



AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING OF PICTURE BUTTE TOWN COUNCIL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Monday, January 23rd, 2023 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 – 19th December, 2022

4.0 PUBLIC HEARING

4.1 Bylaw No. 931-21 Land Use Bylaw No. 841-15 Amendment – Temporary Shipping Containers

5.0 DELEGATION

6.0 REQUESTS FOR DECISION

6.1 Bylaw No. 931-21 Land Use Bylaw No. 841-15 Amendment – Temporary Shipping Containers

7.0 MAYOR'S REPORT

8.0 COUNCIL'S REPORT

9.0 ADMINISTRATION'S REPORT

9.1 CAO Report
9.1.1 Emergency Services Report

10.0 CORRESPONDENCE

10.1 Picture Butte & District Chamber of Commerce – Best of Butte Awards Sponsorship Request
10.2 Prairies Economic Development Canada - Invitation
10.3 Village of Barons – New Chief Administrative Officer

11.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- 11.1 Picture Butte & District Chamber of Commerce – November 10, 2022 Meeting Minutes
- 11.2 Picture Butte & District Chamber of Commerce – Society Bylaws
- 11.3 Letter to Minister Copping – Alberta Ambulance Service
- 11.4 Oldman River Regional Services Commission – Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – January 12, 2023
- 11.5 Alberta Health – Healthcare Improvement Update – December, 2022
- 11.6 Oldman River Regional Services Commission – Regular Meeting Minutes – December, 2022
- 11.7 Alberta Health Services Interim President and CEO – Update
- 11.8 Chinook Arch Regional Library System – Board Report – December, 2022
- 11.9 Assessment Review Board Decision – December, 2022

12.0 CLOSED SESSION

- 12.1 FOIP Act Division 2 Section 19 – Water Wastewater Operator Wages

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES
OF THE
PICTURE BUTTE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Monday, December 19th, 2022 AT 6:30 PM

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

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

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Moore the Regular Council Meeting to order at 6:58 p.m.

2.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

362 2212 19 MOVED by Councillor Feist that the agenda be approved as presented.
CARRIED

3.0 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

3.1 Regular Council Meeting – December 12th, 2022

363 2212 19 MOVED by Councillor Thomson that the Regular Council Meeting minutes of
December 12th, 2022 be approved as presented.
CARRIED

4.0 PUBLIC HEARING – None for this meeting

5.0 DELEGATION – None for this meeting

6.0 REQUESTS FOR DECISION

6.1 Outdoor Arena

364 2212 19 MOVED by Councillor Papworth to receive and file 6.1 Request for Decision
– Outdoor Arena.
CARRIED

7.0 MAYOR'S REPORT

7.1 Mayor's Report

Mayor Moore advised Council on her recent activities:
December 14 Attended a Community Futures meeting

365 2212 19 MOVED by Mayor Moore that the Mayor's Report be accepted as presented.
CARRIED

8.0 COUNCIL'S REPORT

8.1 Council's Report

Deputy Mayor de Kok advised Council of his recent activities:
December 15 Attended a SouthGrow meeting

Councillor Feist advised Council that she had no recent activities.

Councillor Papworth advised Council of her recent activities:
December 13 Attended the Blue Sky Lodge Green Acres Christmas
Dinner

Councillor Thomson advised Council of his recent activities:
December 16 Attended the Interfaith Food Bank Food Drive at St.
 Catherine's Church

366 2212 19 MOVED by Councillor Feist that the Council Reports be accepted as presented.
CARRIED

9.0 ADMINISTRATION'S REPORT

9.1 CAO Report

367 2212 19 MOVED by Councillor Thomson to accept the CAO Report as presented.
CARRIED

9.1.1 Director of Emergency Services Report

368 2212 19 MOVED by Deputy Mayor de Kok to accept the Director of Emergency Services Report as presented.
CARRIED

10.0 CORRESPONDENCE

10.1 Community Foundation Lethbridge and Southwestern Alberta – Grant Agreement – Walk on the Wildside

369 2212 19 MOVED by Councillor Feist to receive and file Correspondence 10.1 Community Foundation Lethbridge and Southwestern Alberta – Grant Agreement – Walk on the Wildside.
CARRIED

11.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- 11.1 City of Camrose – Season's Greetings
- 11.2 Town of Coaldale – Christmas Greetings
- 11.3 Letter of Support for Southern Alberta Energy from Waste Association's Alberta Community Partnership Funding Program Application
- 11.4 Town of Taber – Holiday Greetings

370 2212 19 MOVED by Councillor Papworth to receive and file Informational Item 11.1 – 11.4.
CARRIED

12.0 CLOSED SESSION

12.1 FOIP Act Division 2 Section 19 – Step 3 CUPE Grievances

371 2212 19 MOVED by Councillor Papworth to close the meeting in accordance with Division 2 Section 19 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act to discuss Step 3 CUPE Grievances at 7:16 p.m.
CARRIED

372 2212 19 MOVED by Councillor Papworth to open the meeting to the public at 7:20 p.m.
CARRIED

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

The next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for January 9th, 2023 beginning at 6:30 p.m.

373 2212 19

MOVED by Councillor Feist that the Regular Council Meeting adjourn at 7:21p.m.

CARRIED

Mayor Moore

Keith Davis
Chief Administrative Officer



Memorandum

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: 19 January 2023

To: Mayor, Council

From: CAO

Re: Bylaw No. 931-22 Land Use Bylaw No. 841-15 Amendment – Temporary Shipping Containers

Background:

On the 28th of November, 2022 Bylaw No. 931-22 Land Use Bylaw No. 841-15 Amendment – Temporary Shipping Containers was presented to Council and received first reading. The attached public open house notice was advertised in the SunnySouth Newspaper in 3rd and 10th of January editions.

I have not received any written submission in favour or opposed to the proposed bylaw. I have also not received any requests from the public to speak in opposition or in favour of the proposed bylaw.

At the public hearing Council must hear from anyone that is in attendance that would like to speak in favour or in opposition to the proposed bylaw. If there is no one to speak to the proposed bylaw the public hearing can be closed.

After the public hearing is closed and this item is addressed in Council meeting, Council can proceed with second and third reading if they would like.

This bylaw amends the land use bylaw to make Temporary Shipping Containers permitted uses in residential areas. Temporary shipping containers used for emergency mitigation efforts such as floods or fires do not require a development permit and are allowed up to a 6 month period.

Shipping containers used for the temporary storage of goods for renovations or other work not associated with an emergency fire or flood do require development permits and are approved by the Development officer.

Attachments:

- Bylaw No. 931-22
- Schedule A – Amendments to Land Use Bylaw No. 841-15
- Public Open House Advertisement

Submitted by: Keith Davis, CAO

**TOWN OF PICTURE BUTTE
IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
BYLAW NO. 931-22**

BEING a bylaw of the Town of Picture Butte in the Province of Alberta, to amend Bylaw No. 841-15 being the municipal Land Use Bylaw.

WHEREAS the Council of the Town of Picture Butte desires to amend the regulations and criteria of shipping containers (c-containers or sea containers) being used for temporary purposes and time periods within specific land use districts of the municipality, as described in Schedule A.

AND WHEREAS the general purpose of the proposed amendment is to address the following:

- Remove from all land use districts “Temporary shipping container” where it is listed as a Discretionary Use Type B, and add to all land use districts, with the exception of Direct Control, the use “Temporary shipping container” as a Permitted Use.
- Amend Part 3, Development Not Requiring a Development Permit, to add “Temporary shipping container” as a use that does not require a development permit if it is needed to temporarily accommodate the storage of goods where a building has been damaged in a fire or flood if the time period does not exceed 6-months.
- Amend Part 4, Standards of Development, Section 40 of the land use bylaw, specific standards and regulations applicable to Shipping Containers (temporary), by replacing subsection (4) of Section 40 to deal with temporary emergency situations (fire and flood of buildings), and add a new subsection (5) to outline criteria for non-emergency situations and construction sites, as described in Schedule A.

AND WHEREAS the bylaw must be adopted in accordance with section 692 of the Municipal Government Act and the public hearing requirements.

NOW THEREFORE, under the authority and subject to the provisions of the Municipal Government Act, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter M-26 as amended, the Council of the Town of Picture Butte, in the Province of Alberta, duly assembled does hereby enact the following:

1. Bylaw No. 841-15 being the Land Use Bylaw, is hereby amended by Bylaw 931-22 to include the Shipping containers (temporary) amendments as described in the attached Schedule A.
2. Bylaw No. 931-22 shall come into effect upon third and final reading thereof.
3. Bylaw No. 931-22 is hereby adopted.

READ a **first** time this 28th day of November, 2022.

Mayor - Cathy Moore

Chief Administrative Officer - Keith Davis

READ a **second** time this ____th day of December, 2022.

Mayor - Cathy Moore

Chief Administrative Officer - Keith Davis

READ a **third** time and finally PASSED this ____th day of December, 2022.

Mayor - Cathy Moore

Chief Administrative Officer - Keith Davis

SCHEDULE A

Amendments to Land Use Bylaw No. 841-15 (by amending Bylaw No. 931-22)

Amend and Remove from all land use districts where it is listed as a use:

“Temporary shipping container” as a Discretionary Use Type B.

Amend and Add to all land use districts, with the exception of Direct Control, the uses:

“Temporary shipping container” as a Permitted Use.

Permitted Use
Temporary shipping container - see Part 3, No Development Permit Required and Part 4, section 40

Amend Part 3, Development Not Requiring a Development Permit

Add clause no. 6 text that states the following: Temporary shipping intermodal containers (c-containers or sea containers) that are needed to temporarily accommodate the storage of goods where a building has been damaged in a fire or flood do not need a development permit if the time period does not exceed 6-months from the time of placement on the property. (To exceed the 6-month period or for other types of temporary shipping containers, including those for interior renovations that are not associated with a situation where a building has been damaged in a fire or flood, do require a development permit, refer to Part 4, Section 40).

Renumber text: Part 3 existing clauses 6 and 7 shall be renumbered sequentially following the insertion of new number 6, to become numbers 7 and 8.

Amend Part 4, Standards of Development, Section 40:

Delete in its entirety existing subsection (4) of Section 40 and **replace** with the following text and standards:

- (4) A shipping container (c-container or sea container) placed temporarily on a property in the case of an emergency to temporarily accommodate the storage of goods where a dwelling or building has been damaged in a fire or flood in conjunction with salvation and renovation work being done to a building, does not need a development permit (refer to Part 3) subject to the following provisions:
 - (a) Temporary shipping containers associated with situations of fire or flood remediation do not need a development permit if the time period does not exceed 6-months. If additional time is required beyond the 6-months a development permit application must be applied for and approved by the Municipal Planning Commission.
 - (b) Temporary shipping containers for fire or flood remediation without a development permit being required may only be placed on a property in any land use district where it is listed as a permitted use;
 - (c) only one Temporary shipping container shall be placed on a property in any land use district at any one time unless otherwise authorized by the Development Authority;
 - (d) the shipping container associated with situations of fire or flood remediation shall be removed as soon as possible, but for a period not to exceed 14 days, upon completion of remediation work or construction or as may be required by the Development Authority;

- (e) the shipping container shall be sited entirely on the property and shall not encroach over property lines or municipal streets, lanes or sidewalks.

Add to Section 40 a new subsection (5) with the following text and standards:

- (5) A shipping (intermodal) container needed for the temporary storage of goods related to interior renovations that are not associated with a situation where a building has been damaged in a fire or flood, or is placed temporarily on a construction site for the period of construction, do require a development permit and are subject to the following provisions and standards:
 - (a) a temporary shipping container may only be placed on a property in any land use district where it is listed as a permitted use;
 - (b) the applicant must apply for and be approved for a development permit for a temporary use of a shipping container where it is to temporarily accommodate the storage of goods or materials;
 - (c) the Development Officer is authorized to issue a development permit for a permitted use with a maximum time period not to exceed 6-months. If additional time is required beyond the 6-months, a development permit application must be applied for and approved by the Municipal Planning Commission (MPC). The MPC shall stipulate the maximum time period it approves the temporary shipping container to be placed on the property beyond 6-months;
 - (d) the construction site must be active (i.e., construction has commenced, is on-going, or is about to commence within one week), as the placement of a temporary shipping container on an inactive construction site is prohibited;
 - (e) the shipping container shall be removed within 21 days upon completion of construction or sooner as may be required by the Development Authority;
 - (f) setbacks for a temporary shipping container shall be as required by the Development Authority and the container shall be located such that it does not encroach over property lines or into municipal streets, lanes or sidewalks;
 - (g) no advertising, other than the logo, name or information of the shipping (intermodal) container company or business supplying the container, is permitted to be displayed on the temporary shipping container;
 - (h) the Development Officer or Municipal Planning Commission may require at their discretion the provision of a security deposit by the applicant, to ensure the conditions of the development permit are met including the removal of the container at the end of the allowed for time period.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TOWN OF PICTURE BUTTE
IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

PROPOSED BYLAW No. 931-22

To be held at 6:30 p.m., January 23rd, 2023
Town Of Picture Butte Council Chambers

PURSUANT to the Municipal Government Act, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter M-26 as amended, the Council of the Town of Picture Butte in the Province of Alberta hereby gives notice of its intention to consider Bylaw No. 931-22, being an amendment to Land Use Bylaw No. 841-15.

THE PURPOSE of the Proposed Bylaw No. 931-22 is to amend and streamline the regulations and criteria for temporary shipping containers (c-containers or sea containers) being used for temporary purposes of the storage of goods in situations of emergency (fire & flood) and construction or renovation work. The Town desires to simplify and expediate the process to legally place and use a shipping container on a property in emergency situations. The main elements of the proposed amendments are to address the following:

- Remove from all land use districts "Temporary shipping container" where it is listed as a Discretionary Use Type B, and add to all land use districts, with the exception of Direct Control, the use "Temporary shipping container" as a Permitted Use.
- Amend Part 3, Development Not Requiring a Development Permit section of the land use bylaw, to add "Temporary shipping container" as a use that does not require a development permit if it is needed to temporarily accommodate the storage of goods where a building has been damaged in a fire or flood if the time period does not exceed 6-months.
- Amend the land use bylaw specific standards and regulations applicable to Shipping Containers (temporary), by amending Part 4, Standards of Development, Section 40(4) to deal with the temporary emergency situations (fire and flood of buildings), and add a new subsection (5) to outline criteria for non-emergency situations and construction sites, as described in Schedule A.

THEREFORE, TAKE NOTICE THAT a public hearing to consider the proposed Bylaw No. 931-22 will be held in the Town of Picture Butte Council Chambers at 6:30 p.m. on January 23rd, 2023.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE THAT anyone wishing to make a presentation regarding the proposed bylaw should, in writing, notify the Municipal Administrator of the Town of Picture Butte no later than 4:00 p.m., on January 23rd, 2023. Both written and/or verbal presentations may be made to council at the public hearing.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE THAT a copy of the complete proposed bylaw (Schedule A) may be inspected at the Town of Picture Butte office during normal business hours.

DATED at the Town of Picture Butte in the province of Alberta this 20th day of December, 2022.

Keith Davis
Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Picture Butte
Box 488
Picture Butte, Alberta



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: 19 January, 2023
To: Mayor, Council
From: CAO

Wastewater Approval Requirements

The completed application is with Alberta Environment. A grant application is with Alberta Transportation. We now have to wait for the Provincial bodies to notify us of next steps.

Sanitary Main Upgrade – Phase 2

There are a few deficiencies that need completing with this project. We are working with the engineers to have them completed.

Staffing

We are currently advertising for a Water Wastewater operator, PW 1, and arena casual staff. With the two open positions in the public works department and medical leaves we are down to 2.5 staff members in the public works department. We have conducted interviews for the PW1 position and are looking at other ways to manage the work load for the staff in the public works department.

Miscellaneous Items

- A public open house for Phase 2 of Sunset Park has been scheduled for Wednesday the 25th of January between 4:00-7:00 p.m.
- I have been spending time on reorganising our electronic filing system.
- I have been working on budget presentations for Council's Committee of the Whole meeting in February.
- In January we received two deposits for lots in Sunset Park. If these sales proceed we will have 4 lots remaining. I have not entered into a contract with a real estate agent as lots are selling in our current arrangement. In my opinion when lots are selling we are saving the Town revenue. For example we have sold 5 lots in 2022 and the beginning of 2023. At an average of \$80,000 per lot real estate agent fees would amount to around \$16,000. I think the direction to engage a real estate agent could be relooked at especially with the Phase 2 pending.
- Tax arrears warning letters have been sent to property owners that have more than two years of taxes owing. We sent 11 letters.
- I applied for a Fortis grant for planting trees. The grant is for \$2500.

HOLIDAY STATUS

Days in lieu used 0 hrs out of 70 hrs

Accrued Holidays 20 days

Submitted by:
Keith Davis, CAO



Memorandum

- 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: January 20, 2023
To: Mayor, Council
From: Director of Emergency Services

RE: Emergency Services Report – December 2022

Year-to-Date Emergency Events (Jan-Dec)						
Fire		Medical		Motor Vehicle Collisions		Total
Town	County	Town	Other	Town	County	
25	102	300	768	1	28	1224

Fire Services

Fire crews responded to 29 events in December including 2 motor vehicle collisions, 1 tender assist, 1 structure fire, 1 hazardous materials event, and 24 medical emergencies. Our fire crews rang in the New Year on the scene of a residential structure fire in Lethbridge County marking the last response of another busy year. In total, fire crews responded to 311 events in 2022 which is only up slightly over last years 309 events.

Our firefighters all recertified in Ice Rescue this past month, spending a couple days out on the Picture Butte Reservoir. We maintain this rescue training to ensure our crews are ready to respond through the winter months should anyone fall through the ice on any one of the water bodies in our response district. This is another certification we are able to deliver in-house thanks to our certified Ice Rescue Instructor, Captain Justin Chronik.

The Fire Station Expansion capital project has been progressing on schedule with a projected completion of end of April. The wall panel and roof structure installation has been completed along with the new water and wastewater services. The next steps include completing the roof system installation and interior painting.



North wall progress



South wall progress



West wall progress



Interior view



Roof progress

Emergency Medical Services

Our EMS crews responded to 121 medical events in December with call volume for 2022 up 21% over 2021. December 2022 is the single busiest month for Picture Butte Emergency Services to date. Our crews are still dealing with a high number of calls for service and long-wait times at the emergency department at Chinook Regional Hospital. The province is continuing to implement

new initiatives from the Health Care Action Plan which we are hopeful will provide additional supports and resources to our EMS system.

Bylaw Services

Officer Mosby has been keeping up regular patrols of Picture Butte while also servicing Nobleford 2 days per month. Bylaw Services is focusing on sidewalk safety through the *Unightly Premises Bylaw* throughout the winter to ensure that sidewalks are maintained appropriately. Bylaw Services has issued several notices and cleanup orders so far this winter. Early indication from Officer Mosby is that sidewalk snow removal is much more compliant this year, the freeze-thaw weather has created many icy sidewalk situations that have been dealt with. There are currently 3 of the 10 allocated Urban Hen Licenses issued in town.

**December bylaw files not currently available due to IT issue*

2022 Bylaw Enforcement Files					
	September	October	November	Year-to-date Totals	Trend *Compared to 2021
Dog Control Bylaw	6	6	3	32 files	188% (17)
Traffic Bylaw	4	6	8	67 files	-2% (68)
Noise Bylaw	1	-	-	8 files	800% (1)
Unightly Premises Bylaw	6	-	7	140 files	4% (135)
Public Information	1	-	-	6 files	-72% (22)
Business License Bylaw	-	-	-	17 files	89% (9)
Animal Regulation	-	-	-	2 files	-66% (6)
Fire Protection Bylaw	-	-	-	3 files	-25% (4)
Utility Bylaw	-	2	-	3 files	300% (0)
Land Use Bylaw	-	-	-	-	-400% (4)
Urban Hen Bylaw	-	-	-	10 files	25% (8)
Total	18 files	14 files	18 files	280 files	2% (275)
Development Files	21 files	27 files	9 files	148 files	-22% (188)

Emergency Management

All 6 Councils from the communities involved in the regional emergency management agreement have expressed intent to proceed with drafting the agreement. The work of that agreement will continue following administration changes in a couple communities.

The provincial government announced a snap return of the Emergency Management Preparedness Program (EMPP) Grant on January 16, 2023 with a deadline for submissions on January 20, 2023. As an example of benefits of the regional collaboration, we were able to submit an application to run a multi-day full-scale exercise involving the region planned for spring 2024 if funded is approved.

Submitted by:

Frank West, *Director of Emergency Services*



Request for Decision

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.*

Date: 19th January, 2023
To: Mayor, Council
From: CAO

Re: Picture Butte and District Chamber of Commerce Best of Butte Awards

Background:

Picture Butte and District Chamber of Commerce is seeking sponsors for their Best of Butte Awards night. Council has historically approved a silver sponsorship package which costs \$100 and provides one ticket. This ticket historically has gone to the councillor appointed to the Chamber of Commerce if they are able to attend. Councillor Papworth is currently assigned to the Chamber of Commerce.

Recommendation:

To purchase a silver sponsorship package for the Picture Butte and District Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting and to allocate the ticket to a member of Council.

Submitted by:

Keith Davis,
CAO

Chantel Johnson

From: Picture Butte Chamber
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2023 1:37 PM
Subject: Best of Butte Awards
Attachments: Awards night 2023.jpg

It's that time of year again - the countdown to the Picture Butte and District Chamber of Commerce Best of Butte Awards. This year's event will be held on Feb. 11th At Coyote Flats – Kleeman Hall. Awards will be presented to seven award winners and Citizen of the Year Justin Chronik!

The Chamber is looking for sponsors for this evening. All those who participate in supporting the dinner will be recognized on a sponsor poster, on placemats at the tables, as well as being mentioned in the Sunny South News following the event.

Sponsorship levels are as follows:

Gold: \$200 - includes 2 dinner tickets

Silver: \$100 - includes 1 dinner ticket

Bronze: \$50

If you wish to sponsor our Best of Butte Awards night, please **reply to this email** or Contact Eva Penner at Co-operators before Feb. 4th.

I will send an invoice if requested and a receipt will be issued following payment.

Thank you in advance for your support - we couldn't do this without you!

The awards will take place Feb. 11 at Coyote Flats – Kleeman Hall, cocktails 6:00 followed by supper at 6:30. See the attached poster.

Regular tickets are available at Flare 'n Flowers and Uptown Café.

Hope to see you there!

Rita Palawaga
Office Administrator
Picture Butte and District Chamber of Commerce
Box 517
Picture Butte, AB T0K 1V0

Phone- 587-821-8544



Picture Butte & District Chamber of Commerce

BEST OF BUTTE

BUSINESS AWARDS & CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

February 11th, 2023

Kleeman Hall, Coyote Flats

Cocktails 6:00

Supper 6:30

TICKETS \$45

Tickets available at :



Flare 'n Flowers & Uptown Convenience

Call 587-821-8544

Email- chamber@picturebutte.ca



The Honourable Dan Vandal

Minister for PrairiesCan

Invites you to a news conference to outline details of a new
PrairiesCan service location and federal investments to
advance the Lethbridge economy

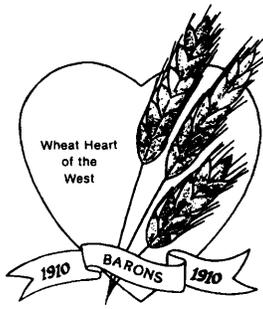
Date: Thursday, January 19, 2023

Time: 10:00 a.m. MT

Location: Galt Museum
502 1 Street South
Lethbridge, Alberta

For more information, please contact:

Brennan Bunko
Communications Advisor
PrairiesCan
brennan.bunko@prairiescan.gc.ca



VILLAGE OF BARONS
P.O. Box 129 Barons, Alberta T0L 0G0 Phone 403-757-3633

January 3, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Administrative Change

Please be advised that effective January 3, 2023, there is a change to the position of Administrator to the Village of Barons.

Ms. Jen Durell is the new Administrator for the Village of Barons effective immediately. Laurie Beck, previous Administrator will stay on with the Village until January 31st when she retires, to assist in the smooth transition in administration.

Ms. Durell's contact information is:

Box 129
Barons, Alberta
T0L 0G0
403-757-3633
403-757-2599 fax
barons@xplornet.com

Kindly amend your records to reflect this change.

Thank you,

VILLAGE OF BARONS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Laurie Beck", written in a cursive style.

Laurie Beck,
Asst. to the Administrator
Village of Barons



PICTURE BUTTE & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Regular Meeting

8:00 AM Eddies Cuisine & Pizza

Breakfast Menu with coffee - \$10.00 – Coffee \$2.00

AGENDA: Nov. 10, 2022

11 in attendance Michael Oliver, David Drysdale, Henry Heinen, Everett Tanis, Cynthia Papworth, Alina Stronks, Eva Penner, Christy Godlonton, Tony Kok, Gana Sargent, Rita Palawaga

CALL TO ORDER: Eva called the meeting to order at 8:02

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: moved by Everette and seconded by Christy

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: moved by Eva seconded by Dana

TREASURER'S REPORT: We are down about \$700.00 from last year at this time. We have talked about raising membership dues to help cover this. Move the report by Dana seconded by Cynthia

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letters from Town of Picture Butte advising Cynthia Papworth is our representative
Letter from County that Eric Van Essen is our county representative.

OLD BUSINESS:

Christmas Supper – Dec. 8 at the Cactus. One free ticket per Chamber membership Guests will be charged \$30.00 RSVP Dec. 1. Rita passed around information on the Christmas supper and asked those at the meeting to sign up if they are intending to attend.

Bylaws – Rita will send out to the membership for review before the next meeting in Jan. Revisions or questions should be sent to Eva Penner so they get revision before Jan. meeting so we can vote on them.

Radio Ads- The 5 businesses have come forward for the first month. The ad is not together yet but should be for Nov. 21. Monthly billing will take place and additional business are welcome to inquire for the upcoming months.

Letter for Piyami – Rita will write this letter in Jan. with the new minister of Minister of Seniors, Community and Social Services – Jeremy Nixon

NEW BUSINESS:

Business Awards – Survey Monkey/ deadline Nov. 30 there has been a very good response so far. Date for AGM Feb. 3 there was discussion about Survey Monkey and the number of times that it can be done. There doesn't seem to be a good answer for this. . It was mentioned that the name and phone number should be part of the survey. Definitely something to look in to for the future. Tony can print out paper copies if needed.

Veteran's Way Street sign – Tony has talked with Aaron Benson and he has found an extra sign so Tony will purchase one more and the send an invoice to The Veterans group. The Town will install the two new signs.

New – Dare Technology – Purolator has moved into the building known as The Hub. ATB Manage – has a new manager Bonnie Zachar will be taking over a permanent position now after having only part time managers for the past few years.

Commercial Garbage collection – Rita has started investigating Ram's inquiry if we could advocate on behalf of the businesses for a better garbage collection solution. I will follow up when Keith Davis is back. Aaron says the garbage truck is capable of lifting larger bins so that may be a solution.

Everette – made a motion that we invite the new businesses to the breakfast meeting to tell us what their business is. Christy says that we will be looking at the procedures for new businesses and business celebrations in the next year. The motion was not seconded.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. **Administration- Rita** – It has been busy with the activities of the Chamber business awards, Christmas Supper and upcoming AGM.
I have also been attending weekly ACC zoom meetings that has all sorts of information regarding business and Chambers. I am trying to sort out what is important and what is just general information. CEBA loan information seemed to be one of the topics being covered in regards to businesses that received loans and later found out they were not eligible. I also met with Leo Durand regarding Chamber Plan information and responsibilities of the Chamber to the plan. There may be more information regarding the plan at meetings and
2. **Merchants -Alina** Aline gave a brief report in Leanne's absence. Midnight Madness things are gearing up and there should be a letter asking for donations and advertisement for Midnight Madness coming up in the near future.
3. **Lethbridge Community Futures** – Troy Grainger – Not present
4. **Agriculture Society – Everett** the Ag Society will sponsor Santa at the Hub, which is the old theatre building. for midnight madness Dec. 2 2022. Santa will be giving a picture, packaged cookies, candy canes, ice scrapers and eggnog. There will also be a free raffle of 5 packs of beef valued at \$500.00 each.
5. **Lethbridge County – Eric Van Essen** was not present but he sent a report. The Public Works Winter Level of Service has been set, which outlines the snow and ice maintenance activities as well as priority roads in Lethbridge for the 2022- 23 winter season. Agricultural service board members at large appointed Ken Cole, Dan Chapman and Logan Miller as the Agricultural service Board Members-at-large. Council approved the first reading of Bylaw 20-018 which clarifies speed limits on County roads. A survey for the public to give feedback on speed limits is <https://whatshappening.lethcounty.ca/proposed-speed-limit-bylaw> available online at or by calling 403-328-5525 .
Council held their annual Organizational Meeting where members of Council are appointed to internal and external committees. The Reeve and Deputy Reeve were selected. Henry Heinen added to the report that the County donated 2,000,000.00 to the new building on the Exhibition Grounds in Lethbridge to be opened next spring
6. **Walk on the Wild Side (WOWS)** – Shirley was not present

7. **Intergovernmental Affairs** – Henry -Henry read the letter he sent to the Federal Boundaries Commission. The letter very well written asked that the commission to apply the old adage “If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it” and to “expend your boundary changing mental acuity elsewhere”. Henry also passed around some articles from Sunny South about some of the Picture Butte businesses.

According to the Sunny South News Nov. 1 there will be no compensation by the Town for the businesses affected by the reconstruction of 4th St. In Henry’s opinion, taxes should be waived for the month’s construction was underway. The taxing authority who contracted to have the 4th St. work done limited 2 businesses in particular. They were not being able to maximise the carrying of doing business to generate income to afford to pay the taxes. Cynthia had brought our previous suggestion at council but there was no action taken. 4thSt.looks great. That being said: the wider sidewalks mean more snow clearing for the businesses fronting the sidewalks and the narrowing of 4th St. and angle parking making it necessary at times for south bound traffic to cross the center line if trucks are not parked right to the curb.

Premier Danielle Smith won the election in the Brooks, Medicine Hat riding and now has a seat in the Legislature. The fall sitting will start on Nov. 29 and Smith will be sworn in then. Tues Nov.8 was Indigenous Remembrance Day and Fri. Nov.11 is National Remembrance Day Picture Butte celebration is at the Cenotaph at 10:45 am

USA mid term elections: Congress will probably see the house of Representatives revert back to Republicans and Senate might be retained by the Democrats. The big losers may be the Trump and his supporters according to the pundits.

Henry gave his notice that he will no longer be giving the Intergovernmental reports. Eva thanked him for his years of doing the report. His in-depth reports and colorful, eloquent language will be very much missed.

Everette had a few words to say about the timelines of the contractor. Last year the businesses were notified they would be with out access for 2 weeks in July

Tony made a motion that the Chamber write a letter that we write a letter to the Town requesting that the two businesses impacted by the 4th St. closure get a tax break. Henry suggested that the reduction be done by 1/12 for the months that they were closed. Henry also seconded that motion... no one opposed.

8. **Green Acres Foundation- David Drysdale** – Not too much going on this past moth. There are 47 items are available for silent auction from Nov. 1- Nov. 30 proceeds to the Residents Fund.
9. **Agricultural – Everett** – Curling has started so harvest must be done.
10. **Town of Picture Butte -Cynthia**
4th St. is finally done, narrowing the street has slowed the traffic and that was one of the objectives of the town. Thanks to WOSS and East Butte for the trees.

The Firehall expansion is underway. The Fire and Rescue Department are looking forward to the extra room this will provide to make their jobs easier to complete.

Coffee with a Cop was held at the Community/Senior Centre Nov. 9. 12 citizens including Mayor & Council and 4 RCMP members were in attendance. It was a good question and answer session. It was agreed that these get togethers will take place twice a year.

The Town is still looking for a Water/Waste Water Operator as well as Casual staff for the arena.

Our EMS crews responded to 88 medical events in September. Call volume for 2022 as of Sept. 30 is up 20% over 2021. Fire crews responded to 21 events in Sept.

Our Emergency Department hosted a Mass Casualty Incident Response Plan. There was a simulated school bus collision with extraction, treatment & transport of 15 simulated casualties. It was attended by Coaldale, Coalhurst & Nobleford departments.

11. **Education – Michael Oliver-** The High School is still hoping to establish partnerships with respect to the Farm Ed. Program. The Town has allowed the school to have 15 chickens. Funding for the greenhouse has been obtained and construction will begin in the spring. The school is looking for people to come join in the use of the gardens and greenhouse. There is an area of the school that could be used for a senior walking program.
1A girls Volleyball provincials will be held at the school Nov. 23-26. The school is appreciative of the support they have received for the banquet and they are excited about the "Taste of Picture Butte" theme, and want to thank the businesses that are working with them on this.
The high school was hoping they may find a spot to put up a table at Midnight Madness to showcase some of the culinary talents they are gaining this term.
Dorothy Dalglish wants to thank the businesses that helped with the Fall Gala it was a huge success. The school is very appreciative of the generous support they received.
DDS was also wondering if they might participate in the Midnight Madness event with perhaps a school choir doing a couple of numbers.
Both schools are looking for opportunities to partner with any business or individuals that would like to try a project or event they are looking to develop greater connections within the community. If you have ideas or would like to reach out to discuss options contact Mike Oliver or the school's administration.
12. **Prairie Tractor and Engine Society – Tony-** Representatives attended the Community Builders Awards where Coyote Flats won an award for non profit. These awards are given out by Rachael Thomas. Dec. 3 is the tentative date for the Small Business Christmas Party. Thurs. Dec. 9 at the Kleeman Hall is the wine and cheese celebration for volunteers at the Museum. The rental business is going well there are lots of things already booked for next year. The windows have been replaced from the hailstorm
13. Rita reminded everyone of the Library's Wine and Whiskey Survivor.
14. Guest(s) and Visitor(s)
15. Other Reports

ADJOURNMENT – 9:00am



PICTURE BUTTE & DISTRICT Chamber of Commerce Association

Society Bylaws

MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership fee, if any, in the society shall be determined, from time to time, by the members at a general meeting. Any person residing in Alberta, and being of the full age of 18 years, may become a member by a favourable vote passed by a majority of the members at a regular meeting of the society, and upon payment of the fee. Such voting shall be by ballot, unless the meeting by resolution otherwise decides. Any person under the age of 18 years may in the same manner become a member upon payment of half of the said fee.
2. Any member wishing to withdraw from membership may do so upon a notice in writing to the Board through its Secretary. If any member is in arrears for fees or assessments for any year, such member shall be automatically suspended at the expiration of six months from the end of such year and shall thereafter be entitled to no membership privileges or powers in the society until reinstated. Any member upon a majority vote of all members of the society in good standing may be expelled from membership for any cause which the society may deem reasonable.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

3. Board of Directors, Executive Committee or Board, shall mean the Board of Directors of the society.
4. The Board will consist of a President, one Vice-President, a Treasurer, a Secretary and up to three Directors at large, each elected at the Annual General Meeting and a Past President. No Board member, except for the Secretary and the Treasurer, will hold the same office.
5. The Board shall, subject to the bylaws or directions given it by majority vote at any meeting properly called and constituted, have full control and management of the affairs of the society, and meetings of the Board shall be held as often as may be required, but at least once every three months, and shall be called by the President. A special meeting may be called on the instructions of any two members provided they request the President in writing to call such meetings and state the business to be brought before the meeting. Meetings of the Board shall be called by 10 days notice in writing mailed to each member or by three days notice by email or telephone. Any four members shall constitute a quorum, and meetings shall be held without notice if a quorum of the Board is present, provided however, that any business transactions at such meeting shall be ratified at the next regularly called meeting of the Board; otherwise, they shall be null and void.
6. A person appointed or elected a director becomes a director if they were present at the meeting when being appointed or elected and did not refuse the appointment. They may also become a director if they were not present at the meeting but consented in writing to act as director before the appointment or election, or within ten days after the appointment or election, or if they acted as a director pursuant to the appointment or election.

7. Any director or officer, upon a majority vote of all members in good standing, may be removed from office or any cause which the society may deem reasonable.

8. Each director shall hold office for a term fixed of 2 years or until a successor has been elected and qualified. If termination is requested by a director, it must be so in writing with proper notice.

PRESIDENT

9. The position of President is to be filled by a member who has or is currently serving on the Board. He/she shall, when present, preside at all meetings of the society and of the Board. In his/her absence, the Vice-President shall preside at any such meetings. In the absence of both, a chairperson may be elected at the meeting to preside.

10. The President, with the Treasurer, will sign all papers and documents requiring signatures on behalf of the Board, unless someone else is designated by the Board.

VICE PRESIDENT

11. The position of Vice President will act in the absence of the President and in the absence of both directors, the members will appoint a temporary Chair.

12. The Vice President will have signing authority for all documents requiring signatures on behalf of the Board, unless someone else is designated by the Board.

SECRETARY

13. It shall be the duty of the secretary to attend all meetings of the society and of the Board, and to keep accurate minutes of the same. He/she shall have charge of the Seal of the society which whenever used shall be authenticated by the signature of the Secretary and the President, or, in the case of the death or inability of either to act, by the Vice-President. In case of the absence of the Secretary, his/her duties shall be discharged by such officer as may be appointed by the Board. The Secretary shall have charge of all the correspondence of the society and be under the direction of the President and the Board.

14. The Secretary shall also keep a record of all the members of the society and their addresses, send all notices of the various meetings as required, and collect and receive the annual dues or assessments levied by the society. Such monies shall be promptly turned over to the Treasurer for deposit in a Bank, Trust Company, Credit Union, or Treasury Branch as required.

TREASURER

15. The Treasurer shall receive all monies paid to the society and be responsible for the deposit of same in whatever Bank, Trust Company, Credit Union, or Treasury Branch the Board may order. He/she shall properly account for the funds of the society and keep such books as may be directed. He/she shall present a full detailed account of receipts and disbursements to the Board whenever requested and shall prepare for submission to the Annual Meeting a statement duly audited of the financial position of the society and submit a copy of same to the Secretary for the records of the society. The Office of the Secretary and Treasurer may be filled by one person if any annual meetings for the election of officers shall so decide.

16. Two signatures are required, from the Treasurer, President or Vice President, on any cheque drawn on a departmental bank account for any expenditures issued to a third party.

AUDITING

17. The books, accounts and records of the Secretary and Treasurer shall be audited at least once each year by a duly qualified accountant or by two members of the society elected for that purpose at the Annual Meeting. A complete and proper statement of the standing of the books for the previous year shall be submitted by such auditor at the Annual Meeting of the society. The fiscal year end of the society in each year shall be December 31.

18. The books and records of the society may be inspected by any member of the society at the Annual Meeting or at anytime upon giving reasonable notice and arranging a time satisfactory to the officer or officers having charge of same. Each member of the Board shall at all times have access to such books and records.

MEETINGS

19. This society shall hold an annual meeting on or before February 28th in each year, of which notice in writing to the last known address of each member shall be delivered in the mail 45 days prior to the date of the meeting. At this meeting there shall be elected a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, (or Secretary/Treasurer), and three directors. The officers and directors so elected shall form a Board and shall serve until their successors are elected and installed. Any vacancy occurring during the year shall be filled at the next meeting, provided it is so stated in the notice calling such meeting. Any member in good standing shall be eligible to any office in the society.

20. General meetings of the society may be called at any time by the Secretary upon the instructions of the President or Board by notice in writing to the last known address of each member, delivered in the mail eight days prior to the date of such meeting. A special meeting shall be called by the President or Secretary upon receipt of a petition signed by one-third of the members in good standing, setting forth the reasons for calling such meeting, which shall be by letter to the last known address of each member, delivered in the mail eight days prior to the meeting.

21. At any general meeting of the Members, at least ten members, which include three elected officials, will constitute a quorum. A majority of such quorum may do all things within the power of the Chamber.

VOTING

22. Any member who has not withdrawn from membership nor has been suspended nor expelled shall have the right to vote at any meeting of the society. Such votes must be made in person and not by proxy or otherwise.

REMUNERATION

23. Unless authorized at any meeting and after notice for same shall have been given, no officer, director, or member of the society shall receive any remuneration for his/her services.

BORROWING POWERS

24. For the purpose of carrying out its objects, the society may borrow or raise or secure the payment of money in such manner as it thinks fit, and in particular by the issue of debentures, but this power shall be exercised only under the authority of the society, and in no case shall debentures be issued without the sanction of a special resolution of the society.

BYLAWS

25. The Bylaws may be rescinded, altered, or added to by a "Special Resolution".

Date: October 25, 2022

January 12th, 2023

The Honourable Jason Copping
Minister of Health
204, 10800 – 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

VIA EMAIL health.minister@gov.ab.ca

Re: Ambulance Crisis

Dear Minister Copping:

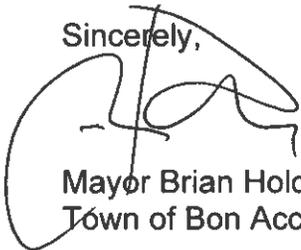
At the Regular Bon Accord Council Meeting on December 6, 2022, Council received a copy of correspondence from the Town of Ponoka to the Ministry of Health requesting support for their local fire department as first responders for emergency ambulance calls. Bon Accord Town Council fully stand with Ponoka in support of their request for better delivery of ambulance services across the province.

The incidents described in the letter show that ambulance service for rural Albertans is in severe crisis. What steps are being taken to remedy this detrimental situation for our communities? As Canadians, our section 7 Charter right to life, liberty, and security of person should be top priority. The current state of our ambulance service, or lack thereof, affirms instead that these rights hang in the balance.

These incidents, and others across the province, also show the value local fire departments bring to our communities. The lack of adequate ambulance service is placing unfair stress and expectations on volunteer firefighters and further putting the health and safety of Albertans in jeopardy.

These community volunteers and our communities deserve better. We hope your Ministry will make positive changes moving forward to uplift our communities during these difficult times.

Sincerely,



Mayor Brian Holden
Town of Bon Accord

cc: Premier Danielle Smith
Rachel Notley, Leader of the Opposition
Alberta Municipalities
Dale Nally, MLA – Morinville-St. Albert
Pat Mahoney, Fire Chief – Town of Bon Accord



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
November 10, 2022; 6:00 pm
ORRSC Conference Room (3105 - 16 Avenue North, Lethbridge)

The Executive Committee Meeting of the Oldman River Regional Services Commission was held on Thursday, November 10, 2022, at 6:00 pm, in the ORRSC Administration Building, as well as virtually via Zoom.

Attendance:

Executive Committee:

Don Anderberg, Vice Chair (Virtual)
Jesse Potrie
Brad Schlossberger (Virtual)
Neil Sieben (Virtual)

Staff:

Lenze Kuiper, Chief Administrative Officer
Raeanne Keer, Executive Assistant

Absent:

Gordon Wolstenholme, Chairman
Christopher Northcott

Vice Chair Anderberg called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Neil Sieben

THAT the Executive Committee approves the November 10, 2022 Executive Committee Meeting Agenda, as presented

CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes

Moved by: Brad Schlossberger

THAT the Executive Committee adopts the October 13, 2022 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, as presented.

CARRIED

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

4. New Business

a. Budget Discussion

L. Kuiper, CAO, presented the proposed 2023 Operating and Capital Budget to the Committee, highlighting an increase to membership fees, subdivision fees, and GIS fees, a 5% cost-of-living increase for staff due to rising inflation, and the purchase of a third staff vehicle in 2023. L. Kuiper noted that a vehicle was budgeted in 2020, but due to the pandemic restrictions it was not purchased at the time as it was not needed.

Moved by: Jesse Potrie

THAT the Executive Committee for the Oldman River Regional Services Commission recommends the Draft Budget for 2023 to the Board of Directors for approval, as presented.

CARRIED

b. Board of Directors Organizational Meeting & Executive Committee Elections – Thursday, December 1, 2022

L. Kuiper stated that the Organizational Meeting would be held on December 1, 2022 and that nomination forms were sent out for those who wish to let their name stand for the Executive Committee.

Don Anderberg verbally provided his nomination for Vice Chair.

Jesse Potrie, Brad Schlossberger, and Neil Sieben verbally provided their nominations for the Executive Committee.

c. Subdivision Activity

The Subdivision Activity to the month ending October 2022, was presented for information.

5. Accounts and Financial Statements

a. Office Accounts

Moved by: Neil Sieben

THAT the Executive Committee approve the Monthly Office Account for September 2022 and the Payments and Credits for August 2022.

CARRIED

b. Financial Statements

Moved by: Brad Schlossberger

THAT the Executive Committee approve the following Financial Statements:

- (i) Balance Sheet
 - As of September 30, 2022
- (ii) Comparative Income Statement
 - Actual to September 30, 2022
- (iii) Details of Account
 - As of September 30, 2022

CARRIED

6. New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

7. CAO Report

L. Kuiper provided his CAO Report to the Committee, highlighting the new periodical to be presented at the Board of Directors Meeting, recruitment update for upcoming vacant planning position, and a status update on the Assessment Appeal hearings.

8. Round Table Discussion

The Committee members reported on various projects and activities in their respective municipalities.

9. Next Meeting – January 12, 2023

10. Adjournment

Following all discussions, Vice Chair Anderberg adjourned the meeting, the time being 7:07 pm.



CHAIR



CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Healthcare Improvement Update

December 2022

Your Update from the Ministry of Health and Alberta Health Services

▼ MESSAGE FROM HEALTH MINISTER JASON COPPING

Bold steps necessary to ease healthcare pressures

There is no question the health system is under strain.

The reality is, patients are waiting too long for the care they need, despite the fantastic work of our doctors, nurses, paramedics and other frontline staff. We need action now and a sustainable plan to ensure these issues are permanently resolved.



JASON COPPING
Health Minister

That is why Premier Smith and I asked the part-time AHS board to step aside in November and appointed Dr. John Cowell

as the full-time Official Administrator. The board did great work and I extend my sincere gratitude for their service, but we need to drive change faster than a part-time Board normally could. Dr. Cowell brings urgent, efficient, effective, timely, and decisive leadership to improve productivity and healthcare outcomes. This is vital so that we can support the incredible work of our dedicated frontline healthcare workers.

Dr. Cowell will be focused on four main goals in AHS we desperately need addressed:

- Improve EMS response times;

(CONTINUED ON P. 2)



GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA photo

From left: Newly appointed Alberta Health Services official administrator Dr. John Cowell, Health Minister Jason Copping and Premier Danielle Smith announce reforms for AHS at a news conference on Nov. 17.

▼ MESSAGE FROM OFFICIAL ADMINISTRATOR DR. JOHN COWELL, INTERIM CEO MAURO CHIES

Support coming for EMS, EDs, surgery

Alberta has outstanding healthcare workers. We are all focused on improving care for Albertans.

As Official Administrator and Interim President and CEO, we are working together to address four priorities for AHS identified by Premier Danielle Smith and Health Minister Jason Copping.

They are: improving EMS response times; decreasing emergency department wait times; reducing wait times for surgeries; and developing long-term reforms through consultations with front-line workers.

The latter priority involves enhanced



DR. JOHN COWELL
Official Administrator



MAURO CHIES
Interim AHS CEO

decision-making at the local level, encouraging innovation to improve and expand local health services, and attracting more health workers to Alberta. We'll report back to Alberta on our progress.

It's worth noting much of this work is underway. In this Update, you can read about regional innovations

in Hinton, enabling the local health centre to provide orthopedic surgeries for residents in northern Alberta, and in Wetaskiwin, where eligible patients are receiving hospital-level care in their homes.

(CONTINUED ON P. 2)

▼ WORKFORCE RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

Daily visit cap policy ended

As part of the new agreement with the Alberta Medical Association, the province has ended the daily visit cap policy.

This will help increase patient access to physicians since there will no longer be a daily cap on the number of visits a physician can fully bill.

Doctors told us they could safely see more patients than the current cap allowed for.

Albertans want to know they can see a doctor when they need one, and physicians are able to provide Albertans with the healthcare services they need.

By changing the daily cap policy, some of the immediate pressures for services provided by general practitioners and specialists, including pediatricians and ophthalmologists, will be addressed.

Physicians will be fully compensated for every visit rather than receiving a discounted rate if they provide more than 50 visit services in one day, which was formerly the practice.

The agreement also includes a one per cent rate increase in each of the next three years, and a one per cent recognition lump sum payment.

This means that \$45 million will go to physicians to recognize the important work they do everyday to help keep Albertans healthy.

▼ MESSAGE FROM OA, INTERIM CEO

Support coming

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

You can also read about how we're attracting healthcare professionals to the province, and upgrading the Canmore emergency department. We welcome your suggestions for positive change. Feel free to email us at community.engagement@ahs.ca.

▼ DIGITAL HEALTH EVOLUTION AND INNOVATION

Connect Care expands again

AHS this month completed its largest launch of Connect Care to date, involving more than 25,000 staff and physicians at

135 AHS sites. The initiative supports standardized care across AHS and enables all health records from AHS and its

subsidiaries and partners to be accessed through a common provincial information system. It also provides clinicians with common decision-making support.

Launch 5 was the first to involve sites and programs in all five AHS zones. The launch involved acute and long-term care sites in the Calgary, North and Central zones of AHS, and two major provincial programs: Cancer Care Alberta and Alberta Kidney Care South.



An AHS staff member in the intensive care unit of Foothills Medical Centre receives support from a 'super user' after Launch 5 of Connect Care last month.

▼ MESSAGE FROM HEALTH MINISTER JASON COPPING

Bold steps necessary to ease pressures

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

- Decrease Emergency Room wait times;
- Reduce surgical wait times; and
- Develop long-term reforms through consultation with front-line workers and other key stakeholders.

Some of these changes are directly informed by the insights we received via the engagement tour. Ideas like pushing down more decision-making to the local level so that the unique needs of each community are met in an efficient manner. On changes to EMS, you wanted improvements to how we perform inter-facility transfers and that's one area Dr. Cowell and his team are targeting for change. Many more of your ideas are directly informing the changes being made to the healthcare system. I want to thank you, again, for giving of your time and insight over the past few months. We need to continue to work together to ease the strain we are facing.

We will measure these changes over the next 60 and 90 days through targeted metrics to make sure the changes made actually address the issues. If things aren't

changing in the way we hoped, we will know it immediately and we will have the data necessary to tell us how and what to adjust.

I am confident this is the right move for AHS. By the end of Dr. Cowell's term, I know there will be an efficient and sustainable system, so the next iteration of the AHS board can focus on what they do best: strategic planning for the future needs of Alberta's healthcare system.

Dr. Cowell and I will have more to say in future editions of the newsletter. Until then, please continue to share your ideas and feedback at any time by sending me an email with the subject line HEALTH IMPROVEMENT TOUR to healthminister@gov.ab.ca. We will ensure that your concerns and ideas are part of the decision-making process.

In closing, as the holiday season is upon us, I would also like to take time to wish all of you a Happy Holidays and a very Merry Christmas. I want to also extend best wishes for a Happy New Year. I know our healthcare workers have been under considerable strain the past few years and I hope you all are able to enjoy time with your families and enjoy a period of rest and rejuvenation over the holidays.

▼ WORKFORCE RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

New healthcare providers recruited to northern AB

Successful recruitment efforts have improved access to family medicine and psychiatric services in northern Alberta.

Dr. Anne-Marie Grew becomes the eighth psychiatrist in Grande Prairie; she is based out of the addiction and mental health offices in the Aberdeen Centre, and is also providing care at the Grande Prairie II Regional Hospital.

Elsewhere, there are newly recruited family physicians now practising in four northern Alberta communities: Spirit River (Dr. Adefolake Olaniyan and Dr. Deanna Funk), Manning (Dr. Izanne Nel), Westlock (Dr. Isabella Tu) and Whitecourt (Dr. Tesh Oteghkepken).

▼ MESSAGE FROM HEALTH MINISTER JASON COPPING

What do you think our next steps should be?

Since our last Health Engagement Tour stop in Camrose on Oct. 12, AHS has been working diligently to incorporate your ideas into the Health Care Action Plan. Our system is under real strain and we need to work together to improve access. No two hospitals or urgent care centres are the same and neither are the challenges they face. That is why AHS has been taking the time to assess the feedback we received on the tour. In the new year, we plan on sending you a full report compiled from the World Café sessions detailing the challenges you identified, ideas for how we can make the necessary improvement, but also what is working well in your areas. We also need to look at what unique solutions you presented might be useful in other areas of the province.

There is, however, one consistent area of concern in every corner of Alberta:

▼ MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTION RECOVERY

Mental health, addiction walk-in clinics open

Local and area residents in three northern Alberta communities now have increased access to services with the opening of addiction and mental health walk-in clinics.

Walk-in clinics for both mental health services and addiction services are now open every Tuesday in Cold Lake, St. Paul and Bonnyville.

The walk-in mental health clinic is a first point of contact for people seeking support for a variety of concerns. The addictions walk-in clinic provides counselling services for individuals with addictions, as well as for family members or friends.

▼ PUBLIC HEALTH & PANDEMIC RESPONSE, RECOVERY

Design work underway to upgrade Canmore ED

Planning and design work has started on a \$4.4-million revitalization project for the Canmore General Hospital's emergency department.

The project — funded by the Government of Alberta, Alberta Health Services (AHS) and the Canmore & Area Health Care Foundation — will create private patient treatment spaces and improve patient flow, addressing a recurring theme during Health Minister Jason Copping's Health Engagement Tour earlier this year.

Construction will be done in phases and is expected to be complete in 2024.



VIDEO: Government hands over keys to new cancer centre

Health Minister Jason Copping speaks at a news conference this month announcing the government has handed Alberta Health Services the keys to the new Calgary Cancer Centre.

we need more doctors, more nurses, more paramedics, and other healthcare professionals. Our world-class healthcare workers are doing an incredible job but we need significantly more of them to ease the strain they are under. This is the long-term solution to the current situation.

That's why Dr. Cowell, Alberta Health, and I are developing a Health Human Resources Action Plan to attract and retain our amazing healthcare workers. I am looking forward to announcing the HHR Action Plan early in the New Year.

As we continue to work towards a better healthcare system for all Albertans, we will send you a draft report of our next steps and we will be seeking your input on how to proceed. The plan will include a report compiled from the Engagement Tour based upon what we heard from you. Your feedback on that plan will be invaluable, so I'm going to once again ask for more feedback to make sure we are addressing the local needs in our health system. Please be on the lookout for the next edition and I'm looking forward to hearing your thoughts in 2023.

▼ ALBERTA SURGICAL INITIATIVE

All six Fort Mac ORs get upgrades

Upgrades and renovations to all six operating rooms (ORs) at the Northern Lights Regional Health Centre are ongoing, enhancing surgical capabilities and improving patient care at the Fort McMurray hospital.

Four ORs are being upgraded to minimally invasive surgical suites (MIS suites) for minimally invasive general, gynecologic, orthopedic and spinal surgeries.

Two other ORs will receive renovations and upgrades, including new surgical lights.

The \$6.3-million project is funded through donations to the Northern Lights Health Foundation.

The new MIS suites are expected to add surgical capacity, addressing a recurring theme during Health Minister Jason Copping's Health Engagement Tour earlier this year.

The first two MIS suites opened this past July. About 500 minimally invasive procedures were performed in the two suites in the first three months.

The surgical suite project is expected to be completed in March.

▼ ALBERTA SURGICAL INITIATIVE

Through CSFs, we're providing more orthopedic surgery options

In early November, we were pleased to be a part of the grand opening of Alberta Surgical Group's state-of-the-art surgical facility in Edmonton.

Opening this facility means thousands of Albertans will be able to have long-awaited orthopedic surgeries sooner. AHS has contracted the surgical team to



Surgical team staff at the Northern Lights Regional Health Centre and representatives of the Northern Lights Health Foundation showcase one of four new minimally invasive surgical suites at the Fort McMurray hospital. The project is expected to add surgical capacity.

▼ ALBERTA SURGICAL INITIATIVE

Hip surgeries now available in Hinton

Northern Albertans now have increased access to hip surgery with the opening of a new surgical program at Hinton Healthcare Centre.

An orthopedic surgeon is visiting the site for four days per month doing hip surgeries and eventually knee surgeries. Hinton becomes the fourth site in the AHS North Zone providing hip surgeries, joining Grande Prairie, Westlock and Bonnyville.

The program launched in October and, by early next year, local surgical teams expect to perform up to 16 orthopedic surgeries monthly.

provide about 3,000 surgeries annually for the next two years.

These publicly-funded procedures are offered at no cost to Albertans, patients will get the same service as they would in a hospital, from the same surgeons who follow the same clinical standards. Doing surgeries at this and other surgical

▼ DIGITAL HEALTH EVOLUTION

Home hospital pilot now in Wetaskiwin

Some Wetaskiwin and area residents are now receiving hospital-level care in their homes following the launch of a pilot project last month.

The 'home hospital' pilot project — building on similar programs in Edmonton and Calgary — provides eligible patients with safe, hospital-level care in their homes.

Patients receive remote monitoring from the hospital and regular visits from community paramedics. So far, five local patients have received hospital-level care at home through this program, which can care for two patients simultaneously.

facilities means we free up hospital capacity for other procedures. This is just one solution we are exploring to reduce waiting periods to clinically appropriate times. With innovative partnerships like this one, more Albertans can get their surgeries sooner and get back to living full, pain-free lives.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

MINUTES

Thursday, September 1, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.

ORRSC Conference Room (3105 - 16 Avenue North, Lethbridge) or ZOOM Virtual Meeting

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Colin Bexte (Absent)Village of Arrowwood	Brad Koch (Absent) Village of Lomond
Kent Bullock (Absent) Village of Barnwell	Gerry Baril (Absent) Town of Magrath
Dan Doell (Absent)..... Village of Barons	Peggy Losey (In Person) Town of Milk River
Mike Wetzstein (Absent) Town of Bassano	Dean Melnyk (Absent) Village of Milo
Ray Juska (Absent)..... City of Brooks	Victor Czop (Virtual)..... Town of Nanton
Roger Houghton (In Person) Cardston County	Marinus de Leeuw (In Person) Town of Nobleford
Allan Burton (Virtual)..... Town of Cardston	Henry de Kok (Absent) Town of Picture Butte
Sue Dahl (Absent) Village of Carmangay	Tony Bruder (Virtual) M.D. of Pincher Creek
Patricia Curry (Absent)..... Village of Champion	Don Anderberg (Virtual) Town Pincher Creek
Brad Schlossberger (Absent) Town of Claresholm	Ronald Davis (Absent)..... M.D. of Ranchland
Jesse Potrie (In Person) Town of Coalhurst	Neil Sieben (Absent) Town of Raymond
Tanya Smith (In Person)..... Village of Coutts	Don Norby (Absent) Town of Stavely
Dave Slingerland (Absent) Village of Cowley	Matthew Foss (In Person) Village of Stirling
Dave Filipuzzi (In Person)..... Mun. Crowsnest Pass	John Turcato (Absent)..... MD of Taber
Dean Ward (In Person) Mun. Crowsnest Pass	Raymond Coad (Virtual)..... Town of Vauxhall
Stephen Dortch (In Person) Village of Duchess	Christopher Northcott (Virtual) Vulcan County
Gordon Wolstenholme (In Person)Town of Fort Macleod	Richard DeBolt (In Person) Town of Vulcan
Mark Peterson (In Person)..... Village of Glenwood	David Cody (In Person)..... County of Warner
Suzanne French (Virtual) Village of Hill Spring	Scott Alexander (Absent) Village of Warner
Morris Zeinstra (In Person).....Lethbridge County	Maryanne Sandberg (In Person) .. M.D. Willow Creek

STAFF:

Bonnie Brunner Senior Planner	Gavin Scott.....Senior Planner
Diane Horvath Senior Planner	Hailey WinderPlanner
Steve Harty..... Senior Planner	Raeanne Keer..... Executive Assistant

Prior to the start of the meeting Steve Harty, Senior Planner, introduced Raeanne Keer as the newest member to join the Oldman River Regional Services Commission who is fulfilling the role of Executive Assistant.

Steve also announced the passing of Councillor Ian Sundquist. It was noted that Councillor Sundquist was a Councillor for the Municipal District of Willow Creek for 27 years, a member of the ORRSC Board of Directors for 8 years, and a member of the Executive Committee for the last 5 years. Steve acknowledged that Councillor Sundquist provided a number of invaluable contributions to the Board and Committee over the years with all his years as a long-standing elected official.

Chair Gordon Wolstenholme called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by: Peggy Losey

THAT the Board of Directors adopt the Agenda for September 1, 2022, as amended, with the addition of:

Agenda Item 6.c Executive Committee Membership.

CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by: David Cody

THAT the Board of Directors approve the meeting minutes of June 2, 2022, as presented.

CARRIED

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

4. PRESENTATION

**Municipal Land Use Suitability Tool – Municipality of Crowsnest Pass
Presentation from Diane Horvath and Hailey Winder**

Diane Horvath, Senior Planner, and Hailey Winder, Planner, presented on the Municipal Land Use Suitability Tool (MLUST) and a case study on the development of the MLUST in the Municipality of the Crowsnest Pass.

Diane presented on the purpose, history, process, product, and goals of developing an MLUST for your municipality as a decision-support tool to be used by Council.

Hailey presented on the roles and expectations of participants and partners, the determination of values for specified features, and how the values are layered on maps to provide district areas of “most suitable” and “least suitable” for various types of development.

The Board discussed its usability for other areas of interest and on the potential to re-use data for more complex mapping.

5. REPORTS

a. Executive Committee Report

Chair Wolstenholme presented the Executive Committee Report to the Board.

6. BUSINESS

- a. **Subdivision Activity**
 - **Year to Date to July 2022**

Chair Wolstenholme presented the Subdivision Activity Report to the Board.

- b. **ORRSC Periodical – Short Term Rentals and Vacation Homes**

Gavin Scott, Senior Planner, presented the Fall 2022 edition of the ORRSC Periodical, and stated that it focus on short term rentals and vacation homes.

- c. **Executive Committee Membership**

Chair Wolstenholme stated that with the recent passing of Councillor Sundquist, the Board of Directors must determine how it would like to move forward with the membership of the Executive Committee. He stated that in accordance with the Board of Directors and Executive Committee Bylaw 2021-01, an eligible board member will be elected to the Executive Committee at the next quarterly meeting.

Chair Wolstenholme stated that the Annual Organizational Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 1, 2022 and therefore the current Executive Committee would be continuing with one less member for only two meetings, October and November. He noted that the Executive Committee has determined that they are satisfactory with operating as a six member Committee for the remainder of 2022.

Moved by: Richard DeBolt

THAT the Board of Directors, notwithstanding Section 15.6 of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee Bylaw 2021-01, approve the Executive Committee to operate with a committee composed of the Chair, Vice-Chair, and the four remaining elected members for the remainder of 2022.

CARRIED

7. ACCOUNTS

- a. **Balance Sheet and Comparative Income Statement**
 - **As of July 31, 2022**

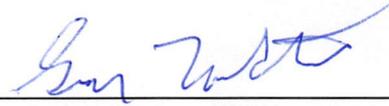
Moved by: Tanya Smith

THAT the Board of Directors approve the Balance Sheet and Comparative Income Statement as of July 31, 2022

CARRIED

8. ADJOURNMENT

With no further questions and nothing further to discuss, Chair Gordon Wolstenholme adjourned the meeting, the time being 7:56 pm.



Gordon Wolstenholme, Chair



Lenze Kuiper, Chief Administrative Officer

Keith Davis

From: Community Engagement <Community.Engagement@albertahealthservices.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, December 21, 2022 3:46 PM
To: Community Engagement
Subject: Non-Ambulance Transfer Announcement



Good afternoon,

Today Dr. John Cowell provided an update to media on his first 30 days as AHS's Official Administrator. His focus has been on four priority areas:

- Improving EMS response times
- Decreasing emergency department wait times
- Reducing wait times for surgeries
- Improving patient flow throughout the system

As part of Improving EMS response times, Premier Smith, Minister Copping and Dr. Cowell spoke to the decision to reduce EMS transports of medically stable patients. The non-ambulance transfer (NAT) program has been piloted in Calgary, Bonnyville, Valleyview, Athabasca and St. Paul for six months. Evaluation of those pilots suggests that adoption of this algorithm could divert 15 per cent of transports from emergency medical services. This is already happening in many places across the province, and [this policy](#) formalizes this expectation.

We are now expanding the program across the province.

In his comments to media, Dr. Cowell identified non-ambulance transfer as a service Health Advisory Councils have requested in their communities and have deemed a high priority for Albertans.

AHS Zone leaders will be working to identify options for supporting patients for whom getting a ride from a family member or friend is not an option. Alternative transportation options may include community shuttles, wheelchair-accessible taxis and other locally available options. AHS will cover the cost of transportation for patients who express they are financially unable to do so.

Community partners and operators interested in learning about how to join the preferred vendor list Dr. Cowell referenced in his remarks can contact AHS at cpsm.customersupport@albertahealthservices.ca or 1-877-595-0007.

This program supports using EMS when their skillset is truly required and will support patient flow, allowing for safe, faster discharges for medically stable patients, which can then provide other patients access to a hospital bed sooner. Read the full [News Release](#) here.

We plan to host a virtual session with you, our community partners, to provide further information and to answer your questions. Please watch for an invitation to that conversation early in the New Year.

Dr. Cowell also provided updates on each of the four priority areas. I have included summaries of those updates below for your information.

As we head into the holiday season, I want to thank you for your commitment to your communities, and your passion for healthcare. I look forward to meeting with you in the New Year as we continue to strive to improve Alberta's healthcare system, together.

Sincerely,

Mauro Chies

Interim President and CEO



Summary of AHS' progress on our 4 Priority Areas:

Improving EMS response times

Nineteen new ambulances have been added this year and we are aggressively working to recruit and retain EMS staff. Initiatives like the NAT program will help keep our ambulances and skilled crews on the roads. We will shortly be able to widely support our paramedics to treat patients on scene without transporting people to hospital, if clinically appropriate.

Decreasing emergency department wait times

For Emergency Departments, we have taken actions including expanding hours for non-urgent pediatric clinics, increasing supports in the ED to support assessment and discharge of elderly and frail patients and working with community partners to facilitate safe discharge for individuals experiencing homelessness. Dr. Cowell has met with the Alberta Medical Association, and they are jointly working to increase the availability of primary care for Albertans. This would, in turn, take some of the pressure off AHS, which becomes the only option for care in some communities on the weekend and in the evenings at times.

Reducing wait times for surgeries

Surgical activity provincewide is at 99 per cent of pre-pandemic levels. We continue to focus on surgical prioritization, central access and intake and Rapid Access Clinics for orthopedic patients. The province has expanded the number of surgeries performed at Chartered Surgical Facilities. We are working directly with surgeons who have longer waitlists to address this challenge. In the longer term, we are exploring ways to optimize surgical activity at rural sites. Learn more about the [Alberta Surgical Initiative](#).

Improving patient flow throughout the system.

Patient flow is critical to our system, and it's critical to patient care. We are working to ensure that we have good flow across all our sites. Next year, 1,150 continuing care spaces will be added to our system. This creates more opportunity to quickly place patients who are assessed and ready to move into continuing care, making an acute care space available to someone who needs that level of care.

These are ambitious goals and these actions and measures are highlights of a series of strategic actions being put in place to better serve Albertans. AHS cannot achieve these targets alone and will therefore continue to look to you – our community partners – as we work to improve the healthcare system for all Albertans. Learn more here: [Community Partners & Stakeholders](#).

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BOARD REPORT



CHINOOK
ARCH REGIONAL
LIBRARY SYSTEM

Chinook Arch Library Board Meeting - December 1, 2022

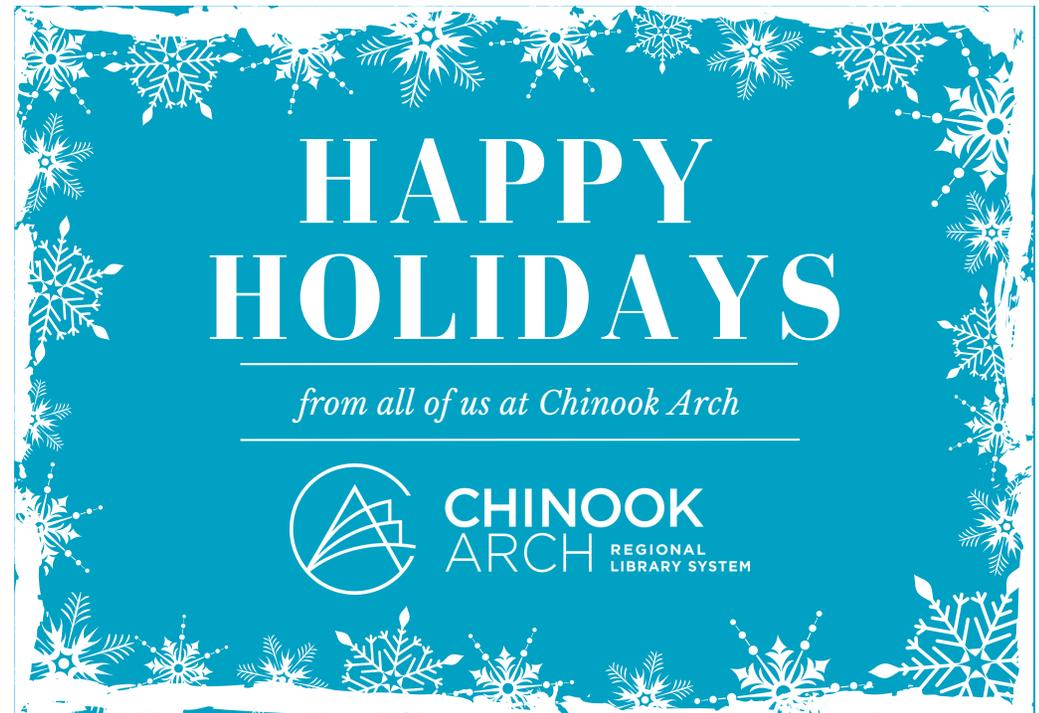
Chinook Arch Approves New 2023 Budget Based on 0% Levy Increase

At its December 1 meeting, the Chinook Arch Library Board reviewed and approved a revised 2023 budget based on a 0% increase to the Municipal Levy. The proposed 2023 -2026 Municipal Levy Schedule, which included incremental increases in each of the four years, was declined by the City of Lethbridge council. This means that the proposed levy schedule will not come into effect, and the 2023 per capita levy will remain at \$7.76. Management staff were able to find funds to cover the \$40,000 revenue shortfall in 2023. By 2026, the annual revenue shortfall is expected to exceed \$100,000. The Board will be working with management and member library boards to develop strategies for addressing the deficits forecast over the next few years.

Policy Review

The Board reviewed and approved the following policies. Chinook Arch policies, plans, and audited financial statement can all be found under the About Us tab on the Chinook Arch website at www.chinookarch.ca.

- Expenses
- Executive Officers



Board Members Present

Barnwell
Barons
Cardston
Cardston County
Coaldale
Coalhurst
Coutts
Crowsnest Pass
Fort Macleod
Hill Spring
Lethbridge (City)
Lethbridge (County)
Lomond
Magrath
Milk River
Nanton
Nobleford
Pincher Creek
Raymond
Taber MD
Vauxhall
Vulcan County
Warner (Village)
Warner County
ID of Waterton
Willow Creek M.D.
LPL Resource Centre
Ministerial Appointment

Jane Johnson
Ron Gorzitza
Marsha Jensen
LeGrande Bevans
Jordan Sailer
Lyndsay Montana
Stephen A. Pain
Doreen Glavin
Jim Monteith
Suzanne French
Robin Harper
Tory Campbell
Marie Logan
Darryl Christensen
Anne Michaelis
Amanda Bustard
Melissa Jensen
Mark Barber
Kelly Jensen
Tamara Miyanaga
Marilyn Forchuk
Doug Logan
Derek Baron
Morgan Rockenbach
Lesley Little
Maryanne Sandberg
Wendy Kalkan
Vic Mensch (Chair)

Regrets

Carmangay
Champion
Milo
Picture Butte
Pincher Creek M.D.
Stirling
Taber

Sarah Mitchell
Terry Penney
Christopher Northcott
Teresa Feist
Dave Cox
Gary Bikman
Monica McLean

Absent

Arrowwood
Claresholm
Glenwood
Stavely
Vulcan

Wendy Williams
Tony Hamlyn
Linda Allred
Denise Allerdings
Liz Hammond

2023 Executive Committee Elections

Congratulations to the Trustees Elected to the Chinook Arch Library Board Executive Committee for 2023! Here are the Executive Committee members for the coming year:

- Vic Mensch (Ministerial Appointment) - Board Chair
- Marie Logan (Village of Lomond) - Vice-Chair
- Jim Monteith (Town of Fort Macleod) - Treasurer
- Mark Barber (Town of Pincher Creek) - Director-at-Large
- Darryl Christensen (Town of Magrath) - Director-at-Large
- Doreen Glavin (Municipality of Crowsnest Pass) - Director-at-Large
- Doug Logan (Vulcan County) - Director-at-Large
- Lyndsay Montana (Town of Coalhurst) - Director-at-Large
- Tamara Miyanaga (Municipal District of Taber) - Director-at-Large
- LPL Resource Centre Ex Officio Appointee - To Be Determined

Thank you to the following departing members for your service to the Chinook Arch Board and its members:

Dennis Barnes (Town of Cardston); Trevor Wagenvoort (Village of Champion); Lise Mayne (Town of Nanton); Brydon Saunders (Town of Stavely); Shelley Deleeuw (Town of Vauxhall); Don Toovey (Village of Warner); Linda Weasel Head (Kainai Board of Education); Wendy Kalkan (LPL Resource Centre).

Contact Us

Chinook Arch Regional Library System
2902 7th Avenue North
Lethbridge, AB T1H 5C6 | 403-380-1500
www.chinookarch.ca | arch@chinookarch.ca



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chinook.arch7



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@chinooklibs



OLDMAN RIVER REGIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION

3105 - 16th Avenue North
Lethbridge, Alberta T1H 5E8

Phone: (403) 329-1344
Toll-Free: 1-877-329-1387
E-mail: admin@orrrsc.com
Website: www.orrrsc.com

December 12, 2022

South Country Co-Op
C/O Altus Group Limited
2020 4th Street SW, Suite 310
Calgary, AB T2S 1W3

To Whom It May Concern,

RE: ASSESSMENT REVIEW BOARD DECISION WITH REASONS
Roll Number 725000/ Lot 4, Block 7, Plan 1210252 / 203 Factory Drive, Picture Butte
File No: 2022-29

RECEIVED
DEC 19 2022
TOWN OF
PICTURE BUTTE

Please find enclosed the written decision of the Assessment Review Board, regarding the above-mentioned tax assessment complaint.

Should you disagree with this decision, you have the right to apply to the Court of King's Bench for judicial review of the decision. An application must be filed with the Court of King's Bench within 60 days after the date of the decision of the Assessment Review Board. Judicial reviews of the Assessment Review Board decisions are governed by section 470 of the *Municipal Government Act*. This same right is also granted to the Respondent.

Please note, however, an appeal of an Assessment Review Board decision cannot be on the grounds of disagreement. An appeal can only be made if there is a belief that the Assessment Review Board erred on a question of law or jurisdiction.

Should you wish to apply to the Court of King's Bench for a judicial review, it is advised that you obtain legal counsel. For more information, please visit the Alberta Government's website on Property Assessment Complaints and Appeals at https://www.alberta.ca/Property-assessment-complaints-and-appeals.aspx?utm_source=redirector.

Sincerely,

Lenze Kuiper
Assessment Review Board Clerk

LK/rk

Enclosure

- Decision with Reasons

cc: **Keith Davis**, CAO, Town of Picture Butte
Ryan Vogt Assessor, Benchmark Assessment Consultants Inc.

***Town of Picture Butte
Regional Assessment Review Board
Decision with Reasons***

CARB – 2022-29

IN THE MATTER OF A COMPLAINT filed with the Town of Picture Butte Assessment Review Board (ARB), pursuant to the *Municipal Government Act*, c. M-26 RSA 2000 (Act).

BETWEEN:

South Country Co-Op Limited - Complainant

- and -

Town of Picture Butte - Respondent

BEFORE:

Members:

Gail Sokolan, Presiding Officer
Tom Golden
John Willms

Appeared on behalf of the Complainant: Stefan Roth, Altus Group Limited

Appeared on behalf of the Respondent: Ryan Vogt, Assessor for Benchmark Assessment Consultants Inc.

This is the decision of the Town of Picture Butte Assessment Review Board from a hearing held on November 25, 2022 respecting the 2021 assessment for the following property:

Roll No.	Assessed Value	Owner
725000 Lot 4, Block 7, Plan 1210252 203 Factory Drive	\$1,441,000	South Country Co-Op Limited

Requested Assessment: \$950,000 (Complaint Form)
\$1,192,637 (Requested Assessed Value)
\$1,146,932 (Alternate Assessed Value)

PART A: BACKGROUND AND DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY UNDER COMPLAINT

The property under complaint (subject) is a 2.64 acre parcel located at 203 Factory Drive in Picture Butte, Alberta. The subject is zoned industrial and is categorized for assessment purposes with a property type of Industrial (Cardlock Gas Bar). It is considered to be developed to its highest and best use, being improved with a cardlock gas bar, a relocatable office building, both of which were built in 2013; and a diesel exhaust fluid dispenser built in 2018. The site is paved, primarily with asphalt which covers 65,560 square feet (sf) or approximately 65% of the site. Concrete paving is present in four separate areas of the site, totalling 8,109 sf. Three 25,000 U.S. gallon (94,633 litre) steel, double walled underground fuel storage tanks were installed in 2015. The current assessed value of \$1,441,000 was established using the cost approach to valuation, from the Marshall & Swift manual.

PART B: PROCEDURAL OR JURISDICTIONAL MATTERS

No procedural or jurisdictional matters were raised. The Board proceeded to the merit hearing.

PART C: MERIT ISSUES

1. Is the replacement cost new (RCN) for the storage tanks used in the assessment over-valued when compared to publicly available market information?
2. Has the area covered by asphalt pavement used in calculating the current assessment been over-stated?

Issue 1: Replacement Cost New of Storage Tanks**Complainant Position**

The Complainant contends that the RCN from the Marshall and Swift costing manual (M&S) used in the assessment is over valued. Pricing information for comparable underground storage tanks can be found on the internet for a maximum of \$31,375. The Complainant introduced an "In Stock Tanks" inventory listing from Foremost Energy Equipment, an industry leader in industrial tank manufacturing and fabrication, indicating that 750 BBL storage tanks are available from its Lloydminster West location for a range of prices, the most expensive of which has a current market value of \$31,375. While perhaps not identical to the storage tanks at the subject site (subject tanks), they are built to American Petroleum Institute (API) standards, which is a mandatory standard that all fuel storage tanks are built to, regardless of who actually manufactures the tanks. While there is no indication of the date on which this inventory list was compiled, the Complainant indicated it was current as of February or March, 2021. The "date" identified on the inventory sheet indicates the date on which the tanks were manufactured, indicating that these tanks are approximately four years old. These tanks are larger than the subject tanks. At 94,633 litres in size, the subject tanks are equivalent to approximately 595 barrels of oil, so the price of \$31,375 for 750 BBL tanks should adequately cover the cost of replacement.

Upon questioning, the Complainant indicated that he was not able to be more specific about the exact comparability of these tanks to the subject tanks. While able to confirm transportation and installation costs of these tanks is not included in the price, the Complainant was unable to quantify what these costs might be.

During questioning, the Complainant identified a concern with the reliance the Respondent placed on its CAMA lot computer software to accurately apply the M&S pricing, noting that the Respondent had not produced evidence to show the actual calculation of the RCN value of the tanks.

The Complainant requested the Board to revise the RCN for replacement of the storage tanks downward, to reflect \$31,375 per tank. If this price is substituted for the RCN used in the assessment, and they are depreciated at the same rate as the subject tanks have been depreciated, the cost of three tanks would be reduced by \$248,363 and would revise the total assessment of the subject to \$1,192,637

Respondent Position

The Respondent indicated that it was not confident that the Complainant's replacement tanks were sufficiently comparable to the subject tanks. The data is coming from a single manufacturer and is obscure with regard to the actual current condition of the tanks, even if they were constructed to API standards. Costs associated with transporting the Complainant's tanks from Foremost's Lloydminster West location to the subject and subsequent installation once on site are not accounted for. The RCN found in the M&S manual accounts for the tanks being installed on site.

The M&S data is current, being regularly updated and can be customized to reflect the geographic location of where it is being applied based on postal code. The Complainant's data is dated, there is no evidence to substantiate the currency of the pricing.

Use of pricing found in the M&S manual is used consistently throughout the municipality through the integration of the data into the assessor's CAMA lot software. To substitute the Complainant's pricing in the subject's assessment would jeopardize the consistency of the assessment of other tanks in the municipality.

Board’s Findings and Reasons

The Boards finds no compelling evidence to substitute the RCN found within the M&S manual with the replacement costs identified by the Complainant. The M&S cost manual is a common tool used in assessing industrial equipment; the comparables are taken from one catalogue posted on the internet from a business advertising its inventory, presumably at a price that meets its business goals. No evidence was presented to persuade the Board that the tanks available from Foremost are directly comparable to the subject tanks. While the Complainant verbally indicated the inventory availability and pricing are current as of approximately 18 months ago, no evidence was presented to substantiate this. The pricing is not inclusive of costs that would be incurred to receive and install the tanks on site, making it more difficult to judge the comparability with the RCN of the M&S manual.

The Board placed little weight on the Complainant’s argument of the unreliability of the CAMA lot software. Through questioning it was determined that Mr. Vogt is a certified user of M&S data as it is integrated with this software. Further, this is the process through which all assessments in the municipality using the cost approach to valuation are prepared. The Board was persuaded as to the fairness and equity associated with this methodology and sees no reason to change the current assessed value of the RCN for the underground storage tanks.

Issue 2: Assessable Area of Asphalt Paving

Complainant Position

The Complainant contends that the square footage of asphalt paving on the subject site was measured incorrectly and should be reduced from 75,000 sf to 63,688 sf., reducing the assessment by \$45,705. The Complainant did not object to any other parameters used in the calculated assessment of the asphalt paving.

However, the Complainant noted that the Respondent had recalculated the area covered by asphalt paving and provided amendments to this component of the assessment. The Complainant indicated it agreed with the Respondent’s modified assessment.

Respondent Position

The Respondent acknowledges its initial calculation of the area of asphalt paving, as included in the assessment summary report, was inaccurate as it did not account for smaller areas that lie within the area assessed as having asphalt paving that are paved with concrete. Nor did it account for the area under the relocatable office. Both of these resulted in overstating the quantity of asphalt paving. While the amount of asphalt paving was decreased by 8,440 sf, the areas of both the concrete paving and the relocatable trailer were increased by 75 sf and 339 sf, respectively.

When the adjustments are reflected in the assessment, the Respondent calculates a revised assessment as follows:

	As Assessed	As Amended
Asphalt Paving:	\$287,879	\$251,644
Concrete Paving:	\$ 44,470	\$ 44,898
Relocatable Office:	<u>\$ 65,552</u>	<u>\$100,414</u>
Total	\$397, 901	\$396,956

The resulting difference in the assessment as a result of these amendments is \$945. The Complainant suggested the Board could either reduce this year’s assessment or confirm it as is, allowing the adjustment to be reflected in the next assessment year.

Board’s Findings and Reasons

The Parties agreed with the amended assessment as calculated by the Respondent. The Board finds the 0.2% amendment that would be required as a result of miscalculating the quantity of asphalt paving to be inconsequential to the total assessment and determines not to alter the current assessment as a result.

DECISION

When combined, the Complainant’s requested reduction to the value of the storage tanks and the agreed upon recalculation of the quantity of asphalt paving amount to \$249,308 or approximately 17% of the current assessment, which is a significant reduction. However, given the Board’s determination that there was no persuasive evidence to justify the requested reduction to the value of the storage tanks, this overall adjustment is reduced to less than 1% of the current assessment. The Board finds that this adjustment is most efficiently made during the next assessment year.

The assessment for the subject property remains unchanged at \$1,441,000.

PART D: FINAL DISPOSITION OF COMPLAINT

The complaint is **DENIED** and the assessment is as follows:

Roll No.	Assessed Value	Owner
725000 Lot 4, Block 7, Plan 1210252 203 Factory Drive	\$1,441,000	South Country Co-Op Limited

Dated at the City of Calgary, in the Province of Alberta, this 12th day of December, 2022.



 Presiding Officer
 Gail Sokolan

APPENDIX "A"

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED AND CONSIDERED BY THE ARB:

NO.	ITEM
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	Exhibit C1 – Complaint Form and Submission
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	Exhibit C2 – Complainant Disclosure
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	Exhibit R1 - Respondent Disclosure
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APPENDIX "B"

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

PERSON APPEARING	CAPACITY
-------------------------	-----------------

Complainant:	Stefan Roth, Altus Group Limited
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Respondent:	Ryan Vogt, Assessor Benchmark Assessment Consultants Inc.
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