surveys, TRIM data, as well as other digital data sources that may increase the accuracy the findings. The said sources are required for further detailed study.

Ecological systems are very complex involving numerous inter-relationships between flora, fauna, and the natural and physical environment. It is very difficult to accurately predict the environmental conditions, let alone the soils response to management. There are many complex factors such as soil chemistry, hydrological cycles, biological process, and soil structure which require further levels of investigation in order to fully understand the agricultural potential of the study area.

1.4 Determinants of Agricultural Feasibility

The following factors are important considerations and determinants for assessing agricultural feasibility: Agricultural feasibility can be assessed using many methods which consider factors such as topography, temperature and moisture, soil structure and profile characteristics, soil depth and depth to bedrock, soil acidity, salt content, and the amount of organic matter, among others.

i. Soils

Soil structure and profile characteristics are important factors for determining agricultural feasibility. Drainage plays a significant role in agricultural production because it has a significant effect on the productivity of the soil.

The B horizon plays an important role as a moisture reservoir in nearly all soils. In some soils the B horizon also plays an important role as a nutrient reservoir, as nutrients are leached from the overlying A layer. In order to facilitate nutrient and water intake, plant roots must be capable of penetrating the B horizon. Undesirable soil structure appears to have a greater effect on yields than other non-climatic limitations (McGill, 1982).

The soil depth and depth to bedrock is important because soil depth directly affects its moisture holding capacity, the quantity of available nutrients, and suitability for irrigation. In many cases, especially when cereal crops are desirable, a soil depth of 1-2 metres over the bedrock is desirable because most cereal crops will root to that depth. Soils less than this depth may produce less than ideal yields for 2 reasons: The first reason is that rooting volume is restricted and the

² Orthorectified air photos are geographically corrected for real world coordinates and can be used for numerous land use analyses.

second reason is that shallow soil produces less than desirable conditions because of excess water close to bedrock:

Soil acidity is another factor that affects agricultural feasibility. Most plant growth favours a neutral pH (≈ 7.0). Soil can be considered acidic at pH's below 6.0 and alkaline at pH's above 8.0. It should also be noted that intensive agriculture may increase acidity (McGill, 1982).

Soil salinity has an impact on agricultural potential. Salts tend to accumulate in areas where groundwater movement is towards the soil surface. Salts interfere with the plants uptake of essential ions and water. Salt concentration is determined by measuring the electrical conductivity (EC)³ of the soil in solution. The electrical conductivity should not exceed 4 mmho/cm⁴. Soils with an electrical conductivity greater than 4 mmho/cm are generally considered to be saline. Saline soils may require special consideration when selecting crop varieties (Lilley, 1982).

An ideal soil should be well drained, have a deep rooting zone with easy penetration by air, water, and roots, have good water holding capacity, have a balanced nutrient supply, and resist erosion, among many other factors. However, the ideal soil is few and far between, especially within the study area. Agricultural viability is heavily dependant on soil management practices and the ability of farmers to improve and maintain soil conditions in both the short term and the long term. New technologies and emerging management practices are constantly improving the productivity of soils in order to maximize economic returns.

Table 1.0 provides a general outline of the costs and benefits of well and poorly drained soil on agricultural production.

Table 1.0 Costs and benefits of well and poorly drained soils.

Well Drained Soils		Poorly Drained Soils	
Costs	Benefits	Costs	Benefits
Capital costs associated with developing and implementing a soil drainage system.	Greater ease of soil management and cultivation.	In silt and clay loam textured soils compaction and smearing by machinery or livestock may occur.	Can in most cases be managed to improve drainage.
	Increased plant growth due to better aeration and nutrient availability.	Disturbances to soil structure by machinery.	
	Easier control of plant and animal diseases.	Wet soils are slower to warm up in the spring.	
	Reduces the risk associated with working conditions.	Low soil temperatures restrict root development.	

³ The higher the electrical conductivity value the more saline the soil.

⁴ Electrical conductivity units

	Soils becomes less likely to be compacted	Plants have less ability to intake nutrient and oxygen resulting in less plant growth (yield)	
	Provides conditions conducive to soil organisms.		

Source: Department of Primary industries, Water, and Environment, Tasmania Australia 2003.

For the purposes of this study, organic soils are not considered agriculturally productive (for the growing of cereal and oil seed crops) because detailed data is not available to determine the structure of such soils and because of the following concerns:

1. Organic soils present some unique challenges, especially in northern regions. Organic soils contain at least 40 cm (16 inches) of peat and are typically colder on average than mineral soils because they have differences in soil thermal properties. Organic soils usually occupy low-lying areas, which are subject to cold air drainage. All of the above factors can have a negative effect on crop production. Once organic soils are reclaimed or put into production they tend to subside at a rate of 1-3cm (0.4-1 inch) per year (Agronomic Interpretations Working Group 1995).
2. In assessing organic soils for agricultural productivity, it is important to consider a number of factors including structure, fiber content (fibric, mesic, and humic⁵), nutrient status, and salinity. All of which play an important role in assessing agricultural productivity of organic soils.
3. The structure of organic soil plays an important role because it affects the preparation of the seedbed and plant growth. Organic soils with fibric materials are more difficult to work than organic soils with humic materials because of differences in bulk density. The looser fibric soils make it difficult to prepare an adequate seedbed and suffer from rapid drainage during drier periods. A general rule of thumb in determining which organic soils are suitable for agricultural use is as follows: peats derived from sphagnum mosses are more favorable for agriculture in wetter regions and those peats derived from sedges are more favorable for agriculture in drier regions (Agronomic Interpretations Working Group, 1995).
4. Nutrient supply for organic soils is derived from two basic sources: ground water and surface water. Organic soils can vary in their nutrient levels. A general rule of thumb is that those organic soils that derive water from groundwater tend to have higher nutrient levels than those organic soils that derive water from surface water (Agronomic Interpretations Working Group, 1995).

⁵ Fibric, mesic, and humic refer to the level of decomposition of the organic material in organic soils where fibric material is relatively undecomposed, mesic material is at a stage of decomposition between fibric and humic, and humic material are at the most advanced stage of decomposition.

5. Organic soils are commonly deficient in Potassium (K) and micro nutrient deficiencies are also common. Nutrient deficiencies may be minimized through the efficient use of fertilizers.

6. Organic soils in the study area are not considered for the production of agricultural crops. This was in part due to the difficulty in assessing the productivity of organic soils and because of data unavailability. In addition, due to the colder soil temperatures of organic soils coupled with the northern extent of the study area, it is assumed that organic soils are best suited to the production of forage crops with a lower sensitivity to marginal soil and climate conditions.

ii) Topography

Topography is an important consideration because it affects the soil aspect⁶ and hence the soil temperature. In addition to the above, topography may also indicate susceptibility to erosion and soil loss as slopes as small as 2% can have serious erosion problems (McGill, 1982). Slope steepness is often more important than slope length. Slopes in excess of 5% usually cause a reduction in the Canada Land Inventory (CLI) classification for that land. In general, slopes in excess of 10% are not suitable for many agricultural crops.

Slope is a significant determinant of agricultural feasibility for the following reasons:

- 1) Slopes greater than 10% can be difficult to operate large-scale machinery effectively and efficiently.
- 2) Generally, there is a direct relationship between steepness of slope and erosion, where steeper slopes tend to have a higher risk of erosion than modest slopes.
- 3) Grazing is more tolerant of steeper slopes and it is assumed that grazing can occur on slopes of up to 15% and perhaps steeper.
- 4) Steeper slopes tend to create an imbalance in the drainage pattern where the crest of the hill sheds water creating a rapidly drained area. The toe of the hill generally tends to receive water creating poorly drained areas. As discussed above, drainage has the ability to affect plant growth.
- 5) Long steep slopes may experience a significant elevation gain. An increase in elevation can have an effect on the growing season length. Under normal adiabatic conditions the higher the elevation, the cooler the climate and the shorter the growing season.

iii) Climate

⁶ Soil aspect refers to the direction that the soil surface faces measured by the cardinal points of a compass. Aspect effects soil temperature and moisture due to variations in the angle of solar radiation received by the ground. A general rule of thumb is that south facing slopes tend to be drier, and tend to have a longer growing season than north facing slopes.

Temperature and moisture are perhaps the two most fundamental limitations to crop production in the Canadian Prairies (McGill, 1982). Temperature dictates the range of crops that can be grown in a region and moisture determines the ultimate yield. The suitability of a specific region for various crops is usually related to the frost-free period. Crops best suited to Alberta conditions have a growing period of between 70-120 days (McGill, 1982). In order to reduce the risk of crop failure and to increase profitability, the average growing period should be about ten days longer than the time it takes to grow the crop to maturity.

In northern regions, the shorter frost-free period is expected to be offset by the longer day light hours experienced in the north. For example the effect of a 100 day frost free period is not equal across the province because day length varies.

The growing season length is longer than the frost-free period because many agricultural crops can withstand short periods of sub-zero temperatures. In general, plant growth starts at temperatures above 5 degrees Celsius.

The temperature is related to the growing season length because the growing season length is based on occurrences of thawing and freezing. Temperature is an important determinant in estimating critical stages in plant phenology⁷ as well as practically estimating and timing crop management practices such as the application of fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides.

For agricultural purposes, temperature may also be measured through heat units and degree days, which can be used as indices of crop production potential. A degree day is defined as the number of degrees Celsius above some minimum temperature (usually 5 or 5.6 degrees Celsius) summed over the year or growing season (McGill, 1982). For example, ten consecutive days with a temperature of 20°C is 150 degree days. Various crops have different heat requirements. For example, in order for wheat to be profitable at least 1100 degree days are required (degrees Celsius) (McGill, 1982).

Research conducted by Dr. Brian Fowler and Brian Duggan of The University of Saskatchewan determined the following average growing degree requirements for a select variety of crops throughout western Canada. The following tables represent their findings:

Table 2.0: Growing degree requirements of a selection of crop types.

Crop	Growing Degree Day Requirement
Flax	1200
Hard Red Spring Wheat	1175
Argentine Canola	1040
Mustard	1004
Oats	961
Barley	850
Polish Canola	850

⁷ Plant Phenology is a branch of science that looks at the relationships between the climate and plant growth cycle.

The Agronomic Interpretations Working Group found the following relationship between effective growing degree days and agricultural limitations on spring-seeded small grains.

Table 3.0 Agricultural limitations to the number of effective growing degree days.

Number of Effective Growing Degree Days	Limitations
1600	No limitation.
1200	Close to the point where wheat becomes a minor component in the dominantly barley system. This was considered a moderate heat limitation.
1050	Spring-seeded small grains occupy less than 50% of the cultivated area. This was considered a severe heat limitation.
900	Approximate limit of small grain production. This is a very severe heat limitation.
500	No potential for small grains.

iv) **Organic Matter**

Organic matter is an important consideration in determining agricultural feasibility. However, the effects of organic matter are more related to the dynamics of the organic matter rather than the total amount.

v) **Rooting Depth**

Rooting depth in this case, refers to the depth of the soil to bedrock or other impenetrable layer.

Rooting depth is of importance because plants must be able to penetrate the soil in order to uptake the essential water and nutrients required to sustain growth. If the rooting depth is restricted, the volume of roots may be restricted limiting the amount of water and nutrient uptake resulting in a less than desirable crop yield. In addition, shallow soils may contain excess accumulations of water collecting on top of an impermeable layer such as bedrock.

For the purpose of this study, soils which have a rooting depth of at least 50 cm (19.7 inches) are considered adequate for agriculture. However, ideally there should be a rooting depth of 100 - 200 cm (39-79 inches) for cereal crops because given the opportunity most cereal crops will root to that depth.

vi) **Aspect**

Aspect has an effect on the amount of solar radiation (sun) received on the ground, which has an effect on growing season length, water availability, and growing season start, among others.

In most cases, it is not expected that aspect will have a significant effect on the agricultural feasibility within the study area because the majority of the study area is on slopes of less than 4%. However, there may be a noticeable difference

between areas with southern slopes and areas with northern slopes. This is because southern slopes tend to receive more solar radiation leading to earlier spring thaw and longer growing seasons. Southern and western slopes also tend to be drier than northern and eastern slopes.

vii) **Moisture Regime**

Precipitation plays a significant role in maintaining an adequate water balance within the soil to support plant growth. Not only is the amount of precipitation and evapotranspiration important, but the timing of precipitation has the ability to severely restrict both plant growth and other agricultural activities during harvesting.

The larger the water deficit, the less water is available to the plants for nutrient uptake and photosynthesis. Water deficits have the ability to negatively affect crop yields.

1.5 Data Synthesis

As discussed above, a number of factors are used to assess agricultural feasibility. A number of these factors are included in the CLI soils information, however this information is not available for the study area in its entirety. Therefore, the CANSIS data is used to provide the most comprehensive information available for the study area. Since the intent of this study is of a reconnaissance nature, the broad detail of the CANSIS data meets the study objectives.

There is no single determinant of agricultural feasibility. A number of factors play a role in the assessment of agricultural feasibility. Determining agricultural feasibility at a higher level of detail requires physical analysis of the soil, topography, drainage patterns, and climate to determine nutrient levels, water holding capacity, pH, salinity, stoniness, drainage patterns, and available agro climatic resources among many others. A study at this level can not assess all indicators of agricultural feasibility because of the sheer magnitude of the task and the level of technical detail required to make reasonable judgments.

1.6 Environmental Impacts

Although the focus of this study is not the environmental impacts of agricultural expansion throughout the study area, the following impacts are of significant importance and are considered briefly below. Further detailed study is required to fully explore the significance of each identified environmental impact.

i) **Critical wildlife habitats**

A large portion of the study area is undeveloped and considered "wilderness". There are likely critical wildlife habitats and protected areas within the study area. Critical wildlife habitats may include breeding grounds, migration corridors,

seasonal bedding and denning sites, among others. These areas must be identified and managed to minimize the impact of agricultural activities.

Managing critical wildlife habitats is especially important for red, blue and yellow listed species. Red listed species are those which are considered to be at risk of extirpation or extinction. Blue listed species are species that may be at risk based on current knowledge. Yellow listed species are those that are not currently believed to be at risk, but may require special management practices because they are naturally rare and are associated with deteriorating habitats, or because of concern for their long-term declines.

Currently there are number of red, blue, and yellow listed animal species (including amphibians, fish, birds, and mammals) in the Province of Alberta and British Columbia. These species are of significant importance to the biodiversity of the study area. If further studies reveal that the study area contains critical wildlife habitats for these species, special wildlife management practices will be required to ensure their survival.

The expansion of the agricultural industry, in most cases, requires the conversion of productive habitat to an agricultural use, meaning that wildlife will be forced to increasingly utilize marginal (less favorable) habitats for survival. Further research is required on the impact of the expansion of the agricultural industry on wildlife habitat:

ii) Water quality

Water quality is a major concern with agriculture. Agricultural runoffs can include pesticide, and herbicide residues; biological components such as fecal coliforms⁸, and nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus. These substances can enter the watershed, via groundwater runoff or through percolation and cause numerous water quality issues.

Poor water quality can affect the health of natural ecosystems including fish, mammals, and birds.

iii) Erosion

Erosion from wind and water is another concern. Erosion can cause siltation of fish-bearing lakes and streams. Erosion can lead to significant amounts of soil loss, which threatens the viability of agriculture by removing the nutrient rich topsoil.

Soil loss because of water occurs because of heavy runoff water events such as rainstorms. Soil loss due to rainwater runoff has been recorded as high as 10 tonnes per hectare in Alberta in 1966 (heritage community foundation 2002). Soils with high clay content and those that are compacted or have a hardened surface

⁸ Fecal coliform is a group of bacteria found in the feces and intestinal tracts of warm-blooded animals, including humans, which aid in the digestion of food. The most common form of fecal coliform is *Escherichia coli*, more frequently known as *E.coli*. *E.coli* can contaminate a water source and cause potential health hazards for people.

and cannot readily absorb water are at increased risk of water erosion. The soils of the study area seem to fit this category and may experience an increased risk of water erosion. Mitigation through agricultural land management is the best available measure to reduce erosion caused by excess run off.

During times of drought and high winds, soils become more vulnerable to wind erosion. Loss of topsoil reduces the rooting depth and the soils water holding capacity, which affects productivity and leads to further erosion.

Many of the soil types in the study area may resist wind erosion to a certain degree because they most likely have a high clay content and tend to clump together, making it more difficult for wind to break the soil down.

According to Alberta Environment, the area surrounding the Town of High Level has a low wind erosion risk.

1.7 Access

Access to areas with agricultural potential is a concern because there is little or no access throughout the study area.

Highway 58 would likely be the main access point throughout the study area. The extension of Highway 58 west of Rainbow Lake to Fort Nelson is necessary to access the remaining portion of the study area.

Existing oil and gas and forestry access roads may be utilized for access to areas that are not in close proximity to Highway 58. However, some of these roads may require significant upgrades in order to comply with municipal standards.

1.8 Economic Feasibility of Agriculture in the Study Area

Even if this study concludes that there is potential for agricultural activities in certain portions of the study area, it does not necessarily mean that agriculture is economically feasible. Some of the factors affecting the economic feasibility of agriculture in the study area are:

- Distance to markets
- High cost of clearing and converting land for agricultural purposes
- High capital costs
- Financing rates
- Opportunity for value added agriculture
- Opportunity for off-farm employment in close proximity to the agricultural areas of the study area
- Possibility of government tax incentives and grants for the expansion of the agricultural industry (green land conversion in Alberta and expansion of the ALR in British Columbia)
- Yield and produce quality

- Current market prices and projected trends
- Costs associated with the loss of use of other resources such as forestry, oil and gas, and recreation
- Demand for farmland

All of the above factors should be addressed in a cost benefit analysis prior to making a decision on agricultural expansion in the study area.

1.9 Natural Resource Extraction

Natural resource extraction occurs throughout the study area. Forestry operations and oil and gas developments are the primary industries. Forestry is Alberta's third largest industry sector, next to oil and gas, and agriculture.

In Alberta, forests are managed using three types of tenure systems:

- **Forest Management Agreements (FMA):** an area-based agreement between the Province and a company that gives the company the rights to establish, grow, and harvest timber from a particular area of land. The term of the agreement is 20 years with the option for renewal. The FMA gives the company the responsibility of developing their own forest management plan for government approval.
- **Timber Quotas:** give companies the rights to harvest a percentage of the annual allowable cut. This systems is overseen by the Province, which oversees the planning of the area.
- **Timber Permits:** makes available a specified volume of timber to meet local demand for a variety of purposes such as building logs, firewood, and Christmas trees.

In British Columbia, a tenure system is used that allows private forest companies, communities and individuals, to gain the right to harvest timber in public forests. Some examples of tenures used are:

- **Tree Farm Licenses (TFL):** gives a company the rights to harvest timber in a specified area. Companies are required to pay government stumpage fees and annual rent. Companies are given significant forest management responsibilities including the preparation of the five year forest management plans, operational plans, road building, and reforestation.
- **Forest Licenses:** provide the rights to harvest a specific volume of timber from a given area in exchange for payment of stumpage fees and forest management responsibilities such as road building and reforestation.

• **Tenures** are also available to small sawmill operators, independent manufacturing facilities, and small business loggers based on a complete award system.

In British Columbia, all harvesting in public forests is governed by the Forest Practices Code and Forest Practices Regulation.

Forest operations may benefit in the short term from agricultural expansion if commercially viable timber is removed for agricultural purposes. However, forest operations may suffer long-term ramifications given a reduction in their total annual allowable cut. This is assuming that due to an overall reduction of available timber resources, the total annual allowable cut would be reduced in the area to reflect the reduction in forest inventory.

The study area is subject to relatively intense oil and gas activity. In some cases, oil and gas development may be compatible with agriculture. This relationship should be further explored to determine the feasibility of developing oil and gas extraction facilities in conjunction with agricultural operations.

2.0 Methods

The methods of data collection and analysis used in this study are described below. A Geographic Information System (Arcinfo and Arc View GIS) software is used to analyze the data.

2.1 Data Collection

- 1) The study area is defined and digitized to provide a basis for the study.
- 2) Soils data are collected from Canadian Soils Information System (CANSIS), and other potential data sources.
- 3) Climate data are collected from Environment Canada, Canadian Soils Information System (CANSIS), and other potential data sources.
- 4) Topographic data are collected using the Landsat 7 Data, and the CANSIS website.
- 5) Previous reports are gathered to minimize overlap and to determine what information already exists and is available.
- 6) Hydrological data are collected to determine water availability.

2.2 Analysis of Data

A number of steps are taken in order to determine the agricultural potential of the study area. The first stage is to develop a base map showing the entire study area to the level of detail necessary to perform a reconnaissance level analysis. Next, the soils, topographical, hydrological, and climate data are overlaid and analyzed. Polygons are identified showing areas with agricultural potential based on soil conditions, environmental factors, and climatic factors. Areas are also identified showing where



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	January 9, 2017
Presented By:	Len Racher, Chief Administrative Officer
Title:	Natural Gas Supply Issues - Letter to the Minister of Energy

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

December 8th natural gas pressures were slowly dropping off a noticeable level and gas companies requested large consumers such as lumber mills to shut down kilns and dramatically decrease natural gas usage.

December 9th the natural gas pressures dropped so low that a few customers in Blue Hills lost their residential gas. Schools and offices were closed so indoor temperatures could be decreased. After meeting with both AltaGas and Northern Lights Gas Co-op and finding out the low pressures were beyond their control, the County remained on emergency standby in the case more people lost gas, or the seniors residences or hospitals needed evacuation from lack of heat. AltaGas and Northern Lights worked with Long Run to have natural gas shipped, helping stabilize the dropping pressures.

December 10th pressures came back to a maintaining level and residents were back in their homes. Luckily, no evacuation plan was activated.

December 16th -18th the same issues stemmed once again, but with no definite answer as to why the pressures were plummeting so fast and two weekends in a row.

Jessica did some research to try and figure out what the cause of these pressure fluctuations stemmed from. She called the president of AltaGas, Northern Lights, the Alberta Utilities Commission to discuss the issues, possible causes, and solutions. All pointed out that the TransCanada pipeline did not have the amount of gas needed to supply its other pipelines. Discussions pointed to the lack of economy that cannot afford to pay people to go to the field and open wells, or thaw those that have frozen off.

Author: J. Ruskowsky **Reviewed by:** _____ **CAO:** L.R.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

N/A

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

N/A

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

N/A

COMMUNICATION:

Letter be sent to the Minister of Energy.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

That a letter be sent to the Minister of Energy requesting assistance in locating the issues with our natural gas shortage and work with our suppliers and distributors to resolve the problem.

Author: J. Ruskowsky Reviewed by: _____ CAO: L.R.



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	January 9, 2017
Presented By:	Carol Gabriel, Director of Legislative & Support Services
Title:	Request to Attend Meetings via Electronic Communication

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

Council's Procedural Bylaw allows for Councillors to participate in Council meetings through electronic communication (teleconference); however participation is limited to a maximum of three times per calendar year. A resolution of Council is required in order to allow electronic attendance beyond the maximum allowed.

56. A Council Member may attend regular or special Council Meetings by means of electronic communication to a maximum of three (3) times per calendar year, unless otherwise approved by Council resolution.

Councillor Toews will be out of the area from January 10 – March 13, 2017 and is requesting approval to attend all council meetings (regular, special, or budget) during this period via electronic communication.

Please note that the *Municipal Government Act* states that a Councillor is disqualified if he/she is absent from all regular council meetings held during a period of 8 consecutive weeks. However the calculation begins on the first meeting missed, which in this case would be February 14, 2017 (should approval be denied). As such disqualification would not apply in this case.

Excerpts from the *Municipal Government Act*:

- (d) the councillor is absent from all regular council meetings held during any period of 8 consecutive weeks, starting with the date that the first meeting is missed, unless subsection (2) applies;

Author: C. Gabriel Reviewed by: _____ CAO: _____

(2) A councillor is not disqualified by being absent from regular council meetings under subsection (1)(d) if the absence is authorized by a resolution of council passed

- (a) at any time before the end of the last regular meeting of the council in the 8-week period, or
- (b) if there is no other regular meeting of the council during the 8-week period, at any time before the end of the next regular meeting of the council.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

N/A

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

N/A

COMMUNICATION:

N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

That Councillor Toews be authorized to attend all council meetings (regular, special, or budget) during the period January 10 – March 17, 2017 by means of electronic communication.

Author: C. Gabriel Reviewed by: _____ CAO: _____



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	January 9, 2017
Presented By:	Carol Gabriel, Director of Legislative & Support Services
Title:	Fort Vermilion Community Streetscape Implementation Committee

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

The County was advertising for two public members to sit on the Fort Vermilion and La Crete Community Streetscape Implementation Committees. A copy of the advertisement is attached.

The following three applications were received for the Fort Vermilion Committee and copies will be provided to Council under separate cover:

- Erick Carter
- Sara Schmidt
- Fort Vermilion & Area Board of Trade

No applications were received for the La Crete Committee.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

COMMUNICATION:

Author: C. Gabriel Reviewed by: _____ CAO: _____

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

That the following community members be appointed to the Fort Vermilion Community Streetscape Implementation Committee:

- _____
- _____

Author: C. Gabriel Reviewed by: _____ CAO: _____

Board and committee positions

Subdivision & Development Appeal Board (1 position)

Mackenzie County is seeking applications to fill one (1) position from the public at large, on the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board. Appointments to the Board are for a one-year term.

It is the responsibility of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board to hear all information relating to a subdivision or development appeal at the local level. The Board meets as necessary to hear appeals of subdivisions and development.

Fort Vermilion and La Crete Community Streetscape Implementation Committees (2 positions on each committee)

Mackenzie County is seeking applications to fill two (2) positions from the public at large, on the Fort Vermilion and the La Crete Community Streetscape Implementation Committees. Appointments to the Committees are for a one-year term, anticipating four (4) to (6) meetings per year.

The Committee's role is to make recommendation to Council regarding implementation of streetscape improvements. Community members on the committees will be representing diverse interests such as: Business and Industry; Cultural Heritage; Environmental Conservation; Active Living; Universal Accessibility; Public Safety; Stakeholder Engagement.

Please note that Streetscape Committee members are not eligible to receive remuneration or expense reimbursement.

Appointments to the Board

All appointments will be made by County Council. Members-at-large, appointed to council committees, are paid a per diem according to the current Honorarium and Expense bylaw (unless otherwise stated).



Waste transfer station holiday hours

Due to the Christmas holidays some changes have been made to the hours of the Waste Transfer Stations depending on their current operational days.

Blue Hills Waste Transfer Station

December 24 10 am—4 pm
December 29 9 am—1 pm
December 31 10 am—4 pm

Buffalo Head Prairie Waste Transfer Station

December 24 12 pm—4 pm
December 27 CLOSED
December 29 4 pm—8 pm
December 31 12 pm—4 pm

La Crete Waste Transfer Station

December 24 8 am—4 pm
December 26 CLOSED
December 28 2 pm—8 pm
December 29 8 am—2 pm
December 31 8 am—4 pm

Blumenort Waste Transfer Station

December 24 12 pm—4 pm
December 27 CLOSED
December 28 2 pm—8 pm
December 31 12 pm—4 pm

Fort Vermilion Waste Transfer Station

December 24 10 am—4 pm
December 27 9 am—1 pm
December 29 4 pm—8 pm
December 31 10 am—4 pm

Rocky Lane Waste Transfer Station

December 24 12 pm—4 pm
December 28 12 pm—6 pm
December 31 12 pm—4 pm

Zama Waste Transfer Station

December 24 2 pm—4 pm
December 27 4 pm—8 pm
December 29 4 pm—8 pm
December 31 2 pm—4 pm

Regular days and hours will resume in January 2017.



Application Process

To apply, please complete the Member at Large Application Form (available at any County Office or on our website) and forward to:

Carol Gabriel, Director of Legislative & Support Services
Mackenzie County, P.O. Box 640, Fort Vermilion, AB T0H 1N0

Email: cgabriel@mackenziecounty.com
Fax: 780.927.4266

In order to qualify, you must be at least 18 years of age. Must be able to attend daytime meetings.

Deadline for applications is Tuesday, January 3, 2017.



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	January 9, 2017
Presented By:	Len Racher, Chief Administrative Officer
Title:	Town of High Level – Fire Invoicing

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

On August 9, 2016, following the Norbord fire, Council requested that a letter be sent to the Town of High Level requesting that all contracted services for fire services be paid by the County directly in the future. Attached is a copy of the letter dated September 28, 2016 to the Town.

The Town of High Level has sent a response to our request and their letter dated December 16, 2016 is attached for your review.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

Should Council wish to pursue the matter further, the Regional Service Sharing Agreement will formally be open for review in 2018.

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

COMMUNICATION:

Author: C. Gabriel Reviewed by: _____ CAO: _____

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

That the request to alter fire invoicing process with the Town of High Level be received for information.

Author: C. Gabriel Reviewed by: _____ CAO: _____



Mackenzie County

P.O. Box 640, Fort Vermilion, AB T0H 1N0
Phone: 780.927.3718 Fax: 780.927.4266
www.mackenziecounty.com

September 28, 2016

Adam Clarkson
Chief Administrative Officer
Town of High Level
10511 – 103 Street
High Level, AB
T0H 1Z0

Dear Mr. Clarkson,

RE: Request to alter Fire invoicing process

Thank you for your fire departments enormous effort in serving the Town and surrounding area.

In order to assist in reducing costs to ratepayers, our Council has requested that the Town of High Level fire departments 3rd party charges (contracted services) be paid directly by Mackenzie County.

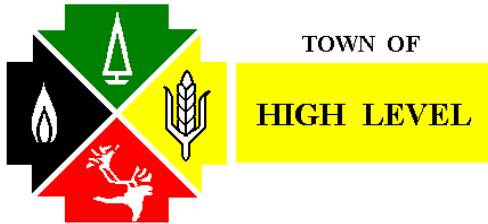
If the Town agrees, I suspect we can use a similar system to Alberta Forestry & Environment Mutual Aid Requests.

We look forward to meeting with your team to work out the details of making this work.

Sincerely,

Original signed

Len Racher
Chief Administrative Officer



10511-103rd Street
High Level, Alberta
T0H 1Z0
Tel: (780) 821-4016
Fax: (780) 926-2058
Email: rschmidt@highlevel.ca

December 16, 2016

**Mackenzie County
PO Box 640
Fort Vermilion, AB
T0H 1N0**

Attn: Len Racher

RE: Request to Alter Fire Invoicing Process

Good Day Len,

Thank you for your letter dated September 28, 2016 regarding fire invoicing and 3rd party charges. The Town met with County representatives to discuss further. Following that discussions the Town is of the position that it will continue to follow the RSSA as outlined.

In February of 2014, the Town and County agreed that Contracted Services would be invoiced to the County at cost plus 15%. The Town has followed that requirement as per the RSSA.

The Town has current billing relationships with many contractors in Town and in the area that they rely on for services during emergencies. Changing this relationship would cause confusion in regards to what was charged. The Town also cannot be accountable for what is being billed when charges are going direct to the County. The current relationship allows for review of the bills by the Town to ensure that the services provided were accurate.

The Town also does not want to put in jeopardy the decision making ability of our Incident Commanders. Having to use contractors that may not be familiar with them could cause issues on the scene. The cost of the Town providing that service directly and then billing to the County is negligible during most of the incidents.

During a large incident such as Norbord and when a joint EOC is open, it is possible that the Finance Section of the ECC team could keep track of these costs and have some more direct billing. This is something that could be discussed.

The Town feels that this issue could be discussed as part of the second formal review requirement in 2018 with discussions occurring in early 2017.

I hope this is satisfactory to the County. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Rodney Schmidt
Director of Protective Services



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	January 9, 2017
Presented By:	Len Racher, Chief Administrative Officer
Title:	Tri-Council Meeting Agenda

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

The next Tri-Council meeting is scheduled for February 1, 2017 with Mackenzie County as the host. The CAO Secretariat will be meeting to discuss the agenda in the next few weeks and we are looking for Council input on potential agenda topics.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

COMMUNICATION:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- Simple Majority
 Requires 2/3
 Requires Unanimous

For discussion.

Author: C. Gabriel Reviewed by: _____ CAO: _____



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	January 9, 2017
Presented By:	Peng Tian, Director of Finance
Title:	Policy ADM049 – Bursaries

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

At the December 15, 2016 Finance Committee meeting, the following motion was made:

MOTION FC-16-12-147 **MOVED** by Deputy Reeve Wardley

That Policy ADM049 Bursaries be presented to Council with recommended amendments.

CARRIED

The updated policy is attached for review.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

The updated policy provides more clarity and consistency regarding applicant requirements such as the return service agreement.

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Annual Operating Budget

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

N/A

Author: C. Robinson **Reviewed by:** Peng Tian **CAO:** Len Racher

COMMUNICATION:

The approved policy will be available on the County website.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

That Policy ADM049 Bursaries be amended as presented.

Author: C. Robinson **Reviewed by:** Peng Tian **CAO:** Len Racher

Mackenzie County

Title	Bursaries	Policy No:	ADM049
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Legislation Reference	MGA, Section 1 b)
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Purpose

To encourage and to afford an opportunity to Mackenzie County residents to pursue studying in priority fields which are critically appealing to the Mackenzie Region, and thereby enhance the residents' abilities to make a meaningful contribution to their communities.

Policy Statement and Guidelines

Statement:

Mackenzie County Council recognizes the need for a skilled and knowledgeable workforce in the Mackenzie Region and therefore encourages further learning. In order to provide financial assistance to qualified applicants/students, a bursary fund is established during an annual budgeting process.

Guidelines:

1. Student Eligibility

- 1.1 First time university/college students may receive a bursary within two years from their public school graduation date and either student or immediate family must be living in the County.
- 1.2 Students returning to their second to fourth year of studies may apply to receive a bursary. Student's immediate family must be living within Mackenzie County.
- 1.3 Mature students are eligible to receive a bursary at the discretion of the Finance Committee. The student's immediate family must be living within Mackenzie County. These students will be given third priority.
- 1.4 Students enrolled in part time studies will be eligible for a bursary prorated to the number of months studied compared to a full time program.
- 1.5 Must be enrolled in a post-secondary education or certified trade institution.
- 1.6 Must commit to live and work in the Mackenzie region upon graduation from a post-secondary institution. Work experience must be obtained in the field of study for which the bursary was received. The length of return service will be based on the amount awarded as follows:

- \$500 – 3 months
- \$1,000 – 6 months
- \$1,500 – 9 months
- \$2,000 – 12 months

1.7 Must be able to demonstrate commitment to community and education.

~~Note: Bursary applications received after initial deadline will be awarded on a first come first served basis~~

2. Return Service Agreement

Every student selected to receive a Mackenzie County Bursary must sign an agreement. The Agreement commits the student to live and work in the field of study the bursary was received for within the Mackenzie region. The length of return services is based on the total value of bursary support with three months of return service for each \$500 of total bursary support or any portion thereof. For example: a bursary of \$1000 has a return service agreement of six months.

Students not returning to work within the Mackenzie region may be expected to reimburse bursary grants received.

3. Bursary Amount

The amount of the bursary will be dependent on the length and field of study; the number and value of bursaries available each year may vary.

4. Bursary Cancellation

If a bursary is excluded or expelled from the institution or discontinues his/her studies on his/her own accord, the bursary shall be cancelled and the bursar shall have to repay the County the full bursary amount within one month of cancellation/discontinuation of studies. The bursar shall be responsible for notifying the County.

5. Bursary Awarding

The Finance Committee shall be responsible to review the applications and award the annual bursaries.

6. Administrative Process

6.1 The bursary applications (Schedule A) shall be advertised during the first two weeks of March with the closing date for applications being 4:30 p.m. on the last day of April.

- 6.2 Successful bursary recipients will receive notification within two weeks of the awards; however, the funds will not be provided until the Return Service Agreement (Schedule B) has been signed and confirmations of acceptance from the post-secondary institution have been received. The deadline to receive required documentation for bursary payment will be September 30th of the year the bursary is awarded.
- 6.3 If not all annually allocated funds have been distributed, the Finance Committee may re-advertise the bursary applications.
- 6.4 Any unused funds in any given year shall be allocated to the Bursary Reserve established by Council.

7. Administrative Responsibilities

Chief Administrative Officer or Designate shall be responsible for monitoring compliance with this policy.

	Date	Resolution Number
Approved	12-Apr-11	11-04-347
Amended	26-Mar-14	14-03-197
Amended	11-Aug-15	15-08-547
Amended	09-Aug-16	16-08-580
Amended	28-Sep-16	16-09-689

MACKENZIE COUNTY BURSARY APPLICATION (SCHEDULE A)

General Guidelines

Student Eligibility

- First time university/college students may receive a bursary within two years from their public school graduation date and either student or immediate family must be living in the County.
- Students returning to their second to fourth year of studies may apply to receive a bursary. Student's immediate family must be living within Mackenzie County.
- Mature students are eligible to receive a bursary at the discretion of the Finance Committee. The student's immediate family must be living within Mackenzie County. These students will be given third priority.
- Students enrolled in part time studies will be eligible for a bursary prorated to the number of months studied compared to a full time program.
- Must be enrolled in a post-secondary education or certified trade institution.
- Must commit to live and work in the Mackenzie region for a six-month period upon graduation of post-secondary education for each bursary received.
- Must be able to demonstrate commitment to community and education.

Note: Bursary applications received after initial deadline will be awarded on a first come first served basis

Return Service Agreement

Every student selected to receive a Mackenzie County Bursary must sign an agreement. The Agreement commits the student to live and work within the Mackenzie region for a six-month period upon graduation of post-secondary studies for each bursary received. The length of return services is based on the total value of bursary support with three months of return service for each \$500 of total bursary support or any portion thereof. For example: a bursary of \$1000 has a return service agreement of six months.

Students not returning to work within the Mackenzie region may be expected to reimburse bursary grants received.

Bursary Amount

The usual amount of the bursary is \$1,000.00; however both the number and value of bursaries available each year may vary.

Successful Bursary recipients will receive notification in May; however, the funds will not be provided until the Return Service Agreement has been signed and you have provided us with confirmations of acceptance from the post-secondary institution of your choice and of tuition paid.

Application Must Include:

- A cover letter including reason for application, the field of study, career goal and date of graduation.

First year applicants

- 3 reference letters: 1 public school or college or university related, and 2 personal references.

Returning applicants

- Proof of course completion (academic transcript)
- Proof of course registration or Receipt of tuition paid
- Documents are to be submitted as soon as available

Application deadline

The deadline for **receipt** of application is _____ at **4:30 p.m.** at the following address:

Finance Committee, Mackenzie County
Box 640, Fort Vermilion, Alberta T0H 1N0
Fax: (780) 927-4266
Email: office@mackenziecounty.com

MACKENZIE COUNTY BURSARY APPLICATION FORM (SCHEDULE A)

CONTACT INFORMATION (please print)

Full Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/Town: _____ Postal Code: _____

Street Address or Land Location: _____

Number of Years Lived in Region: _____

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

Name of Public School: _____ Graduation Date: _____

Provide a list of the grade twelve subjects, with final grade, that you are using as entry level for post-secondary or trade education. (Please provide a copy of your transcripts if available.)

Returning Students: Please provide a copy of your most recent transcripts.

Post-Secondary Institution: _____

Program of Study: _____

Length of Program Studies you plan to attend: 1yr. 2 yr. 3 yr. 4yr. more

Date you expect to graduate: _____ 20____

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Please explain how your choice of post-secondary education will benefit the Mackenzie County area?

Please list any community involvement and past work experiences.

Please list any extracurricular activities, hobbies and interests.

**Your application may not be considered if information is missing.
Have you answered all the questions?**

APPLICANT DECLARATION

I declare that:

to the best of my knowledge, the information given on this application is true.

I agree to:

provide any information needed to verify any statement made on this application.

I understand that:

I may have to repay my bursary if I do not fulfil my return service agreement.

I may be denied a bursary if I have made any false or misleading statements on this application.

I consent to:

The use of my name and/or photograph by Mackenzie County for the purposes of publicizing the Mackenzie County Bursary Program.

X _____
Signature of Applicant

Date Signed

RETURN SERVICE AGREEMENT

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

BETWEEN

Mackenzie County
(referred to as the "Sponsor")

and

(referred to as the "Student")

of the _____ of _____, in the Province of Alberta

WHEREAS the Sponsor has established a bursary to provide assistance to eligible students and to promote the development of vocational or professional expertise within the Mackenzie region; and

WHEREAS the Student has applied to the Sponsor for a Bursary to assist him in his course of studies: and

WHEREAS a Bursary consists of a financial assistance award from the Sponsor; and

WHEREAS the Student has undertaken to work and provide services in the Sponsor region; now

THEREFORE the parties agree as follows:

1. For the purposes of this agreement, "sponsor region" means the area within the boundaries of the Mackenzie County.
2. Upon approval of the Student's application by the Sponsor and upon receipt of confirmations of the Student's registration in the course of studies and of tuition paid, the Sponsor will pay to the Student the sum of \$ _____ as an award in order for the Student to commence the course of studies as outlined in the Student's bursary application.
3. The Student
 - a) agrees and undertakes to obtain, within six (6) months from the last day of his/her studies, employment in northern Alberta for a continuous period of _____ months.

- b) agrees and acknowledges that his employment under (a) is to be in an occupation or field of endeavor which relates to his course of studies and is to be otherwise satisfactory to the Sponsor;
 - c) Must annually provide written information to the Sponsor regarding the status and location of employment; commencing on the date on which employment is obtained in accordance with this Agreement and until the completion of work commitments under this Agreement;
 - d) Must in writing notify the Sponsor within seven (7) days of the following events:
 - i) a withdrawal from the course of studies; or
 - ii) a failure to maintain a passing grade in his course of studies in any academic year; or
 - iii) a change of address.
4. The Sponsor may, in its absolute discretion, require repayment in full by the Student of the Bursary to the Sponsor for failure to comply with clause 3 of this Agreement or upon the occurrence of one or more of the events in clause 3(d). Repayment will occur according to the following schedule based on total value of awards received:
- ≤ \$500 repayment due within 3 months of invoice date
 - \$500-\$1000 repayment due within 6 months of invoice date
 - > \$1000 repayment due within 1 year of invoice date
5. If the Sponsor requires repayment of the financial assistance for failure to maintain employment in accordance with clause 3(a), the Sponsor may, in its absolute discretion, consider the employment commitment under clause 3(a), to be partially fulfilled and accordingly reduce the repayment obligations of the Student under this Agreement on a pro rata basis.
6. The Sponsor may waive a default of this Agreement only by written notice to the Student.
7. The Student agrees and acknowledges that he has the sole obligation to seek employment and lodging to fulfill his commitment under this Agreement and that there is no obligation upon the Sponsor to provide any employment position or lodging place to help fulfill this commitment.
8. The Student allows the Sponsor to release his name as a bursary recipient for advertising and recognition of the bursary.
9. All notices and other written communications required or permitted under this Agreement can be delivered by hand, or sent by registered mail or faxed to the addressee as follows:

To the Sponsor: c/o Mackenzie County
P.O. Box 640
Fort Vermilion, AB
T0H 1N0
Phone: (780) 927-3718
Fax: (780) 927-4266

To The Student _____

Phone: () _____
Fax: () _____

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have executed this Agreement on the date first written above.

SIGNED IN THE PRESENCE OF

_____ Signature of Witness	_____ Signature of Student or Parent/Guardian if Student is under 18
Printed name of Witness:	_____
Address of Witness:	_____
Postal Code of Witness:	_____
Phone Number of Witness	_____

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SPONSOR

_____ Witness	_____ Signature of Sponsor
------------------	-------------------------------



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	January 9, 2017
Presented By:	Dave Fehr, Director of Operations
Title:	Policy PW004 Winter Road Maintenance/Snowplowing Indicator Policy

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

At the November 23, 2016 Regular Council Meeting the agenda was approved with the addition of 'Snow Removal'.

The reason for the addition to the agenda was; a rural ratepayer had a concern about receiving snow clearing from the County by way of using a Blue Indicator (snow triangle). The Blue Indicator currently designates the user as being 'Senior and/or Handicapped'. The ratepayer has a child in a wheelchair.

The first motion that would allow the ratepayer to receive the Blue Indicator was defeated by Council.

The next motion, carried by Council, was to bring the policy back for review.

Please see attached, Policy PW004 Winter Road Maintenance/Snowplowing Indicator Policy. Specifically, page 4 highlighted areas, for possible amendment which may assist with the clarification of the term 'Handicapped Persons'. Appendices are also attached with highlighted areas.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Author: S Wheeler **Reviewed by:** Dave Fehr **CAO:** _____

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

COMMUNICATION:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

That Policy PW004 Winter Road Maintenance/Snowplowing Indicator Policy be amended as presented.

Author: S Wheeler Reviewed by: Dave Fehr CAO: _____

Mackenzie County

Title	WINTER ROAD MAINTENANCE/SNOW PLOWING INDICATOR POLICY	Policy No:	PW004
--------------	--	-------------------	--------------

Legislation Reference	Municipal Government Act, Section 18 and 532(1)
------------------------------	--

Purpose

To set out the standards for winter maintenance of municipal roads.

To set the standards for snow removal of private driveways of rural residents who have purchased a snowplow indicator and have signed the snowplowing agreement.

To set the standards for snow removal of private driveways for rural senior citizens and/or handicapped persons.

This policy rescinds and replaces Policy FIN015 and Policy FIN020.

Policy Statement and Guidelines

The CAO and/or designate is responsible for dispatching winter maintenance equipment in accordance with this policy.

The priority for snowplowing operations shall be:

- 1) Air Ambulance airport runways
- 2) Major emergency routes, and facilities for emergency services
- 3) Arterial roads
- 4) School bus routes (public and private)
- 5) Collector roads/Hamlet streets
- 6) Local roads
- 7) Public sidewalks and walkways
- 8) Winter maintenance of rural private residential driveways
- 9) Other miscellaneous duties

Note: Generally rural residential driveways will be done after local road snowplowing, however, at times, driveways may be plowed in conjunction with local roads to improve efficiencies.

Hamlet Snow Removal:

Generally, plowing of snow should only be undertaken when snow accumulates to a minimum of ten (10) cm of snow.

Rural Standard Areas (Ditches) Includes Hamlet Country Residential – Snow should be plowed into the ditch area, and windrows created on driveways as a result of this operation should be removed using County resources.

Urban Standard Areas (Curb & Gutter)

The following procedures should be used:

1. Snow may be left on the street until the packed snow reaches 3-4 inches, at which time the snow should be windrowed to the middle of the street and hauled away.
2. Snow may be plowed to the non sidewalk side of the street when able and practical to do so, and windrows created on driveways as a result of this operation should be removed using County resources.
3. The removal and hauling of snow from within the Hamlet boundaries to a designated snow dump area should take place at the discretion of the CAO or designate when deemed necessary.

Sanding or ice blading of icy stretches and intersections should be done on an as required basis. The priority should be intersections and curves on roads. Other areas should be done within the available resources as need dictates.

Removal of snow piles – The County may remove snow piles that a ratepayer or business has placed on the County's Right of Way due to safety concerns, a charge shall be applicable as per the Fee Schedule Bylaw.

Rural Snow Removal: (Includes Rural Country Residential)

Arterial road maintenance shall be similar to Provincial Highway maintenance standards.

Arterial roads include:

- La Crete North & South Access
- Highway 88 Connector
- Zama Access Road (paved section)

Generally, grading of snow should only be undertaken when snow accumulates to a minimum of ten (10) cm of snow.

Sanding or ice blading of icy stretches and intersections should be done on an as required basis. The priority should be intersections and curves on roads. Other areas should be done within the available resources as need dictates.

Excess snow should generally be stockpiled alongside the road in the road allowance and on other available public property. Snow will not be hauled to other stockpile locations unless public safety is at risk, e.g. when visibility at an intersection is obstructed.

Winging and other maintenance operations, such as ice blading driveways, should have a lesser priority unless they can be combined with the first.

Negotiations for stockpiling snow on private property should be carried out only where it is the lowest cost alternative.

Municipal grader operators will take all reasonable measures to minimize the size of the snow berm left on private driveways.

Culverts identified as problematic may be steamed in early spring in an attempt to prevent flooding.

Rural Private Residential Maintenance Operations/Sale of Rural Snowplowing Indicators

- Mackenzie County provides for snowplowing of rural residential driveways through the sale of snowplowing Indicators.
- The snowplowing Indicator is to be purchased at a fee established by Council and set out in the Fee Schedule By-law.
- An Indicator is intended to provide resident with ONE pass in and ONE pass out (most direct route to the residence) when present. When the Indicator is present the snowplowing will be to a maximum of ¼ mile (400 meters) or 15 minutes of snow clearing, whichever is less.
- The cost of the snowplowing service each time the Indicator is present is a fee set out in the Fee Schedule Bylaw, and will be invoiced monthly to the owner of the Indicator.
- Any rural resident residing within the boundaries of Mackenzie County shall be allowed to purchase a snowplowing Indicator if the resident enters into a standard Snowplowing Agreement (Appendix A) releasing Mackenzie County, its employees, and agents, from any liability arising from the snowplow operation.

- No service shall be provided prior to the purchase of a snowplowing Indicator.
- The snowplowing Indicator shall be placed visibly at the end of the driveway to signify the residents request for snow clearing.
- Ice blading shall be done to a maximum of 50 feet onto the driveway in rural area, owner must call County office to request this service specifically.

Rural Snowplowing Indicators for Senior Citizens and/or Handicapped Persons

Mackenzie County recognizes that the snowplowing of rural residential accesses may be cost prohibitive to Senior Citizens and/or Handicapped Persons. Therefore, Mackenzie County will provide qualified rural Senior Citizens and/or Handicapped Persons with snowplowing services of their rural residential driveways at no cost and/or as identified in the Fee Schedule Bylaw. Receiving the senior and/or handicap snowplowing services is subject to entering into the Senior and/or Handicapped Snowplowing Agreement (Appendix B).

In this policy the following definitions apply:

Dependents: ~~“any person eighteen years of age and under and that such age can be documented.”~~

Handicapped Persons: “any **primary resident, spouse and/or dependent** ~~person~~ who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, has a record of such impairment, or is regarded as having such impairment and such impairment can be verified by a medical doctor.”

Senior Citizen: “**the primary resident or spouse** ~~any person~~ who is 65 years of age or older and that such age can be documented.”

Spouse: “means the husband or wife of a married person.”

- Rural Senior Citizen and/or handicapped residents may apply annually, through the completion of the County of Mackenzie Seniors and/or Handicapped Snowplowing Agreement.
- Service is limited to those qualified residents living in rural areas.
- Service is limited to residences where **one the** primary resident, ~~or their~~ **and/or dependent** is by definition a senior citizen and/or a handicapped person.
- ~~A Senior and/or Handicapped Snowplowing Agreement shall not qualify when a person, other than the spouse, resides on the property that is over the age of 18 and/or under the defined age of a senior.~~

- Senior and/or handicapped residents shall provide proof as to their senior and/or handicapped status.
- A Senior/Handicapped Indicator is intended to provide residents with ONE pass in and ONE pass out (most direct route to the residence) with the snowplow to a maximum of ¼ mile (400 meters) or 15 minutes of snow clearing, whichever is less.
- Any rural Senior Citizen and/or rural Handicapped Person residing within the boundaries of Mackenzie County shall be allowed to obtain a Senior Citizen and/or Handicapped Persons snowplowing Indicator if the resident enters into a Senior Citizen and/or Handicapped Person Snowplowing Agreement (Appendix B) releasing the County of Mackenzie, its employees, and agents, from any liability arising from the snowplow operation.
- The snowplowing Indicator shall be placed visibly at the end of the driveway to signify the residents request for snow clearing.

	Date	Resolution Number
Approved	10-Nov-98	98-341
Amended	23-Nov-05	05-632
Amended	23-Feb-11	11-02-195
Amended	12-Dec-11	11-12-975
Amended	11-Dec-12	12-12-836
Amended	26-Aug-15	15-08-576
Amended	2016-03-23	16-03-215
Amended		
Amended		

RURAL RESIDENTIAL SNOWPLOWING AGREEMENT

Mackenzie County

THIS AGREEMENT MADE THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 20_____, AD

BETWEEN **MACKENZIE COUNTY,**
OF THE FIRST PART

-and-

(hereinafter called the "owner").
OF THE SECOND PART.

WHEREAS, the "Owner" is the owner, purchaser or lessee of the following lands:

(Legal Description) (Rural Address) (Tax Roll #)

(Telephone Number) (Billing Address)

WHEREAS, the Owner desires Mackenzie County to snowplow/iceblade his private driveway when such driveway becomes impassable or hazardous due to snow/ice conditions.

NOW, THEREFORE, Mackenzie County and the Owner for the consideration hereinafter named, agree as follows:

- (1) Mackenzie County agrees to snowplow/iceblade the private driveway of the Owner when so requested by the Owner, however it shall be understood that such snowplowing/iceblading shall only be undertaken at the discretion of Mackenzie County and only after the public roads and highways have been cleared of snow/ice to the satisfaction of Mackenzie County AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH Public Works Policy PW004.
- (2) (a) The Owner hereby agrees to pay to Mackenzie County the sum-of Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) + G.S.T. for the Snowplowing Indicator ("hereinafter referred to as the Indicator ").
- (b) The Owner hereby agrees that the Indicator purchased will belong to the Owner and he/she will be invoiced each time the snow is removed from their driveway at the cost of Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) + G.S.T. for each service when the Indicator is present.
- (c) The Owner hereby agrees that the maximum length of driveway to be snowplowed is 1/4 mile (400 meters) or 15 minutes whichever is lesser (most direct route to the residence) each time the Indicator is present, subject to other snowplowing/operational priorities. For iceblading the maximum length is 50 feet, Owner must call County office to request this service specifically.
- (3) Either Party may terminate this agreement by serving Notice of Intent to do so on the other Party.
- (4) The Owner hereby covenants and agrees that he will at all times indemnify and save harmless Mackenzie County, it's servants, agents and employees from and against all loss, damage or injury however caused, which may at any time during the continuance of this Agreement occur to any person or the property of any person including the Owner.
- (5) The Owner shall not assign or transfer his interest under this Agreement without first obtaining the written consent of Mackenzie County.
- (6) Mackenzie County shall have the right to refuse to snowplow/iceblade any private driveway that in the opinion of the operator will be hazardous or difficult to snowplow/iceblade.
- (7) The Owner may return the Indicator sign, however shall not be entitled to a refund for any purchased Indicator.
- (8) Mackenzie County reserves the right to transfer any outstanding unpaid Snow Plowing Services to the property owners tax rolls.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Agreement has been duly executed by the parties hereto.

SIGNED in the presence of:

MACKENZIE COUNTY STAFF

OWNER

INDICATOR #

CUSTOMER #

DIRECTOR

This information is being collected in accordance with Part 2 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Our Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act Coordinator, is available to answer any questions you may have pertaining to the collection and use of the information and may be contacted at (780) 927-3718. This information may be used for any county purpose.



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	January 9, 2017
Presented By:	Dave Fehr, Director of Operations
Title:	Purchase Rubber Track Mini Excavator

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

In October of 2016 Unit #2250, 580 Case Backhoe, was involved in an incident where it sustained damage and as a result was 'written off' by the insurance adjusters. The County has/will receive \$80,000 (less \$5,000 deductible) from the insurance payout.

Administration has received quotes for a replacement unit (see attached). Below are the options concerning the new purchase:

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

Option 1:

Purchase the unit from Kubota Farm & Ranch for \$106,019.65

Benefit:

Purchasing **new** unit locally the lowest quote.

Option 2:

Purchase unit from Finning for \$105,000.

Benefit:

This is a used unit with 177 hours; price quoted is FOB Surrey, B.C.

Option 3:

Purchase unit from Komatsu for \$110,590.

Benefit:

Not a benefit – This is a used unit with 1,518 hours; price quoted is FOB Edmonton.

Author: S Wheeler **Reviewed by:** Dave Fehr **CAO:** _____

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Cost over and above the insurance payout will come from Vehicle & Equipment Reserves.

If Option 1 is chosen: Unit price \$106,019.65
 Insurance payout - \$ 75,000.00
 Reserve Funds =\$ 31,019.65

If Option 2 is chosen: Unit price \$105,000.00
 Insurance payout - \$ 75,000.00
 Reserve Funds =\$ 30,000.00 + Shipping to La Crete

If Option 3 is chosen: Unit price \$110,590.00
 Insurance payout - \$ 75,000.00
 Reserve Funds =\$ 35,590.00 + Shipping to La Crete

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

COMMUNICATION:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

That administration be authorized to purchase the Rubber Track Mini Excavator from Kubota Farm & Ranch for \$106,019.65 with \$75,000 coming from the insurance proceeds and the additional \$31,019.65 coming from the Vehicle & Equipment Reserve.

Author: S Wheeler Reviewed by: Dave Fehr CAO: _____



KUBOTA FARM & RANCH

11102-100ST BOX 65 LA CRETE ALBERTA TOH-2H0 780-928-3268 CELL 780-



Quote # 42315 Reference: Willy Mackenzie county
Prepared for:

Expires: 12/08/2016
By: Henry Gerbrandt

Equipment

1 New Kubota IKX080-4GA 8.0T RUBBER A/C ANGLE

\$105,569.65

Qty Item	Class	Description	Serial #
1 IKX080-4GA	Excavator Kx Series	8.0T RUBBER A/C ANGLE	36600
1 *K7909	Accessory Excavator	Relief Valve Kit (2494 PSI)	
1 *K7906C	Accessory Excavator	Hydraulic Thumb	
1 *K9980C3	Accessory Excavator	Quick Attach Coupler	
1 *K9985QC	Accessory Excavator	36" QA Bucket	
1 *E9299B	Accessory M Series	Radio/Weather Band/MP3 Input	
1 *K7900KIT	Accessory Excavator	KX-U COUPLER KIT	

Notes:

Quote Summary

Notes:

Equipment Total	\$105,569.65
Administration Fees	\$450.00
Other Taxable	\$0.00
Selling Price	\$106,019.65
Less Trades	\$0.00
Total After Trades	\$106,019.65
GST/HST	\$22.50
PST/QST	\$0.00
Non Taxable Environmental Charges	\$0.00
Other non taxable	\$0.00
Total	\$106,042.15
Plus Liens	\$0.00
Cash Down Payment	\$0.00
Total After Cash Down Payment	\$106,042.15

This Quote Is Valid For TEN Days Only Inventory and Sales Incentives subject to change

Option #1
Kubota

To accept, please sign here and return to dealer



More Photos »

† Contact FINNING (CANADA) for pricing details as additional charges may apply, including freight, taxes, duties, tariffs, quarantine, etc.

FEATURES

- C03.
- CAB WITH AIR CONDITIONING.
- 24" DIG & 48" CLEANUP BUCKETS.
- LEVELING BLADE.
- LINKS, BUSHINGS, IDLERS & ROLLERS @ 95% REMAINING.

- BALANCE 36MO/3000HR WARRANTY EXP JUL Y 8, 2019. CONDITIONS MAY APPLY.
- HYDRAULIC PIN-GRABBER QUICK COUPLER.
- HYDRAULIC THUMB.
- 18" TRIPLE GROUSER SHOES WITH RUBBER PADS @ 95% REMAINING.
- EPA DECAL.

<http://1machineavailability.ca/finning.com/DetailofMachineAvailability.aspx?id=71564>



2016 CATERPILLAR 307E2 (Used)
TRACK EXCAVATORS

Retail: \$ 135,500 CAD+
Catalog #: CU2420937
Serial # Prefix: KC9
SMU/Hrs: 177
Condition:

FINNING (CANADA)
16830 107 Avenue NW
Edmonton, Alberta T6P 4C3
Canada

Inside Sales Team

Telephone
Email

Option #2

Finning

Sales Price
\$105,000 + GST
FOB Surrey, BC

Rousettau & Hydraulic

FOB SMS - EDMONTON

2011 KOMATSU PC78US-8

w/ TWIST BUCKET +
DIG BUCKET (shown in pictures)

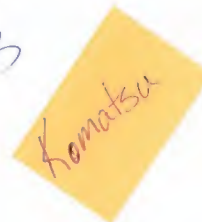
\$110,590



Specifications

Year	2011	Manufacturer	KOMATSU
Model	PC78US-8	Location	Lansing, Michigan
Serial Number	017636	Condition	Used
Hours	1,518	Stock Number	W41703

Option
#3



Section (g) In order to ensure a firm commitment for Development has been received the following are requirements for the rezoning application.

- i) An AREA STRUCTURE PLAN for multi-lot subdivisions,

An Area Structure Plan is defined as a statutory plan prepared and adopted pursuant to the Act, which addresses the future development of large areas of land at a conceptual level of detail.

This chosen parcel of land is between a Manufactured Home Subdivision district on the west side and an acreage on the east which is zoned as commercial. This acreage is being used as residential and for an RV park.

Bylaw 104x-16 was presented to the Municipal Planning Commission on August 3, 2016 where they made the following motion:

MPC-16-08-133

MOVED by Jack Eccles

That the Municipal Planning Commission recommend to Council to approve Bylaw 100x-16 being a Land Use Bylaw Amendment to rezone part of SE 16-106-15-W5M from La Crete General Commercial District "GC1" to Manufactured Home Subdivision 1 "MHS1" to accommodate the development of residential lots, subject to public hearing input.

CARRIED

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

The developer was informed that in order to proceed with the rezoning bylaw, they were required to provide an Area Structure Plan showing the lot layout, size and accesses, as well as how they propose on servicing the area.

Administration received the completed Area Structure Plan/Proposed Subdivision plan on Friday December 23, 2016.

Options are to pass, defeat, or table first reading of the bylaw.

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

All costs will be borne by the applicant

Author: L. Lambert Reviewed by: _____ CAO _____

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

The Sustainability Plan does not directly address re-zoning of districts within the County. As such, the proposed re-zoning neither supports nor contradicts the Sustainability Plan.

COMMUNICATION:

The bylaw amendment will be advertised as per MGA requirements, this includes all adjacent landowners.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Administration recommends passing first reading of the bylaw.

- Simple Majority
- Requires 2/3
- Requires Unanimous

That first reading be given to Bylaw 1050-16 being a Land Use Bylaw Amendment to rezone part of SE 16-106-15-W5M from La Crete General Commercial District "GC1" to Manufactured Home Subdivision 1 "MHS1" to accommodate the development of residential lots, subject to public hearing input.

Author: L. Lambert Reviewed by: _____ CAO _____

BYLAW NO. 1050-16
BEING A BYLAW OF
MACKENZIE COUNTY
IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

TO AMEND THE
MACKENZIE COUNTY LAND USE BYLAW

WHEREAS, Mackenzie County has a Municipal Development Plan adopted in 2009, and

WHEREAS, Mackenzie County has adopted the Mackenzie County Land Use Bylaw in 2011, and

WHEREAS, the Council of Mackenzie County, in the Province of Alberta, has deemed it desirable to amend the Mackenzie County Land Use Bylaw to accommodate residential lots.

NOW THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE MACKENZIE COUNTY, IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, DULY ASSEMBLED, HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the land use designation of the subject parcel known as:

Part of SE 16-106-15-W5M

within the Hamlet of La Crete, be rezoned from La Crete General Commercial District "GC1" to Manufactured Home Subdivision 1 "MHS1" as outlined in Schedule "A" hereto attached.

READ a first time this ___ day of _____, 2017.

PUBLIC HEARING held this ___ day of _____, 2017.

READ a second time this ___ day of _____, 2017.

READ a third time and finally passed this ___ day of _____, 2017.

Bill Neufeld
Reeve

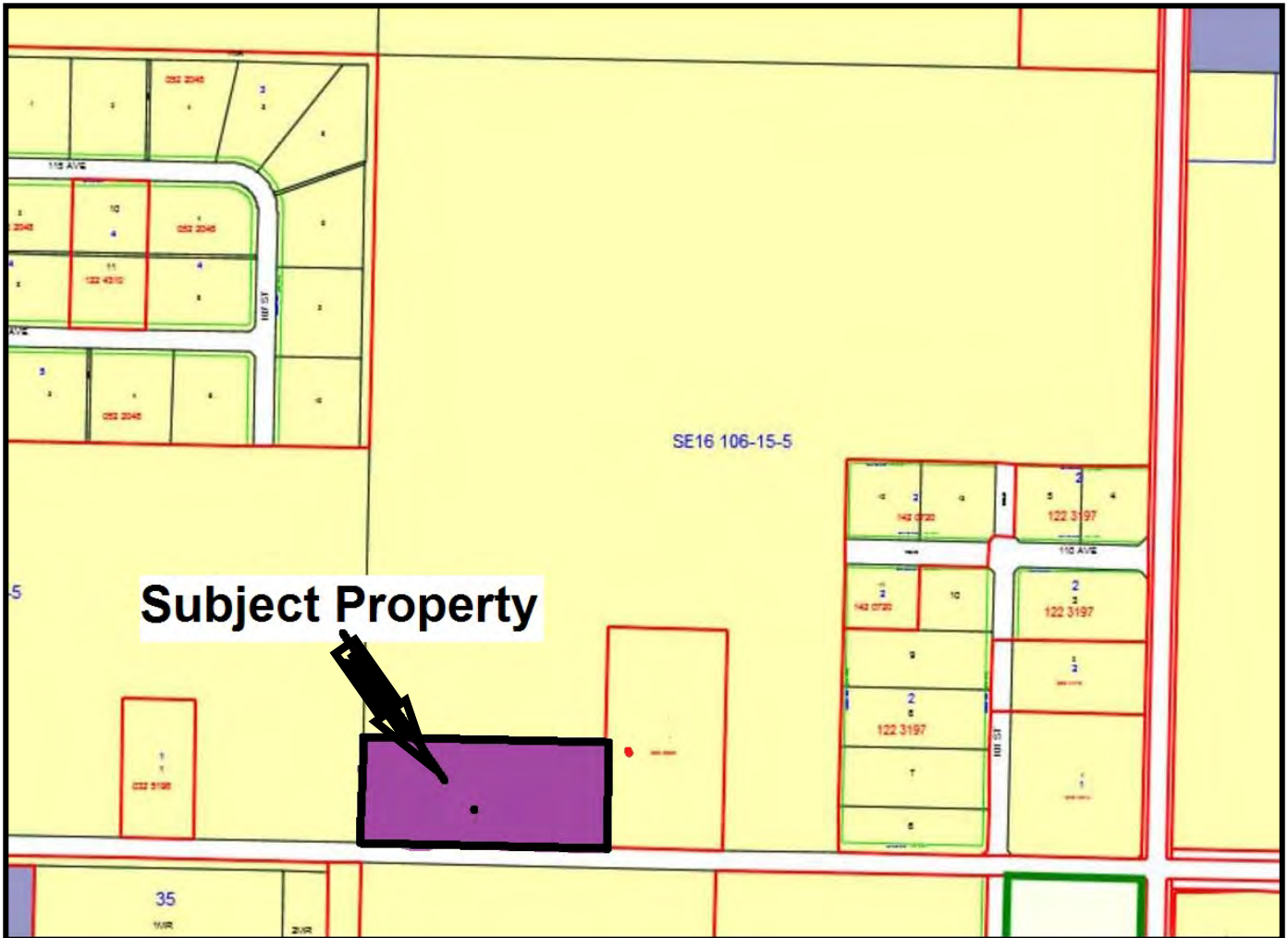
Len Racher
Chief Administrative Officer

BYLAW No. 1050-16

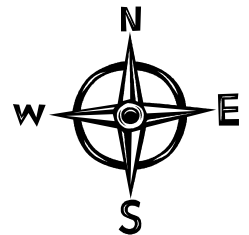
SCHEDULE "A"

1. That the land use designation of the following property known as:

Part of SE 16-106-15-W5M within the Hamlet of La Crete, be rezoned from La Crete General Commercial District "GC1" to Manufactured Home Subdivision 1 "MHS1" as outlined in Schedule "A" hereto attached.



FROM: La Crete General Commercial District "GC1"
TO: Manufactured Home Subdivision 1 "MHS1"



SE 16 106 155

330' ±

5.69 Acres

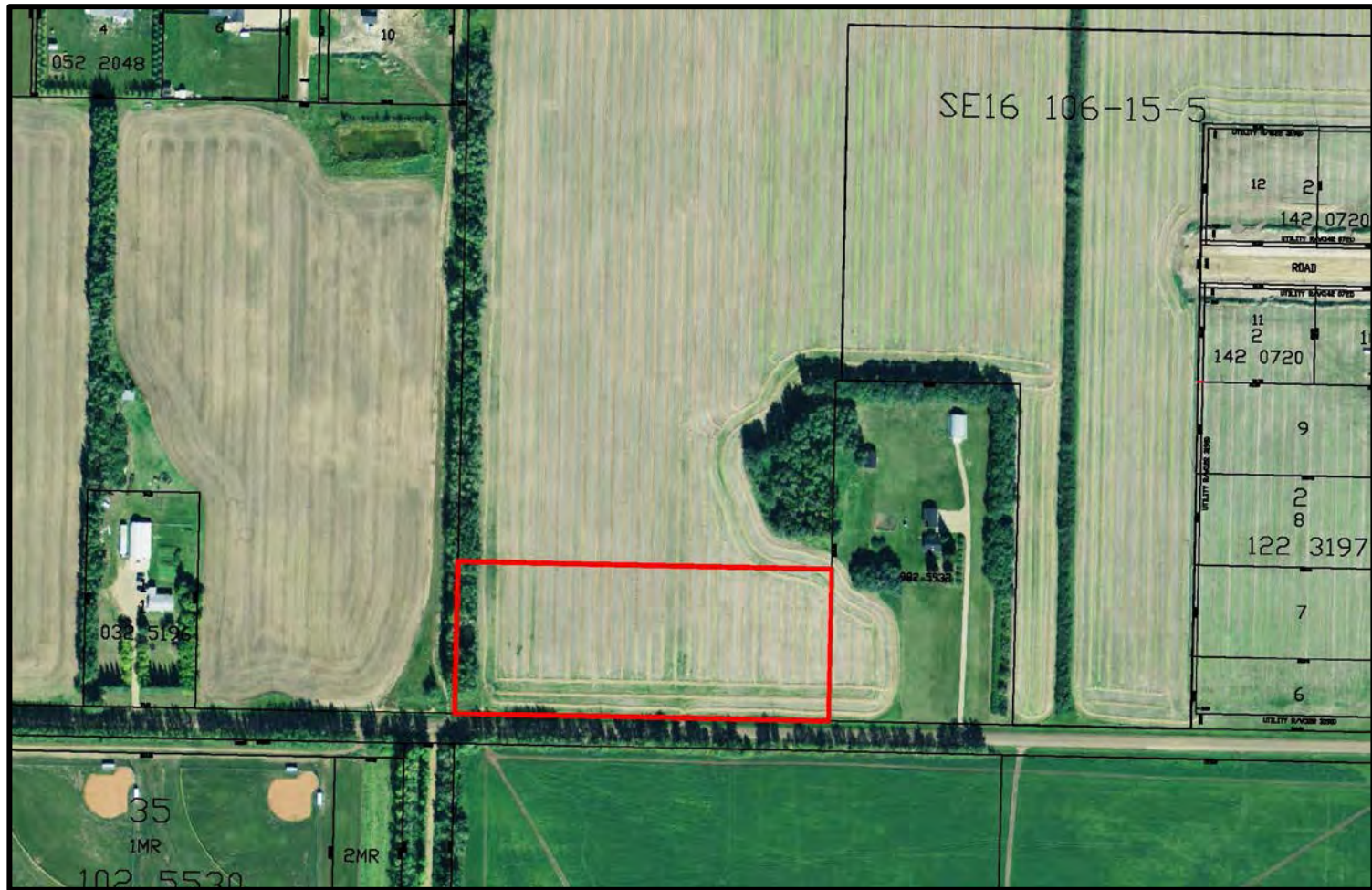
Lot 1
Blk 1
Plan
9825932

TWP RD 1062

800'

Proposed
Rezoning

BYLAW AMENDMENT APPLICATION



NOT TO SCALE

File No. Bylaw 1050-16

Disclaimer

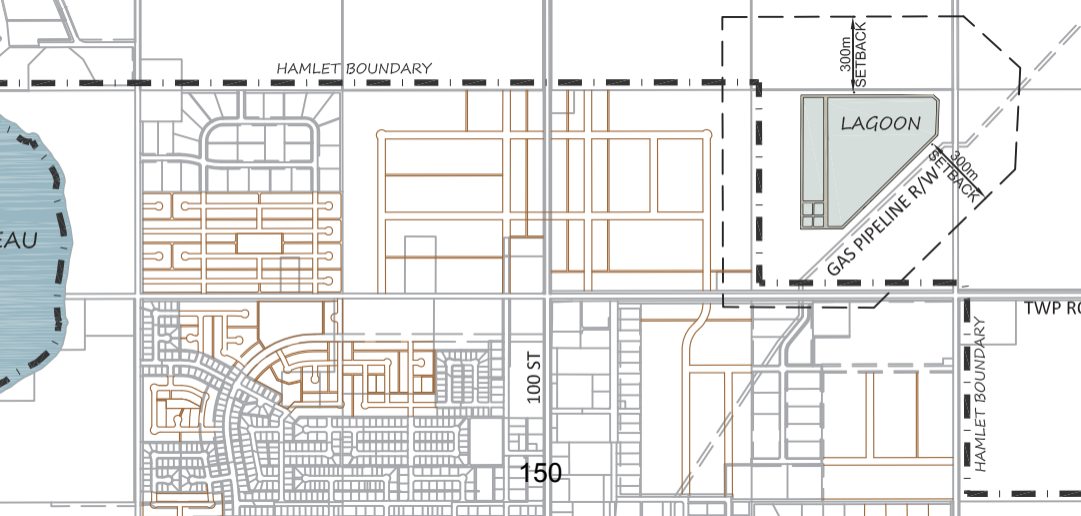
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Mackenzie County





HAMLET BOUNDARY

LAGOON

300m
SETBACK

300m
SETBACK
GAS PIPELINE R/W

EAU

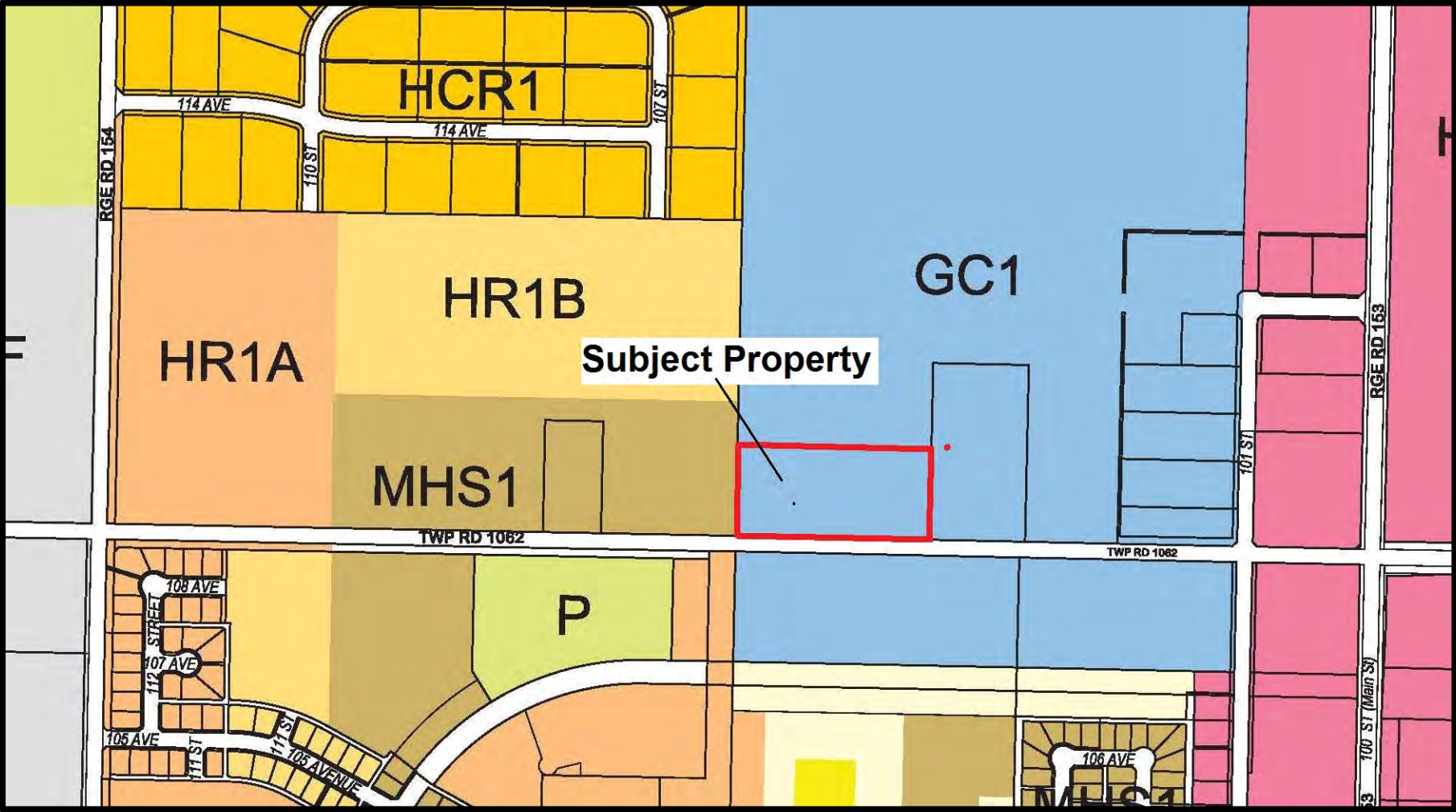
100 ST

150

HAMLET BOUNDARY

TWP RO

BYLAW AMENDMENT APPLICATION



File No. Bylaw 1050-16

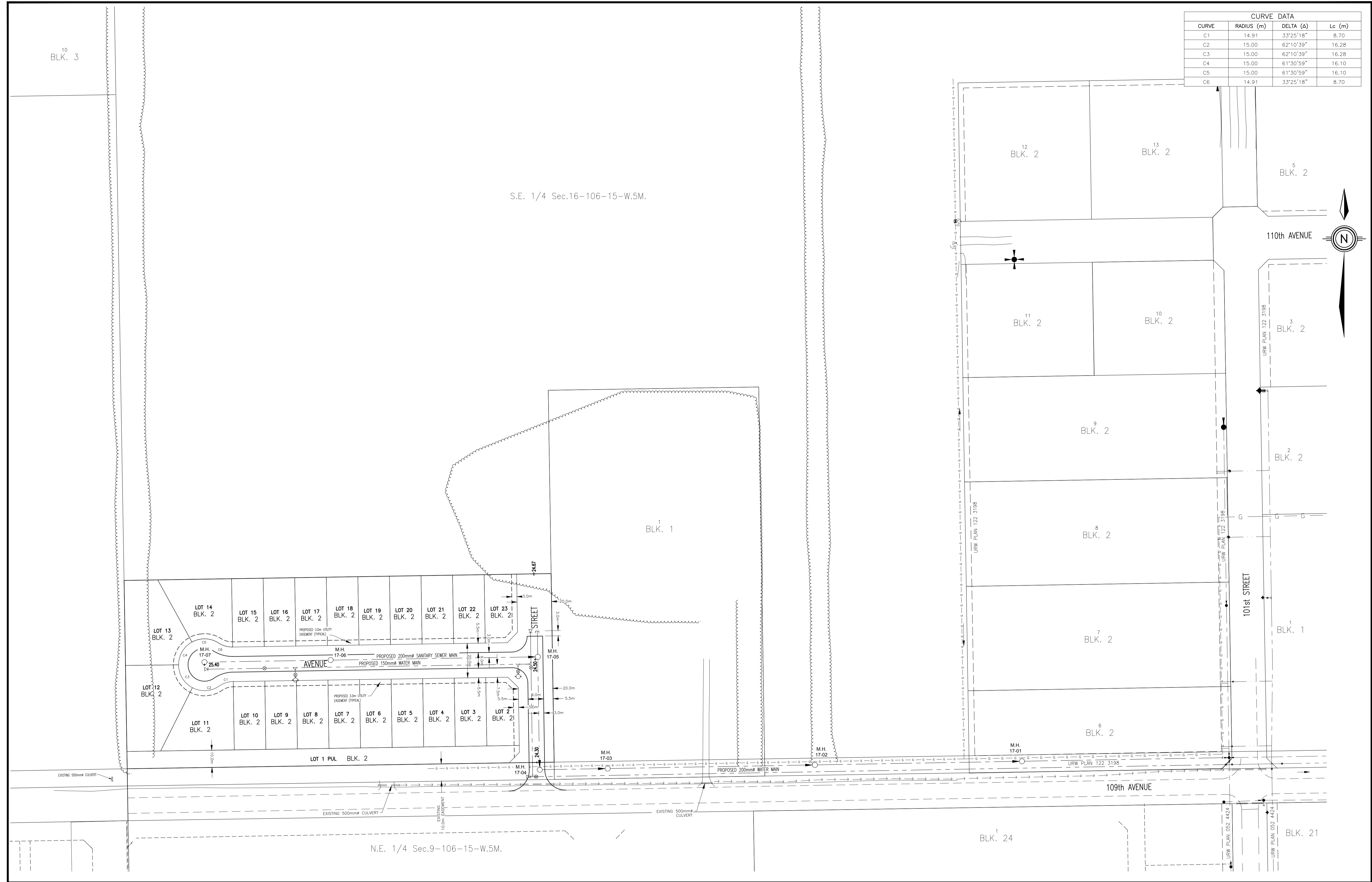
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NOT TO SCALE



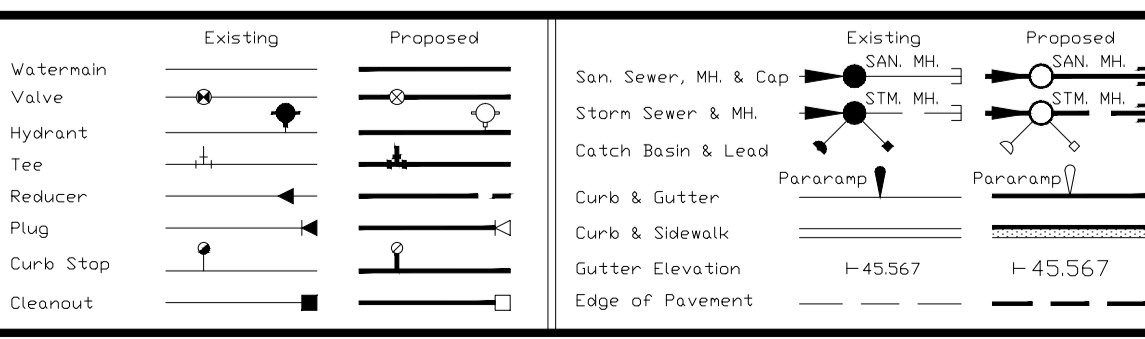
Mackenzie County

CURVE DATA			
CURVE	RADIUS (m)	DELTA (Δ)	Lc (m)
C1	14.91	33°25'18"	8.70
C2	15.00	62°10'39"	16.28
C3	15.00	62°10'39"	16.28
C4	15.00	61°30'59"	16.10
C5	15.00	61°30'59"	16.10
C6	14.91	33°25'18"	8.70



Revision	BY	APPD.	DATE
1. ISSUED FOR CLIENT & TOWN REVIEW	T.G.	J.W.	2016-09-07

PERMIT TO PRACTICE
WSP CANADA INC.
PERMIT NUMBER: P07641
 The Association of Professional Engineers,
 Geologists and Geophysicists of Alberta



WSP Canada Inc.
 P.O. Box 7786 Stn. Main
 Peace River, AB, Canada T5S 1T3
 Main: 780.624.5631
 Fax: 780.624.3732
 www.wspgroup.com

BLACKSTONE HOMES
PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISION DEVELOPMENT
MACKENZIE COUNTY, AB
OVERALL PLAN

Designed:	Scale:	Date:
J.W.	1:1000	2016/12/23
Drawn:	Project No.:	
T.G.	161-12913-00	
Checked:	Drawing No.:	Rev.:
J.W.	1 OF 4	A
Approved:		
J.W.		



Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	January 9, 2017
Presented By:	Byron Peters, Director of Planning & Development
Title:	Sandhills Road DLO750355

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

Alberta Environment is in the process of cleaning up some of their long standing unregistered uses within crown land. They have requested that the County deal with one particular unauthorized road as they feel that since the County holds an existing Department License of Occupation “DLO” that a portion of this road is on, the whole road should be the County’s responsibility.

This said road is located south of La Crete in the Sandhills area. The existing DLO750355 covers only a portion of the road that goes through the NE 29-105-15-W5. The entire road runs through six quarter sections, all owned by the crown.

This road is used mainly by three residences. Two of the residences are both located on a single large subdivided acreage created in 1992. (Administration has not been able to find development permits for either residence). This acreage has legal access (not a physical access) through a road allowance that comes up from the south along the east side of the quarter. A physical road was never built along this road allowance as the northern portion of it cuts through a low wetland area. It was easier for the residence to use the Sandhills road than build one through the wetland. The third residence is located on the SW 19-105-15-W5M. This residence has legal access off of RGE RD 160 however chooses to utilize the first 1100 meters of the unauthorized road instead of building an access through their own land.

Alberta Environment has indicated that the road should be a registered road, not a lease agreement held by the county. In order to do this, a full survey is required so that the road can be registered at Alberta Land Titles. Administration has contacted several surveying company to obtain quotes on what it would cost to survey the existing road and register it as a Registered Roadway “RRD”.

The cost vary from \$14,800 up to \$33,000.00

Author: L. Lambert **Reviewed by:** _____ **CAO:** _____

WSP Estimate cost - \$33,000.00
Midwest Surveys Inc. Estimate cost - \$20,600.00
Borderline Surveys Estimate cost - \$14,800.00

Administration has not been able to confirm, but assumes that the current Sandhills Road alignment (closely) follows the original trail from La Crete Landing to the current Hamlet of La Crete.

The existing DLOs don't make much sense to administration or the province, even when considering the landfill and other facilities that were at one time located along the road. As best anyone knows, the trail/road has always been there, with its use intensifying over the years.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

Should the County decide to take on this road and register it as a legal RRD "Registered Roadway", the County also takes on full responsibility of maintenance and possibly upgrades to the road. The majority of this road runs through crown owned land and unless crown sells this land, it is not economically feasible for the county to obtain/maintain & construct this entire road which is only beneficial for two residences.

Options that could be looked at are:

Option #1 – Cancel the existing DLO and consider looking at obtaining only a portion of RRD starting from RGE RD 160 going east along the top of the S1/2 19-105-15-W5M for 1200 meters in a straight line. This would give access to all three residences and lower the surveying costs; however, there would be the cost of constructing a road as the existing one curves northwards after 450 meters away from the top of the quarter lines.

Option # 2 – Negotiate with Alberta Environment to allow for an amendment to the existing DLO750355 "Department License of Occupation" to extend and include the entire existing road. The surveying costs would then be minimal and the road would stay as is. Should the DLO ever be canceled the entire road would have to be reclaimed and restored back to its original condition.

Option # 3 – Cancel the existing DLO, reclaim and restore it back to its original condition.

Option # 4 – Consider Alberta Environment's request to obtain the entire road as an RRD to be fully surveyed and registered at Alberta Land Titles.

Option # 5 – To accept this RFD as information.

Author: L. Lambert Reviewed by: _____ CAO: _____

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Costs vary depending on the option chosen. The 2017 operating budget could handle some of the options, while others may require an additional 2017 project.

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

N/A

COMMUNICATION:

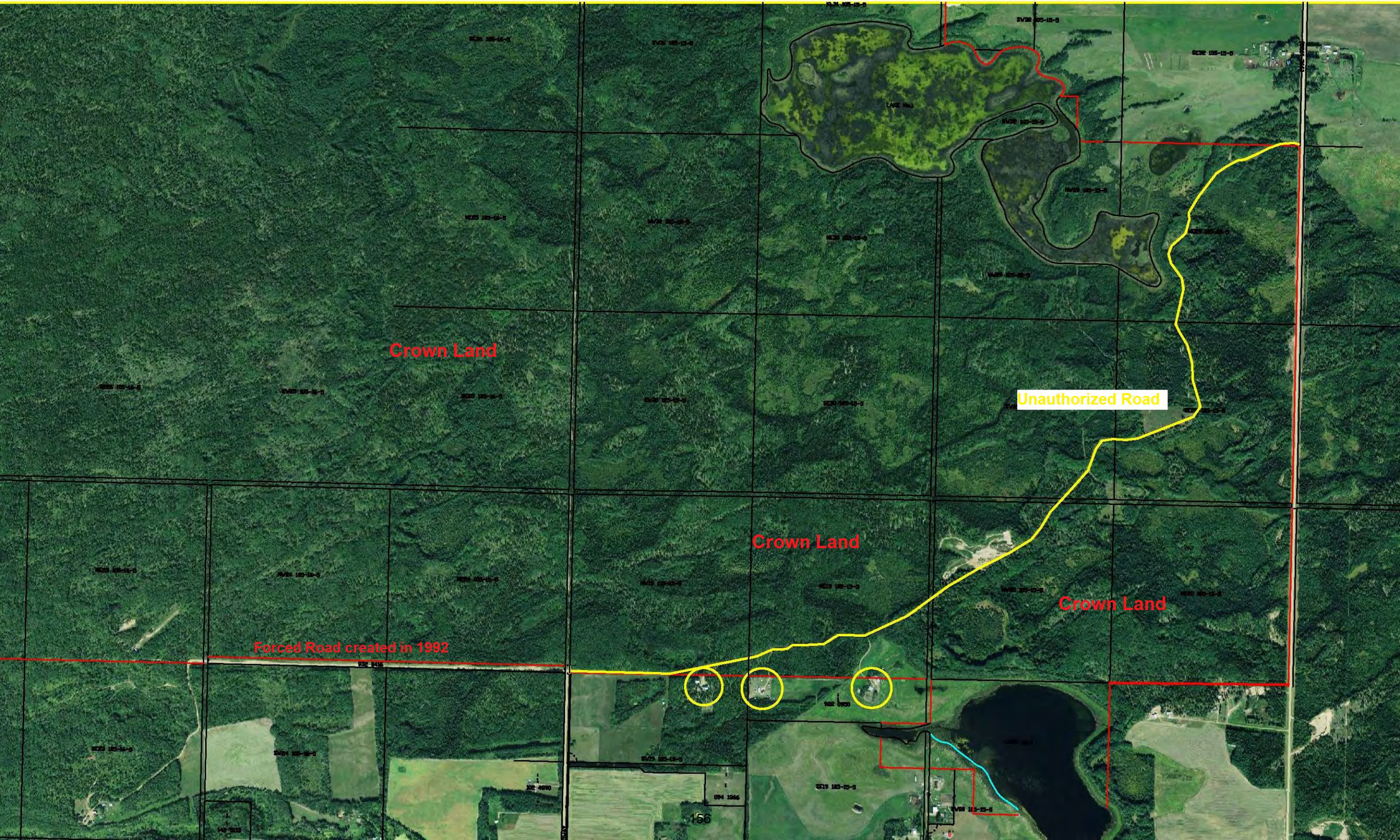
With affected landowners, as required.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

For discussion.

Author: L. Lambert Reviewed by: _____ CAO: _____



Crown Land

Unauthorized Road

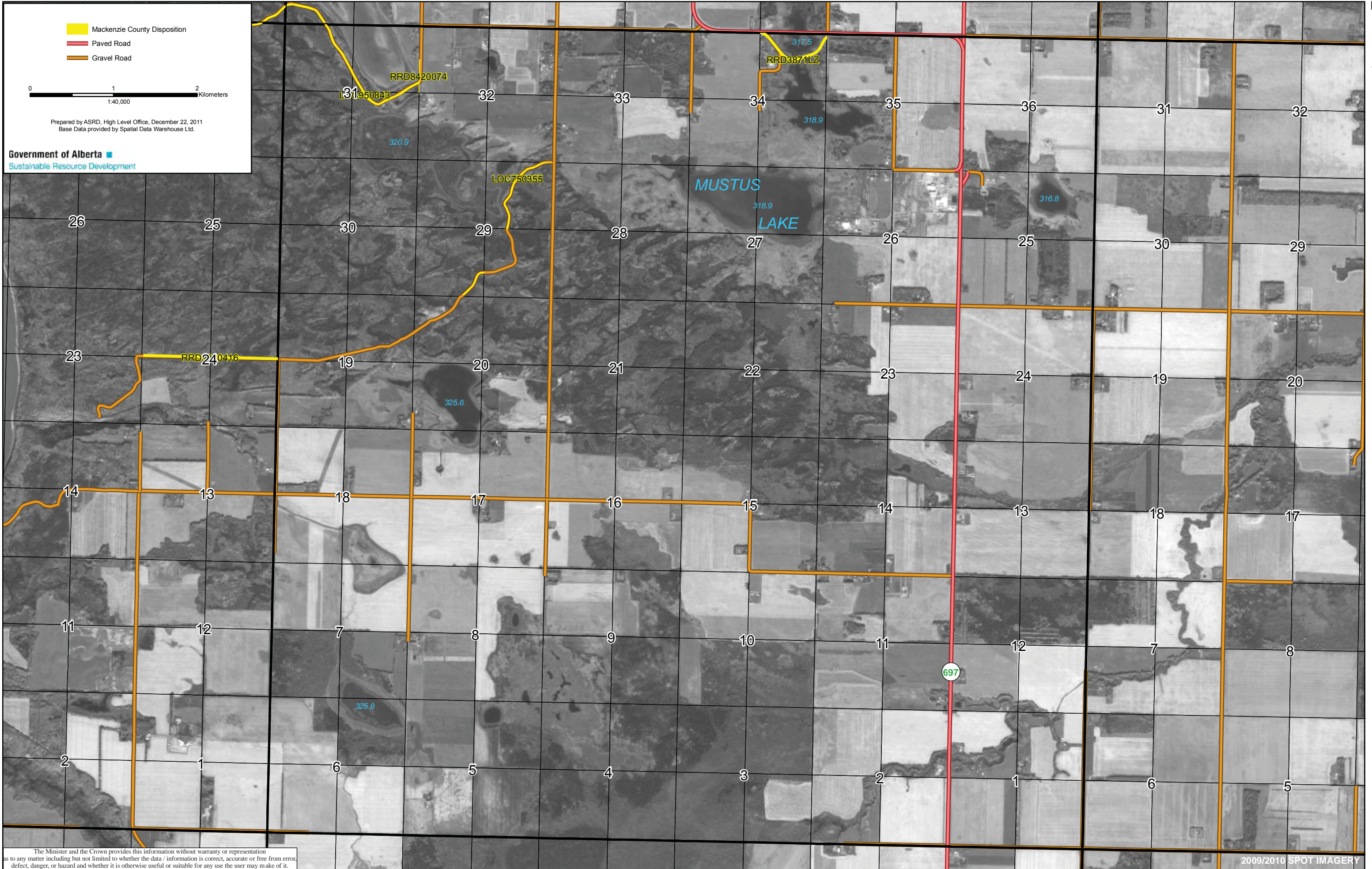
Forced Road created in 1992

Crown Land

Crown Land

156

105-15-5



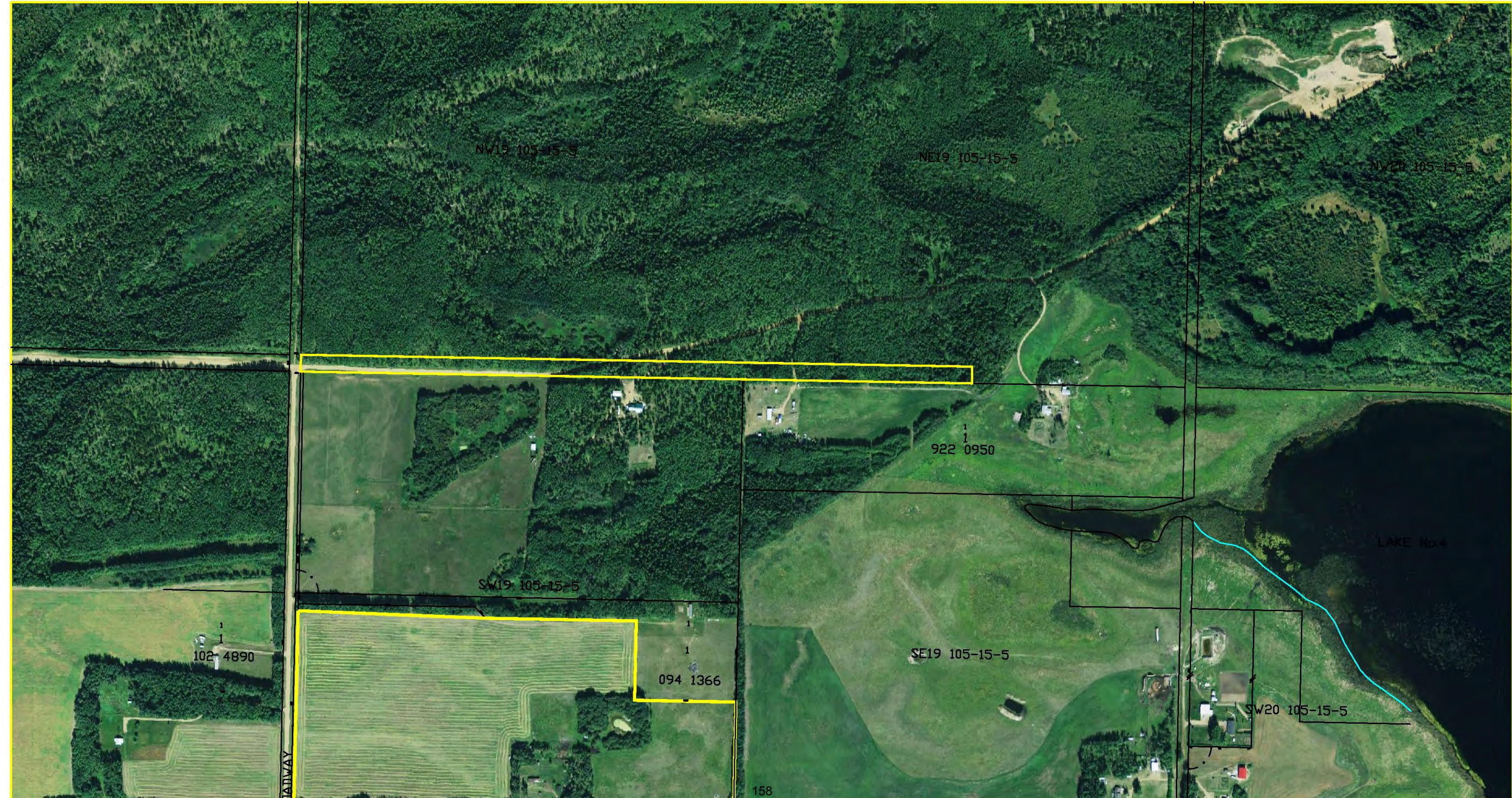
Prepared by ASRD, High Level Office, December 22, 2011
Base Data provided by Spatial Data Warehouse Ltd.

Government of Alberta
Sustainable Resource Development

The Minister and the Crown provides this information without warranty or representation as to any matter including but not limited to whether the data / information is correct, accurate or free from error, defect, danger, or hazard and whether it is otherwise useful or suitable for any use the user may make of it.

2009/2010 SPOT IMAGERY

Option # 1





Mackenzie County

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	January 9, 2017
Presented By:	Len Racher, Chief Administrative Officer
Title:	Information/Correspondence

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

The following items are attached for your information, review, and action if required.

- Correspondence – Alberta Municipal Affairs (2016 National Disaster Mitigation Program)
- Correspondence – Canada Revenue Agency (Response to Request to Increase KM Rate)
- Correspondence – Alberta Emergency Management Agency (Table Top Exercise)
- Correspondence – Alberta Order of Excellence
- Correspondence – Alberta Environment & Parks (Site Development Plans Requirement on Recreational Dispositions and for Wadlin Lake)
- Correspondence – Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission
- Correspondence – G Seven Generations Ltd. (Support for G7G Railway)
- Correspondence – Association of Alberta Registry Agents (Registries at Risk)
- Correspondence – Department of Finance Canada (Response to Request to Increase KM Rate)
- Correspondence – MP Chris Warkentin (Response to Request to Increase KM Rate)
- Correspondence – Minister of Justice and Solicitor General (Potable Water Weight Exemption & Overweight Permits)
- Correspondence – Minister of Transportation (Potable Water Weight Exemption & Overweight Permits)
- Correspondence – Sandhills Elementary School Grade One Class
- AAMDC Member Bulletin – Resolutions Deadline for Spring 2017 Convention
- Assessment Bulletin – 2016 Minister’s Guidelines for Linear Property, Machinery and Equipment, Railway, and Farm Land

Author: CG Reviewed by: CG CAO: _____

- Reynolds Mirth Richards & Farmer 2017 Annual Municipal Law Seminars
- Brownlee 2017 Annual Municipal Law Seminars
- High Level Forests Public Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
- Mackenzie Library Board Meeting Minutes
- La Crete Recreation Board Meeting Minutes

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

COMMUNICATION:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Simple Majority Requires 2/3 Requires Unanimous

That the information/correspondence items be accepted for information purposes.

Author: C. Gabriel Reviewed by: CG CAO: _____

October 26, 2016

Mr. Len Racher
Chief Administrative Officer
Mackenzie County
4511-46 Avenue
Vermilion AB T9X 1X1

Dear Mr. Racher,

Thank you for your submission for the federal 2016 National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP). We received and evaluated all submissions with technical guidance from Alberta Environment and Parks.

I am happy to inform you that we have advanced Fort Vermilion Peace River Flood Risk Assessment Project for federal consideration, and we will be submitting your application to Public Safety Canada. While moving forward, please be aware that Public Safety Canada will ultimately decide which projects are funded based on their scoring and prioritization. By the terms and conditions of the federal NDMP, projects may not be started before the grant agreements are signed. Please be advise that doing so renders projects ineligible under the program. We therefore ask that you do not initiate work until Public Safety Canada has confirmed its approval and grant agreements are signed.

We hope to share the results of Public Safety Canada's decision with you as soon as possible. If you have any questions along the way, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Shane Schreiber
Managing Director

RECEIVED
NOV 29 2016

MACKENZIE COUNTY
FORT VERMILION OFFICE



ALBERTA
SENIORS AND HOUSING

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Edmonton-Riverview*

AR42540

December 1, 2016

Mr. George Friesen
Board Chair
Mackenzie Housing Management Board
PO Box 350
La Crete AB T0H 2H0

Dear Mr. Friesen:

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me on November 29, 2016 regarding the High Level Lodge project. As Minister of Seniors and Housing, I appreciate the importance of this project to your community.

On behalf of the Government of Alberta, I am pleased to inform you that the original grant funding for the High Level Lodge project of \$11.76 million for 60 units has been replaced by a \$27 million provincial investment in a 70-unit lodge and seniors self-contained facility, which will be owned by the Alberta Social Housing Corporation. I look forward to updates on progress, and the successful completion of the High Level Lodge project.

I thank you and your board for your efforts in advancing the new seniors' facility in High Level.

Sincerely,

Lori Sigurdson
Minister of Seniors and Housing





DEC 02 2016

Mr. Bill Neufeld
Reeve
Mackenzie County
Post Office Box 640
4511 46 Avenue
Fort Vermilion AB T0H 1N0

Dear Mr. Neufeld:

On behalf of the Honourable Diane Lebouthillier, Minister of National Revenue, I thank you for your correspondence of November 24, 2016.

I assure you that the views expressed have been carefully considered. As the issues raised fall within the responsibilities of the Honourable Bill Morneau, Minister of Finance, I am sending a copy of your correspondence to his office for consideration.

Again, thank you for having taken the time to write.

Yours sincerely,

Renée Gendron
Director
Executive Correspondence and
Language Services Division

c.c.: The Honourable Bill Morneau, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Finance

RECEIVED
DEC 13 2016

MACKENZIE COUNTY
FORT VERMILION OFFICE

December 06, 2016

Mr. Lenard Racher,
Director of Emergency Management,
Mackenzie County,
PO Box 640,
Ft. Vermilion, AB T0H 1N0

Re: Table Top Exercise November 28, 2016

Len,

Thank you for the opportunity to facilitate the Table Top exercise held at the County Administrative Office on Monday November 28, 2016. The flooding scenario of the Peace River which threatened life and property in your community was a good occasion to practice the Roles and Responsibilities of County staff in your ECC during an emergency.

The exercise discussions afterward provided some excellent feedback from participants of the exercise related to the declaration of a State of Local Emergency, the need for interoperability during an event as well as other points of relevance. As always, exercise participants will be more comfortable in their roles and familiar with the various emergency plans after each exercise.

The Exercise also highlighted the good work you and your staff have done to date. Should you have any questions related to additional training and/or Government Grants, please do not hesitate to contact us.

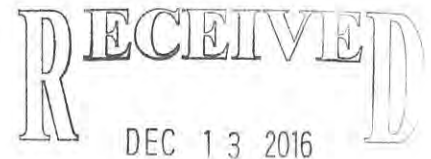
Brice and I look forward to working with Mackenzie County on future exercises, training initiatives and Emergency Management Program development and reviews.

Sincerely,

Ken Hawrylenko
Field Officer
Northwest Region
Alberta Emergency Management Agency

CC - DDEM Mr. Ron Pelensky

CC - DDEM Mr. Ron Dyck



MACKENZIE COUNTY
FORT VERMILION OFFICE



THE ALBERTA ORDER OF EXCELLENCE

December 7, 2016

*Reeve Bill Neufeld
Mackenzie County
PO Box 640
Fort Vermilion Alberta T0H 1N0*

Dear Reeve Neufeld,

The Alberta Order of Excellence is the highest honour the Province of Alberta can bestow on a citizen of this province. The Order reflects the diversity and breadth of achievement of all Albertans.

Because of your position, I trust that you might know, or know someone who knows, a remarkable Albertan in your community who has made significant contributions to the lives of other Albertans and deserves to be considered for this honour. If so, I would encourage the nomination of this person for 2017. Nominees must be Canadian citizens, live in Alberta and have made a significant contribution provincially, nationally and/or internationally.

We have updated the criteria for nomination packages in 2017. Please check the website for more information at www.lieutenantgovernor.ab.ca/aoe. The deadline for submission is February 15, 2017.

Please feel free to share this information with your colleagues.

Sincerely,

*Andrew C.L. Sims
Chair*

RECEIVED
DEC 14 2016

**MACKENZIE COUNTY
FORT VERMILION OFFICE**

December 8, 2016

Mackenzie County
P.O. Box 640, 4511-46 Ave
Fort Vermilion, AB
T0H1N0

Attention: Len Racher

RE: Site development plans requirement on recreational dispositions and for Wadlin Lake REC880027

The Government of Alberta, through Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP), is responsible for ensuring that development and use of public lands is done for the maximum benefits of all Albertans and supports the province's environmental, economic and social objectives. As such, an adequate and detailed site development plan is required for all recreational dispositions. This ensures that current or proposed activities within the disposition comply with all applicable legislation and regulations as well as meeting environmental management and stewardship principles.

Alberta Environment and Parks recognize that creating or updating site development plans takes time and resources. As such, department staff are working closely and collaboratively with all recreational disposition holders to provide assistance and guidance on the development of these plans.

As you may be aware, regional staff Courtney Hughes, Integrated Land & Biodiversity Specialist, has worked on a number of plans across the Peace Region and is a great resource for municipalities, counties and stakeholders. Together with local Approvals program staff, she has been working closely with Mackenzie County staff on drafting a site development plan for Wadlin Lake Campground - REC 880027.

It is my understanding that the County is questioning the need to continue on the Wadlin Lake development plan given that an application to purchase the land under this disposition has been submitted.

I can provide the following information:

- The Wadlin Lake Campground disposition was approved by the department based on a development plan dated December 15, 1989. The plan provided guidance with respect to the type and timing of developments to occur on the disposition recognizing the importance to balance recreational opportunities while protecting the white pelican colony from negative impacts related any development. This plan is outdated and does not reflect the current activity.

- Department staff conducted a field inspection on May 18, 2016 as the result of a public complaint regarding developments occurring on the campground. The inspection revealed that the work completed was inconsistent with the approved 1989 development plan which constituted unauthorized use under Section (47) of the *Public Lands Act*.
- Alberta Environment and Parks is willing to consider delaying the required Mackenzie County update of the site development plan for Wadlin Lake while the application to purchase is being reviewed.
- Be advised, until a revised and approved site development plan is provided, Mackenzie County will be required to obtain proper authorizations prior to any work being considered on any of the recreational dispositions, including Wadlin Lake REC880027. Failure to do so may result in compliance actions being taken.

I would like to encourage Mackenzie County to continue to work closely with the region and our local Lands Management Specialist, Tammy Proulx regarding the options above. She can be reached at 780-927-8203.

If you have questions or concerns in regards to the above, please feel free to contact myself at 780-624-6321.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Camille Ducharme', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Camille Ducharme
Approvals Manager

Cc: Tammy Proulx, Land Management Specialist
Courtney Hughes, Integrated Land & Biodiversity Specialist
Glen Gache, Regional Approvals Manager
Darcy Beach, Regional Director



Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission

December 12, 2016

Mr Lenard Racher
Chief Administrative Officer
Mackenzie County
PO Box 640
Fort Vermilion, AB
T0H 1N0

Dear Mr Racher,

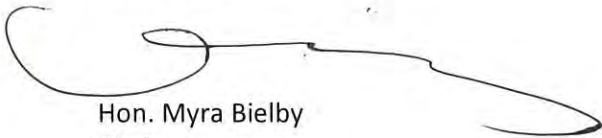
The Electoral Boundaries Commission was appointed on October 31, 2016, and is beginning its work. The next year will be spent reviewing the boundaries and names of the 87 electoral constituencies in the province, in accordance with legal requirements, including those set out in the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*. The results of this review will impact your vote in future provincial elections.

In addition to myself, as Chair, the Commission members are Gwen Day from the County of Mountain View, Laurie Livingstone of Calgary, D. Jean Munn of Calgary, and W. Bruce McLeod of Acme.

One of the most important aspects of this review is hearing from interested Albertans who wish to contribute to the redrawing of Alberta's constituency map. I encourage you to participate in this public consultation. You may participate by preparing a written submission or by making a presentation at one of the public hearings, the dates and locations of which will soon be announced. Please visit our website at abebc.ca for information as to how and when you may take part as we travel throughout the province gathering feedback on how best to update the constituency map of Alberta.

Our interim report will be submitted to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly before May 31, 2017, and our final report will be submitted by October 31, 2017. There will be an opportunity for public input again after the interim report is submitted to the Speaker.

Yours truly,



Hon. Myra Bielby
Chair

RECEIVED
DEC 22 2016

MACKENZIE COUNTY
FORT VERMILION OFFICE





Mackenzie County

P.O. Box 640, 4511-46 Avenue, Fort Vermilion, AB T0H 1N0
P: (780) 927-3718 Toll Free: 1-877-927-0677 F: (780) 927-4266
www.mackenziecounty.com
office@mackenziecounty.com

December 13, 2016

Mr. Matt Vickers
Partner/Chief Executive Officer
G Seven Generations Ltd
#505 - 3608 Deercrest Drive
North Vancouver, BC. V7G 2S8

Dear Mr. Vickers:

RE: Mackenzie County support for the G7G Railway

Mackenzie County would like to thank you for the opportunity to write in support of the Generating for Seven Generations, Ltd. (G7G) proposed railway project. This railway will unlock stranded resources, providing an outlet for all other commodities along the proposed route from Northern Alberta to Alaska.

Not only would the railway allow the access of more resources, it will also contribute to employment opportunities through the construction process and leave thousands of permanent jobs upon its completion. The railway will provide development of infrastructure and services for underserved communities by increasing and modernizing transportation routes. Majorly, a project as this offers the opportunity to reduce emissions that previously arose from the trucking and air services originally used to access some of the areas the railway would open up.

We applaud the efforts of the G7G to recognize and approach all organizations that will be influenced by this project. The collaboration and participation of the First Nations, municipalities, federal government, and industry in the development of this railway is imperative and we support your efforts.

Sincerely,

Bill Neufeld
Reeve

c: Mackenzie County Council



December-14-16

Lenard Racher
PO Box 640
Fort Vermilion Alberta T0H 1N0

Dear Mr. Racher,

Please find enclosed a detailed report on the state of our province's Registry Agent Network (RAN), titled *Registries at Risk: Challenges faced by a unique industry*. We have enclosed multiple copies so you can share this with your colleagues.

In Alberta, we are fortunate to have one of the most efficient and customer-friendly system anywhere in North America. Yet, there are challenges that seriously threaten the sustainability of the Registry Agent Network. The *Registries at Risk* report is an effort on behalf of the Association of Alberta Registry Agents (AARA) and its 208 independent registry agents to help create a better understanding of our industry, the challenges we face and - perhaps most importantly - to offer constructive, practical and cost-free solutions that will ensure the long-term viability of the registry system in Alberta.

In order to put this report together, we have spent months gathering data and speaking to Albertans. The results are clear: Albertans are overwhelmingly satisfied with their registry system because it is accessible, fair in price and incredibly efficient compared to other jurisdictions in North America. Yet, Albertans also worry about the possibility of losing their local registry office. They know how vital registry offices are to the health of their local community.

We are pleased to be participating with Service Alberta in a meaningful conversation about modernization of our industry. The *Registries at Risk* report is our way of constructively offering our point of view about where we have come from, where we currently are, and how we should proceed.

We know that small business is fundamental to driving the Alberta economy. Registry agents are part of that small business network. We encourage you to meet with registry agents that operate within your municipality or reach out to the AARA office to discuss the enclosed report further.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours truly,

Robyn Young
AARA President



**MACKENZIE COUNTY
FORT VERMILION OFFICE**



DEC 15 2016

2016FIN447588

Mr. Bill Neufeld
Reeve
Mackenzie County
4511-46 Avenue
P.O. Box 640
Fort Vermilion, AB T0H 1N0

Dear Mr. Neufeld:

We acknowledge receipt of your correspondence of November 24, 2016, which was referred by the Office of the Minister of National Revenue, the Honourable Diane Lebouthillier, to the Minister of Finance, the Honourable Bill Morneau.

Please be assured that your comments will be brought to the Minister's attention as soon as possible.

Departmental Correspondence Unit

RECEIVED
DEC 22 2016

From: chris.warkentin.a2@parl.gc.ca
To: [Office](#)
Subject: Automobile Rates
Date: December-16-16 1:31:50 PM

Ottawa, ON

December 16, 2016

Bill Neufeld

Reeve, Mackenzie County

office@mackenziecounty.com

Bill,

Thank you for copying me on your letter to the Minister of National Revenue.

I share your concerns about the impact of the new Liberal carbon tax on every facet of life in Northern Alberta. This tax unfairly punishes Canadians in rural and northern regions.

I would encourage you to share your concerns with the Minister of Finance, the Honourable Bill Morneau, as policy related issues like automobile allowance rates fall under his jurisdiction. The Canada Revenue Agency deals with the enforcement of Canada's tax regulations.

You can contact Minister Morneau through the following means:

The Honourable Bill Morneau

Minister of Finance

House of Commons

Ottawa, Ontario

K1A 0A6

Telephone: 613-992-1377

Fax: 613-992-1383

Email: bill.morneau@parl.gc.ca

Thank you again for writing to me with your concerns. If you have any further questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Chris Warkentin, MP



Mackenzie County

P.O. Box 640, 4511-46 Avenue, Fort Vermilion, AB T0H 1N0
P: (780) 927-3718 Toll Free: 1-877-927-0677 F: (780) 927-4266
www.mackenziecounty.com
office@mackenziecounty.com

December 20, 2016

The Honourable Kathleen Ganley
Minister of Justice and Solicitor General
424 Legislature Building
10800 – 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB. T5K 2B6

Dear Minister:

RE: POTABLE WATER WEIGHT EXEMPTION & OVERWEIGHT PERMITS

Mackenzie County is requesting that potable water trucks be exempted from axle weight restrictions.

In the far north, it is a constant challenge for our residents to have a consistent supply of potable water. Having a pipeline installed that would move potable water is not a feasible option with our land mass and the distance of residents throughout the County. Therefore, the only option is that ratepayers have water hauled and delivered to their houses via truck. However, the trucks can only haul a certain volume of water before they are considered overweight, causing the residents to pay for multiple trips to fill their residential water tanks.

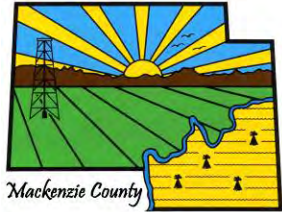
Not only are these trucks servicing residential water tanks, but they also play a part in both the County fire response, and the first response of the Town of High Level. In considering potable water be exempt from axle weight restrictions, for the interim we request yearly overweight permits be made available for purchase by all potable water haulers.

We understand that it is a difficult situation, however, your consideration of our struggles and a possible solution would be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions about this issue, please feel free to contact Mackenzie County Chief Administrative Officer Len Racher emailing lracher@mackenziecounty.com or calling (780) 927-3718.

Sincerely,

Bill Neufeld
Reeve

c: Honourable Brian Mason, Minister of Infrastructure
Mackenzie County Council



Mackenzie County

P.O. Box 640, 4511-46 Avenue, Fort Vermilion, AB T0H 1N0
P: (780) 927-3718 Toll Free: 1-877-927-0677 F: (780) 927-4266
www.mackenziecounty.com
office@mackenziecounty.com

December 20, 2016

The Honourable Brian Mason
Minister of Infrastructure
320 Legislature Building
10800 – 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB. T5K 2B6

Dear Minister:

RE: POTABLE WATER WEIGHT EXEMPTION & OVERWEIGHT PERMITS

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We understand that it is a difficult situation, however, your consideration of our struggles and a possible solution would be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions about this issue, please feel free to contact Mackenzie County Chief Administrative Officer Len Racher emailing lracher@mackenziecounty.com or calling (780) 927-3718.

Sincerely,

Bill Neufeld
Reeve

c: Honourable Kathleen Ganley, Minister of Justice and Solicitor General
Mackenzie County Council

Nov. 23, 16

Dear Mr. Racher,

Our grade one class is learning about recycling in social studies. We recycle bottles and cans at our school, and at home. In grade one, we use a lot of paper and cardboard. Can Mackenzie County please start recycling paper and cardboard? This would help us take better care of our environment.

Landon

Sincerely,

Mrs. McGean's Grade One Class
Sandhills Elementary School

Paige

Reese

Mrs. McGean

Myelle

Connor

Justin

Max

Randy

Jaydon

Luke

Trudy

Mitasha

Conto

Justin T

Karlee

Amya

Heinri.W.



Mackenzie County

P.O. Box 640, 4511-46 Avenue, Fort Vermilion, AB T0H 1N0
P: (780) 927-3718 Toll Free: 1-877-927-0677 F: (780) 927-4266
www.mackenziecounty.com
office@mackenziecounty.com

December 22, 2016

Mrs. McGean's Grade One Class
Sandhills Elementary School
P.O. Box 59
LaCrete, AB. T0H 2H0

Dear Grade One Class of Mrs. McGean

I am very excited to hear that you are all doing your part to help us take care of the environment by recycling your cans and bottles, at school and at home! Don't forget that you can also recycle your batteries from your toys, and remind your parents that they can take their old tires for recycling too!

You make an excellent point the County should start to recycle paper and cardboard. We have talked about this, and hopefully one day we will be able to have a facility where we can recycle them. You are right; it would help us take care of the environment!

I am sorry for not getting back to you, but Santa was in paying his taxes. And Santa pays in candy canes and it took a long time to count them! But now we can share with you!!

Sincerely,

Len Racher
Chief Administrative Officer

c: Mackenzie County Council

Resolutions Deadline for Spring 2017 Convention

With district meetings approaching, the AAMDC are reminding members of the important role resolutions play in guiding the association's advocacy efforts. To maximize these efforts, having well-written resolutions that are clear, concise and include pertinent information is essential.

What makes a good AAMDC resolution?

- Resolutions should address issues that are provincial in scope and not focus on local issues.
- Resolutions should influence legislative changes that will impact rural municipalities.
- The issue identified in a resolution should clearly demonstrate that the AAMDC is the best organization to advocate on moving it forward.
- The structure of resolutions is important. They **must have** a title, preamble, operative clause and member background.

What tools are available to help members draft good resolutions?

When drafting a resolution, members are encouraged to review the AAMDC's [Resolution Writing Tips](#). In addition, AAMDC staff are available to provide resolution templates and feedback on draft resolutions and the resolution writing process. Any members wishing to take advantage of this service are encouraged to contact Tasha Blumenthal, Policy Analyst, at 780.955.4094 or via email at tasha@aamdc.com.

The deadline to submit resolutions for the spring 2017 convention is **February 13, 2017**.

Complete, district-approved **resolutions meeting the above requirements MUST be emailed in a Microsoft Word format** to tasha@aamdc.com by the aforementioned deadline.

Enquiries may be directed to:

Tasha Blumenthal
Policy Analyst
780.955.4094

Kim Heyman
Director of Advocacy and Communications
780.955.4079

Assessment Bulletin

Bulletin No. 16-04
December 2016

2016 Minister's Guidelines for Linear Property, Machinery and Equipment, Railway, and Farm Land

The 2016 Minister's Guidelines for Linear Property, Machinery and Equipment, Railway, and Farm Land were approved by the Minister of Municipal Affairs on December 2016. Below are the 2016 assessment year modifiers (AYMs) and cost factors for regulated properties.

Property Type	Assessment Year Modifier	Cost Factor
Wells	1.175	
Pipelines	0.971	
Electric Power Systems	1.406	0.71
Telecommunication Carriers	1.139	0.88
Cable Distribution Undertakings	1.375	0.73
Machinery and Equipment	1.38	0.72
Railway	1.34	
Farm Land		
Dry Arable	1.000	
Dry Pasture	1.000	
Irrigated Arable	1.030	

The 2016 Minister's Guidelines with the AYMs, cost factors, and Ministerial Order are on the Municipal Affairs website at link below:

http://municipalaffairs.alberta.ca/mc_property_assessment_and_taxation_legislation.cfm

If you have any questions, please contact the Assessment Services Branch at lgsmail@gov.ab.ca, or at 780-422-1377 (toll-free from anywhere in Alberta by first dialing 310-0000) or contact:

Sheila Young, Director, Assessment & Property Tax Policy, at 780-422-8078 or by email at sheila.young@gov.ab.ca

Cate Watt, Manager, Regulated Assessment, at 780-422-8117 or by email at cate.watt@gov.ab.ca

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Government



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2017 Annual Municipal Law Seminars

3 Dates - 3 Locations

PLEASE EXTEND THIS INVITATION TO YOUR COUNCIL
& SENIOR ADMINISTRATION

Central: Friday, February 17th, 2017
Edmonton, AB
\$100 / Person

South: Friday, February 24th, 2017
Airdrie, AB
\$75 / Person

North: Friday, March 3rd, 2017
Grande Prairie, AB
\$75 / Person

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[2017 Annual Municipal Law Seminars \(/news/2016/12/2017-annual-municipal-law-seminars/\)](#)

Dec. 14, 2016 (Dec. 14, 2016, 9:57 a.m.) in [News \(/news/categories/news/\)](#), [Seminars / Educational Leadership \(/news/categories/seminars/\)](#)

FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION PLEASE CLICK [HERE](#)
(https://www.rmrf.com/media/filer_public/1b/05/1b0533c7-c328-4fa4-9f41-7dc1a2c5f4f4/registration_2017.pdf).

Central Seminar (Edmonton): Friday, February 17th, 2017

Our 32nd Annual Central Municipal Law Seminar will take place on Friday, February 17th in Edmonton. Our program will run from 8:30 AM – 3:45 PM with a casual reception to follow. Doors open at 7:45 AM. The cost to attend is \$100 per person (no GST) and includes continental breakfast, lunch, coffee breaks, post-program reception, and a materials booklet to take home. Please note advance registration is required.

Southern Seminar (Airdrie): Friday, February 24th, 2017

Our 9th Annual Southern Municipal Law Seminar will take place on Friday, February 24th in Airdrie. Our program will run from 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM. Doors open at 8:30 AM. The cost to attend is \$75 per person (no GST) and includes continental breakfast, lunch, coffee breaks, and a materials booklet to take home. Please note advance registration is required.

Northern Seminar (Grande Prairie): Friday, March 3rd, 2017

Our 22nd Annual Northern Municipal Law Seminar will take place on Friday, March 3rd in Grande Prairie. Our program will run from 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM. Doors open at 8:30 AM. The cost to attend is \$75 per person (no GST) and includes continental breakfast, lunch, coffee breaks, and a materials booklet to take home. Please note advance registration is required.

This year's topics will include:

Planning for the Future: Bill 21

RMRF, along with senior planners from ISL Engineering and Land Services Ltd., will provide a legal and practical review of the upcoming changes to planning and development under the *Modernized Municipal Government Act*. Topics covered will include inter-municipal planning, MDPs and LUB amendments. What are the changes? What do these changes mean to you, and what do you have to do to be ready and compliant?

Alberta's New Carbon Levy (Edmonton Location Only)

This session will provide an overview of the Carbon Levy and the potential impacts on your municipality.

Modernized Municipal Government Act Brings Big Changes to your Assessment (Edmonton Location Only)

Assessment and taxation is a major area of focus under the *MMGA*. Learn how the creation of Designated Industrial Property and the centralization of this assessment function could impact your municipality. What changes have been proposed in the regulations regarding assessment complaints, and the valuation of property?

Employment Issues in the Twittersverse

This session will provide a summary of recent developments in the law affecting employees and employers including criminal charges for non-consensual distribution of intimate images, invasion of privacy, protecting employees from derogatory social media posts, and disciplining employees for outside-of-the-office social media usage.

Navigating your Way Through Tricky Waters: Bankruptcy and Collection of Taxes Owing for Linear Property and Machinery and Equipment

With tough economic times comes an increase in companies filing for bankruptcy, and an increase in companies which do not pay their municipal taxes. How does the municipality fit into the bankruptcy legislation in terms of advancing its claim for taxes and arrears? Practically speaking how does the municipality collect unpaid taxes for linear property and machinery and equipment?

A more detailed agenda, which will include the seminar locations and the times of each session, will be sent to those who register.

[← Previous \(/news/2016/11/william-h-bill-hurlburt-qc-lld-hon-1927-2016/\)](/news/2016/11/william-h-bill-hurlburt-qc-lld-hon-1927-2016/)

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[May 2016 \(/news/2016/05/\)](/news/2016/05/)



HIGH LEVEL FORESTS PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday, November 29th, 2016
5pm, High Level Seniors Center

PRESENT:

Adam Norris (Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance)	Alden Armstrong (Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance)
Allen Plantinga (Tolko)	Nicolene Lawson (Norbord)
Boyd Langford (Member of Public)	Melanie Plantinga (Tolko)
Chris Mitchell (Town of Rainbow Lake)	Phil Trapton (Member of Public)
John Thurston (Hungry Bend Sandhills Society)	Cheryl Ernst (High Level & District Chamber of Commerce)
Mike Alsterlund (Member of Public)	Walter Sarapuk (MacKenzie County)
Barry Toker (Watt Mountain Wanderers)	

INFORMATION SENT:

Adam Marshall (Silvacom)	Exact Harvesting
Baptiste Metchooyeah (Dene Tha')	Fort Vermilion Heritage Center
Marissa Green (Norbord)	Fred Radersma (Norbord)
Bernie Doerksen (LaCrete Polar Cats)	Harvey Sewpagaham (LRRCN)
Beverly Noskiye (Peerless Trout First Nation)	Christine Malhmann (Agriculture & Forestry)
Carol Gabriel (Mackenzie County)	Keith Badger (Netaskinan Development)
Jon McQuinn (LRRF)	Kieran Broderick (Beaver First Nation)
Claude Duval (Watt Mnt Wanderers)	Lindee Dumas (LRRCN)
Connie Martel (Dene Tha')	Terry Jessiman (Agriculture & Forestry)
Conroy Sewepagaham (Lubicon Lake Nation)	Marilee Cranna Toews (Hungry Bend Sandhills Society)
Cory Ferguson (Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement)	Evan Gardner (Peace River Constituency)
Crystal McAteer (Town of High Level)	Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement
Dan Coombs (Agriculture & Forestry)	Sugu Thuraismy (LRRF)
Dan Fletcher (Town of Rainbow Lake)	Treetech
Mike Cardinal (Tallcree First Nation)	Tristina Macek (N'Deh Ltd. Partnership)
Aaron Doepel (LaCrete Sawmills)	Matt Marcone (Echo Pioneer)
Paul Ebert (Agriculture & Forestry)	Terry Batt (Trapper's Association)
Mike Morgan (Town of High Level)	Brent Holick (LaCrete Polar Cats)

CALL TO ORDER 5:45pm

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

- a. **Alden Armstrong – Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance (MPWA) –** Shares his background with the (MPWA). Alden has been involved with water conservation since before the “Water for Life Strategy” was created. He is working with the MPWA in their efforts to engage the public in water issues. They are fortunate to have board representation from all stakeholders. He was pleased to see the turn out for the meeting and congratulates Adam’s initiative in coming to present at the High Level Forest Public Advisory Committee Meeting.

2. ROUND TABLE

- a. **Walter Sarapuk – Mackenzie County –** It has been noted that there is some woody debris from logging being left at one of the cardlock gas stations again. Allen Plantinga will follow up with the contractors.

3. NEW BUSINESS

3.1 Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance – presentation – Adam Norris, Watershed Coordinator – See attached PDF

Question - What is the Alliance doing about farmers draining wetlands into creeks causing the runoff of pesticides into the watershed? The MPWA is a body which educates people about beneficial management practices and legislation. They also recommend policy to the government. They do not have an enforcement or reporting function.

Question - Why is the Town of High Level allowing Tolko to re-fire the burner, which emits carcinogenic particles? From his experience dealing with other groups balancing economic and environmental needs Alden appreciates that the loss of 200 jobs could have a big impact on a town the size of High Level. What happened to the co-generation facility that had been discussed in the past? Allen and Melanie were not privy to those discussions. From what David Gillespie presented last month the construction of such a facility is not financially viable at this time.

Question– is the Integrated Watershed Management Plan going to be reviewed or resubmitted periodically? The board is considering a 3year resubmission period. This would give time for public review and feedback. The targets could be measured and reported on.

Question– Are global warming and climate change being considered in the plan? Yes, they are incorporated into the models. Some of the targets and measurements relate to climate change.

3.2 Operational Harvesting Overview 2016 – 17 - Allen Plantinga (See attached)

Question – is the planned volume to harvest of 1.5million cubic meters from the presentation likely to change because of the softwood lumber discussion? Not likely. Although approximately 45% of Tolko High Level Lumber Division’s production goes to the USA, there has not been discussion about reducing deliveries. There is only the winter season to harvest the volume of timber that the mill needs to operate for the year.

Question – in the presentation FT (Full tree) hauling is mentioned, will full length trees be hauled into town? Possibly very few private wood purchases but Cut to Length (CTL) is preferred. The full length tree loads in the presentation are going to be delivered to the offsite processing yards for summer processing and mill delivery as cut to length (CTL) loads. The FT will be along bush and gravel roads and not the highways.

There will be some mountain pine beetle salvage near Keg River / Paddle Prairie for the next two years.

Question - How did the mountain pine beetle get to Alberta? Was it transported on machinery? No, it came across the Rocky Mountains on the jet stream despite efforts to create “pine beetle free zones”. How far north has it spread? It has spread in small pockets north to the Northwest Territories but not in large population.

Question – What will Tolko plant to reforest the cutblocks? Tolko is required to plant the harvested species, pine. Is there enough seed to replace the harvested pine? Yes, FMA holders in the province are required to have a minimum of 5 years supply of seed in storage in the Provincial seed storage facility.

Question – With the beetle killed pine, being harvested from near Keg River Cabins, is Tolko High Level prepared to deal with the dust which caused problems in BC mills a few years ago? Tolko is headquartered in Vernon BC and our facilities in the province that have been sawing beetle killed timber for the past number of years have been required to meet or exceed the dust control (housekeeping) standards that are have been implemented in that province. Locally we have the same standards as Tolko’s BC sawmills. The plan is to saw this beetle killed pine as soon as delivered to the mill.

Question – is mountain pine beetle established in Alberta? Are efforts to eradicate it continuing? Yes, the beetle has a pretty firm hold across the eastern slopes where there are more continuous pine forests. In the past a few cold (below -40c) days killed the bug but with the high population flight in at that time and the warmer winters it has gained a foothold.

Question – will the newly planted pine survive? Yes, we fully expect them to. Mountain pine beetle usually infest larger diameter mature trees not seedlings.

Question – did Tolko build a road to the offsite processing yard near the Blue Angel road? Yes, the road had been approved a couple years ago and the right of way was cleared but the road was finally constructed this summer. The road is approximately 3km long.

Question – what happens to the debris in the processing yards? If there is a market DMI comes and chips the tops and large branches. Anything left is pushed into piles and burned. Is there debris being burned now? Is this causing some of the smoke on the highway problems? There was some burning being done near the Hawk Hills Tower Road. The job is done so there should not be an issue there now, much of the local smoke issues near Paddle Prairie are a result of farmland being cleared and those brush piles being burnt with the end of fire season.

4. NEXT MEETING – Tuesday December 13, 2016

5. MEETING ADJOURNED – 7:40pm

**Mackenzie County Library Board
Oct 24, 2016 meeting minutes
Mackenzie County Officie, Fort Vermilion, AB**

Present: Beth Kappelar, Lisa Wardley, Lorraine Peters, Lorna Joch, LaDawn Dachuk, Irene van der Kloet, John Driedger, Lucille Labrecque, Nadia Jensen

Prior to the start of the regular MCLB meeting, a meeting was held with Fort Vermilion Library Society. Fort Vermilion Library Society was represented by Heather Batt (Chair), Sabrina Westra (Director) and Ena Simpson (Director). This meeting started at 7:09pm and ended at 9:10 pm. This was a co-boarding meeting, minutes were taken by FV Library Society.

- 1.0** Meeting called to order at 7:02pm.
Meeting paused for meeting with FV Library Society at 7:09pm.
Meeting resumed at 9:17pm
- 2.0 Approval of agenda:**
MOTION #2016-09-01 John moved to approve the agenda with additions. **CARRIED**
- 3.0 Approval of the minutes:**
MOTION #2016-09-02 Lisa moved to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2016 meeting with amendments. **CARRIED**
- 4.0 Review of Action Items:**
- The action items of the previous MCLB meeting were reviewed.
- 5.0 Financial:**
MCLB Financial Report as of 2016:
- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| - Balance brought forward: | \$ 64,033.46 |
| - Total Revenues: | \$ 293,242.73 |
| - Total Expenses: | \$ 269,313.39 |
| - Ending Bank Balance: | \$ 87,962.80 |
- MOTION #2016-09-03** Lucille moves to accept the financial report as presented. **CARRIED**
- 6.0 Library/Committee reports**
- 6.1 La Crete**
Salmon grill Nov 5th. Volunteers to come in at 4:30. If you are not serving, there is no dress code (just be clean).
A new part time library assistant has been hired, a janitor has been hired and an “as-needed” snow removal person was hired.
They have a pay-grid in place.
426 new memberships since July 5th (opening of the new library).
On the Grand Opening Day, 1008 books were checked out.
Ordered a new dropbox as the current one was too small.
The money donated by Mackenzie County for the move has been used, a big “thank you” to Mackenzie County.
They received a \$600 donation from ATCO for electronic equipment.
They had a work bee in which they processed all new books.

- 6.2 Fort Vermilion**
They are in the process of hiring a new person for the assistant position. They will contact Scott Elias for a First Aid course, which is a partnership with the Mackenzie Coalition for Early Childhood Development (MCECD). Financials were reviewed by FVCLS and MCLB.
- 6.3 Zama**
One staff person on medical leave, another took over her tasks. Library is now on Pinterest and Instagram. They are in the process of having student-helpers to help out. “adopt-a-shelf” project: each child is responsible for cleaning a part of a shelf, rotating system through library so eventually all shelves are covered. Positive side effect is that they “discover” more books in the library.
- 6.4 High Level**
Beth, Lisa and Irene met with HL Library Society on October 18 regarding the services provided by HL Library Society to High Level rural residents.
- 6.5 MCLC**
The MCLC report was shared.
- 7.0 Old business**
- 7.1 Plan of Service**
Tabled to Nov 21, 2016.
- 7.2 Blue Hills Satellite Location**
Will need to re-assess how to make this happen.
- 7.3 Local author**
No updates, remove from agenda.
- 7.4 Library Service Agreements**
There is a draft, Lisa will mail it out to the Societies.
MOTION #2016-09-04 Irene moves to approve the draft Library Service Agreements.
CARRIED
- 7.5 MCLB appointments**
Nadia Jensen and Lorna Joch applied for a new term.
- 8.0 New Business**
- 8.1 Budget**
The budget was reviewed.
MOTION #2016-09-05 Lorna moved to approve the budget request and send it to the County.
CARRIED
- 8.2 World Book Online and Zinio subscription pricing**
World Book Online will open a world of books and costs between \$627 - 1000/year.
MOTION #2016-09-06 Lucille moves to acquire World Book Online at a maximum price of \$1,000.
CARRIED
- Zinio offers online magazines and audio books, it is pretty much an “a la carte” system to which other features can easily be added. Price around \$2,000.00.

MOTION #2016-09-07 LaDawn moves that MCLB acquires Zinio for a maximum of \$2,000. **CARRIED**

8.3 Library Ideas

MOTION #2016-09-08 Nadia moves to renew Library Ideas until March 2017. **CARRIED**

9.0 Correspondence

A letter from the Province requesting a submission of Excellence in Library Services was accepted for information.

10.0 Adjournment

MOTION #2016-09-09 John moves to adjourn the meeting at 11:55pm. **CARRIED**

Next meeting November 21 at 6:00pm at the Mackenzie County Office in Fort Vermilion.

These minutes were adopted this 21st day of November, 2016.

Beth Kappelar, Chair



LA CRETE RECREATION SOCIETY
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 10, 2016

Northern Lights Recreation Centre
La Crete, Alberta

Present: Ken Derksen, President
Simon Wiebe, Vice President
Wendy Morris, Secretary-Treasurer
Shawn Wieler, Director
Ken Derksen, Director
Peter Wiebe, Director
Keegan Wood, Director
John Zacharias, Director
Peter F. Braun, County Rep
Philip Doerksen, Arena Manager

Absent: George Derksen, Director
Dave Schellenberg, Director

Call to Order: President Ken Derksen called the meeting to order at 5:57 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

1. Add Lobby Entrance Doors, 8.2.
2. Add banking, 8.3

Shawn Wieler moved to approve the agenda as amended.

CARRIED

Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes

Simon Wiebe moved to accept the October 13, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

CARRIED

Business from the Minutes

1. Briefly discussed curling interest in the community.

Review of Action Sheet

1. Reviewed items.
2. Discussed progress with outdoor rink committees.

Financial Report

1. Reviewed financials

John Zacharias moved to accept financials as presented.

CARRIED

Manager's Report – Philip Doerksen

1. Philip presented the Manager's Report.
 2. A lot of fixing of little things since the building is aging.
- Keegan Wood moved to accept the Manager's Report as amended.

CARRIED

New Business

8.1 Splash Park – Henry Froese has expressed an interest in putting a Splash Park in at Knelsen's Park. Discussion as to location. (Why Knelsen's Park as opposed to Jubilee or Reinland?) Rec board had questions that could not be answered. Philip is going to talk to Henry and get more information and/or a proposal.

8.2 Entrance Doors- Philip wants to get rid of the beam between the Entrance Doors so that he can bring big items into the arena more easily. Estimated cost is \$2300. Rec board discussed the idea. Philip will look into other options.

8.3 Banking – Philip was approached by Vision Credit Union with a banking proposal to switch from ATB. A representative from the bank is willing to come to a meeting a talk to the board if interested.

Peter Braun moved to go in camera at 6:37 p.m.

Keegan Wood moved to go out of camera at 6:39 p.m.

Wendy Morris moved that the meeting be adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

Next Meeting: December 15, 2015