



AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING OF PICTURE BUTTE TOWN COUNCIL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Monday, 10th February, 2025 at 6:30 pm

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

2.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

3.0 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

3.1 Regular Council Meeting Minutes – 27th January, 2025

4.0 PUBLIC HEARING

5.0 DELEGATION

5.1 John Kolk – Walk on the Wildside President – Lease Extension

6.0 REQUESTS FOR DECISION

6.1 4H Fee Rental Waiver

6.2 Millennium Capsule Ceremony

6.3 Donation sign at Pool

7.0 MAYOR'S REPORT

8.0 COUNCIL'S REPORT

9.0 ADMINISTRATION'S REPORT

9.1 CAO Report

9.1.1 Director of Parks and Recreation

10.0 CORRESPONDENCE

10.1 St. Catherines donation request

10.2 Palliser School Division – Consultation sessions

10.3 Lethbridge County – Alberta Collaboration Program – Letter of support

10.4 Southern Alberta Economic Summit Invitation

10.5 RCMP Strategic Plan Feedback

11.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

11.1

12.0 CLOSED SESSION

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES
OF THE
PICTURE BUTTE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Monday, January 27th, 2025 AT 6:30 PM

PRESENT: Mayor C. Moore Deputy Mayor C. Papworth Councillor T. Feist
Councillor H. de Kok Councillor C. Neels

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Administrative Officer – K. Davis
Director of Corporate Services – M. Overbeeke
Director of Emergency Services – F. West
Administrative Assistant – K. Rice

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Moore called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

019 2501 27 MOVED by Councillor Feist that the agenda be approved as presented.
CARRIED

3.0 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

3.1 Regular Council Meeting – January 13th, 2025

020 2501 27 MOVED by Councillor Neels that the Regular Council Meeting minutes of
January 13th, 2025 be approved as amended.
CARRIED

4.0 PUBLIC HEARING – None for this meeting

5.0 DELEGATION – None for this meeting

6.0 REQUESTS FOR DECISION

6.1 Bylaw No. 953-25 Tax Exemptions Bylaw

021 2501 27 MOVED by Councillor de Kok the first reading of Bylaw No. 953-25 Tax
Exemptions Bylaw.
CARRIED

022 2501 27 MOVED by Deputy Mayor Papworth the second reading of Bylaw No. 953-
25 Tax Exemptions Bylaw.
CARRIED

023 2501 27 MOVED by Councillor Feist permission to move to the third reading of Bylaw
No. 953-25 Tax Exemptions Bylaw.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

024 2501 27 MOVED by Councillor Neels the third and final reading of Bylaw No. 953-25
Tax Exemptions Bylaw.
CARRIED

6.2 AB Munis 2025 Spring Municipal Leaders Caucus

025 2501 27 MOVED by Councillor de Kok for Mayor Moore and Chief Administrative
Officer, Keith Davis to attend the Alberta Municipalities 2025 President’s
Summit and Spring Municipal Leaders Caucus.
CARRIED

9.1.1 2024 Emergency Services Annual Report

032 2501 27 MOVED by Deputy Mayor Papworth to accept the Emergency Services Annual Report.
CARRIED

10.0 CORRESPONDENCE

10.1 Health Professional Attraction and Retention Committee Meeting Minutes – 7th October, 2024

033 2501 27 MOVED by Councillor Neels to receive and file Health Professional Attraction and Retention Committee meeting minutes.
CARRIED

10.2 Health Professional Attraction and Retention Committee Meeting Minutes – 2nd December, 2024

034 2501 27 MOVED by Councillor Feist to receive and file meeting minutes.
CARRIED

10.3 Leslie Martin – Bee Hive Child Care Centre Tour Invitation

035 2501 27 MOVED by Mayor Moore that Council will meet with Leslie Martin at Bee Hive Child Care Centre on February 10th, 2025 at 5:30PM for a tour of the facility.
CARRIED

10.4 Natural Resource Conservation Board – Vanden Dool Farms – Manure Storage Application Notification

036 2501 27 MOVED by Mayor Moore to direct Administration to contact the Natural Resources Conservation Board to express that the Town of Picture Butte is not in favour of approving the application for the manure storage facility on the NW 10-11-21 W4M.
CARRIED

11.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

11.1 Oldman River Regional Services Commission – Executive Meeting Minutes – 14 November, 2024.

037 2501 27 MOVED by Councillor Neels to receive and file Old Man River Regional Services Commission – Executive meeting minutes.
CARRIED

12.0 CLOSED SESSION

12.1 FOIP Act Division 2 Section 21 – Funding for Piyami Lodge

038 2501 27 MOVED by Deputy Mayor Papworth to close the meeting to the public in accordance with Division 2 Section 21 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act to discuss funding for Piyami Lodge at 7:31 p.m.
CARRIED

039 2501 27 MOVED by Councillor Neels to open the meeting to the public at 7:44 p.m.
CARRIED

CARRIED

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

041 2501 27 MOVED by Deputy Mayor Papworth that the Regular Council Meeting adjourn at 7:45 p.m.

CARRIED

Keith Davis
Chief Administrative Officer

January 30, 2025

Town of Picture Butte

Mayor and Council

PO Box 670

Dear Councillors:

The Walk on the Wildside society [WOWS] is working on the next stage of the walking path around the Picture Butte reservoir. Since the LNID has completed a canal around the north end of the lake, we see an opportunity to extend the path for the enjoyment of residents and visitors.

To achieve this, we need to install a bridge crossing just east of the canal diversion and begin development of a path all the way to the intersection with highway 25. (diagram Schedule 1, 2,3)

To do this we are requesting the Town to extend the lease agreement with the LNID to include an eight-foot-wide lease on the south side of the new canal adjacent to the canal bank roadway.

An eight-foot-wide lease would allow the constructed material to settle, and in the future, we would install a gravel base and a hard surface six-foot-wide for walkers, cyclists and even wheelchairs. Until the hard surfacing is completed, the volunteers would mow and maintain the leased area.

We have area businesses commit to funding the bridge and provide support to hard surfacing the path over the next few years. The current hard surfaced path is very popular with residents and visitors. The current path includes a welcome arch, picnic tables, viewing scopes, information boards, benches, osprey nesting pole and a native species garden. Over time we would like to add similar amenities to the path extension.

In the meantime, we have a proposal to build a stair with a railing from the end of 4th street N to the gazebo. This would allow a safer approach to the walking path for people coming from main street.

We would build it with treated railway ties and the railing would be constructed with treated lumber. The stairs would not impact the integrity of the earthen embankment. Our preference is to build it along side the pump house. Diagrams, sketches and materials list can be provided by Yves Leclair. WOWS requests the permissions from Picture Butte town council to place professionally printed materials on the sides of the pumphouse. These would be on separate backing and can be removed when necessary. These murals would display the history of the trail, flora and fauna of the area, and appropriate pictures, printed by Friesen Plastics of Lethbridge. The berm area is steep, and these stairs would help give residents and visitors easier access to the walking trail. The murals would enhance the walking experience. (Schedules 4,5,6)

Your attention to this matter at would be greatly appreciated and allow us to start planning these projects this spring, all at Wows cost.

Thank you for your attention,

John Kolk

The Wows board

President: John Kolk -403-330-9479

Vice president: Norman Elashuk 403-732-4741

Secretary treasurer: Shirley Kiffiak 403-732-4082

Director: Yves Leclair 403-732-4082

Director: Ronni Svrcek 403-308-4399

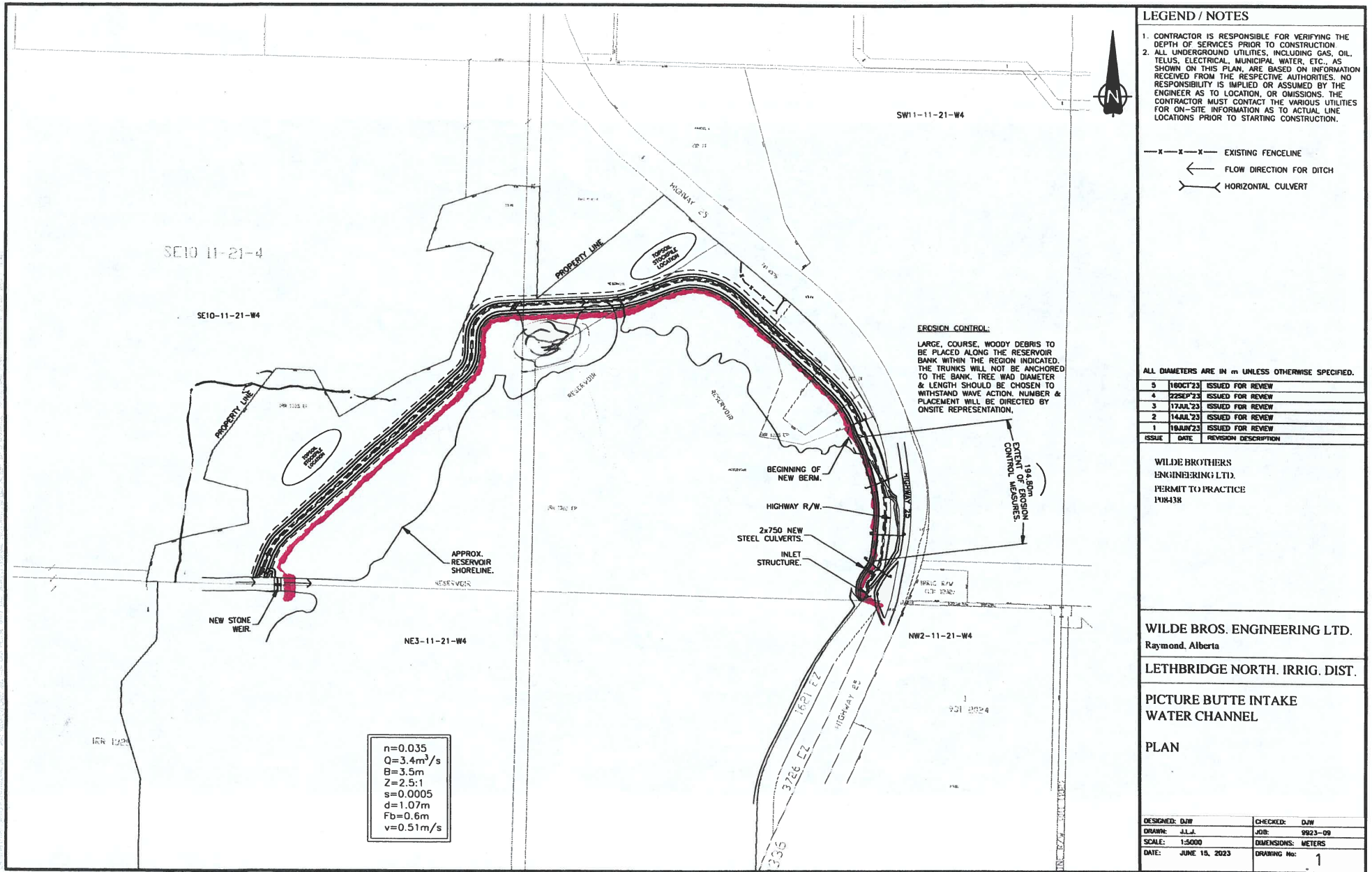


Imagery ©2025 Airbus, CNES / Airbus, Maxar Technologies, S. Alberta MD631s and Counties, Map data ©2025 Google 50 m

Walking Bridge.

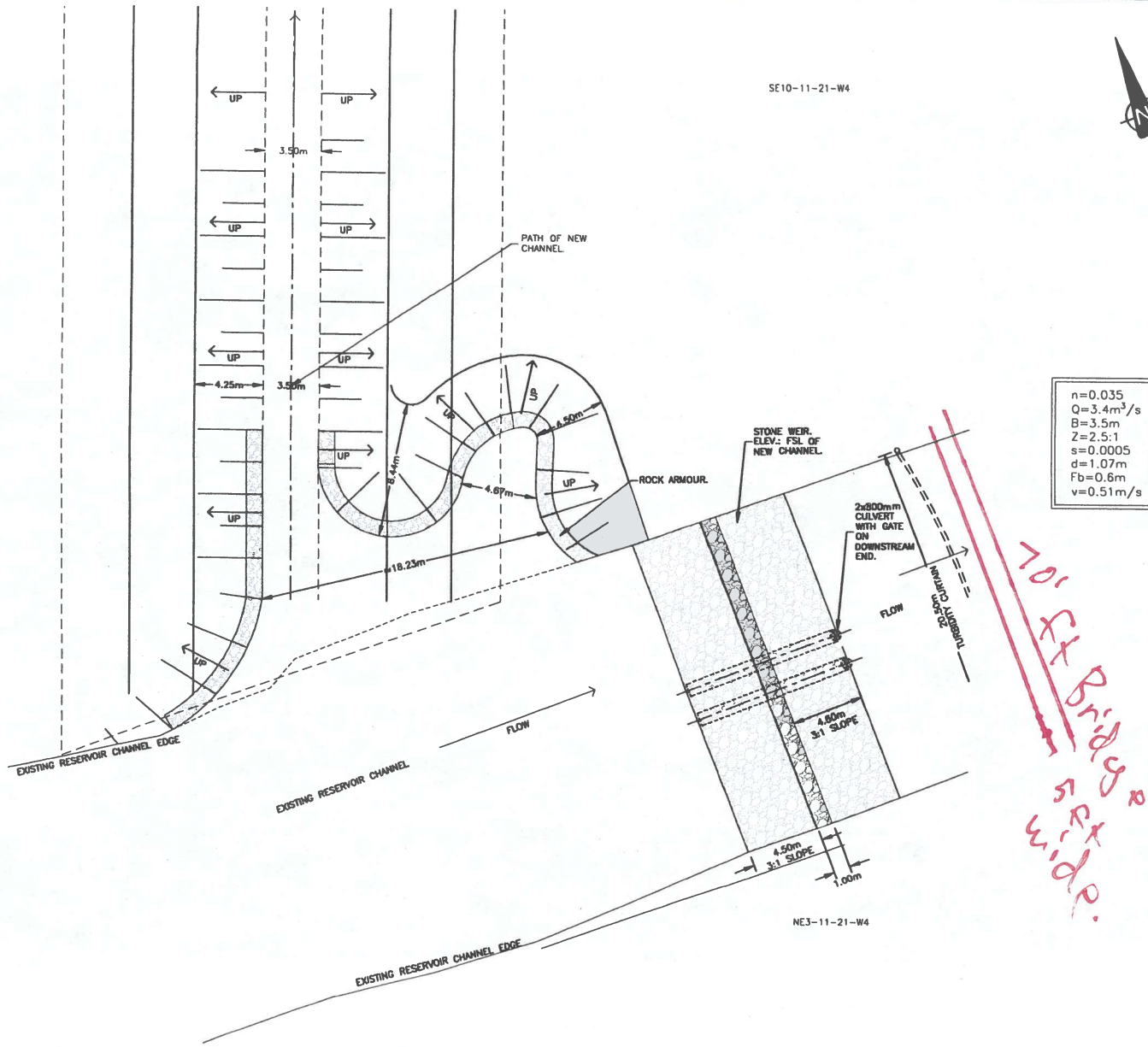
- New lease directly next to canal Bank

Schedule 2.



— proposed lease area for Path.
400 W/c

Schedule 3.



LEGEND / NOTES

1. CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR VERIFYING THE DEPTH OF SERVICES PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.
2. ALL UNDERGROUND UTILITIES, INCLUDING GAS, OIL, TELUS, ELECTRICAL, MUNICIPAL WATER, ETC., AS SHOWN ON THIS PLAN, ARE BASED ON INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM THE RESPECTIVE AUTHORITIES. NO RESPONSIBILITY IS IMPLIED OR ASSUMED BY THE ENGINEER AS TO LOCATION, OR OMISSIONS. THE CONTRACTOR MUST CONTACT THE VARIOUS UTILITIES FOR ON-SITE INFORMATION AS TO ACTUAL LINE LOCATIONS PRIOR TO STARTING CONSTRUCTION.

- x — x — x — EXISTING FENCELINE
- ← FLOW DIRECTION FOR DITCH
- > — HORIZONTAL CULVERT

ALL DIAMETERS ARE IN m UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.

ISSUE	DATE	REVISION DESCRIPTION
4	18OCT'23	ISSUED FOR REVIEW
3	19SEP'23	ISSUED FOR REVIEW
2	17JUL'23	ISSUED FOR REVIEW
1	14JUL'23	ISSUED FOR REVIEW

WILDE BROTHERS
ENGINEERING LTD.
PERMIT TO PRACTICE:
191843R

WILDE BROS. ENGINEERING LTD.
Raymond, Alberta

LETHBRIDGE NORTH. IRRIG. DIST.

PICTURE BUTTE INTAKE
WATER CHANNEL
PLAN DETAIL
NEW CHANNEL INTAKE

DESIGNED: DJW	CHECKED: DJW
DRAWN: J.L.J.	JOB: 9923-09
SCALE: 1:250	DIMENSIONS: METERS
DATE: JULY 8, 2023	DRAWING No: 4

PLAN-DETAIL
NEW DITCH
SCALE: 1:250

Google Maps

Picture Butte

Potential stairs off of 4th to pathway and gazebo

Schedule 4

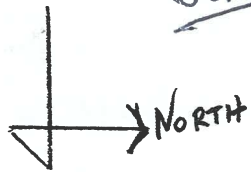


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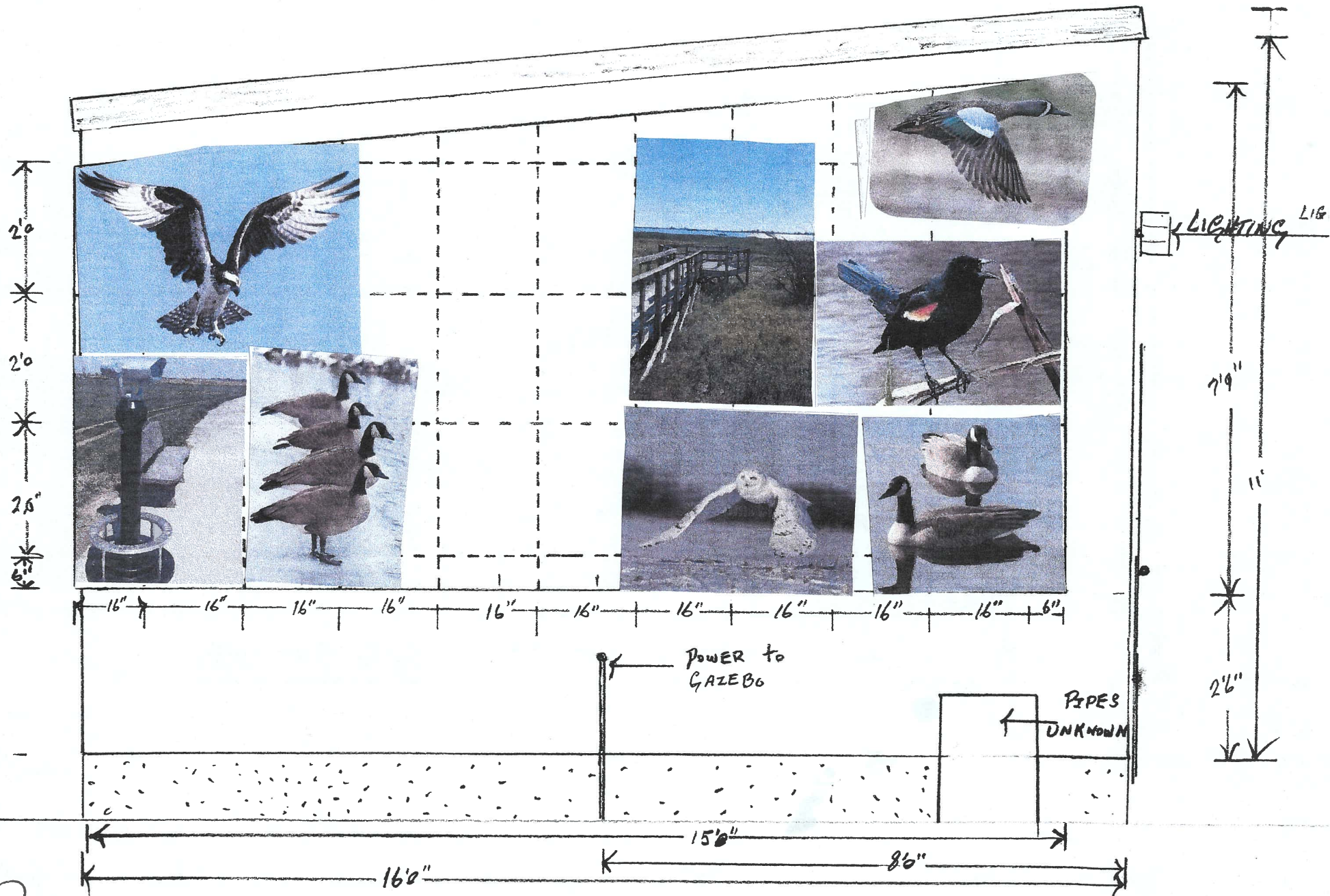
option.

preferred stairs
6' lift 9.5 stairs.

JOHN



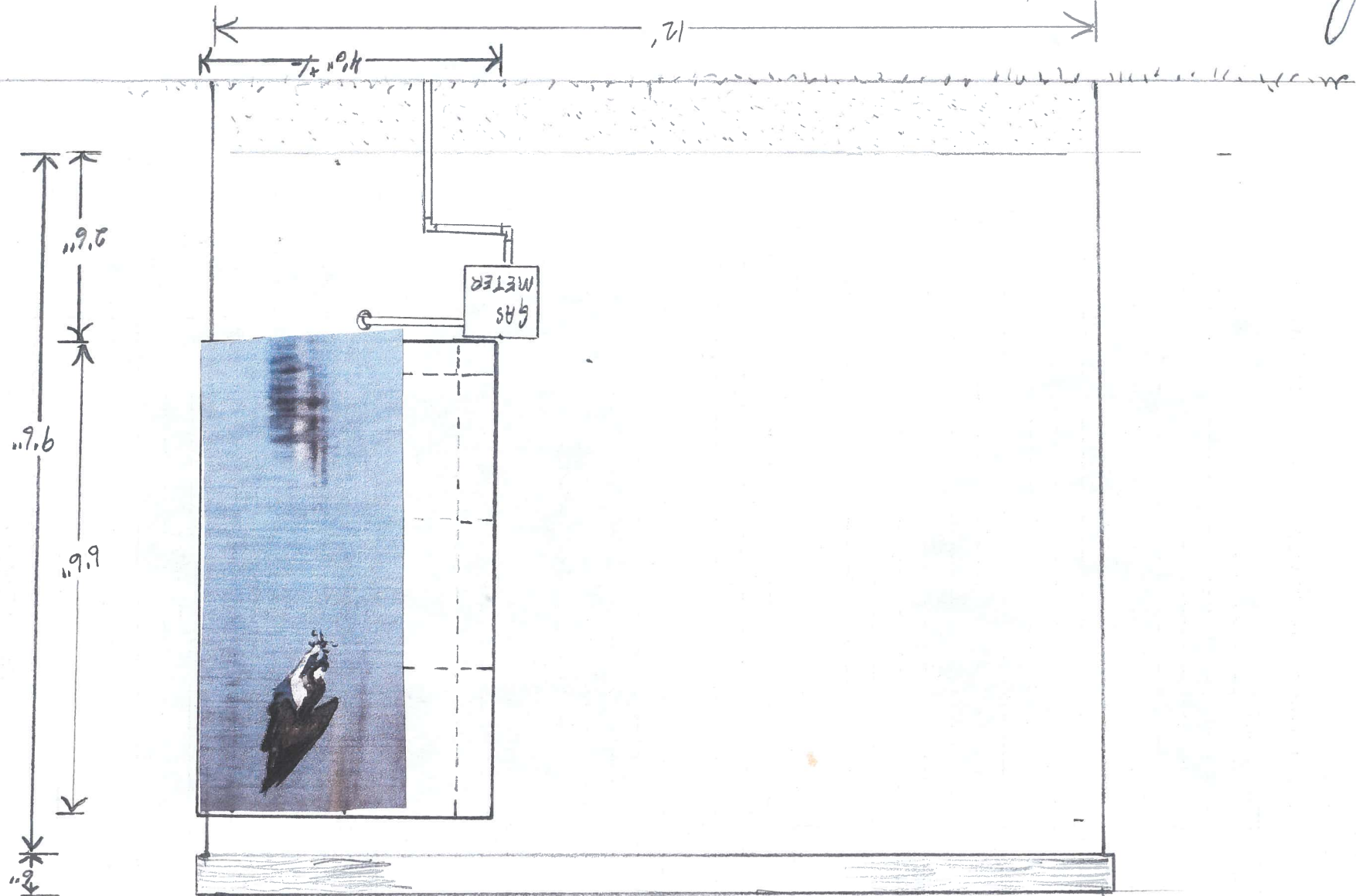
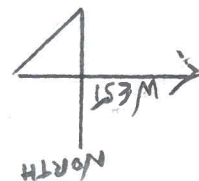
PAPERWORK to BE BROUGHT in to P.B. Town Office *Schedule 5*
BEFORE FEB 5 For FEB 10th TOWN MEETING.



Pump House EAST WALL

SCALE 1/2" = 1'

Schedule 6.





Request for Decision

Our Vision: *Picture Butte is the Community of Choice to work, live and play in Lethbridge County*

Our Mission: *Picture Butte is a thriving community dedicated to serving our people through fiscal responsibility and transparency.*

Date: February 4, 2025

To: Mayor, Council

From: Director of Parks And Recreation

Re: Waive Rental Fee

Background:

Craig Paskal, representing the Turin 4H club, has requested the following:

1. Waive the rental fee for their booking at the Arena on the 5th to 7th of June for a Show and Sale

The request for a waived rental rate for the booking should be considered in the context that the Turin 4H club donated \$5000 to the Town to sponsor public skating and public swimming for the 2025 seasons.

The daily rental rate is \$180 per day for a total of \$540.

Recommendation:

1. Waive the rental rate for the arena booking by the Turin 4H club.

Attachments:

1. Email from Craig Paskal with requests.

Submitted by: Curtis Van Dorp, Director of Parks and Recreation

Fees for Turin 4H club.



Craig Paskal <craigpaskal3@gmail.com>
To: Curtis Van Dorp

↩ Reply

↩ Reply All

→ Forward

⋮

Wed 2025-01-22 11:07 AM

Dear Council,

I am sending a request on behalf of the club, if it's possible to waive the fee's for the up coming 4H show and sale, June 5-7th. We are hoping to continue to support the community in many ways, like snow shovelling, continuing to support and sponsor public skating and swimming and any other ideas you as council might have coming up where you feel it might work where we could continue to support the clubs initiative of supporting community, recreation and causes that the whole community could enjoy or benefit from.

Thanks

Craig Paskal
Turin 4H club
Sent from my iPhone



Request for Decision

- Our Vision:** *Picture Butte is the Community of Choice to work, live and play in Lethbridge County*
- Our Mission:** *Picture Butte is a thriving community dedicated to serving our people through fiscal responsibility and transparency.*

Date: February 4, 2025
To: Mayor, Council
From: Director of Parks And Recreation

Re: Millenium Capsule Opening

Background:

The Millennium Capsule is scheduled to be opened as it has been 25 years since being sealed.

Option 1: Open Jamboree Days 2025, add new items and Re-Seal in 2025

Option 2: Open Jamboree Days 2025, display collected items, collect new items and re-seal the capsule as part of the Town's 100 year Celebration.

Recommendation:

1. My Recommendation is to open the Capsule on the Friday August 15th, 2025 as part of Jamboree Days Celebrations. After the opening ceremony we will then allow the items inside to be on display for a period of time. During the next year we will begin collecting new items from local schools and groups. An option for the closing ceremony is the Town will host a BBQ and Closing Ceremony for our 100 year celebration in 2026. The capsule can then be reopened in correlation with the Town's 125, 150 and 175 year celebrations.

Submitted by: Curtis Van Dorp, Director of Parks and Recreation



CAO Report

Our Vision: *Picture Butte is the Community of Choice to work, live and play in Lethbridge County*

Our Mission: *Picture Butte is a thriving community dedicated to serving our people through fiscal responsibility and transparency*

Date: 5th February, 2025

To: Mayor, Council

From: CAO

Wastewater Project

Submissions for responding to resident concerns has been submitted to Alberta Environment. An environmental impact study will be occurring when the weather is suitable.

Dr. Recruitment

Dr Edegbe will be taking appointments for his practice on the 29th of January and will begin patient consultations on the 5th of January. This has been advertised on Facebook. I am working with the Retention and Attraction Committee to plan for the event they have organised for the 29th of March to recognise the service retiring doctors have given and to welcome the new doctors coming to Town.

Municipal Development Plan

Kattie is working on the background information and is planning on arranging a meeting with the working group at the end of February.

Miscellaneous Items since last Council meeting

- I have been spending some time with Kristin orientating her on specific processes.
- Colin Clarke, was going to be our Water and Wastewater operator but notified us that he has to care for his family unexpectedly and can't take the position offered to him.
- We are readvertising for a Water and Wastewater Operator. I have also updated Lethbridge County and have a meeting with them this week to further discuss the services that they are providing.
- I participated in the FCSS interviews for their study.
- I participated in meetings with the Safety Codes officer in order to conduct a successful audit. We have not received the results of this audit as of yet.
- I met with Lethbridge County, Coalhurst and Nobleford CAO's to discuss the fire services agreement renewal. We have additional follow up meetings to complete this project.
- Frank and I met the new regional Emergency Management co-ordinator, Breea Tamminga, and discussed Picture Butte's emergency management requirements.
- I met with Councillor Feist and Eva Penner to discuss the Centennial Celebration Committee bylaw. Councillor Feist will be presenting it to the Committee for feedback and it will be presented to Council on the 24th of February.
- I have spent some time preparing for budget presentations for the next Committee of the Whole meeting.
- The Mayor and I have been registered for the Spring Caucus
- Hotels for the 2025 Alberta Municipalities convention have been booked in Calgary.
- A letter was sent to the NRCB opposing the proposed development of Vanden Dool farms.
- A letter was sent to Green Acres stating that the Town would make a financial commitment to the Piyami lodge as approved by Council.
- Another deposit was taken for a lot in Sunset Park Phase 2 (8 of 24). I also met with another individual and drafted up a purchase agreement for potentially another lot.

- I was off work for the 6th to the 10th of February.

HOLIDAY STATUS

Days in lieu used 21 hrs out of 70 hrs

Accrued Holidays 38 days

Submitted by: Keith Davis, CAO



Town of Picture Butte

Our Vision: Providing sustainable growth that results in a safe, vibrant and inclusive community while embracing our heritage.

Our Mission: By serving Picture Butte, Town Council will continually strive to ensure a thriving and vibrant community that improves the lives of Town Residents

Director of Recreation Monthly Report

February 10th, 2025

Current Parks & Recreation Activity

- **Parks Maintenance-** Outdoor arena currently being flooded. Snow removal, building checks to ensure furnaces are all operating properly.
- **North County Recreation Complex** – As per Minor Hockey request the Live Barn mic has been muted. Last tournament of the year finished no problems reported. Staff are doing clean up and minor repairs on the facility, secured walking path by bleachers, painted judo stairway, painted janitorial closets.
- **Cor Van Raay Aquatic Centre-** Budget prep, and preparation for 2025 season has begun.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receives, for information, the Director of Recreation report for February 10, 2025

Prepared by: Curtis Van Dorp
Respectfully presented to Council

Date: February 5, 2025
Date: February 10, 2025



St. Catherine's Home and School Association
c/o St. Catherine's School
Box 489 Picture Butte, Alberta T0K 1V0
Phone: (403)732-4359

JAN 24 2025

TOWN OF PICTURE BUTTE

January 1, 2025

Dear Sponsor: *Town of Picture Butte*

RE: ST. CATHERINE'S SCHOOL FUNDRAISING BANQUET AND AUCTION

St. Catherine's School is hosting their Eleventh Banquet and Silent Auction on **April 5th, 2025**.

Twenty four years ago, our parent council conceived a fundraiser in the form of a silent auction, live auction, and banquet. It was so successful, that we host it every other year. The event is a silent and live auction, games, banquet, raffle table, and door prizes. Each of the previous auctions has had a sellout audience, which boasts huge support for a small school of about 215 preschool through grade 9 students!

This year's Banquet and Auction will be held on April 5th, 2025. The main area of focus for funds raised will be used to supplement our annual budget in a variety of areas, such as:

- Backyard and school interior beautification with paint, trees, and lighting upgrades
- Healthy snacks and/or craft supplies for special days such as Terry Fox Run and School Family activities.
- Field Trips - transportation and admission costs for entire classes
- Guest Speakers to our school, such as Scientists in School, Science in Motion, Cultural Wheel, and Artists in Residence, and anti-bullying presentations as examples
- Hot Lunch program support (K-9)
- Physical Education & recess equipment
- Portable theatre lighting system
- Support for families experiencing difficulty with educational expenses and personal hardships
- Additional library resources such as books and technology
- Extra support for school functions such as: Academic Awards, Welcome Back BBQ, Gr. 9 Farewell, First Communion, BBQs for Sports Days, etc.
- Co-Curricular spending to reduce student fees for Athletics, School Clubs, and Team/Club Uniforms
- Support STEM resources (including chromebooks, 3D Printers, Spheroes, circuit boards, mBots, etc)
- Musical instruments, including guitars to support our music program
- Industrial microwaves to help students heat lunches safely
- For resources that would support our options programs (digital cameras, sewing machines, etc.)

We are looking for donations of goods and services to be auctioned. Any cash donations would also be greatly appreciated. As in the past, we anticipate a sell out with over 200 guests attending. This event will serve as a good advertising opportunity for our sponsors. Your name, alongside the other sponsors and donors, will be published in the local newspaper, school chronicle, posted the evening of and distributed to guests in the evening's program.

Thank you for your support of our school and community,

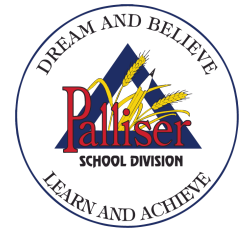
If you are able to contribute to our auction with a donation, please contact:

Amy Brecka
403-394-8786

Alyssa Murray
Donation Seeker
(403)360-4385
alyssa@jfmurray.ca

Marla Cote
Auction Chairperson
cotemjpk@gmail.com
(403)635-7091

Last auction Town of PB donated 4 season passes to the pool.



Help Shape the Future of Education with Palliser School Division

The Palliser School Division Board of Trustees is embarking on an exciting journey to shape the future of education for its students, staff, and communities. This year, the Board will continue developing a strategic vision that will guide the Division for the next four to five years. This thoughtful process is designed to assess the current state of the Division, realign priorities, and determine a clear, lasting impact that will benefit all stakeholders.

The Board's commitment to this vision underscores their dedication to ensuring that every Palliser student is supported in achieving their full potential. By evaluating the Division's strengths and addressing areas for improvement, the Board aims to create a unified roadmap that will guide decisions and inspire success across all schools. The process will also emphasize accountability, with clear goals and progress markers that keep the Division moving forward and celebrating milestones along the way.

To ensure that the strategic plan reflects the diverse needs of the Palliser community, the Board is inviting input from parents, caregivers, current students, graduates, staff, business leaders, and community partners. Engagement opportunities will include both in-person focus groups and online surveys, ensuring accessibility for all who wish to contribute.

The public engagement sessions have been scheduled across three locations with staggered times to provide greater scheduling flexibility and accommodate various needs.

- **February 12, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM:** Vulcan
- **February 13, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM:** Coalhurst
- **February 13, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM:** Coaldale

[Sign up for in-person collaboration sessions](#)

Seating is limited; invitations will be sent on February 4th, 2025

In addition to these in-person sessions, online surveys will be shared soon to gather even broader feedback. The Board encourages everyone in the community to participate and help shape the strategic direction of the Division.

[Complete our community survey here](#)

The Board thanks all participants for their important role in shaping the future of education in Palliser School Division.



Shape the future of education by
sharing your voice in these roundtable
discussions:

February 12, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM: County Central High
School, Vulcan

February 13, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM: Coalhurst Elementary
School, Coalhurst

February 13, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM: Jennie Emery School,
Coaldale

Keith Davis

From: Candice Robison <crobison@lethcounty.ca>
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2025 6:26 PM
To: Kalen Hastings; Joseph Hutter; Karlene Betteridge; Murray Millward; Keith Davis
Subject: ACP Grant - Council Resolution

Good afternoon, Lethbridge County recently received notification that our application for the ACP grant has been approved. As you may recall from previous discussions, this grant will fund a study evaluating opportunities to improve irrigation water delivery practices to enhance water supply availability for the region.

As part of the grant application requirements, supporting council resolutions from participating municipalities are still needed. We would appreciate confirmation on whether your municipality continues to support this initiative and if you are able to provide the necessary council resolution.

Please let me know at your earliest convenience. If any further information is needed, we would be happy to discuss.

Thank you for your consideration. We appreciate your support in advancing this important regional initiative.

Candice



Candice Robison

Executive Assistant, CAO & Council

P: 403.380.1585 **C:** 403.915-1127 **E:** crobison@lethcounty.ca

www.lethcounty.ca

In the true spirit of reconciliation, we acknowledge all those who call this land home now and for thousands of years in the past. May we respect each other and find understanding together and recognize the benefits that this land provides to all of us.

Keith Davis

From: Peter Casurella <peter.casurella@southgrow.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2025 10:19 AM
To: Peter Casurella
Subject: Invitation to the Southern Alberta Economic Summit

Dear Friends!

Make sure to get your tickets to the Southern Alberta Economic Summit on March 27th at the Agrifood Hub in Lethbridge. We've got an awesome lineup of speakers coming to talk about the issues, pain points and opportunities that matter to southern Albertans!

Share with your councils and and administrations and come out and join us for the day!

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/southern-alberta-economic-summit-2025-tickets-1058509342939?aff=oddtcreator>

Please note: if you cant afford to attend but really want to come, please reach out :)

Sincerely,



Peter Casurella
Executive Director

P: 403-394-0615

E: peter.casurella@southgrow.com

Subscribe to Our Newsletter!



Good Afternoon Everyone:

The RCMP's Open Government Office responsible for enterprise transparency needs your help! They have launched a public consultation on the [draft Strategic Plan for a RCMP Transparency and Trust Multi-Stakeholder Forum](#) and are looking for your feedback.

Your Call to Action

We are excited to share that our strategic plan for a RCMP Transparency and Trust Multi-Stakeholder Forum consultation is live on PlaceSpeak, an independent online engagement platform. This is an opportunity for you to be actively involved in our decision-making, helping us increase public trust and align with RCMP's mandates for transparency. The strategic plan provides context around the global, national, and organizational necessity of a consultation body, outlining the mandate, role, and next steps with the implementation of the RCMP's own Transparency and Trust Multi-Stakeholder Forum.

The consultation will last three weeks, where participants have until **February 14th, 2025**, to submit their feedback on the strategic plan. We look forward to hearing from you as your feedback will directly contribute to shaping the future of RCMP policy and governance instruments and more. Check out the consultation and participate here: [PlaceSpeak - Strategic Plan to Establish a RCMP Multi-Stakeholder Forum](#).

It is important to note that the RCMP is committed to hearing from you while protecting your privacy. This consultation will be done using a third-party vendor, [PlaceSpeak](#). PlaceSpeak is an independent engagement platform that verifies the participants are not AI generated users, ensuring that we are gaining meaningful feedback data from real voices in our Canadian communities. The platform prioritizes user security, safeguarding participants' personal information throughout the process.

Consultation Background:

In 2023, the RCMP published its first [RCMP Transparency and Trust Strategy and Action Plan](#) and have been working hard to advance our mandate and vision to create an open by default RCMP that is a more trusted, efficient, and responsive public safety department. Committed to [Canada's 5th National Action Plan on Open Government \(2022-24\)](#) and aligning with the [RCMP's renewed core values](#), we are dedicated to **Acting with Integrity** and **Taking Responsibility** by being transparent about our actions and decisions and holding ourselves accountable. The draft Transparency and Trust Multi-Stakeholder Forum Strategic Plan enables us to continuously involve the public in decision-making and increase public trust to further enhance transparency, integrity, participation, and accountability within the RCMP.

For more information or questions please do not hesitate to contact the Open Government Office at: EnterpriseTransparency-Transparenceauseindelorganisation@rcmp-grc.gc.ca. In addition, please refer to our **Questions and Answers** attached.

Thank you,

Public Consultation on the Draft Strategic Plan to establish a RCMP Transparency and Trust Multi-Stakeholder Forum

Questions and Answers

Q: Why is it important that I participate?

A: Public trust in policing is essential to ensure the RCMP is an organization that is more open, trusted, efficient, and responsive. We recognize that a key component in achieving these goals is community participation, including our responsibility to collaborate and reflect on community insights in the development of our policy instruments and governing bodies.

Q: When I log on to PlaceSpeak, is the RCMP collecting my private information?

A: No, the RCMP will not be collecting private information, but only opinions and ideas from members of the public who wish to participate in the consultation without any link to identifiable information. PlaceSpeak commits and is architected to segregate the private information you use to create your account from feedback that you provide in consultations.

For information on the RCMP's privacy practices, please contact:

[RCMP Access to Information and Privacy Branch](#)

atipb@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

Q: What will the RCMP do with my comments and feedback?

A: Your valuable comments and feedback will be used to guide draft policies, programs, and services of the RCMP. We will keep communities informed on decisions and recommendations made promptly through this consultation on our RCMP web page (coming soon).

Q: How long will the RCMP keep my comments and feedback?

A: At minimum, the RCMP will retain comments and feedback obtained through the public consultation tool in accordance with the retention period set out for the type of document under review.

Q: Do I have to register with PlaceSpeak to provide my comments?

A: Yes, it is a requirement to identify that participants are actual people from a Canadian community. PlaceSpeak's key purpose is to connect you with proponents of consultation in your area that require

verification that you reside within specific boundaries. Private information is never shared with, or displayed to, other visitors or users of the site. PlaceSpeak provides preferences for you to control how your private information is shared on the site and who can see your residential location.

Q: Who is leading this work in the RCMP?

A: In 2021 the RCMP created an Open Government and Data Governance directorate, dedicating full-time resources to the advancement of Open Government at the RCMP. At its core, the Open Government and Data Governance directorate's work is to advance our collective efforts of enhancing trust in our data (Data and Information Governance) and trust in our organization (Open Government / Enterprise Transparency). Transparency at the RCMP, enabled by an Open Government / Enterprise Transparency approach, offers up opportunities to enhance accountability, foster trust, drive innovation and change, enhance services and policies, foster evidence-based decision making, nurture community policing and become a more efficient and responsive public safety organization as a whole.

Q: Who do I contact if I am having issues with the consultation tool?

A: PlaceSpeak provides access to a direct messaging chat box to ask your questions. In addition, you can send your questions through the Contact Us page, by email to info@placespeak.com or by phone at 1-844-907-6977.

Q: What is the purpose of the Transparency and Trust Multi-Stakeholder Strategic Plan?

A: As committed in [Canada's 5th National Action Plan on Open Government](#), the RCMP has developed a draft strategic plan to establish its own Transparency and Trust Multi-Stakeholder Forum. The strategic plan provides readers with context around the global, national, and organizational necessity of a consultation body. It outlines the mandate, role, and next steps in its implementation.