

**MACKENZIE COUNTY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**Thursday, March 26, 2009
4:00 p.m.**

**Council Chambers
Fort Vermilion, Alberta**

AGENDA

			Page
CALL TO ORDER:	1.	a) Call to Order	
AGENDA:	2.	a) Adoption of Agenda	
ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:	3.	a) Minutes of the March 10, 2009 Regular Council Meeting	9
BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES:	4.	a) b)	
DELEGATIONS:	5.	a) La Crete Swimming Pool Committee – 5:30 p.m. b)	
GENERAL REPORTS:	6.	a) Municipal Planning Commission Meeting Minutes – February 25, 2009 b)	25
PUBLIC HEARINGS:	7.	a) None	
TENDERS:	8.	a) La Crete Administration Building – 4:00 p.m. Foothills 2,644,755.00 b) Balon Const. 2,963,755.00 Kor Alta Const. 6,000,000.00	
COUNCIL COMMITTEE, CAO AND DIRECTORS	9.	a) None	

Roy Wiebe / Anthony Thiessen.

- previously requested feasibility study,
- completed study
- presentation by RC Strategys
- Randy Comad.

REPORTS:**CORPORATE SERVICES:**

- | | | | |
|-----|----|---|----|
| 10. | a) | Bylaw 709/09 Municipal Heritage Resource Designation (The Old Bay House Legally Described as Lot 01, Block 01, Plan 3383ET in the Hamlet of Fort Vermilion) | 35 |
| | b) | Request to Waive Penalties Charged on Arrear Taxes | 43 |
| | c) | Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) – AUMA Request | 47 |
| | d) | La Crete Trade Show | 57 |
| | e) | Persons with Developmental Disabilities Northwest Spring Celebration and Awards Night | 61 |
| | f) | Special Events | 65 |
| | g) | Request for Letter of Support – Northern Lights Gas Co-op (Community Broadband Infrastructure Program) | 67 |
| | h) | | |
| | i) | | |

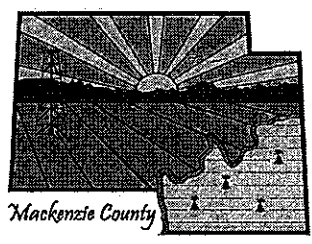
OPERATIONAL SERVICES:

- | | | | |
|-----|----|--|----|
| 11. | a) | Fort Vermilion Fuel Tank | 71 |
| | b) | Beaver Control Methods (ADDITION) | |
| | c) | | |

PLANNING, EMERGENCY, AND ENFORCEMENT SERVICES:

- | | | | |
|-----|----|---|----|
| 12. | a) | Bylaw 708/09 Subdivision Plan Cancellation Part of NW 1-106-15-W5M (Plan 082 1385, Block 1, Lot 1) (La Crete) | 79 |
| | b) | Urban Development Standards Policy DEV001 | 85 |
| | c) | Request to Waive a Fire Invoice – Jackie Bateman | 91 |
| | d) | Request to Waive an Ambulance Invoice – Johan Wolf | 95 |

- e)
- f)
- INFORMATION / CORRESPONDENCE:** 13. a) Information/Correspondence Items 99
- IN CAMERA SESSION:** 14. a) Personnel
- b) Special Projects
- c) Legal
- d) Inter-municipal Relations
- e) CO₂ EOR Negotiations
- f) AUPE Negotiations
- g) **Vanguard Realty Ltd., Municipal Reserve NW 9-106-15-W5M (ADDITION)**
- h)
- i)
- NEXT MEETING DATE:** 15. a) Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, April 7, 2009
10:00 a.m.
Council Chambers, Fort Vermilion, AB
- ADJOURNMENT:** 16. a) Adjournment



MACKENZIE COUNTY REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	March 26, 2009
Presented By:	William Kostiw, Chief Administrative Officer
Title:	Minutes of the March 10, 2009 Regular Council Meeting

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

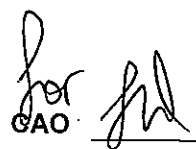
Minutes of the March 10, 2009 Regular Council meeting are attached.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the minutes of the March 10, 2009 Regular Council meeting be adopted as presented.

Author: C. Gabriel **Review by:** 

**MACKENZIE COUNTY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**Tuesday, March 10, 2009
10:00 am**

**Council Chambers
Fort Vermilion, Alberta**

PRESENT: Greg Newman Reeve
Peter Braun Deputy Reeve
Dicky Driedger Councillor
Ed Froese Councillor
Bill Neufeld Councillor
Walter Sarapuk Councillor
Ray Toews Councillor
Lisa Wardley Councillor
Stuart Watson Councillor

ABSENT: John W. Driedger Councillor

ADMINISTRATION: William (Bill) Kostiw Chief Administrative Officer
Joulia Whittleton Director of Corporate Services
Ryan Becker Director of Planning & Emergency Services
Carol Gabriel Executive Assistant

ALSO PRESENT:

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting for Mackenzie County held on March 10, 2009 at the Council Chambers in Fort Vermilion, Alberta.

CALL TO ORDER: 1. a) Call to Order

Reeve Newman called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

AGENDA: 2. a) Adoption of Agenda

MOTION 09-03-165 MOVED by Deputy Reeve Braun

That the agenda be adopted with the addition of :
10. f) Letter of Support for Grant Application (Fort Vermilion Agricultural Society)
11. c) Beaver Control

CARRIED

**ADOPTION OF
PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

3. a) Minutes of the February 25, 2009 Regular Council Meeting

MOTION 09-03-166

MOVED by Councillor Watson

That the minutes of the February 25, 2009 Regular Council meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

**BUSINESS ARISING
OUT OF THE
MINUTES:**

4. b) Airports

MOTION 09-03-167

MOVED by Councillor Wardley

That Deputy Reeve Braun be added to the airport committee established in motion 09-02-160.

CARRIED

4. a) Regional Service Sharing Agreement Between Mackenzie County and the Town of High Level

MOTION 09-03-168

MOVED by Councillor Watson

That Council approve the Regional Service Sharing Agreement between Mackenzie County and the Town of High Level in principle and authorize the committee to finalize the negotiations on the Schedules.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

GENERAL REPORTS:

6. a) Agricultural Service Board Meeting Minutes – January 19, 2009

MOTION 09-03-169

MOVED by Councillor Sarapuk

That the Agricultural Service Board meeting minutes for January 19, 2009 be received for information.

CARRIED

6. b) Mackenzie Housing Management Board Meeting Minutes – January 26, 2009

MOTION 09-03-170

MOVED by Councillor Neufeld

That the Mackenzie Housing Management Board meeting minutes of January 26, 2009 be received for information.

CARRIED

**6. c) Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes –
January 29, 2009**

MOTION 09-03-171

MOVED by Councillor Wardley

That the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting minutes of January 29, 2009 be received for information.

CARRIED

**6. d) Municipal Planning Commission Meeting Minutes –
February 9, 2009**

MOTION 09-03-172

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Braun

That the Municipal Planning Commission meeting minutes of February 9, 2009 be received for information.

CARRIED

TENDERS:

8. a) None

**COUNCIL
COMMITTEE, CAO
AND DIRECTORS
REPORTS:**

9. a) Council Committee Reports

Councillor Neufeld reported on regional water meeting and the Agriculture Service Board meeting.

Councillor Froese reported on AAMD&C zone meeting, Arctic Gas Symposium and the Emerging Trends Law Seminar.

Councillor Sarapuk reported on the Regional Economic Development Initiative, Community Futures 20th Anniversary, and the Northern Lights Forest Education Society.

Reeve Newman reported on regional water meeting and the meeting with Tolko.

Deputy Reeve Braun reported on the Emerging Trends Law Seminar and the Regional Economic Development Initiative Needs teleconference.

Councillor Watson reported on regional water meeting and the Town of High Level negotiations.

Councillor Wardley reported on the insurance workshop, Partners in Prevention, Parks & Recreation Committee, Zama Recreation Board, meeting with Apache, and final inspection of Zama water treatment plant.

Councillor Toews reported on the Subdivision & Development Appeal Board hearing, Parks & Recreation Committee, meeting with Alberta Health Services (Rural and Community Health).

Councillor D. Driedger reported on the Emerging Trends Law Seminar, Regional Economic Development Initiative and the Agriculture Service Board.

MOTION 09-03-173

MOVED by Councillor Sarapuk

That the Council verbal reports be accepted for information.

CARRIED

Reeve Newman recessed the meeting at 11:01 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 11:11 a.m.

9. b) CAO and Directors Reports

MOTION 09-03-174

MOVED by Councillor Neufeld

That the Chief Administrative Officer and Directors reports be received for information.

CARRIED

**CORPORATE
SERVICES:**

10. a) 2008 Capital Projects

MOTION 09-03-175
(requires 2/3)

MOVED by Councillor Sarapuk

That administration be authorized to fund the \$250,000 overage for the Fort Vermilion 45th Street and Mackenzie Housing Project from the 2008 AMIP grant.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 09-03-176
(requires 2/3)

MOVED by Councillor Watson

That administration be authorized to fund the \$49,426 overage for the La Crete 109 Avenue Storm Sewer project from the 2008 SIP (\$35,148) and the Road Reserve (\$11,778).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 09-03-177
(requires 2/3)

MOVED by Councillor Wardley

That administration be authorized to fund the \$157,378 overage for the Zama Access Road Project from the Road Reserve.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION 09-03-178

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Braun

That the 2008 capital projects summary be received for information.

CARRIED

Reeve Newman recessed the meeting at 12:05 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 12:57 p.m.

DELEGATIONS:

5. a) RCMP – 1:10 p.m.

MOTION 09-03-179

MOVED by Councillor Froese

That the RCMP report by Sgt. Wade Trottier be received for information.

CARRIED

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

7. a) **Bylaw 701/09 Land Use Bylaw Amendment to Vary Minimum Hamlet Country Residential Lot Sizes of SE 10-106-15-W5M (La Crete)**

Reeve Newman called the public hearing for Bylaw 701/09 to order at 1:05 p.m.

Reeve Newman asked if the public hearing for proposed Bylaw 701/09 was properly advertised. Ryan Becker, Director of Planning & Emergency Services, answered that the bylaw was

advertised in accordance with the Municipal Government Act.

Reeve Newman asked the Development Authority to outline the proposed land use bylaw amendment. Ryan Becker, Director of Planning & Emergency Services, presented the Development Authority's submission and indicated that first reading was given on February 10, 2009.

Reeve Newman asked if Council has any questions of the proposed land use bylaw amendment. There were no questions.

Reeve Newman asked if any submissions were received in regards to proposed Bylaw 701/09. No submissions were received.

Reeve Newman asked if there was anyone present who would like to speak in regards to the proposed Bylaw 701/09. Frank Goertzen, landowner, was present and spoke in support of the proposed Bylaw. Mr. Goertzen indicated that the proposed design was part of the Area Structure Plan and the water and sewer servicing was designed using this lot layout.

Reeve Newman closed the public hearing for Bylaw 701/09 at 1:12 p.m.

MOTION 09-03-180

MOVED by Councillor Neufeld

That second reading be given to Bylaw 701/09 being a Land Use Bylaw amendment granting a variance of the minimum lot sizes within SE 10-106-15-W5M in order to allow the subdivision of lots smaller than 2 acres (0.81 hectares) in size, as shown in the La Crete Area Structure Plan (Bylaw 508/05), with the understanding that the Municipal Planning Commission will make the decision on the subdivision application(s) after review of all pertinent subdivision information.

CARRIED

MOTION 09-03-181

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Braun

That third reading be given to Bylaw 701/09 being a Land Use Bylaw amendment granting a variance of the minimum lot sizes within SE 10-106-15-W5M in order to allow the subdivision of lots smaller than 2 acres (0.81 hectares) in size, as shown in the La Crete Area Structure Plan (Bylaw 508/05), with the understanding that the Municipal Planning Commission will make the decision on the subdivision application(s) after review of all pertinent

subdivision information.

CARRIED

7. b) Bylaw 702/09 Land Use Bylaw Amendment to Rezone Part of NE 17-106-15-W5M, Plan 012 1021, Block 1, Lot 1 and Plan 0420507, Block 1, Lots 3 through 9 from Rural Country Residential District 2 "RC2" to Rural Country District 1 "RC1" (La Crete Rural)

Reeve Newman called the public hearing for Bylaw 702/09 to order at 1:13 p.m.

Reeve Newman asked if the public hearing for proposed Bylaw 702/09 was properly advertised. Ryan Becker, Director of Planning & Emergency Services, answered that the bylaw was advertised in accordance with the Municipal Government Act.

Reeve Newman asked the Development Authority to outline the proposed land use bylaw amendment. Ryan Becker, Director of Planning & Emergency Services, presented the Development Authority's submission and indicated that first reading was given on February 10, 2009.

Reeve Newman asked if Council has any questions of the proposed land use bylaw amendment. There were no questions.

Reeve Newman asked if any submissions were received in regards to proposed Bylaw 702/09. No submissions were received.

Reeve Newman asked if there was anyone present who would like to speak in regards to the proposed Bylaw 702/09. No one was present to speak to the bylaw.

Reeve Newman closed the public hearing for Bylaw 702/09 at 1:16 p.m.

MOTION 09-03-182

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Braun

That second reading be given to Bylaw 702/09 being a Land Use Bylaw Amendment to rezone Part of NE 17-106-15-W5M, Plan 012 1021, Block 1, Lot 1 and Plan 042 0507, Block 1, Lots 3 through 9 from Rural Country Residential District 2 "RC2" to Rural Country Residential District 1 "RC1".

CARRIED

MOTION 09-03-183

MOVED by Councillor Froese

That third reading be given to Bylaw 702/09 being a Land Use Bylaw Amendment to rezone Part of NE 17-106-15-W5M, Plan 012 1021, Block 1, Lot 1 and Plan 042 0507, Block 1, Lots 3 through 9 from Rural Country Residential District 2 "RC2" to Rural Country Residential District 1 "RC1".

CARRIED

**OPERATIONAL
SERVICES:**

11. a) County's Infrastructure Plan

MOTION 09-03-184

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Braun

That the infrastructure plan be tabled to the planning session.

CARRIED

MOTION 09-03-185

MOVED by Councillor Watson

That the Building Canada Fund be added to the agenda.

CARRIED

11. b) County's Regravelling Program for 2009

MOTION 09-03-186

MOVED by Councillor Sarapuk

That administration bring back the regravelling contract as discussed.

CARRIED

11. c) Beaver Control (ADDITION)

MOTION 09-03-187

MOVED by Councillor Sarapuk

That administration look into beaver control in other municipalities.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. b) La Crete Community Library

MOTION 09-03-188

MOVED by Reeve Newman

That a letter of support be sent for the La Crete Community Library Major Community Enhancement Program application and that the County's financial contribution be determined upon reviewing of all options.

CARRIED

10. c) March 26, 2009 Regular Council Meeting

MOTION 09-03-189

MOVED by Councillor Wardley

That the March 26, 2009 Council meeting be received for information.

CARRIED

10. d) Ratepayer Meetings

MOTION 09-03-190

MOVED by Councillor Wardley

That the 2009 annual ratepayer meetings and barbeque be held as follows:

- June 9, 2009 – Fort Vermilion
- June 17, 2009 – High Level Rural
- June 18, 2009 – La Crete
- June 23, 2009 – Zama

CARRIED

MOTION 09-03-191

MOVED by Councillor Wardley

That the Zama Water Treatment Plant grand opening be held on June 23, 2009 and that appropriate Ministers be invited.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. e) La Crete Agricultural Society – Letter of Support Request

MOTION 09-03-192

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Braun

That a letter of support be provided to the La Crete Agricultural Society in order to assist in obtaining provincial financial assistance for reducing the Society's debt.

CARRIED

10. f) Letter of Support for Grant Application (Fort Vermilion Agricultural Society) (ADDITION)

MOTION 09-03-193

MOVED by Councillor Toews

That Mackenzie County nominate the Fort Vermilion Agriculture Society for the Aboriginal Quality of Life Award.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Reeve Newman recessed the meeting at 2:30 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 2:42 p.m.

10. g) Building Canada Fund (ADDITION)

MOTION 09-03-194
(Requires Unanimous)

MOVED by Councillor Wardley

That Mackenzie County submit an application under the Building Canada Fund program for the Zama Access road project.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**PLANNING,
EMERGENCY, AND
ENFORCEMENT
SERVICES:**

12. a) Urban Development Standards Policy (DEV001)

MOTION 09-03-195

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Braun

That Policy DEV001 Urban Development Standards be tabled for further review by administration.

CARRIED

12. b) 10-SUB-05 Abe U. and Susan Banman (Buffalo Lake Estates)

MOTION 09-03-196

MOVED by Councillor Wardley

That the 10-SUB-05 Abe U. and Susan Banman be received for information.

CARRIED

12. c) Zama Residential Subdivision Development

MOTION 09-03-197

MOVED by Councillor Wardley

That Council adopts the East Zama City Outline Plan as presented.

CARRIED

MOTION 09-03-198

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Braun

That a request for proposals from interested developers for the Zama Residential Subdivision Development be issued.

CARRIED

12. d) Municipal Development Plan and Land Use Bylaw Project

MOTION 09-03-199
(requires 2/3)

MOVED by Councillor Froese

That the Municipal Development Plan and Land Use Bylaw 2008 carried forward project funding be amended as follows:

CURRENT (already in budget)	
Municipal Sponsorship Grant	\$ 52,900
Reserves	\$ 44,400
Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI)	\$ 47,100
ADDITIONAL PROPOSED (add to the budget):	
Apply unused 2008 MSI funds	\$ 29,877
Transfer from: Country Residential Study(reserves)	\$ 20,700
	(2008 code 6-61-30-51-***)
Transfer from: Zama Subdivision project (reserves)	\$ 26,758
	(2008 code 6-61-30-01-***)
Total New Budget	\$221,735

CARRIED

**INFORMATION /
CORRESPONDENCE:**

13. a) Information/Correspondence Items

MOTION 09-03-200

MOVED by Councillor Watson

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

CARRIED

MOTION 09-03-201

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Braun

That Council representatives discuss with REDl the possibility of

them taking over the tourism promotion for the region.

CARRIED

MOTION 09-03-202

MOVED by Councillor Wardley

That the County meet with AAMD&C representatives on May 27, 2009 at 2:30 p.m.

CARRIED

IN CAMERA SESSION:

MOTION 09-03-203

MOVED by Councillor Sarapuk

That Council move in-camera to discuss issues under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Regulations 18 (1) at 3:26 p.m.

- 14. a) Personnel
- 14. b) Special Projects
- 14. c) Legal
- 14. d) Inter-municipal Relations
- 14. e) CO₂ EOR Negotiations
- 14. f) AUPR Negotiations
- 14. g) Doctor Recruitment & Retention
- 14. h) Municipal Accreditation – Contract

CARRIED

MOTION 09-03-204

MOVED by Councillor Sarapuk

That Council move out of camera at 4:06 p.m.

CARRIED

14. a) Personnel

14. b) Special Projects

14. d) Inter-municipal Relations

14. e) CO₂ EOR Negotiations

MOTION 09-03-205

MOVED by Councillor D. Driedger

That the personnel, special projects, inter-municipal relations, and CO₂ EOR negotiations updates be received for information.

CARRIED

14. c) Legal

MOTION 09-03-206

MOVED by Councillor Sarapuk

That the legal update be received for information.

CARRIED

14. f) AUPE Negotiations

MOTION 09-03-207

MOVED by Councillor Toews

That the Finance Committee negotiate with the AUPE as discussed.

CARRIED

14. g) Doctor Recruitment & Retention

MOTION 09-03-208

MOVED by Councillor Froese

That the doctor recruitment and retention be received for information.

CARRIED

14. h) Municipal Accreditation – Contract

MOTION 09-03-209

MOVED by Deputy Reeve Braun

That Mackenzie County take over responsibility for receiving money for all safety codes permits effective April 1, 2009.

CARRIED

MOTION 09-03-210

MOVED by Councillor Neufeld

That administration enter into contract negotiations with Superior Safety Codes to provide safety code inspections to Mackenzie County.

CARRIED

NEXT MEETING DATE: 15. a) Regular Council Meeting

Regular Council Meeting
Thursday, March 26, 2009
4:00 p.m.
Council Chambers, Fort Vermilion, AB

ADJOURNMENT: 16. a) Adjournment

MOTION 09-03-211 **MOVED** by Deputy Reeve Braun

That the meeting be adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

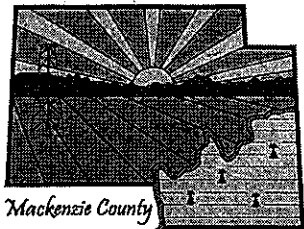
CARRIED

These minutes will be presented to Council for approval on March 26, 2009.

Greg Newman
Reeve

William Kostiw
Chief Administrative Officer

DRAFT



MACKENZIE COUNTY REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	March 26, 2009
Presented By:	William Kostiw, Chief Administrative Officer
Title:	Municipal Planning Commission Meeting Minutes February 25, 2009

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:


Information item. The adopted minutes of the February 25, 2009 meeting are attached.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the Municipal Planning Commission meeting minutes of February 25, 2009 be received for information.

Author: C. Gabriel **Review By:**  CAO

**Mackenzie County
Municipal Planning Commission Meeting**

**Council Chambers
Fort Vermilion, Alberta**

Wednesday, February 25, 2009 @ 1:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Beth Kappelar	Vice-Chair, MPC Member
Ed Froese	Councillor
Jack Eccles	MPC Member
Manfred Gross	MPC Member
Ryan Becker	Director of Planning and Emergency Services
Liane Lambert	Development Officer
Sarah Martens	Planning Administrative Support

ABSENT

Peter Braun	Chair, Deputy Reeve
Marion Krahn	Development Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER

Beth Kappelar called the meeting to order at 12:58 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION 09-44 **MOVED** by Jack Eccles

That the agenda be adopted as amended:

7a) Legal

CARRIED

3. MINUTES

a) Adoption of Minutes

MOTION 09-45 **MOVED** by Ed Froese

That the minutes of the February 9, 2009 Municipal Planning Commission meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

b) Business Arising from Previous Minutes

No business arising from previous minutes.

4. DEVELOPMENT

**a) Development Permit Application 15-DP-09
Henry M. Driedger; Shop/Garage – Detached
NW 25-104-18-W5M; Tompkins Landing Area**

MOTION 09-46 **MOVED** by Ed Froese

That Development Permit 15-DP-09 on NW 25-104-18-W5M in the name of Henry M. 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. **The maximum area of the shop/garage – detached shall be 1200 square feet.**
2. **The shop/garage – detached is 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 shop/garage – detached building for commercial or industrial uses, a new development permit is required prior to the commencement of the commercial or industrial use.**
3. No ancillary building erected/or moved onto the site shall be used as a dwelling.
4. Minimum building setbacks: 41.15 meters (135 feet) from any road allowances and 15.24 meters (50 feet) from any other property lines.
5. The architecture, construction materials and appearance of buildings and other structures shall be to accepted standards.

6. All sewage disposal systems to be in conformance with the Alberta Private Sewage Treatment and Disposal Regulations.
7. PRIOR to installation of a new access or changing location of existing access, complete a Request for Access form by contacting the Road/Maintenance Department for Mackenzie County at 780-928-3983. Access to be constructed to Mackenzie County standards at the developers' expense.
8. No construction or development is allowed on a right-of-way.
9. The total site area (lot) shall have a positive surface drainage without adversely affecting the neighbouring properties.

CARRIED

- b) Development Permit Application 17-DP-09
Ronnie Friesen; Single Family Dwelling;
Temporary Bunkhouse with Addition (Expires June 30, 2010)
SW 14-102-18-W5M; Blue Hills**

MOTION 09-47 **MOVED** by Jack Eccles

That the Development Permit Application 17-DP-09 in the name of Ronnie Friesen of SW 14-102-18-W5M be tabled to later on in the meeting for further information.

CARRIED

- c) Development Permit Application 20-DP-09
David Buhler; 5 Foot Wood Fence with 2 Foot Variance
Plan 962 3400, Block 22, Lot 1; La Crete**

MOTION 09-48 **MOVED** by Manfred Gross

That Development Permit 20-DP-09 on Plan 962 3400, Block 22, Lot 1 in the name of David Buhler 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. Approval of a fence with variance as noted in condition 2.

2. Maximum height of fence: Five (5) feet front, side and rear yards.
3. No construction or development is allowed on a utility right-of-way.
4. The fence shall not encroach onto adjacent properties.

CARRIED

5. SUBDIVISION

- a) **Subdivision Application 10-SUB-05
Part of NW 35-105-15-W5M and Part of SW 35-105-15-W5M;
La Crete Rural/Buffalo Lake Estates
Abe U. and Susan Banman**

MOTION 09-49 MOVED by Ed Froese

That the Municipal Planning Commission recommendation to Council be for the approval of the construction of a road, to County standards, within the southerly 20 meters of the proposed yard site subdivision in the name of Abe U. and Susan Banman on Part of NW 35-105-15-W5M and Part of SW 35-106-15-W5M.

CARRIED

- b) **Subdivision Application 03-SUB-08
NE 11-108-12-W5M; Fort Vermilion Rural
Vance Clark**

MOTION 09-50 MOVED by Manfred Gross

That a time extension for 03-SUB-08 on NE 11-108-12-W5M in the name of Vance Clark be granted to expire on March 25, 2010.

CARRIED

- c) **Subdivision Proposal**
SW 26-104-18-W5M and SE 27-104-18-W5M
George D. and Mary Zacharias/ Frank and Anna Dyck

MOTION 09-51 **MOVED** by Jack Eccles

That the Municipal Planning Commission recommendation to Council be for the closure of part of Range Road 18-2, subject to public hearing, in order to allow the closed road to be consolidated with Part of SW 26-104-18-W5M and Part of SE 27-104-18-W5M and with the understanding that the Municipal Planning Commission will make a decision on the subdivision after review of all the pertinent information.

CARRIED

Vice-chair Kappelar called a recess at 1:41 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 1:52 p.m.

4. DEVELOPMENT

- b) **Development Permit Application 17-DP-09**
Ronnie Friesen; Single Family Dwelling;
Temporary Bunkhouse with Addition (Expires June 30, 2010)
SW 14-102-18-W5M; Blue Hills

MOTION 09-52 **MOVED** by Jack Eccles

That Development Permit 17-DP-09 on SW 14-102-18-W5M in the name of Ronnie Friesen 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. **Construction (placement of the bunkhouse and addition) commenced prior to the issuance of the Development Permit therefore the developer shall pay the penalty fee of \$100.**
2. Minimum building setbacks: 41.15 meters (135 feet) from any road allowances and 15.24 meters (50 feet) from any other property lines.

3. The existing residence (bunkhouse with addition) shall be moved from the property after occupancy of the new residence.
4. The bunk house used as a residence is approved temporarily and expires June 30, 2010.
5. The architecture, construction materials and appearance of buildings and other structures shall be to accepted standards.
6. All sewage disposal systems to be in conformance with the Alberta Private Sewage Treatment and Disposal Regulations.
7. PRIOR to installation of a new access or changing location of existing access, complete a Request for Access form by contacting the Road/Maintenance Department for Mackenzie County at 780-928-3983. Access to be constructed to Mackenzie County standards at the developers' expense.
8. The total site area (lot) shall have a positive surface drainage without adversely affecting the neighbouring properties.

CARRIED

6. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

a) Action List

The Action List of February 9, 2009 was reviewed.

7. IN CAMERA

MOTION 09-53 MOVED by Ed Froese

That the Municipal Planning Commission go in camera at 2:01 p.m.

CARRIED

MOTION 09-54 MOVED by Jack Eccles

That the Municipal Planning Commission come out of in camera at 2:25 p.m.

CARRIED

8. NEXT MEETING DATES

Municipal Planning Commission meeting dates are scheduled as follows:

- ❖ March 16, 2009 at the La Crete Heritage Centre
- ❖ April 1, 2009 at the La Crete Heritage Centre

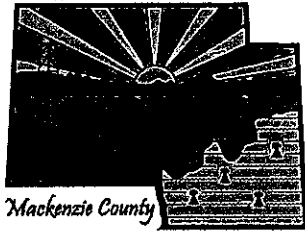
9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 09-55 MOVED by Manfred Gross

That the Municipal Planning Commission meeting be adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

CARRIED

These minutes were adopted this 16 day of March, 2009.



MACKENZIE COUNTY REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	March 26, 2009
Presented By:	Joulia Whittleton, Director of Corporate Services
Title:	Bylaw 709/09 – Municipal Heritage Resource Designation (The Old Bay House legally described as Lot 01, Block 01, Plan 3383ET in the Hamlet of Fort Vermilion)

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

The Historical Resources Act empowers municipalities to legally protect significant places through designation as Municipal Historical Resource, as outlined in section 26-8 of the Act. The designation, in the form of a bylaw, can be issued and maintained by the local municipal council.

We received a request from the Friends of the Old Bay House Society to designate the Old Bay House as a municipal heritage resource (please see attached).

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

The following steps should be considered while designating a site as a municipal heritage resource:

1. *Identify and evaluate the place*

The proposed site has already been carrying the Provincial heritage designation and was evaluated by the Province as a place of historic significance and is deserving a designation.

Alberta Site Form and the facts sheet are included for your information.

2. *Discuss designation with the owner and obtain permission to legally protect the place and issue a notice of intention to designate.*

The owner approached the County with the designation request and is willing to waive the 60-day notice.

3. *Compensation agreement*

Section 28 of the Historic Resources Act protects the rights of the property owner if the designation compromises the economic value of the place.

Author: _____ **Review Date:** _____

Joulia Whittleton
CAO *Ad*

The owner will be asked to sign a consent form releasing the County from any financial obligation with respect to this site.

- 4. The owner and the County must sign a consent form with respect to this designation.*

Administration drafted a consent form that will be sent to the property owner (attached).

- 5. The designation will be registered on the title after the bylaw is passed. A copy of the bylaw will be provided to the provincial Registrar of Historic Places.*

Administration drafted a bylaw for Council's review and approval.

- 6. Some mandatory documentation must be completed for listing on the Alberta and Canadian Registers of Historic Place.*

This part was probably done already since this site is listed in the Alberta Register of Historic Places.

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

NA

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Motion 1:

That first reading be given to Bylaw 709/09 being the Municipal Heritage Resource Designation ("The Old Bay House" being legally described as Lot 01, Block 01, Plan 3383ET in the Hamlet of Fort Vermilion) bylaw.

Author: _____ Review Date: _____ CAO _____

**The Friends of the Old Bay House Society
Box 1061, Fort Vermilion, AB T0H 1N0**

March 16, 2009

Joulia Whittleton
Director of Corporate Services
Mackenzie County
Box 640
Fort Vermilion, Alberta T0H 1N0

Dear Joulia:

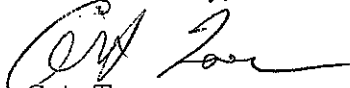
RE: Hudson's Bay Factors House Municipal Designation

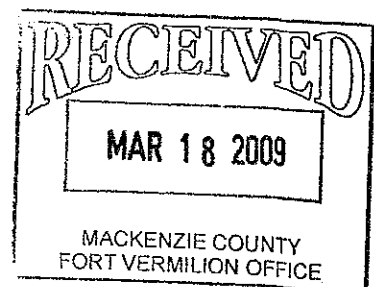
This letter is a follow up to our request of April 2, 2004 regarding the designation of the Hudson's Bay Factors House (Old Bay House) and site as a Municipal Heritage Resource.

Council passed a motion to proceed with the designation at a subsequent meeting. However, when the Municipal Heritage Partnership Program was contacted, they said that they were not quite ready to proceed with designations under their new program. As this is no longer the case, we request the County proceed with the designation.

At present, the Provincial Historic Resource designation affords funding benefits for the property. However, there is an added importance for formal municipal recognition of its historical significance to the region as well as to the community of Fort Vermilion. A strong and unified commitment at the local level is looked upon with favour, by the Historical Resources Foundation and Department of Community Spirit & Culture.

Yours sincerely,


G.A. Toews
Treasurer



BYLAW NO. 709/09

**BEING A BYLAW OF THE
MACKENZIE COUNTY
IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA**

**A BYLAW OF MACKENZIE COUNTY
FOR TO DESIGNATE THE OLD BAY HOUSE (Lot 01, Block 01, Plan 3383ET in the Hamlet
of Fort Vermilion) AS A MUNICIPAL HERITAGE RESOURCE**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Historic Resources Act, Section 26, and Municipal Government Act, R.S.A. 2000 c. M-26, permits Council to designate any historic resource within a municipality whose preservation Council considers to be in the public interest, together with any land in or on which it is located, as a Municipal Historic Resource;

AND WHEREAS, it is deemed in the public interest to designate the building known as the "The Old Bay House" located on 4405 River Road, in the Hamlet of Fort Vermilion and the land on which the building is situated as a Municipal Heritage Resource.

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Mackenzie County, in the Province of Alberta, having complied with the Historic Resources Act, duly assembled, hereby enacts as follows:

1. The building known as "The Old Bay House" being legally described as Lot 01, Block 01, Plan 3383ET in the Hamlet of Fort Vermilion and the lands on which the building is located, are hereby designated as a Municipal Heritage Resource.
2. The Reeve and Chief Administrative Officer are hereby authorized to execute any necessary documents on behalf of Mackenzie County.
3. The owner(s) of "The Old Bay House" being legally described as Lot 01, Block 01, Plan 3383ET in the Hamlet of Fort Vermilion, shall accept total liability and hold harmless the Mackenzie County from and against all financial and/or economic losses, suits, charges and claims for compensation or damages in any manner.
4. This bylaw comes into force at the beginning of the day of third and final reading thereof and subject to the property owner(s) signing a consent form as per the Schedule A.

READ a first time this day of, 2009.

READ a second time this day of, 2009.

READ a third time and finally passed this day of, 2009.

REEVE

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Schedule A, Bylaw 709/09, Municipal Heritage Designation

Consent Form

We, the owners of the property known as "The Old Bay House" located on 4405 River Road in the Hamlet of Fort Vermilion, legally described as Lot 01, Block 01, Plan 3383ET, approached the Mackenzie County Council with a request to designate this site as a Municipal Heritage Resource.

We understand that Mackenzie County is applying to designate this building and the land on which building is situated as a Municipal Heritage Resource as it is deemed in the public interest.

In order for Mackenzie County to proceed with the application, we agree to waive the following clause of the Historical Resources Act:

Compensation:

(1) If a bylaw under section 26 or 27 decreases the economic value of a building, structure or land that is within the area designated by the bylaw, the council shall by bylaw provide the owner of that building, structure or land with compensation for the decrease in economic value.

(2) If the council and the owner can not agree on the compensation payable under subsection (1), the owner or the council may apply to the Land Compensation Board established under the *Expropriation Act* to determine the amount of compensation payable by the council to the owner for the decrease in economic value.

(3) When an application is made to the Land Compensation Board pursuant to subsection (2), the *Expropriation Act* and the regulations made under it respecting the determination of compensation, hearings and procedures, including interest, costs and appeals, apply to the application with all necessary modifications.

(4) The council may, with the agreement of the owner, provide the compensation under subsection (1) by grant, tax relief or any other means.

The property owners:

Mackenzie County:

The Friends of the Old Bay House

Reeve

The Friends of the Old Bay House

Chief Administrative Officer

Date _____

Date _____



LAND TITLE CERTIFICATE

S
LINC SHORT LEGAL TITLE NUMBER
0010 102 705 3383ET;1 882 305 858

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

PLAN 3383ET
BLOCK ONE (1)
EXCEPTING THEREOUT: (A) 1.07 HECTARES (2.65 ACRES) MORE
OR LESS SUBDIVIDED UNDER PLAN 5516NY
(B) 0.979 HECTARES (2.42 ACRES) MORE OR LESS SUBDIVIDED
UNDER PLAN 2777RS
EXCEPTING THEREOUT ALL MINES AND MINERALS
AND THE RIGHT TO WORK THE SAME

ATS REFERENCE: 5;12;108;7A;RL
ESTATE: FEE SIMPLE

MUNICIPALITY: MACKENZIE COUNTY

REFERENCE NUMBER: 822 159 198

REGISTERED OWNER(S)				
REGISTRATION	DATE(DMY)	DOCUMENT TYPE	VALUE	CONSIDERATION
882 305 858	22/12/1988	TRANSFER OF LAND	\$41,000	\$41,000

OWNERS

THE FRIENDS OF THE OLD BAY HOUSE SOCIETY.
OF BOX 364, FORT VERMILION
ALBERTA T0H 1N0

ENCUMBRANCES, LIENS & INTERESTS

REGISTRATION		
NUMBER	DATE (D/M/Y)	PARTICULARS
1266RW	16/02/1970	UTILITY RIGHT OF WAY

(CONTINUED)

ENCUMBRANCES, LIENS & INTERESTS

PAGE 2
882 305 858

REGISTRATION
NUMBER

DATE (D/M/Y)

PARTICULARS

GRANTEE - ALBERTA POWER LIMITED.
AS TO PORTION OR PLAN:2704RS
"TRANSFER OF UTRW #1055TG"

792 044 913 28/02/1979 ORDER
" (PURSUANT TO SECTION 17, SUBSECTION 1) -
DESIGNATING REGISTERED HISTORIC RESOURCE"

932 299 882 30/09/1993 CAVEAT
RE : RIGHT OF WAY AGREEMENT
CAVEATOR - THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF MACKENZIE NO.
23.
BOX 1110
HIGH LEVEL
ALBERTA T0H1Z0
(DATA UPDATED BY: TRANSFER OF CAVEAT
952038464)

042 267 750 28/06/2004 CAVEAT
RE : RIGHT OF WAY AGREEMENT
CAVEATOR - THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF MACKENZIE NO.
23.
P.O. BOX 1690
LA CRETE
ALBERTA
AGENT - MICHEL SAVARD

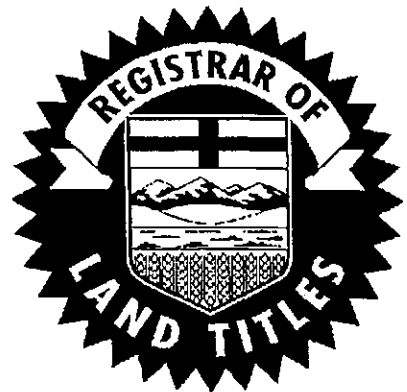
052 183 497 12/05/2005 ORDER
ORDER UNDER THE HISTORICAL RESOURCES ACT

TOTAL INSTRUMENTS: 005

THE REGISTRAR OF TITLES CERTIFIES THIS TO BE AN ACCURATE
REPRODUCTION OF THE CERTIFICATE OF TITLE REPRESENTED
HEREIN THIS 19 DAY OF MARCH, 2009 AT 10:27 A.M.

ORDER NUMBER:13524292

CUSTOMER FILE NUMBER: fvo - dsp

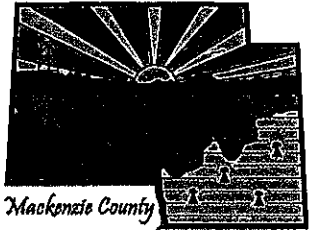


END OF CERTIFICATE

(CONTINUED)

THIS ELECTRONICALLY TRANSMITTED LAND TITLES PRODUCT IS INTENDED FOR THE SOLE USE OF THE ORIGINAL PURCHASER, AND NONE OTHER, SUBJECT TO WHAT IS SET OUT IN THE PARAGRAPH BELOW.

THE ABOVE PROVISIONS DO NOT PROHIBIT THE ORIGINAL PURCHASER FROM INCLUDING THIS UNMODIFIED PRODUCT IN ANY REPORT, OPINION, APPRAISAL OR OTHER ADVICE PREPARED BY THE ORIGINAL PURCHASER AS PART OF THE ORIGINAL PURCHASER APPLYING PROFESSIONAL, CONSULTING OR TECHNICAL EXPERTISE FOR THE BENEFIT OF CLIENT(S).



MACKENZIE COUNTY REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	March 26, 2009
Presented By:	Joulia Whittleton, Director of Corporate Services
Title:	Request to Waive Penalties Charged on Arrear Taxes

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

Tax Roll 081773 was last paid in full in 2004 and is currently under Tax Notification 082 156 856. Since 2004, the following charges have been applied:

Taxes levied	\$13,028.96
Penalties total	\$ 3,397.17
Charges	\$ 30.00
Less:	
Payments Made	<u>\$12,125.87</u>
Balance	\$ 4,330.26

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

The owners have made lump sum payments but are having difficulties paying their outstanding property taxes in full. The owners have submitted a letter requesting to waive penalties (see attached).

The property tax penalties are totaling \$3,397.17.

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

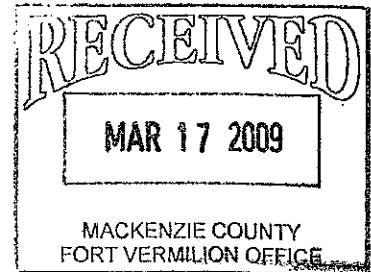
If forgiven, the penalties will be written off (2009 operating budget).

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

For discussion

Author: _____ Review Date: _____ *for*
CAO *Ad*

Mackenzie County
Box 640
Fort Vermilion, Alberta
T0H 1N0



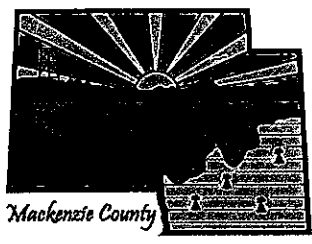
Re: Tax Roll 081773
Legal 5, 19 109, 17 SW

To Whom It May Concern

I am submitting this letter to ask for Forgiveness of the interest on our taxes. We have been working hard at paying the taxes but the interest in just eating up our payments. Neil has been very sick these last two years and had two heart attacks. He had heart surgery in July. On March 6th 2009 he was also flown to Edmonton with another heart attack and just arrived home on March 11th. The year prior to this he was burdened with a very severe Siatic Nerve problem We would really appreciate for you to consider taking a look at this interest and look forward to hearing from you. Thanking You

Neil Lang
Box 921
High Level, AB
T0H 1Z0

780-926-3979



MACKENZIE COUNTY REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	March 26, 2009
Presented By:	Joulia Whittleton, Director of Corporate Services
Title:	Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) – AUMA Request

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

The MSI program is in its third year since its implementation.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

AUMA is seeking municipal support with respect to the issue of MSI effectiveness (please see attached documents).

Also attached are summaries of the 2008 MSI applications submitted by the County and the 2008 operating and capital statements of funding and expenditures prepared for reporting to Municipal Affairs with respect to the approved projects.

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

NA

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the following three Municipal Sustainability Initiative approved projects be selected to be highlighted in the AUMA initiative:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Author: _____

Review Date: _____

for
CAO *Ad*



ALBERTA URBAN MUNICIPALITIES ASSOCIATION

10507 Saskatchewan Drive NW, Edmonton, AB T6E 4S1
Toll Free: 310-AUMA (2862) • Toll Free: 1-800-661-2862
Main: (780) 433-4431 • Fax: (780) 433-4454
e-mail: main@auma.ca • www.auma.ca

March 5, 2009

Reeve Greg Newman
Reeve
Mackenzie County
PO Box 640
Fort Vermilion, Alberta T0H 1N0

Fax : 780-927-4266 Plus Hard Copy

ATTENTION: MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Dear Reeve Newman;

A major topic at the recent Mayor's Caucuses was the Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI). There was a general agreement at all three Caucus meetings that it is important that the Association and its member municipalities do two things:

- ensure that MSI applications address strategic investment with long-term implications; and
- ensure that the provincial contribution to MSI projects is recognized.

The issue of MSI effectiveness was also discussed at the AUMA Executive Committee meetings with the Provincial Cabinet Ministers in February.

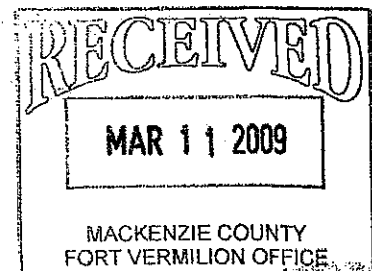
The Association intends to launch a media relations initiative which is intended to highlight the significant impact of the program in providing critical essential infrastructure and services across the province, raise strong, positive public support for the program, and to recognize the Provincial contribution to MSI.

In order to do that, we need your assistance. We have forwarded a request to your CAO to highlight approved projects which have substantive community impact. Therefore, **I am requesting that, at its earliest opportunity, the Municipality select up to three of its approved MSI projects to be highlighted in the AUMA initiative** and provide the information in the enclosed form forwarded to your CAO.

Thank you in advance for your early attention to this request. As a result of the current economic situation, the Provincial Government is reviewing all of its programs to ensure that priority needs are being addressed. We believe it important to launch this AUMA initiative as soon as possible to help ensure MSI funding continues.

Sincerely,

R. Lloyd Bertschi
President





ALBERTA URBAN MUNICIPALITIES ASSOCIATION

10507 Saskatchewan Drive NW, Edmonton, AB T6E 4S1
Toll Free: 310-AUMA (2862) • Toll Free: 1-800-661-2862
Main: (780) 433-4431 • Fax: (780) 433-4454
e-mail: main@auma.ca • www.auma.ca

March 5, 2009

Mr. William Kostiw
Chief Administrative Officer
Mackenzie County
PO Box 640
Fort Vermilion, Alberta T0H 1N0

Fax: 780-927-4266 Plus Hard Copy

Dear Mr. Kostiw:

A major topic at the recent Mayor's Caucuses was the Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI). There was a general agreement at all three Caucus meetings that it is important that the Association and its member municipalities do two things:

- ensure that MSI applications address strategic investment with long-term implications; and
- ensure that the provincial contribution to MSI projects is recognized.

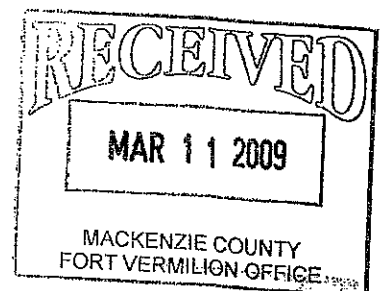
The issue of MSI effectiveness was also discussed at the AUMA Executive Committee meetings with the Provincial Cabinet Ministers.

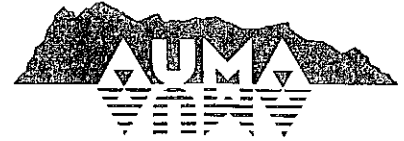
President Bertschi has written to Mayors and Councils regarding an AUMA media relations initiative. Your assistance in enabling a prompt response would be appreciated.

In order to do that, we need your assistance. We want to highlight approved projects which have substantive community impact. Therefore, **I am requesting that, at its earliest opportunity, the Municipality select up to three of its approved MSI projects to be highlighted in the AUMA initiative** and provide the following information in the enclosed forms:

- Project Name
- Project Purpose (brief description of the project)
- Community Impact (a brief description of the project's impact on your community)
- Project Funding (MSI amount and other funding used)
- Financial/other impacts if MSI funds were not received (e.g. taxes raised, water doesn't meet standard)
- Contact Person (Name and contact information for a person we can contact if we require further information)

Please direct this information to Rose Dacyk at rdacyk@auma.ca.





Secondly, your assistance is requested in ensuring that your municipality's applications do "address strategic investment with long-term implications". You have probably heard stories of applications which have included items that could hardly be described in that manner. If you have heard them, you can be sure that provincially elected and appointed officials will have also heard them. Although they are few and far between, they could discredit the whole program. In advising your councils on what should be included in the applications, I urge you to ensure that every proposed expenditure item fits within the "strategic investment with long-term implications" description.

Thirdly, there is no publicly available list of approved MSI projects. AUMA is proposing to develop such a list. With your assistance we may be able to complete, on an annual basis, all approved projects within urban municipalities. We really see two options for creating the list - file with AUMA a copy of an approved project or file annually with AUMA all the approved projects within the year. This will be an important component for the ongoing media relations program and also will be useful information in future analysis of the MSI program. We will be discussing this further at the LGAA conference in March and the Mayors Caucuses in June.

Thank you very much for your assistance.

John McGowan
Chief Executive Officer

Enclosures (1)



MSI APPROVED PROJECT INFORMATION

MUNICIPALITY	
PROJECT NAME	
APPROVAL DATE	
PROJECT PURPOSE	(brief description of the project)
COMMUNITY IMPACT	(a brief description of the project’s impact on your community)
PROJECT FUNDING	(MSI amount and other funding used) MSI \$ Local \$ Other \$
CONTACT PERSON	(Name and contact information for a person we can contact if we require further information)

PLEASE SEND COMPLETED FORM TO: Rose Dacyk at rdacyk@auma.ca.

Mackenzie County
2008 Application Summary

Municipal Sustainability Initiative

		2007	2008
Capital funding available:		1,098,180	1,702,502
Total capital funding available:		2,800,682	
Proposed capital projects		Total estimated project cost	MSI funding to be applied
		Other funding sources	2008
1	Other municipal buildings and facilities		
CPC 2.i)	La Crele office building project (PP1) Campground improvements & Bear Bins (PP2) Total estimated project cost (50% of costs or \$1,105,000 to be debentured)	2,210,000 111,400 2,321,400	1,105,000 111,400 1,216,400
2	Equipment & vehicles (one project profile - PP3)		
CPC 2.i)	Replacement of two tandem mounted snow plough attachments for street cleaning Replacement of a snow plough for a tandem gravel truck for highway snow removal Replacement of a rubber tired backhoe/loader Replacement of a truck mounted culvert steamer Landa Purchase of a new pup gravel trailer (14m ³) Replacement of a mower and an offset hitch (flex arm) Replacement of a tandem mounted snow wing attachment Replacement of a box sander for a tandem truck Replacement of a street snow plough and a sanding unit attachment for a two-ton truck	26,000 10,000 80,000 22,000 30,000 36,000 15,000 75,000 76,000 370,000	26,000 10,000 80,000 22,000 30,000 36,000 15,000 75,000 76,000 370,000
3	Municipal roadways - streets and roads construction and reconstruction		
CPC 2.a)	Blumenort Road - reconstruction and storm water management (3 miles) (PP4) La Crele North Road - reconstruction of 2 miles north from 100th Street and Hwy 687 intersection (PP5) Rocky Lane Road - reconstruction of 2 miles of road (PP6) Hellport Road - reconstruction, base and pave of 1 mile of road (PP7) Total estimated project cost	250,000 600,000 200,000 330,000 1,380,000	250,000 600,000 200,000 330,000 1,380,000
4	Solid waste management facilities and equipment		
CPC 2.g)	Bins replacement (PP8) Total estimated project cost	56,500 56,500	56,500 56,500
5	Environmental Energy Improvements		
CPC 2.k)	Street lighting (PP9) Total estimated project cost	50,000 50,000	50,000 50,000
Total MSI capital funding applied to the projects			3,072,900
Capital funds remaining			272,218

MSI capital projects application summary

Statement of Funding and Expenditures (SFE)

Municipality Name		Office Use Only	
		Municipal Code	SFE#

Mackenzie County

Due Date - The due date for submitting the SFE to Alberta Municipal Affairs is May 1, 2009. - 2009 Allocation - The 2009 Funding Allocation will not be released until a 2008 SFE is received and sufficient 2009 Project Profiles.

MSI Funds Received and Available

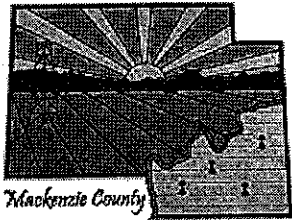
MSI Funding (Including Credit Items and Interest Earned) Available At End of Previous Year	(A)	1,095,180
MSI Funding Received In Reporting Year	(B)	1,700,722
Credit Items and Interest Earned in Reporting Year	(C)	38,924
Total MSI Funding Available in Reporting Year [A+B+C]	(D)	2,834,826

Project Costs and Funding Applied

(1) Project Profile No.	(2) Project Name	(3) Status	(4) Remaining Qualifying Project Costs From Previous Years To Be Funded From MSI	(5) Total Actual Reporting Year Project Costs	(6) Non-Qualifying Costs Included in Reporting Year Project Costs	(7) Portion of Reporting Year Qualifying Project Costs To Be Funded From Other Grant Programs	(8) Portion of Reporting Year Qualifying Project Costs To Be Funded From Municipal Sources	(9) Reporting Year Qualifying Project Costs To Be Funded From MSI [6-(6+7+8)]	(10) MSI Funding Applied to Previous [4] and to Reporting Year [9] Qualifying Project Costs	(11) Remaining Qualifying Project Costs To Be Funded From Future Year MSI Allocations [4+9-10]
CAP-836	Street Lighting Project	Completed/Fully Funded		50,713.00				50,713.00	50,713.00	
CAP-837	Municipal Roadways - Road Reconstruction - Rock Lake Road	Deleted		0.00				0.00	0.00	
CAP-838	Solid Waste - Bins Replacement	Completed/Fully Funded		57,305.25				57,305.25	57,305.25	
CAP-839	Parks and Campgrounds Improvements	In Progress		42,151.00			202,087.00	12,161.00	42,151.00	
CAP-840	La Crie Municipal Office Building	In Progress		404,194.00				202,087.00	314,746.38	
CAP-841	2008 Equipment Purchases	Completed/Fully Funded		314,746.38			139,776.00	314,746.38	314,746.38	
CAP-1288	Municipal Roadways - Road	Completed/Fully Funded		279,652.00				279,652.00	279,652.00	
CAP-1287	Municipal Roadways - Road	In Progress		340,383.00				340,383.00	340,383.00	
CAP-1289	Municipal Roadways - 1st/2nd Road	Completed/Fully Funded		793,784.00			463,784.00	793,784.00	793,784.00	
				2,834,826	0.00	620	603,657.00	1,777,749	1,777,749	
					0.00			0.00		
Total										

Total MSI Funding (including Credit Items and Interest Earned) Available For Future Years [D-E] Return Completed Statement of Funding and Expenditures by May 1, 2009 to:

MSI Capital - actuals for 2008



MACKENZIE COUNTY REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	March 26, 2009
Presented By:	William Kostiw, Chief Administrative Officer
Title:	La Crete Trade Show

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

The La Crete Trade Show is once again being held on April 24 & 25, 2009.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

\$399.00 for a 10' x 10' booth

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

For discussion.

Author: C. Gabriel Reviewed By:  CAO



10th Annual La Crete Spring Trade Fair – 2009

Friday, April 24, 2009 – Show Hours: 4:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Saturday, April 25, 2009 – Show Hours: 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

EXHIBIT SPACE APPLICATION

Name of Organization: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Type of Business: _____

Booth Preference: _____

Total Booth Cost: _____

We only accept payments after January 1st, 2009. Payments are due on the last night of the Trade Show.

Make cheques payable to:
**La Crete Area Chamber of Commerce
Box 1088, La Crete, AB T0H 2H0**

We agree to abide by the rules and regulations of the La Crete and Area Chamber of Commerce as set forth on this form.

Contact: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Come Out and Enjoy the Show!

Office Use Only:

Total Due: _____ Paid: _____

Invoice: _____ Booth: _____

Passes: _____

Cancellation Received Date: _____

Amount Refunded: _____

Trade Show Rules and Regulations

General Rules

The exhibitor agrees to abide by all regulations and rules adopted by the La Crete & Area Chamber of Commerce in the best interest of the Trade Show and agrees that the La Crete & Area Chamber of Commerce shall have final decision in adopting any rule or regulation deemed necessary prior to, during, and after the show.

Terms of Payment

We only accept payments after January 1st, 2009. Payments are due on the last night of the Trade Show. Cheque, cash or money orders only.

Booking Space

All bookings are on a first come, first serve basis. It is therefore necessary to book your booth as soon as possible. The La Crete & Area Chamber of Commerce reserves the right to alter the size and location of any unsold booths.

Cancellation

Cancellations made up to and including March 20th will be awarded a full refund less \$50. From March 21st, No refunds will be given. Cancellation of space must be in writing and delivered by mail, fax, or E-Mail ad received on or prior to March 20th.

Waiver of Liability

The La Crete & Area Chamber of Commerce shall make every effort to ensure the protection of property of the exhibitor. However, the La Crete & Area Chamber of Commerce shall take no responsibility for lost, stolen, or damaged goods. If insurance is required, it is the responsibility of the exhibitor to secure such insurance.

Exhibitor Passes

Two exhibitor passes will be supplied to each exhibitor and must be worn at all times. Extra passes are available on request to the Chamber.

Boothmanship

All exhibits must remain intact throughout the Trade Shows designated hours. The exhibitor shall maintain a responsible individual in the leased space at all times.

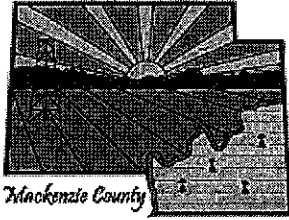
Move In Instructions

Exhibitors will be able to move in their exhibits on April 23, between the hours of 12:00PM and 5:00PM, and also on April 24, between the hours of 10:00AM and 2:00PM.

ALL EXHIBITS MUST BE READY NO LATER THAN 2:00 PM ON FRIDAY, APRIL 24th.

Move Out Instructions

Exhibits may not be dismantled before 4:00pm, Saturday, April 25th. Exhibits must be removed from the exhibition area immediately after the Trade Show ends.



MACKENZIE COUNTY REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	March 26, 2009
Presented By:	William Kostiw, Chief Administrative Officer
Title:	Persons with Developmental Disabilities Northwest Spring Celebration and Awards Night

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

See attached invitation. Deputy Reeve Braun has attended this event in the past and is interested in attending again this year.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That Deputy Reeve Braun be authorized to attend the Persons with Developmental Disabilities Northwest Spring Celebration and Awards night on Friday, May 8, 2009 in Grande Prairie.

Author: C. Gabriel

Reviewed By: _____


CAO



Persons with Developmental Disabilities
 Northwest Alberta Community Board



#203, Junction Point Village
 9815 - 97th Street
 Grande Prairie, AB
 T8V 8B9
 Phone: 780-538-5115
 Fax: 780-538-6123
 Web: www.pdd.org/Northwest

March 11, 2009

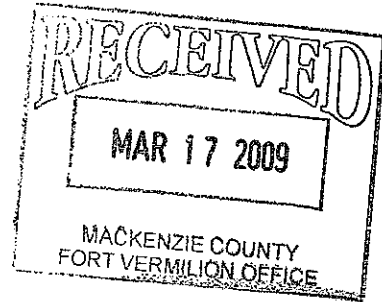
Bag 900-27
 9603 - 90 Avenue
 Peace River, AB
 T8S 1T4
 Ph: 780-624-6225
 Fax: 780-624-6122

Park Building
 9806-98 Street
 High Level, AB
 T0G 1Z0
 ()-926-5470
 Fax: 780-926-2114

Box 849
 High Prairie, AB
 T0G 1E0
 Ph: 780-523-6674
 Fax: 780-523-6709

Box 70
 Slave Lake, AB
 T0G 2A0
 Ph: 780-849-7354
 Fax: 780-849-7356

Reeve Peter Braun
 MD of McKenzie No.23
 Box 640
 Fort Vermilion, AB T0H 1N0



Dear Reeve Braun,

The Persons with Developmental Disabilities Northwest Alberta Community Board is pleased to host the Persons with Developmental Disabilities Northwest Spring Celebration and Awards Night on Friday, May 8, 2009 in Grande Prairie.

This annual awards night helps to celebrate community inclusion in the Northwest and recognize the people, organizations and businesses who are dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with developmental disabilities.

The evening activities will consist of a light buffet, speeches and awards, and will be followed by a dance for those who wish stay and participate.

In previous years, close to 400 individuals with developmental disabilities, families, service providers and community members celebrated the achievements of individuals and their supporters in the Northwest at this annual event.

We hope that you will be able to join us for this time of celebration. The evening will begin at 6:00 pm at the Grande Prairie Inn. Please confirm your attendance by Friday, May 1, 2009 by contacting Patti Diewert at our Peace River Community Office at (780) 624-6225.

Sincerely,

Al Bromling
 Al Bromling, Chair

PDD Northwest Alberta Community Board

Encl



Annual Spring Celebration
&
Awards Night

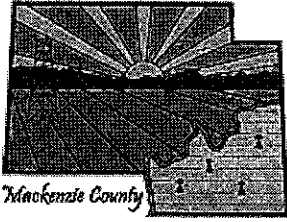
Northwest Persons with Developmental Disabilities
Invites you

For Refreshments & Hors d'oeuvres
Friday, May 8, 2009
4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Grande Prairie Inn
Rotary Suite
11633 Clairmont Road
Grande Prairie, Alberta

Dinner & Awards to follow
In East West Ballrooms

R.S.V.P. to Patti Diewert
By May 1, 2009
patti.diewert@gov.ab.ca
(780) 624-6225



MACKENZIE COUNTY REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	March 26, 2009
Presented By:	William Kostiw, Chief Administrative Officer
Title:	Special Events

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

Update on the Mackenzie County golf tournament.

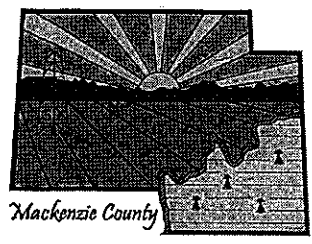
OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

For discussion.

Author: W. Kostiw Reviewed By: For CAO [Signature]



MACKENZIE COUNTY REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	March 26, 2009
Presented By:	Ryan Becker, Director of Planning & Emergency Services
Title:	Request for Letter of Support – Northern Lights Gas Co-op Community Broadband Infrastructure Program

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

Please see the attached letter from Northern Light Gas Co-op. Subsequent to the letter, they have requested a letter of support from Mackenzie County to move their application forward. No financial support has been requested.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

This could provide Mackenzie County residents with increased internet service, especially the rural residents.

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That Mackenzie County forwards a letter of support to Northern Lights Gas Co-op for the Community Broadband Infrastructure Program.

Author: Ryan Becker,
Director

Reviewed by: Ryan Becker,
Director

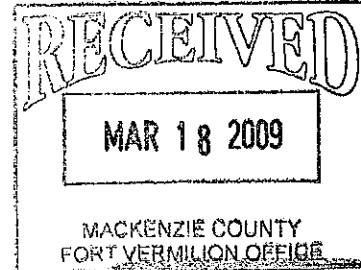
for
CAO *Jul*



10205-101 St., P.O. Box 1600
La Crete, Alberta T0H 2H0
Phone: (780) 928-3881
Fax: (780) 928-2166
E-Mail: nlgc@telusplanet.net

February 11, 2009

Bill Kostiw
Mackenzie County
Box 640
Fort Vermilion, Alberta T0H 1N0



Dear Bill:

We are writing to inform you of the efforts of Corridor Communications Inc towards building broadband infrastructure in rural Alberta. Corridor was formed in September 2007 by 9 gas co-ops including Northern Lights Gas Co-op Ltd. The intent of this company is to complete the last mile of the Alberta SuperNet and over the past year much time and money has been invested in determining the best solution for this project.

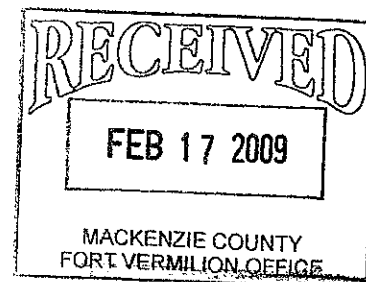
To date we have commissioned 2 test sites and the results have been extremely successful. These two test sites were large in scale, and tested the validity of the technology and our networks. It has proven to be robust and we believe will provide significant value added possibilities for rural Albertans.

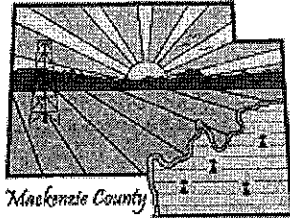
We are now at the point where we will begin rolling out commercial service starting in March 2009. The territories we intend to service in our initial rollout include that of your own County and we are interested in sharing information on our project with yourself in hopes of building co-operation as we believe that community support will be essential to our success. We would very much like to schedule a meeting with Mackenzie County to this end. Keys to success for this project will be access to tower locations, as well as community support for the services we will be offering.

We will be calling you to arrange a meeting. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact us to arrange a meeting at your earliest convenience, or to simply ask any questions you may have. We look forward to building a relationship with the Mackenzie County on this project and providing a better quality of service to your constituents. Thank you for your time.

Cordially,

Jack A. Eccles
Manager





Mackenzie County

P.O. Box 640, Fort Vermilion, AB T0H 1N0
Phone (780) 927-3718 Fax (780) 927-4266
www.mackenziecounty.com

March 17, 2009

DRAFT

Mr. Jack Eccles
Manager
Northern Lights Gas Co-op Ltd.
10205-101 St., Box 1600
La Crete, Alberta
T0H 2H0

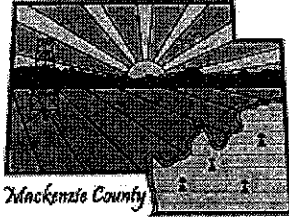
Dear Mr. Eccles:

Thank you for your letter to Mackenzie County regarding Northern Lights Gas Co-op's proposed Broad Band service that it intends to deploy in our region. We also understand that Northern Lights Gas Co-op is submitting an application to Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development for the Community Broadband Infrastructure Program.

Please accept this letter as support of Northern Lights Gas Co-op in your endeavor to provide Broad Band WiMax service in Mackenzie County. We look forward to working with you on the relevant issues and other requirements in order to provide the service to our constituents.

Yours truly,

Greg Newman
Reeve



MACKENZIE COUNTY
REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	March 26, 2009
Presented By:	David A Crichton, Director of Operations (North)
Title:	Fort Vermilion Fuel Tank

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

This is for the placement and use of a standalone 1000 gal marked fuel tank with 110 volt pump with hose. This tank will be used for diesel at the Fort Vermilion shop location. We have contacted 3 different suppliers and their price quotes are attached.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

This will reduce the diesel fuel cost to Mackenzie County using marked fuel.

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Cost of the fuel tank with 110 volt pump and hose.

UFA \$ 5,022.61 one time cost no rental fee

Neufeld Petroleum \$ 0.00 Condition, that we purchase their fuel.

La Crete Co-op \$0.00 Conditions, \$2.00/ month rental for 12 months with the possibility of an additional 12 months and we would purchase their fuel.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

For discussion.

Author: D. Crichton

Reviewed By: _____

Bar
 CAO *ML*

Quarter 4 of 2008: Gas and Diesel Prices, and Usage

DIESEL, IN OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 2008

	Price per litre		
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Average price	\$1.101	\$0.957	\$0.789
Neufeld	\$1.126	\$0.974	\$0.805
Bateman	n/a	\$1.152	\$0.903
UFA	\$0.452	\$1.161	\$0.886
Coop	\$1.102	\$0.919	\$0.763

Average Oct. - Dec.	\$0.928
---------------------	---------

To compare:
In quarter 3 of 2008

Average July - Sept.	\$1.209
----------------------	---------

To compare:
In quarter 2 of 2008

Average Apr. - June	\$1.206
---------------------	---------

To compare:
In quarter 1 of 2008

Average Jan. - March	\$1.012
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Volume in litres

	Volume in litres		
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Neufeld	23,536	29,248	28,066
Bateman	0	55	371
UFA	930	85	510
Coop	8,715	13,569	21,618
Total	33,181	42,957	50,565

Total Oct. - Dec.	80,850	64%
	426	0%
	1,525	1%
	43,902	35%
Total	126,703	100%

Total Apr. - June	81,601	86%
	52	0%
	79	0%
	13,283	14%
Total	95,014	100%

Total Jan. - March	88,368	89%
	0	0%
	0	0%
	11,078	11%
Total	99,446	100%

GAS, IN OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 2008

	Price per litre		
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Average price	\$1.072	\$0.869	\$0.717
Neufeld	\$1.072	\$0.870	\$0.708
Bateman	\$1.209	\$0.935	\$0.785
UFA	\$1.046	\$0.822	\$0.725
Coop	\$1.058	\$0.868	\$0.723

Average Oct. - Dec.	\$0.879
---------------------	---------

To compare:
In quarter 3 of 2008

Average July - Sept.	\$1.221
----------------------	---------

To compare:
In quarter 2 of 2008

Average Apr. - June	\$1.177
---------------------	---------

To compare:
In quarter 1 of 2008

Average Jan. - March	\$0.976
----------------------	---------

Volume in litres

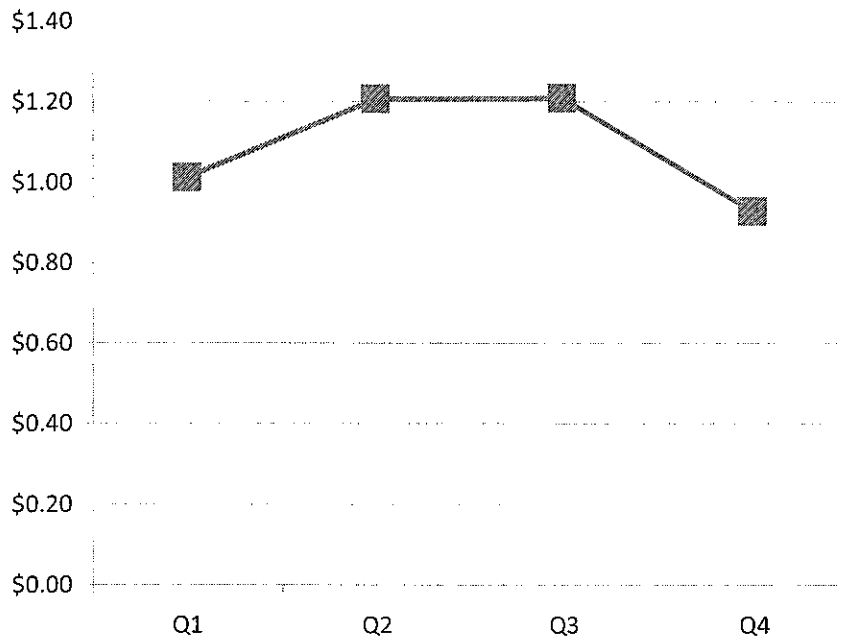
	Volume in litres		
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Neufeld	11,740	14,120	12,402
Bateman	380	283	1,332
UFA	452	595	1,667
Coop	2,962	2,214	2,185
Total	15,534	17,212	17,586

Total Oct. - Dec.	38,262	76%
	1,995	4%
	2,714	5%
	7,361	15%
Total	50,332	100%

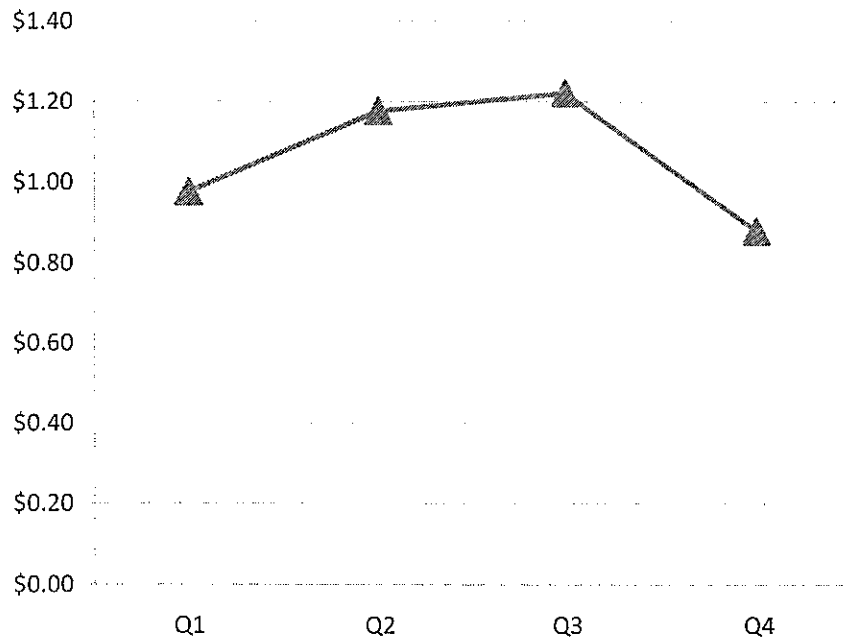
Total Apr. - June	42,027	90%
	599	1%
	1,886	4%
	2,367	5%
Total	46,879	100%

Total Jan. - March	43,706	91%
	599	1%
	2,848	6%
	1,130	2%
Total	48,284	100%

Diesel price per litre



Gas price per litre





QUOTE ORDER

UFA Co-operative Limited

1016 - 68 Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta T2V 4J2

UFA LA CRETE AGENCY
10301 100 STREET
LA CRETE, AB
T0H 2H0

**** CUSTOMER COPY ****

Time: 16:50:06

(780)928-3886 FAX: (000)000-0000

INVOICE #	REFERENCE	DATE

(PICK UP)

SOLD TO: WILKINSON COUNTY
PO BOX 640
FORT VERMILION AB T0H1N0

"Replace, refund or repair, it's your choice. Whatever it takes, we'll fix it. That's a promise"

Dallas Thorselson
President and Chief Executive Officer

***** DO NOT LOAD FROM THIS COPY *****

PLAN	CUSTOMER #	ORDER NUMBER	SALESPERSON					
	8918971	2067-78830834 - 1/23/2009	GEORGE					
PRODUCT #	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	✓	P	E	EXTENDED PRICE
593065	FUEL TANK FUEL VAULT 900 GAL	1.00	EA	3,959.99		N	Y	3,959.99
6604	PUMP	1.00	EA	782.00		N	Y	782.00
415893	FUEL HOSE ARCTIC 1" /FT	16.00	FT	9.09		N	Y	145.44
106913	2.5" P.V. LOCKING CAP 2500L	1.00	EA	35.19		N	Y	35.19
395432	F/R NOZZLE 1" AUTOMATIC	1.00	EA	99.99		N	Y	99.99
Duplicate Invoice:								
PO#: JERI								
Account Instruction:								
SUB TOTAL								5,022.61
PST								
GST								251.13
TOTAL								5,273.74

Expiration Date: 2/23/2009

TOTAL SAVINGS.: 440.00
PAYMENT AMOUNT: .00

PST & GST COLUMNS -
Y - PRODUCT IS TAXABLE
N - PRODUCT IS ZERO-RATED FOR TAX PURPOSES
E - PRODUCT IS EXEMPT FROM TAX

BALANCE DUE: 5,273.74

GST REGISTRATION NUMBER IS R102452049
DEEP ROOTS, PROMISING FUTURE, CELEBRATING OUR CENTENNIAL IN 2009.

Thank You

To: Mackenzie County

We Neufeld Petroleum would like to supply you with a 1000 Gallon tank to be used free of charge, all we ask in return is that you let us supply you with your Fuel & Gas needs.

PETROLEUM EQUIPMENT LEASE AGREEMENT

This agreement is made effective as of the 01th day of April, 2009

BETWEEN:

La Crete Co-op Limited
Box 60, 10502 - 100 St.
La Crete, Alberta T0H 2H0

(the "Co-op")

- and -

Mackenzie County

(the "Customer")

A. The Customer operates a trucking business in Fort Vermilion, Alberta on the property legally described as

B.

Fort Vermilion Shop

C. In order to facilitate the Customer's purchase of its petroleum product requirements, the Co-op has agreed to rent a tank and dispensing equipment to the Customer.

1. **Equipment Lease.** The Co-op agrees to provide the Customer with the following equipment (the "Equipment"),

1000 Gallon Tank on Skids with 110Volt Pump and meter 15' hose and Nozzle

for a monthly rent of \$ 2.00 plus all taxes including GST, which will be invoiced annually, on the following conditions:

- (a) the Customer buys all its petroleum products to be handled by the Equipment exclusively from the Co-op;
 - (b) the Customer is not in breach of its credit terms with the Co-op;
 - (c) an additional rental fee of up to \$ 50.00 per day may be charged by the Co-op if the Customer does not use the Equipment exclusively for petroleum products purchased from the Co-op or if the Customer fails to meet the forecasted volume as stated in #2 below.
2. **Forecast of Purchases.** The Customer's forecast of its purchases of petroleum products from the Co-op for the term of this agreement is 10000 litres.
3. **Installation.** The Customer is responsible for the transportation and installation of the Equipment and all associated costs, fees and licenses.
4. **Term.** The term of the agreement is 12 months from its effective date and will be automatically extended for an additional 12 month period if the Equipment is not returned to the Co-op prior to the end of the term.
5. **Termination.** This agreement will terminate at the expiration of the term or on the date the Equipment has been returned to the Co-op.

- 6. **Ownership.** The Customer agrees that the Equipment remains the property of the Co-op. The Customer agrees to keep the Equipment free of liens, charges, claims and security interests.
- 7. **Insurance.** The Customer agrees to insure the Equipment to its full replacement value in the amount of \$ 10,000.00 with the first loss payable to the Co-op and to provide the Co-op with proof of insurance on request.
- 8. **Maintenance.** The Customer must maintain and return the Equipment in good and safe operating condition and repair, reasonable wear and tear excepted. The Customer is responsible for all maintenance, including without limitation, repair and replacement of hoses, nozzles, filters, meters, regulators, pumps, etc.
- 9. **Environmental Responsibility.** The Customer warrants that, at the time of entering into this agreement, it is operating it's business and will continue to operate it's business in conformity with all applicable statutes, laws, bylaws, codes, rules, regulations and orders of every government or other authority having jurisdiction over the business, including, without limitation, the handling and storage of bulk petroleum. The Customer takes responsibility for complying with all regulations relating to the petroleum equipment installation including all permits and licenses that may be required.
- 10. **Default.** If the Customer is in default under its credit terms with the Co-op or ceases purchasing its petroleum products exclusively from the Co-op, or if the Customer is in default of the terms of this agreement, or for any other good commercial reason the Co-op deems itself to be insecure, the Co-op may take immediate possession of the Equipment and for this purpose enter upon the Land where the Equipment is located and remove it. The Customer agrees to indemnify the Co-op from any costs and expenses incurred in such removal.
- 11. **Indemnity.** The Customer agrees to indemnify the Co-op against all actions, claims, demands, liabilities, judgments, settlements, costs and damages made against the Co-op arising out of or connected with the Customer's use of the Equipment including without limitation the handling, storage, and dispensing of petroleum products from the Equipment and damage to the environment.
- 12. **Landowners/Mortgagee.** The Customer agrees to obtain and provide to the Co-op all necessary agreements from any owner of the Land and all mortgagees of the Land from time to time to assure to the Co-op its right to the Equipment in priority to all other persons with a security interest in the Customer's personal property or a security interest in the Land on which the Equipment is placed.
- 13. **Assignment.** The Customer may not assign this agreement without the prior written consent of the Co-op which will not be unreasonably withheld.

The parties have signed this agreement as of the date shown above by their properly authorized officers.

The Co-op

The Customer

By: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

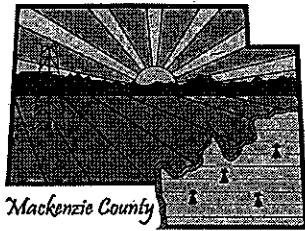
Title: _____

By: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

Title: _____



MACKENZIE COUNTY REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	March 26, 2009
Presented By:	Grant Smith, Agricultural Fieldman
Title:	Beaver Control Methods

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

Beavers are creating problems for farmers and homeowners by way of flooding of trees or crops, flooding of homes, highways and impairment of drainage systems and contamination of water supplies. They also have a major impact on our infrastructure by way of dam building and plugging culverts.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

A Beaver Damage Control policy does provide necessary guidelines and control with methods used in dealing with the situations. Beavers do create major problems but they are also important to our ecosystem. A review of the methods used should give some insight on the most cost efficient and effective means in dealing with beaver damage control.

Copies of surrounding Municipalities and Counties Policies are attached for your perusal.

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

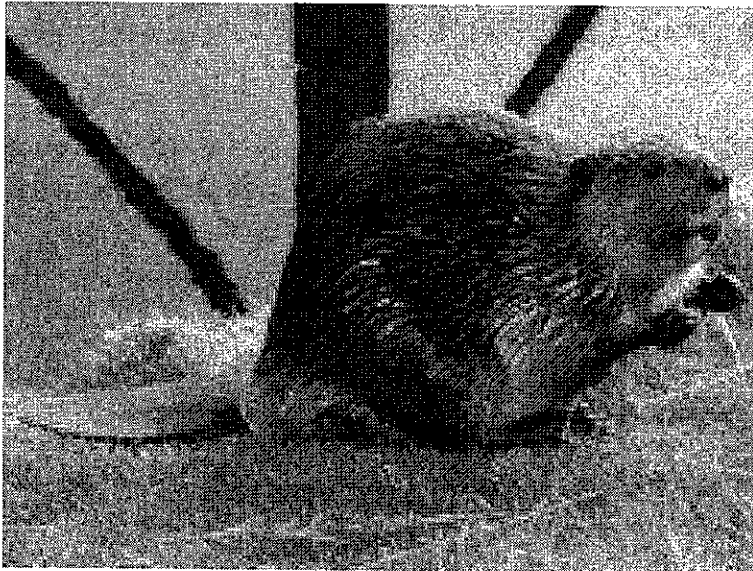
N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That Mackenzie County review the surrounding municipalities and counties methods and guidelines in dealing with the issue to ensure similar cost efficient and effective methods.

Author: P. Short **Review Date:** _____ **CAO**

MACKENZIE COUNTY
BEAVER REPORT 2009



Submitted: March 26, 2009
Prepared by: Grant Smith, Agricultural Fieldman

The beaver is the largest rodent found in Canada. Adults can weigh up to 65 pounds and measure from 24 to 36 inches, plus a tail of 12 to 18 inches. Beavers constitute a major nuisance species in many parts of the country, particularly the more northern areas. It essentially lives on or around streams, rivers, marshes and lakes.

The Beaver will produce only one litter of 4 to 6 kits each year from April to June, following a 100 to 105 day gestation. At two years of age, beavers leave the home colony to search for winter quarters, which may take them up to 10 km away.

Beavers are considered a nuisance for two primary reasons:

1. Tree cutting, which is undesirable to landowners who want to protect their trees; and
2. Dam building, which is a more serious matter, resulting in flooding forest and farm lands, plugged culverts and the washout of roads? In addition, the dam can threaten downstream property.

Some farmers or homeowners have a problem with flooding of trees or crops, flooding of homes, flooding of highways, and impairment of drainage systems and contamination of water supplies.

Beaver dams need to be removed or breached periodically to protect, maintain or construct infrastructure or to avoid the flooding of private and public land. After careful consideration of beaver damage control, the following three control options will apply:

1. Prevention - treat the area to prevent or reduce the damage.
2. Live trap and relocate the problem beaver; and
3. Destroy the problem beaver and remove the dam.

Since live trapping and relocating beavers are often cost prohibitive, their use is limited and often not practical. Also, research has shown that these methods of control are of questionable value because translocated beaver either return to the problem area or seldom survive relocation.

Many methods that are being used are as follows:

1. **Harvesting of beaver.** - This is a major source of income to Alberta's fur trade industry and annually represents about 30 per cent of gross fur sale revenues (over \$5 million in 2001)
2. **Tree protection** - Beavers can be fenced out of a treed area or individual trees can be wrapped with galvanized metal or chicken wire to a height of at least 1 m.
3. **Repellents** -Thiram, a known repellent used to reduce beaver damage, which is applied directly to trees and shrubs. However, this method will usually work only where beaver

have alternate sources of food, i.e. other trees they can cut for food. No license or permit is required to purchase or use this product.

4. **Water level control without beaver removal** – Installation of a “beaver drain pipe” where flooding is a major problem may be the best solution. The diameter of the pipe would be determined by the volume of water in the stream.
5. **Beaver guards** - A wire mesh cylinder will protect culverts from beaver. The diameter of the cylinder should be the same as the culvert, and the cylinder may be in a horizontal or vertical position.
6. **Shooting and trapping** - Landowners may shoot and trap beaver without a license, year-round, on their own land. On private land, hunters may trap or shoot beaver, year-round, with written landowner permission.

Most Counties and municipalities have a right and obligation on behalf of the public to protect infrastructure from damage caused by beavers. Many County and rural municipalities have beaver control officers who remove beavers and/or their dams at the request of landowners.

Upon my research of the surrounding municipalities and counties, I note their methods of Beaver Control as follows:

Provides a Contractor referral system

1. Yellowhead County
2. Municipal District of Northern Lights No. 22
3. County of Wetaskiwin No.10
4. Red Deer County

Blasting

1. Municipal District of Big Lakes (with a cost of \$200.00 for the first and \$100.00 cost for each additional, plus GST)
2. Lacombe County
3. Clear Hills County
4. County of Barrhead No.11
5. Municipal District of Northern Lights

6. County of Wetaskiwin No.10
7. Municipal District of Smokey River

Trapping & Dam Removal

1. Municipal District of Big Lakes
2. La Combe County
3. Clear Hills County (pays a bounty in the amount of \$10.00 per beaver when taken by a ratepayer)

With reference to the attached County's policies, you will note it is the policy of some county's such as the County of Wetaskiwin No. 10 whereby they will not conduct beaver work, trapping or blasting on agricultural lands or for companies, i.e. farmers, acreages, oil companies, etc. The Municipal District of Smokey River will only react if it is impacting their infrastructure and farmers are on their own.

The Beaver population is relatively stable today due to the restrictions that were placed on trapping licenses and limitations on trapping seasons. Beavers are very important to our ecosystems and therefore, careful consideration must be given when dealing with damage control issues.

Grant Smith

From: Erin Milner [emilner@parklandcounty.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2009 8:29 AM
To: Grant Smith
Cc: Mark Cardinal
Subject: Beaver Control


Hi Grant,

At Parkland we have a seasonal Pest Control Officer who works 6-9 months/year, he deals pretty much exclusively with beavers. We will trap beavers on any county property or right of way and we do private dam blasting. For the blasting we charge \$75/dam or \$200 for all dams in one quarter section or legal subdivision whichever is the lesser of these two amounts. We also will do some pulling of dams if blasting is not an option. This is how we are operating right now, but when the dynamite regulations change this could as well. Let me know if you need anything else.

Erin Milner | Supervisor, Agricultural Operations | Parkland County
53109A HWY 779 | Parkland County | AB | Canada | T7Z 1R1
Office: 780 968 8467 ext. 8236 | Fax: 780 968 8444

emilner@parklandcounty.com | www.parklandcounty.com

SADDLE HILLS COUNTY

	<u>POLICY TITLE</u> <i><u>Beaver Dams</u></i>	POLICY NO. <i>AG08</i>	PAGE 1		
	DEPARTMENT: <u>AGRICULTURE</u>				
COUNCIL RESOLUTION No. 05.02.14.06 Date: February 14, 2006	DCS	DPW	CAO	CROSS REFERENCE	EFFECTIVE DATE <i>February 14, 2006</i>
<u>PURPOSE:</u>					
To direct administration by stipulating which beaver dams are eligible to be removed by the County.					
<u>POLICY:</u>					
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. First priority on the removal of beaver dams will be given to beaver dams which are directly affecting the municipality's infrastructure. 2. Second priority on the removal of beaver dams will be given to beaver dams within ½ mile of the municipality's infrastructure which have the potential of affecting the municipality's infrastructure. 3. Municipal infrastructure is defined in this policy to include developed roads and environmental drainage ditches over which the County has control. 4. Permission will be obtained from the landowners if proceeding outside the municipal Rights-of-ways. 					

5.4.15 Beaver Control Policy

Following is the procedure to be taken in the removal of beaver and the destruction of beaver dams and the unplugging of road culverts affecting Municipal road allowances and other Municipal lands.

Damage control license issued by the Fish and Wildlife Department limits Municipal involvement of road allowances only. Municipal involvement on private lands will be limited to removal of beaver dams only, beaver removal will be the responsibility of the landowner.

Beaver Control on Municipal Road Allowance

- (a) All beaver flood control work on Municipal roads shall be initiated through the Agricultural Fieldman's office.
- (b) All control work shall be done by Municipal staff or the Agricultural Fieldman may be required to designate or contract duties from time to time.
- (c) If a road allowance is affected due to beaver activity on private land, control of beaver and blasting of beaver dams may take place on private land providing proper written permission is obtained from the landowner or person in possession of the land.

Beaver Flood Control on Private Land(s)

- (a) All requests for beaver flood control work must be made to the Agricultural Fieldman.
- (b) Farmers may request the services of the Municipal Beaver Control Officer to remove problem dams, with the following conditions:
 - A one hundred dollar (\$100) fee will be required to remove the first dam and a fifty dollar (\$50) fee for each subsequent dam on the same visit. This fee is payable at the Municipal Office, prior to any beaver flood control work being carried out.
 - Should beavers continue to work in the same location and require a subsequent visit later in the season, an additional fee will be required.

- The farmer will sign a hold harmless agreement at the same time as the fee is paid, prior to any beaver flood control work being carried out.
- On every blast, the Municipal Beaver Control Officer is the one in charge. He has authority over any and all at the blast site. His instructions will be followed out exactly. (Motion #213/94)

Watercourses as shown on Alberta Code of Practices Map (Camrose Region). Water bodies affected by beaver activity.

<u>Water Course</u>	<u>Designated Code</u>	<u>Details</u>
Battle River Conditions	Class C – April 16-June 30	Special
Ribstone Creek	Class C – April 16-June 30	Class D as well
Black Creek	Class C – April 16-June 30	Class D as well
Buffalo Creek	Class C – April 16-June 30	Class D as well
Gratton Coulee	Class C – April 16-June 30	Class D as well
Unnamed (Pugh Coulee; Flows into Battle River)	Class C – April 16-June 30	Class D as well
Unnamed (Flows into Battle River)	Class D	S½ 30-45-2-W4

Note: We do not deal with dam removal on the Battle River, lakes or large sloughs unless it is affecting the stability of a road or flow through a culvert.

Situations Where Beaver Dam Removal is Required

<u>Situation & Objective</u>	<u>Authorization Required Prior to Action</u>
-Flooding or potential flooding of municipal road or allowance -To maintain the safety and integrity of municipal roads	-As deemed warranted or authorized by the M.D. (Agricultural Fieldman, Public Works)

-Flooding or potential flooding of Provincial road or allowances
 -To maintain the safety and integrity of Provincial roads

-As requested by Alberta Transportation
 -As deemed warranted or authorized by the M.D. (Agricultural Fieldman)

-Flooding or potential flooding of CN track or Right of Ways
 -To maintain the safety and integrity of railway infrastructure

-As requested by CN
 -As deemed warranted or authorized by the M.D. (Agricultural Fieldman)

-Flooding or potential flooding of agricultural, residential, commercial, or industrial lands

-As requested by affected landowner
 Consent of landowner at dam location
 -As deemed warranted or authorized by the M.D. (Agricultural Fieldman)

Note: All beaver dam removal on private land requires a signed Hold Harmless Agreement from the registered landowner prior to any work being done.

Types of Beaver Dam Removal Methods Utilized

<u>Methods:</u>	<u>Fish Bearing Streams</u>	<u>Other Watercourses</u>
Manual Removal	-Dam is not too large for manual removal	-Unsafe, illegal, or inappropriate to use explosives -Site access does not permit
Mechanical	-Site access permits use of mechanical methods	-Unsafe, illegal, or inappropriate to use explosives -Site access permits use of mechanical methods

Explosives	-Safe and legal to use explosives -Site access does not permit the use of mechanical methods -Dam too large for manual removal	-Safe and legal to use explosives -Deemed by the M.D. to be the appropriate tool for the situation
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Types and Sizes of Explosives and Placement Location in Dams

In-Culvert Dams:

Dams located inside culverts are removed by hand or mechanically. Using explosives inside culverts is not currently an acceptable method of dam removal except in the most extreme emergency situations.

In-Stream Dams:

Explosive, blasting, Type A – Vibrogel will be used for removal of dams. Explosives will be placed in an effort to eliminate any possible damage to the bed of the stream.

An average sized dam would require a charge of approximately 4 sticks.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BIG LAKES

TITLE:	Beaver Control Policy
APPROVED BY COUNCIL:	May 10, 1995
EFFECTIVE DATE:	May 10, 1995
REVISED DATE:	February 8, 2006
POLICY NO.	ASB-03
LEGAL AUTHORITY:	Wildlife Act

POLICY STATEMENT

The Municipal District recognizes the need to establish guidelines for the control of beavers, and the associated beaver dams, within the bounds of the Municipal District of Big Lakes. This policy provides such guidelines.

POLICY

Requests for Service—Agricultural Lands

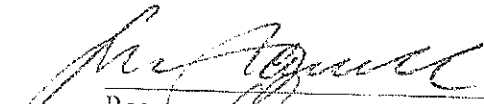
1. Beaver control measures may be undertaken at the request of a landowner/occupant or at the initiative of the Municipal District on lands to which access is permitted.
2. For the blasting service a \$200 + GST charge will apply for the first beaver dam, and \$100 + GST for each additional beaver dam. Trapping of the beavers will be included with the blasting service at no additional charge. This trapping may either be performed prior to, or after, the dam blasting so as to prevent/minimize the rebuilding of the beaver dams. Up to 1 week of trapping will be provided with each contracted blasting occurrence.
3. Prior to the start of the blasting, the landholder must sign a work order agreement to commit payment for the services rendered. If necessary the landowner may be required to obtain a Damage Control Permit to control beavers from Fish and Wildlife and provide written authorization to the trapper. In the event that blasting is on fish-bearing waters the dam blaster will comply with the conditions specified by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO).
4. The removal of beaver shall be addressed with due consideration for site specific opportunities and constraints that might present themselves and in a fashion that reduces the risk of non-target animal capture with human safety being of paramount importance.

Requests for Service—Municipal Public Lands

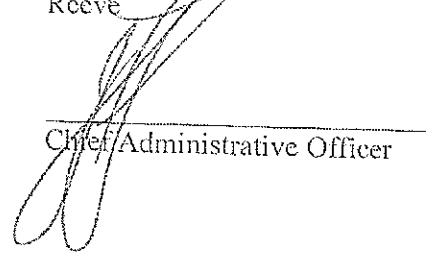
1. Pest Control personnel will respond to requests from ratepayers for beaver control on municipal lands and will actively pursue and eradicate beaver and beaver dams on all municipal controlled property.
2. Alberta Transportation is responsible for the maintenance of road culverts blocked by beaver on all primary and secondary highways.
3. The M.D. will initiate control at no charge where beaver dams are causing the ponding of water within M.D. road allowances or licensed drainage ditches.

Dam Removal

1. The Municipal District shall remove only the necessary sections of beaver dams, as required to facilitate the flow of water. Removal of entire dams will be done in a discriminating manner so as to avoid downstream flooding and siltation, increased dynamite costs, and increased risk of blasting damage from larger sized charges. Dams shall be removed sequentially starting from the ones lowest downstream, and moving in an upstream manner for subsequent blasts.
2. Sites harboring large beaver numbers adjacent to MD infrastructure that are subject to problematic beaver activity may receive beaver control work at no charge provided the trapper obtains the appropriate authorization and permission to proceed.
3. Residents living within 200 metres of the proposed blasting site shall be notified of the intent to remove the dam. Notification of the blast shall be undertaken immediately prior to the blast and shall be made in person. If the resident is not at home at the time of the blast, the blaster shall leave a form letter explaining the intent of the Municipal District and shall determine visually if there are any constraints apparent on the property.
4. In the event the beaver activity is located outside of the municipality's right of ways, the MD staff or trapper/blaster shall seek owner/occupant permission for dam/beaver removal activities.
5. The blaster is to ensure the blast locations are not in the immediate proximity to underground and overhead utility lines.



Reeve



Chief Administrative Officer

Beaver Control	Beaver Control Summary - MID of Big Lakes - 1996 to Present										
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009*
of beaver removed	447	494	494	383	404	519	914	601	560	603	570
of dams blasted	43	92	101	31	66	34	53	32	28	38	30
of trapping days	149	137	137	130	129	154	190	173	185	173	138.5
lt. contract blaster						\$6,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0
contract Trapper annual cost + GST	\$25,168	\$31,842	\$33,094	\$22,387	\$30,128	\$35,046	\$40,660	\$46,278	\$50,006	\$48,137	\$39,992
license surcharge Trapper							\$11,120	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
contract Blaster							\$7,315	\$6,012	\$6,873	\$7,268	\$7,000
average cost per beaver	\$62	\$67	\$67	\$58	\$78	\$61	\$52	\$87	\$102	\$92	
rate / trapping day	\$135	\$135	\$135	\$135	\$150	\$150	\$200	\$250	\$255	\$265	\$275
total Cost for Trapper and blaster							\$59,095	\$52,290	\$56,879	\$55,405	\$46,992
of coyotes removed					11	6	11	?	2	35	20
starting date (trapper)	5-Apr	25-Apr	19-Apr	19-Apr	14-Apr	12-Apr	4-Apr	23-Mar	1-Apr	27-Mar	30-Mar
ending date	5-Nov	12-Nov	31-Oct	31-Oct	31-Oct	31-Oct	31-Oct	31-Oct	7-Nov	31-Oct	31-Oct
1995	moderately dry year										
1996	wet year - June floods										
1997	wet spring followed by a moderately dry summer										
1998	dry year										
1999	dry year										
2000	dry spring followed by a moderately wet summer										
2001	dry spring followed by a moderately wet summer										
2002	very dry year										
2003	normal year										
2004	normal year with late August & Sept wet periods										
2005	wet late summer/fall + (1-week January meltdown)										
2006	little snow accumulation into spring; dry year										
2007	large snow accumulation into late spring/normal year; wet late-Aug / early-Sept										
2008	late spring; dry summer; wet late Aug. / early Sept; mild dry late fall										
D of Big Lakes contact:	Gary Braithwaite										cell 523-8197
Beaver Control Contractor:	Dennis Lauck										cell 507-0464
Contract Blaster:	Henry Brown										ph 776-3952 alt. cell 523-9240

*forecast

2008 dam blasts total includes Seal Lake Rd (11)

1995 moderately dry year

1996 wet year - June floods

1997 wet spring followed by a moderately dry summer

1998 dry year

1999 dry year

2000 dry spring followed by a moderately wet summer

2001 dry spring followed by a moderately wet summer

2002 very dry year

2003 normal year

2004 normal year with late August & Sept wet periods

2005 wet late summer/fall + (1-week January meltdown)

2006 little snow accumulation into spring; dry year

2007 large snow accumulation into late spring/normal year; wet late-Aug / early-Sept

2008 late spring; dry summer; wet late Aug. / early Sept; mild dry late fall

D of Big Lakes contact: Gary Braithwaite

Beaver Control Contractor: Dennis Lauck

Contract Blaster: Henry Brown

cell 523-8197

cell 507-0464

ph 776-3952 alt. cell 523-9240

Job Hazard Analysis Blasting

Job: Beaver Dam Blasting		Approved By: <u>Charlie Cutforth, CAO</u>
Analysis by: Shayne Steffen, Agricultural Fieldman	Original Participation by: Shayne Steffen Justin Babcock	
Date: November 26, 2007	Revised Date : Revised By;	Date:
ITEM	Potential Accidents or Hazards	Preventative Measures
1) Arrive at site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rough terrain • Fences and other obstructions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk carefully. Wear steel toe CSA Class 1 footwear that supports the ankle. • Wear leather gloves to prevent snags & contact with sharp objects (i.e. barbed wire fence) • Keep as low as possible when climbing through fences & other obstacles to reduce potential fall injury. • Watch for signs of electric fence such as insulators, smooth wire, wound multicoloured wire, tapes, plastic or fiberglass poles, and posted "Electric Fence". • Do not allow explosives to touch

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livestock or guard animals are present • Dogs on property • Weather hazards such as: Heat stroke or stress, excessive thirst, cold or wet due to rain • Lightning strikes 	<p>fence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two personell are always required on a blasting job. • Explosives and Caps are to be separated until readying charge. • Use caution; if the situation is considered unsafe, the livestock owner should be contacted prior to entering the property. • Use discretion, if the dogs appear or are known to be aggressive, attempt to contact the landowner to ascertain your safety. • Have appropriate clothing available for climate extremes. Carry different types of clothing to allow layering. Hat, lighter clothes for heat, and heavier clothing for cool days. • Carry water and drink as often as required. • Blasting is not to occur when high winds are causing soil particles in the air • Blasting not to occur while during a rain event • Blasting not to occur during a lightning storm or when thunder can be heard.
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be cognizant of impending thunderstorms. Take refuge in a vehicle if possible, until the hazard passes. Leave the area if necessary.
2) Discover plants of unknown origin, potentially poisonous.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poisonings from dermal, oral or inhalation exposure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look for any signs of Water Hemlock and avoid plants
3) Blasting near Power/Gas lines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explosion hazard, damage to infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No blasting within 50 m of gas or power lines. • Always "first call" sites that have utility ROW"S showing on Abba Data sheet • Look for visible signs of crossings including actual signage, red posts, cut lines.
4) Public complaints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confrontation, bodily injury 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leave site and let Police handle • If charge is set do not leave area and get Police to assist immediately at site. • Ensure permission to enter is obtained on private land. • Contact adjacent owners of activities if on public or County lands.

<p>5) Setting and destroying charge</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Death or injury due to explosion hazard <p>Death or injury due to flying debris</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blaster must be trained and licensed in Alberta • Only set charge if area can be evacuated in enough time to clear area of blast (2 min 30 sec.) • 1 metre safety fuse is mandatory • Set charges consistently • Only attach detonator when all charges have been set and area is clear • Only use product that has not reached the expiry date • Never carry detonator with explosives (b-line or explosive charges) at the same time • Light fuse if it is only safe to do so • Use hardhat in blast zone • Stay behind the blast (upstream of dam) • Keep a safe distance away (100 m if able to) • Use trees as a guard • Keep blasting area visible to allow tracking of debris • Post signs on roadways if required or close road prior to and during blasting event • Clean roadway of hazardous debris prior to opening after blast
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<p>6) Wild animal encounters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serious injury or death especially moose in wetland areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be cognizant of what is around you, back away from encounters, especially between a female & her young.
<p>7) Transportation of Explosives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential injury or death due to complete or partial rollover. • Theft of explosives • Accidental ignition of explosives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All operators should be trained in TDG regarding explosives • Operate the unit in a manner suitable for the terrain and weather • Stop & inspect unknown terrain and potentially rough areas prior to traversing, avoid treacherous terrain if possible. • Attach a static guard to transport vehicle • Ensure vehicle is in proper working order • Ensure vehicle can be disabled if you are required to leave the vehicle (ie "the Club" steering wheel lock. • If transport magazine is loaded vehicle must be visible. • No fueling shall take place while the transport magazine is loaded

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Placards shall be used with the transportation of over 25kg of explosives
8) Infectious disease caused by insect bite.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Nile virus or other communicable disease 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use insect repellent as required. Wear long sleeved clothing whenever possible.

PONOKA COUNTY

Municipal Policy Handbook



POLICY TITLE BEAVER DAM BLASTING	POLICY NO. 03-008
DATE OF RECOMMENDATION: March 26, 2008	CROSS REFERENCE:
POLICY AREA: <input type="checkbox"/> Administration & Personnel <input type="checkbox"/> Planning & Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Service Board <input type="checkbox"/> Public Works & Utilities <input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	DATE OF APPROVAL BY COUNTY COUNCIL:
LEAD ROLE: Agricultural Service Board	RESOLUTION #:
SUPPORT ROLE: Agricultural Fieldman	EFFECTIVE DATE:
REVIEW DATES: 2011	REPLACES:
POLICY STATEMENT: Purpose: 1) To protect ratepayer land from flooding caused by beaver dams in Ponoka County. 2) To maintain and protect road infrastructure in Ponoka County. 3) To maintain and protect drainage infrastructure in Ponoka County.	
SPECIAL NOTATIONS: Blasting procedures attached Blasting protocol attached Blasting quote sheet attached	



POLICY TITLE	POLICY NO.
<i>Beaver Dam Blasting</i>	<i>03-008</i>

PROCEDURES:

The County and their agents will:

1. Adhere to Provincial and Federal regulations regarding the use of explosives.
2. Adhere to Provincial and Federal environmental regulations regarding the use of explosives for beaver dam removal.
3. Adhere to O, H, & S guidelines with regards to handling explosives.
4. Adhere to TDG guidelines with regards to transportation of explosives.
5. Contact the Department of Fisheries and Oceans for approval prior to removing dams requiring over 1 kg of explosives and/or blasting required in restricted use periods.
6. Follow the Ponoka County protocol for dam blasting.
7. Maintain accurate records of explosives inventory and blasting locations.
8. Allow only licensed blasters to use explosives.
9. Follow safe work procedures regarding the use of explosives.
10. Allow Site blaster to have absolute authority over activities within 200m of the blasting location.
11. License explosive storage magazines annually.
12. Collect money for services rendered prior to blasting activities carried out on private lands and obtain permission to access private land to perform works.
13. Set pricing for private blasting works annually.
14. Secure in writing any approvals or permissions required.
15. In emergency situations assist Provincial and/or Federal agencies in utilizing explosives to remove Ice dams which pose a immediate risk to bridge infrastructure on roads within the boundaries of Ponoka County.



NOTIFICATION FORM

Version 3.0

PROponent INFORMATION

NAME: Ponoka County
 CITY/TOWN: Ponoka
 TEL. NO. (RESIDENCE): N/A
 FAX NO.: 403-783-6965

STREET ADDRESS: 4205-HWY 2A
 PROVINCE/TERRITORY: AB
 TEL. NO. (WORK): 403-783-3333
 EMAIL ADDRESS: shsteffe@telus.net

POSTAL CODE: T4J-1V9

CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

NAME: Shayne Steffen
 Mgr. Agriculture Services for Ponoka County
 CITY/TOWN: Ponoka
 TEL. NO. (RESIDENCE): N/A
 FAX NO.: 403-783-6965

STREET ADDRESS: 4205-HWY 2A
 PROVINCE/TERRITORY: AB
 TEL. NO. (WORK): 403-783-1030 wk. cell
 EMAIL ADDRESS: shsteffe@telus.net

POSTAL CODE: T4J-1V9

PROJECT INFORMATION

Select Operational Statements that are being used (check all applicable boxes):

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beaver Dam Removal | <input type="checkbox"/> Isolated Pond Construction | <input type="checkbox"/> Punch & Bore Crossings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bridge Maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Isolated or Dry Open-cut Stream Crossings | <input type="checkbox"/> Routine Maintenance Dredging |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clear-Span Bridges | <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance of Riparian Vegetation in Existing Rights-of-Way | <input type="checkbox"/> Submerged Log Salvage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Culvert Maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Moorings | <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Stream Crossing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High-Pressure Directional Drilling | <input type="checkbox"/> Overhead Line Construction | <input type="checkbox"/> Underwater Cables |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ice Bridges and Snow Fills | | |

Select the type of water body or watercourse at or near your project:

- River, Stream, Creek
 Lake (8 hectares or greater)
 Pond or wetland (pond is less than 8 hectares)

PROJECT LOCATION(S)

Name of water body or watercourse SEE ATTACHED LIST
 Coordinates of the Project (UTM co-ordinate or Degrees, Minutes, Seconds), if available
 Easting: _____ Northing: _____
 Latitude: _____ Longitude: _____

Legal Description (LSD, Quarter, Section, Township, Range, Meridian)
 Directions to Access the Project Site (i.e., Route or highway number, etc.)

Proposed Start Date (YYYY/MM/DD): 2008/07/01
 Proposed Completion Date (YYYY/MM/DD): 2008/07/30

We ask that you notify DFO, preferably 14 working days before starting your work, by filling out and sending in, by mail or by fax, this notification form to the DFO office in your area. This information is requested in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the work carried out in relation to the Operational Statement.

I, Shayne Steffen (print name) certify that the information given on this form is, to the best of my knowledge, correct and complete.

Signature: _____ Date: June 24, 2008

Note: If you cannot meet all of the conditions and cannot incorporate all of the measures in the Operational Statement then your project may result in a violation of subsection 35(1) of the *Fisheries Act* and you could be subject to enforcement action. In this case, you should contact the DFO office in your area if you wish to obtain DFO's opinion on the possible options you should consider to avoid contravention of the *Fisheries Act*.

Information about the above-noted proposed work or undertaking is collected by DFO under the authority of the *Fisheries Act* for the purpose of administering the fish habitat protection provisions of the *Fisheries Act*. Personal information will be protected under the provisions of the *Privacy Act* and will be stored in the Personal Information Bank DFO-SCI-605. Under the *Privacy Act*, individuals have a right to, and on request shall be given access to, any personal information about them contained in a personal information bank. Instructions for obtaining personal information are contained in the Government of Canada's info Source publications available at www.infosource.gc.ca or in Government of Canada offices. Information other than "personal" information may be accessible or protected as required by the

provisions of the *Access to Information Act*.

FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA OFFICES IN ALBERTA

Calgary Office

Fisheries and Oceans Canada
7646-8th St. NE
Calgary, Alberta, T2E 8X4
General Inquiries: 403-292-5160
Fax: 403-292-5173
Email: ReferralsCalgary@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Edmonton Office

Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Whitemud Business Park
4253-97th Street
Edmonton, Alberta, T6E 5Y7
General Inquiries: 780-495-4220
Fax: 780-495-8606
Email: ReferralsEdmonton@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Lethbridge Office

Fisheries and Oceans Canada
J.D. Higinbotham Building
204, 704-4th Avenue South
Lethbridge, Alberta, T1J 0N8
General Inquiries: 403-394-2920
Fax: 403-394-2917
Email: ReferralsLethbridge@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Peace River Office

Fisheries and Oceans Canada
9001-94th Street
Peace River, Alberta, T8S 1G9
General Inquiries: 780-618-3220
Fax: 780-618-3235
Email: ReferralsPeaceRiver@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Aussi disponible en français

http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/oceans-habitat/habitat/modernizing-moderniser/epmp-pmpe/index_f.asp

DFO/2007-1329

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Ponoka County Beaver Dam Blasting Quote

Ponoka County offers Beaver dam blasting to ratepayers at cost. **The fees associated with this quote must be paid before blasting can take place.** The County will take all steps necessary to minimize collateral damage to trees and surrounding crop land. However, due to the nature and powerful forces of blasting you agree to hold Ponoka County harmless for any damages (including mud and debris in fields) to trees, machinery, property, life, bodily injury, or any livestock not removed from the blasting area and/or resulting from the blasting.

FEES

\$2.00 ea - 1/8 kg Geogel power primer sticks

\$12.40 ea - 1kg blasting stick

\$13.70 ea - Fuse

\$0.84/m - Bee line detonating cord

\$1.17/m / Cordex XTL detonating cord

Property utility search \$10.00 per property **(Mandatory)**

A quote will be provided to the landowner prior to blasting. If the cost of materials exceeds original quote the original quote shall be honored. Works must be paid for prior to blasting.

The Manager of Agricultural Services reserves the absolute right to refuse blasting requests.

Quotation for: _____

Blasting Location: _____

Itemized Quote

_____ x 1/8 geogel power primer sticks at \$2.00 each = \$ _____

_____ x 1kg blasting stick at \$12.40 each = \$ _____

_____ x Fuse at \$13.70 each = \$ _____

_____ (Metres) Bee line detonating cord at \$0.84/m = \$ _____

_____ (Metres) Cordex XTL detonating cord at \$1.17/m = \$ _____

_____ x Property Search (Mandatory) \$10.00 each property= \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

I, _____ of (Address) _____ agree to pay Ponoka County the above noted sum prior to any blasting works completed. I also agree to hold Ponoka County harmless for any collateral damage sustained to my property including trees, property, life, bodily injury, or any livestock not removed from the blasting area (including mud and debris in fields and post blast damage to machinery contacting remnants from the blast) .

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Manager of Agricultural Services: _____ Date: _____

Ponoka County Blasting Protocol

Legal Land Location/LSD: _____

Water system (creek name or local name):

Stream Class: A B C _____ D (no restricted activity period)
 Restricted activity period

Blasting Date:

Time:

Assessment notes (birds, beavers, wildlife, fish, proximity to buildings, roads, etc...):

No. of dams: _____

Dam size: _____ metres long, _____ metres wide (across top), _____ metres deep

Amount of Product used: _____ x 1 kg, _____ x 1/8 kg, _____ Detonators
 _____ metres of B-line

Outcome: _____

- Abba data sheet attached
- Alberta One Call completed
- DFO Notification of Works
- Blasting quote signed
- Permission to access

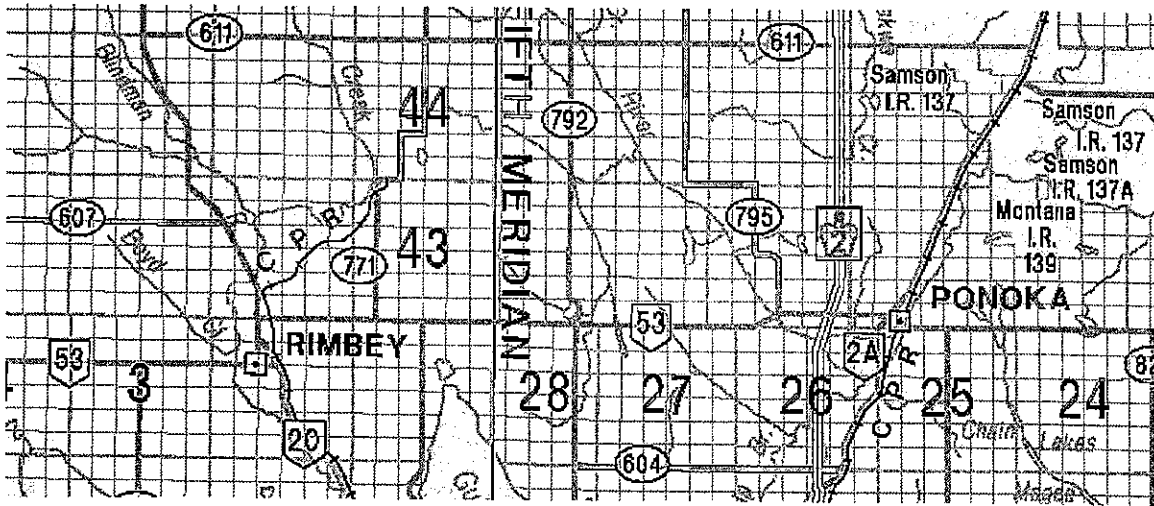
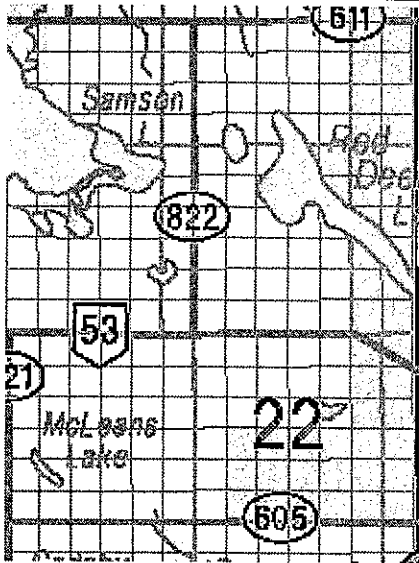
_____ of _____

Hereby give Ponoka County permission to access lands under my control for the purpose of beaver dam obstruction removal.

Signature of owner/occupant

Paid prior to blasting

Water Body Class	Water Body Class Symbol	Restricted Activity Period
Class A	● or ★	- See applicable Code of Practice for specific requirements
Class B	○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○	- September 16 to June 30
Class C	▨	- September 16 to July 31
	▨	- September 16 to June 30
	▨	- September 1 to April 30
	▨	- October 1 to April 15
	▨	- April 16 to June 30
Class D	None	- No Restricted Activity Period



You may proceed with your Beaver Dam Removal Project without a DFO review when you meet the following conditions:

- removal of the dam will not adversely affect a fishery, or recreational or property uses that depend on the dam's existence, both upstream and downstream,
- removal activities are limited to removing or breaching the beaver dam itself and do not involve channel modification (e.g., widening, straightening, ditching, etc.),
- **individual detonations of more than one kilogram of explosives will not be used to remove the dam (diesel fuel and fertilizer is not to be used as a type of explosive),**
- the removal does not involve a beaver dam that is directly connected with a culvert or bridge (removal in these situations is addressed in Operational Statements for Culvert Maintenance and Bridge Maintenance), and
- you incorporate the *Measures to Protect Fish and Fish Habitat when Removing Beaver Dams* listed below.

C.O.P. RE: Class designations Section 7 (3) - *CODE OF PRACTICE FOR PIPELINES AND TELECOMMUNICATION LINES CROSSING A WATER BODY*

(3) The class of an uncoded water body is as follows:

(a) Class D, unless otherwise specified in clause (b);

(b) where an uncoded water body enters a mapped water body that is a Class A, B or C water body, the portion of the uncoded water body for a distance of 2 kilometres upstream from the mouth of the uncoded water body is the same class as the mapped water body that is entered.

(4) The class of an unmapped water body is as follows:

(a) where an unmapped water body enters a mapped Class A water body, the unmapped water body

(i) is Class A for the portion of the unmapped water body for a distance of 2 kilometres upstream from the mouth of the unmapped water body, including where the unmapped water body is dry or frozen to the bottom at the time of the works; and

(ii) is Class B for any other portion of the unmapped water body;

(b) where an unmapped water body enters a mapped Class B water body, the unmapped water body

(i) is Class B for the portion of the unmapped water body for a distance of 2 kilometres upstream from the mouth of the unmapped water body, including where the unmapped water body is dry or frozen to the bottom at the time of the works; and

(ii) is Class C for any other portion of the unmapped water body;

(c) where an unmapped water body enters a mapped Class C water body, the unmapped water body

(i) is Class C for the portion of the unmapped water body for a distance of 2 kilometres upstream from the mouth of the unmapped water body; and

(ii) is Class C for any other portion of the unmapped water body, and the requirements regarding restricted activity periods under section 9 (5)(b) apply;

(d) where an unmapped water body enters a mapped Class D water body, the unmapped water body is Class D;

(e) where an unmapped water body enters a fish bearing lake, whether or not the fish bearing lake appears on a map, the unmapped water body is Class C, and the requirements regarding restricted activity periods under section 9(6) apply.

The blaster will follow the Ponoka County policy regarding blasting and explosives use.

Grant Smith

From: Art Preachuk [apreachuk@reddeercounty.ab.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2009 11:47 AM
To: Grant Smith
Subject: FW: [Tagged as Spam] Beaver Control

-----Original Message-----

From: Art Preachuk
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2009 11:45 AM
To: 'gsmith@md23.ab.ca'
Subject: RE: [Tagged as Spam] Beaver Control

Hi Grant

All of our beaver control is contracted out. If the critters are affecting a County road or property, the County pays'
If the damming and flooding is on private land not affecting public property it is up to the land owner to do the control and or hire a trapper and pay for it.

Art P

Red Deer

-----Original Message-----

From: smajek@county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca [mailto:smajek@county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2009 11:08 AM
To: aaron@clearhillscounty.ab.ca; asb@mdwainwright.ca; Al Hampton; Al Ropchan; Alan Jacklin; allan.crawford@mountainviewcounty.com; akaut@saddlehills.ab.ca; aveenstra@sturgeoncounty.ab.ca; Art Preachuk; Audrey Gall; Barry Kolenosky; Bill Kolkman; mctavishb@countyofnewell.ab.ca; Brent Hoyland; Bruce Sommerville; Burt Forbes; conservation@kneehillcounty.com; cbomphray@stettlercounty.ca; clarence@thorhildcounty.com; Cody Mcintosh; ckappler@brazeau.ab.ca; corinne.kelts@gov.ab.ca; Darwin Ullery; churchil@strathcona.ab.ca; davmat@fortymile.ab.ca; Dave Trautman; Dawn Fortin; Dennis Bergheim; Dennis Mueller; dburlock@lacombecounty.com; dbodnar@county.lethbridge.ab.ca; doug.richardson@laclabicherecounty.com; Duane Charlesworth; Dwight Tannas; emilner@parklandcounty.com; fturner@mdfoothills.com; fred@mdfairview.ab.ca; Garrett Broadbent; Gary Braithwaite; Gary Lewis; Gary Peers; gsecrist@county.lethbridge.ab.ca; geobro@cypress.ab.ca; Geoff Thompson; George Aaserud; George Vachon; Grant Smith; harold@thorhildcounty.com; hbjorge@county24.com; jacolyn@westlockcounty.com; JAlbers@county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca; jleskiw@parklandcounty.com; James Meeks; James Schwindt; jbullock@mdtaber.ab.ca; Jason Regehr; Jason Spotted Eagle; jassto@cypress.ab.ca; jbyer@stettlercounty.ca; Jeff Cosens; jfleischer@rockyview.ca; Jeff Holmes; Jeff Warawa; jbenson@yellowheadcounty.ab.ca; jrobinson@county.stpaul.ab.ca; jhenry@countygp.ab.ca; Jon Hood; Jordon Christianson; agboard@telus.net; Katie Roxburgh; Keith Boras; Kelly Cooley; Kelly Malmberg; Ken Lewis; Kim Butler; Kim nielsen; klopaschuk@thcounty.ab.ca; krystle.fedoretz@laclabicherecounty.com; kmeunier@phrd.ab.ca; ag@ranchland66.com; lpoile@rockyview.ca; lindsay@starlandcounty.com; Marilyn Flock; Mark Cardinal; Martin Baert; mlupwayi@countygp.ab.ca; Matt Janz; mmartinson@county.clearwater.ab.ca; mpetluk@northernsunrise.net; asb@mdsmokyriver.com; Pat Dirk; patricia.r@lamontcounty.ca; Paul King; qbeaumont@countypaintearth.ca; Quentin Bochar; rennis@brazeau.ab.ca; asb@mdacadia.ab.ca; Rick Thomas; Rod Foggin; rod@leduc-county.com; rnakonechny@minburncounty.ab.ca; Ron Jackson; Ron MacKay; rstead@mdfoothills.com; Russ Jassman; russel.muenchrath@wheatlandcounty.ca; ryan.buehler@gov.ab.ca;

smclean@yellowheadcounty.ab.ca; Shayne Steffen; smaki@county.clearwater.ab.ca;
twarren@parklandcounty.com; tmcginn@gov.lacsteanne.ab.ca; Terry Eleniak; Terry Schamehorn;
Tim Dietzler; greent@countyofnewell.ab.ca; tomsim@fortymile.ab.ca;
tkeller@athabascacounty.com; warrens@birchhillscounty.com
Subject: Fw: [Tagged as Spam] Beaver Control

On behalf of Grant who is not on the AAAF Website.
Stephen

----- Forwarded by Steve Majek/CNTYWTSK on 03/17/2009 11:08 AM -----

"Grant Smith"
<gsmith@mackenzie
county.com>
03/11/2009 01:21
PM
To
<smajek@county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca>
cc
Subject
[Tagged as Spam] Beaver Control

Hi Steve, can you please forward this to the association.

Council has asked me to research other Municipality's Beaver Control policies, methods, procedures, etc. If you guys/gals can send me some info I'd sure appreciate it.

Thanks a bunch,
Grant Smith, Ag Fieldman, Mackenzie County

NOTE: THIS MESSAGE IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE ADDRESSEE, IT MAY CONTAIN PRIVILEGED OR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.

If you are not the intended recipient of this message, you should not: read it, distribute it, copy it or take any action in reliance on the content of this communication. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us at once by reply E-mail, then permanently delete the original, your reply and destroy any copy or printout.



Yellowhead County

Policy No.:

Topic: <p style="text-align: center;">Beaver Control Policy</p>	Effective Date:
	Approved By: RES ____-____-____ (Include Resolution Number)
Subject Area: <p style="text-align: center;">Infrastructure Services</p>	Date of Next Review: January 2013
	Date(s) Revised: (Include date of Council meeting and Resolution Number)

<p>Policy Statement: Yellowhead County will only undertake the removal of beaver or beaver dams from private property or public lands if it is to protect the integrity of the county road system. The beaver is not a declared pest under the Agricultural Pest Act of Alberta, R.S.A. 2000, c. A-8. Yellowhead County has no legislated responsibility to provide beaver control or beaver dam removal on private or provincial land.</p>
<p>Purpose: The responsibility for the beaver (Genus Castor) rests with the province of Alberta. The objective of Yellowhead County is to establish the role of this County regarding beaver control and beaver dam removal on private or provincial land.</p>
<p>Principles:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yellowhead County understands the importance of beaver and beaver dam removal to protect the integrity of the county road system. 2. Yellowhead County expects that landowners will control beaver problems on their own lands.
<p>Council Guidelines:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council will grant permission to Yellowhead County staff to control beaver and beaver dams if it is of the opinion of the staff that the beaver or the beaver dams are affecting the integrity of a developed county road.



Managerial Guidelines:

1. Residents will be advised of the Yellowhead County Beaver Control Policy and provided a list of contractor referrals that will provide beaver and beaver dam removal.
2. Written complaints generated because of named creek beaver or beaver dam concerns will be forwarded to Alberta Environment.
3. The control of beavers and beaver dams that will affect the integrity of a developed county road, General Release and Hold Harmless All Demand forms shall be completed prior to work being completed on private property by County staff.
4. The use of explosives for the purpose of removing beaver dams shall only be permitted where:
 - a. There is no immediate danger to the general public, private property or utilities.
 - b. There is exist no potential of downstream flooding.
 - c. There is a County employee who possesses a valid blasters certificate.
 - d. DFO Approval has been obtained.

Cross Reference to Other Policies and Bylaws:

Policy #63.01 is rescinded with the adoption of this policy.

Mayor

Date

Chief Administrative Officer

Date

Grant Smith

From: Normand Boulet [asb@mismokyriver.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2009 11:17 AM
To: Grant Smith
Subject: Beaver control

Grant:

I happen to be sitting at my computer and saw Steve's circulated e-mail come in, so here's a cut & paste of our Beaver Control Policy. Basically, we will only react if the flooding/dam is impacting our infrastructure (roads, drainage ditches). Farmers are on their own. I have yet to accompany the blaster (per Policy) and with the new rules coming into force regarding our magazine, if the security costs are as high as I think they'll be, I'm going to be strongly suggesting we get out of the blasting business altogether and use equipment where possible, and hire private if blasting is required.

BEAVER FLOOD CONTROL

The purpose of the program is to protect road allowances and structures (ie. bridges, culverts) from damages caused by beavers and the interference with water flow.

This program is administered by the Municipal District of Smoky River in conjunction with Fish & Wildlife. The M.D. is divided between three Fish & Wildlife Offices as follows:

- North of Highway 49 - Peace River
- South of Highway 49 - Valleyview
- East of Highway 49 (76-19 and 77-19) - High Prairie

The M.D. Licensed Blaster (hereafter referred to as the Blaster) shall hold an updated Permit to Use, Handle and Prepare and Fire Explosives.

M.D. RESPONSIBILITIES

The M.D. shall accept responsibility for beavers/beaver dams within road allowances and licensed drainage ditches.

LANDOWNER AND RENTER RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The farmer shall accept responsibility for beavers/beaver dams on private land.
2. Renters shall accept responsibility for beavers/beaver dams on rented land. The renter shall obtain "permission to enter" from the landowners before control work is carried out.
3. In the case of crown land, the farmer/renter shall obtain a Damage Permit from the respective Fish & Wildlife office to remove beavers/beaver dams.
4. Complaints regarding beavers/beaver dams in road allowances and licensed drainage ditches shall be directed to the Director of Engineering and Operational Services.

5. Should it be necessary to enter private lands, written permission from the landowner/occupant shall be obtained prior to beaver dam removal.

FIELDMAN'S RESPONSIBILITIES

1. To replenish explosive supplies when required.
2. To have the Fieldman or the person designated by the Fieldman or the person designated by the Municipal Administrator attend the blasting (as per the Pest Control Act) and be responsible to obtain a Damage Permit from each of the three (3) Fish & Wildlife Offices prior to the Beaver Control Program commencing each season and complete the District Occurrence Report Forms and forward to the respective Fish & Wildlife Offices along with the Damage Permit at the conclusion of the season.

LICENSED BLASTER RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Initial work **should** be done in a timely manner upon receipt of the complaint to the M.D. unless otherwise agreed by the Blaster and Complainant.
2. There will be no shooting of beaver at a complaint site unless involved with the activities of setting or blowing of beaver dams.

ADMINISTRATION

1. The Blaster shall be responsible for maintaining an inventory of explosives. A sheet shall be located in the explosives and cap box and the materials signed in and out.
2. The Blaster shall advise the Agricultural Fieldman when dynamite supplies are low and require restocking.
3. All safety procedures are to be followed in carrying, using and handling of all explosives at all times.

EXPLOSIVES SALES

Explosives will not be available for sale to the public from the M.D.

Normand Boulet, CCA
Agricultural Fieldman
M.D. of Smoky River No. 130
780-837-2222
asb@mcdsmokyriver.com

TITLE: BEAVER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM POLICY
EFFECTIVE DATE: July 27, 2005
POLICY NUMBER: J.7

STATEMENT

The beaver is not a declared pest or nuisance under the Agricultural Pest Act - Pest & Nuisance Control Regulation. The Municipal District of Lesser Slave River No.124 (MD) has no legislated duty to provide beaver management or beaver dam removal on private or public land. The MD views the management of beavers and the removal of beaver dams as a shared responsibility between landholders, Sustainable Resource Development (Fish and Wildlife Division) and the MD.

The MD will provide an identified level of service relative to beaver management and the removal of beaver dams within the parameters of the Wildlife Act and this policy.

This policy provides the procedures and guidelines to ensure the management of beaver and the removal of beaver dams on private and public land is undertaken in an efficient and effective manner as possible; giving consideration for human safety, municipal liabilities and the mitigation of non-target animal capture.

1.0 PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- 1.1 To protect the MD road infrastructure and public safety by managing beavers and/or removing dams that are or will cause flooding on MD road allowances.
- 1.2 To provide flood prevention and relief on agricultural lands by managing beavers and/or removing beaver dams.
- 1.3 To provide a contract service of beaver management and/or beaver dam removal for other municipalities, private companies and other levels of government.

2.0 AUTHORIZATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 The MD is granted the authorization to manage beaver and remove beaver dams on MD controlled property and public and private property to which it has access, under authority of the Wildlife Act by way of a Damage Control Licence from Sustainable Resource Development, Fish and Wildlife Division.
- 2.2 The Special Constable (SC) is responsible for conducting and supervising the Beaver Management Program (BMP).
- 2.3 The SC is responsible for securing the Damage Control Licence as well as any necessary licenses, permits and infrastructure required for the transportation, storage and use of explosives.

- 2.4 The SC is responsible for ensuring all beaver management work is conducted according to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) under the Fisheries Act and Alberta Environment under the Water Act. DFO has a guiding document for "Beaver Dam Control and Fish Habitat in Northwestern Alberta"; this document is attached as Schedule "A" and forms part of this policy.
- 2.5 The SC is responsible for ensuring his safety as well as the public's safety (including property, buildings, infrastructure, etc.) when conducting beaver management work and has the authority to refuse to carry out any work if conditions are not safe.
- 2.6 The SC is responsible to take into consideration the characteristics of the site and the consequences of the control work.
- 2.7 The SC may delegate beaver management work (excluding dam blasting) to the Animal Control Officer (ACO) or other designates and they must adhere to this policy.

3.0 BEAVER CONTROL ON MUNICIPAL ROAD ALLOWANCES

- 3.1 The SC (or designate) is authorized to manage beaver and/or remove beaver dams within the MD road allowance.
- 3.2 Beaver management work will be carried out on municipal road allowances as required. The intent is to prevent flooding problems and damage to the road infrastructure before they occur.
- 3.3 If the beaver and/or dams are located off of the MD road allowance, "Permission to Enter upon Lands for Problem Wildlife" (Schedule "A") must be obtained from the landholder.
- 3.4 If a landholder will not authorize the MD to carry out beaver management work on their land for the protection of MD road infrastructure and public safety, the matter will be referred to Alberta Environment for investigation under the Water Act.
- 3.5 The SC may use explosives to remove blockages to culverts located on MD road allowances.
- 3.6 Beaver management work will be coordinated with culvert cleaning operations.

4.0 BEAVER MANAGEMENT ON PRIVATE LAND

- 4.1 The MD will provide training to landholders so that they may conduct their own beaver management work.
- 4.2 The MD will offer live traps for landholder use at no charge. There will be a damage deposit required as per Schedule "A" ASB Rental Equipment Rates & Damage Deposits of the ASB Rental Equipment Policy J.2.
- 4.3 The MD will maintain a list of local beaver trappers for landholders to access.

- 4.4 Beaver management work will be done on a complaint basis on situations affecting private agricultural land.
- 4.5 When manpower or resources are limited, the MD has the right to refuse service. Beaver problems affecting MD infrastructure will have priority.
- 4.6 The landholder must sign "Permission to Enter upon Lands for Problem Wildlife Control" (Schedule "A") prior to any beaver management work being done.
- 4.7 There will be a service charge of \$125.00 per dam removal using explosives.
- 4.8 There will be a service charge of \$25/hour (minimum charge of \$100) for MD trapping, monitoring, carcass removal or beaver relocation. The MD will not perform any hand removal of beaver dams.
- 4.9 A landholder who requests services for beaver management work on land other than theirs, (e.g. beaver on crown land affecting landholders land) will be responsible for the service charges.
- 4.10 The preferred sequence of management is the offending beaver colony is removed prior to the removal of the dam. This is subject to consideration of severe flooding and at the discretion of the SC.
- 4.11 Trapping to remove beaver will be conducted in a fashion that reduces the risk of non target animal capture and takes into consideration the safety of the public.
- 4.12 The MD will not remove any blockages manually or with dynamite, to culverts, bridges or other infrastructure located on private property; the responsibility for removal of such blockages rests with the landholder.

5.0 BEAVER MANAGEMENT CONTRACTED SERVICES

- 5.1 The MD may carry out beaver management work for other municipalities, private companies and other levels of government on a contract basis.
- 5.2 Interested parties requesting beaver management services must sign a "Permission to Enter Upon Lands for Problem Wildlife Control" (Schedule "A") prior to any beaver management work being done.
- 5.3 There will be a service charge of \$125.00 per dam removal using explosives.
- 5.4 There will be a service charge of \$25/hour (minimum charge of \$100) for MD trapping, monitoring, carcass removal or beaver relocation. The MD will not perform any hand removal of beaver dams.
- 5.5 Such work will be conducted only if sufficient manpower and equipment is available. Beaver management work on MD road allowance and agricultural land will take priority over contract work.

5.6 The SC may use explosives to remove blockages to culverts only as requested and approved by the interested party requesting the control work.

6.0 PROCEDURES FOR REMOVAL OF BEAVER DAMS

6.1 The MD will not remove beaver lodges using dynamite given the limited value of such an exercise.

6.2 The MD will remove only the necessary sections of beaver dams as required facilitating the flow of water. Removal of the entire dam structure could result in severe downstream flooding and an increased risk to people and property from a larger blast zone.

6.3 Residents living within 200 meters of a blasting site will be notified by the SC, in person, prior to placing any explosives. If the resident is not home, the SC must leave a form letter explaining the intent of the MD and will determine visually if there are any constraints apparent on the individual's property. The responsibility of the blast rests with the SC.

6.4 Where explosives cannot be safely detonated, or the use of explosives will have limited or no effect on breaching the beaver dam, the landholder will be responsible to utilize alternative methods to remove the dam.

6.5 Removal of blast debris is the responsibility of the landholder.

7.0 DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS

7.1 The SC and the ACO may discharge a firearm in the performance of their duties under this policy. In the case of private property, the landholder will be contacted.

8.0 DISPOSAL OF CARCASSES

8.1 On Public Lands exposed to frequent human interference, carcasses will be removed and disposed of in an appropriate manner.

8.2 On private property, the landholder is responsible for the appropriate disposal of carcasses.

Schedule "A"

Beaver Dam Control and Fish Habitat in Northwestern Alberta

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) Peace River District recognizes the need to periodically remove or breach beaver dams, or remove accumulated woody debris, to protect or construct road, trail, and pipeline infrastructure and to alleviate flooding of private and public lands. However, DFO must also ensure that such works do not result in the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat or in the destruction of fish by means other than fishing, which are violations of the *Fisheries Act*. Although beaver dams may provide fish habitat through the creation of the upstream ponds, and the addition of woody debris for cover, they may also present a barrier to fish movement, alter sediment transport regimes through the watercourse and increase water temperature. Whether a beaver dam is harmful or beneficial to fish habitat depends on a number of factors which will be unique to the stream. The expected impacts from beaver dam removal on fish habitat relate to the release of sediment and large volumes of water downstream, as well as the de-watering of the upstream pond upon dam removal. Impacts can also occur from the over-use of explosives which can result in direct fish injury or death, and the destruction of fish habitat.

Beaver dam control within the context of this document refers to the breaching or removal of beaver dams as well as to the removal of woody debris from road right-of-ways, culverts, bridge piles or trash racks. Beaver dam control only includes instream work within the footprint of the beaver dam or within a road right-of-way. Channel maintenance, including channel clearing, channelization, channel realignment, channel dredging, channel widening or any other modifications to the channel outside the beaver dam footprint or road right-of-way are not included in this document and require separate review by DFO.

For the period of January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005 it will **not** be necessary for proponents to secure approval under the *Fisheries Act* if the beaver dam removal meets the criteria as outlined in Figure 1. DFO-Peace River District is satisfied that if beaver dam removals meet the criteria outlined in Figure 1 and are carried out as specified in the mitigation measures provided in Appendix I, the proposed work is not likely to contravene Section 35(1) of the *Fisheries Act*, which stipulates that:

"No person shall carry on any work or undertaking that results in the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat."

Nor is it likely to contravene Section 32 of the *Fisheries Act*, which reads in part:

"No person shall destroy fish by any means other than fishing."

Be advised, that if the harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat, or the destruction of fish by means other than fishing, occurs as a result of not applying the appropriate mitigation measures as set out in Appendix I, prosecution under the *Fisheries Act* may be initiated.

Notification

When following this **guideline** DFO should be notified **at least fourteen days prior to the start of beaver dam control activities**. Information requirements include waterbody name, date, location (legal, UTM or Latitude/Longitude) and activity type (beaver dam removal, woody debris removal). Information can be sent to the Peace River District Office (see Appendix 3 for address)

Do I Follow The Guideline Or Do I Apply?

The following flowchart outlines the situations when beaver dam removal/breaching and woody debris removal can proceed without contacting or applying to DFO. It also defines the types of works that require a site-specific review. Works that can proceed without DFO site-specific review must adhere to the mitigation measures as outlined in Appendix 1 of this guideline.

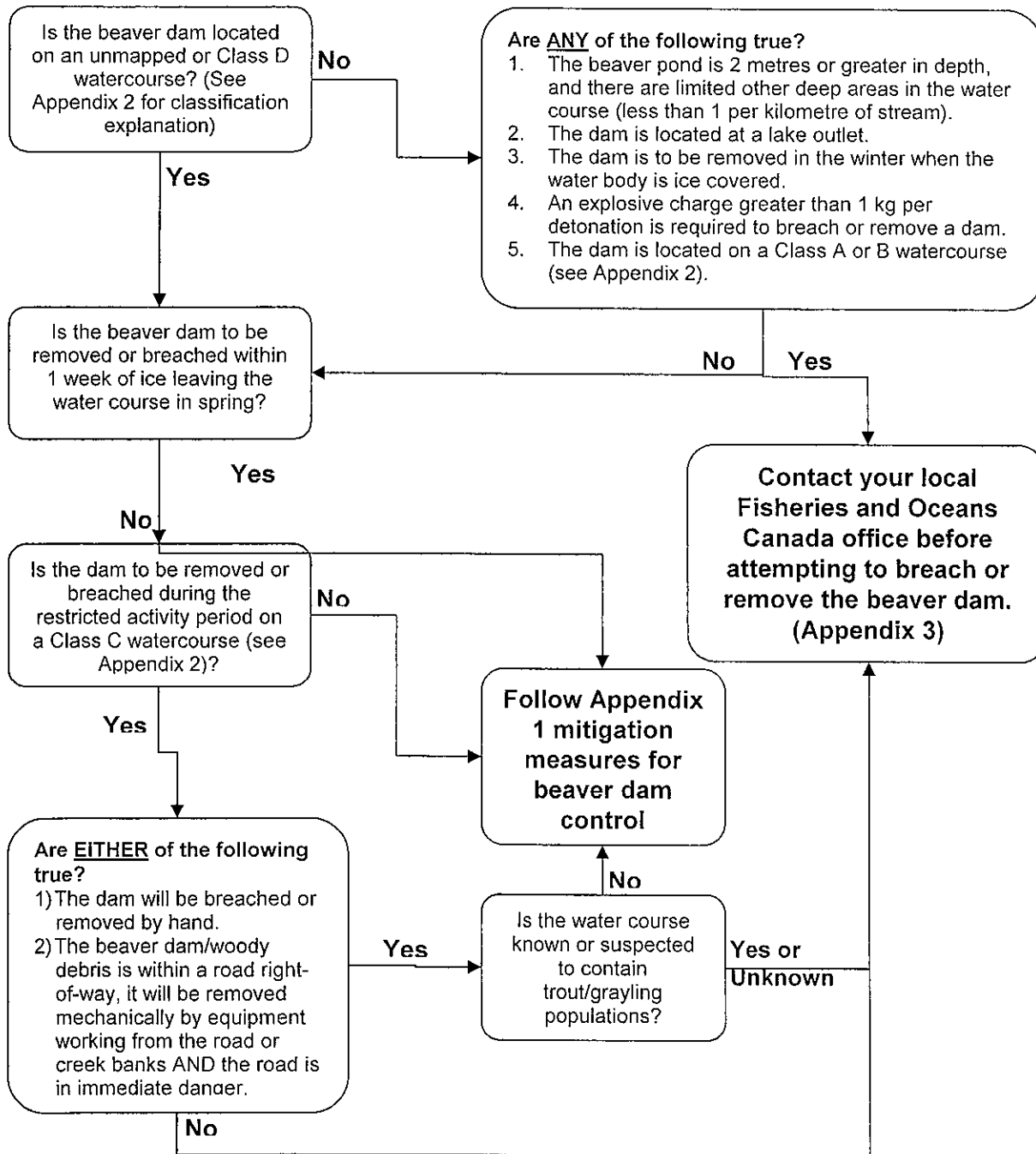


Figure 1: Criteria for contacting DFO when removing or breaching beaver dams

Mitigation Measures for Beaver Dam Control

1. Removal or breaching of beaver dams should be carried out in a manner that minimizes downstream sediment load. Only a small portion of a dam should be removed at one time to allow the water from the beaver pond to be released slowly. As water levels decrease, the size of the opening may be increased to allow drainage to the desired level in the upstream pond. The water should be drained such that the sediment contained in the bottom of the pond is not released. This may require the removal to be conducted over a period of a few days depending on the size of the dam and the amount of water that needs to be released to alleviate flooding.
2. Areas downstream of the beaver dam should be monitored during removal/breaching activities to determine whether impacts are occurring to the channel and adjacent properties receiving additional water volumes. If damage is occurring, the rate of breaching should be slowed to prevent further damage.
3. If more than one dam is to be removed in a section of stream, dams should be breached and removed in order starting at the downstream dam and working in an upstream direction.
4. Disturbance to aquatic and riparian vegetation should be minimized and any areas disturbed should be stabilized and re-vegetated upon completion of the work.
5. Spoil materials removed from the beaver dam should be deposited in an area separated from the water course by a well-vegetated area and stabilized such that they do not re-enter the water course. Spoil includes any material associated with the beaver dam removed from the channel such as sediment, rocks, vegetation, and woody debris.
6. Fish that become trapped in isolated pools as a result of beaver pond de-watering or stranded in newly flooded areas below the dam should be relocated unharmed to the main channel of the water course.
7. No instream work should occur outside of the footprint of the beaver dam or outside of a road right-of-way where woody debris is being removed.
8. Appropriate precautions should be taken to ensure that deleterious substances do not enter any water course:
 - a. There should be no instream use of tracked or wheeled equipment or excavation of the streambanks. Equipment should be operated in dry weather conditions from the banks or road.
 - b. The cleaning, fueling and servicing of equipment should be conducted in an area from which spills or wash water will not enter fish habitat.
 - c. Equipment operating near any water course should be properly maintained, in sound mechanical condition and free of any fuel, oil, and hydraulic fluid or coolant leaks.
 - d. All machinery should be equipped with emergency spill kits large enough to contain any possible spills or leaks of oil, fuel, hydraulic fluid or coolant during the project. The operators of the equipment should be familiar with how to properly use the spill kits in the event of an emergency.
 - e. Any spilled materials should be cleaned up as soon as possible and disposed of in an environmentally safe manner. Spilled material should not be left where it may enter any water course.

- f. If these measures are insufficient for effective control, it is the responsibility of the proponent to implement alternative measures as required for effective deleterious substance control.

Where explosives are used the following measures should also be employed:

9. No more than 1 kilogram of explosive should be detonated at any one time. If more than 1 kilogram is required to achieve an effective breach, subsequent charges should be detonated separately allowing sufficient time between charges to ensure breaching occurs slowly and downstream sedimentation, debris load and scour to the streambed is minimized.
10. Charges should be set into the upstream side of the dam at a location above the natural streambed so that the detonation of the explosives does not alter the profile of the streambed.

Providing that the criteria in this guideline are followed, and the aforementioned mitigation measures are implemented, the proposed works will not likely result neither in a harmful alteration, disruption or destruction of fish habitat, nor in the killing of fish by means other than fishing. As such, Authorization under Subsection 35(2) or Section 32 of the *Fisheries Act* will not be necessary. Any harmful alteration, disruption, or destruction of fish habitat occurring as a result of failing to implement the prescribed mitigation measures, may result in contravention of the *Fisheries Act*.

Please note that none of the foregoing should be taken as approval of the undertaking in accordance with any other federal, provincial or municipal legislation.

Watercourse Classification and Restricted Activity Periods

Watercourse classifications and their respective restricted activity periods as described in Figure 1 are outlined in Alberta Environment's "Code of Practice for Watercourse Crossings" (2001) Schedule 6 maps. The restricted activity periods are designated to protect fish during their spawning and incubation periods. Please note that any unmapped watercourse is considered to be the same class as that outlined for the receiving watercourse (i.e. if the watercourse is a tributary of a Class C watercourse then it is classified as a Class C). Un-coded (mapped but not classified) watercourses take on the same classification of the receiving watercourse for a 2 km length of the un-coded stream from the confluence with the classified watercourse. Any beaver dam removal or breach on a Class D watercourse may be undertaken at any time of year without contacting DFO provided the mitigation measures in Appendix 1 are implemented.

Contact Information

Peace River District Office

9001-94th Street

Peace River, AB

T8S 1G9

General Inquiries: (780) 618-3220 Fax: (780) 618-3235

Schedule "A"

**PERMISSION TO ENTER UPON LANDS FOR
PROBLEM WILDLIFE CONTROL**

I, _____ of (Address) _____

(Town) _____ (Postal Code) _____ (Phone) _____

as owner or occupant of the following land:

_____ ¼ of SEC _____ TWP _____ RGE _____ W _____th Meridian

_____ ¼ of SEC _____ TWP _____ RGE _____ W _____th Meridian

_____ ¼ of SEC _____ TWP _____ RGE _____ W _____th Meridian

_____ ¼ of SEC _____ TWP _____ RGE _____ W _____th Meridian

do hereby grant permission to the Municipal District of Lesser Slave River No. 124 (or it's agents) to enter upon the above land(s) and use such equipment and materials, and in such quantities as deemed necessary for the control and/or removal and/or destruction of the following problem wildlife:

1. _____

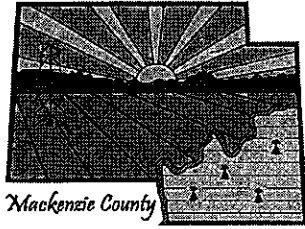
2. _____

I hereby release, discharge and waive any right, cause of action or other claim of whatever kind which I might have against the Municipal District of Lesser Slave River No. 124 (or it's agents) arising out or incidental to anything done or not done in the performance of the above described work.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20____ at _____, AB

(MD 124 Representative)

(Landholder)



MACKENZIE COUNTY

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	March 26, 2009
Presented By:	Ryan Becker, Director of Planning and Emergency Services
Title:	Bylaw 708/09 Subdivision Plan Cancellation Part of NW 1-106-15-W5M (Plan 082 1385, Block 1, Lot 1) (La Crete)

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

Subdivision of the subject lands was commenced and completed in 2008. A dispute exists between the developer and the surveyor regarding the boundaries of the subdivision. The developer insists that the boundaries are not correct however he signed the Developers Agreement and the surveyor's documentation which included the dimensions as registered. Despite the documentation signed by the developer, the surveyor has agreed to cover the costs of correcting this matter.

This matter was presented to the Municipal Planning Commission (MPC) at their March 16, 2009 meeting where the following motion was made:

That the Municipal Planning Commission recommendation to Council be for the approval of the subdivision plan cancellation of Plan 082 1385, Block 1, Lot 1 for the purpose of reverting the lands back into NW 1-106-15-W5M, from which the subdivision was taken, subject to the public hearing input.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

In order to correct the plan to the desires of the developer, a plan cancellation bylaw must be completed and then a new subdivision application processed. A boundary adjustment cannot be completed in this situation due to the boundaries being shifted instead of expanded.

Author: Marion Krahn,
Development Officer

Reviewed by: Ryan N. Becker,
Director of Planning

For
CAO
AL

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

All costs will be borne by the applicant.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That first reading be given to Bylaw 708/09 being a Land Use Bylaw amendment for the cancellation of Plan 082 1385, Block 1, Lot 1 for the purpose of reverting the lands back into NW 1-106-15-W5M, from which the subdivision was taken.

Author: Marion Krahn,
Development Officer

Reviewed by: Ryan N. Becker,
Director of Planning

CAO

BYLAW NO. 708/09

BEING A BYLAW OF
MACKENZIE COUNTY
IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

FOR THE PURPOSE OF CANCELLING A PLAN OF SUBDIVISION IN
ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 658 OF THE
MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT ACT, CHAPTER M-26,
REVISED STATUTES OF ALBERTA 2000

WHEREAS, Mackenzie County has a Municipal Development Plan adopted in 1995 and revised in 2003, and

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

WHEREAS, Council of Mackenzie County, at the request of the registered landowner, has determined that the subdivision outlined in Schedule "A" hereto attached, be subject to a cancellation, and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF MACKENZIE COUNTY DOES HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. That Subdivision Plan 082 1383, Block 1, Lot 1 is hereby cancelled in whole and the lands shall revert back into NW 1-106-15-W5M from which the subdivision was taken.

READ a first time this ___ day of _____, 2009.

READ a second time this ___ day of _____, 2009.

READ a third time and finally passed this ___ day of _____, 2009.

Greg Newman,
Reeve

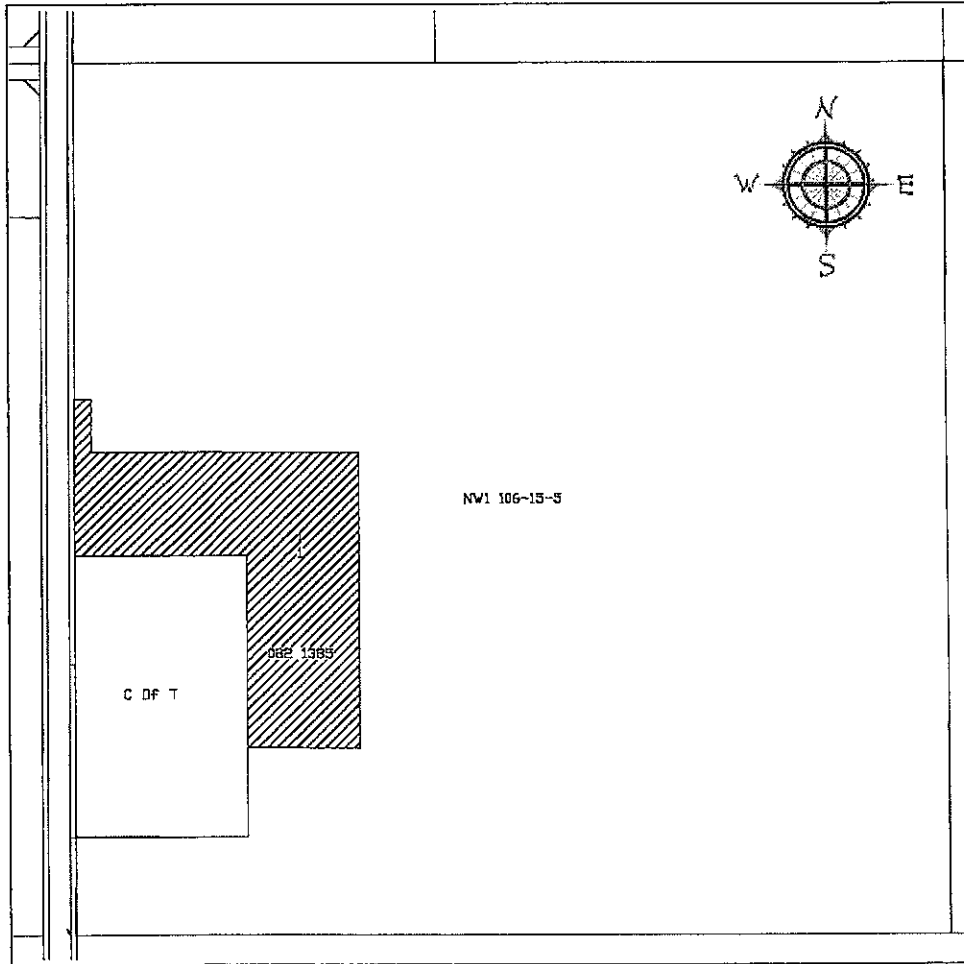
William Kostiw,
Chief Administrative Officer

BYLAW No. 708/09

SCHEDULE "A"

1. That the subdivision of the following property known as:

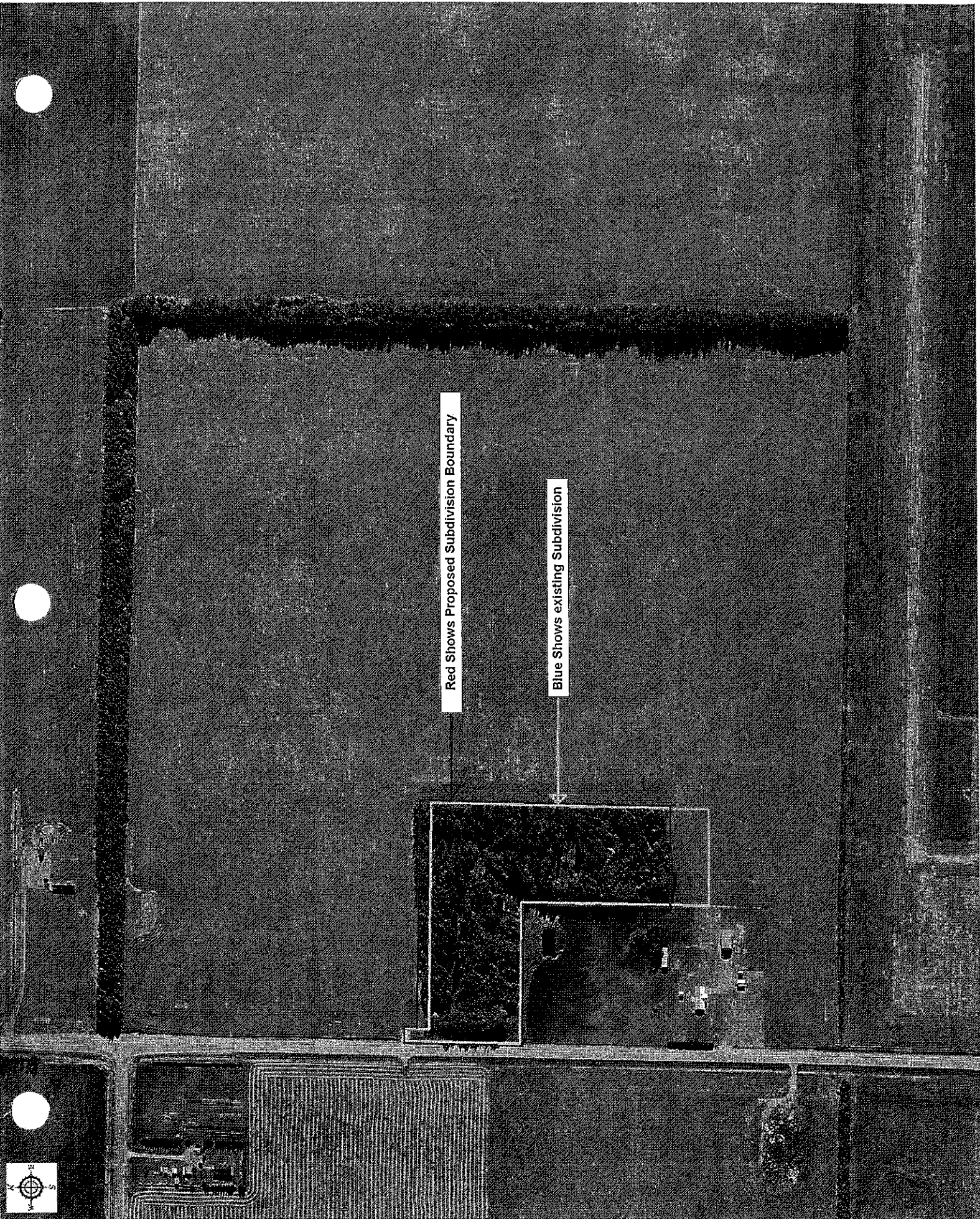
Plan 082 1385, Block 1, Lot 1 be cancelled and the lands reverted back into NW 1-106-15-W5M from which the subdivision was taken.



Greg Newman,
Reeve

William Kostiw,
Chief Administrative Officer

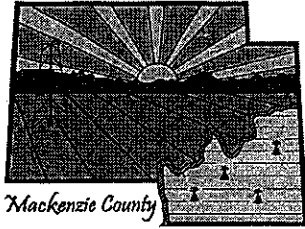
Effective this ____ day of _____, 2009.



Red Shows Proposed Subdivision Boundary

Blue Shows existing Subdivision





MACKENZIE COUNTY REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	March 26, 2009
Presented By:	Ryan Becker, Director of Planning and Emergency Services
Title:	Urban Development Standards Policy (DEV001)

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

The Municipal Planning Commission reviewed the Urban Development Standards Policy at their February 9th, 2009 meeting and suggested that the road requirements for all Hamlet Country Residential Districts be amended from cold mix to hot mix pavement.

This matter was presented to Council at the March 10th, 2009 meeting where it was tabled for further information.

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

Additional changes to this policy have been made to reflect the correct funding details.

In the past, cold mix was significantly less expensive than hot mix and therefore used in various applications. The reduced cost compensated for the shorter life span of the cold mix. At present, little or no cost difference exists between the hot and cold mix asphalt and therefore, cold mix is no longer seen as being viable for municipal roads.

Knelsen's Sand and Gravel, a local supplier of both the hot and cold mix asphalt, indicated that in standard construction applications hot mix pavement will last approximately 15 years before requiring maintenance. A benefit of cold mix is that it can be mass produced, stored and then applied with a grader whereas hot mix must be applied shortly after being produced.

Author: Marion Krahn,
Development Officer

Reviewed by: Ryan N. Becker,
Director of Planning

For
GAO

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

N/A.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That Policy DEV001 Urban Development Standards be adopted as amended and attached.

Author: Marion Krahn,
Development Officer

Reviewed by: Ryan N. Becker,
Director of Planning

CAO

MACKENZIE COUNTY

TITLE	Urban Development Standards	POLICY NO.	DEV001
--------------	------------------------------------	-------------------	---------------

LEGISLATION REFERENCE	Municipal Government Act, Section 5
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PURPOSE

Establish urban development standards to ensure consistent development is maintained within the hamlets of Mackenzie County.

POLICY STATEMENT

Mackenzie County and developers have a shared responsibility for defining and addressing the existing and future needs of the community by creating development policies consistent with community objectives. These policies should be applied equitably and fairly to all within that community. All beneficiaries of development should participate in the cost of providing and installing infrastructure in the community on an equitable basis that relates to the degree of benefit. Municipal funded projects tend to encourage development while maintaining affordable lot prices.

GUIDELINES

1. Mackenzie County will:
 - a) adopt development standard requirements for individual urban zoning as indicated in this policy,
 - b) determine who is responsible for installation of the infrastructure as indicated in this policy,
 - c) determine who is responsible for the cost of installing the infrastructure as indicated in this policy,
 - d) pay for the difference in costs when requiring the Developer to oversize the water or sewer mains,
 - e) pay for the difference in costs when requiring the Developer to construct main arterial roads (proportionate to a standard road),
 - f) at the request of the developer, pay for selected improvements via a 100% local improvement levied against the property owner over a 10 year period, and
 - g) pay for the storm sewer trunk main.
2. The developer will be responsible for all costs except where otherwise indicated in this policy.

FUNDING

1. Developers shall notify Mackenzie County by October 31 annually of any subdivisions that will require local improvement plans in the following year. The developer shall be responsible for all local improvement charges unless otherwise approved by the County Council and a local improvement bylaw has passed.
2. Where subdivisions include the installation of local improvements, the Developers Agreement shall include the following condition:

The Municipality may reimburse the Developer for the costs of the local improvements, as specified in Section __, subsection __ of this Agreement, if requested by the Developer prior to October 31 of the year before the project is to commence.
3. Upon an administrative review of a proposed subdivision plan, the over-sizing of roads and/or servicing lines may be requested by the County. In this situation, the County shall reimburse the Developer for the costs of the over-sizing.
4. County Administration shall bring over-sizing and/or local improvement requests to Council for review and approval during the annual budget deliberations.

URBAN DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

The following chart indicates the minimum standards on new development.

Zoning	Curb & Gutter	Sidewalk	Under Ground Power	Street Lights (under ground power)	Street Lights (over head power)	Paved Roads (hot mix)	Storm Sewer Internal	Storm Sewer Trunk Main
MHP				√		√	√	County
MHS	√*	√*		√		√	√	County
HCR					√	√	√	County
All other Residential	√*	√*	√	√		√	√	County
Commercial	√*	√*	√	√		√	√	County
Industrial					√			County

Definitions

(√) – means the requirement

(*) – means Local Improvement

(County) – means Mackenzie County

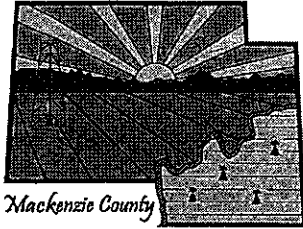
(Zoning) – As per the Land Use Bylaw

(Storm Sewer Trunk Main) – means storm sewer that benefits either present or future development areas as determined by the County

(Storm Sewer Internal) – means storm sewer that only benefits the subdivision within the Developers Agreement

(Storm Sewer Collection System) – may, include but is not limited to, ditches, ponds and underground piping

	Date	Resolution Number
Approved	June 18, 2002	02-460
Amended	Jan 13, 2004	04-009
Amended	June 23, 2004	
Amended	May 10, 2005	05-255
Amended	Dec 13, 2005	05-674
Amended		



MACKENZIE COUNTY

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	March 26, 2009
Presented By:	Ryan Becker, Director of Planning & Emergency Services
Title:	Request to Waive a Fire Invoice – Jackie Bateman

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:



Administration received a letter from Jackie Bateman with respect to an invoice for Fire services on May 23rd, 2008. On May 23rd an accident between a truck that had 3 people in it and an ATV operated by two young children was reported. When a call of this nature is received EMS and our Fire department responds as per our standard operating procedures. The rescue unit responds in case of the need for extrication and the pumper responds in case there is a fire or danger of a fire. Until the first responders arrive on scene it is difficult to know what the requirements will be. As the call was serious in nature and the potential for serious injuries were present, the response from Zama fire was appropriate. Once on scene, all of the Fire personnel assisted with the medics when required. One Fire member actually had to drive the ambulance to High Level. Other Fire personnel controlled the traffic around the collision scene and waited for the RCMP to arrive.

Jackie Batemans son was the driver of the quad, which is why she received an invoice. Her invoice was sent out at the new rates of \$200.00 per hour, down from the \$400.00 per hour rate that was in effect at the time of the accident. The Rescue Unit was on scene for 161 minutes and the Pumper for 30 minutes. The driver of the truck was invoiced for the collision as well, both parties at 50%. When reviewing the invoice some minor calculation errors were noted. A new invoice has been prepared in the amount of \$318.02.

Administration has reviewed the incident report and feels that the invoice sent to Jackie Bateman is more than fair. She has benefitted from the lower per hour rates which reduced her bill in half and as such should be paid. Further collection efforts will be undertaken by administration should she refuse to pay.

Author: Ryan Becker, Director

Reviewed by: Ryan Becker, Director


 CAO 

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

Option 1

Administration issues a new invoice for \$318.02

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

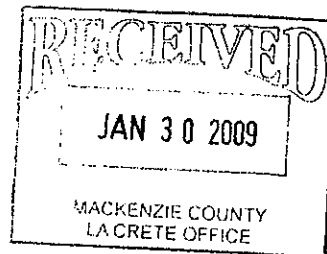
That administration re-issue fire invoice #8565 in the amount of \$318.02.

Author: Ryan Becker,
Director

Reviewed by: Ryan Becker
Director

CAO

Jackie Bateman
10804 Rainbow BLVD
High Level, Alberta
T0H 1Z0



Jan 26, 2009

RE: In @ 0000000000 8565

Upon opening this bill from the MD of services not needed, or requested, I thought I should explain exactly why I will not pay it. When the incident occurred in Zama, 911 was called explicitly for an ambulance to transport the child that had gotten hurt. There was absolutely no need for a fire truck or rescue unit. To my knowledge Donnie Roberts the MD employee in Zama was the one who requested the fire and rescue units. The vehicle that my son ran into had a broken headlight, and driver left the scene before the call was made to 911, so there was no way that he required fire or rescue. The atv that my son was driving had a broken wheel and was on the edge of road, my son was sitting on the quad and the boy that was transported by the ambulance was lying on the edge of road. I was there when 911 was called, and only a ambulance was requested, fire & rescue did nothing but watch the ambulance attendants check over and load the injured child. The atv was hauled home directly after the ambulance departed. By the way I understand this bylaw if I phone 911 and say that someone had a vehicle accident, when in fact they only hit the ditch, fire and rescue will be dispatched and the owner of vehicle in the ditch will get the bill for my stupidity. I will have a lawyer contact you if that is what is required, but I absolutely refuse to for someone elses stupidity.

Thank-You

A handwritten signature in black ink that appears to read "Jackie Bateman".

Jacque Bateman

INVOICE #: IVC00000000008565

INVOICE

Customer

BATEMAN JACKIE
10804 RAINBOW BLVD.

HIGH LEVEL AB

T0H 4E0

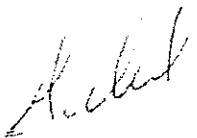
Date: 1/16/2009

Customer# 006266

Due Date: 2/15/2009

^PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION WITH YOUR PAYMENT^

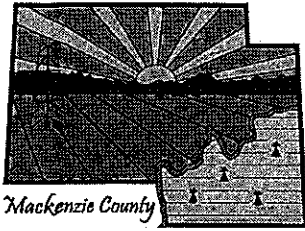
Quantity	Description	Unit Price	Total
1.00	MOTOR VEHICLE INCIDENT WILDCAT AVENUE, ZAMA INCIDENT NO. 02-2008, MAY 23, 2008 PUMPER UNIT -1 @1.18HRS @ \$200.00/HRS RESCUE UNIT -1 @1.18HRS @ 200.00/HR	\$472.00	\$472.00



IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS
REGARDING THIS INVOICE PLEASE CALL
(780) 928-3983.

Subtotal	\$472.00
Tax	\$0.00
Total	\$472.00

PAYMENT DUE UPON RECEIPT - PAYABLE TO THE MD of Mackenzie
PLEASE INCLUDE TOP PORTION WITH PAYMENT.



MACKENZIE COUNTY REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	March 26, 2009
Presented By:	Ryan Becker, Director of Planning & Emergency Services
Title:	Request to Waive an Ambulance Invoice – Johan Wolf

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

Administration received another letter from Johan Wolf with respect to an invoice for ambulance. Mr. Wolf was driving a logging truck west of High Level on Highway 58 on February 2nd, 2007 and went off of the road and rolled. Mackenzie County EMS responded to the call, provided treatment and transported him to the hospital in High Level. Mr. Wolf feels he should not be responsible for the costs that total \$607.78.

On February 12, 2008 Council made the following motion in regards to Mr. Wolf's initial request:

12. e) Johan Wolf – Request to Waive an Ambulance Invoice

MOTION 08-02-131

MOVED by Councillor Toews

That the request to waive an ambulance invoice be denied and that Johan Wolf pay invoice #5557 in full in the amount of \$607.78.

CARRIED

Administration has reviewed the incident report and feels that the invoice sent to Mr. Wolf is in order and as such should be paid. Further collection efforts will be undertaken by administration should he refuse to pay.

Author: Ryan Becker,
Director

Reviewed by: Ryan Becker,
Director

for
CAO *[Signature]*

OPTIONS & BENEFITS:

Option 1

Receive for information

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the request to waive ambulance invoice #5557 by Mr. Johan Wolf be received for information.

Author: Liane Lambert,
Development Officer

Reviewed by: Ryan Becker

CAO

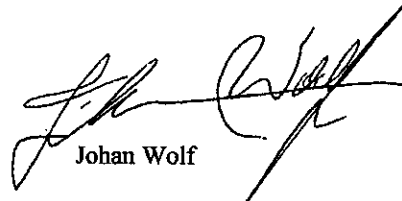
Johan Wolf
Box 507
Killarney, MB.
R0K 1G0

February 17, 2009

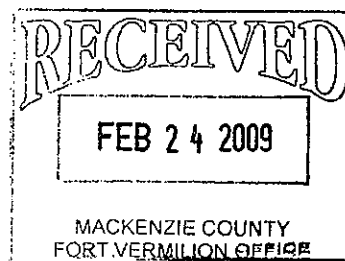
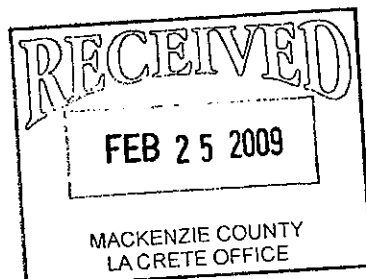
Mackenzie County
P.O. Box 640
Fort Vermilion, AB
T0H 1N0

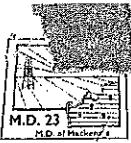
This is in regards to Invoice #005712
I Johan Wolf do not feel responsible for this bill.
I had a medic who was very capable of driving me to the hospital.
We were told to wait for an hour for the ambulance in which time the medic could have transported me to the hospital.
I was not informed that I would be responsible for a \$600.00 ambulance cost.
In order to settle this, I am willing to go half way. (\$300.00) This is as far as I am willing to go.
If this is acceptable let me know, if not then we will have to let a court decide.

Sincerely



Johan Wolf





Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23
 P.O. Box 640 Fort Vermilion, AB
 T0H 1N0
 Phone (780) 927-3718
 Fax (780) 927-4266

INVOICE #: IVC00000000005557

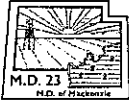
INVOICE

Customer

WOLF, JOHAN
 BOX 507
 NW 30 2
 KILLORNEY MANITOBA R0K 1G0

Date: 3/7/2007
 Customer# J05712
 Due Date: 4/6/2007

^PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION WITH YOUR PAYMENT^



Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23
 P.O. Box 640 Fort Vermilion, AB
 T0H 1N0
 Phone (780) 927-3718
 Fax (780) 927-4266

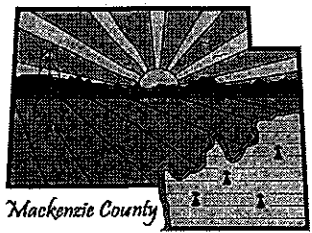
Quantity	Description	Unit Price	Total
1.00	BASIC LIFE SUPPORT, FEB 02/07 61KM WEST OF HIGH LEVEL AMBULANCE RESPONSE JOHAN WOLF, PCR #8652939 BASIC RATE \$226.00, DISTANCE 126KM @ \$3.03/KM	\$607.78	\$607.78

Jan

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS
 REGARDING THIS INVOICE PLEASE CALL
 (780) 928-4993.

Subtotal	\$607.78
Tax	\$0.00
Total	\$607.78

**PAYMENT DUE UPON RECEIPT - PAYABLE TO THE MD of Mackenzie
 PLEASE INCLUDE TOP PORTION WITH PAYMENT**



MACKENZIE COUNTY REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting:	Regular Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	March 26, 2009
Presented By:	William Kostiw, Chief Administrative Officer
Title:	Information/Correspondence

BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL:

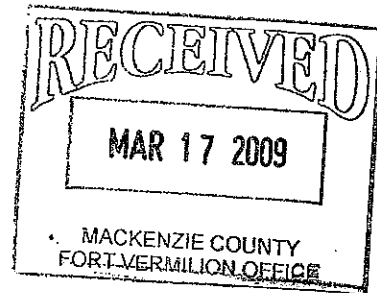
The following items are attached for your information, review, and action if required.

	Page
• Tire Marshalling Area Grant Program	101
• Minimum Wage Increase (AB Gov't News Release)	102
• Support for Grande Prairie Regional Health Facility (Northern Sunrise County)	103
• AB Agriculture & Rural Development	104
• La Crete Meals for Seniors Society	107
• Bill 23 will streamline Alberta's property assessment complaint and appeal system (AB Gov't News Release)	108
• Mighty Peace Tourist Association February Report to Council	110
• AB Capital Financing Authority – Class B Shareholders	111
•	
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RECOMMENDED ACTION:

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

Author: C. Gabriel **Review by:** _____ **CAO** _____



February 15, 2009

Mackenzie County
Box 640
Fort Vermilion, AB T0H 1N0

ATTENTION: Ms. Connie Friesen

Dear Ms. Friesen:

Re: Tire Marshalling Area Grant Program

We are very pleased to enclose a cheque in the amount of \$20,595.00 in support of the construction of Blue Hills, Rocky Lane and Bluemnort tire marshalling areas (TMA).

The TMA grant program is a key partnership between municipalities and Alberta Recycling to improve the way scrap tires are collected and transported for recycling. As a result of our collaborative efforts, we trust that the changes at Blue Hills, Rocky Lane and Bluemnort will significantly improve the manner in which scrap tires are handled in your area.

On behalf of Alberta Environment and the Board of Directors of Alberta Recycling, we are delighted that this project has been a success, and look forward to having the opportunity of visiting it the next time that we are in your community.

Yours truly,

Rob Renner
Minister of Environment

Sid Hinton
Alberta Recycling Chairman

Attachment

c.c. Mr. Frank Oberle, MLA
c.c. Reeve Greg Newman



Carol Gabriel

Info next agenda

From: ACNMail@gov.ab.ca
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2009 3:02 PM
To: Carol Gabriel
Subject: News Release - Alberta's minimum wage to increase to \$8.80 per hour ~25408~

News Release

ALBERTA
Creating Opportunity

March 4, 2009

Alberta's minimum wage to increase to \$8.80 per hour

Edmonton... Alberta's 20,000 minimum wage earners will see an increase April 1 to \$8.80 per hour, up from the current \$8.40 per hour. The five-per-cent increase reflects 2008 growth to Alberta's average weekly earnings.

"We want to ensure that Albertans earning the minimum wage are as protected as possible during these changing times," said Hector Goudreau, Minister of Employment and Immigration. "While a vast majority of Albertans earn much more than the minimum wage, we can't forget about those in lower-income occupations."

The majority of Alberta's minimum wage earners are 15 to 19 years old and work in the accommodation and food services industry. The average hourly wage in Alberta is \$23.90.

On April 1, Alberta's minimum wage will rank second among provinces, although Saskatchewan, Quebec and Newfoundland and Labrador will surpass Alberta when their scheduled minimum wage increases come into effect between May and July.

Linking the minimum wage to Alberta's average weekly earnings was first adopted in June 2007. On April 1, 2008, Alberta's minimum wage increased from \$8 to \$8.40. Government policy states that if Alberta's average weekly earnings remain the same or decrease from one year to the next, the minimum wage will remain the same.

Employers and employees with questions about minimum wage can contact the Employment Standards Contact Centre toll-free at 1-877-427-3731 or visit employment.alberta.ca/es for more information.

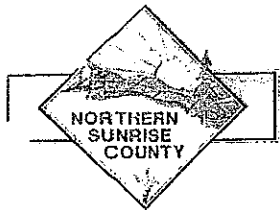
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Attachments: Minimum wage 2009 backgrounder

Media inquiries may be directed to:

Barrie Harrison, Communications
Employment and Immigration
780-427-5585
barrie.harrison@gov.ab.ca

To call toll free within Alberta dial 310-0000.



Northern Sunrise County

www.northernsunrise.net

Bag 1300
Peace River, AB
T8S 1Y9
Phone: 780-624-0013
Fax: 780-624-0023

March 4, 2009

The Honourable Ed Stelmach, Premier
Province of Alberta
307 Legislature Building
10800 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Premier Stelmach,

RE: Support for the Grande Prairie Regional Health Facility

On February 26, 2009, Council discussed the concerns it shares with the Clear Hills County regarding the precarious future of healthcare for Albertans. Council would like to express its firm resolution to support the construction of the Grande Prairie Regional Health Facility, in favor of ensuring a future in which area residents will be able to receive accessible, quality healthcare.

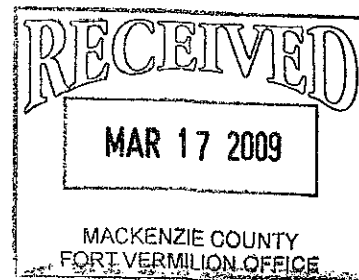
The need for the designed facility will ensure that crucial services, which are being reduced in the surrounding small town hospitals, can be provided effectively to regional residents. A modern, technologically advanced health facility in Grande Prairie would renew the efforts of improving the healthcare system for all Albertans twofold. Firstly, with superior, cutting edge instruments and equipment, a higher volume of patients would be able to receive treatment, increasing efficiency. Second, a modern facility would attract seasoned and innovative professionals, reviving the quality of health care practice. Building the health facility is the first step to nursing health care into recovery in the North; by increasing the number of patients that are able to be treated daily as well as creating incentive for medical practitioners, the key focus becomes putting the patient first.

Thank you for your time and attention with respect to this important matter.

Regards,

Agnes Knudsen
Reeve

cc: The Honourable Mel Knight, MLA Grande-Prairie Smoky
The Honourable Ron Liepert, Minister of Health and Wellness
The Honourable Hector Goudreau, MLA Dunvegan-Central Peace
Frank Oberle, MLA Peace River
Pearl Calahasen, MLA Lesser Slave Lake
Wayne Drysdale, MLA Grande Prairie-Wapiti
AAMDC Zone 4 Members

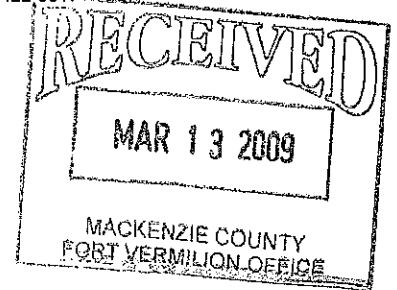


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March 6, 2009

Room 300, JG O'Donoghue Building
7000 – 113 Street NW
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5H 5T6
Telephone 780-427-2439 Fax 780-422-6317
www.agric.gov.ab.ca

Mr. Bill Neufeld, Chairman
Mackenzie County
Box 640
Fort Vermilion, AB T0H 1N0



Dear Mr. Neufeld:

Agriculture and Rural Development (ARD) is committed to strengthening our relationships with rural Albertans and working with the Agricultural Service Boards (ASBs) to build this connection.

Agriculture and Rural Development's Extension Team, comprised of the Provincial ASB Committee, members of the Association of Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen (AAAF) Executive and ARD staff, have met over the past months to discuss the results of the surveys and the needs of rural Albertans. The team has developed an extension model that will build new relationships, strengthen existing relationships, deliver targeted programming, and better enable ARD to understand your needs.

We are currently reviewing the best fit for a key contact for Mackenzie County. You will be notified once your key contact is identified.

The Extension Team (see attached) will continue to meet every three months to evaluate the effectiveness of the extension model. This team will also continue to review the HUB offices locations across the province, to ensure that ASBs can maximize their access to key contacts.

To help the extension model succeed, your job is simple – communicate. Your key contact and provincial committee members will rely on ASBs and fieldmen to provide insight into local issues, and opportunities for extension programming.

I would like to briefly clarify the critical roles in the extension model:

- A **specialist** is a person with in-depth knowledge and experience in a specific discipline. They will be available for provincial, regional, and local events, but priority will be given to events with larger audiences organized by multiple ASBs. A specialist may also be an ASB key contact. ARD employs many specialists located throughout Alberta.
- A **key contact** is a communicator and will build a strong relationship with you and your board. If required they will attend ASB meetings, collaborate on ASB

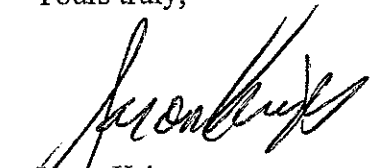
Ms. Love
06/03/2009
Page Two

extension programming, engage ASBs in applicable ARD events, provide linkages and referrals, and will work with your fieldmen and the Edmonton ASB Program staff. Your key contact's time will be flexible to meet the needs of your board, and their allocated time will benefit both your board and ARD.

- The **Edmonton ASB Program** staff, Eileen Chauvet, Pam Retzloff and Maureen Vadnais, will not change. They will continue to act as a contact for you and your fieldmen, and will now also liaise with the key contacts to ensure that information is flowing effectively between ARD and ASBs.

Communication is vital to the success of this initiative. I look forward to evolving and strengthening new partnerships over time.

Yours truly,



Jason Krips
Assistant Deputy Minister

Attachment

cc: Grant Smith, Agricultural Fieldman

Extension Committee

Patrick Gordeyko, Northeast Representative and Chair, ASB Provincial Committee
Phone: 780-632-1560 E-mail: pgordeyko@thcounty.ab.ca

Bill Reister, Central Representative, ASB Provincial Committee
Phone: 780-879-2197 E-mail: breister@xplornet.com

Brian Brewin, South Representative, ASB Provincial Committee
Phone: 403-655-2463 E-mail: bbrewin@mdtaber.ab.ca

Mary Ann Eckstrom, Peace Representative, ASB Provincial Committee
Phone: 780-568-4091 E-mail: meckstrom@countygp.ab.ca

Clifford Goerz, Northwest Representative, ASB Provincial Committee
Phone: 780-963-3782 E-mail: cgoerz@parklandcounty.com

Normand Boulet, Secretary and AAAF 1st Vice President, ASB Provincial Committee
Phone: 780-837-2222 E-mail: asb@midsmokyriver.com

Gerald Soroka, AAMDC Representative, ASB Provincial Committee
Phone: 780-241-0241 E-mail: gsoroka@aamdc.com

Pat Dirk, President, AAAF
Phone: 403-362-2772 E-mail: dirkp@countyofnewell.ab.ca

Quentin Bochar, 2nd Vice President, AAAF
Phone: 780-939-0603 E-mail: qbochar@sturgeoncounty.ab.ca

Steve Majek, Secretary-Treasurer, AAAF
Phone: 780-352-3321 E-mail: smajek@county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca

Jason Krips, Assistant Deputy Minister, Industry Development and Food Safety, ARD
Phone: 780-427-2439 E-mail: Jason.Krips@gov.ab.ca

Jo-Ann Hall, Director, Rural Extension and Industry Development Division, ARD
Phone: 780-968-3512 E-mail: jo-ann.hall@gov.ab.ca

Murray Greer, Branch Head, Agriculture Grants Program Branch, ARD
Phone: 780-980-4722 E-mail: murray.greer@gov.ab.ca

Eileen Chauvet, Supervisor, Agricultural Service Board Program, ARD
Phone: 780-415-9930 E-mail: eileen.chauvet@gov.ab.ca

LA CRETE MEALS FOR SENIORS SOCIETY

BOX 1775, LA CRETE, ALBERTA, T0H 2H0

March 10, 2009

Mackenzie County
Box 640
Fort Vermilion AB T0H 1N0

Attention: Mackenzie County Council

On behalf of the La Crete Meals for Seniors Society and the residents of the La Crete Altenheim, I thank you for your grant of \$4,000 for the ongoing cost to operate the Altenheim kitchen. The Society is pleased that we are able to keep the kitchen in operation by your ongoing support and the generous donations of our community.

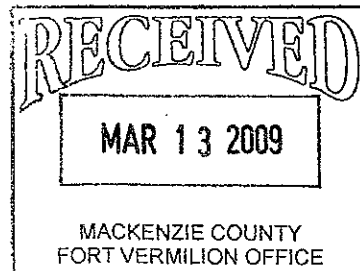
The Altenheim residents have grown to love the delicious meals that are served by our very talented cooks. As well, it gives them a special time of social interaction. The grant is very much appreciated.

Yours truly,

William Fehr
President

Enclosures

William Fehr



Strong Communities

March 16, 2009

Bill 23 will streamline Alberta's property assessment complaint and appeal system

Edmonton... Alberta taxpayers will have access to a more effective system to appeal their property assessments under changes proposed in Bill 23, the *Municipal Government Amendment Act*.

“This bill will help ensure we have an accessible and efficient assessment appeal system that taxpayers and municipalities can have confidence in,” said Municipal Affairs Minister Ray Danyluk.

Bill 23 includes amendments that will restructure assessment review boards and clarify their roles and responsibilities, enhance training for board members and administrators, increase access to information for citizens and ensure province-wide consistency, accountability and transparency.

Municipalities, property owners and their associations provided feedback during an in-depth review of the assessment complaints and appeals system conducted in 2008. The proposed changes address the input that was received.

-30-

Attachment: Highlights of Bill 23

Media inquiries may be directed to:

Jerry Ward, Communications
Municipal Affairs
780-427-8862

To call toll free within Alberta dial 310-0000.

March 16, 2009

Highlights of Bill 23 - Municipal Government Amendment Act

The proposed amendments will:

- o better define the composition, roles and jurisdiction of the boards that hear assessment complaints;
- o enhance the training and qualification requirements of board members and board administrators;
- o improve access to information for taxpayers and mandate disclosure between parties to a complaint;
- o outline the timelines for the steps in the complaint process; and
- o set out consequences for either party if the disclosure and timeline requirements are not met.

Feedback during consultations showed the current two level system results in duplication, inefficiencies and delays that are unfair to both taxpayers and municipalities. With a one level appeal system, most complaints should be dealt with in the same year. The proposed system would allow an appeal to the Court of Queen's Bench on a point of law or jurisdiction.

The complaint structure will consist of:

Local Assessment Review Board (composed of trained local members)

This board will hear complaints about non-assessment matters (e.g. local improvement tax); and assessments of residential properties with three or less dwelling units and farm land.

Composite Assessment Review Board (composed of two trained local members and one provincially approved member who will be the chair)

This board will hear complaints about assessments for all property in the municipality, excluding residential properties with three or less dwelling units, farm land, linear property and equalized assessment.

Municipal Government Board

This board will continue to hear complaints about linear property and equalized assessments.

-30-

Media inquiries may be directed to:

Jerry Ward, Communications
Municipal Affairs
780-427-8862

To call toll free within Alberta dial 310-0000.

[Alberta Government](#) | [Newsroom](#) | [Ministries Listing](#) | [Municipal Affairs Home Page](#) | [News Releases](#) | [Top of Page](#) |

[Send us your comments or questions](#)



Mighty Peace Tourist Association February report to Council

Marketing

Holiday Card project: The eblast purchased by MPTA advertising our holiday cards was sent out on February 26. That day and the next saw an average of 451 visits to our website, well above the average for February: average daily visits: 48.

Family Focus Magazine: MPTA is currently working with 16 municipalities and businesses in the region to produce a 5 page "advertorial" in Family Focus Magazine. By partnering on this project and receiving funding from Travel Alberta North we have saved over \$ 4000 on the ads. Details will be distributed at our next board meeting.

Northwest Business Magazine: The May edition of the Northwest Business magazine will distribute an extra 75 000 copies as the magazine will be given out at the Petroleum Show in Grande Prairie. This edition is an excellent opportunity to showcase our region. MPTA will be advertising in this edition and is seeking partners. If your council is interested, please contact the MPTA office for leveraged costs. Although any ads that are leveraged by Travel Alberta North must be focused on tourism, it is very easy to show case your community as an excellent place to visit and a wonderful place to live. We have done this many times in the past with lots of success.

Municipal Member satisfaction: On March 30 the MPTA board of directors will discuss the satisfaction level of our municipal members. If you have a council meeting scheduled before that date we would appreciate you sending any questions or concerns with your MPTA representative to the March 30 meeting.

Peace Regional Airshow: July 18 has been chosen. This year's show will be one day only and will celebrate 100 years of aviation. MPTA is working with the airshow marketing committee to secure marketing funding from Travel Alberta North.

March 13, 2009

To: Class B Shareholders
Alberta Capital Financing Authority

Hello...my name is George Huybregts. I am a Certified Management Accountant and, for the past 16 years, the Associate Commissioner, Corporate Services Division and County Treasurer for Strathcona County.

On March 19, 2009 at the Alberta Capital Financing Authority (ACFA) Annual General Meeting I will be seeking election to the Board of Directors of ACFA as the representative of Class B Shareholders.

I have 16 years of experience with Strathcona County in the role of County Treasurer and overall responsibility for the Financial Services function. Throughout this period, the County has utilized debenture financing through ACFA in support of County programs and service delivery. As a result of this experience, I am confident I will be able to well represent the interests of Class B Shareholders, and provide a positive contribution to the Board and ACFA.

I am seeking your support on March 19 as the new representative for Class B Shareholders on the ACFA Board.

Attached please find a brief biography for your information and reference.

Yours truly,

George J. Huybregts, B.Comm., CMA
Associate Commissioner, Corporate Services & County Treasurer
Strathcona County

George J. Huybregts, B.Comm., CMA

George Huybregts grew up on a farm east of Calgary, Alberta. He graduated from the University of Calgary with a Bachelor of Commerce degree and is a Certified Management Accountant.

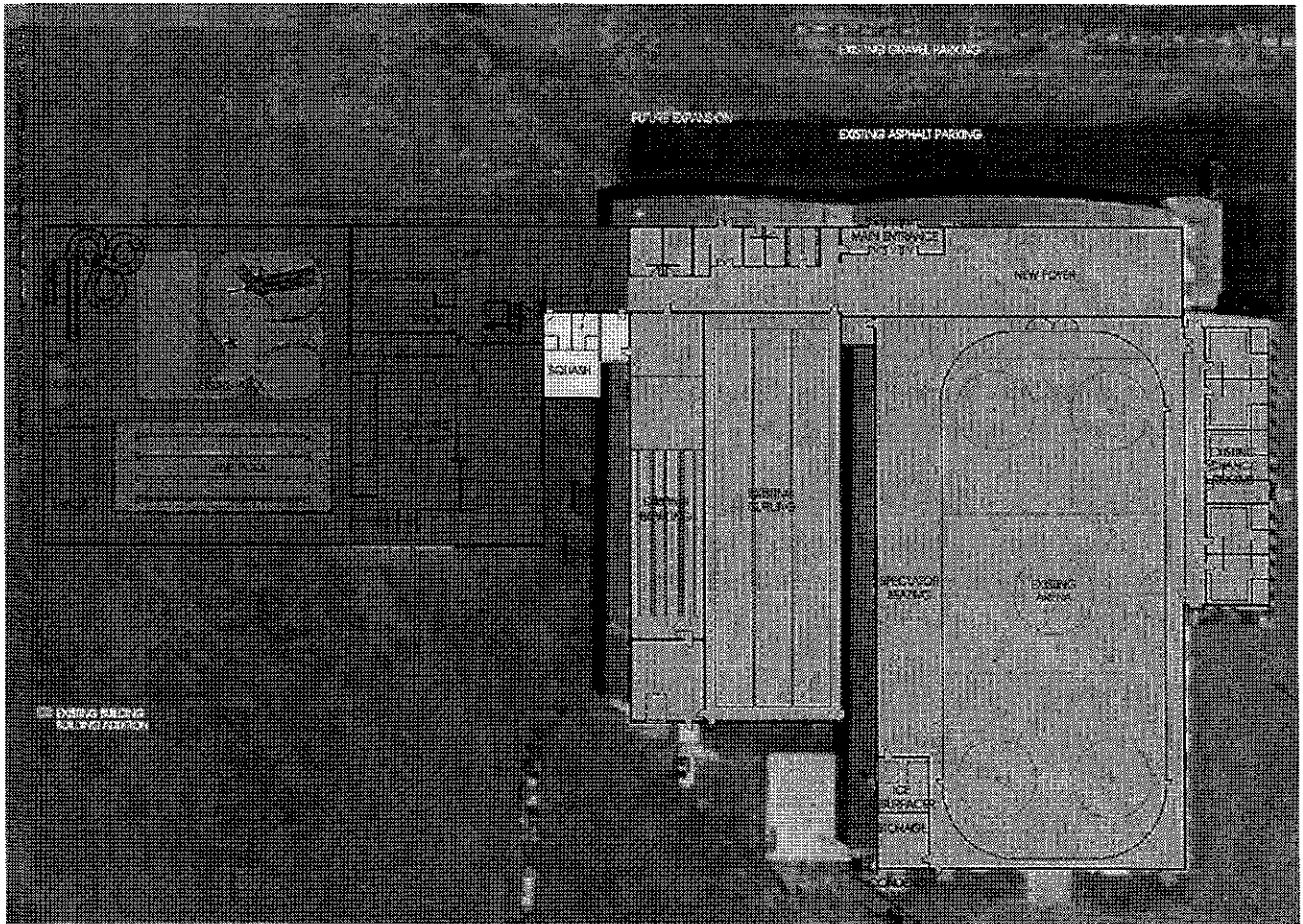
George began his career in public practice before joining BJ Services Canada Ltd., a major supplier of cementing and stimulation services to the Canadian oil and gas industry, in 1978. During his 14 years with BJ Services, George held several corporate positions including Comptroller and Vice-President, Finance.

George joined Strathcona County in 1992 and is presently the Associate Commissioner, Corporate Services Division and County Treasurer. In this position, he is a member of the senior management team and is responsible for the County's corporate support services including Assessment & Tax, Communications, Facility Services, Financial Services, Fleet Services, Human Resources, Information Technology Services and Legislative & Legal Services.

George is a member of the Society of Certified Management Accountants of Alberta and the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Alberta GFOA for the past twelve years and currently holds the position of Past-President. George currently also serves on the Board of Directors of the Western Canada GFOA in the capacity of Vice-President.



10315 - 109 St NW
Edmonton, Alberta
Canada T5J 1N3
T 780.441.4262
F 780.426.2734
W rcstrategies.ca



La Crete Aquatic Leisure Centre Committee

Final Draft
Aquatics / Leisure Centre Feasibility Study

March 13, 2009

March 13, 2009



La Crete Pool Committee and
Northern Lights Recreation Society
c/o Darlene Bergen
eddarb@telus.net

Re: Aquatics / Leisure Feasibility Study

Darlene and Pool Committee members,

Please accept this document as the final draft of the aforementioned study. We are confident that this work has met and in some cases exceeded the study terms and lays a solid foundation for the Committee in meeting its goals.

Feasibility or "viability" will ultimately rest with the community and its decision makers relative to their willingness to invest public funding towards the capital and the ongoing operational costs of the chosen option.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'R. Conrad'.

Randall Conrad

Randall Conrad
M.Sc.
Partner

Michael Roma
MBA
Partner

10315 - 109 St NW
Edmonton, Alberta
Canada T5J 1N3
T 780.441.4262
F 780.426.2734
W rcstrategies.ca

Acknowledgements and Credits

Great communities are built through active citizen involvement and engagement in the process, not just by consultation.

Many thanks go out to those residents, group representatives and community stakeholders who responded to surveys, attended presentations and took the time to talk with study team members.

Many thanks go out to the La Crete Aquatic / Leisure Centre Committee who assisted in this planning effort, recognized the importance of investing in long range planning and displayed the fortitude to make decisions in the best interest of the community and region.

Of most importance, thanks go out to the:

- Residents of the La Crete Region for answering household surveys and attending focus group meetings,
- Key representatives of volunteer groups who answered surveys and attended meetings to discuss their needs, and
- Agency representatives who provided information and attended meetings when asked.

The Consulting Team:

- Randy Conrad, RC Strategies
- Mike Roma, RC Strategies
- Brian Bengert, Architecture ATB
- Kevin Osborne, Architecture ATB
- Megan Jones, RC Strategies
- Ron Borowski, Max Projects Inc.

Summary

- There is sufficient public support within La Crete and Region to pursue the development of an indoor aquatics centre.
- It is physically possible to build the aquatic center onto the existing recreation complex. This approach to development is the most practical as it provides efficiencies in utilizing common parking, common staff and wasted heat from the ice arena plant.
- The total capital and professional costs to build an aquatic centre (which includes amenities desired by the public) is approximately \$13M (2009 dollars).
- The annual cost to operate the aquatic centre is estimated at \$330,000.
- The project is viable in the context of available public dollars sourcing should it be deemed by Council as a priority capital project in the context of other regional capital priorities.

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1.0 Introduction

Approximately 800 km northwest of Edmonton in Mackenzie County, sits La Crete. La Crete is primarily a Mennonite Centre with a population in excess of 2,000 serving a trading area of over 7,000¹. Urban centres of this size that serve broader regional population typically become service hubs for commercial and health services as well as recreation and leisure destinations.

Due to the community's role as a regional recreation and leisure destination, expanded service levels for population levels of 7,000 and higher are being considered by the municipality. Because of this dynamic the La Crete Aquatic Leisure Centre Committee was struck as a sub-committee of the La Crete Recreation Society. The Committee is interested in determining the need for, and feasibility, of an indoor swimming pool in the community.

In September 2008 the LaCrete Aquatic Leisure Centre Committee retained the services of RC Strategies to conduct an Aquatic / Leisure Centre Feasibility Study. The Committee did conduct some preliminary work investigating the community's interest in an indoor aquatic facility; this study is intended to more thoroughly investigate the need for the facility as well as its associated costs.

Specifically, the Study outlines research, analyses, and options for the development of an indoor aquatics facility in La Crete.

2.0 Community Profile

Incorporated in 1955, the hamlet of La Crete can trace its history back to 1914 when the Rivard Brothers settled there. "La Crete" which can be translated as "Rooster's comb", or "The Crest", was used to describe the ridge of land where they landed about nine kilometers southwest of where the hamlet is today. La Crete is a unique bilingual community with German and English as the two dominant languages. This blend is the result of the large population of Mennonites that relocated to the area in the 1930s and are now the predominant cultural group of the community.

As roads became more prevalent and improved accessibility to the area, La Crete grew as people continued to move to the area. In the mid 1990s population growth reached an impressive 8% per year. Currently, La Crete's population is approximately 2,000.

Located in the northwest corner of the province, La Crete is approximately 55 km southeast of High Level (population ~ 3,800) and 800 km north of Edmonton. It resides in the Mackenzie County and serves a trading area of approximately 7,000. The County is often referred to as "Peace Country" named after the Peace River that traverses the region. The Mackenzie County

¹ <http://www.discoverthepeacecountry.com/htmlpages/lacrete.html>

consists of about 7.9 million hectares: 316,000 hectares are public and patented land, and 218,000 hectares (539,000 acres) are farmland making up approximately 700 farms. The County's population is approximately 10,000.

Highway access to the region is gained from the north and south via Highway 35, the Mackenzie Highway. Veering off to the east from High Level is a paved loop providing access to La Crete. Highway 697 turns southwest towards La Crete. During the summer, a ferry operates to allow vehicles to cross the Peace River at Tompkin's Landing. During the winter months, an ice road is constructed and maintained to provide a much shorter distance of travel to the communities south of La Crete.

LaCrete's economy is fueled primarily by agriculture and forestry. However the oil and gas and retail industries have undergone growth over the last few years. The largest employers in La Crete are La Crete Sawmills and Knelsen Sand & Gravel. The La Crete Grain Terminals are very important to the agriculture industry in the region. Sixty-five percent of the region's grain is grown in La Crete. Grain is hauled to Fort Saskatchewan and beyond.

There are numerous recreational opportunities in La Crete, many of which include the out of doors. South of La Crete is Buffalo Head Hills which, during the summertime, hosts various outdoor activities such as picnics, campfires and trails. The hills provide tobogganing opportunities during the winter months. Another point of interest is the Peace River located west of La Crete. Families can be often found boating, fishing, touring and riding various Off Highway Vehicles throughout the area. There are many walking trails and a 350 kilometres groomed trail system surrounding the La Crete area specifically for snowmobiles. The community also has baseball diamonds, soccer fields, playgrounds, and a golf course.

Indoor recreational activity relies heavily on the "Northern Lights Recreation Centre" (NLRC). The NLRC hosts many hockey tournaments, games and practices throughout the season; as well as houses a 4 lane bowling alley, 3-sheet curling rink, the Youth Activity Centre (YAC), a multi-purpose room upstairs and common space on the main floor.

There are many activities held during the year in La Crete that brings the community together. Each spring the La Crete Spring Trade Fair is held in the Northern Lights Recreation Centre. The Agriculture Society puts on 2 events each year – Farmer's Day held in June and Pioneer Days in September celebrate the history of La Crete. Demonstrations are held on how farming was done many years ago. La Crete also hosts its own professional rodeo each year. Also each year in March, the Northern Lights Recreation Centre hosts the annual Challenge Cup Hockey Tournament. A new golf course is expected to be open for the 2009 season.

There are six schools that service La Crete and area including a Mennonite School. One school houses the community's public library. NAIT / Northern Lakes College has a campus in the community as well.

La Crete has a unique Mennonite heritage that, despite constant growth, still maintains a strong presence in the region. Many residents use a German dialect called "Plautdietsch" or "Low German". Most of the community speaks English and business is in both languages.

La Crete has a strong volunteer base and the Town population is well serviced by volunteer run community groups. Social and recreational organizations for all ages exist, including the following not-for-profit groups and associations:

- 4-H Club;
- Canadian Food Grains Bank;
- Accredited Supportive Living Society;
- La Crete Figure Skating Club;
- La Crete & Area Chamber of Commerce;
- La Crete Agricultural Society;
- La Crete Community Library;
- La Crete Learning Society;
- La Crete Municipal Nursing Association;
- La Crete Support Services;
- La Crete Walking Trails;
- Minor Hockey Association;
- La Crete Recreation Society;
- Polar Cats Snowmobile Club;
- Rodeo Club;
- Youth Activity Center; and
- Women's Auxiliary.

3.0 Purpose and Methodology

The primary purpose of the Aquatic / Leisure Centre Feasibility Study is to define the need for, and determine the feasibility of, the development of an indoor swimming pool in La Crete. This study will enable the La Crete Aquatic / Leisure Centre Committee, along with municipal decision makers to make an informed decision about aquatic facility development.

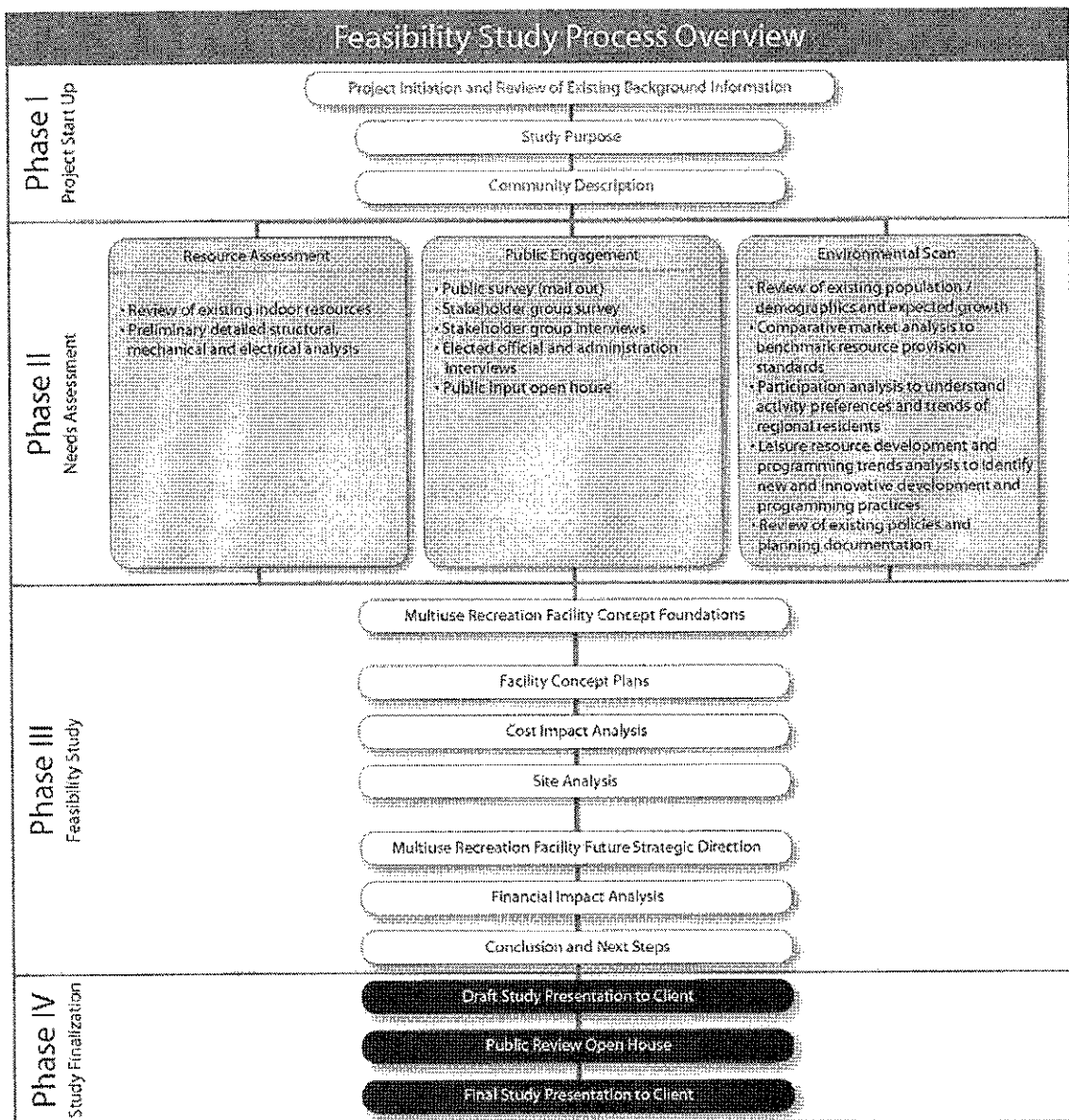
The intent of this feasibility study is to build upon the goals, policies, and standards presented in existing municipal planning documentation. In addition, this study is an extension of a survey the Aquatic Leisure Centre Committee conducted in March 2008.

Specifically, there are numerous objectives the study will address. These include:

- Confirmation of the aquatics and leisure program needs for La Crete and surrounding area;
- Determination of community program needs of youth, adult and seniors, and highlight the potential for inclusion within facility development;
- Identification of the most cost effective means of facility development and operation, highlighting the potential for partnership sharing and independent operation responsibilities;
- Development of a site analysis and plan that includes architectural and concept drawings for a proposed facility layout that illustrates the most appropriate and cost-effective method for development;

- Provision of a comprehensive financial analysis, including capital development costs, operating costs, and potential revenue recovery rates;
- Provision of a long range capital plan that identifies construction costs;
- Confirmation of a suitable site for the facility’s development including an exploration of a stand alone versus attached facility; and
- Recommendation of potential granting programs.

The following process chart explains the methodology undertaken by the study team to achieve this end:



4.0 The La Crete Region

4.1. Community Facility Inventory

La Crete is home to a number of community facilities that service regional residents. These facilities are as follows:

- Arena – seats 560 and includes a standard ice pad;
- Curling rink – attached to the arena and includes 3 sheets of ice;
- Bowling lanes – attached to curling rink and includes 4 lanes of 5 pin bowling;
- Outdoor rinks – Blumenort, La Crete, Buffalo Head Prairie, and Blue Hills;
- Ball diamonds – 4 with 1 adjacent to the bowling alley and the other three on school yards;
- Soccer fields – 5 fields on school playgrounds;
- Skate park – cemented and fenced area located at the County park;
- Beach volleyball – double court on a school yard and a single court at the County park;
- Playgrounds – 4 in total with one each in the County park, Reinland Park, and Ridgeview and Sandhills schools;
- Gymnasiums – 3 with one each at Sandhills School, Ridgeview School, and La Crete Public School;
- Walking trails – 5.6 km of walking trails in and around the community; and
- Snowmobile club trails – Polar Cats Club 150 members have developed 350 km of trails, 75% which are groomed.

5.0 Needs Assessment

The following Needs Assessment section provides some detail on the community need for an indoor aquatic facility as well as trends in recreation that may influence the development of an aquatic facility.

5.1. Population Analysis

La Crete is considerably younger than either Alberta or Canada². The community has been growing very rapidly and steadily during the past twenty years. Using a 20 km radius to capture population, the population growth from 1986 to 2006 was 103%.

The 2006 population was determined by considering the community within the centre of a circle with a 20 km radius. The methodology is described in Archibald's January 2008 report.

² "Report Two: A Statistical Review of Key Growth Factors in the La Crete Region", Archibald Research and Planning. January 2008.

As illustrated in Figure 1, over half (54%) of the population is under 25 years of age with less than one-tenth (9%) over 60.

Figure 1

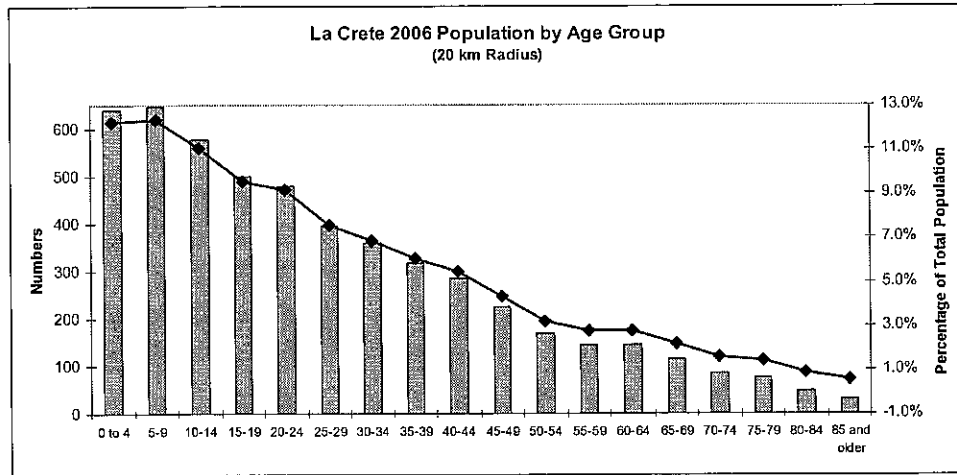
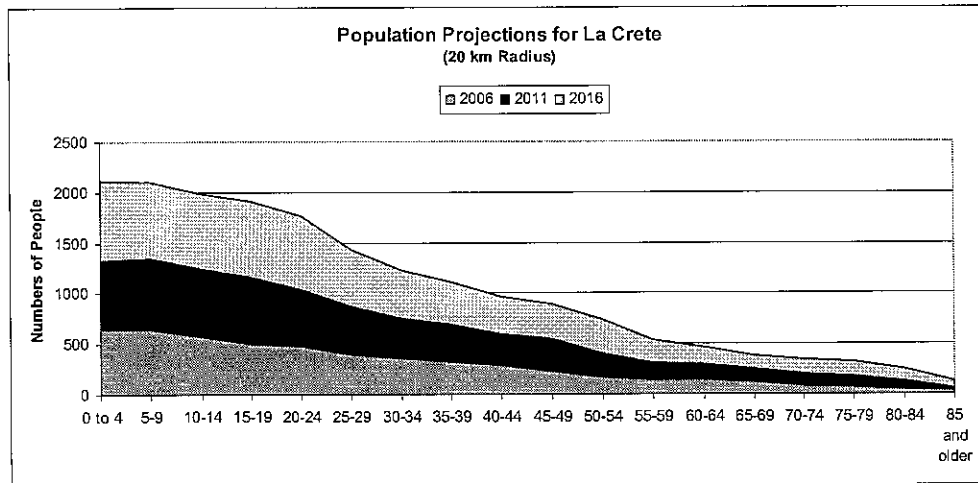


Figure 2 below shows the projections for the population (within the 20 km radius area) in 2011 and 2016. The population grows from 5,238 in 2006 to 6,195 in 2011 to 7,301 in 2016. This represents an increase of 39% over the ten year period. As illustrated in the same figure, the population remains relatively young over those years. This increase in population and its relatively young profile will have an impact upon the services, including recreation, that are provided in the community.

Figure 2



5.2. Trends Analysis

Recent trends in the provision of community facilities include the delivery of spontaneous use recreational opportunities (as opposed to scheduled use), as well as the opportunity for all family members to take part in different recreation opportunities simultaneously (i.e. the leisure mall concept or “multiplex” facilities) much like the TransAlta Tri-leisure Centre in Spruce Grove or Servus Place in St Albert. These development ideologies are based on trend information indicating decreases in structured / organized activities such as team sport and increases in spontaneous activity participation such as walking / jogging and fitness / wellness activities. As well, an increase in the number of activity choices for all ages indicates a need to provide multi-use spaces that accommodate as many different types of activities as possible.

Other activities that are showing increasing rates of participation include arts and culture programming, attending fairs / festivals / events as a spectator, and low impact / therapeutic recreation pursuits such as leisure aquatics, hot pools and horseback riding.

In terms of overall service delivery, a growing focus and reliance is being placed on partnerships in development involving the public, private and non-profit sectors. As these partnership arrangements have obvious benefits in capital and operational cost savings, enable increased service provision and have become a vehicle for attracting external funding (grants from other level of government), all opportunities for partnership should be explored in any future infrastructure development in the region.

Trends indicate that leisure facilities must cater to a number of different programs and activities:

Spontaneous use areas now must be considered as much a priority as dedicated user group spaces.

Activities demanded in the future will include indoor and outdoor swimming, traditional sports such as hockey, curling, baseball and soccer and will also include trail based activities, arts and culture programming, low impact physical activity such as walking, spectating and therapeutic pursuits.

5.2.1. Participation Trends

From Structured / Organized Participation to Unstructured / Spontaneous Pursuits

Statistics Canada, through the 2005 research document entitled “Sport Participation in Canada, 2005”, relates a number of key trends in sport participation in the nation. In the period between 1992 and 2005, participation in organized sport dropped from 45% to 28% of the population. This drop is common across all age groups and is less apparent in the

Maritime provinces as is observed in the west. Other key findings include a significantly higher participation in sport from Canadian born residents as compared to immigrants and that sport participation is highest amongst students than any other age demographic. The most popular sports identified in the study include golf, ice hockey, swimming, soccer, basketball, baseball, volleyball, skiing and cycling. The study also relates that there has been a drop in active participation in sport yet an increase in volunteerism in sport (i.e. as coaches, league administrators, referees).

The 2004 Alberta Recreation Survey reported organized sport participation levels fell to 34% from 45% in 1992. People are seeking individualized, informal pursuits that can be done alone or in small groups, at flexible times, often near or at home.

Recreation facilities, programs, and services must be flexible to meet new and changing demands and interests that are of high quality and sufficiently flexible (spontaneous participation) to meet the needs of a variety of clientele. Outdoor spaces must be designed to accommodate both informal use (trails, passive parks) and dedicated sports fields.

Notable Participation Rates Increasing

The 1990's saw an economic recovery in Alberta and was reflected in those activities that experienced an increase in participation.

- Being a spectator from 58% in 1992 to 60% in 2004
- Visiting museums and galleries from 47% to 51%
- Crafts and Hobbies from 54% to 64%
- Video and computer games from 40% to 53%
- Golf from 41% to 45%
- Attending educational courses from 41% to 43%
- Day hiking from 31% to 36%
- Aerobics from 30% to 34%
- Weight Training from 27% to 36%
- Soccer from 15% to 19%

There are three primary factors that help to explain these increases. The increasing interest with personal health and well being has led to the increasing participation in golf, aerobics, and weight training. Secondly, Baby Boomers are having children and are seeking out inexpensive and individual and family activities such as day hiking, soccer, and video and computer games. Third, the increasing interest in personal development, educational upgrading at various levels and life-long learning values creates interest in professional courses and workshops of all kinds. As well, many of these notable activities are often unstructured and meet the need for flexible access.

Favorite Activities in 2004

The Alberta Recreation Survey is a research instrument developed by Alberta Community Development to analyze recreation participation patterns of Albertans. The survey has been conducted approximately every four years since 1981. The results of the latest survey, the 2004 Alberta Recreation Survey, were released in 2005 and provide interesting insight as to recreation and leisure participation trends throughout the Province.³

The 2004 Alberta Recreation Survey (Alberta Community Development 1981-2004) identified the most frequently mentioned favorite recreation activities.

- Walking
- Golf
- Camping
- Bicycling
- Jogging/running
- Gardening
- Reading
- Fishing
- Swimming
- Ice hockey

The respondents indicated the following reasons for their participation.

- For physical health or exercise
- For pleasure
- To relax
- To be with family

As well, 41 % of the respondents identified a desire to take up a new activity. It is surmised that participation in these activities will be on the rise as demands increase.

- Gym / aerobics / fitness / aquasize
- Swimming
- Golf
- Bicycling
- Yoga
- Canoeing/kayaking
- Dancing
- Hiking
- Running/jogging
- Downhill skiing

The interest in walking and bicycling for leisure is also supported through research conducted by the Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute (Local Opportunities for Physical Activity: Trends from 1999 to 2004. 2004).

One out of five adults in Alberta reported bicycling and walking during the study period. This trend has not changed since 1998/99. Women were more likely to cite walking and men were more likely to cite bicycling, with bicycling cited less often in older age groups.

Spontaneous Use

It is clear that participation in structured activity, such as traditional field team sports, has declined in the recent past. Citizens are demanding more flexibility in timing and activity choice, moving away from structured outdoor team sports to spontaneous activities such as trail; use, spray parks and open green fields for spontaneous play. This does not, however,

³ For more information on the Alberta Recreation survey, please refer to the website <www.cd.gov.ab.ca/building_communities/sport_recreation/recreation_survey/>

eliminate the need for sports fields and venues that accommodate structured activities and the user groups that utilize them. This trend suggests that planning for the general population is as important as planning for traditional structured use environments. Analyzing the issue further, if parks and open space budgets are not to increase to accommodate this expanded scope of spontaneous use planning, municipalities may have to change their approach to facility development. It may be necessary for municipalities to partner with dedicated use team sport organizations in the development and operations of existing or new facilities in order to ensure optimal use of public funds.

A Greater Reliance on Volunteers to Deliver Programs

From the mid-eighties to the present the Province's economic position resulted in less money for municipalities and an effective downloading of public services responsibility. Local governments had limits to taxation thus a further downloading of responsibility took place to volunteer organizations.

In the Region, there has been a dependency on volunteers to deliver services and much of the assistance to these groups has been in the form of grant in aid. This has sustained delivery at certain levels, but not to the degree that meets changing needs of the market. Volunteers also require training, education and marketing support to deliver quality opportunities for the families and regions that they serve.

In this regard, a sustained financial aid package is warranted, but not without an ongoing helping hand to train and encourage volunteers. This is important to ensure a return on investment through positive growth in the delivery of leisure opportunities and building human resources (social capital) of the many communities whose resources will not permit direct delivery with trained professionals

The Formation of Partnerships

There has been a clear message that government at all levels cannot keep pace with directly funding the needs of all volunteer sectors to the degree demanded. As a result, there is a view that investment shall only occur when sectors, or community groups with common interests combine their resources to a common end. This is also evident in Parkland wherein distance and lack of ongoing information sharing between volunteer associations has resulted in many having common problems, but no one coordinating or sharing solutions or resources.

The Region must plan to improve coordination and resource sharing between volunteer associations. It must also remain as a catalyst to foster cross market planning and delivery.

Barriers to Participation

There are a number of issues that can be categorized as barriers to participation in recreation programs, namely, economic barriers, time commitments, demographics, perceived ability, and family income.

"A Look at Leisure", a newsletter published by Alberta Community Development and based on the findings of the Alberta Recreation Survey (March 2004, No. 48.) investigated 14 barriers to participation.

The major findings indicated that:

- The cost for equipment, material and supplies, just to participate in the activity (e.g. Hockey equipment) are the most important barrier;
- Economic barriers (entrance or registration fees) indicate the potential impact of these increasing costs on participation. There is a growing trend of increasing registration fees by municipal recreation departments as a form of revenue generation;
- Time commitments associated with work and family is a possible reflection on the baby-boom generation having their own families;
- There is a growing importance of the quality of facility maintenance (ageing infrastructure) as a limitation on the quality of participation;
- Demographic factors affect the importance of barriers with seniors giving the most importance to access issues while young adults give more importance to cost factors;
- Lack of physical ability to participate.

In addition, the Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute (1999) found that the lack of information about available local activities and inconvenient scheduled times for activities were also significant barriers to adult participation. As well, it reported that Canadians would participate more often in recreation and leisure activities if there were reduced costs, more information available about the activities, a broader range of activities, and increased social support.

Adults and adolescents are both affected by time constraints. While adults are restricted by both family and work commitments, adolescents are affected by commitments to other recreation activities and to friends. Adolescents also indicated boredom with the activity, sweating a lot, activity is too difficult, and a general dislike for the sport (Benefits of and Deterrents to Recreation Participation: Perspectives of Early Adolescents. Wendy Hultsman. 1996. *Journal of Applied Recreational Research*, 21 (3), 213-241)

Volunteers

Volunteerism in Alberta is changing. The following excerpt, from the Alberta Heritage Community Foundation website⁴ explains that volunteerism is much different now than it was in the past.

According to the 2000 National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating millions of Canadian volunteers continue to play a vital role in their communities. But there appear to be some significant changes in volunteer participation since the 1997 survey. Listed below are the top ten trends in volunteering as identified by Volunteer Canada. The topics offer a wide range of practical and philosophical discussion points.

1. Much comes from the few

One in four Canadians volunteer. Over one-third (34%) of all volunteer hours were contributed by the 5% of volunteers (who gave 596 hours or more of their time).

2. The new volunteer

- *More young people volunteer to gain work-related skills.*
- *More seniors who travel or have multiple activities have less time available for volunteering.*
- *More new Canadians volunteer to develop work experience and to practice language skills.*
- *More persons with disabilities view volunteering as a meaningful way to participate in community life.*

3. Volunteer job design

Volunteer job design can be the best defense for changing demographics and fluctuations in funding.

4. Mandatory volunteering

Mandatory volunteer programs through Workfare, Community Service Order and school mandated community work have created a new category of volunteers sometimes called "voluntolds."

5. Volunteering by contract

The changing volunteer environment is redefining volunteer commitment as a negotiated and mutually beneficial arrangement rather than a one-way sacrifice of time by the volunteer.

6. Risk management

Considered part of the process of job design for volunteers, risk management ensures the organization can place the right volunteer in the appropriate activity.

⁴ <http://www.abheritage.ca/volunteer/index.html>

7. Borrowing best practices

The voluntary sector has responded to the changing environment by adopting corporate and public sector management practices including:

- *Standards, codes of conduct*
- *Accountability and transparency measures around program administration*
- *Demand for evaluation, outcome and import measurement*

8. Professional volunteer management

Managers of volunteer resources are working toward establishing an equal footing with other professionals in the voluntary sector.

9. Board governance: challenges and contradictions

Volunteer boards must respond to the challenge of acting as both supervisors and strategic planners.

10. Volunteer development

Volunteer development is a pro-active response to the declining numbers of volunteers. By offering opportunities for training and growth, managers of volunteer resources can recruit and engage potential volunteers while retaining current participants.

A growing practice among voluntary organizations is to have volunteers keep time sheets of their hours. The reasons are two fold. The first reason is for volunteer recognition award celebrations. The second reason is that it helps organizations receive funding from sponsors and/or the government. Volunteer Canada estimates that if volunteers were getting paid they would receive \$10.00 to \$12.00 per hour. Voluntary organizations are in the position to say we couldn't afford to operate, provide these services, and benefit the community, group, or cause without volunteers. Yet voluntary organizations still have infrastructure expenses such as paid staff, utility bills, telephone bills, insurance, office equipment, and furniture.

These significant changes in volunteerism need to be considered, especially in a municipality like La Crete that relies on volunteers to deliver recreation and program opportunities for its residents.

5.2.2. The Benefits of Recreation and Parks

“In Alberta... Recreation and Parks Matter” is a time series research document commissioned by the Alberta Recreation and Parks Association (ARPA) to study public perception on the value of local government recreation and parks services and how it has changed between 1996 and 2007. The study clearly indicates that the majority of Albertans (68%) felt that their respective communities benefit a “great deal” from local government recreation and parks services.

Further, the study found the following:

- 47% of Albertans place leisure as a priority over work (up from 27% in 1996)
- 40% of Albertans have participated in a recreation or leisure activity that was sponsored by, or took place in, parks or facilities managed by their local government
- 64% of Albertans would pay increased annual property taxes if improved parks and recreation services were made available.
- 97% of Albertans feel that the community benefits “a great deal” or “somewhat” from local government parks and recreation services
- 97% of Albertans feel that recreation participation is a major contributor to overall quality of life
- 78% of Albertans feel that recreation participation will make people less reliant on the health care system
- 97% of Albertans feel that playgrounds and play facilities are integral to children’s development and welfare
- 71% of Albertans feel that recreation participation is a major factor in crime prevention

5.2.3. Aquatic Trends

The Leisure Mall concept incorporates a variety of different recreation and leisure services and opportunities into a facility. Although this concept primarily deals with larger multiplex facilities, the premise can be applied to aquatics facilities as well. The idea promotes the concept of families recreating together at a common location, provides broader choice for participants, promotes participation in many activities (through exposure to a variety of activities), increases opportunities for socialization and spectator activity, and creates a

concentrated market (critical mass) that opens the door for greater profitability in food, beverage, and retail sales. Ideas such as retail lease space, facility sponsorship, and fitness facilities are possibilities in an aquatics centre model and, where developed, are proving to reduce operational costs for such publicly funded facilities.

Aquatics facility amenities have typically included traditional aquatics play features, waterslides, diving boards, and complimentary facilities such as hot tubs, saunas, and steam rooms. Although these amenities are still very popular, and in some cases considered necessary for development, there are other amenities that have recently been introduced that are having a major impact on the use and operation of public aquatics facilities. Aquatics managers have been attempting to further develop the atmosphere of their facilities through the inclusion of sand, vegetation and variable lighting controls. These tangible environmental additions help create an ambience for aquatics participation similar to that which is achieved by attending an exotic destination or swimming outdoors. These amenities have proven to add value to the public swimming experience and will be seen in future aquatics development across Canada.

Aquatics fitness has grown in popularity in recent years. Exercise in water is a lower impact alternative and also allows increased flexibility to traditional exercises. The underwater environment can decrease bodyweight up to 90% while it accommodates high performance training by increasing resistance. The attractiveness of water as a medium for exercise has grown in popularity so much that even post-operative care facilitation, physiotherapy, and preventative care programs have been shifting from traditional dry-land training to aquatic environments. People with various conditions such as arthritis, lower back pain, joint replacements, and breathing disorders have found aquatic based exercise to be effective in treating their conditions. More specifically, aquatics fitness programs such as water running, hydro aerobics, flo-motion, and programming for infants / pre-school aged children have been increasing in popularity and add value to any community's recreation services.

5.3. Comparative Analysis

<p>Athabasca</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • population 2567 	<p>Multiplex:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 metre long swimming pool with special assistance stairs • climbing wall, wading pool, sauna, hot tub • an environmentally sound UV filtering system
<p>Elk Point</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • population 1487 	<p>no pool</p>
<p>Fairview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • population 3297 	<p>NAIT Fairview Campus recreation complex</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an aquatic centre and sauna.

Fox Creek • population 2278	no pool
Beaverlodge – • population 2264	outdoor swimming pool
Grand Cache – • population 3828	Alaska Recreation Centre includes: • .25m, 6 lane pool • dry sauna • men’s & ladies change room • slides, inflatable toys, slide, infant table
Grimshaw – • population 2537	no pool
High Level – • population 3887	R.E. Walter Aquatic Centre
High Prairie – • population 2737	High Prairie Regional Aquatics Centre: • leisure pool with zero depth entry o a raindrop water feature o waterfall covering the entrance to a water cave o lazy river and vortex with therapeutic massage jet seating o a tots area • 5 lane pool • kids play zone, waterslide • birthday party room and an on-deck viewing area
Lac La Biche – • population 2700	Portage College pool
Manning – • population 1493	Manning RCMP Centennial Pool • The pool operates from May to September (tent-type enclosure)
Sexsmith – • population 1959	no pool
Spirit River – • population 1148	Spirit River Centennial Outdoor pool • heated outdoor pool that is open from May to the end of August. o a wading pool
Swan Hills – • population 1645	salt water indoor swimming pool • hot tub and steam room
Valleyview – • population 1725	Valleyview Aquatic centre - outdoor swimming pool open mid-May to the end of August
Wembley – • population 1443	no pool
Wabasca • population 1200	Aquatic centre • Pool with water slide • Hot tub • Viewing area Fitness area, dance studio, and class room

5.4. Public Engagement

Residents and stakeholders of the La Crete Region were engaged in a variety of different ways. A household survey was distributed to households in the community, a student survey was distributed to students at local schools, and a stakeholder group survey was sent out to the organized volunteers groups in the region (including arts and culture groups, sport groups, services clubs and others). Face to face consultation was conducted through interviews with group representatives, elected officials, and through a public input open house (all conducted in early November 2008).

The intent of the engagement process was to further define community support and the need for indoor aquatics facilities. The following sections outline the findings of each of the public engagement methods. For reference purposes copies of the data collection instruments are included in the appendix (where available).

5.4.1. Household Survey

The household survey was fielded from October 17 to October 31, 2008. Distribution of the questionnaires was managed by the La Crete Aquatics / Leisure Centre Committee. Questionnaires were delivered to households in La Crete. See Appendix A for a copy of the questionnaire.

Accompanying each questionnaire was a letter describing the purpose of the survey. The letter included an entry form⁵ that could be returned with the completed questionnaire in the self addressed stamped envelope. Completed questionnaires were delivered to RC Strategies for analysis.

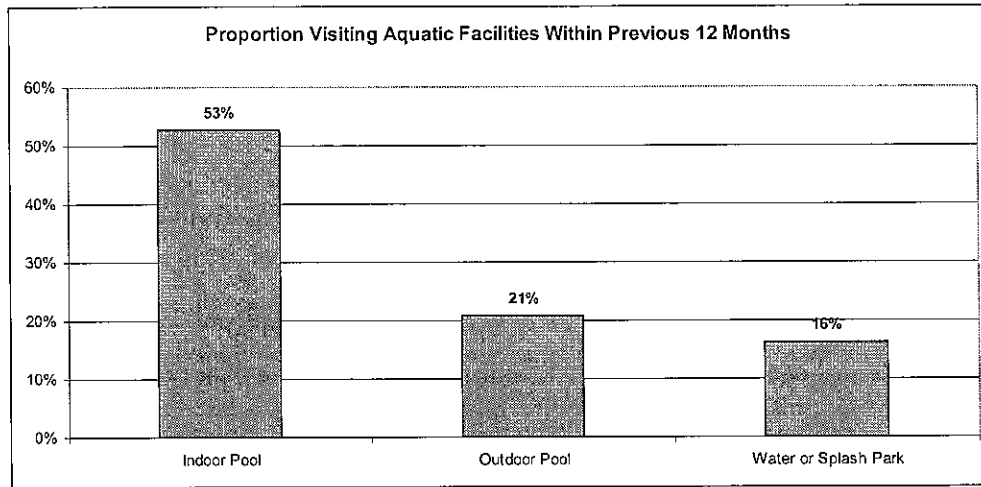
Five hundred eighty-two questionnaires were completed as part of the household survey. This representative survey provides, conservatively, a margin of error of +/- 4.1% nineteen times out of twenty⁶.

To begin, respondents were asked about their visitation of aquatic facilities within the previous 12 months. As illustrated in Figure 3, over half (53%) of respondents indicated someone within their household had visited an indoor pool within the previous year. The propensity to visit outdoor pools or water / splash parks was much lower.

⁵ All entry forms will be entered into a draw for two cash prizes of \$100.

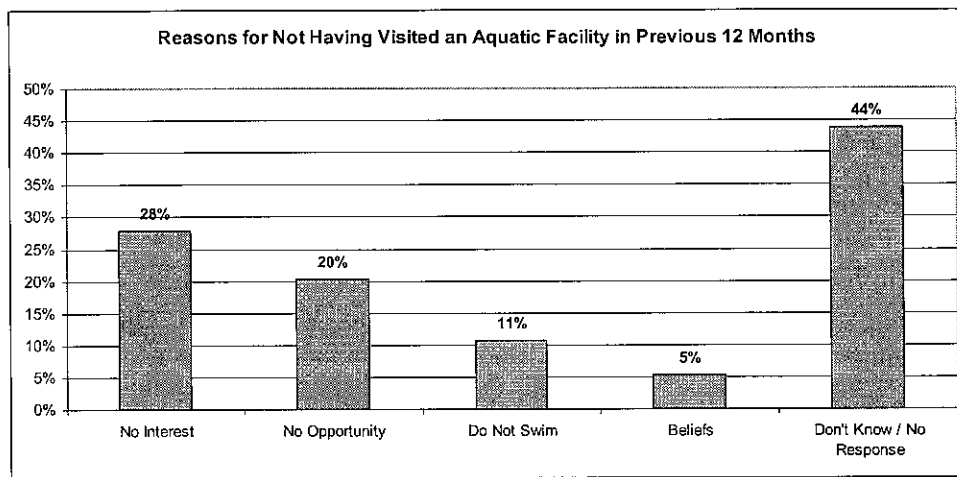
⁶ This margin of error rate states that should the survey be fielded 20 times, the results will be accurate to within 3.5% 19 of the 20 times.

Figure 3



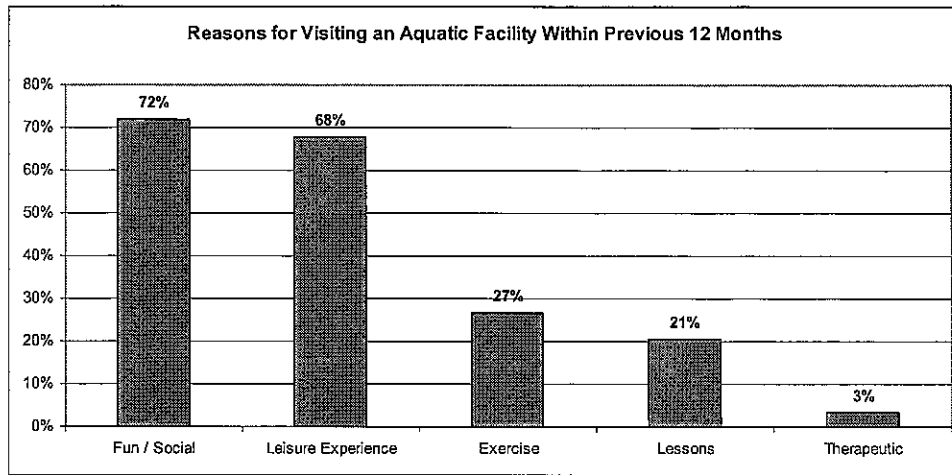
Respondents were next asked to indicate their reasons for not having visited an aquatic facility within the previous year. Only 8% had visited each of the three different aquatic facility types identified above. For the 92% that had not visited at least one of the facilities identified above, the most common reason given was a lack of interest (28%). See Figure 4 for other reasons given.

Figure 4



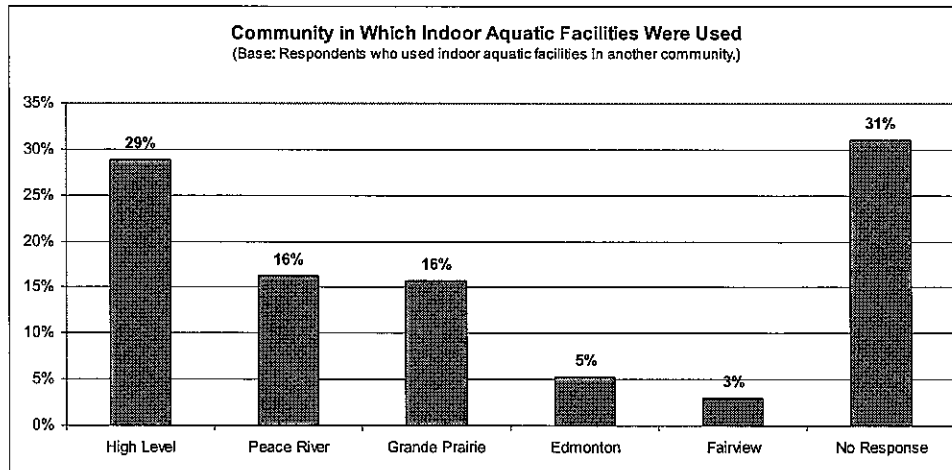
Those respondents (63% of all respondents) who indicated that a member of their household had visited an aquatic facility within the previous year were subsequently asked to indicate the purpose of that visit. As illustrated in Figure 5, the two most prevalent reasons stated were fun / social aspects (72%) and the leisure experience (68%).

Figure 5



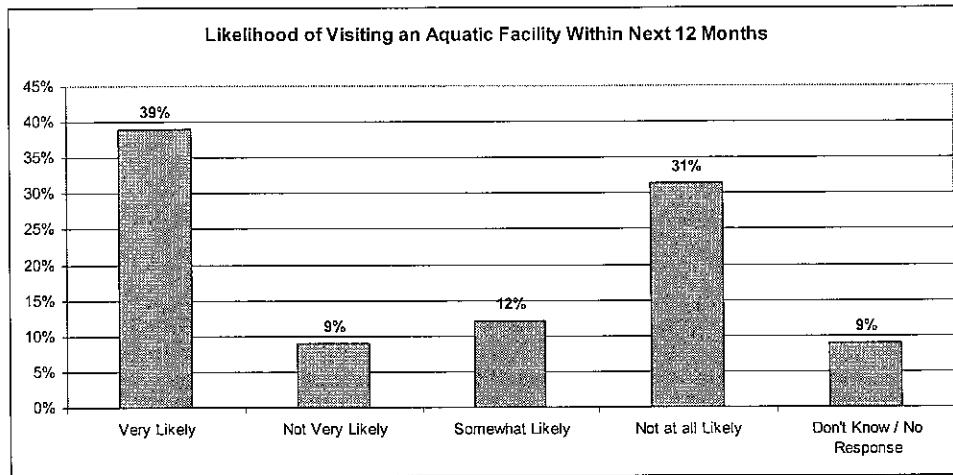
Sixty-three percent (63%) of all respondents indicated that a member of their household had visited a community indoor aquatic facility in another community within the previous 12 months. Of this group 29% traveled to High Level to use an indoor aquatic facility. Sixteen percent traveled to Peace River or Grande Prairie to use an indoor aquatic facility (Figure 6.)

Figure 6



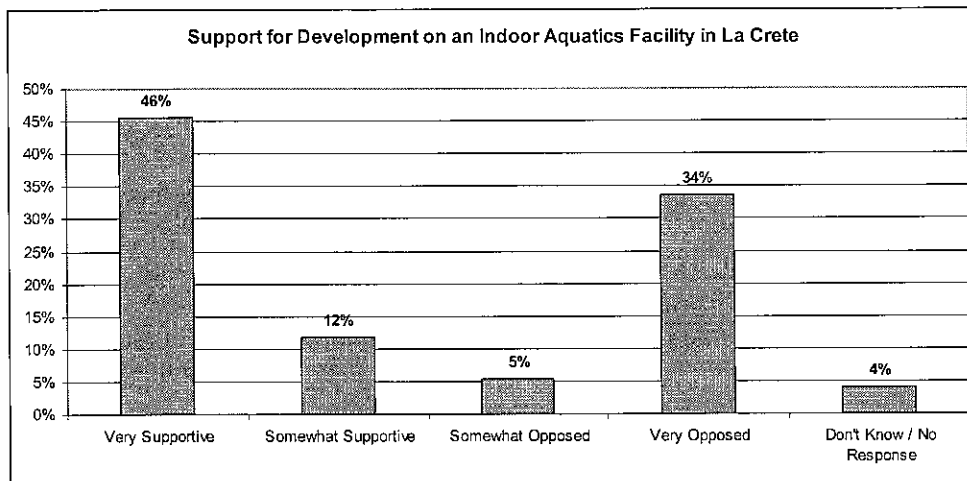
Respondents were then asked about the likelihood that they would visit an aquatic facility within the subsequent twelve months. Over half said they were very likely (39%) or somewhat likely (12%) while approximately one-third (31%) suggested they were not at all likely (Figure 7).

Figure 7



Survey respondents were told that the La Crete Swimming Pool Committee is exploring the feasibility of constructing an indoor community aquatics facility. They were then asked to indicate how supportive they were of the notion. While over half (58%) were supportive to some degree (46% very supportive and 12% somewhat supportive), approximately one-third (34%) were very opposed. See Figure 8.

Figure 8

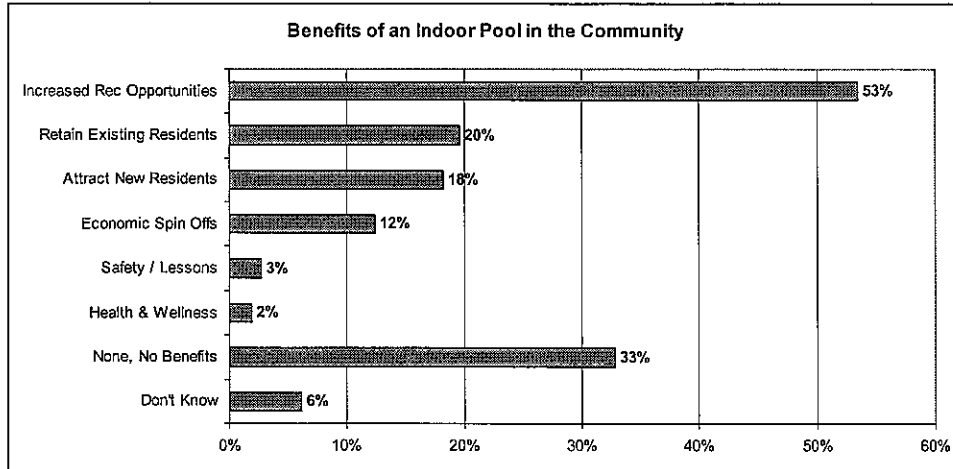


When asked what concerns they had with the development of an indoor community aquatics facility in La Crete, most (58%) expressed concerns associated with cost / increase in taxes. Eight percent (8%) indicated that their beliefs were at the heart of their concerns with an aquatics facility. Twenty-one percent (21%) explicitly stated they had no concerns.

Next, respondents were asked what benefits could be anticipated with the development of an indoor pool in their community. As might be expected, increased recreation opportunity was

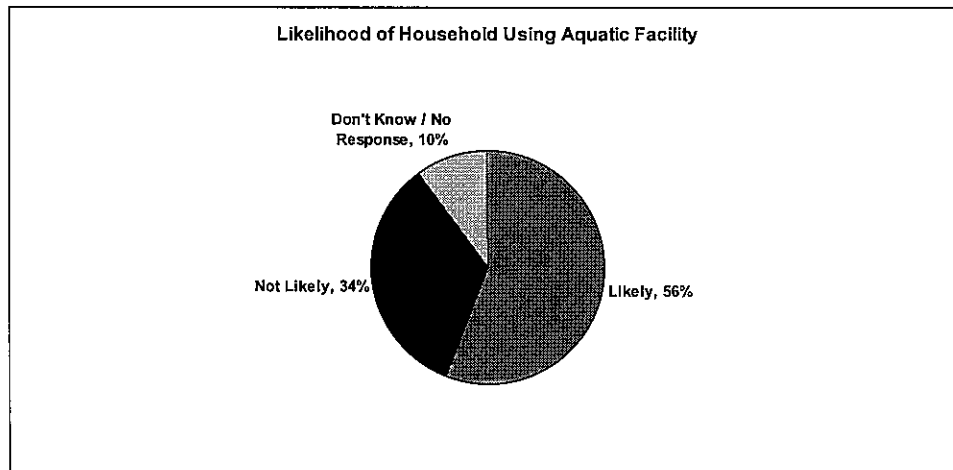
the most cited benefit (53%). Interestingly, one-third (33%) felt an indoor pool would offer no benefits. See Figure 9.

Figure 9



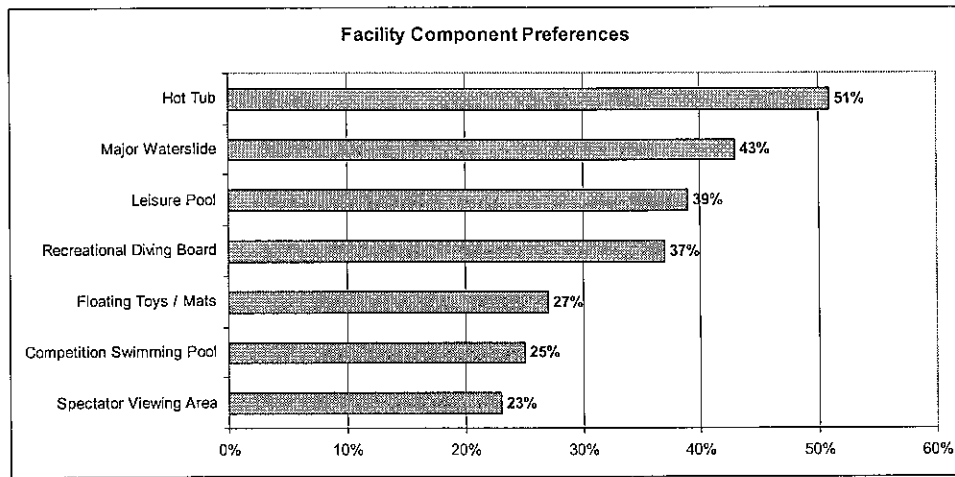
Respondents were directly asked the likelihood of them or someone in their household using an indoor community aquatics facility in La Crete. In proportions similar to their support of the facility, 56% indicated it was likely that their household would use the facility. See Figure 10.

Figure 10



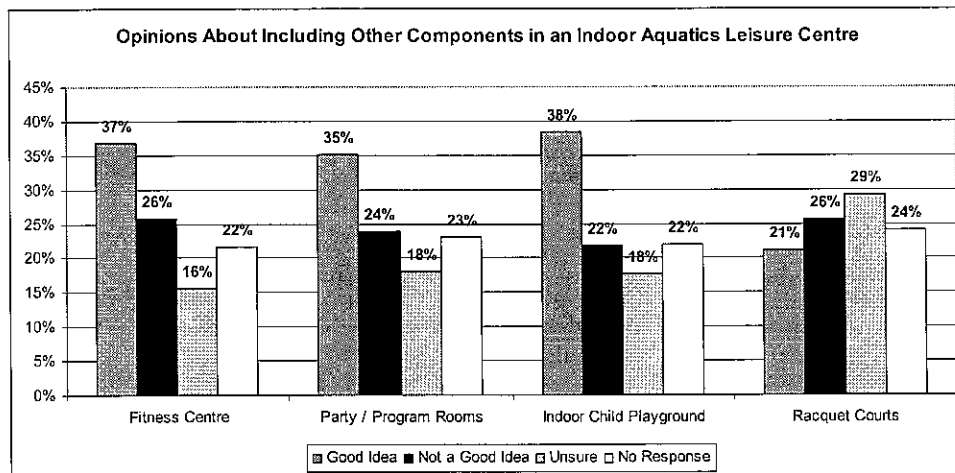
Given a number of potential components for an indoor aquatics facility, respondents identified up to seven elements they would prefer to be included in an ideal facility. As illustrated in Figure 11, a hot tub was the most preferred element identified by approximately half (51%) of respondents. A major waterslide (43%), leisure pool (39%), and recreational diving board (37%) were the next most commonly cited components.

Figure 11



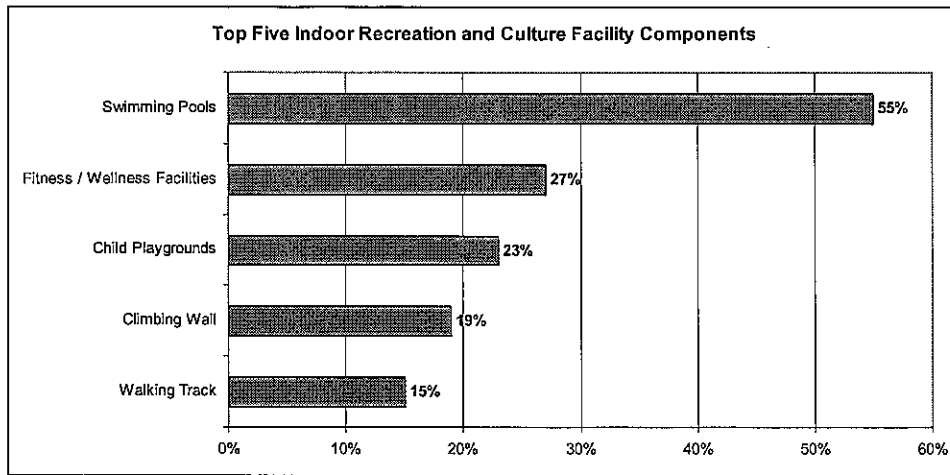
Respondents were asked to provide their opinions about several possible complementary components to include in the development of an indoor aquatics leisure centre in the community. As can be seen in Figure 12, the inclusion of an indoor child playground was most favourably received by respondents with 38% thinking its inclusion is a good idea. If the “no responses” are disregarded, almost half of respondents thought the playground (49%), fitness centre (47%), and party / program rooms (46%) were good ideas.

Figure 12



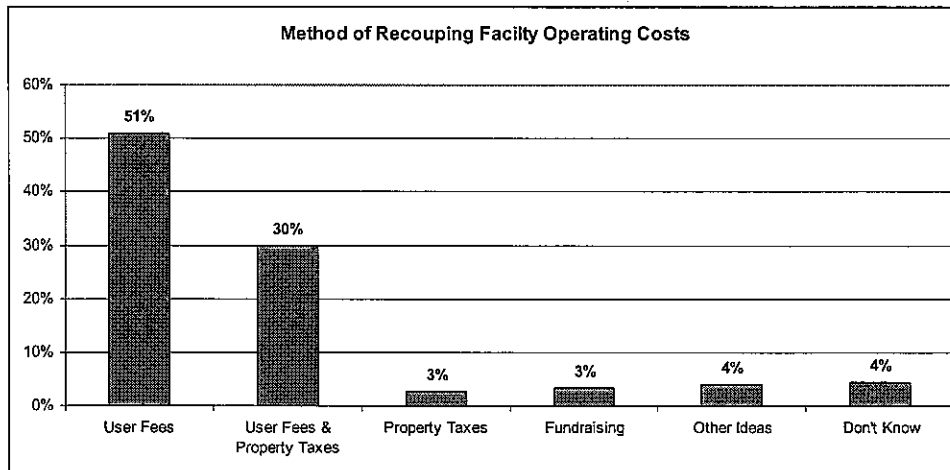
Given a list of indoor recreation and culture facility components that could be considered in future facility development in the area, respondents were asked to select up to five that they thought should be considered. Somewhat expectantly, swimming pools were selected by the largest proportion of respondents (55%). A distant second was fitness / wellness facilities. See Figure 13 for the top five selections.

Figure 13



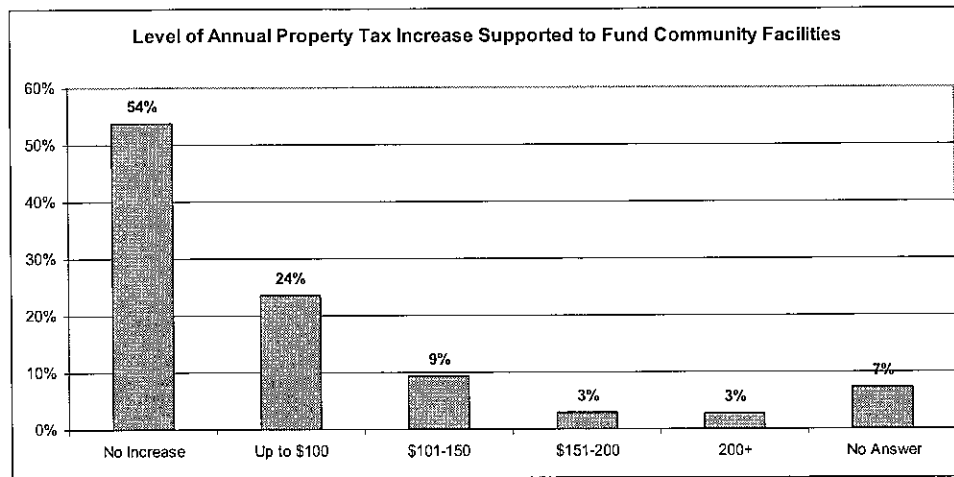
Over three-quarters of survey respondents (81%) suggested that user fees should play a role in recouping operating costs of an indoor community facility. In fact, half (51%) of respondents indicated that user fees should be the primary method of paying for operating costs. See Figure 14.

Figure 14



Finally, survey respondents indicated the amount of annual property tax increase their households could afford to ensure that community needs for facilities in La Crete are better met. Over one-third of respondents (39%) indicated an increase up to \$100 was affordable. Over half, however were in favour of no increase (Figure 15).

Figure 15



Respondent Profile

The following table provides a description of the respondents surveyed.

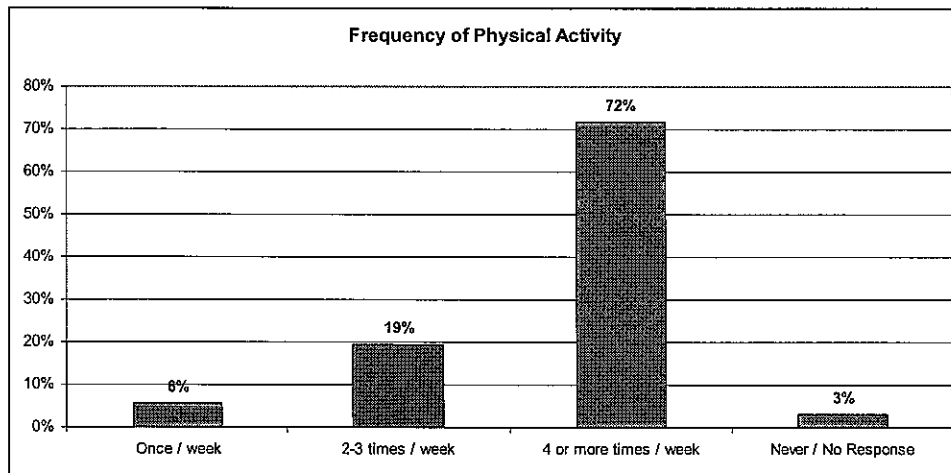
Percentage of Survey Respondents	
Residence	
La Crete	77
Fort Vermillion	3
Other	20
Tenure of Residence	
Less than 1 year	2
1 – 5 years	8
5 – 10 years	6
More than 10 years	82
No Response	3
Expect to be residing in area for next 5 years	
Yes	87
No	2
Not Sure	8
No Response	3
Household Composition (% respondents with age group in the home)	
Ages 0 – 12	57
13 – 19 years	35
20 – 39 years	67
40 – 59 years	40
60 years and over	13
No Response	4

5.4.2. Student Survey

The student survey was administered at local schools to students in grades seven through twelve. In total, three hundred four questionnaires were completed. The findings of the student survey provide good insight of the youth’s perspective on recreation.

To begin the survey, the respondents were asked to provide some insight into their physical activity. First, respondents were asked whether they considered themselves to be physically active. Over three-quarters (78%) identified themselves as being active, while only 5% felt they were not. A further 17% were either unsure (16%) or did not answer (1%). Next respondents indicated the frequency of which they participated in physical activity. As illustrated in Figure 16, almost three-quarters (72%) of respondents indicated they engaged in physical activity at least four times per week.

Figure 16

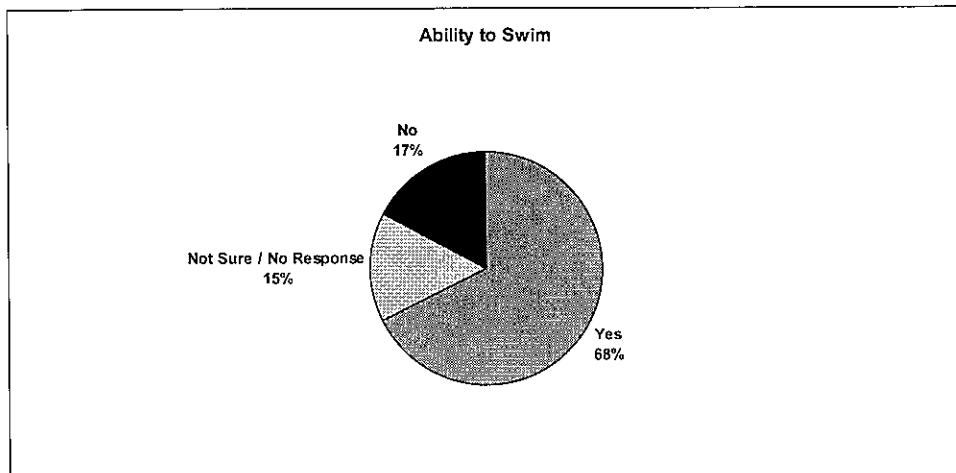


Next, respondents identified those items that prevented them from participating in physical activity. One-third (33%) of respondents identified transportation as an issue that has prevented them from participating, while 22% suggested that the cost of participating has prevented some participation in physical activity. See the following table for other barriers.

Barriers to Participation in Physical Activity	
Transportation to the area	33%
Cost of participating	22%
Lack of time to participate	19%
Programs / activities not available	17%
Video games / computers	12%
Work (after school job)	12%
Homework	11%
Television	10%
Physical ability	4%
Other	4%

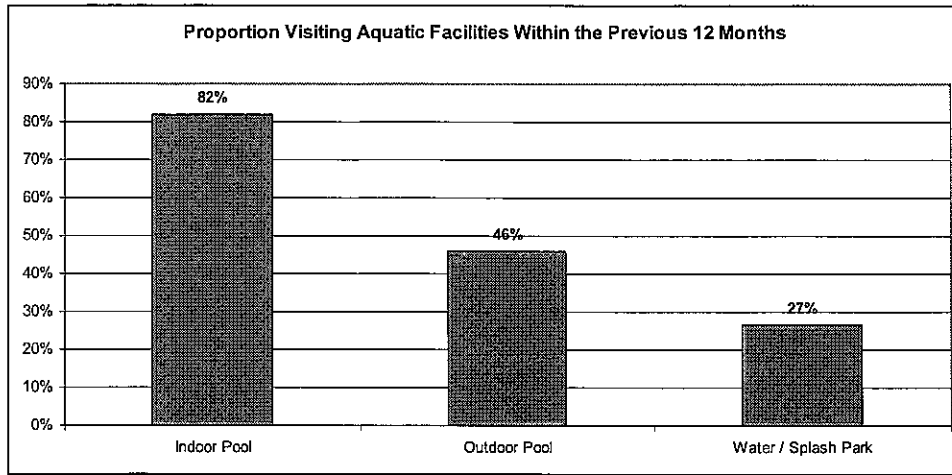
The next portion of the questionnaire asked respondents specifically about aquatics. As shown in Figure 17, over two-thirds (68%) of respondents stated they could swim; 17% said they could not swim.

Figure 17



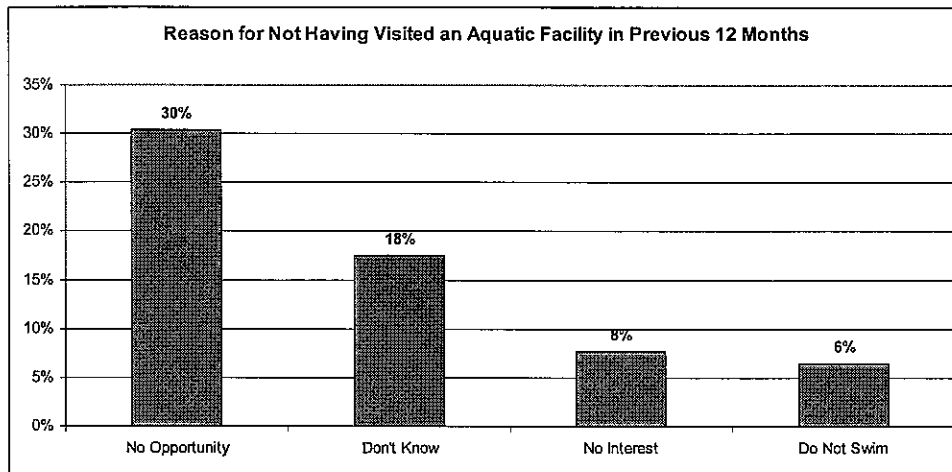
Next, respondents were asked about their visitation of various aquatic facilities within the preceding 12 months. Eighty-two percent of respondents had visited an indoor pool within twelve months, while less than half (46%) had visited an outdoor pool. Approximately one-quarter of respondents had visited a water / splash park (Figure 18).

Figure 18



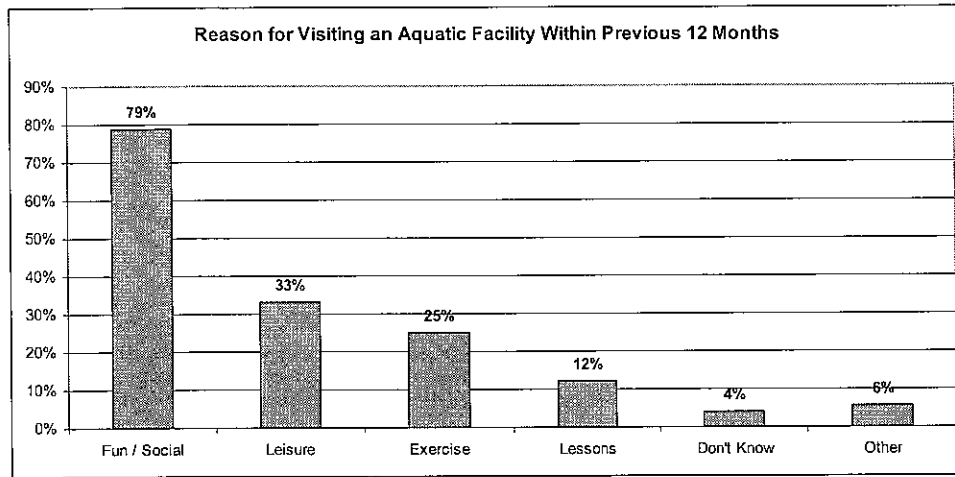
Respondents were next asked to indicate their reasons for not having visited an aquatic facility within the previous year. Approximately one-quarter (23%) of students had visited each of the three different aquatic facility types identified above. For the 77% that had not visited at least one of the facilities identified above, the most common reason given was a lack of opportunity (30%). Some (8%) had no interest or do not swim (6%). See Figure 19.

Figure 19



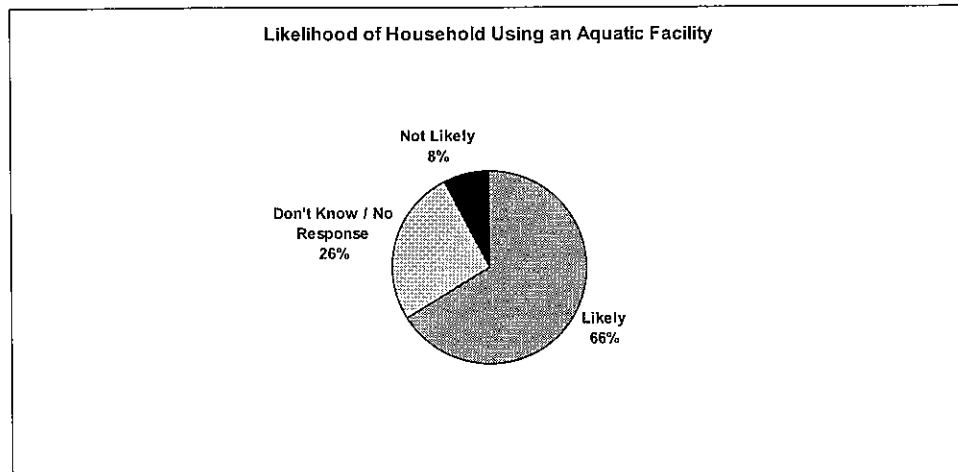
Those respondents who indicated that a member of they had visited an aquatic facility within the previous year were subsequently asked to indicate the purpose of that visit. Fun / social aspects were identified as a reason by the largest proportion (79%) of respondents. The leisure experience (33 %) and exercise (25 %) were also identified. See Figure 20.

Figure 20



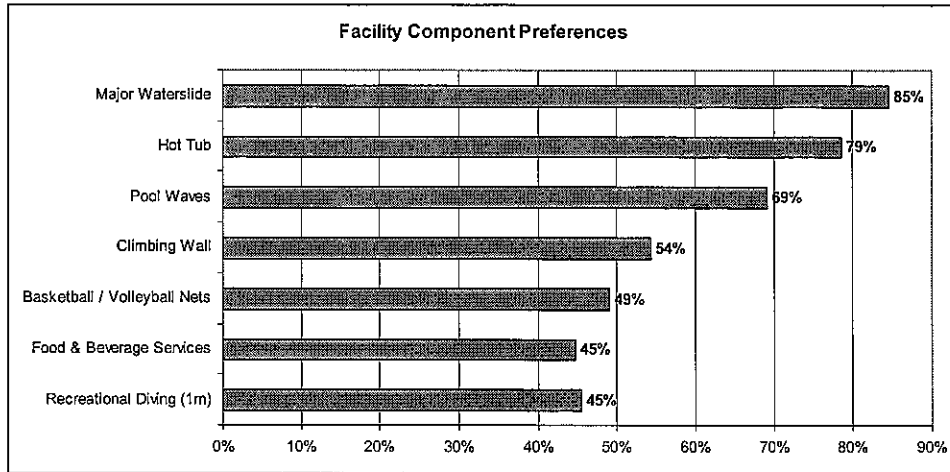
Students participating in the survey were asked the likelihood of them or someone from their household using an indoor aquatics facility should one be developed in La Crete. Two-thirds (66%) said it was likely a newly developed aquatic facility would be visited or used (Figure 21).

Figure 21



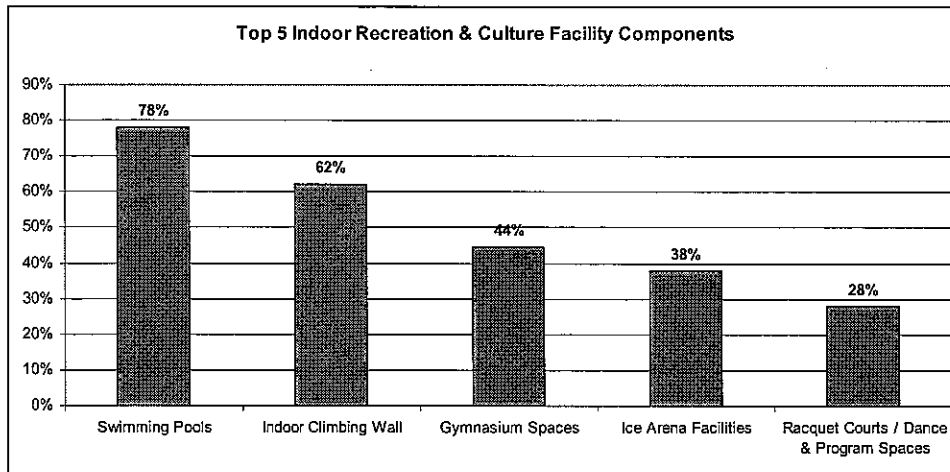
Next, the student respondents identified elements to include in their ideal aquatics facility. Their preferences for components to include were a major waterslide (85%), a hot tub (79%), and pool waves (69%). See Figure 22 for the balance of their top 7 preferences.

Figure 22



Finally, survey participants identified components they felt should be considered in any future facility development in the region. Not surprisingly, swimming pools garnered the most support (78%). See Figure 23 for the facility components receiving the most support.

Figure 23



5.4.3. Stakeholder Group Consultation

Stakeholders were provided with a number of mechanisms to share their thoughts and opinions including a survey, interviews, and a focus group. Generally, the groups participating in each of the consultation methods was very similar. Therefore the reporting of the findings from each method will be combined in this section.

The groups providing their feedback were:

- Northern Lights Recreation Centre & Society;
- Youth Activity Centre;

- Youth Group (Church);
- Physical Education Programs (Fort Vermillion School Division);
- Minor Hockey;
- Northern Lights Health Region;
- La Crete Community Library;
- La Crete Support Services;
- Mackenzie Housing / Seniors Lodge; and
- Ridgeview Central School.

These organizations provide services and programming to residents of the Hamlet of La Crete as well as residents living outside the Hamlet. While the majority do live in La Crete itself, almost half of participants / registrants reside outside of La Crete.

Each group identified the programs offered and identified the challenges confronting the delivery of those programs. As might be expected participation levels and commitment from participants was cited by a number of the organizations. Also mentioned by more than one organization were transportation issues – getting participants to the program. Some suggested that the increased availability of program space would assist them in the delivery of their programs.

Some groups felt that the County could be of great assistance to ensure they could meet their goals. Many suggested that municipal assistance with funding and facilities would greatly benefit their organizations. Some even indicated that marketing assistance from the County would be helpful.

Focus group participants then identified program and facility needs and wants. The programs included: learn to swim; seniors programs; cultural programs; and outdoor soccer programs. The facilities mentioned were: racquetball / squash courts; large multipurpose space; swimming pool with lanes; weight room; walking track; speed skating track; aerobics / dance space; climbing wall; and cross country ski trails. The need for a recreation director was even mentioned.

Generally, participants felt that an aquatics leisure centre would be beneficial to their organizations. They spoke about the ability of their organizations being able to offer additional and complementary programs. They also felt the development of a new aquatic leisure centre would lend itself to the development of some of those facility needs identified previously.

During the interviews with the organizations, each was specifically asked about their support for the development of an indoor aquatics facility in La Crete. There was **unanimous support** with over three-quarters being “very supportive” with the balance being “somewhat supportive”. Those interviewed also spoke about their likelihood of using or visiting the facility. Approximately two-thirds of organizations indicated they would use or visit the facility while the remaining one-third were unsure.

Some concerns about the development of a community aquatics facility in La Crete were identified by stakeholder groups. Those concerns included: tax increase implications, staffing, water quality, and inappropriate attire. Groups also identified some benefits associated with a new aquatic facility. The primary benefits cited included: health & wellness benefits to residences; increased recreation opportunities; and the ability to attract new residents. There was also some suggestion that a new facility could bring economic spin offs and help retain existing residents.

Groups were asked if they would be willing to assist in the construction or operation of an aquatics leisure centre. While some organizations did not feel they were in any position to contribute due to lack of time, skills, finances, and commitment, others suggested they could assist. For those who felt they could assist in the development of a new facility, they offered a variety of ways to assist. These included: volunteer coaching, fundraising, volunteer labour during construction, and payment of user fees when the facility became operational. There was even the suggestion of partnership and joint agreements.

While many organizations thought the notion of an indoor community aquatic facility is very positive, and that the volunteer base in La Crete could ensure it happens, there was some caution expressed. It was noted that not all community residents would use an aquatic facility.

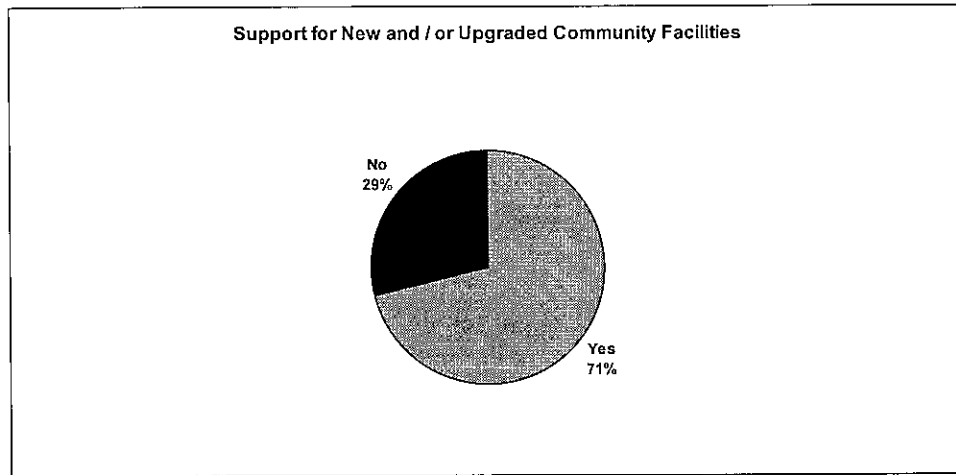
5.4.4. Public Input Open House

An open house was held on November 3 to gather input from the public regarding the delivery of recreation in La Crete. Thirty-eight people completed the feedback forms available at the session, the results of which are presented here.

Eighty-nine percent (89%) of respondents live in La Crete, while 3% (a single individual) lives in the County. The final 8% did not provide an answer. Approximately one-third (34%) of respondents indicated that they were affiliated with a volunteer organization or user group. User groups represented included: minor hockey, dance, figure skating, school groups, walking groups, and the library.

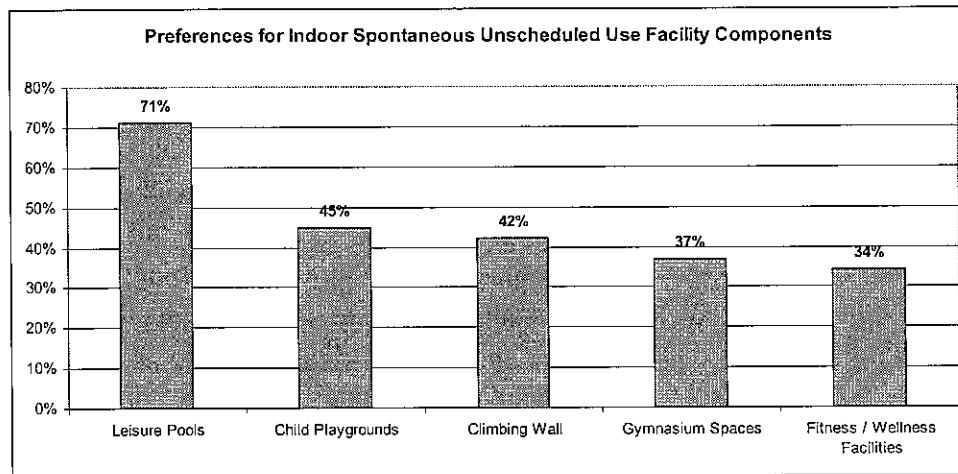
Almost three-quarters (71%) of respondents indicated they supported new or upgraded indoor community facilities be developed in the La Crete area. See Figure 24.

Figure 24



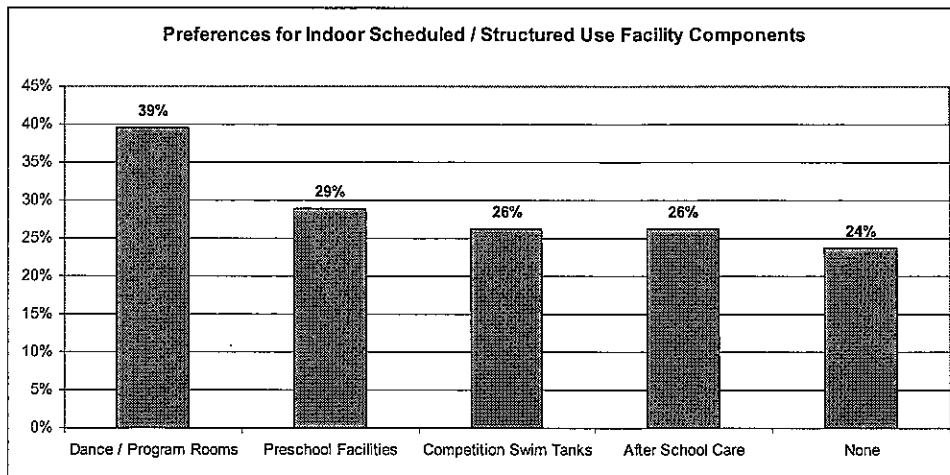
Respondents then identified their top five preferences for indoor, spontaneous / unscheduled use recreation and culture facility components that should be considered in future facility development. As illustrated in Figure 25 almost three-quarters (71%) of respondents preferred a leisure swimming pool, while 45% identified indoor child playgrounds as a component to be considered. See the following figure for the top five preferences.

Figure 25



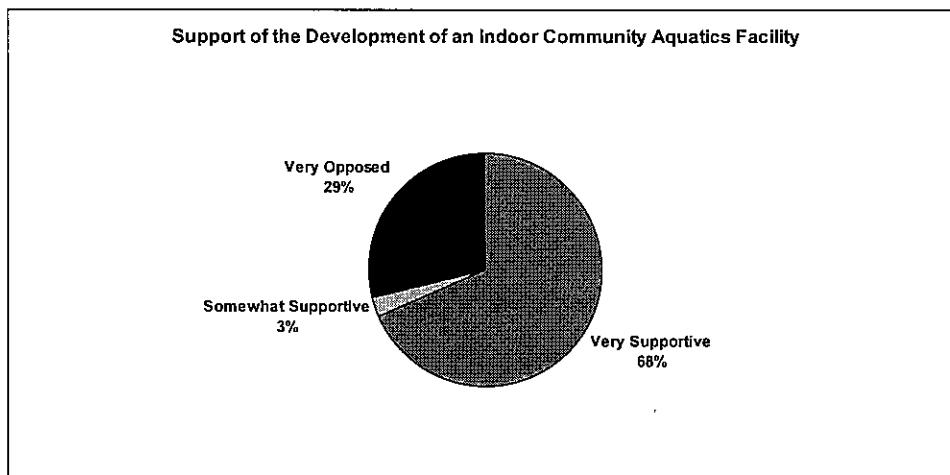
Next, respondents identified their top five preferences for indoor scheduled / structured recreation and culture facility components that should be considered in future facility development. There was no clear favorite, although dance / program rooms were preferred by the greatest number of respondents (39%). See Figure 26.

Figure 26



Over two-thirds (68%) of respondents indicated they were very supportive towards the development of an indoor community aquatics facility / leisure centre in La Crete. Over one-quarter (29%) were very opposed. See the following figure.

Figure 27



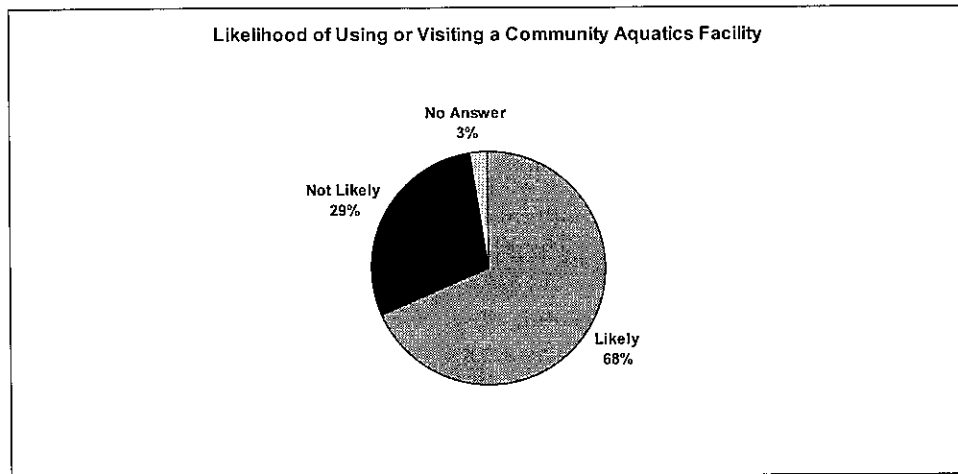
Open house attendees were asked what concerns they may have with the development of an indoor aquatics facility in La Crete. While almost half (47%) indicated that they have no concerns, 13% said they had concerns about cost. Eleven percent (11%) expressed concerns about a tax increase. Eleven percent (11%) indicated that the facility is not needed.

Respondents were next asked to indicate the benefits that could be anticipated with the development of an aquatics facility. Approximately two-thirds (63%) said that the development of this facility would increase the recreation opportunities in the community. The attraction of new residents was a benefit anticipated by 47% of respondents. Retention of

existing residents (32%) and economic spin offs (26%) were other benefits noted. Twenty-one percent (21%) of respondents indicated there would be no benefits.

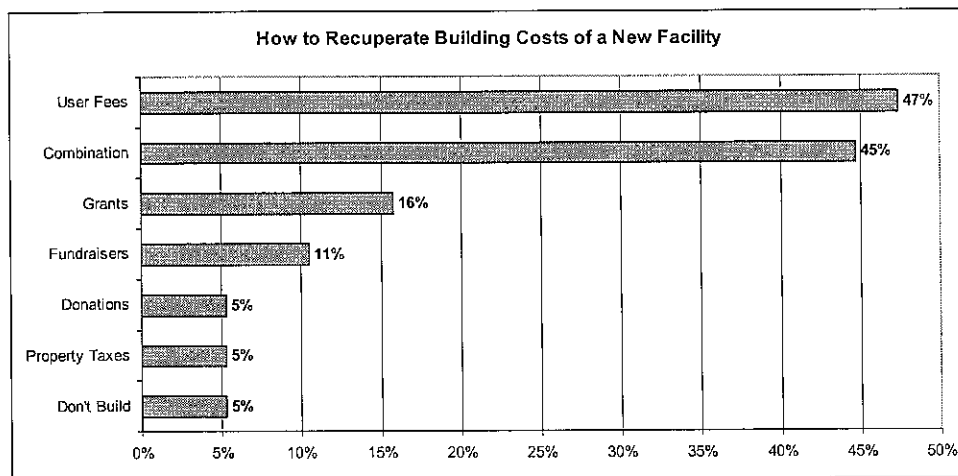
Next respondents were asked how likely that they or someone from their household would use or visit the facility should it be developed. Over two-thirds (68%) said it was likely that they or a household member would use the facility, while 29% said it was unlikely (Figure 28).

Figure 28



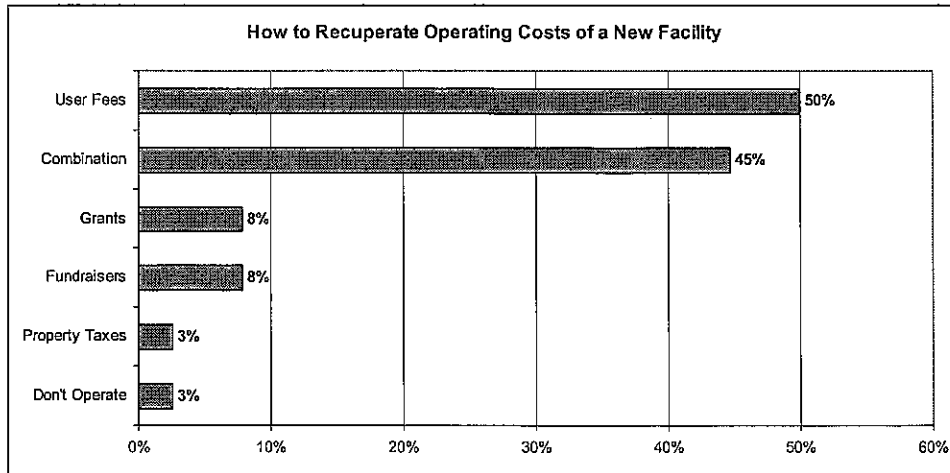
Considering the **construction** of new indoor community facilities, respondents were asked how these costs should be recuperated. As evidenced in Figure 29, almost all respondents (92%) felt that user fees should contribute somewhat to facility construction.

Figure 29



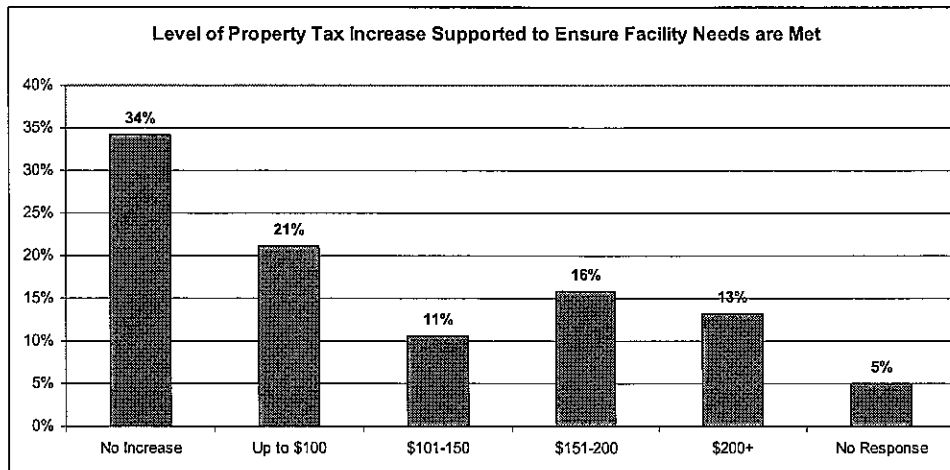
Considering **operating costs**, a similar proportion (95%) suggested user fees should be used to some degree to recuperate some costs. See Figure 30.

Figure 30



Finally, respondents were asked how much of an increase could their households afford in increased property taxes to ensure that community needs for community facilities in La Crete are better met. As illustrated in Figure 31, 61% suggested they could afford an increase up to \$100⁷. Approximately one-third (34%) of respondents said they could not afford an increase.

Figure 31



⁷ The 61% includes all respondents who supported any of the levels of tax increase. The presumption is that the 11% who supported an increase of \$101 – 150 for example would be supportive of an increase that was less than \$101.

5.4.5. Elected Officials Interviews

Two interviews were conducted with elected officials. To begin the interview, each municipal official was asked to identify any leisure resources that they felt were needed. They identified development of the ski hill at the Buffalo Head Hills site. Also mentioned were better developed campgrounds, more river development, an indoor fitness area, and additional space for the library.

Both officials agreed that an aquatics leisure centre should be a component of municipal service delivery. As an element of social and leisure services, an indoor aquatic facility was seen as one of Council's top priorities. Other priorities included roads and infrastructure. Both councilors however, were unsure about the ability of the County to fund a new indoor recreational facility.

Considering the capital costs associated with the development of a new indoor aquatic leisure centre, both a user pay philosophy and a tax supported philosophy were voiced. Partnerships and corporate taxation were also mentioned as strategies to address capital costs. The opportunity to partner in construction and operations of an aquatics centre with not-for-profit groups, private operators, other agencies, and other governments (including neighbouring municipalities) received support from both councilors. Private sector business and industry were also cited as good corporate citizens who may support the initiative.

The councilors identified a number of benefits that could be accrued through the development of an aquatics centre. They suggested that a new facility could assist with the retention of current residents and attract new residents. A new facility would certainly increase the opportunities for recreation in the community as well as increase the level of health and wellness amongst residents.

5.5. Potential Market for Aquatic Facility

The estimated potential market for a new aquatic facility in La Crete is based upon a number of assumptions. These assumptions have been gleaned from the public engagement activities conducted as part of this study, from information gathered from other "similar" operations, and from industry knowledge of the consultant.

The estimated total annual visits are 53,130. The following table outlines how the total was determined.

Market Size ¹	7,000	
Non Users ²	34%	
Potential Market ³	4,620	
Usage Types	<i>Leisure Use</i>	<i>Program Use</i>
Proportion of Potential Market ⁴	75%	25%
Number of Users	3,465	1,155
Usage per month ⁵	0.5	4
Number of Months Utilized ⁶	12	7
Number of Visits	20,790	32,340
Estimated Total Annual Visits	53,130	

Notes

- 1 Market Size** - figure obtained from website <www.discoverthepeacecountry.com>
- 2 Non Users** - in the household survey 34% of respondents said they would not use the aquatic facility
- from the student survey 34% of respondents were unsure, provided no response, or said they would not use the facility
- 3 Potential Market** - 66% of the market size of 7,000
- 4 Proportion of Potential Market** - in the household and student surveys, approximately 25% of respondents identified a competition swimming pool as a preferred component
- 5 Usage Per Month** - usage information from a rural municipality indicated that the potential market averaged one visit per month.
- this facility included other components than the aquatic facilities so the leisure usage was reduced to 1 visit every other month
- program usage was assumed to involve a weekly visit (4 times per month)
- 6 Number of Months Utilized** - leisure activity was assumed to occur throughout the year
- programming was assumed to occur from October to April (7 months)

5.6. Need Assessment Summary

As previously mentioned, the intent of this feasibility study is to define the need for, and determine the feasibility of, the development of an indoor aquatic facility in La Crete. The feasibility study is also to further define what these facilities would include, the level of support for development and the public perception as to how these facilities should be funded. The following sections outline the findings of the needs assessment.

5.6.1. Indoor Aquatics Support

Generally support has been expressed for a new indoor aquatics facility. Over half (58%) of households supported the development of a new facility. Almost three-quarters (71%) of attendees at the open house voiced support for the indoor aquatic facility. Stakeholder groups endorsed the project quite enthusiastically with three-quarters of groups interviewed strongly supporting the project with the other quarter being somewhat supportive of the project.

Considering the students, two-thirds (66%) suggested they would be likely to use a new facility.

One-third (34%) of respondents to the household survey stated they were very opposed to the development of an indoor aquatic facility. A similar proportion (29%) voiced disapproval in the open house questionnaire.

5.6.2. Aquatic Facility Priorities

There was some agreement when it came time to consider elements to include in an aquatic facility. A **hot tub** was included in the top two amenities identified in both the household and student surveys. Also included in the household survey preferences were a **major waterslide**, a leisure swimming pool, and a recreational diving board. The students surveyed identified a major waterslide as well. Also on the students' list were pool waves, a climbing wall, and basketball / volleyball nets.

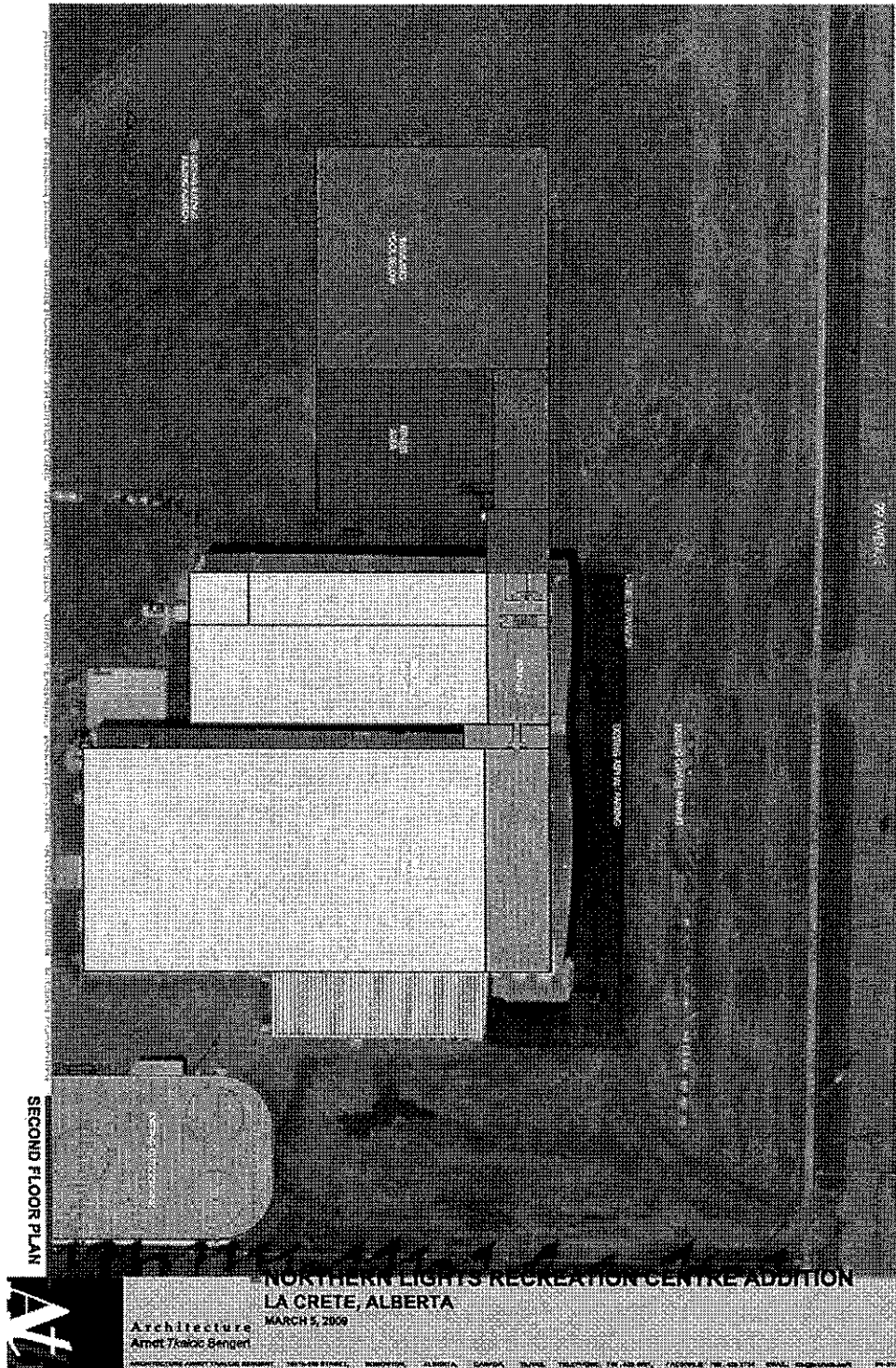
5.6.3. Indoor Facility Priorities

Perhaps not surprisingly a **swimming pool** was identified as the top priority for consideration for a new indoor facility in both the household and students surveys. Feedback from the open house saw a leisure pool and a competition swim tank near the top of the list. Also identified in the household and student surveys, and in the open house feedback was a **climbing wall**. **Children's playground** was identified as a priority in both the household survey and the open house feedback as was a **fitness / wellness centre**. **Dance / program rooms** were an identified priority in both the student survey and open house feedback.

6.0 Facility Development Concepts

Based on the needs assessment data, the following facility development options were prepared for an indoor aquatics centre. Due to the availability of sites in the community and the intent to sustain existing facilities and investment where available, a total of seven options were developed. All were situated on the existing recreation centre site.

6.1. Site Overview



6.2. Aquatics Facility Development Options

The consultation and research associated with this feasibility analysis suggests that there is indeed a measured demand from a portion of La Crete and area residents for indoor aquatics opportunities.

Research and public consultation also provides general direction about the type of aquatics experiences sought by those who show expressed need and this leads to the facility program goals, that serve as the basis for selecting development options.

6.2.1. Facility Program Goals

Modern day community aquatics facilities are designed and built to meet two basic user needs; leisure time or free play aquatics and programmed aquatics.

The leisure or free play demands expressed by residents (household survey) and students (student survey) indicate that if an aquatics facility is built, it should contain:

- hot tub experience
- water slide experience
- diving opportunities and;
- water play opportunities.

Contemporary designs and comparative assessment supports these features as being fundamental inclusions in any community pool. Also, such features have been found to sustain pool visitation / use and in most cases, leisure aquatics accounts for at least 2/3 of the annual visitation to any community pool that offers such elements.

Program aquatics refers to those opportunities which support swim lessons, water polo, water aerobics, lane swimming (for fitness), competitive swimming and diving. These activities require a rectangle swim tank of regulation dimension (25 meters), multiple swim lanes and depths which allow for differing types of activity like water polo, synchronized swimming and diving.

Eliminating one, or the other of the above two noted user needs (programming and leisure) renders any design as being limited to market segments resulting in higher than average operating costs.

Goal One

All Aquatic facility options should provide for both program and leisure aquatics either in a combined one tank design configuration or in two separate tanks.

Note: Separate tanks allow for split water temperatures where in leisure tanks are warmer and more welcoming for younger children and seniors while program tanks are typically 3 to 4 degrees cooler in temperature and more conducive to lane swimming and active training.

Aquatics facilities can be built and operated as stand-alone facilities or they can become components of other recreational or educational facilities (e.g. many Colleges have pools attached). Those attached to, or as a part of the other community facilities share the advantage of joint parking, common entries, shared human resources and sometimes, even shared energy. In addition, program opportunities that are combined in one location not only promote families to travel and recreate together in a common location even though they may be taking part in different activities e.g. fitness, swimming, hockey, bowling, and curling.

In La Crete, the existing recreation complex containing the community arena, curling rink, bowling alley and meeting rooms, provides an excellent opportunity as the primary location to consider aquatics development. Sufficient room for parking exists, the site contains sufficient room for expansion and it is situated near school facilities, an excellent advantage for school swim programs.

Goal Two

All aquatics facility options should be sited on the existing multiplex site to take advantage of school proximity, site capacity, shared resources and "social capital".

Aquatics facilities can range in size and in construction type. Smaller, lower cost options such as wood frame buildings will seldom stand the test of time and require costly upgrades to sustain the building.

Outdoor pools, while less costly, ultimately limit use to summer season and even then, not all summer days are suitable for outdoor aquatics.

The options for La Crete which produce benefit for cost and will be sustainable well into the future (40 years minimum) are those which follow quality building specifications that are appropriate for highly humid indoor environments in cold weather climates.

Goal Three

Develop options which are well designed to sustain aquatics programs well into the future without the high cost capital replacement requirements.

Note: An outdoor pool tank option has been included for analysis.

6.2.2. Considered Options for Development

The following five options provide varying configurations for an add-on aquatics component to the existing recreation centre. In all cases, the options are shown to include five lanes for the program tank and a leisure tank that is common to the main program tank. Leisure elements such as a water slide and hot tub have been held consistent in all cases.

The major variance shown in the options outlines elimination of major elements within the existing complex (the bowling alley in option 2 and both the bowling alley and curling rink in option 1). While elimination of these elements may result in over all operation savings for the larger complex, their elimination takes away from the “leisure mall” concept and the mix of opportunities available.

The options shown (other than Option 1) do not identify second floor space for potential program rooms or for a fitness / wellness training room. These can easily be incorporated within all options as can many leisure elements like climbing walls or party rooms for children or child programming.

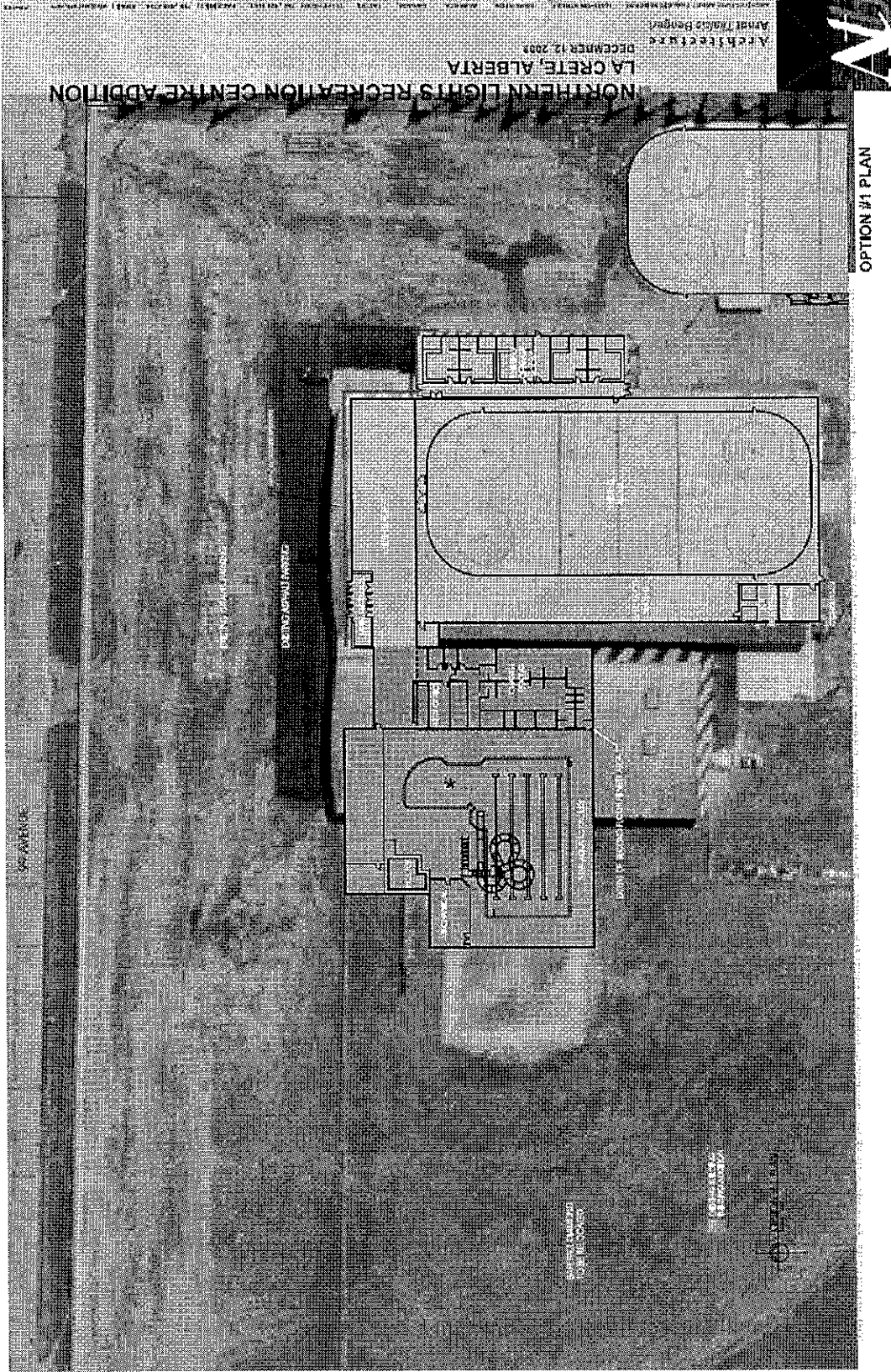
All options are shown with projected Capital Costs that are derived from current industry prices for aquatics development. Discounting for local labour in construction elements has not been addressed in this price estimating but could impact final outcomes should the project go forward. In all cases, a budget for consulting fees and expenses as well as fixtures and furnishings is included making the option costs as close as possible to “all-in” pricing.

LA CRETE AQUATIC FACILITY - OPTION #1

	<u>BUILDING ELEMENT</u>		<u>GROSS FLOOR AREA</u>		<u>ESTIMATED UNIT COST</u>		<u>ESTIMATED</u>
	<u>ft²</u>	<u>m²</u>	<u>\$/ft²</u>	<u>\$/m²</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>		
Existing Building	4,000	372	90	969	\$	360,000	
Exterior Upgrades	3,907	363	70	753	\$	273,511	
Demolition	15,300	1,421	10	108	\$	153,000	
Addition	18,500	1,719	635	6,835	\$	11,747,500	
Main Entrance	425	39	135	1,453	\$	57,375	
Total Building Cost	42,132	3,914	289	3,217	\$	12,597,386	
Sitework	12,500	1,161	20	215	\$	250,000	
Total Construction Cost					\$	12,847,386	
CONTRACTOR OVERHEAD & PROFIT							
			10%		\$	1,284,139	
CONSULTANT FEES & EXPENSES							
			10%		\$	1,284,139	
FIXTURES, FURNISHINGS & EQUIPMENT							
			7%		\$	898,897	
TOTAL ESTIMATED PROJECT COST					\$	15,024,422	

NOTES:

- 1) The above "estimated" costs are based on current/historical information only which has been escalated to the midpoint of construction
- 2) Add slide for \$350,000
- 3) Cost opinion +/- 30%
- 4) Optional 4,300 sq.ft. community fitness facility to be located above aquatic change rooms - \$1,500,000 +/-

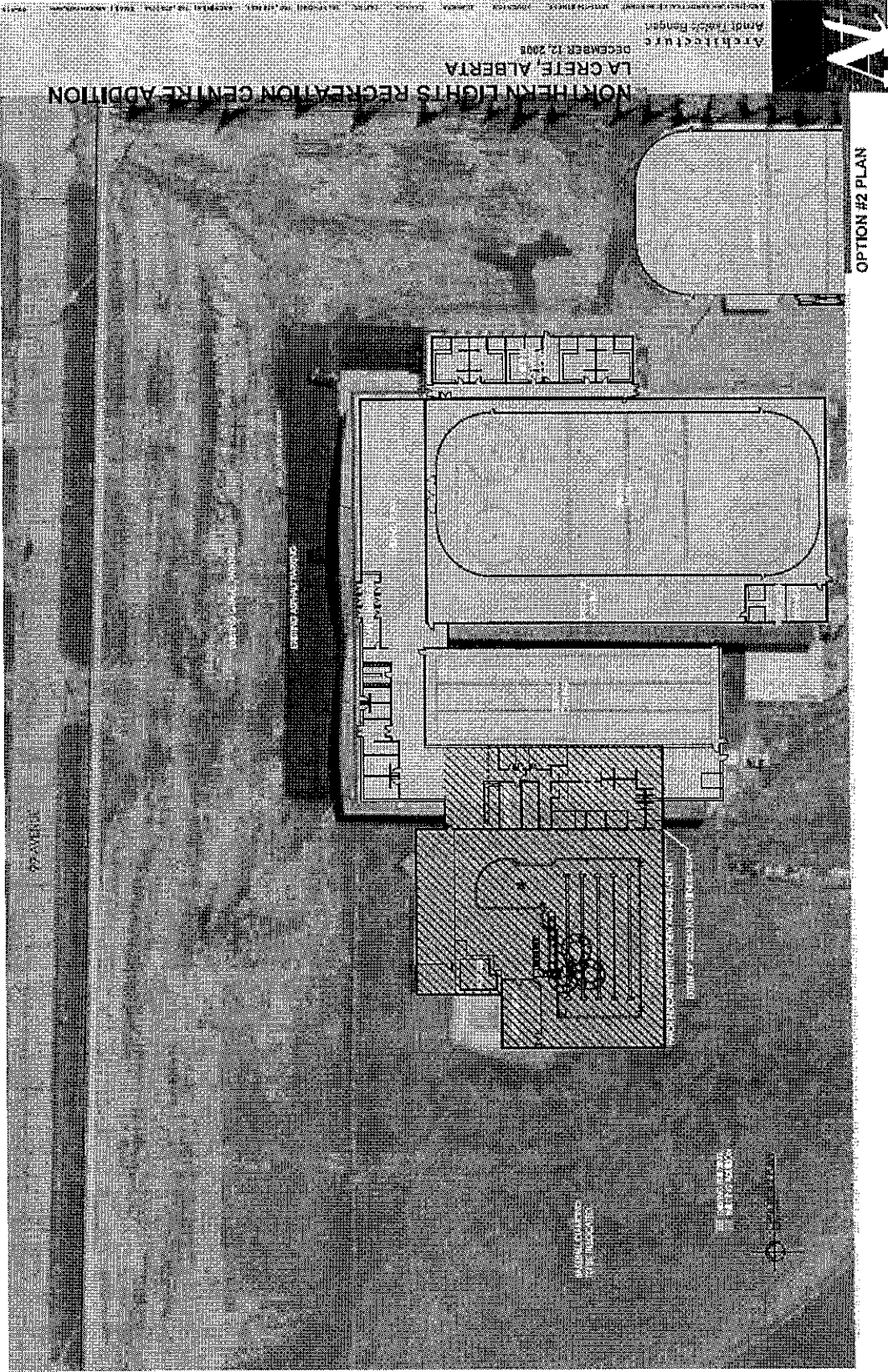


LA CRETE AQUATIC FACILITY - OPTION #2

	BUILDING ELEMENT		GROSS FLOOR AREA		ESTIMATED UNIT COST		ESTIMATED
	ft ²	m ²	\$/ft ²	\$/m ²	TOTAL		
Existing Building	10,000	929	90	969	\$ 900,000		
Demolition	5,328	495	70	753	\$ 372,969		
Addition	5,000	465	10	108	\$ 50,000		
	15,400	1,431	635	6,835	\$ 9,779,000		
	425	39	135	1,453	\$ 57,375		
Total Building Cost	36,153	3,359	809	8,322	\$ 11,593,345		
Sitework	12,500	1,161	20	215	\$ 250,000		
Total Construction Cost					\$ 11,843,345		
CONTRACTOR OVERHEAD & PROFIT			10%		\$ 1,140,934		
CONSULTANT FEES & EXPENSES			10%		\$ 1,140,934		
FIXTURES, FURNISHINGS & EQUIPMENT			7%		\$ 798,654		
TOTAL ESTIMATED PROJECT COST					\$ 13,348,933		

NOTES:

- 1) The above "estimated" costs are based on current/historical information only which has been escalated to the midpoint of construction
- 2) Add slide for \$350,000
- 3) Cost opinion +/- 30%
- 4) Optional 4,300 sq.ft. community fitness facility to be located above aquatic change rooms - \$1,500,000 +/-

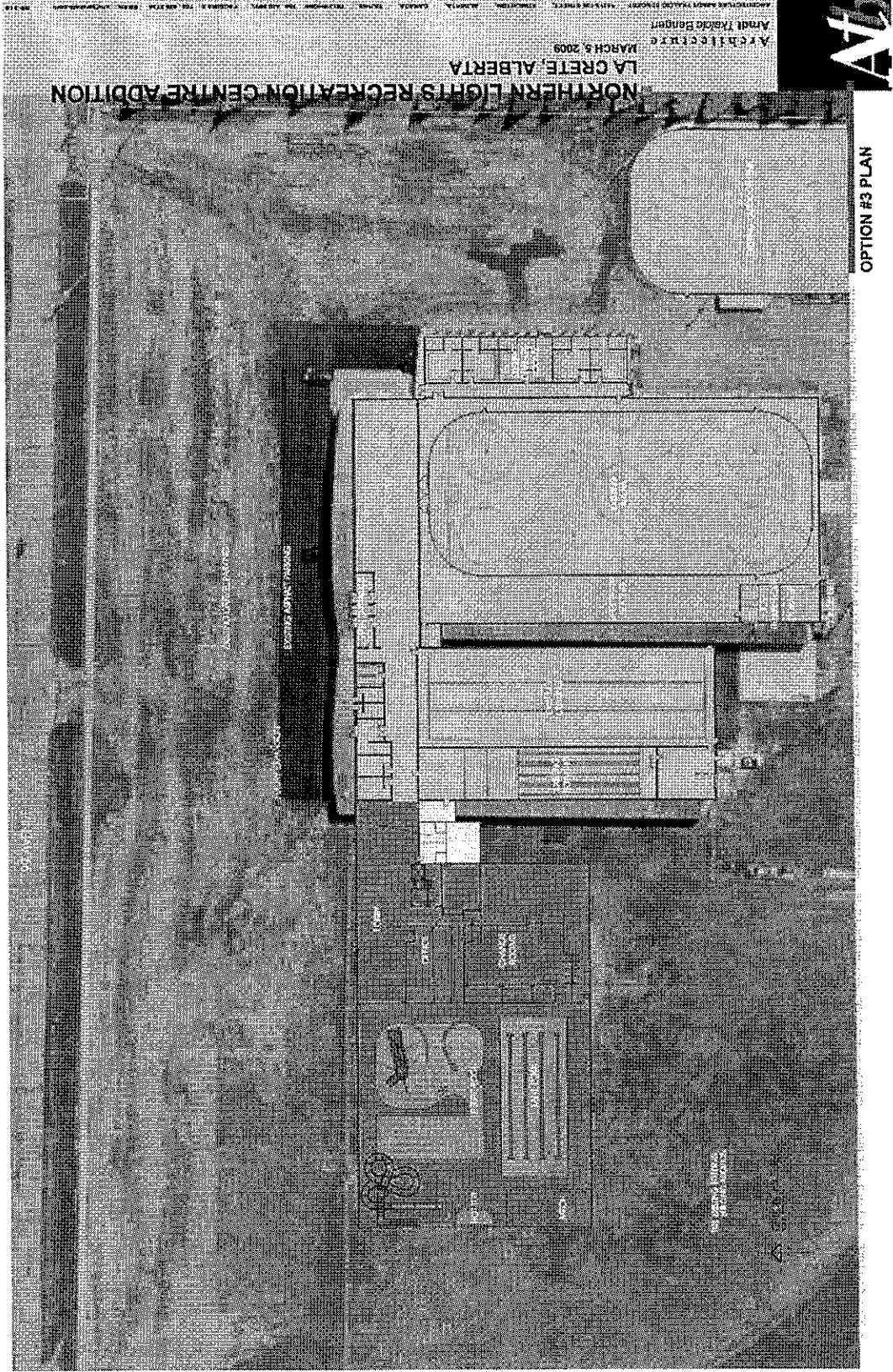


LA CRETE AQUATIC FACILITY - OPTION #3

	<u>BUILDING ELEMENT</u>		<u>GROSS FLOOR AREA</u>		<u>ESTIMATED UNIT COST</u>		<u>ESTIMATED</u>
	<u>ft²</u>	<u>m²</u>	<u>\$/ft²</u>	<u>\$/m²</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>		
Existing Building	6,750	627	90	969	\$	607,500	
Exterior Upgrades	5,328	495	70	753	\$	372,969	
Addition	18,500	1,719	635	6,835	\$	11,747,500	
Main Entrance	425	39	135	1,453	\$	57,375	
Total Building Cost	31,003	2,880	412	4,439	\$	12,785,345	
Sitework	12,500	1,161	20	215	\$	250,000	
Total Construction Cost					\$	13,035,345	
CONTRACTOR OVERHEAD & PROFIT			10%		\$	1,303,534	
CONSULTANT FEES & EXPENSES			10%		\$	1,303,534	
FIXTURES, FURNISHINGS & EQUIPMENT			7%		\$	912,474	
TOTAL ESTIMATED PROJECT COST					\$	15,251,353	

NOTES:

- 1) The above "estimated" costs are based on current/historical information only which has been escalated to the midpoint of construction
- 2) Add slide for \$350,000
- 3) Cost opinion +/- 30%
- 4) Optional 4,300 sq.ft. community fitness facility to be located above aquatic change rooms - \$1,500,000 +/-



NORTHERN LIGHTS RECREATION CENTRE ADDITION
LA CRETE, ALBERTA
ARCHITECTURE
Arndt Kaldor Bengert
MARCH 5, 2009



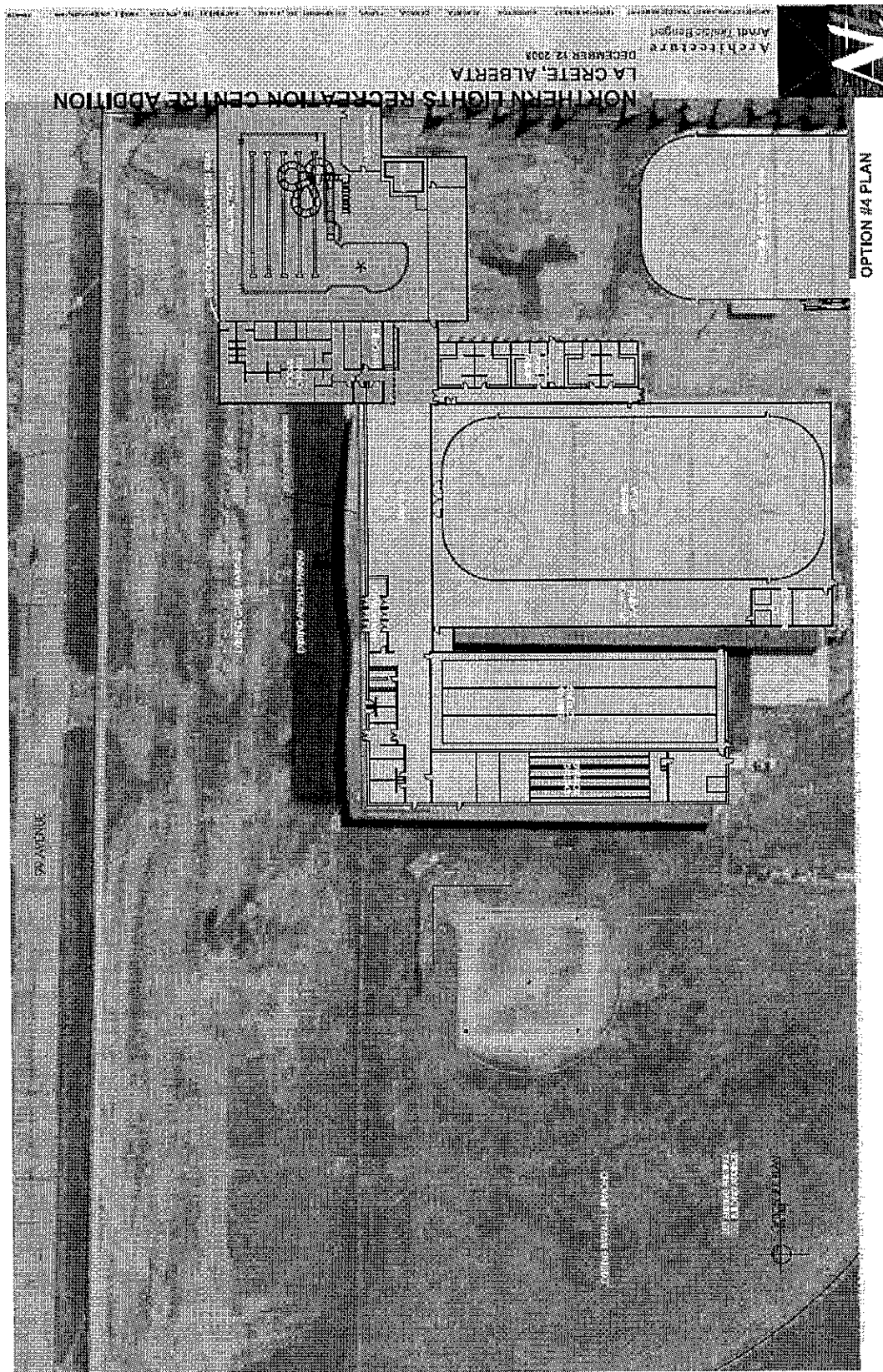
OPTION #3 PLAN

LA CRETE AQUATIC FACILITY - OPTION #4

	<u>BUILDING ELEMENT</u>		<u>GROSS FLOOR AREA</u>		<u>ESTIMATED UNIT COST</u>		<u>ESTIMATED</u>
	<u>ft²</u>	<u>m²</u>	<u>\$/ft²</u>	<u>\$/m²</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>		
Existing Building							
Foyer Upgrade	6,750	627	90	969	\$	607,500	
Exterior Upgrades	4,499	418	70	753	\$	314,952	
Aquatics Facility	18,500	1,719	635	6,835	\$	11,747,500	
Main Entrance	425	39	135	1,453	\$	57,375	
Total Building Cost	30,174	2,803	422	4,540	\$	12,727,327	
Sitework	12,500	1,161	20	215	\$	250,000	
Total Construction Cost					\$	12,977,327	
CONTRACTOR OVERHEAD & PROFIT			10%		\$	1,297,733	
CONSULTANT FEES & EXPENSES			10%		\$	1,297,733	
FIXTURES, FURNISHINGS & EQUIPMENT			7%		\$	908,413	
TOTAL ESTIMATED PROJECT COST					\$	15,183,473	

NOTES:

- 1) The above "estimated" costs are based on current/historical information only which has been escalated to the midpoint of construction
- 2) Add slide for \$350,000
- 3) Cost opinion +/- 30%
- 4) Optional 4,300 sq.ft. community fitness facility to be located above aquatic change rooms - \$1,500,000 +/-

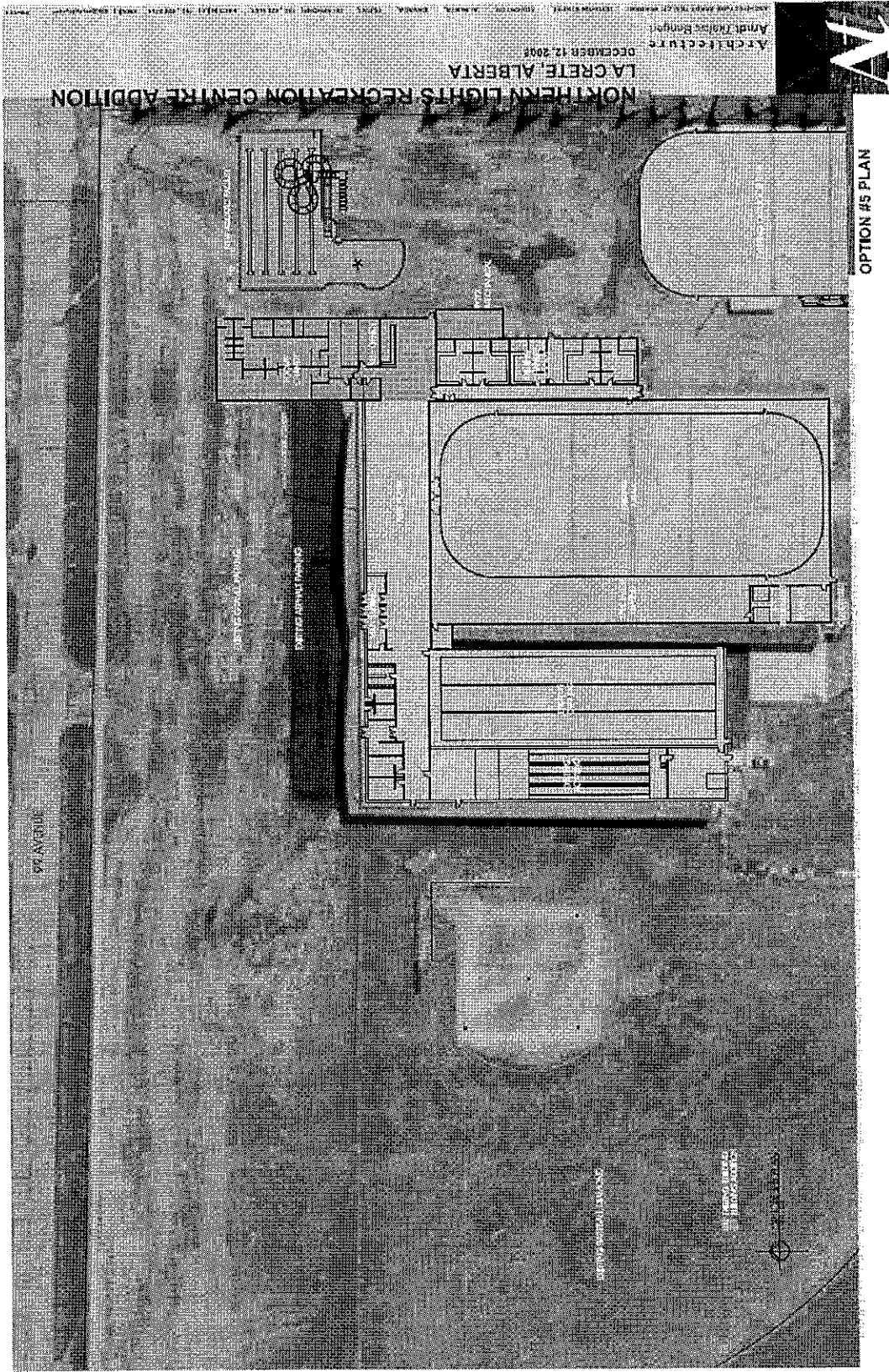


LA CRETE AQUATIC FACILITY - OPTION #5

BUILDING ELEMENT	GROSS FLOOR AREA ft ²	GROSS FLOOR AREA m ²	ESTIMATED UNIT COST \$/ft ²	ESTIMATED UNIT COST \$/m ²	ESTIMATED TOTAL
Existing Building	6,750	627	100	1,076	\$ 675,000
Exterior Upgrades	4,500	418	75	807	\$ 337,500
Addition	7,250	674	350	3,767	\$ 2,537,500
Swimming Pool & Deck	18,500	1,719	316	3,404	\$ 5,850,000
Total Building Cost					\$ 6,100,000
Sitework	12,500	1,161	20	215	\$ 250,000
Total Contractor Cost					\$ 6,100,000
CONTRACTOR OVERHEAD & PROFIT			10%		\$ 610,000
CONSULTANT FEES & EXPENSES			10%		\$ 610,000
FIXTURES, FURNISHINGS & EQUIPMENT			7%		\$ 427,000
TOTAL ESTIMATED PROJECT COST					\$ 7,137,000

NOTES:

- 1) The above "estimated" costs are based on current/historical information only which has been escalated to the midpoint of construction
- 2) Add slide for \$350,000
- 3) Cost opinion +/- 30%



6.2.3. Cost Impacts of Options

The following outlines the estimated capital of each option proposed.

- Option #1 \$15.0M
- Option #2 \$13.3M
- Option #3 \$15.3M
- Option #4 \$15.2M
- Option #5 \$7.1M

As can be determined, the capital costs for each of the aquatics / leisure facility options range between \$7.1M to \$15.3M.

6.2.4. Operating Costs

At this point in time and for the purposes of determining the feasibility of each option, the expected incremental operating costs of operating an indoor swimming pool are assumed to be the same for each of the four indoor development options. Operation of an outdoor pool (option 5) has also been estimated for comparison purposes.

That being said, the following assumptions have been made in estimated the operational costs impacts of an indoor aquatics / leisure facility in La Crete.

Projection Assumption

All operating expenses and user fees / rates have been estimated to increase at 3.5% per year.

Revenues: Pass holders

Pass holders are estimated as a percentage of the market population (7,500 people) for each year as follows:

- Year 1: 1%
- Year 2+: 2%

Pass holder rates have been based on a weighted average of facility user rates for different age groups and the associated age demographics of users. The following table explains:

Rates			
	Rate/Person	Proportion	Weighted Average
Adult	\$ 30.00	0.10	\$ 3
Youth	\$ 20.00	0.40	\$ 8
Senior	\$ 20.00	0.20	\$ 4
Family	\$ 15.00	0.30	\$ 5
Total			\$ 20

Revenues: Drop-Ins

Daily drop-ins have been estimated at 25/day in years 1 and 2 and 20/day thereafter

Drop-in rates have been calculated similar to pass holder rates in that they are based on a weighted average of facility user rates for different age groups and the associated age demographics of users. The following table explains:

Drop In Rates			
	Rate/Person	Proportion	Weighted Average
Adult	\$ 6.00	0.15	\$ 1
Youth	\$ 4.00	0.60	\$ 2
Senior	\$ 4.00	0.10	\$ 0
Family	\$ 2.50	0.15	\$ 0
Total			\$ 4

Revenues: Vending

Vending Revenues are based upon a commission contract set at 20% of gross sales, 50% of annual facility traffic purchasing items, and an average purchase price of \$1.75. The following table explains:

Vending Revenues	
Purchase Rate	50%
Commission	20%
Average Purchase	\$1.75
Daily Traffic	140
Total	\$24.55
Annual Revenues	\$8,837.50

*All other revenue assumptions are found on the budget sheet located at the end of this section.

Expenses: Life Guards

Lifeguard expenses are determined through defining “peak” and “non-peak” pool use hours. As the requirement for lifeguards differs at different levels of facility traffic (pool users), the breakdown of traffic into peak and non-peak is essential in estimating lifeguard expenses.

- 350 operating day / year
- Average of 4 peak hours per day
- Average of 2.5 lifeguards per peak hour
- Average of 1.5 lifeguards per non-peak hour

- The following table explains the total lifeguard hour requirements (peak and off-peak) as well as the average hourly rate (\$11.00/hr) and the overall lifeguard cost estimate for the operation:

Lifeguard Hours / Expense	
Peak	3500
Off-Peak	5775
Total	9275
Hourly Rate	\$11.00
Lifeguard Expense	\$102,025

- It is important to note that although provincial standards would dictate that a lower compliment of lifeguard staff would be sufficient, the leisure nature of the pool and associated building configuration would equate to an increased need for guards. The following table explains:

Alberta Association of Recreation Professionals ⁸	La Crete Aquatics / Leisure Facility
1 life guard for the first 74 participants	1.5 lifeguards per peak hour / ~ 10 participants
2 life guards for between 75 and 124 participants	2.5 lifeguards per peak hour / ~ 50 participants
3 life guards for between 125 and 199 participants	
...	

⁸ Guidelines for the Operation of Public Aquatics Facilities, Alberta Association of Recreation Personnel, 1998 pg.9

La Crete Aquatics / Leisure Facility Five Year Operational Budget					
Budget Item	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenues					
Passholders	\$ 18,630	\$ 37,260	\$ 57,846	\$ 59,871	\$ 61,966
Drop-ins	\$ 34,500	\$ 35,708	\$ 29,566	\$ 30,601	\$ 39,590
Parties	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,175	\$ 5,356	\$ 5,544	\$ 5,738
Youth Lessons	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,525	\$ 16,068	\$ 16,631	\$ 17,213
Adult Lessons	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,700	\$ 21,425	\$ 22,174	\$ 22,950
Vending	\$ 8,838	\$ 9,147	\$ 9,467	\$ 9,798	\$ 10,141
Retail Sales	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,070	\$ 2,142	\$ 2,217	\$ 2,295
Sponsorship	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Locker Rentals	\$ 12,625	\$ 13,067	\$ 13,524	\$ 13,998	\$ 14,487
Pool Rentals	\$ 7,200	\$ 7,452	\$ 7,713	\$ 7,983	\$ 8,262
Total Revenues	\$ 123,793	\$ 146,103	\$ 163,107	\$ 168,816	\$ 182,643
Expenses					
Staffing					
Pool Manager / Head Guard	\$ 50,000	\$ 51,750	\$ 53,561	\$ 55,436	\$ 57,376
Marketing / Customer Serv	\$ 50,000	\$ 51,750	\$ 53,561	\$ 55,436	\$ 57,376
Lifeguards: Spontaneous/Le	\$ 102,025	\$ 105,596	\$ 109,292	\$ 113,117	\$ 117,076
Operations / Maintenance S	\$ 40,000	\$ 41,400	\$ 42,849	\$ 44,349	\$ 45,901
Benefits	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,700	\$ 21,425	\$ 22,174	\$ 22,950
Total Staffing	\$ 262,025	\$ 271,196	\$ 280,688	\$ 290,512	\$ 300,680
Facility Operations					
Utilities	\$ 165,000	\$ 170,775	\$ 176,752	\$ 182,938	\$ 189,341
Contracted Services	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,175	\$ 5,356	\$ 5,544	\$ 5,738
Advertising / Promotions	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,568	\$ 2,678	\$ 2,772	\$ 2,869
Office Supplies	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,553	\$ 1,607	\$ 1,663	\$ 1,721
Cleaning Supplies	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,070	\$ 2,142	\$ 2,217	\$ 2,295
Equipment Repair / Mainten	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,175	\$ 5,356	\$ 5,544	\$ 5,738
Chemicals	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,280	\$ 8,570	\$ 8,870	\$ 9,180
Total Operations	\$ 189,000	\$ 195,615	\$ 202,462	\$ 209,548	\$ 216,882
Total Expenses	\$ 451,025	\$ 466,811	\$ 483,149	\$ 500,059	\$ 517,562
Net Operations	\$ (327,233)	\$ (320,708)	\$ (320,042)	\$ (331,243)	\$ (334,919)
Recovery	27%	31%	34%	34%	35%

Inflation

1%-2% in years 1-2, then level, rate stays the same thereafter, rate stay 25/day, years 1 & 2, 20/day thereafter, rate stay Rates increase @ 3.5%/year

Inflated at 3.5%/year
Inflated at 3.5%/year
Rates increase @ 3.5%/year

Inflated at 3.5%/year
Inflated at 3.5%/year
Inflated at 3.5%/year
Inflated at 3.5%/year

Inflated at 3.5%/year
Inflated at 3.5%/year
Inflated at 3.5%/year
Inflated at 3.5%/year
Inflated at 3.5%/year

Base Assumption

Avg. 2% of market population (7,500) @ \$20/mth
Avg. 25 drop-ins/day, blended rate of \$4/person, 345 days / year
1 parties/week, \$100/party, 50 weeks/year
15/session, 10 people / session, 20 sessions/month, 5 months/year
\$20/session, 10 people / session, 20 sessions/month, 5 months/year
see Assumptions
20% net on \$10,000 gross sales
Assumed to be capital contribution
50% of annual visits @ \$0.50/locker
\$100/hour, 3 hours/week, 6mths/year

1 FTE @ \$50,000/year
2 FTE @ \$25,000
see Assumptions
1 FTE @ \$40,000
20% of staffing costs (exc. Lifeguards)

\$11/sq. ft. (heat, water, power), 15,000 sq. ft.
Legal, accounting, mechanical, etc...
Program marketing, special events, etc...
Stationary, technology, software, etc...
Industry average
Industry average

6.3. Options Review and Recommended Approach

The following table summarizes the expected capital and operating costs of each of the options discussed, and commentary on each respective approach as reviewed by the Committee.

Development Option	Capital Cost (est.)	Incremental Operating Cost (est.)	Commentary
Aquatics / Leisure Facility			
Option #1	\$15.0M	Approximately \$330,000 / year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eliminates bowling and curling. Not recommended.
Option #2	\$13.3M	Approximately \$330,000 / year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eliminates bowling. Not recommended.
Option #3	\$15.3M	Approximately \$330,000 / year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workable but better if leisure tank and program tank were separate.
Option #4	\$15.2M	Approximately \$330,000 / year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above but reduces access to outdoor rink and better placed on opposite side of building.
Option #5	\$7.1M	Approximately \$60,000 / year ⁹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outdoor option too limited. Reduced season of operation not worth the investment.

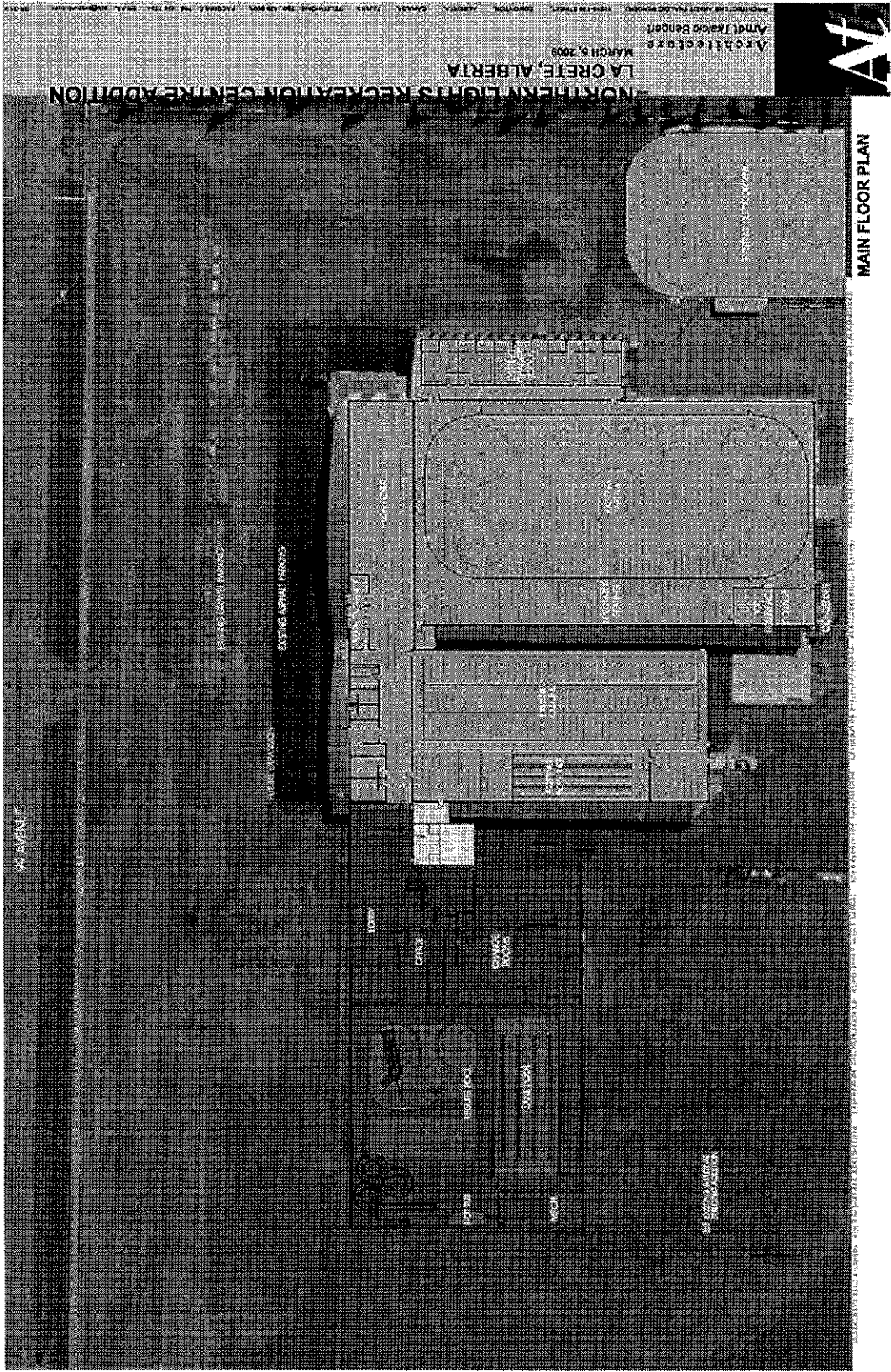
⁹ Based on comparable outdoor facilities

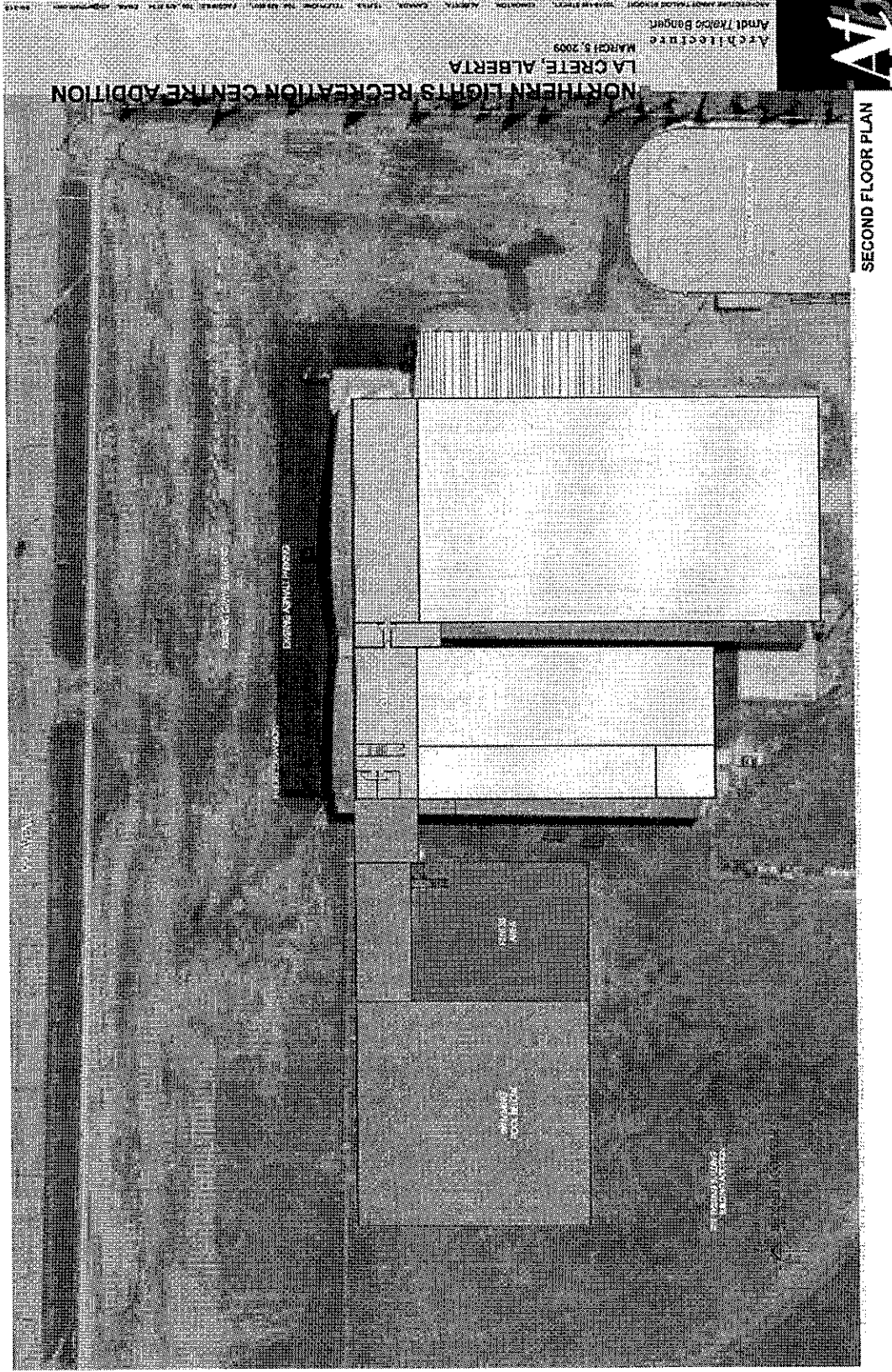
6.4. Recommended Approach

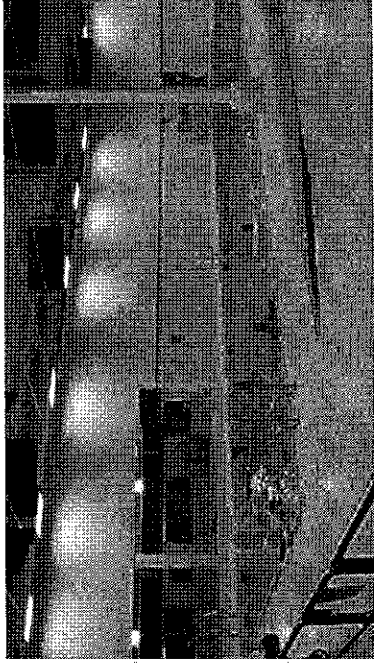
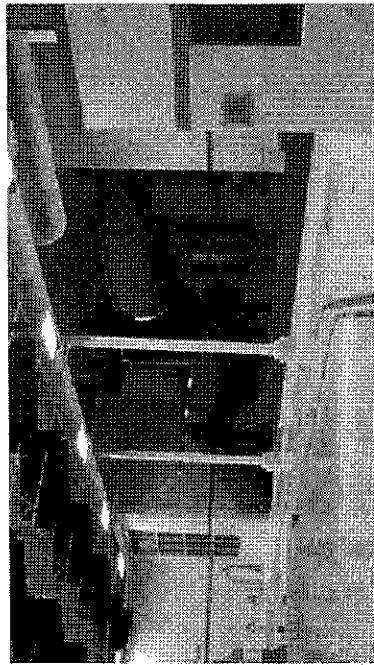
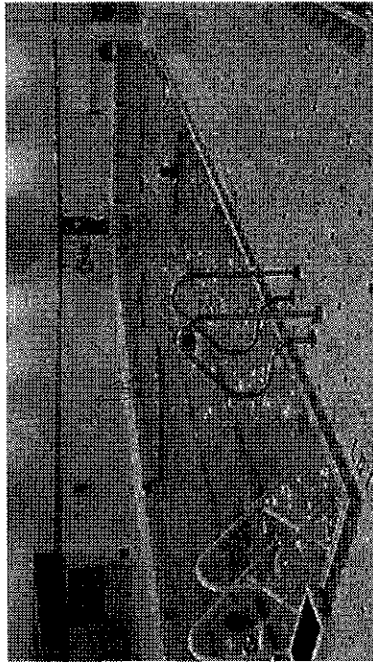
Committee review resulted in the following recommendations for inclusion in the ideal model for development:

1. separate leisure (warm water) and program tanks (cooler water) to improve the leisure experiences of users;
2. reduce program tank size to four 25 metre lanes of swimming to reduce costs yet still provide adequate aquatics program and instruction space;
3. orient facility on west side of complex;
4. consider / plan for future possibilities of squash / racquetball court and second floor development of fitness area; and
5. consider / defer costs to upgrade existing complex foyer to a later date.

Following are the concept floor plans and estimated costs of the ideal aquatics facility to serve the region today and well into the future.







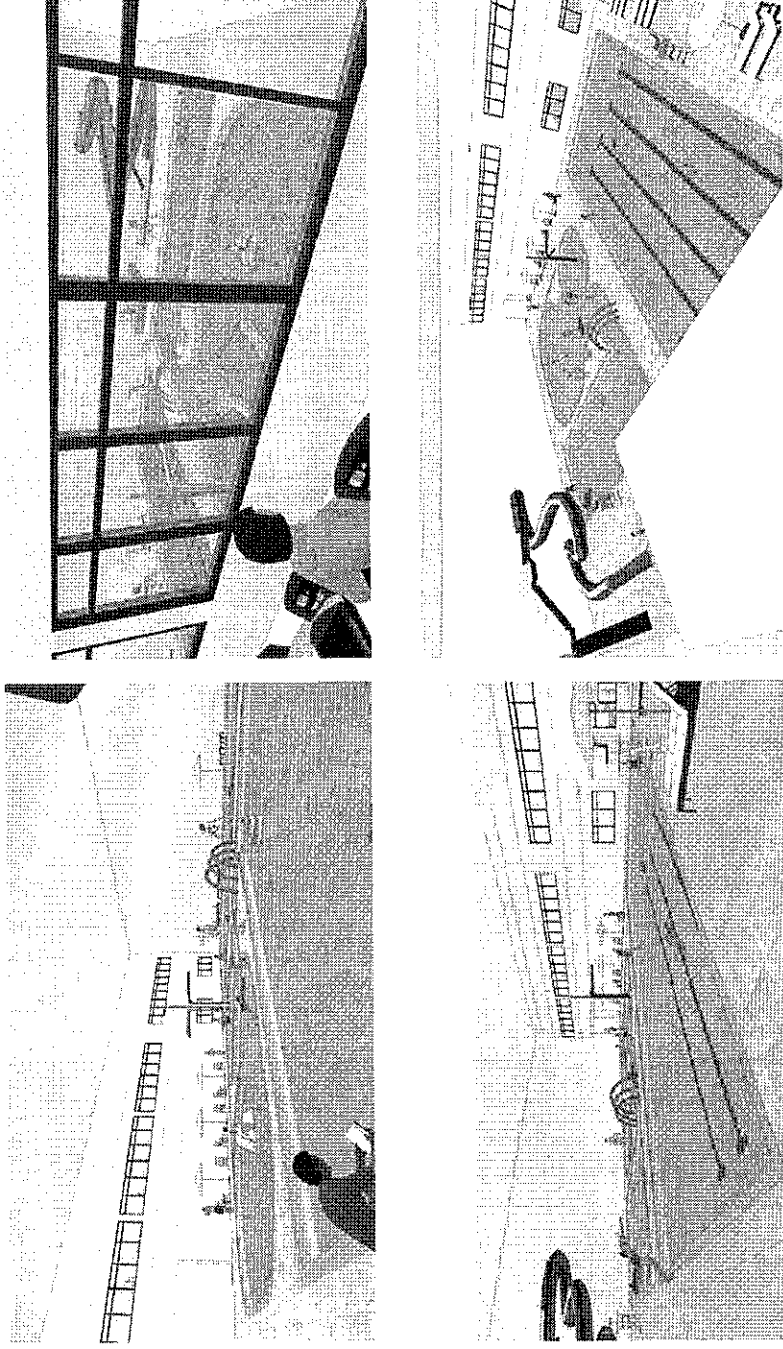
Images of Stettler Aquatics Centre, a facility of similar size and components to the proposed LaCrete Aquatics Facility

RC
ARCHITECTURE
CORPORATE STRATEGY
BUSINESS INFRASTRUCTURE

LaCrete Aquatics Facility

Architecture
And Planning
Budget

At



Images of the proposed LaCrete Aquatics Facility



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
WELFARE INFRASTRUCTURE

LaCrete Aquatics Facility

Architecture
Arndt Trautbe/Bongert



<u>BUILDING ELEMENT</u>	<u>GROSS FLOOR AREA</u> ft ²	<u>GROSS FLOOR AREA</u> m ²	<u>ESTIMATED UNIT COST</u> \$/ft ²	<u>ESTIMATED UNIT COST</u> \$/m ²	<u>ESTIMATED TOTAL</u>
Aquatics Facility	22,000	2,044	465	5,005	\$ 10,230,000
Total Building Cost	22,000	2,044	465	5,005	\$ 10,230,000
Sitework	12,500	1,161	20	215	\$ 250,000
Total Construction Cost					\$ 10,480,000
CONSULTANT FEES & EXPENSES			9%		\$ 943,200
FIXTURES, FURNISHINGS & EQUIPMENT			7%		\$ 733,600
TOTAL ESTIMATED PROJECT COST					\$ 12,156,800

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

- 1) Optional 4,300 sq.ft. community fitness facility to be located above aquatic change rooms - \$1,450,000 +/-
- 2) Water slide - \$350,000 +/-
- 3) Squash court located between existing building and addition - \$325,000 +/-
- 4) Exterior Upgrades - \$470,000 +/-
- 5) Foyer Upgrade - \$785,000 +/-

Estimated Cost of LaCrete Aquatics Facility

-The above "estimated" costs are based on current/historical information only which has been escalated to the midpoint of construction

- Estimates are +/- 30% at this time.



RC
CORPORATE REAL ESTATE
COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE
RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE

LaCrete Aquatics Facility



AL
Architecture
AND PLANNING SERVICES

7.0 Feasibility and Viability of Moving Forward

The feasibility and viability of moving forward with an aquatics centre in La Crete rests in meeting three major objectives namely:

- social / political feasibility;
- physical feasibility; and
- financial viability.

In La Crete, these objectives can be attained at varying levels given certain pre-requisites are met.

7.1. Social / Political Feasibility

This outlines the propensity of local elected officials, senior government and the broad community to accept an aquatic centre as a worthy investment in the broad context of public service delivery.

In La Crete and region, the general public are somewhat mixed in opinions about aquatics development with a majority either very, or somewhat, supportive (58%) and 39% either very or somewhat opposed. More than half of those opposed stated their opinions on the basis of cost, expressing concern about tax increases. A smaller percentage, eight percent, maintained beliefs that public swimming venues compromise their positive way of life.

It can be assumed that propensity to support aquatics development could reach a broader majority (approximately 75%) should development not result in increased taxes.

Local County Council as a whole remain undecided about the issue of aquatics development and await the outcome of this report before deliberating on a set course of actions. It can be expected that Council as a whole will view the possibility of aquatics development in the context of other County wide infrastructure priorities, some of which lie outside of the La Crete Regional area.

Senior governments, both provincial and federal, encourage decision making to occur at local levels. Both governments encourage infrastructure spending which supports majority need and manage funding programs that provide capital costs for priority community projects as long as local investment in these projects also occurs.

7.2. Physical Feasibility

Physical feasibility relates to the ability of the community to secure sufficient lands that can be developed for aquatics and operate a service infrastructure that can support this form of development. In the case of La Crete, an ideal location and land base has been chosen at the existing Recreation Centre site.

7.3. Viability

Viability or the financial capacity of the community to build and operate the desired level of aquatics development rests on the willingness of rate payers to have public taxation sources allocated in this manner.

Unlike the private sector which measures viability or returns on financial investments (typically set at 20% return), public investment in facility resources measures return based on other factors including: improved levels of service delivery; quality of life; reduction of youth vandalism; individual and family health; economic development; and many more. Successful public services are most often those that meet a majority of these “social returns” at acceptable levels of public investment or more specifically, recovery levels.

Public swimming pools located in communities across Alberta are considered to be, on average, higher cost services to deliver than other types of recreation facilities because they recover (through user fees and charges) less than 50% of what they cost to operate on an annual basis. This too, will be the likely case should a pool be built in La Crete. However, the potential social return in investment is appearing to be a key factor in determining such an investment in La Crete.

It has been determined that operational costs for the desired level of development will be \$335,000, a recovery rate of 35% per year of annual costs once it is up and running (estimated \$183 000 / year revenue against an estimated \$518 000 / year costs).

On the capital side, the desired development will cost in the order of \$13 M (2009 costs) and again, the project will never realize return on capital back to the community, but social and economic development returns will likely be significant.

Resourcing the money to build the facility, a critical factor in viability, can take many forms and will most likely become the key element of decision making for local elected officials and public. Clear, is the concern of rate payers in having to absorb increased taxes, thus financial models for resourcing must reflect low taxation impacts.

The more dollars that can be resourced from existing capital reserves, from external grant resources, and from community fundraising, the lesser the burden will be on local tax supported funding.

Below is an approach to funding which, if successful, will make viability more positive. The identification of potential external grant sources is footnoted.

Total Capital required \$13M (2009 dollars)	
Potential External Funding Sources:	
Building Canada Grant ¹	\$3 M
MSI Funding ² or; future infrastructure grant programs of the Province or the Federal Governments	<u>\$2 M</u> \$5 M
Local Fundraising and Sponsorship	
Community campaign	\$0.75 M
Sponsorship campaign	<u>\$1.0 M</u>
	\$1.75 M
Local Government Funding	
Reserves allocation ³	\$3.75 M
Public Financing (debenture borrowing)⁴	
\$2.5 M debenture @ 4.16% over 15 yrs (annual cost is approx. \$226 000)	\$2.5 M
TOTAL	\$13 M

¹ The Canada / Alberta Building Canada Fund – Community Component has been recently announced as an opportunity for municipalities, or municipalities on behalf of private or not-for-profit groups, to apply for capital infrastructure funding for up to \$3 M. New culture and recreation buildings are eligible projects as long as they are scheduled for completion by March 2014 and as long as they function to develop competitive athletes. In La Crete, the emphasis in operations will however be recreational and assistance from the local MP and MLA may become instrumental in gaining approval for such programs.

If the municipal applicant is successful in being rewarded this grant they must inject at least 1/3 of the project costs (in this case \$4.33 M minimum).

Alberta’s Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) funding can be used to contribute the 1/3 of project costs.

² The Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) is a provincial funding program for Alberta municipalities. It is designed to assist with infrastructure upgrades including parks and recreation facility projects. Portions of annual allocations can also be used to support operational costs.

For 2007-08, the County received \$1,282,748 from this fund, and is expected to receive \$1,961,562 in 08-09, \$2,368,412 in 09-10 and further estimated to receive \$5,591,540 in 2010-2011. The ten year total estimate for the County is \$44.7 M. Use of these funds will be prioritized and budgeted through decisions of County Council

³ In 2006, the County reported close to \$12 M held in reserves. The analysis herein has not traced capital budget priorities in other areas thus the use of reserves for the swimming pool project will rest with County Council.

⁴ Public financing refers to the practice of the County to borrow funds from Alberta Capital finance. As of 2006, the County had reported (to Alberta Municipal Affairs) a debt of \$7.2 M (19% of the eligible debt limit of \$38 M). Servicing of this debt costs the County \$1.3 M per year against an available debt services limit of \$6.4 M. Thus the County has the capacity to borrow.

The funding scenario outlined above calls for \$2.5 M in borrowing at 4.16% over 15 years. This would effectively increase debt servicing costs by \$226 000 per year for the term.

THE VIABILITY OF SECURING \$13M IN CAPITAL FUNDING TO BUILD A SWIMMING POOL IN LA CRETE IS GOOD SHOULD THE PROJECT BE CONSIDERED A BUDGET PRIORITY BY COUNTY COUNCIL.

On the operational side, the incremental annual operations have been projected to arrive at a cost of \$330 000 per year (net of expenses over revenues) making an incremental annual impact of the pool estimated at \$556 000 (\$226 000 debenture payments and \$330 000 annual operations).

THE VIABILITY OF MEETING ANNUAL INCREMENTAL COSTS OF A POOL RESTS WITH THE WILLINGNESS OF COUNCIL AND THE PUBLIC TO ACCEPT AN ANNUAL INCREASE IN GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES OF \$556 000.

Note: It is not known whether or not this project will impact taxes as it depends on how the County prepares ongoing budgets in line with the securement of government grants that are available.

8.0 Conclusions

- There exists an identified need and expression of interest from the La Crete community and region to look very closely at developing a community swimming pool as long as taxes are not overly impacted.
- The local government has the financial capacity to build and operate a pool as long as senior government grants are exercised in part as sources of capital and operational funding. In this regard, access to \$3 M in funding depends upon completing the project by March 2014 should the Building Canada Grant be applicable.
- There exists a sufficiently sized market of users and indications that the size of the market will grow to help sustain annual operating costs of a pool at levels around \$350,000 per year.
- Opportunity to build a pool onto the existing recreation centre exists and is considered to be an excellent approach to providing added recreation opportunities for the Region, building economic development and even strengthening the social capital within the community.
- The La Crete Swimming Pool Committee is advised to recommend to County Council, the need to advance planning, and arrange funding for a new community pool to be completed by March 2014.

9.0 Public Review

A Public Review Open House was convened on February 19, 2009 in La Crete. The intent of the Open House was twofold. One, the session provided the opportunity to share information from the needs assessment, and to present concepts for the proposed Aquatics / Leisure Facility. (This is the information presented throughout this report.) Second, the Open House provided a venue through which interested parties could provide their feedback on the information presented and on the proposed facility in general. Thirty-six people attended the Public Review Open House and completed a feedback form. Their responses are presented below.

Ninety-four percent (94%) of respondents agreed that, should the Aquatics / Leisure Centre proceed, the pool should be added on to the existing Recreation Facility. Approximately two-thirds (61%) of respondents expressed no concerns about the development of a community aquatics facility / leisure centre in La Crete. Of those concerned about the facility's development, the primary concern dealt with the cost of the facility and its impact on taxes.

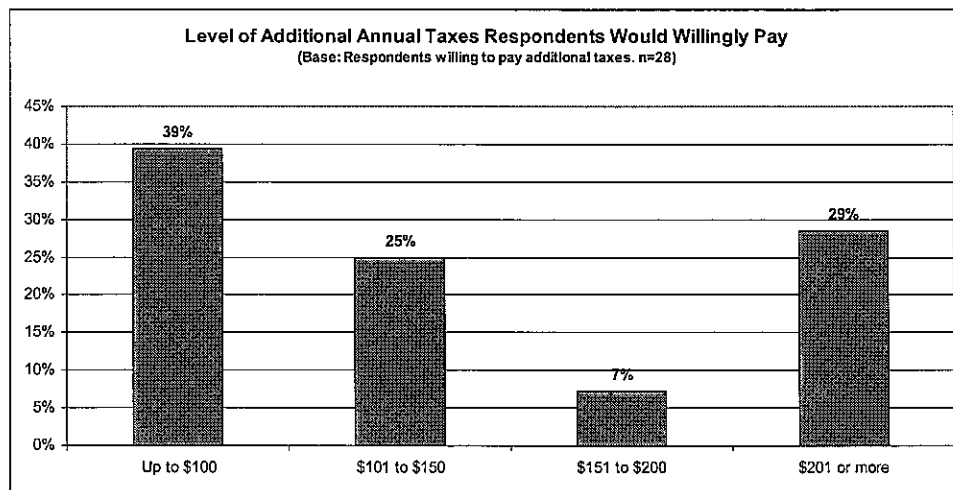
All respondents did agree that the development of this indoor aquatics facility / leisure centre would increase the recreation opportunities in the community. **Approximately three-quarters of the respondents indicated that a new facility would help retain existing residents (75%) and**

attract new residents (72%). Forty-two percent of respondents also felt economic spin offs could be realized as a result of the development of a new facility.

Over three-quarters of respondents (78%) would be willing to pay additional annual taxes should County borrowing be necessary to fund the facility’s development. Six percent (2 respondents) were not willing to pay additional taxes. The balance (16%) of respondents was unsure.

Of the 28 respondents willing to pay additional taxes, over one-third (39%) were willing to pay up to \$100 extra annually. Twenty-nine percent (29%) were willing to pay more than \$200 in additional taxes annually to fund the development of the new facility. See Figure 32.

Figure 32



Respondents were asked whether the community should encourage Council to proceed with this initiative. In almost unanimous fashion (94% or 34 individuals), respondents indicated that the community should encourage Council to move forward. One respondent did not support the community’s encouragement of Council, while another was unsure.

Finally, respondents were able to provide comments or suggestions about the project. While most did not provide any additional comments, a few did express concern about the cost of the facility and questioned the source of capital funding. A few others spoke about the need for adequate facility planning to ensure that any new facility would meet the needs of the community well into the future.

10.0 Next Steps

- La Crete Pool Committee to present feasibility findings to Council and advocate that Council and Administration explore financial opportunities to pay for the facility (both capital and operational).
- Should Council agree, and place the pool project on its schedule of capital budget items, the Pool Committee should launch a fundraising program in line with capital budget timing.

11.0 Appendices

Household Survey Questionnaire

Group Survey Questionnaire

Student Survey Questionnaire

Public Input Open House Feedback Form

Household Survey Questionnaire

October 17, 2008

Your views, and those of your family members, are important to our future planning. We are seeking your opinions and ideas on how the La Crete Aquatics / Leisure Centre Committee plans for community facilities now and in the future.

The La Crete Aquatics / Leisure Centre Committee has retained the services of RC Strategies, a consulting firm, to assist in determining the need for, and implications of, a potential indoor swimming pool in the La Crete Community.

In the upcoming months, the consultants and the committee will be collecting input from the community. A household survey, student survey and group survey will all be administered in the community in order to gather feedback regarding swimming pool development. Interviews with key stakeholders and a public input open house, to occur this fall, will also provide residents an opportunity to provide feedback.

The following Household Survey has been developed to begin the process of collecting information from community members. On behalf of your entire household, please complete the following questions and return via the postage paid envelope provided no later than **October 31, 2008**.

As an extra incentive for filling out this survey, two draws will be made for \$100 each. If you would like your name entered into the draw, please complete this survey and return it along with the draw entry form provided no later than **October 31, 2008**. The prizes will be awarded in the winter of 2008-2009.

Your input is greatly appreciated.

.....
Name (First Name Only): _____

Phone Number: _____

Please detach this entry form and include it in the return envelope provided along with completed survey. This information will be kept in confidence, only those whose entry forms are drawn will be contacted.

1. During the past 12 months, have you or any members of your household visited any of the following types of aquatics facilities? Please check ✓ those that apply and indicate frequency of visits in the past 12 months.

Type of Facility	Attended facility in the past 12 months (Y/N)	Number of visits in the past 12 months (#)
i.e. Indoor Pool	Y	6 visits
Indoor Pool		
Outdoor Pool		
Water or Splash Park		

- a. If you answered "N" (indicating that you or members of you household have not visited any aquatics facilities in the past 12 months) to question #1, please indicate why not? Please check ✓ those that apply.

- Do not swim
 No opportunity in the Community
 Other (Please specify) _____
 No interest
 Don't know

- b. If you answered "Y" (indicating that you or members of you household have visited aquatics facilities in the past 12 months) in question #1, for what reasons did you or members of your household visit aquatics facilities? Please check ✓ all that apply.

- Lessons
 Exercise
 Therapeutic Prevention / Recovery
 Other (Please specify) _____
 Leisure experience
 Fun / social aspects
 Don't know

- c. If you answered "Y" (indicating that you or members of you household have visited aquatics facilities in the past 12 months) in question #1, what best describes the type of facility (facilities) you or members of your household visited? Please ✓ check all that apply.

- Community Indoor Aquatics Facility in a Surrounding Community
 Please indicate Community(s): _____
- Community Outdoor Aquatics Facility in a Surrounding Community
 Please indicate Community(s): _____
- Community Water / Spray Park Facility in a Surrounding Community
 Please indicate Community(s): _____
- Hotel / Motel Aquatics Centre
- Private Indoor Aquatics Facility (i.e. West Edmonton Mall Water Park, etc...)
 Please indicate Facility(s): _____
- Other
 Please indicate: _____

Household Survey

2. In the next 12 months, how likely is it that you will visit an aquatic facility? Please check ✓ one of the following.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Very likely | <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat likely |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not very likely | <input type="checkbox"/> Not at all likely |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know | |

3. Answering on behalf of your entire household, please check ✓ up to five indoor recreation and culture facility components that you think should be considered in future facility development in the area:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness / wellness facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Gymnasium type spaces |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Walking track | <input type="checkbox"/> Community gathering spaces |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming pools | <input type="checkbox"/> Ice arena facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor child playgrounds | <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor climbing wall |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art display spaces | <input type="checkbox"/> Museum / interpretive facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bowling alley | <input type="checkbox"/> Community meeting rooms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Curling rinks | <input type="checkbox"/> Performing arts / show spaces |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Racquet sport courts | <input type="checkbox"/> Dance / program rooms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor field facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Social / banquet facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): | |
-

4. The La Crete Swimming Pool Committee is in the process of exploring the feasibility of constructing an indoor community aquatics facility. In general, how supportive are you towards the development of an indoor community aquatics facility in La Crete? Please check ✓ one of the following.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Very supportive | <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat supportive |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat opposed | <input type="checkbox"/> Very opposed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know | |

5. What concerns, if any, do you have with the development of an indoor community aquatics facility in La Crete? Please check ✓ one of the following.

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cost / increase in taxes | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know |
| <input type="checkbox"/> None, no concerns | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): | |
-

6. What benefits, if any, do you anticipate with the development of an indoor pool in your community? Please check ✓ those that apply.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Would attract new residents | <input type="checkbox"/> Increased recreation opportunities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic spin offs | <input type="checkbox"/> Would retain existing residents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> None, no benefits |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): | |
-

7. If an indoor community aquatics facility was developed in the La Crete, how likely is it that you or someone from your household would use or visit the facility? Please check ✓ one of the following.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Likely | <input type="checkbox"/> Not likely |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know | |

8. Of the following potential indoor community aquatics facility components, please indicate up to seven elements that would be included in your ideal aquatics facility. Please check ✓ up to seven.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Major Waterslide (all ages) | <input type="checkbox"/> Climbing Wall |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tot Waterslide | <input type="checkbox"/> Pool waves (wave motions) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational Diving Board (1 metre) | <input type="checkbox"/> Program / meeting / birthday party rooms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Competitive Diving Board (3 metres) | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Sun Deck |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball / Volleyball Nets | <input type="checkbox"/> Hot Tub |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sauna | <input type="checkbox"/> Steam Room |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spectator Viewing Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> Floating Toys / Mats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deck Chairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Food and Beverage Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lazy River (inner tube to float around the course) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness Area (cardio machines and weight training) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leisure Pool (zero depth entry, warm water) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spray Toys and Interactive Water Play Features | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Competition / Lane Swimming Pool (programs, water sports, synchronized swimming, etc...) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please describe): _____ | |

9. In contemplating the development of an indoor aquatics leisure centre in the community, other potential components for development being considered include a fitness centre, birthday party / program room, an indoor child playground and racquet court spaces. Please indicate your opinion on each potential component by checking ✓ the appropriate box.

Potential facility component	Including this component is a good idea	Including this component is not a good idea	Not sure
Fitness centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Birthday party / program rooms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indoor child playground	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Racquet court spaces	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

10. In your opinion, how do you feel that La Crete should try to recuperate the costs of **operating** indoor community facilities? Please check ✓ one of the following.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> User fees (admission fees) | <input type="checkbox"/> Combination of user fees / property taxes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> From property taxes | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know | _____ |

Household Survey

11. Realizing that the cost of building facilities has increased dramatically in the recent past, and understanding that the Municipality have a variety of capital expenses beyond community facilities, how much could your household afford in increased annual property taxes to ensure that community needs for community facilities in La Crete are better met? Please check one of the following.

- No increase Up to \$100 \$101- \$150 \$151- \$200 \$200+

12. Do you have any additional comments to make concerning the future planning of community facilities in the La Crete?

13. Where is your primary residence?

- La Crete
 Other (please specify): _____

14. How long have you lived in the La Crete area?

- Less than 1 year 1-5 years 5-10 years 10+ years

15. Do you expect to be residing in the area for the next five years?

- Yes Not Sure No

16. Please describe your household by recording the number of members in each of the following age groups. (Please do not forget yourself!)

_____ ≥ 0 to 12 _____ ≥ 13 to 19 _____ ≥ 20 to 39
 _____ ≥ 40 to 59 _____ ≥ 60+

Thank you for completing this questionnaire. Your input is appreciated.

Please seal it in the self-addressed envelope provided and mail (no postage necessary) no later than **October 31, 2008**.

If you have any questions or comments, please call **Roy Wiebe** (La Crete Aquatics / Leisure Centre Committee) at 780.821.9103 or **Mike Roma** (RC Strategies) at 780.441.4263 during daytime hours. You may provide additional comments on a separate sheet of paper to include with this survey.

Group Survey Questionnaire

October 24, 2008

Your views, and those of your group, are important to our future planning. We are seeking your opinions and ideas on how the La Crete Aquatics / Leisure Centre Committee plans for community facilities now and in the future.

The La Crete Aquatics / Leisure Centre Committee has retained the services of RC Strategies, a consulting firm, to assist in determining the need for, and implications of, a potential indoor swimming pool in the La Crete Community.

In the upcoming months, the consultants and the committee will be collecting input from the community. A household survey, student survey and group survey will all be administered in the community in order to gather feedback regarding swimming pool development. Interviews with key stakeholders and a public input open house, to occur this fall, will also provide residents an opportunity to provide feedback.

The following Stakeholder Group Survey has been developed to begin the process of collecting information from community members. On behalf of your entire group, please complete the following questions and return via the postage paid envelope provided no later than **November 28, 2008**.

Your input is greatly appreciated.

1. Group / Organization information:

Group name: _____

Your name and position: _____

Your phone number and email: _____

In a few words, please briefly explain the purpose of your group / organization:

How many participants / members belong to your organization? Please provide historical data if available.

	2006	2007	2008
Participants / members:			

What do you expect your group participation / membership to do? Please check one of the following.

- Grow
 Remain stable
 Decline

What age demographic does your groups' programs / activities target? Please check all that apply.

- Preschool (age 0 – 5)
 Youth (6 – 12)
 Teen (13 – 17)
- Adult (18 – 59)
 Senior (60+)

Please indicate the point of origin for members of your group / organization:

_____ Percent of La Crete residents

_____ Other

100%

2. During the past 12 months, has your group visited any of the following types of aquatics facilities?
 Please check ✓ those that apply and indicate frequency of visits in the past 12 months.

Type of Facility	Attended facility in the past 12 months (Y/N)	Number of visits in the past 12 months (#)
i.e. Indoor Pool	Y	6 visits
Indoor Pool		
Outdoor Pool		
Water or Splash Park		

a. If you answered "N" (indicating that your group has not visited any aquatics facilities in the past 12 months) to question #2, please indicate why not? Please check ✓ those that apply.

- Not part of group program
- No opportunity in the Community
- Other (Please specify) _____
- No interest
- Don't know

b. If you answered "Y" (indicating that your group has visited aquatics facilities in the past 12 months) in question #2, for what reasons did your group visit aquatics facilities? Please check ✓ all that apply.

- Lessons
- Exercise
- Therapeutic Prevention / Recovery
- Other (Please specify) _____
- Leisure experience
- Fun / social aspects
- Don't know

c. If you answered "Y" (indicating that your group has visited aquatics facilities in the past 12 months) in question #2, what best describes the type of facility (facilities) your group visited? Please ✓ check all that apply.

- Community Indoor Aquatics Facility in a Surrounding Community
Please indicate Community(s): _____
- Community Outdoor Aquatics Facility in a Surrounding Community
Please indicate Community(s): _____
- Community Water / Spray Park Facility in a Surrounding Community
Please indicate Community(s): _____
- Hotel / Motel Aquatics Centre
- Private Indoor Aquatics Facility (i.e. West Edmonton Mall Water Park, etc...)
Please indicate Facility(s): _____
- Other
Please indicate: _____

3. In the next 12 months, how likely is it that your group will visit an aquatic facility? Please check ✓ one of the following.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Very likely | <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat likely |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not very likely | <input type="checkbox"/> Not at all likely |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know | |

4. Answering on behalf of your entire group, please check ✓ up to five indoor recreation and culture facility components that your group thinks should be considered in future facility development in the area.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness / wellness facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Gymnasium type spaces |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Walking track | <input type="checkbox"/> Community gathering spaces |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming pools | <input type="checkbox"/> Ice arena facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor child playgrounds | <input type="checkbox"/> Performing arts / show spaces |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art display spaces | <input type="checkbox"/> Museum / interpretive facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor climbing wall | <input type="checkbox"/> Community meeting rooms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Racquet sport courts | <input type="checkbox"/> Dance / program rooms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor field facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Social / banquet facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ | |

5. The La Crete Swimming Pool Committee is in the process of exploring the feasibility of constructing an indoor community aquatics facility. In general, how supportive is your group towards the development of an indoor community aquatics facility in La Crete? Please check ✓ one of the following.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Very supportive | <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat supportive |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat opposed | <input type="checkbox"/> Very opposed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know | |

6. What concerns, if any, does your group have with the development of an indoor community aquatics facility in La Crete? Please check ✓ one of the following.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cost / increase in taxes | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know |
| <input type="checkbox"/> None, no concerns | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ | |

7. What benefits, if any, does your group anticipate with the development of an indoor pool in your community? Please check ✓ those that apply.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Would attract new residents | <input type="checkbox"/> Increased recreation opportunities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic spin offs | <input type="checkbox"/> Would retain existing residents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> None, no benefits |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health and wellness benefits to residents | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ | |

8. If an indoor community aquatics facility was developed in the La Crete, how likely is it that your group would use or visit the facility for group programming? Please check ✓ one of the following.

- Likely
- Don't know
- Not likely

9. Of the following potential indoor community aquatics facility components, please indicate up to seven elements that would be included in your groups ideal aquatics facility. Please check ✓ up to seven.

- Major Waterslide (all ages)
- Tot Waterslide
- Recreational Diving Board (1 metre)
- Competitive Diving Board (3 metres)
- Basketball / Volleyball Nets
- Sauna
- Spectator Viewing Areas
- Deck Chairs
- Lazy River (inner tube to float around the course)
- Fitness Area (cardio machines and weight training)
- Leisure Pool (zero depth entry, warm water)
- Spray Toys and Interactive Water Play Features
- Competition / Lane Swimming Pool (programs, water sports, synchronized swimming, etc...)
- Other (Please describe): _____
- Climbing Wall
- Pool waves (wave motions)
- Program / meeting / birthday party rooms
- Outdoor Sun Deck
- Hot Tub
- Steam Room
- Floating Toys / Mats
- Food and Beverage Services

10. In contemplating the development of an indoor aquatics leisure centre in the community, other potential components for development being considered include a fitness centre, birthday party / program room, an indoor child playground and racquet court spaces. Please indicate your groups opinion on each potential component by checking ✓ the appropriate box.

Potential facility component	Including this component is a good idea	Including this component is not a good idea	Not sure
Fitness centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Birthday party / program rooms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indoor child playground	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Racquet court spaces	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

11. In your groups opinion, how do you feel that La Crete should try to recuperate the costs of operating indoor community facilities? Please check ✓ one of the following.

- User fees (admission fees)
- From property taxes
- Don't know
- Combination of user fees / property taxes
- Other (please specify)

12. To ensure that community needs for recreation and leisure facilities in La Crete are better met, how much of an increase in annual user fees would your group be willing to pay? Please check [✓]

- No increase
- Up to 10% increase
- More than 10% increase

13. What is the biggest challenge your group / organization is facing in meeting its program goals? Please explain:

14. Does your group have any additional comments to make concerning the future planning of community facilities in the La Crete?

Thank you for completing this questionnaire. Your input is appreciated.
Please seal it in the self-addressed envelope provided and mail (no postage necessary) no later than **November 15th, 2008**.

If you have any questions or comments, please call **Roy Wiebe** (La Crete Aquatics / Leisure Centre Committee) at 780.821.9103 or **Mike Roma** (RC Strategies) at 780.441.4263 during daytime hours. You may provide additional comments on a separate sheet of paper to include with this survey.

Student Survey Questionnaire

Student Survey

Your views are important to our future planning. Please help us by answering the following questions.

1. Do you consider yourself to be physically active? Please check ✓.

- Yes Not Sure No

2. How often do you participate in physical activity? Please check ✓.

- Once / week Two to three times / week Four or more times / week Never

3. Do any of the following prevent you from participating in physical activity? Please check ✓ all that apply.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation to the area | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of time to participate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Physical ability | <input type="checkbox"/> Programs / activities not available |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cost of participating | <input type="checkbox"/> After school job |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Video games / computers | <input type="checkbox"/> Homework |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Television | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ | |

4. Do you know how to swim? Please check ✓.

- Yes Not Sure No

5. During the past 12 months, have you visited any of the following types of aquatics facilities? Please check ✓ those that apply and indicate frequency of visits in the past 12 months.

Type of Facility	Attended facility in the past 12 months (Y/N)	Number of visits in the past 12 months (#)
i.e. Indoor Pool	Y	6 visits
Indoor Pool		
Outdoor Pool		
Water or Splash Park		

a. If you answered "N" (indicating that you or members of you household have not visited any aquatics facilities in the past 12 months) to question #5, please indicate why not? Please check ✓ those that apply.

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Do not swim | <input type="checkbox"/> No interest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No opportunity in the Community | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify) _____ | |

b. If you answered "Y" (indicating that you or members of you household have visited aquatics facilities in the past 12 months) in question #5, for what reasons did you or members of your household visit aquatics facilities? Please check ✓ all that apply.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lessons | <input type="checkbox"/> Leisure experience |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise | <input type="checkbox"/> Fun / social aspects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Therapeutic Prevention / Recovery | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify) _____ | |

Student Survey

6. Please check ✓ up to five indoor recreation and culture facility components that you think should be considered in future facility development in the area:

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness / wellness facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Gymnasium type spaces |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Walking track | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Community gathering spaces |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming pools | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Performing arts / show spaces |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor child playgrounds | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor climbing wall |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art display spaces | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Museum / interpretive facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ice arena facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Community meeting rooms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Racquet sport courts | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Dance / program rooms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor field facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Social / banquet facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ | | |

7. If an indoor community aquatics facility was developed in the La Crete, how likely is it that you or someone from your household would use or visit the facility? Please check ✓ one of the following.

- Likely Not likely
 Don't know

8. Of the following potential indoor community aquatics facility components, please indicate up to seven elements that would be included in your ideal aquatics facility. Please check ✓ up to seven.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Major Waterslide (all ages) | <input type="checkbox"/> Climbing Wall |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tot Waterslide | <input type="checkbox"/> Pool waves (wave motions) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational Diving Board (1 metre) | <input type="checkbox"/> Program / meeting / birthday party rooms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Competitive Diving Board (3 metres) | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Sun Deck |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball / Volleyball Nets | <input type="checkbox"/> Hot Tub |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sauna | <input type="checkbox"/> Steam Room |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spectator Viewing Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> Floating Toys / Mats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deck Chairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Food and Beverage Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lazy River (inner tube to float around the course) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness Area (cardio machines and weight training) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leisure Pool (zero depth entry, warm water) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spray Toys and Interactive Water Play Features | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Competition / Lane Swimming Pool (programs, water sports, synchronized swimming, etc...) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please describe): _____ | |

Thank you for completing this questionnaire.

Public Input Open House Feedback Form – October 2008

Thank you for attending tonight's public input open house. We are seeking your opinions and ideas on how La Crete plans for and delivers community facilities now and in the future. We ask that an adult member of your household complete this survey.

1. Do you feel comfortable with the prescribed process / methodology to ensure for thorough background research and public feedback in developing this Aquatics / Leisure Centre Feasibility Study? Please check [✓].
- Yes No Not Sure

Please explain:

2. Are you affiliated with any specific volunteer organizations/user groups (i.e. arts clubs, minor sports, adult sports, walking clubs, etc.)? Please check [✓].
- Yes No Not Sure

If "yes", please list up to five below:

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

3. Do you think that new and / or upgraded indoor community facilities should be developed in the La Crete area? Please check [✓]
- Yes Not Sure No

4. Please check [✓] up to five indoor spontaneous / unscheduled use¹ recreation and culture facility components that you think should be considered in future facility development in the area:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness / wellness facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Gymnasium type spaces |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Walking track | <input type="checkbox"/> Community gathering spaces |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leisure swimming pools | <input type="checkbox"/> Leisure ice surfaces |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor child playgrounds | <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor climbing wall |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art display spaces | <input type="checkbox"/> Museum / interpretive facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): | <hr/> |

¹ Activities that are participated in, in one's free time, that are not scheduled or part of an organized program.

5. Please check [✓] up to five indoor scheduled / structured use² recreation and culture facility components that you think should be considered in future facility development in the area:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ice arena facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Community meeting rooms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Curling rinks | <input type="checkbox"/> Performing arts / show spaces |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Competition swimming tanks | <input type="checkbox"/> Dance / program rooms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor field facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Social / banquet facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art display spaces | <input type="checkbox"/> Museum / interpretive facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Afterschool care facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Preschool facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ | |
-

6. La Crete is in the process of exploring the feasibility of constructing an indoor community aquatics facility. In general, how supportive are you towards the development of an indoor community aquatics facility / leisure centre in La Crete? Please check ✓ those that apply.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Very supportive | <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat supportive |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat opposed | <input type="checkbox"/> Very opposed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know | |

7. What concerns, if any, do you have with the development of an indoor community aquatics facility / leisure centre in La Crete? Please check ✓ those that apply.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None, no concerns | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Please specify: _____ | |
-
-

8. What benefits, if any, do you anticipate with the development of an indoor aquatics facility / leisure centre in your community? Please check ✓ those that apply.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Would attract new residents | <input type="checkbox"/> Increased recreation opportunities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic spin offs | <input type="checkbox"/> Would retain existing residents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> None, no benefits |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ | |

9. If an indoor community aquatics facility / leisure centre was developed in La Crete, how likely is it that you or someone from your household would use or visit the facility? Please check ✓ one of the following.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Likely | <input type="checkbox"/> Not likely |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know | |

² Activities that are participated in, in one's free time, that are scheduled or part of an organized program.

10. In your opinion, how do you feel that La Crete should try to recuperate the costs of building indoor community facilities? Please check .

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> User fees (admission fees) | <input type="checkbox"/> Combination of user fees / property taxes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> From property taxes | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know | |

11. In your opinion, how do you feel that La Crete should try to recuperate the costs of operating indoor community facilities? Please check .

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> User fees (admission fees) | <input type="checkbox"/> Combination of user fees / property taxes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> From property taxes | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know | |

12. Realizing that the cost of building facilities has increased dramatically in the recent past, and understanding that the Town and M.D. have a variety of capital expenses beyond community facilities, how much could your household afford in increased annual property taxes to ensure that community needs for community facilities in La Crete are better met? Please check

- No increase Up to \$100 \$101- \$150 \$151- \$200 \$200+

13. Where is your primary residence?

- La Crete
 Other (please specify): _____

Thank you for completing this questionnaire. Your input is appreciated.

Public Input Open House Feedback Form -- February 2009

Thank you for attending tonight's public input open house. We are seeking your opinions and ideas on how La Crete plans for and delivers community facilities now and in the future. We ask that an adult member of your household complete this survey.

1. Do you feel comfortable with the prescribed process / methodology to ensure for thorough background research and public feedback in developing this Aquatics / Leisure Centre Feasibility Study? Please check [✓].

Yes No Not Sure

Please explain:

2. Do you think the community should encourage Council to move forward with this initiative? Please check [✓]

Yes Not Sure No

Please explain:

3. Do you agree with the idea of adding the pool onto the current Recreation Facility should the project go ahead? Please check [✓].

Yes Not Sure No

Please explain:

4. What concerns, if any, do you have with the development of an indoor community aquatics facility / leisure centre in La Crete? Please check ✓ those that apply.

None, no concerns Don't know

Other (please specify): _____

5. What benefits, if any, do you anticipate with the development of an indoor aquatics facility / leisure centre in your community? Please check ✓ those that apply.

Would attract new residents Increased recreation opportunities

Economic spin offs Would retain existing residents

Don't know None, no benefits

Other (please specify): _____

6. Now that you have seen the proposed concept, would you be willing to pay additional annual taxes if County borrowing is required to fund the Capital Cost? Please check [✓]
- Yes No Not Sure
7. If yes, at what level? Please check [✓]
- No increase Up to \$100 \$101– \$150 \$151– \$200 \$200+
8. Where is your primary residence?
- La Crete
- Other (please specify): _____
9. Do you have any further suggestions for the La Crete Aquatic Leisure Centre Committee as they move forward with the proposed project?

Thank you for completing this questionnaire. Your input is appreciated.