



# **AGENDA**

## **REGULAR MEETING OF PICTURE BUTTE TOWN COUNCIL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April, 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 – 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2023

### **4.0 PUBLIC HEARING**

### **5.0 DELEGATION**

5.1 Joseph Schow, MLA

### **6.0 REQUESTS FOR DECISION**

6.1 Bylaw No. 934-23 – Line of Credit Borrowing Bylaw

6.2 Picture Butte High School – Bylaw No. 926-22 Urban Hen Bylaw waiver request.

6.3

### **7.0 MAYOR'S REPORT**

### **8.0 COUNCIL'S REPORT**

### **9.0 ADMINISTRATION'S REPORT**

9.1 CAO Report

9.1.1 Director of Emergency Services Report

9.1.2 Power PRO Stretcher Brochure

### **10.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

10.1 Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors – Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership funding approval

10.2 Municipal Affairs – Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework agreements

10.3 Municipal Affairs – Recall petitions

10.4 Municipal Affairs – Municipal Census Regulations

## **11.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- 11.1 Town of Tofield – Extended Producer Responsibility System exemption request
- 11.2 Town of Camrose – Casino Licence Relocation
- 11.3

## **12.0 CLOSED SESSION**

- 12.1 FOIP Act Division 2 Section 16 – Union Arbitration

## **13.0 ADJOURNMENT**

**MINUTES**  
OF THE  
**PICTURE BUTTE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
HELD IN  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 AT 6:30 PM**

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

**ABSENT:** Councillor S. Thomson

**ALSO PRESENT:** Director of Corporate Services – M. Overbeeke  
Director of Operations – A. Benson  
Administrative Assistant – C. Johnson

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

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

**2.0 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

098 2304 11 MOVED by Councillor Papworth that the agenda be approved as presented.  
CARRIED

**3.0 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

3.1 Regular Council Meeting – March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023

099 2304 11 MOVED by Councillor Feist that the Regular Council Meeting minutes of  
March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023 be approved as presented.  
CARRIED

**4.0 PUBLIC HEARING – None for this meeting**

**5.0 DELEGATION**

5.1 Rachael Thomas

Rachael Thomas asked Council if they had anything they wanted to ask, discuss, celebrate or any issues that she could lend a hand with. MP Thomas wanted to celebrate that the electoral boundaries will not be changed for the next 10 years, keeping Lethbridge County as a whole. Council discussed the wastewater lagoon project and the 35% of \$12-14 million that the Town will need to come up with. The rising RCMP costs were discussed and asked if this is a shift from the federal government to force the provinces to implement provincial police forces. Rachael didn't have any answers but will look into it. Councillor Feist asked about Bill C-11, something that MP Thomas has been campaigning for a lot. She went over the basics of the bill and why she felt so compelled to fight against it. She feels that with no clear terms of reference for what "Canadian content" is the government has too much control and it will lead to censorship and control of the CRTC. This is government overreach and can be seen in countries like North Korea, Iran and Russia. The state of Piyami Lodge was touched on. Green Acres has approached the provincial government and requested that they be allowed to run the facility themselves. They are still fighting to receive the renovations they so desperately need. Council discussed the doctors retiring soon. Rachael had some good ideas to promote the Town and bring in some new doctors from Lethbridge.

R. Thomas left the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

5.2 MWG - Hayden Wilde

Hayden Wilde went over the financial statements for 2022 with Council and the importance of having an audit completed. Mr. Wilde expressed that the Town is in a great position with revenues over and above expenses even with more long-term debt added in 2022. Michelle is doing a great job of keeping the accounts straight and which in turn keeps their job easy when it comes time for the audit.

H. Wilde left the meeting at 6:39 p.m.

**6.0 REQUESTS FOR DECISION**

6.1 Memorandum of Understanding- Reciprocal Business Licences

100 2304 11 MOVED by Deputy Mayor de Kok to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for Reciprocal Business Licences as presented.  
CARRIED

6.2 Community Centre Rental Fee Waiver Request

101 2304 11 MOVED by Councillor Papworth to waive the Community Centre rental fee on June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023 for the Chelsey West Memorial Phoenix Project.  
CARRIED

6.3 2022 Audited Financial Statements

102 2304 11 MOVED by Councillor Feist to approve the 2022 Audited Financial Statements as presented.  
CARRIED

**7.0 MAYOR'S REPORT**

7.1 Mayor's Report

Mayor Moore advised Council on her recent activities:

April 5            Attended a FCSS All-Councils Event  
April 11          Attended a Lethbridge Regional Waste Management and Services Commission meeting

103 2304 11 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:

March 30          Attended a SouthGrow Economic Development Forum

Councillor Feist advised Council of her recent activities:

April 5            Attended a FCSS All-Councils Event

Councillor Papworth advised Council of her recent activities:

March 29          Attended a Green Acres Board meeting  
March 30          Attended a Webex Spring Seminar for Land and Property Rights Tribunal  
April 5            Attended a FCSS All-Councils Event

104 2304 11 MOVED by Councillor Papworth that the Council Reports be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

## 9.0 ADMINISTRATION'S REPORT

### 9.1 CAO Report

105 2304 11 MOVED by Deputy Mayor de Kok to accept the CAO Report as presented.  
CARRIED

### 9.1.1 Director of Operations Report

106 2304 11 MOVED by Councillor Feist to accept the Director of Operations Report.  
CARRIED

## 10.0 CORRESPONDENCE

### 10.1 Submission to Alberta Environment re: Lagoon upgrades from Henry Heinen

107 2304 11 MOVED by Deputy Mayor de Kok to receive and file the Submission to Alberta Environment re: Lagoon upgrades from Henry Heinen.  
CARRIED

### 10.2 Green Acres Foundation – Report to the Community 2022

108 2304 11 MOVED by Councillor Papworth to receive and file the Green Acres Foundation – Report to the Community 2022.  
CARRIED

### 10.3 Alberta Municipal Affairs – Joint Use and Planning agreements deadline extension

109 2304 11 MOVED by Councillor Feist to receive and file the Alberta Municipal Affairs – Joint Use and Planning agreements deadline extension.  
CARRIED

### 10.4 Library Board Director resignation

110 2304 11 MOVED by Deputy Mayor de Kok to receive and file the Library Board Director resignation.  
CARRIED

## 11.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

11.1 Town of Barrhead – Extended Producer responsibility program exemption

11.2 Lights on Afterschool Alberta

11.3 Hon. Nate Horner – Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation – Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership

111 2304 11 MOVED by Councillor Feist to receive and file Informational Items 11.1-11.3.  
CARRIED

## 12.0 CLOSED SESSION

## 13.0 ADJOURNMENT

The next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 beginning at 6:30 p.m.

112 2304 11 MOVED by Councillor Papworth that the Regular Council Meeting adjourn at 7:58 p.m.  
CARRIED

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Mayor Moore

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Keith Davis  
Chief Administrative Officer



ALBERTA

TRANSPORTATION AND ECONOMIC CORRIDORS

*Office of the Minister  
MLA, Innisfail-Sylvan Lake*

April 13, 2023

AR 93180

Her Worship Catherine Moore  
Mayor  
Town of Picture Butte  
PO Box 670  
Picture Butte, AB T0K 1V0  
[cmoore@picturebutte.ca](mailto:cmoore@picturebutte.ca)

Dear Mayor Moore:

I am pleased to advise you and your council that the following project will be funded under the Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership. Based on your application, the approved grant is 62.95 per cent of the estimated eligible project cost.

**Wastewater Lagoon and Treatment Upgrades up to a maximum grant of \$8,645,695.27.**

The final grant amount will be based on the actual eligible costs at the time of project completion, up to the approved maximum grant amount. As part of the previous approval conditions, no cost increases can be considered. With this funding, the Town of Picture Butte will be solely responsible for all costs to use, operate, maintain, repair, and replace the completed project.

While I look forward to sharing this important investment, please do not publicly communicate this funding approval until provincial announcements are made.

Our government continues to make investments in hospitals, schools, roads, bridges, transit, and water infrastructure to support municipalities in improving critical local transportation infrastructure, creating jobs, and stimulating the economy.

Transportation and Economic Corridors staff will be in contact with your administration to formalize the funding agreement to undertake this work.

Sincerely,

Honourable Devin Dreeshen, ECA  
Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors

cc: Honourable Joseph Schow, ECA, MLA, Cardston-Siksika  
Darren Davidson, Regional Director, Southern Region, Transportation and Economic Corridors

**MUNICIPAL BORROWING BYLAW**  
**For the Purpose Specified in Section 256 of the**  
**Municipal Government Act**  
**Bylaw No. 934-23**

**WHEREAS** the Council of the Town of Picture Butte (hereinafter called the "Corporation") in the Province of Alberta, considers it necessary to borrow certain sums of money for the purpose of:

**Revolving Credit for Operating Expenditures; \$400,000.00**  
**MasterCard credit for daily purchases; \$35,000.00**

**NOW THEREFORE** pursuant to the provisions of the Municipal Government Act, it is hereby enacted by the Council of the Corporation as a By-law that:

1. The Corporation borrow from Alberta Treasury Branches ("ATB") up to the principal sum of \$400,000.00 and \$35,000.00 respectively repayable upon demand at a rate of interest per annum from time to time established by ATB, and such interest will be calculated daily and due and payable monthly on the last day of each and every month.
2. The Chief Elected Officer and the Chief Administrative Officer are authorized for and on behalf of the Corporation:
  - (a) To apply to ATB for the aforesaid loan to the Corporation and to arrange with ATB the amount, terms and conditions of the loan and security or securities to be given to ATB;
  - (b) As security for any money borrowed from ATB
    - (i) To execute promissory notes and other negotiable instruments or evidences of debt for such loans and renewals of all such promissory notes and other negotiable instruments or evidences of debts;
    - (ii) To give or furnish to ATB all such securities and promises as ATB may require to secure repayment of such loans and interest thereon; and
    - (iii) To execute all security agreements, hypothecations, debentures, charges, pledges, conveyances, assignments and transfers to and in favour of ATB of all or any property, real or personal, moveable or immovable, now or hereafter owned by the Corporation or in which the Corporation may have any interest, and any other documents or contracts necessary to give or to furnish to ATB the security or securities required by it.
3. The source or sources of money to be used to repay the principal and interest owing under the borrowing from ATB are:

Taxes levied or to be levied and requisitions made or to be made by the Town of Picture Butte.
4. The amount to be borrowed and the term of the loan will not exceed any restrictions set forth in the Municipal Government Act.
5. In the event that the Municipal Government Act permits extension of the term of the loan and in the event the Council of the Corporation decides to extend the loan and ATB is prepared to extend the loan, any renewal or extension, bill, debenture, promissory note, or other obligation executed by the officers designated in paragraph 2 hereof and delivered to ATB will be valid and conclusive proof as against the Corporation of the decision of the Council to extend the loan in accordance with the terms of such renewal or extension, bill, debenture, promissory note, or other obligation, and ATB will not be bound to inquire into the authority of such officers to execute and deliver any such renewal, extension document or security.
6. This Bylaw comes into force April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 and rescinds Bylaw 925-22.

MOVED by XXXXXXXX to approve FIRST reading of Bylaw #934-23 this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023.  
CARRIED

MOVED by XXXXXXXX to approve SECOND reading of Bylaw #934-23 this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023.  
CARRIED

MOVED by XXXXXXXX that permission be granted to move to THIRD AND FINAL reading of Bylaw #934-23 this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOVED by XXXXXXXX to approve THIRD AND FINAL reading of Bylaw #934-23 this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023.  
CARRIED

**Certificate**

**WE HEREBY CERTIFY** that the foregoing resolution was duly passed by the Council of the Corporation therein mentioned at a duly and regularly constituted meeting thereof held on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023 at which a quorum was present, as entered in the Minutes of the said Council, and that the Bylaw has come into force and is still in full force and effect.

WITNESS our hands and the seal of the Corporation this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023.

Seal

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cathy Moore  
Chief Elected Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keith Davis  
Chief Administrative Officer



## Request for Decision

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

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

Date: 20 April, 2023  
To: Mayor, Council  
From: CAO

### Re: Urban Hen Bylaw waiver request

#### Background:

Mr. Lowe, principal of the Picture Butte High School was a delegation at the Committee of the Whole meeting. This memorandum is to provide some background information regarding the Urban Hen Bylaw and Mr. Lowe's request.

Mr. Lowe is requesting:

1. A waiver to the existing bylaw regarding the height of their proposed chicken coop.
  - a. The bylaw limits the height of a coop to 2 metres. He is requesting a 2.43m height for their coop.
  - b. Administration has no concerns with a height waiver being given for the proposed coop.
2. To have one coop instead of three individual coops.
  - a. The Urban Hen bylaw defines a "Coop" as "a fully enclosed weather proof structure and attached outdoor enclosure used for the keeping of Hens, that is no larger than 9.2 square metres (110 sq. ft.) in floor area, and no more than two metres (6.56ft.) in height."
  - b. The bylaw also states that hens must have at least 0.37 square metres (3.98 sq.ft.) of interior floor area and at least 0.92 square metres (9.9 sq.ft.) of outdoor enclosure.
  - c. If the one coop meets the requirements of the bylaw for the number of hens then it is permissible. That is three coops are not required.

We have treated the high schools coops as three separate licences, thus requiring three separate applications and three separate licence fees. The bylaw allows us to treat the High Schools application to have 15 urban hens as one Urban Hen Licence and thus one Urban Hen Licence fee.

In the immediate Administration thinks that we can refund the High School \$130 (one application fee and one licence fee) from what they have paid in 2023. If the High School wants to continue having Urban Hen's under an approved licence, allowing up to 15 Urban Hens (Section 4.3), in 2024 then they will be only charged the one annual urban hen licence fee. This hasn't been clearly communicated to Mr. Lowe as we were previously interpreting the bylaw differently, that is, that the high school had to have 3 different licences.

Currently the Town has issued 2 other Urban Hen Licences to residents in Town.

#### Recommendations:

1. To approve a waiver, allowing a 2.43m Coop height, for the proposed Coop, as presented, to be used at the Picture Butte High School.
2. To refund the Picture Butte High School \$130 for one Urban Hen application fee and one Urban Hen licence fee.

**Attachments:**

1. Letter from Mr. Lowe
2. Bylaw No. 926-22 Urban Hen bylaw

**Submitted by:** Keith Davis, CAO



*Picture Butte High School*

*Principal*

**Mr. M. Lowe**

[mark.lowe@pallisersd.ab.ca](mailto:mark.lowe@pallisersd.ab.ca)

Box 1280  
Picture Butte, AB  
T0K 1V0  
Fax No: (403) 732 – 4757  
Phone: (403) 732 – 4404

March 27, 2023

To the Town of Picture Butte Council:

On behalf of Picture Butte High School, we would like to thank you for the support you have shown our FarmEd program which became operational in September of 2022. We have recently activated all three potential licenses and now have 15 hens on site. 10 of these hens are young chicks hatched on March 6. The present plan is to move all 15 of our hens offsite in the summertime to a community member in the County of Lethbridge and then back to Picture Butte High School in the fall. At this time, we are petitioning Town Council to consider permitting us to convert one of our sheds into a chicken coop that will house all 15 chickens instead of housing them in three smaller chicken coops.

This request would require two alterations, exceptions, or modifications of the present bylaw. First, it would allow us to have one building instead of three for the three individual licenses that we currently have. Second, the coop we would like to use presently meets the maximum length and width requirements but it does not meet the height requirements of being less than 2.00m. This structure is roughly 2.43m tall (8 feet). If granted, this change would greatly help us in that we would only have one structure to insulate and heat as well as only one food and water dispenser. In addition, since our hens have one common outdoor area, there would no longer be concerns of all 15 of our chickens attempting to go into one coop when the weather turns colder. Please find, attached to this letter, the following pictures which show the proposed look of the space we plan to use.

If you require any further clarification or information, please contact me directly and I will be more than happy to speak with you. I can be contacted directly at (403) 915-6982. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter of request.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Lowe, Principal  
Picture Butte High School

## Present Coop setup



## Proposed single Coop setup



TOWN OF PICTURE BUTTE  
BYLAW NO. 926-22

A BYLAW OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PICTURE BUTTE, IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, TO REGULATE AND LICENCE THE KEEPING OF CHICKENS IN URBAN AREAS OF THE TOWN OF PICTURE BUTTE

WHEREAS the Municipal Government Act, being Chapter M-26 of the Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, and amendments thereto, provides that a Council may pass bylaws relating to the safety, health and welfare of people, the protection of people and property, wild and domestic animals and certain activities in relation to them;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Government Act also provides that a Council may pass bylaws to provide a system of licences, permits and approvals;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Town of Picture Butte deems it desirable to regulate and licence the keeping of chickens in urban areas of the Town;

NOW THEREFORE, the Municipal Council of the Town of Picture Butte, hereby enacts as follows:

1. CITATION

1.1. This bylaw may be cited as the "Urban Hen Bylaw".

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1. In this bylaw:

1. "CAO" means the Chief Administrative Officer of the Town of Picture Butte, or designate;
2. "Contiguous Boundary" means property which either abuts directly on the property where Hens will be kept or is directly separated from the property by a street or street right of way, alley, walkway, railway, water body, utility lot or other similar feature;
3. "Coop" means a fully enclosed weather proof structure and attached outdoor enclosure used for the keeping of Hens, that is no larger than 9.2 square metres (100 sq. ft.) in floor area, and no more than two metres (6.56ft.) in height;
4. "Council" means the Town of Picture Butte Council;
5. "Hen(s)" means a domesticated female chicken that is at least sixteen weeks of age;
6. "Municipal Tag" means a document alleging an offence issued pursuant to the authority of a Bylaw of the Town;
7. "Outdoor Enclosure" means a securely enclosed, roofed outdoor area attached to and forming part of a Coop having a bare earth or vegetated floor for the Hens to roam;
8. "Peace Officer" means
  - a. A member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police
  - b. A Community Peace Officer as appointed by the Solicitor General of Alberta;
  - c. A Bylaw Enforcement Officer as appointed by the Town to enforce bylaws of the Town;
9. "Rooster" means a domesticated male chicken;
10. "Sell" means to exchange or deliver for money or its equivalent;
11. "Town" means the Town of Picture Butte, a municipal corporation in the Province of Alberta, and where the context so requires, means the area of land within the corporate boundaries thereof;
12. "Urban Area" means lands located within the Town on which agricultural operations, including but not limited to the keeping of livestock, are neither a permitted or discretionary use under the Bylaws of the Town;

13. "Urban Hen Licence" means a licence issued pursuant to this Bylaw which authorizes the licence holder to keep Hens on a specific property within the Town.
14. "Violation Tag" means a notice or tag in the form as approved by the CAO, issued by the Town, allowing a voluntary payment option of a fine established under this Bylaw;
15. "Violation Ticket" means a ticket issued pursuant to Part 2 of the Provincial Offences Procedures Act, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter P-34 and any amendments or regulations thereto.

### 3. PROHIBITIONS

- 3.1. In an Urban Area, no person shall keep:
  1. a Rooster;
  2. a Hen, other than on a property for which a valid Urban Hen Licence has been issued; or
  3. burn excess manure.

### 4. URBAN HEN LICENCES

- 4.1. The maximum number of Urban Hen Licences that may be issued in the Town shall be ten (10).
- 4.2. A person may keep up to five (5) Hens by:
  1. Submitting a completed Urban Hen Licence Application;
  2. Paying a non-refundable application fee as outlined in the Town's Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw.
  3. Paying an annual fee for the Urban Hen Licence as outlined in the Town's Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw.
- 4.3. Notwithstanding Section 4.2 properties zoned *Public - P* under the current Land Use Bylaw may keep up to fifteen (15) Hens by following the requirements of this bylaw.
- 4.4. Urban Hen Licences:
  1. May be issued if the CAO is satisfied that:
    - a. The applicant is the owner of the property on which the Hens will be kept; or that the owner of the property has provided written consent to the applicant;
    - b. The property is zoned as a residential land use district, excluding Residential Multi Unit – R5 properties, according to the Town's Land Use Bylaw.
    - c. The property is zoned as a Public land use district according to the Town's Land Use Bylaw.
    - d. The applicant resides on the property on which the Hens will be kept;
      - i. Section 4.4.1d. will not be a requirement of this bylaw if the property is zoned *Public – P* under the Town's Land Use Bylaw.
    - e. All required information has been provided;
    - f. The applicable fee has been paid; and
    - g. The applicant has complied with all other Provincial and Federal regulations for the keeping of chickens.
  2. May be refused or revoked by the CAO if:
    - a. The applicant or licence holder does not meet or no longer meets the requirements for an Urban Hen Licence as set out in the Bylaw;
    - b. The applicant or licence holder furnishes false information or misrepresents any fact or circumstance required pursuant to this Bylaw;
    - c. The applicant or licence holder has, in the opinion of the CAO, based on reasonable grounds, contravened any part of this Bylaw whether or not the contravention has been prosecuted;

- d. The applicant or licence holder fails to pay a fine imposed by a court for a contravention of this Bylaw or any other applicable Bylaw related to the keeping livestock;
  - e. The applicant or licence holder fails to pay any fee required by this Bylaw or any other applicable legislation; or
  - f. In the opinion of the CAO, based on reasonable grounds, it is in the public interest to do so.
3. Will be refused by the CAO if fifty percent or more of the neighbours having contiguous boundaries with the property where the Hens will be kept are not in support of the application.
  4. Are valid for the year, ending December 31<sup>st</sup>;
  5. Are not transferable from one person to another;
  6. Are not transferable from one property to another except:
    - a. when a licence holder has moved to a new property within the Town, then:
      - i. The licence holder may apply to transfer the licence; and
      - ii. an inspection of the new property must be carried out to determine the licence holder is still able to meet all requirements for an Urban Hen Licence as set out in this Bylaw at such property.
- 4.5. Urban Hen Licence Fees:
1. Are to be paid prior to the 31<sup>st</sup> of January of every year and expire on December 31<sup>st</sup>;
  2. Shall not be reduced or prorated no matter the month of purchase;
  3. Shall not be refunded or rebated.
- 4.6. Notwithstanding any other Town bylaw, a person who has applied for and has been approved for ownership of Hens may keep them in accordance with the terms of this Bylaw and its attached Schedules.
- 4.7. If the CAO revokes, or refuses to issue an Urban Hen Licence, the applicant may appeal the decision to Council.

## 5. KEEPING OF HENS

- 5.1. A person who keeps Hens must:
1. Provide each Hen with at least 0.37 square metres (3.98 sq.ft.) of interior floor area, and at least 0.92 square metres (9.9 sq. ft) of outdoor enclosure, within the Coop;
  2. Ensure that each Coop is:
    - a. Located in the rear of the property;
    - b. Meets the setback requirements for accessory buildings and structures as outlined in the Town's current Land Use Bylaw.
    - c. At grade level, is no more than 2 metres (6.56 ft.) in height;
  3. Provide and maintain, in the Coop, at least one nest box per Coop and one perch per Hen that is at least 15cm long;
  4. Keep each Hen in the Coop at all times;
  5. Provide each Hen with appropriate food, water, shelter, light, warmth, ventilation, veterinary care, and opportunities for essential behaviours such as scratching, dust bathing, and roosting, all sufficient to maintain the Hen in good health;
  6. Maintain the Coop in good repair and sanitary condition, and free from vermin and noxious or offensive smells and substances;
  7. Construct and maintain the Coop to prevent any rodent from harbouring underneath, within, or within its walls, and to prevent entrance by any other animal;
  8. Keep the Coop secured at all times;
  9. Remove leftover feed, trash, and manure in a timely manner;
  10. Store feed with a fully enclosed container;
  11. Store manure within a fully enclosed container, and store no more than 85 litres of manure at any time;

12. Remove all other manure not used for composting or fertilizing and dispose of such in accordance with Town bylaws;
13. Follow biosecurity procedures outlined by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to reduce the potential for a disease outbreak;
14. Keep Hens for personal use only; and
15. Inform the Town immediately of any disease or welfare issues that may affect the public, and of the steps taken to rectify the situation.

5.2. No person who keeps Hens shall:

1. Sell eggs, manure, meat, or other products derived from a Hen;
  - a. Section 5.2.1. is not a requirement if the property is zoned *Public – P* under the Town's Land Use Bylaw.
2. Slaughter any Hen on the property;
3. Dispose of any Hen except by delivering it to a farm, abattoir, veterinarian, or other operation that is lawfully permitted to dispose of such; and
4. Keep a Hen in a cage, kennel, or any other form of shelter other than a Coop, except for the purpose of temporary transport.

6. AUTHORITY OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

6.1. Without restricting any other power, duty or function granted by the Urban Hen Bylaw, the CAO may:

1. Carry out any inspections to determine compliance with this Bylaw;
2. Take any steps or carry out any actions required to enforce this Bylaw;
3. Take any steps or carry out any actions required to remedy a contravention of this Bylaw;
4. Establish forms for the purpose of this Bylaw; and
5. Delegate any powers, duties or functions under this Bylaw to a Town employee.

7. PENALTIES AND ENFORCEMENT

- 7.1 No person shall willfully obstruct, hinder or interfere with a Peace Officer or any other person authorized to enforce and engaged in the enforcement of the provisions of this Bylaw.
- 7.2 Any person who contravenes any provision of the Bylaw is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of not more than Ten Thousand (\$10,000) dollars, imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year, or both.
- 7.3 Where there is a specified penalty listed for an offence in Schedule A to this Bylaw, that amount is the minimum specified penalty for the offence.
- 7.4 Where a person contravenes the same provision of this Bylaw two or more times within one twelve-month period, the specified penalty payable in respect of the second or subsequent contravention shall be the amount stated in Schedule A for such offences.
- 7.5 In the case of an offence that is of a continuing nature, a contravention constitutes a separate offence in respect of each day or part of a day on which it continues.
- 7.6 The levying and payment of any fine or the imprisonment for any period provided in this Bylaw shall not relieve a person from the necessity of paying any fees, charges or costs from which that person is liable under the provisions of this Bylaw or any other Bylaw.
- 7.7 Any Peace Officer who has reasonable and probable grounds to believe that any person has contravened any provision of this Bylaw may issue and serve:
  1. A violation tag allowing a payment of the specified penalty to the Town; or
  2. A violation ticket allowing payment according to the provisions of the Provincial Offences and Procedure Act, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter P-34 and amendments thereto.
- 7.8 Service of a violation tag will be sufficient if it is:
  1. Personally served; or

2. Served by regular mail to the person's last known mailing address.
- 7.9 If a violation ticket is issued in respect to an offence, the violation ticket may:
1. Specify the fine amount established by this Bylaw for the offence; or
  2. Require a person to appear in court without the alternative of making a voluntary payment.
- 7.10 A person who commits an offence may
1. If a violation ticket is issued in respect of the offence; and
  2. If the violation ticket specified the fine amount established by this Bylaw for the offence;

make a voluntary payment equal to the specified fine by delivering the violation ticket and the specified fine to the provincial courthouse specified on the violation ticket.

8. SEVERABILITY

- 8.1. It is the intention of Council that each separate provision of this Bylaw shall be deemed independent of all other provisions herein and it is the further intention of Council that if any provision of the Bylaw is declared invalid, all other provisions hereof shall remain valid and enforceable.

9. COMING INTO EFFECT

- 8.1 This Bylaw shall come into effect on the date of the third reading and rescinds Bylaw No. 912-21 Urban Hen Bylaw

READ A FIRST TIME THIS 28<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2022. A.D.  
READ A SECOND TIME THIS 25<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF APRIL, 2022. A.D.  
READ A THIRD TIME AND FINALLY PASSED THIS 25<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF APRIL, 2022.  
A.D.

TOWN OF PICTURE BUTTE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cathy Moore  
Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Keith Davis  
CAO

## SCHEDULE A

SECTION	OFFENCE	PENALTY 1 <sup>st</sup> Offence	PENALTY 2 <sup>nd</sup> and Subsequent
3.1.1	Keep a rooster	\$250	\$500
3.1.2	Keep an unlicensed Hen	\$250	\$500
4.3.5	Transfer Urban Hen Licence	\$250	\$500
4.4.1	Fail to renew Urban Hen Licence	\$250	\$500
5.1.1	Fail to provide adequate Coop space for number of Hens	\$250	\$500
5.1.2	Coop improperly located	\$250	\$500
5.1.2	Fail to provide nest box or perch per Hen	\$250	\$500
5.1.4	Allow Hen to be outside the Coop	\$250	\$500
5.1.5	Fail to adequately provide for essential Hen behaviour	\$250	\$500
5.1.6	Fail to maintain the Coop to prevent odours	\$250	\$500
5.1.7	Fail to prevent rodents/animals from entering the Coop	\$250	\$500
5.1.8	Fail to keep Coop secured	\$250	\$500
5.1.9	Fail to remove waste in timely manner	\$250	\$500
5.1.10	Fail to properly store feed	\$250	\$500
5.1.11	Fail to properly store manure	\$250	\$500
5.1.12	Fail to properly dispose of manure	\$250	\$500
5.1.13	Fail to follow biosecurity procedures	\$250	\$500
5.1.14	Keep Hens for other than personal use	\$250	\$500
5.1.15	Fail to inform of any disease or welfare issues	\$250	\$500
5.2.1	Sell products derived from Hens	\$250	\$500
5.2.2	Slaughter Hen on property	\$250	\$500
5.2.3	Unlawfully dispose of Hen	\$250	\$500
5.2.4	Keep Hen in other form of shelter other than a Coop	\$250	\$500
	Application Fee	As per the Fees, Rates and Services Bylaw \$100 Proposed	
	Annual Urban Hen Licence Fee	As per the Fees, Rates and Services Bylaw \$30 Proposed	



## 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: 20 April, 2023  
To: Mayor, Council  
From: CAO

### Miscellaneous Items

- To date the municipalities of Coalhurst, Nobleford and Magrath have confirmed that they will be apart of the reciprocal business licence. The County has confirmed they will not be a part as they have no business licence program.
- The community centre rental waiver approval has been communicated.
- The Curling club is attending the May Committee of the Whole meeting.
- Aaron and I are drafting up a tree planting plan to be presented to Council in the near future.
- I am still working on the scope of work and tender documents for the North County Recreation Complex study.
- The electric car chargers install will be beginning this week. We will have to discuss rates. I have begun preliminary research on this but will have to have something to Council for approval soon.
- The electric ice resurfer is scheduled to arrive in July, however I am not confident it will arrive then as the provider was hesitant in meeting that deadline. We will see.
- A tax arrears list was registered with Land titles. We had 4 properties and 2 manufactured homes registered. Outstanding taxes range from \$500 to \$12,000.

### Ongoing projects

#### Sunset Park Phase 2

McNally is planning to begin work on the 15<sup>th</sup> of May. Setting lot prices discussion is scheduled for the May COW meeting.

### Wastewater Approval Requirements

As per this meeting we received funding from Alberta Transportation. The funding agreement states that the project has to be complete by 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2028. We are still waiting for our Wastewater approval for the required upgrades from Alberta Environment. We are expecting that they will also have a timeline for project completion.

### 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. These will likely be completed in the spring/summer of 2023.

### HOLIDAY STATUS

Days in lieu used 54 hrs out of 70 hrs

Accrued Holidays 27 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: April 21, 2023  
To: Mayor, Council  
From: Director of Emergency Services

### RE: Emergency Services Report – March 2023

Year-to-Date Emergency Events (Jan-Mar)						
Fire		Medical		Motor Vehicle Collisions		Total
Town	County	Town	Other	Town	County	
3	10	108	198	1	5	325

#### Fire Services

Fire crews responded to 26 events in March including 3 motor vehicle collisions, 1 tender assists, 1 outside fire, 1 vehicle fire, and 20 medical emergencies. Wildfire season officially begins March 1 every year and it has been evident locally with our crews dealing with several grassland wildfires recently.

The Fire Station Expansion capital project has resumed with the contractor continuing work on the wall finishes. The crown moulding has been installed and repairs completed to the brick façade where there were any cracks or damages during the wall panel installation. The floor drain, sump and oil separator system has arrived and is being installed. Final welding installations, interior painting, roofing, and continued work on exterior finishes are all scheduled to take place in the coming week.



*Installation of the exterior crown moulding*

## Emergency Medical Services

Our EMS crews responded to 101 medical events in March. 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. Two initiatives that have recently begun are the 45-minute turnaround target for ambulances and additional inter-facility transfer (IFT) units for the south zone. The 45-minute turnaround target is a new provincial standard that was implemented in hospital emergency departments across Alberta. This standard reflects the national benchmark and is the goal to have every ambulance off-load their patient and clear the emergency department in 45 minutes. This will ensure less ambulances are tied up at the hospital and hopefully reduce the Code Red impact on communities. The 45-minute target went into effect on April 13, 2023 in Lethbridge after previously being implemented in Calgary and Medicine Hat. The initiative involves additional supports from EMS supervisors in the emergency department to improve communications and work flow with the ER staff.

The second initiative for the south zone is a pilot project of adding additional IFT units to assist in patient movement tasks throughout the zone. This work involves moving patients between health facilities including hospitals, acute care, labs, and long-term care facilities and has been traditionally done by frontline ambulances that are also tasked with responding to emergency events. The pilot project was open all contracted ambulance providers as AHS does not currently have the capacity to provide the additional units. Picture Butte was one of 3 providers provincially that was able to take part in the project which began April 17, 2023. This project will see Picture Butte Emergency Services utilize our backup ambulance and existing casual staff, when available, to complete IFT tasks around southern Alberta. The initial period of the project is one month and will be evaluated and reviewed for continuation or modification. The early feedback however is extremely positive and it appears to be a beneficial and worthwhile endeavour.



*The first shift of the IFT pilot program*

Another surprise funding announcement came from Alberta Health Services in March with the provincial government approving funding from the provincial surplus to complete an ambulance upgrade program in Alberta. AHS began converting their fleet of ambulances from traditional manual stretchers to electric-powered stretchers in 2017, however funding was never available to expand the program to the contracted ambulance services. We explored the possibility of implementing the new stretcher system in our last ambulance build in 2020, however the system would have added an additional \$70,000 or 35% to the budget. AHS requested funding from the 2022 provincial surplus be dedicated to this retrofit program and the government approved funding for every licensed ambulance in Alberta. AHS also negotiated a reduced cost from the manufacturer based on the volume on units which would be ordered. We have completed the required paperwork with both AHS and the manufacturer, and have received \$103,469.23 from AHS to complete the installation of the power stretcher system in both of our ambulances. This is a great example of government support for EMS and how efficiencies can be found through the provincial system. Stretcher system brochure attached to this report.

As per the correspondence on this agenda, we have received confirmation that the EMR exemption variance to the Ground Ambulance Regulation has been expanded and extended to March 31, 2026. This allows us to resume using EMR practitioners on our ambulance unit for another 3 years. I am hopeful that this exemption will continue or be permanently reversed in that timeframe.

### Bylaw Services

Officer Mosby performs regular daily patrols of Picture Butte to actively monitor for bylaw compliance. Bylaw Services will be pivoting from winter-time snow removal enforcement to spring and summer enforcement including weeds, unsightly properties, trailer parking, and campground patrols. Officer Mosby completed the annual business license renewal campaign in March with a much smaller number of follow-ups required from previous years. There are currently 4 of the 10 allocated Urban Hen Licenses issued in town.

2023 Bylaw Enforcement Files				
	January	February	March	Year-to-date Totals
Dog Control Bylaw	9	2	3	14 files
Traffic Bylaw	3	2	2	7 files
Noise Bylaw	-	-	-	-
Unsightly Premises Bylaw	4	11	6	21 files
Public Information	-	1	-	1 file
Business License Bylaw	-	-	8	8 files
Animal Regulation	-	-	1	1 file
Fire Protection Bylaw	-	-	-	-
Utility Bylaw	-	-	-	-
Land Use Bylaw	-	-	-	-
Urban Hen Bylaw	5	2	2	9 files
<b>Total</b>	<b>21 files</b>	<b>18 files</b>	<b>22 files</b>	<b>61 files</b>
<b>Development Files</b>	<b>13 files</b>	<b>17 files</b>	<b>22 files</b>	<b>52 files</b>

## **Emergency Management**

A startup meeting is being held in the coming weeks to kick off the regional emergency management project funded by the Alberta Community Partnership grant. As well, planning has begun for a couple of grant-funded exercises for later this year to continue to build the training and experience of members in the region. Emergency Preparedness Week is coming up May 7-13 and will be sharing preparedness tips and information with the public.

**Submitted by:** Frank West, *Director of Emergency Services*

# Power-PRO™ 2 powered ambulance cot

Features	High configuration (PN 650705550001)
<b>Siderails</b>	XPS
<b>Wheel lock</b>	Quad wheel/steer-lock
<b>Mattress</b>	XPS knee Gatch bolster mattress
<b>Backrest storage</b>	Dual-sided backrest pouch
<b>Battery</b>	One lithium-ion battery
<b>Compatibility</b>	Power-LOAD® powered cot fastener and Performance-LOAD® manual fastener compatibility
<b>Connectivity</b>	Wi-Fi® enabled
<b>IV pole</b>	IV pole, 3-stage, PR
<b>O<sub>2</sub></b>	O <sub>2</sub> bottle holder, head section
<b>Restraints</b>	X-restraint
<b>Storage</b>	Head end storage flat
<b>Knee Gatch</b>	Knee Gatch/Trendelenburg
<b>Hook</b>	Equipment hook
<b>Manual</b>	Operations manual



\* Additional Accessories may be purchased outside of program. See STRYKER for

## Power-LOAD® powered fastener system

Additional Accessories Included with each Power-LOAD

1 x Floorplate

1 x Power Cable for Vehicle



Installation – Contractor is responsible to arrange installation of Stryker floorplate and wiring to manufacturer specifications. Stryker can assist with installation of Power-Load. All wiring and floorplate must be installed.

PROCARE Services can also be included.

Please follow link and complete form [Powered Cot and Load information sheet](#)

CONTACT STRYKER - JASON HENDERSON

PHONE 780-267-6226

EMAIL [Jason.d.henderson@stryker.com](mailto:Jason.d.henderson@stryker.com)



ALBERTA

TRANSPORTATION AND ECONOMIC CORRIDORS

*Office of the Minister  
MLA, Innisfail-Sylvan Lake*

April 13, 2023

AR 93180

Her Worship Catherine Moore  
Mayor  
Town of Picture Butte  
PO Box 670  
Picture Butte, AB T0K 1V0  
[cmoore@picturebutte.ca](mailto:cmoore@picturebutte.ca)

Dear Mayor Moore:

I am pleased to advise you and your council that the following project will be funded under the Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership. Based on your application, the approved grant is 62.95 per cent of the estimated eligible project cost.

**Wastewater Lagoon and Treatment Upgrades up to a maximum grant of \$8,645,695.27.**

The final grant amount will be based on the actual eligible costs at the time of project completion, up to the approved maximum grant amount. As part of the previous approval conditions, no cost increases can be considered. With this funding, the Town of Picture Butte will be solely responsible for all costs to use, operate, maintain, repair, and replace the completed project.

While I look forward to sharing this important investment, please do not publicly communicate this funding approval until provincial announcements are made.

Our government continues to make investments in hospitals, schools, roads, bridges, transit, and water infrastructure to support municipalities in improving critical local transportation infrastructure, creating jobs, and stimulating the economy.

Transportation and Economic Corridors staff will be in contact with your administration to formalize the funding agreement to undertake this work.

Sincerely,

Honourable Devin Dreeshen, ECA  
Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors

cc: Honourable Joseph Schow, ECA, MLA, Cardston-Siksika  
Darren Davidson, Regional Director, Southern Region, Transportation and Economic Corridors



ALBERTA

MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

*Office of the Minister  
MLA, Calgary-Shaw*

AR111331

April 11, 2023

Dear Chief Elected Official:

Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework agreements (ICFs) between municipalities with shared boundaries are designed to provide for integrated and strategic planning, delivery, and funding of intermunicipal services.

ICFs are created with the understanding that things change over time, and there is a requirement to review those frameworks regularly to ensure they are current and meet the needs of the municipalities that are parties to the framework.

I have heard from some municipalities that it will be challenging to meet the review period of “at least every five years” from the date that their original ICF was signed while the ministry is concurrently reviewing the ICF provisions within the *Municipal Government Act*. Given those concerns, I have signed Ministerial Order No. MSD:24/23, extending the review period from five to seven years.

For clarity, this does not impact the obligation to have an ICF in place and current agreements are still in effect. In other words, the time extension does not mean municipalities can forfeit their obligations within their agreement, including cost-sharing, shared services, and any agreed-upon review period. We recommend municipalities hold off on renegotiation discussions in light of the potential for further amendments.

In addition to this extension, my ministry can provide additional supports to assist with mediation or facilitation services if needed. Questions regarding ICFs can be directed to a Municipal Collaboration Advisor at [icf@gov.ab.ca](mailto:icf@gov.ab.ca) or toll-free by first dialing 310-0000, then 780-427-2225.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Schulz  
Minister

Attachment: Ministerial Order No. MSD:024/23

cc: Chief Administrative Officers

## Keith Davis

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**From:** municipalservicesdivision@gov.ab.ca  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2023 11:00 PM  
**To:** Keith Davis  
**Subject:** Municipal Affairs - Recall Petition Updates  
**Attachments:** Ministerial Order No. MSD-020-23.pdf; Ministerial Order No. MSD-021-23.pdf

Dear Chief Administrative Officers,

Alberta electors will be able to initiate a recall petition for mayors and councillors later this month. To be successful, these petitions require signatures from eligible voters representing 40 per cent of the population of either the municipality as a whole or of the ward they represent. Like other municipal petitions, the recall petition process will be managed at the local level. As such, I would like to share updates with you regarding the recall petition start date and determination of population.

For councillors that were elected on October 18, 2021, the first date a notice of recall petition can be filed with the municipality is April 24, 2023. This accounts for the date a councillor is declared to be elected, which is the fourth day after election day, as well as the requirement for a notice of petition to be filed on a business day. For elected officials that were acclaimed, the notice of recall petition may be filed 18 months after the close of nominations, which is the date they are deemed elected.

As you know, the population of a municipality needs to be established to validate the sufficiency of the recall petition. To ensure clarity and consistency, the Honourable Rebecca Schulz, Minister of Municipal Affairs, has signed two Ministerial Orders to assist in the review of any potential recall petition. The first order establishes the 2019 Municipal Affairs Population List as the official population source with respect to the *Municipal Government Act*.

A second order provides guidance to determine the population of a ward. The CAO will determine the population of a ward based on the 2019 Municipal Affairs Population List and ward boundaries as set by bylaw. If a notice of recall petition is filed for a councillor elected by ward, the CAO must publish the ward's population on the municipality's website within seven days from the date when the notice of recall petition was submitted and validated as per Section 240.2(8)(a) of the *Municipal Government Act*.

Should you have any questions about recall dates or determination of population, please do not hesitate to contact a municipal advisor at 780-427-2225 or [ma.advisory@gov.ab.ca](mailto:ma.advisory@gov.ab.ca). Further information can also be found in the Recall of a Municipal Councillor Handbook – <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/recall-of-a-municipal-councillor-handbook>.

Sincerely,

Brandy Cox  
Deputy Minister

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

Re: Municipal Census Regulation and Municipal Census Manual

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

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

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

Some of the more notable enhancements over previous versions include:

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

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

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

Sincerely,

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

Rebecca Schulz  
Minister

Attachment: Municipal Census Regulation and Manual

## Keith Davis

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**From:** Sonia Garcia (CAL) <Sonia.Garcia@albertahealthservices.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 03, 2023 12:05 PM  
**To:** Admin; APL Logistics; B Moore; Bryan Singleton; Christopher De Vries; Christopher Tomaras; CKlebanosky; Curtis Schaefer; Dan Heney; Dana Terry; Devin Capcara; Dewart; E Cooke; Picture Butte Fire Chief; Gerald.Schriemer@MedavieHS.com; Gord; Grant Marquardt; Greg Adair; Heith Johannson; Janna Hart; Jeffrey Dolejsi; Jody Butz; John@guardianambulance.com; Jon Evans; Justin Chronik; Keith Davis; Klink; Kyla; Lana Storm; Linda Borg ; Luke Flowers; manager@beaver-ems; Marc Rathwell; Margie Smith; Martin Paulson; Meghan Halas; Mike Humphery; Mike Sibbald; NGBear; Nova ; Pat Neumann; Patricia Penton; Patrick Allen; PKennedy; R Kosterman; Reg Fountain; Rob Dean; RWitty; SBrasnett; Scott Aspinall ; Sheila Veidt ; Stephen; Stew; Terry Schueler; Terry.Boettcher; Tim Ljuden; Tom Littlechild; Tomlc; Travis Coleman; Tyler Pelke ; Wes Baerg; Yvonne  
**Subject:** AHS EMS Extension of Exemption – Ground Ambulance Regulation  
**Attachments:** 2023 02 07 AHS EMS GAR Extension to Exemption Request Letter (final).pdf; 2023 02 21 DRAFT AHS EMS GAR Exemption Request PRU Letter\_Final.pdf; Signed MO.pdf

All Delivery Partners:

Good afternoon,

I am forwarding you the requests from us for exemptions to the Ground Ambulance Regulation.

Please also find attached the signed Ministerial Order 601/2023 as well.

This extends the existing exemption from March 31, 2023 to March 31, 2026 along with the requested amendments.

Please connect with your AHS lead contact if you have any questions or would like to discuss.

Murray  
Interim EMS Senior Provincial Director



**Sonia Garcia-Benavente** | Executive Associate  
AHS Emergency Medical Services  
Office of the Provisional Lead, EMS (Athana Mentzelopoulos) and  
the Senior Provincial Director (Murray Crawford)  
[sonia.garcia@ahs.ca](mailto:sonia.garcia@ahs.ca) | 587.779.5755 | 403.689.4414 (Cell) | she/her

*This message, and any documents attached hereto, is intended only for the addressee and may contain privileged or confidential information. Any unauthorized disclosure is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify us immediately so that we may correct our internal records. Please then delete the original message. Thank you.*

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This message and any attached documents are only for the use of the intended recipient(s), are confidential and may contain privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, retransmission, or other disclosure is strictly prohibited. If

Emergency Medical  
Services

February 7, 2023

Mr. Andy Ridge  
Assistant Deputy Minister, Health Standards, Quality and Performance  
Alberta Health  
ATB Place, 22 floor- 10025 Jasper Ave  
Edmonton, AB T5J 2B8  
Via electronic mail: [Andy.Ridge@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Andy.Ridge@gov.ab.ca)

**Re: Request for Extension of Exemption – Ground Ambulance Regulation**

Dear Mr. Ridge,

Alberta's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system, like other areas of health care delivery, continues to face significant challenges to maintain adequate staffing levels due to illness, injury and COVID-19. Coupled with increasing hospital waits and a sustained 30% increase in call volume, Albertans are presently experiencing extended wait times for ambulance response and coverage gaps in their communities.

Ministerial Order (MO) 611/2022 provided AHS and contracted service providers with an exemption to Section 17 (1), (2), and (6) of the *Ground Ambulance Regulation*. The exemption allows AHS and contracted service providers to utilize Emergency Medical Responders (EMRs) as outlined in the Appendix to the Ministerial Order – on class 1, 2 and 4 ambulances with conditions. The MO is currently slated to expire on March 31, 2023.

Since the exemption in May 2022, AHS and contracted service providers have hired 17 EMRs that have worked approximately 3,000 shifts with no reported adverse patient outcomes.

While the uptake of EMR positions has been slow, we believe this was primarily due to the short horizon (9 months) of the exemption and the success of this initiative would benefit from a longer horizon and in turn, longer evaluation of success. In addition, AHS intends to promote the EMR pathway as an additional workforce strategy to pull new recruits into the organization and to promote the profession and intake to primary care paramedic education. A longer exemption will allow this to be fully implemented and evaluated.

In addition, as you are aware AHS is going to be releasing a request for expression of interest and quotation (RFEIOQ) for dedicated interfacility transfer (IFT) services. This exemption would allow a potential vendor to utilize the EMR training level to maximize their staffing options and minimize impacts to existing PCP and ACP staffing levels across the system. This will be important consideration, especially at the outset of the initiative.

Finally, AHS EMS would like to discuss the longer-term potential of changes to the *Ground Ambulance Regulation*, given the challenges the system has experienced since the revised regulations came into force.

Given our experience with the exemption over the last ten months, we would like to propose wording changes in the MO Appendix for clarity of implementation.

1. AHS agrees that the highest level of registered paramedic is always accountable for care in the ambulance, as is the case with any situation where two paramedics that are not registered at the same level are paired together (e.g. ACP with PCP). It is our hope that AH would consider changing the language of the last bullet for class 1 and 2 ambulances and reflect language used in the class 4 exemption. The last bullet allows EMRs to only be used as a driver and support to the primary PCP or ACP. Should the patient be of low acuity (i.e. the majority of patients) the EMR is still not permitted to be the primary care provider in the back of the ambulance. While we appreciate the intent of this, it is not applied to any other situation where two different levels of provider are utilized. We agree the highest-level provider is accountable for patient care regardless of the decision of who can provide ongoing care during transport. The opportunity for EMRs to provide care in the back of the ambulance during
-

transport for low acuity patients would be a significant training and experience opportunity and would increase job satisfaction when provided under the direction of the primary care provider. Of course, we will monitor this from a patient safety and quality of care perspective.

2. Further, we are requesting removal of the restriction to use EMR only when required to maintain scheduled ambulance services. This restriction prevents regular scheduling and efficient use of resources – specific to rural, remote, and communities >3000. This restriction could be applied to metro category of communities for class 1 ambulances. Until our provincial workforce for EMS is fully stabilized, enabling the regular scheduling of EMRs will greatly enhance the system’s ability to provide ongoing coverage. Use of EMRs in a regular staffing complement for class 2 ambulances would allow us to tap into a new workforce for the immediate to medium term while the RFP for low acuity transfers is being released and the new service implemented. This will help minimize the impact on the current workforce and immediately increase the EMS workforce.
3. Finally, we would also like to request changes to the reporting requirements, to align with the capability of our reporting systems. Specifically, the second bullet requires AHS to report the number of shifts worked by EMRs – which AHS does not have a mechanism to track and would require manual collection of data. As opposed to this metric, AHS could report unit hours logged on as an EMR, if that is an acceptable proxy.

As with the previous exemption, AHS Labor Relations intends to engage the Health Sciences Association of Alberta (HSAA) regarding this exemption request and explain the background and rationale. It is anticipated that HSAA will react positively to this action.

AHS believes this exemption will provide opportunities to maintain ambulance coverage in communities due to the anticipated availability of EMRs to work in the public EMS system, thereby reducing the number of ambulances not in service due to the lack of availability of Advanced and Primary Care Paramedics.

Sincerely,



Murray Crawford  
Interim Senior Provincial Executive Director  
Emergency Medical Services (EMS)  
Alberta Health Services (AHS)

- c: Athana Mentzelopoulos, Provisional Lead, AHS EMS  
Deb Gordon, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Clinical Operations and Primary Care, AHS  
Dr. Sid Viner, Vice President and Medical Director, Clinical Operations, AHS  
Erin O’Neill, Acting Executive Director, Health System Planning and Quality, Alberta Health  
Chris Nickerson, Associate Senior Provincial Director, EMS, AHS  
Tim A. Ford, Registrar, Alberta College of Paramedics



Office of the Minister  
MLA, Calgary - Varsity

**M.O. 601/2023**

WHEREAS section 45(1) of the *Emergency Health Services Act* (EHS Act) authorizes the Minister, when the Minister considers it to be in the public interest to do so, to exempt any person from the operation of the EHS Act, the regulations thereunder or any provision of the EHS Act or the regulations thereunder;

WHEREAS section 45(2) of the EHS Act provides that an order referred to in section 45(1) may contain any terms and conditions that the Minister considers appropriate;

WHEREAS section 17 of the *Ground Ambulance Regulation* sets out ambulance staffing requirements;

WHEREAS I am satisfied that it is in the public interest to grant an exemption in order to address current emergency health services system pressures, and allow respite for emergency medical services staff to mitigate burnout;

THEREFORE, I, JASON COPPING, Minister of Health, pursuant to section 45 of the *EHS Act*, do hereby order that:

1. M.O. 611/2022 is rescinded.
2. A regional health authority is exempt from the requirements set out in section 17 of the *Ground Ambulance Regulation* as set out in the attached Appendix.
3. This Order takes effect upon signing and expires March 31, 2026.

DATED at *Edmonton*, Alberta this *25<sup>th</sup>* day of *March*, 2023.

  
JASON COPPING  
MINISTER

## Appendix

### GENERAL

1. AHS must be accountable for compliance with the terms and conditions of this exemption for its own direct delivery operations and for its contracted service delivery partners.
2. AHS must report to Alberta Health, for its own direct delivery operations and for its contracted service partners, within 30 days of the end of each quarter up until March 31, 2026 and must provide a final summary report by April 30, 2026, respecting:
  - a) the total number of emergency medical responders (EMRs) employed in the public Emergency Medical Services system (all providers and by zone);
  - b) the total number of hours worked by EMRs;
  - c) utilization of EMRs on paramedic response unit (PRU) in communities with less than 3000 persons and remote communities; any adverse patient outcomes that occurred in cases where this exemption was used;
  - d) copies of annual operational plan provided by contracted providers where EMRs are required for operational need to fulfill regular scheduled shifts; and
  - e) reporting every time the exemption of two EMRs is utilized.
3. AHS must continue to support all EMRs, primary care paramedics (PCPs), and advanced care paramedics (ACPs) working on ambulances with a network of physicians providing online medical consultation, which can be accessed while providing patient care by phone, radio, or other electronic means, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

### CLASS 1 AND CLASS 2 AMBULANCES

4. Class 1 and Class 2 ambulances must be staffed with 2 ambulance attendants as defined in the *Emergency Health Services Act* and *Ground Ambulance Regulation*, provided the following:
  - a) one of the ambulance attendants must be an ACP or a PCP;
  - b) one of the ambulance attendants may be an EMR.
5. Despite section 4, two EMR staff may respond and transport patients using a Class 1 or 2 ambulance provided the following criteria is met:
  - a) the response occurs between the period of April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024;
  - b) the staffing of the Class 1 or 2 ambulance with two EMR staff only occurs in a community with less than 3000 persons or a remote community where AHS has determined that responding to the call would not be possible without this staffing level; and
  - c) a report is provided to Alberta Health anytime this exception is utilized.
6. Consideration will be given to extending the time period set out under section 5(b), if there remains a demonstrated need in March 2025 to support critical staffing levels in the community.
7. On Class 1 and Class 2 ambulances, one EMR may only be used when required for operational need.

8. For greater certainty, operational need is demonstrated:
  - a) when required on an ad-hoc, last resort basis where it can be demonstrated there is a need to maintain unit availability due to unforeseen gaps in scheduling; or
  - b) where a contracted service provider submits an annual operational plan to Alberta Health Services demonstrating the need for an EMR on a regularly scheduled shift.
9. An EMR deployed on a Class 1 or Class 2 ambulance must be licensed, trained in and competent with emergency vehicle operations, including operations of an ambulance with emergency lights and sirens according to the *Alberta Traffic Safety Act*.
10. An EMR may be the primary care ambulance attendant on Class 1 and Class 2 ambulances. For greater certainty, the highest level of registered regulated member under the *Paramedics Profession Regulation* is accountable for all patients care decisions.

### **CLASS 3 AMBULANCES**

11. A Class 3 ambulance that is functioning as a PRU may be staffed by an ACP, PCP or EMR.
12. Despite section 13, a Class 3 ambulance that is functioning as a PRU may be staffed by an EMR only:
  - a) in a rural community with under 3000 persons;
  - b) in a remote community;
  - c) where such use is necessary as a last resort where staffing with a PCP or ACP is not an option.
13. In the event, a Class 1 or Class 2 ambulance is used as a Class 3 ambulance and a decision is made to transport the patient; the staffing requirements of Class 1 and Class 2 apply.

### **CLASS 4 AMBULANCES**

14. Class 4 ambulances falling under section 17(6) of the *Ground Ambulance Regulation* must be staffed with two ambulance attendants as defined in the *Emergency Health Services Act* and *Ground Ambulance Regulation*, both of whom may be EMRs.
15. The highest level of registered regulated member under the *Paramedics Profession Regulation* is accountable for patient care decisions.



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April 12, 2023

Office of the Minister  
Environment & Protected Areas  
224 Legislature Building  
10800 – 97 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

RE: Exemption of Newspaper from EPR Program Revisions

Dear Minister Savage,

Print media (newspapers) are essential to the lifeblood of Alberta. Newspapers provide a traditional sense, and source of information to our residents. In what has become ever consistent in social media and internet-based forms of news, newspapers rely on facts, sourcing their stories and identifying truths.

The past number of years have been challenging for both business and small business. The continued rise in costs, accompanied by the downturn in the economy has forced job loss and ultimately business closure. Looking to enforce further constraints on what is one of our oldest and most relied upon industries truly seems unfair.

The newspaper industry has already looked at ways to reduce costs and become both more efficient and compliant, such as reducing paper thickness, which has come at a cost. This cost is not only monetary, but also content based. The reduction in paper-based weight has also reduced the amount of content which can be provided to our residents, once again, affecting them.

By expecting newspapers to have the same level of compliance with the EPR Program as plastics, seem short-sighted and unrealistic. The Provincial Government needs to recognize the importance of newspapers to Albertans and stand to make the same move as the Ontario Government. Please exempt newspapers from the revised EPR Program.

Sincerely,

*Debora L. Dueck*

Debora Dueck  
Mayor

C.C  
Jackie Lovely, MLA Camrose  
All Alberta Municipalities  
Kerry Anderson, Tofield Mercury

## Picture Butte Info

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**From:** Rural Charities <ruralcharitiesalberta@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** April 15, 2023 12:31 PM  
**To:** Rural Charities  
**Subject:** Fwd: Camrose Casino Relocation Townhall & Rural Charities Revenues  
**Attachments:** Camrose Casino Relocation Information Memo Feb 2023.docx; Camrose Casino Relocation Presentation to Rural Leaders Feb 2023.pdf

Please find below further information on the proposed Camrose Casino Relocation and its impact on rural charities revenues in Alberta.

Our group will be holding a town hall in person at the Camrose Casino on Monday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM which will also be broadcasted on Teams via this link:

---

Microsoft Teams meeting

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 229 829 655 294

Passcode: unhBZc

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

---

This issue affects and sets a precedent for **all Rural Communities and Charitable groups in Alberta** to provide equality and fairness for the allocation of AGLC charitable gaming revenues.

We would appreciate if you could please forward this invitation to your contacts in rural Alberta.

As most of you likely are aware, in 2022 the Camrose Casino applied to Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis (AGLC) to relocate to Edmonton; AGLC [subsequently denied the request](#). You are receiving this email because some or all of your municipality may be located within the Camrose or St. Albert charitable gaming region (or you are in a rural Alberta region), and would be directly impacted by the AGLC's decision to not allow the relocation, which may result in the closure of the Camrose casino in the near future.

Under Alberta's current charitable gaming model, rural charitable organizations are significantly disadvantaged compared to their urban counterparts due to lower per-event revenues at rural casinos, and longer wait times between charitable event opportunities for individual charities. In 2018, RMA [developed a report and recommendations](#) for a more equitable charitable gaming model, which was submitted to the AGLC. No meaningful response was provided to the report.

While relocating the Camrose casino to Edmonton would not address province-wide issues with the current model, it would benefit charitable organizations currently within the Camrose and St. Albert casino regions (funding is pooled between the regions) as a move from Camrose to Edmonton is projected to significantly increase per-event revenues at the casino, which would likely continue to be the “home casino” for charitable organizations currently in the Camrose region. Camrose and St. Albert regions currently produce among the lowest per-event revenues and have among the highest wait times in the province, while Edmonton’s five casinos currently produce the highest average per event revenues in the province and have among the shortest wait times. Moving the Camrose casino to Edmonton would be a small step in shifting towards a more equitable system, at least for charities in those regions. Despite this, one of the main reasons that the move was rejected was due to advocacy by Edmonton charitable organizations and the City of Edmonton Mayor & Council opposed to potentially losing a small portion of the revenues they currently receive due to the addition of another casino within the city for the benefit of rural organizations. It should be noted that Calgary currently has one casino reserved exclusively for the surrounding rural region charitable groups, whereas Edmonton does not.

The owners of the Camrose casino are appealing the AGLC’s decision and are seeking support from impacted municipalities, community groups, and rural residents. I have attached a presentation and memo developed by the casino owners, both of which provide a more detailed overview of the issue and impacts on rural communities. The best way to weigh in on this issue is by submitting a letter directly to the AGLC. Letters can be sent to Nadja Lacroix, Senior Manager, Inspections Gaming, at [nadja.lacroix@aglc.ca](mailto:nadja.lacroix@aglc.ca), as well as AGLC CEO Kandice Machado at [kandice.machado@aglc.ca](mailto:kandice.machado@aglc.ca) or AGLC Board Chair Len Rhodes at [len.rhodes@aglc.ca](mailto:len.rhodes@aglc.ca). The deadline to submit a letter on this issue is **May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023**. The owners of the Camrose Casino have also developed a website with further information and ideas on how to make your voice heard on this issue: <https://ruralcharities.ca/>.

**IMPORTANT  
ANNOUNCEMENT**  
FOR THE PUBLIC

**TOWN HALL**  
**APRIL 17TH AND 18TH**  
**7PM TO 9PM**  
AT THE CAMROSE RESORT CASINO & HOTEL  
REGAL 1 CONFERENCE ROOM

REGARDING THE  
CAMROSE RESORT  
CASINO LICENCE  
RELOCATION



LIVE Q&A SESSION  
WITH PRESIDENT  
JASON PECHET

FREE  
COFFEE  
AND  
PASTRIES!



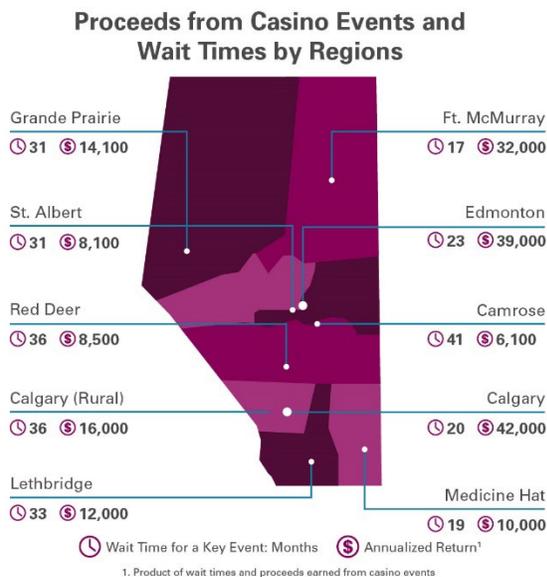


## Alberta Rural Charities Set to Lose Out, Again

**Edmonton** – The Alberta Gaming, Liquor & Cannabis Commission (AGLC) has handed down a decision that will further shortchange rural charities. Already at a distinct disadvantage compared to their urban counterparts, rural charities are set to lose out once again thanks to the AGLC Board’s refusal to let the Camrose Resort Casino relocate to South Edmonton.

The disparity between urban and rural charitable event revenue is significant. It doesn’t matter if an event is held in a major urban centre or a rural community; the volunteers work the same number of hours. At the end of the night, however, a charitable event in the urban centre will bring in up to six times more revenue. What’s more, the average wait time for a gaming event is generally lower, too.

“AGLC’s unfair treatment of rural charities has been going on for decades, shortchanging rural communities hundreds of millions of dollars. Rural communities and their leaders should be alarmed by their mistreatment by AGLC and the failure by the AGLC Board to approve a relocation that would help to resolve this disparity,” said Jason Pechet, president of Capital City Casino, which owns the Camrose Resort Casino.



The proposed relocation would ensure revenues would continue to flow to rural charities. Given the pooling mechanism used by AGLC for the Camrose and St. Albert AGLC-defined regions, the proposed relocation would have benefitted hundreds of thousands of rural Albertans living in communities spanning from the B.C. border to the Saskatchewan border. According to AGLC’s own data, these two regions have the lowest revenues per gaming event (Camrose: \$6,100/event, St. Albert: \$8,100/event) and some of the highest event wait times (Camrose: 41 months, St. Albert: 31 months) in the entire province. By way of comparison, an event in Edmonton will generate \$39,000 in revenue and has a wait time of only 23 months.

“The AGLC Board’s decision is as frustrating as it is perplexing, especially given that AGLC management approved the relocation,” said Pechet. “One of the key recommendations that came out of AGLC’s extensive Charitable Gaming Model Review was to designate a casino in Edmonton to serve rural charities exclusively, just like Calgary has. We offered AGLC the perfect project – one that would create jobs, drive economic development, increase revenues for the province, and provide parity for rural charities. In a baffling move, the AGLC Board rejected our proposal citing concerns that its own management did not feel were issues.”

As the Camrose Resort Casino struggled to generate a sustainable amount of charitable revenues, AGLC made two decisions that effectively doomed the casino’s financial viability. In 2019, AGLC approved the relocation of the Century Mile Race Track Casino from Edmonton to just 60 km away from the Camrose Resort Casino. Then, in 2022, AGLC also green-lit the construction of a new Louis Bull First Nations Casino, which is just 55 km away. The local market isn’t large enough to support a single gaming facility, let alone three. What’s more, none of the revenue from the First Nations Casino or Race Track Casino will support rural charities in the Camrose and St. Albert regions.



The Camrose Resort Casino is asking Albertans upset with the unfair treatment of rural charities to let AGLC know they support the relocation of the Camrose Resort Casino.

275 Edmonton Charities wrote to AGLC to block the Camrose Casino relocation and deny rural charitable groups the opportunity to receive a fair and equal share of charitable gaming revenues.

Please send your message of support by calling or emailing AGLC at: 780-447-8847 / [nadja.lacroix@aglc.ca](mailto:nadja.lacroix@aglc.ca).

### **Background Facts and Figures**

- In June 2021, Capital City Casino hired HLT Advisory Inc., a consulting firm specializing in the gaming sector (and one that AGLC regularly uses), to review its relocation proposal. HLT Advisory Inc. determined relocating the Camrose Resort Casino would generate \$28 million of new, incremental AGLC revenue.
- AGLC estimates that relocating the Camrose Casino to South Edmonton would result in \$8.8 million in new, incremental revenues for charitable groups.
- St Albert and Camrose gaming regions are the only AGLC gaming regions in the province that pool revenues together. The relocation will increase the amount of charitable revenues for both the Camrose and the St Albert regions, improving parity with large urban charitable revenues. The relocation would improve the financial disparity issue for the two rural gaming regions, not just one.
- If the relocation application is unsuccessful, the Camrose Resort Casino will need to close its doors, and 650 regional charities will lose desperately needed revenues.
- In the event that the Camrose Casino relocated to Edmonton, AGLC estimates the decline in Edmonton Urban Charity revenue as \$8,438 per Urban Charity event, which is far less than if the Camrose Casino closed and all 650 regional charities were reallocated to Edmonton casinos, which would result in a decline of approximately \$14,000 per annualized event. In short, Edmonton Urban Charities have more to lose by opposing this relocation.



# **CAMROSE CASINO RELOCATION PRESENTATION TO RURAL LEADERS**

# Camrose Casino Relocation

- The Camrose Casino applied to AGLC to relocate to South Edmonton in September 2021, however, the AGLC Board denied the application in November 2022. An AGLC Appeal Hearing is scheduled for March 13<sup>th</sup>.
- The physical relocation of the Camrose casino would have allowed the Rural casino license to continue generating charitable gaming revenues for Rural communities, while increasing the Rural revenues by more than 4 times.
- AGLC's relocation denial blocks this opportunity and materially, financially affects over one thousand Rural charitable groups and hundreds of thousands of Rural Albertans (from Lloydminster to Jasper).
- Rural Alberta charities in the Camrose and St Albert regions have been short changed over \$250 MM since the inception of charitable gaming in Alberta, versus their Urban peers.

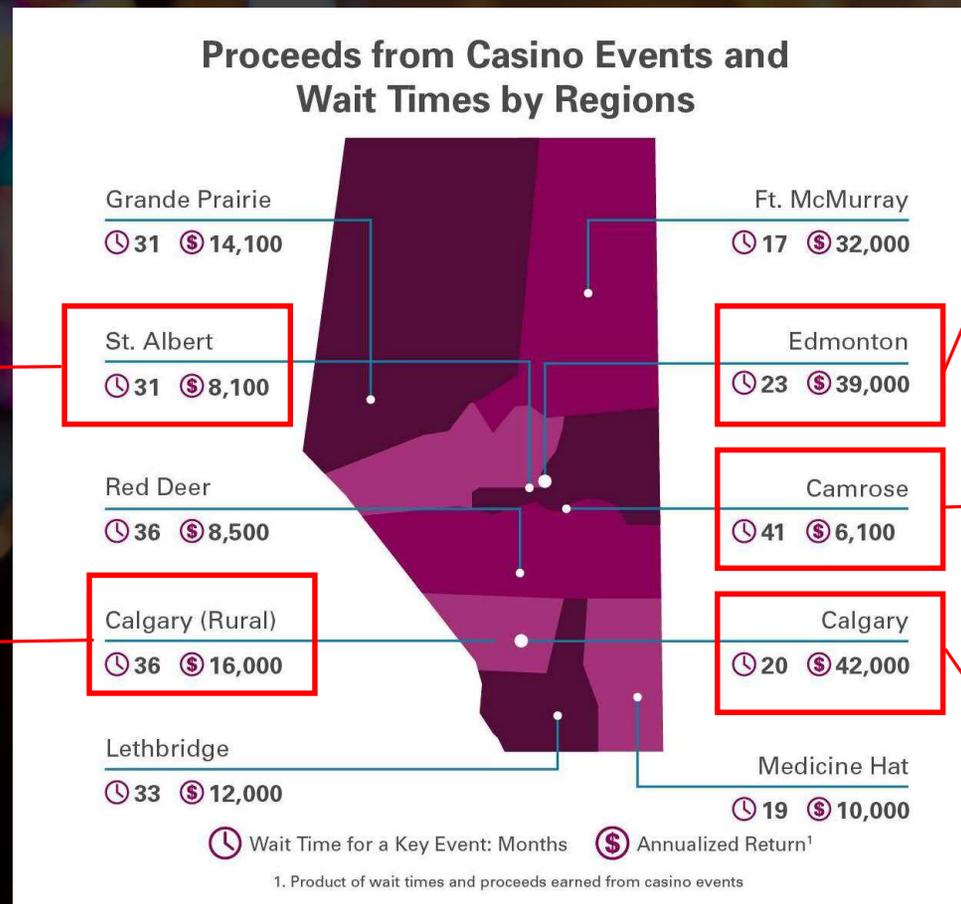
# Camrose Casino Relocation

- There is a precedent in Calgary that allows a single Rural casino license to operate inside the City of Calgary and address Rural needs. The Rural casino license in the City of Calgary provides a level playing field, equality and fairness to Rural charities surrounding Calgary.
- However, 650 Rural Charitable groups in Camrose are now on the brink of losing all of their charitable revenue with the impending closure of the Camrose Casino.
- Opposition to the casino relocation is lead by Edmonton Municipal Mayor and Councilors, Edmonton Urban Charitable Groups that currently receive 5x - 6x the revenue of Rural Charities and non-Alberta owned casino operators.
- We are asking for your assistance to provide fairness and equality to Rural Albertans and this is why...

# AGLC Urban vs Rural Regions

- AGLC Charitable Gaming model is outdated and unfair. Charitable groups generate casino revenues by working a 2 day event. Average revenues are paid on a quarterly basis pooled by region.
- The current model's revenue distribution highly favours urban charities versus rural charities. In all other provinces with private casino operators (BC and Ontario), charitable funds are pooled across the province and distributed on a grant/needs basis by the government regulator – not by regions or municipality.
- Considerable revenue distribution inequality between rural and urban charities. AGLC indicates that Camrose and St Albert regions wait the longest and earn the least amount of revenue:
  - Revenue: \$39,000 Urban Edmonton Charities versus \$6,100 Rural Camrose Charities and \$8,100 Rural St Albert Charities, per two day gaming event (annualized revenue).
  - Wait Time: 23 months in Edmonton versus 41 months in Camrose and 31 months St Albert.

# AGLC Gaming Regions Revenues



Pooled with Camrose. Second lowest revenue.

Precedent Rural License in an Urban Market. Not dilutive to Urban Calgary Charity Revenues

Second highest revenue and fourth shortest wait time. 5 Urban and 0 Rural Charitable Casinos.

Pooled with St Albert. Lowest revenue and longest wait time. 1 Charitable Casino.

5 Urban and 1 Rural Charitable Casinos.

Source: AGLC

# Impact on Charities

- 2021 *AGLC Charitable Gaming Review* “Consensus Recommendation” to locate a casino license in Edmonton that solely serves rural charities.
- In the City of Calgary there is a dedicated rural casino license at ACE Casino Blackfoot that solely serves rural charities outside of Calgary (all rural communities west to Banff).
- In 2022, ACE Casino Blackfoot relocated and expanded in Calgary, yet received no opposition from Calgary Urban Charities.
- Relocating the Camrose Casino is in line with AGLC’s own Charitable Gaming Review recommendations, provides the same fairness as the Calgary region and helps to solve the revenue inequity between Rural and Urban charities.

# Impact on St Albert Region

- St Albert and Camrose gaming regions are the only two AGLC gaming regions in the province that pool revenues together. Based on AGLC data, these two regions have the lowest revenues per gaming event and some of the highest event wait times in the entire province.
- As a result of the AGLC regional pooling mechanism, the proposed relocation will increase the amount of charitable revenues for both the Camrose and the St Albert regions, improving parity with large urban charitable revenues. Effectively the relocation improves the financial disparity issue for two rural gaming regions, not just one region.
- **A dollar for Camrose is a dollar for St Albert, and vice versa.**

# AGLC Charitable Gaming Review

Proposed Improvements to **CASINOS**: continued

EXCERPT PAGE

## Consensus

- ✧ More reporting on the impact of \$ from casinos and where the money goes.
- ✧ No longer requiring volunteers to be bonafide members.
- ✧ Allow more Casinos to be built.
- ✧ Designate a Casino in Edmonton area that serves rural areas (like is set up in Calgary).  
= if this helps balance access/distribution
- ✧ More flexibility for 1 or 2 day events.



## Non-Consensus

- ✧ Greater equity to groups with larger geographic
- ✧ Provincial pooling of proceeds.
- ✧ Limiting the # of new applications based on categories / how the pie is / relevance / phase out some.



# AGLC Charitable Gaming Review

Proposed Improvements to **CASINOS**:

EXCERPT PAGE

Example: Equity Pool Redistribution

Red Tape Reduction - Wait Time and Proceeds							
Remove Edmonton/Calgary Restriction							
Immediate - Move 150 Greater Edmonton Charities at Camrose to 5 Edmonton Casinos							
	Charities	Change	Wait Time	Change	Proceeds	Change	Change
Before Move							
Camrose	650		42		6,400		
Edmonton	360		23		40,000		
After Move							
Camrose	500	-150	32	-10	8,400	2,000	+31%
Edmonton	390	+30	25	+2	36,800	-3,200	-8%
150 Moved							
Before	150		42		6,400		
After	150		25	-17	36,800	30,400	+475%
Immediate - Move 150 Calgary Rural Charities to 5 Calgary City Casinos							
Before Move							
Rural	550		36		14,000		
City	320		20		41,000		
After Move							
Rural	400	-150	26	-10	19,385	5,385	+38%
City	350	+30	22	+2	37,275	-3,725	-9%
150 Moved							
Before	150		36		14,000		
After	150		22	-14	37,275	23,275	+166%
Annual Proceeds and Wait Times from Chart on page 27 Charitable Gaming Review 2021							
Number of Charities from AGLC Q&A Board							
Historical analysis only, future is unknown							
Greater Edmonton: Devon, Beaumont, Ft Saskatchewan, Sherwood Park, Nisku, Leduc							

## Consensus / Non-Consensus

- Support as a concept for pooling resources as improved equity and reduced wait times across the province
- Further analysis needed

### Consensus

- ▶ Allow licensed group to choose casino location throughout province
- ▶ Pool and distribute funds provincially for all organizations, not just by region
- ▶ Do not eliminate volunteer positions and licensed group responsibility during casino events
- ▶ Provide accessible and on demand ratings and review system for the Casino Advisors  
Volunteer groups must hire
- ▶ Do not make this a grant program
- ▶ Ensure AGLC have good understanding and experience with the different types of nonprofits and their licensing

### Non-Consensus EXCERPT PAGE

- ▶ Require 3 volunteers at casino event, only if little or no money is taken away from licensed group by the operator
- ▶ Remove advisor role for Volunteer Groups
- ▶ Do not want to see a new system; just some tweaks

## Proposed Improvements to Casinos

# PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO CASINOS

## PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT

## RATIONALE

1) Redistribution/Removal of Regional Boundaries

Creates a more equitable distribution of funds  
Traveling to St. Albert vs Edmonton is 10 minutes but funds and wait times are significantly different

2) Reduce Volunteer Requirements

Roles and number of volunteers are no longer necessary due to technological advances

3) Keep current Advisor structure

It is working well

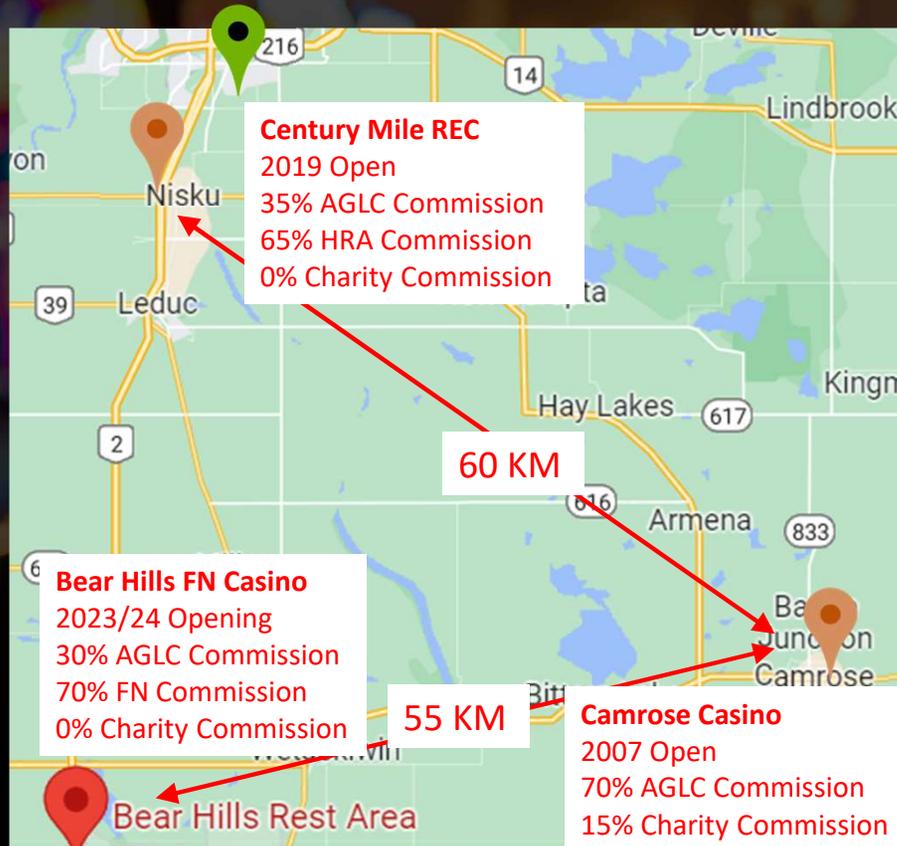
4) Remove 100 km Rule

Reduces financial barriers for smaller and rural organizations

# How Did This Happen?

- The Camrose Casino opened in 2007 serving the local rural community in the Camrose AGLC Gaming Region.
- In 2019, AGLC approved the relocation of the Northlands REC to the AGLC Camrose Gaming Region (Nisku) which is 60 KM from the Camrose property. The Camrose property has 208 EGMs while the Century Racino opened with 600 EGMs. This relocation greatly impact the financial viability of the Camrose Casino and redistributed charitable revenues to the REC/HRA.
- In 2022, AGLC approved the Louis Bull First Nations Bear Hills Casino which is 55 KM from the Camrose property. This new FN casino license, which is approved for 200 EGMS and up to 15 table games, will greatly impact the financial viability of the Camrose Casino given that Camrose's second largest player market in Wetaskiwin will be located only 17 KM from the new First Nations casino and will offer players the opportunity to smoke on premises. There will also be a very significant redistribution of charitable revenues to the HFN Charity, further exacerbating the difference in charitable revenues generated by Rural Camrose Charities and Urban Edmonton, HRA and HFN Charities.
- The unviable financial outlook for the Camrose Casino is of great and growing concern to the local community, its employees and the local charitable partners that it serves. An amount of return of charitable gaming revenues to Rural Camrose Charities through the proposed relocation is fair and reasonable given that Rural Camrose Charities have already lost or are expected to lose such a significant portion of their Camrose Region revenues to HRA and HFN Charities.

# How Did This Happen?



# What If?

- Regrettably, the Camrose Casino is not financially viable. The business generates a meaningful financial loss each year and with the proliferation of the recently relocated Century Mile REC and soon to open Bear Hills First Nations Casino, the Camrose Casino will have to either relocate or close in order to cease financial losses.
- In 2021, the Camrose Casino unsuccessfully attempted to relocate to Sherwood Park/Strathcona County, the only community within the AGLC Camrose Region with a sufficient customer population to restore financial viability. The municipality rejected reforming its bylaws to permit a casino.
- In the event that the proposed relocation application is unsuccessful, the Camrose casino closure will displace approximately 650 Camrose region charities. These rural Camrose charities will either be without an opportunity to generate any charitable revenues or will presumably be absorbed by the Edmonton AGLC Region casinos, as the St Albert and Red Deer AGLC regions currently have much longer wait times.

# Urban Charities Still Further Ahead

- Post Camrose Casino relocation to Edmonton, AGLC management forecasts:
  - Rural Charities to increase their earnings from \$25,000 to \$51,000 per event.
  - Urban Edmonton Charities to decrease their earnings from \$75,000 to \$68,000 per event.
- Urban charities will still earn a superior amount, 34% more, over rural charities, but also avoid the need for prospective sweeping legislative changes to pool AGLC charitable funds across the province instead of by region, in order to provide fairness and equality amongst rural and urban charities.
- However, if Camrose Casino closes, Edmonton Urban Charities and Politicians are already advocating for several Camrose Rural Charities to be redistributed to St Albert and Red Deer AGLC regions which would further exacerbate the disparity in revenues and wait times between these rural and the Edmonton regions.

Source: AGLC, non annualized data

# Edmonton Casinos

## Distance From Proposed Site:

9.7 KM to Casino Edmonton

13.8 KM to Leduc Century Mile REC

14.0 KM to Starlight Casino

16.9 KM to River Cree FN Casino

- Every casino in Edmonton's city limits has a different casino located closer to it than the proposed relocation site

- Recent ACE Casino Calgary relocated to Airport location 8.4 KM from nearest charitable casino, 7.8 KM from nearest REC and 16.5 KM from FN casino



# Impact on Community & Municipality

- Camrose Region political leaders understand that the Camrose Casino license has to move to Edmonton in order to generate a fair and equitable amount of revenue for rural charities, as well as be financially viable.
- The employees of the Camrose Casino who live in the Camrose region will still have employment opportunities with the new relocated facility with improved compensation. The Camrose Hotel will backfill the casino with another entertainment facility which will continue to provide employment opportunities to existing Camrose staff.
- The majority of the rural charities in the Camrose region are located in Edmonton bedroom communities, including: Sherwood Park, Leduc, Beaumont, Devon, etc. These charities would have a shorter drive to volunteer at a casino located in Edmonton than Camrose.

# Impact on Community & Municipality

- City of Edmonton Councilors reviewed and approved the rezoning of the casino lands in April 2021. City of Edmonton Planning Department reviewed the file and advertised the development permit approval for public appeal simultaneously with the AGLC public consultation. The development permit was approved with **no appeals** in August 2022.
- The Mayor of Edmonton and Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues wrote to the AGLC Board asking to block the relocation in order to prevent an equitable redistribution of gaming revenues to Rural Charities.
- The AGLC Board needs to hear that there is support for the casino relocation and a more equitable split of gaming revenues in the Capital City Region.

# What Are AGLC's Issues?

- The AGLC Board incorrectly denied the relocation application based on the following reasons:

● ● ● ● ●  
**1. Lack of Community Support.** We need your support by writing to AGLC.

Approximately 250 Edmonton Charities and Community Groups wrote to AGLC to oppose sharing Edmonton Charitable Gaming Revenues with Rural Alberta. Edmonton is the only AGLC gaming region in Alberta that doesn't invite rural charities into its casinos.

Please contact AGLC to support the relocation of the Camrose Casino to South Edmonton and ensure Rural Charities receive a fair financial deal.

# What Are AGLC's Issues?

- The AGLC Board incorrectly denied the relocation application based on the following reasons:



**2. Cannibalization of Existing Casino Operator Revenues.** AGLC's own data confirms that no other casino operator will be materially affected by the relocation.

**3. Limited New Gaming Revenues.** AGLC market assessment and a third party consultant confirmed that the relocation would generate \$7 - \$28 MM of new revenue for AGLC each year. This is a material amount of funds that could be used for schools, hospitals and roads. AGLC confirmed its own investment would be repaid in less than 2 years.

# What Are AGLC's Issues?

- The AGLC Board incorrectly denied the relocation application based on the following reasons:

- **4. Negative Impact to Horse Racing Alberta and First Nations Development Fund.**

- **FNDF:** AGLC's own analysis demonstrates that the impact on the First Nations Development Fund will be less than 0.9%, which is not material.

- The FNDF receives \$117 MM per year, while each of Camrose and St Albert regions receive \$4.6 MM.

# What Are AGLC's Issues?

- The AGLC Board incorrectly denied the relocation application based on the following reasons:

## 4. Negative Impact to Horse Racing Alberta and First Nations Development Fund.

**HRA:** AGLC's own analysis demonstrates that the impact on the HRA Fund will be 4.3% which is not material. The HRA receives \$34 MM per year, while each of Camrose and St Albert regions receive \$4.6 MM.

AGLC's approval to relocate the Century Mile Racetrack from Edmonton to the Camrose region is a major factor why the Camrose Casino is financially impaired and rural charitable revenues have declined. The Camrose casino must now relocate in order to be financially solvent and earn a reasonable amount of revenue for rural charities.

# Next Steps

- Contact the following AGLC Board and Management leaders and your MLA to express your support for the project prior to the March 13<sup>th</sup> AGLC Appeal Hearing:
  - Kandice Machado, AGLC CEO.
    - Email: [kandice.machado@aglc.ca](mailto:kandice.machado@aglc.ca)
    - Phone: 780-447-7433
  - Len Rhodes, AGLC Board Chair.
    - Email: [len.rhodes@aglc.ca](mailto:len.rhodes@aglc.ca)
    - Phone: 780-447-8668
- Please share this information with your community and ask them to contact AGLC & MLA.

# Questions & Answers



CAPITAL CITY CASINO RELOCATION PROPOSAL



Let's work together to build  
a better Alberta!

CAPITAL CITY CASINO RELOCATION PROPOSAL

Thank You