

Regular Meeting of the Village of Alix Council, to be held on
Wednesday, February 7, 2024 at 6:00 P.M.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order:
2. Agenda: Amendments and Adoption
3. Adoption of the Minutes: a) Minutes of Regular Meeting – January 17, 2024 – 6:00 P.M.
4. Delegation: a) Sergeant Trent A. Cleveland, Detachment Commander, Bashaw RCMP Detachment – Fourth Quarter Statistics and Community Update
5. Bylaws: None
6. Unfinished Business: None
7. New Business: a) Rural Renewal Program – Request for Decision 24-03
b) Uncollectable Account - Request for Decision 24-04
8. Financial Reports: None
9. Committee Reports: a) Alix Fire Department Meeting – Mayor Fehr
10. Administrative Reports: a) CAO Report
11. Correspondence and Information: a) Lacombe County – Funding Request – Alix Nature Trail
b) Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policies Becoming a Priority
12. Closed Meeting: a) FOIP Section 27 – Privileged Information – Re: Legal Opinion
13. Adjournment:

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Alix Council, held on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at 6:00 P.M.

- Present: Mayor Rob Fehr, Councillors Barbara Gilliat, Janice Besuijen, Tim Besuijen and Edwin Cole
- Also Present: Michelle White, Chief Administrative Officer
- Call to Order: Mayor Fehr called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.
- Amendments/Deletions to Agenda: Mayor Fehr called for amendments to the agenda.
- Approval of Agenda:
- Resolution #012/24: Moved by Councillor Gilliat that the Village of Alix Council approve the agenda as presented. CARRIED
- Minutes: a) Regular Meeting – January 3, 2024
- Resolution #013/24: Moved by Councillor J. Besuijen that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Alix Council held on Wednesday, January 3, 2024, be accepted as presented. CARRIED
- Delegation: None
- Bylaws: a) Municipal Development Plan Bylaw #481/24 – Request for Decision 24-01
- Resolution #014/24: Moved by Councillor Gilliat that the Village of Alix Council hereby gives first reading to Bylaw #481/24, being a bylaw to authorize the adoption of a Municipal Development Plan. CARRIED
- Resolution #015/24: Moved by Councillor Cole that the Village of Alix Council hereby sets a Public Hearing for Bylaw #481/24 on February 21, 2024 at 6:00 P.M., to be held at the Village Office: 4849 50 Street, Alix. CARRIED
- Unfinished Business: None
- New Business: a) Memorial Tree and Bench Program – Policy No. 47 – Request for Decision 24-02
- Resolution #016/24: Moved by Councillor Gilliat that the Village of Alix Council hereby accepts draft Policy No. 47: Memorial Tree and Bench Program as information and, following a time for public review and comment, directs administration to bring the policy back to the February 21, 2024 regular meeting of Council. CARRIED
- Financial Reports: a) Bank Reconciliation – December 31, 2023
b) Accounts Payable Cheque Listing – December 31, 2023 – January 10, 2024
c) Tax Trial Balance – January 11, 2024
- Resolution #017/24: Moved by Councillor T. Besuijen that the Village of Alix Council hereby accept the Financial Reports as presented. CARRIED

Committee Reports: None

Administrative Reports: None

Correspondence and
Information:

a) Charles Andrews, Alix Wagon Wheel Museum Association -
Request for Funding

Resolution #018/24: Moved by Councillor Gilliat that the Village of Alix Council hereby
direct administration to write a letter of support to the Alix Wagon
Wheel Museum.

CARRIED

b) Alix and Area Community Resource Centre – Health and Wellness
Fair

c) Alix and Area Community Resource Centre – Alix After-School
January Activity Calendar

d) Alix and Area Community Resource Centre – Family Day Market
Vendor Call

e) Alix and Area Community Resource Centre – Family Wellness
Worker at Alix MAC School

f) Charged for Change – Electric Vehicle Infrastructure

Resolution #019/24: Moved by Councillor T. Besuijen that Correspondence Items (b)
through (f) be accepted as information.

CARRIED

Mayor Fehr called a recess at 6:35 P.M.

Mayor Fehr reconvened the meeting at 6:41 P.M.

Closed Meeting: a) FOIP Section 27 – Privileged Information Re: Legal Opinion

Resolution #020/24: Moved by Councillor Gilliat that the Village of Alix Council go into a
Closed Meeting at 6:41 P.M. to discuss FOIP Section 27, Privileged
Information regarding a Legal Opinion.

CARRIED

Resolution #021/24: Moved by Councillor Gilliat that the Village of Alix Council return to
the Public Meeting at 7:22 P.M.


Adjournment:

Resolution #022/24: Moved by Councillor T. Besuijen that this Regular Meeting of the
Village of Alix Council be adjourned at 7:23 P.M.

CARRIED

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer



2024-01-28

Rob Fehr
Mayor
Alix, Alberta

Dear Rob Fehr,

Please find the quarterly Community Policing Report attached that covers the October 1st to December 31st, 2023 reporting period. The attached report serves to provide a quarterly snapshot of the human resources, financial data and crime statistics for the Bashaw RCMP Detachment.

I would also like to update you on one of our current technological endeavours. Over the last decade, the RCMP has utilized Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) to support our specialized units, i.e. our Emergency Response Teams – which has been incredibly effective for enhancing police and public safety. Although the advancement of technology benefits industry and recreation, it facilitates greater accessibility for criminals, which requires a strategic response. To remain current in our ever-changing environment, and to be responsive to public reviews that call for better access to air support such as the Nova Scotia Mass Casualty Commission of Inquiry, we are actively researching and testing new technologies in a policing environment to enhance public safety. One such technology is how we might use RPAS for potential new police applications. This includes how we might use RPAS to assist with select calls for service, crime photography, search and rescue, and unfolding critical incidents, i.e. an active shooter. With its potential and capability for wider applications, we are further considering program options for our municipal, rural, and Indigenous communities; scalable depending on community need and interest. While we will always need a helicopter and fixed-wing aircraft for the movement of resources, these larger assets are not always immediately available. RPAS technology is providing an opportunity for our communities to effectively have their own police air support, at a significantly lower cost. As I learn more about further opportunities and challenges, I will be sure to keep you updated and informed.

Your ongoing engagement and the feedback you provide guides our Detachment team, and supports the reinforcement of your policing priorities. I always remain available to discuss your community-identified policing priorities and/or any ideas you may have that will enhance our service delivery to address the priorities that are important to you. As the Chief of Police for your community, I invite you to contact me should you have any questions or concerns.



Sergeant Trent A. Cleveland
Detachment Commander
Bashaw RCMP Detachment



Bashaw Provincial Detachment Crime Statistics (Actual) Q4: 2019 - 2023

All categories contain "Attempted" and/or "Completed"

January 5, 2024

CATEGORY	Trend	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	% Change 2019 - 2023	% Change 2022 - 2023	Avg File +/- per Year
Offences Related to Death		1	0	1	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.2
Robbery		1	0	1	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.2
Sexual Assaults		1	1	3	1	0	-100%	-100%	-0.2
Other Sexual Offences		2	2	0	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.6
Assault		3	2	17	6	8	167%	33%	1.4
Kidnapping/Hostage/Abduction		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Extortion		0	0	0	0	1	N/A	N/A	0.2
Criminal Harassment		7	7	0	3	5	-29%	67%	-0.8
Uttering Threats		3	2	5	4	3	0%	-25%	0.2
TOTAL PERSONS		18	14	27	14	17	-6%	21%	-0.2
Break & Enter		25	5	19	3	11	-56%	267%	-3.0
Theft of Motor Vehicle		11	8	6	5	2	-82%	-60%	-2.1
Theft Over \$5,000		1	3	4	0	5	400%	N/A	0.5
Theft Under \$5,000		23	7	23	14	21	-9%	50%	0.3
Possn Stn Goods		12	3	8	5	7	-42%	40%	-0.8
Fraud		11	6	10	8	4	-64%	-50%	-1.2
Arson		1	0	0	0	3	200%	N/A	0.4
Mischief - Damage To Property		15	9	20	14	19	27%	36%	1.3
Mischief - Other		2	3	5	7	3	50%	-57%	0.6
TOTAL PROPERTY		101	44	95	56	75	-26%	34%	-4.0
Offensive Weapons		6	2	1	0	1	-83%	N/A	-1.2
Disturbing the peace		0	1	1	1	0	N/A	-100%	0.0
Fail to Comply & Breaches		4	2	0	9	6	50%	-33%	1.1
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		6	2	3	3	5	-17%	67%	-0.1
TOTAL OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		16	7	5	13	12	-25%	-8%	-0.2
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE		135	65	127	83	104	-23%	25%	-4.4

RCMP-GRC



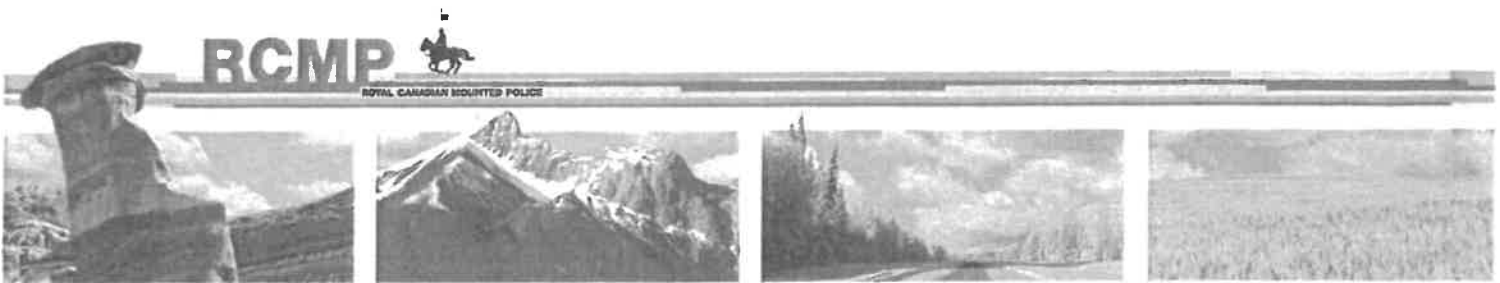
ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE • GENDARMERIE ROYALE DU CANADA
Bashaw Provincial Detachment

Crime Statistics (Actual) Q4: 2019 - 2023

January 5, 2024

All categories contain "Attempted" and/or "Completed"

CATEGORY	Trend	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	% Change 2019 - 2023	% Change 2022 - 2023	Avg File +/- per Year
Drug Enforcement - Production		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Drug Enforcement - Possession		0	0	0	1	0	N/A	-100%	0.1
Drug Enforcement - Trafficking		1	0	0	1	0	-100%	-100%	-0.1
Drug Enforcement - Other		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Total Drugs		1	0	0	2	0	-100%	-100%	0.0
Cannabis Enforcement		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Federal - General		0	2	0	0	3	N/A	N/A	0.4
TOTAL FEDERAL		1	2	0	2	3	200%	50%	0.4
Liquor Act		1	1	3	3	1	0%	-67%	0.2
Cannabis Act		2	0	0	0	1	-50%	N/A	-0.2
Mental Health Act		13	14	16	13	13	0%	0%	-0.1
Other Provincial Stats		25	30	22	16	23	-8%	44%	-1.8
Total Provincial Stats		41	45	41	32	38	-7%	19%	-1.9
Municipal By-laws Traffic		0	1	0	1	0	N/A	-100%	0.0
Municipal By-laws		1	2	0	3	7	600%	133%	1.3
Total Municipal		1	3	0	4	7	600%	75%	1.3
Fatals		1	0	1	1	0	-100%	-100%	-0.1
Injury MVC		5	2	10	0	1	-80%	N/A	-1.0
Property Damage MVC (Reportable)		71	50	78	75	76	7%	1%	3.5
Property Damage MVC (Non Reportable)		7	3	7	11	4	-43%	-64%	0.2
TOTAL MVC		84	55	96	87	81	-4%	-7%	2.6
Roadside Suspension - Alcohol (Prov)		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	N/A	N/A	N/A
Roadside Suspension - Drugs (Prov)		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Provincial Traffic		296	213	143	163	113	-62%	-31%	-41.6
Other Traffic		1	0	0	2	0	-100%	-100%	0.0
Criminal Code Traffic		8	6	3	3	5	-38%	67%	-0.9
Common Police Activities									
False Alarms		8	8	10	4	3	-63%	-25%	-1.4
False/Abandoned 911 Call and 911 Act		5	3	3	0	2	-60%	N/A	-0.9
Suspicious Person/Vehicle/Property		34	26	33	25	24	-29%	-4%	-2.1
Persons Reported Missing		2	1	2	1	2	0%	100%	0.0
Search Warrants		1	0	0	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.2
Spousal Abuse - Survey Code (Reported)		7	5	14	16	9	29%	-44%	1.5
Form 10 (MHA) (Reported)		0	0	2	3	1	N/A	-67%	0.5



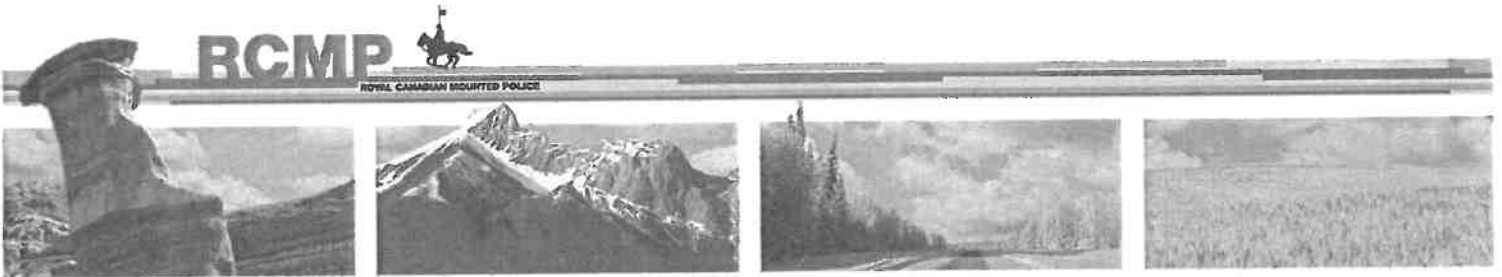
RCMP Provincial Policing Report

Detachment	Bashaw
Detachment Commander	Sgt. Trent Cleveland
Quarter	Q3
FTE Utilization Plan	2023/24
Date of Report	

Community Consultations

Date	2023-10-03
Meeting Type	Meeting with Elected Officials
Topics Discussed	Regular reporting and information sharing
Notes/Comments	Annual meeting with all of the Lacombe stakeholders including Blackfalds, Sylvan Lake, Bashaw and CAD.

Date	2023-12-19
Meeting Type	Meeting with Stakeholder(s)
Topics Discussed	Regular reporting and information sharing
Notes/Comments	Quarterly community consultant group meeting to provide updates, initiatives, and sharing of information to the delegates from each community.



Community Priorities

<p>Priority 1</p>	<p>Crime Reduction</p>
<p>Current Status & Results</p>	<p>This quarter the Bashaw Detachment had 25 property related thefts. Currently this will keep the detachment on pace to reduce the overall property related thefts to under 100 compared to the previous year of 122. The detachment continues to put into place crime preventative measures.</p>
<p>Priority 2</p>	<p>Enhance Awareness and Education</p>
<p>Current Status & Results</p>	<p>In October Bashaw Detachment held an RCMP 150 Contest with students and youth in the jurisdiction. Early grades and ages the contest was a coloring contest and the older grades and ages was an essay, "What does the RCMP mean to Canada". A number of winners were selected for each age category. The winners received a Detachment Commander Certificate and an RCMP 150 coin. For Halloween Bashaw RCMP put on a pumpkin carving contest. 9 winners were selected with a local business donating prizes for the winners. December we had the first annual design the Bashaw RCMP Christmas Card. 3 winners were selected to have their poster as the cover for the Christmas card. Prizes were donated. Members continue to attend schools on a regular basis. By this quarter the detachment has already met and surpassed community participation.</p>



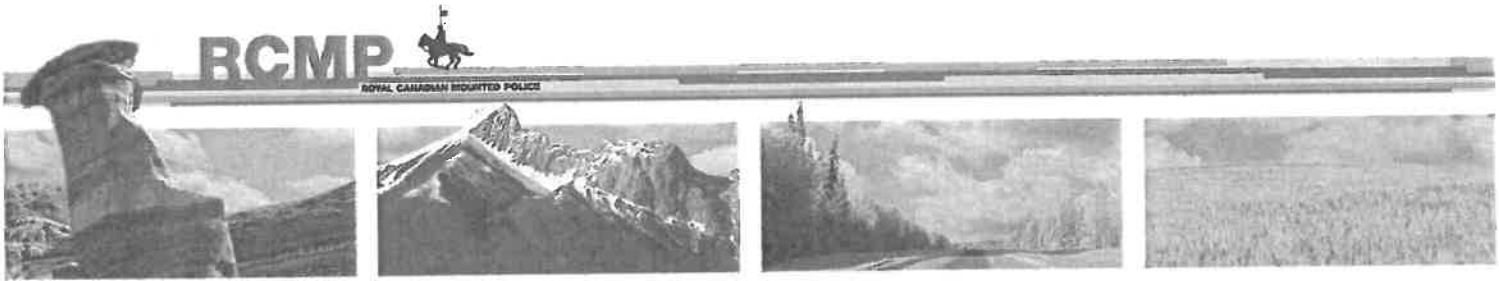
Crime Statistics¹

The following table provides policing statistics on actual offences within the periods listed. Please see Appendix for additional information and a five-year comparison.

Category	October - December			January - December		
	2022	2023	% Change Year-over-Year	2022	2023	% Change Year-over-Year
Total Criminal Code	83	104	25%	381	364	-4%
<i>Persons Crime</i>	14	17	21%	66	69	5%
<i>Property Crime</i>	56	75	34%	262	252	-4%
<i>Other Criminal Code</i>	13	12	-8%	53	43	-19%
Traffic Offences						
<i>Criminal Code Traffic</i>	3	5	67%	10	16	60%
<i>Provincial Code Traffic</i>	163	113	-31%	660	824	25%
<i>Other Traffic</i>	2	0	-100%	2	2	0%
CDSA Offences	2	0	-100%	8	0	-100%
Other Federal Acts	2	3	50%	13	7	-46%
Other Provincial Acts	32	38	19%	132	152	15%
Municipal By-Laws	4	7	75%	16	25	56%
Motor Vehicle Collisions	87	81	-7%	257	251	-2%

1. Data extracted from a live database (PROS) and is subject to change over time.

Trends/Points of Interest



Provincial Police Service Composition Table²

Staffing Category	Established Positions	Working	Soft Vacancies ³	Hard Vacancies ⁴
Police Officers	6	4	1	1
Detachment Support	2	2	0	0

2. Data extracted on December 31, 2023 and is subject to change.

3. Soft Vacancies are positions that are filled but vacant due to maternity/paternity leave, medical leave, etc. and are still included in the overall FTE count.

4. Hard Vacancies reflect positions that do not have an employee attached and need to be filled.

Comments

Police Officers: Of the six established positions, four officers are currently working with one on special leave (Parental). There is one hard vacancy.

Detachment Support: Of the two established positions, two resources are currently working. There are no hard vacancies.

Quarterly Financial Drivers

ADMINISTRATION REPORT



Date: January 30, 2024
Memo To: Village Council
From: Michelle White
Subject: Rural Renewal Program

RFD 24-03

1. **PURPOSE** – To provide Council with information regarding the Alberta Advantage Immigration Program (AAIP) Rural Renewal Stream. See attached fact sheet.
2. **BACKGROUND** – A business in our area has requested Alix consider becoming part of the AAIP Rural Renewal Stream. This business has several full time job openings they have not been able to fill using local recruitment efforts.
3. **OPTIONS** –
 1. To accept the report as information
 2. To direct staff to book a presentation for Council regarding the AAIP Rural Renewal Stream at a future meeting
 3. To direct staff to proceed with the Rural Renewal Stream application process
4. **DISCUSSION** – When reviewing the list of participating communities, it's worth noting that there were no Villages on the list.

Two of the main difficulties for smaller municipalities are ensuring adequate housing (rental spaces) for potential foreign nationals and the ability to provide newcomer supports. Alix does have some level of rental housing available and we are close enough to Red Deer that any newcomer supports not available here could be found within a reasonable distance.
5. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS** – The main financial concern would be staff time for program application and implementation.
6. **LEGAL** – The Rural Renewal Stream has strict program guidelines that would need to be followed. A Committee would need to be struck to review the profiles of applicants and make a recommendation regarding their 'approval.'
7. **POLITICAL/PUBLIC IMPLICATIONS** – There are 1 or 2 other businesses in Alix who have stated problems with finding full time staff to fill positions as well.

Communities who join the Rural Renewal Stream may see increases in school registration.
8. **OTHER COMMENTS** – Due to a large factory lay off in Red Deer, it is possible the business that approached the Village may be able to fill staff positions from that pool. A program representative from the province will be discussing this option with them and I will have an update by the time of the Council meeting.
9. **RECOMMENDATIONS** – Option #3. I recommend the Village apply to the AAIP Rural Renewal Stream at this time IF the business that approached the Village is not able to secure needed staff as outlined in point 8 above.

If there is no urgency for participation in the program because staff were found, Council may decide to ask the local business community if they feel participation in the Rural Renewal Stream would be helpful to them.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. White', is written over a horizontal line.

Author

Alberta Advantage Immigration Program (AAIP)

Rural Renewal Stream (RRS) Fact Sheet

What is the Alberta Advantage Immigration Program?

The Alberta Advantage Immigration Program (AAIP) is an economic immigration program that nominates individuals for permanent residence in Alberta. The AAIP has different streams for both foreign nationals who are living and working in Alberta as well as entrepreneurs wanting to establish or purchase a business in Alberta. AAIP nominees must have the skills and abilities to fill labour shortages or contribute to the economy through the ownership and operation of an Alberta business.

Both the Government of Alberta and the federal government administer the program. If an individual is nominated through the AAIP, they may apply for permanent residence status together with their spouse or common-law partner and dependent children. Program nominees must also meet medical, criminal and security federal checks to be eligible for permanent residency.

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) makes the final decisions on all permanent residence applications.

What makes the Rural Renewal Stream unique is that it is “community driven”. To ensure success in your community, economic development groups, employers and community organizations will work together to achieve community designation to meet the labour force and economic needs of the community.

How the Rural Renewal Stream Works

Rural Alberta communities express interest in the Rural Renewal Stream (communities within an economic region can partner to apply).



Communities that meet the mandatory criteria submit their application for community designation.



The community partnership works to attract and recruit foreign nationals.



Employer provides a job offer to the successful foreign national and the community partnership ensures the candidate meets the streams criteria. An endorsement letter is provided to the foreign national.



Endorsed foreign national submits application to the Alberta Advantage Immigration Program (AAIP).



AAIP issues nomination for Permanent Residency.



Foreign national applies to Immigration Refugees and Citizenship Canada for Permanent Residency.



Designated Community supports newcomers to settle permanently and be successful in the community.

Mandatory Requirements for Community Designation

- Rural communities with a population less than 100,000.
 - Rural communities in the same economic region may form a partnership to submit an application.
 - Census 2016 figure will be the reference year for the population count.
 - Communities must fall outside of the Calgary and Edmonton Census Metropolitan Area.
- Community has an organization/entity whose primary function is economic development for the community that will serve as the community designation lead and coordinator for the Rural Renewal Stream.
- Community has an Economic Development Plan.
- Community has support letters from town/municipality council(s).
- Community has a labour market need and employers interested with permanent, full time, non-seasonal employment opportunities available.

Next Steps

For more information on the Rural Renewal Stream and Community Designation, please connect with your regional Workforce Consultant, visit [Rural Renewal Stream](#), or email the Rural Renewal Stream mailbox at ruralrenewal@gov.ab.ca

If your Community is not quite ready for Community Designation, please connect with your regional Workforce Consultant for information on additional programs and services, [grants to build community capacity for newcomer integration](#), and [Workforce Partnerships](#).

ADMINISTRATION REPORT



Date: January 31, 2024 RFD 24-04
Memo To: Village Council
From: Michelle White
Subject: Uncollectable Account

1. **PURPOSE** – To request a Council resolution to waive an uncollectable account.
2. **BACKGROUND** – When there has been a violation under the Village’s Community Standards Bylaw (i.e. not mowing grass), a letter is sent to the property owner giving them a period of 10 to 14 days to remedy the bylaw violation. If they have not completed the task by the compliance date, a third party contractor is hired to do the work. The Village pays the contractor and the property owner is invoiced the same dollar amount the Village has paid for the work done. Occasionally a property transfers ownership before the invoice is paid to the Village. In these cases, we cannot put the bylaw related charges on the property tax account because it was the old owner that violated the bylaw.
3. **OPTIONS** –
 1. To waive the \$210 charge for account #27900
 2. To contract a collection agency and attempt to collect the outstanding bill
4. **DISCUSSION** – This situation does not happen very often. Admin staff are usually aware of pending property sales and try very hard to work with buyers and sellers to keep the properties up during the transition time.
5. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS** – If the \$210 is waived by Council, it means that general tax revenue will be used to cover the cost. It will be reflected in the 2023 financial statements as a bylaw expense.
6. **LEGAL** – MGA s. 553.1(1) “If a person described in any of the following clauses owes money to a municipality in any of the circumstances described in the following clauses, the municipality may add the amount owing to the tax roll of any property for which the person is the assessed person: (c) a person who owes money to the municipality under section 549(5)(b) or 551(5).”

MGA s. 549(5)(b) “The expenses and costs of an action or measure taken by a municipality under this section are an amount owing to the municipality (b) in the case of an action or measure taken under subsection (1)(b), by the person who did not comply with the order under section 546(1) within the time specified in the order.”

Uncollectable Accounts Policy No. 26 states: “Any arrears over \$100 require prior council approval to be either declared a bad debt & written off; or alternatively transferred to a collection agency.”
7. **POLITICAL/PUBLIC IMPLICATIONS** –
8. **OTHER COMMENTS** –
9. **RECOMMENDATIONS** – Option #1. I recommend the following resolution:

Alix Fire Department Meeting Report

January 25, 2024

The topics covered were as follows:

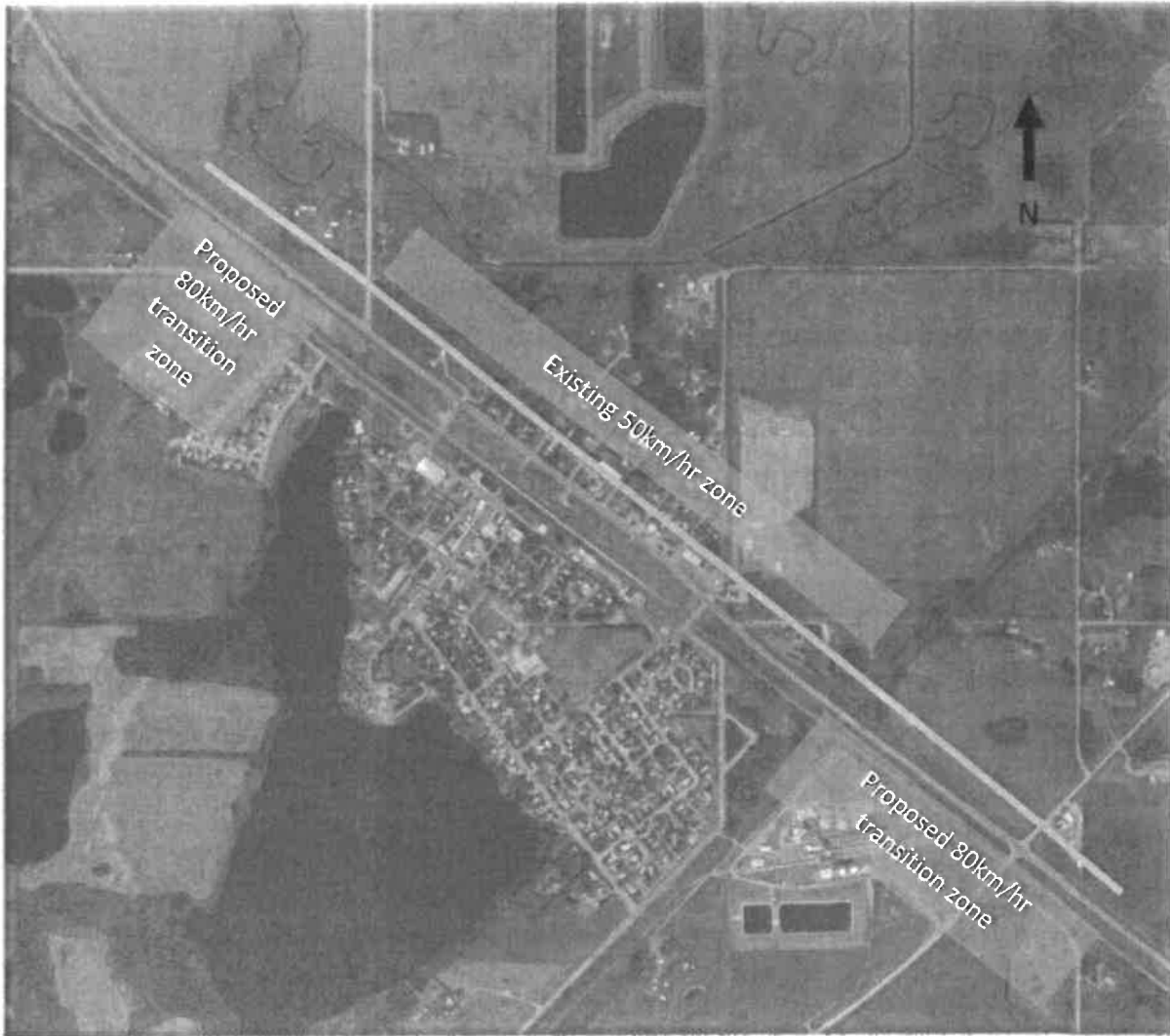
1. Review of roll out procedures and direction from Chief Hiron on that particular process.
2. Member of the Year is Colin Fedum who joined in 2023.
3. Toy Run and Parade of Lights was a great success.
4. Chief Hiron advised the members that he met the new County Fire Chief recently and had some discussion about procedures, training practices etc.
5. New fire trucks are being fitted now that the chassis has been completed. Should be ready for end of March or mid April. Concern these trucks may not fit, so it will be discussed tomorrow when Chief Hiron meets with the Alix CAO, and County Fire Chief.
6. Medical Society has been collecting a lot of donations to help fund medical services. Concern brought up that the Medical response unit may need to be moved out of the fire hall so there is space for the new fire trucks. I stated that was highly unlikely, as there has been no formal requests from the County of Lacombe, or the Village of Alix to do so. Stated this will likely be a topic of discussion when the aforementioned meeting occurs tomorrow. Encouraged membership not to believe the rumor mill that the medical side is being asked to leave.
7. Membership recruitment is still in progress.
8. Elections for some positions held as well. They are as follows
 - Secretary – Jill Hillman
 - Treasurer - Joyce Simard
 - Fire Training Officer – Chris Duffin, Ian Andrews
 - Medical Training Officer – Katte Felt

Rob Fehr, Mayor of Alix

CAO REPORT FEBRUARY 2024

1. Lake Information Night – Letters of invitation have been sent to all property owners adjacent to the lake on Village and County sides. The letters and all other advertising encourages everyone to pre-submit their questions so they can be researched before February 20th. The following agencies have been invited and/or spoken with about attending Lake Night: Alberta Environment, Alberta Lake Management Society, Alberta Conservations Association, Buffalo Lake Management Team, Lacombe County Division 1 Councillor, Gull Lake Watershed Society and Lacombe Tourism. Others may be consulted or invited prior to the event.
2. Strategic Plan – Staff have started work on the Strategic Plan Goal of “Actively investigate what personal services would benefit the community and support recruitment efforts.” A list of businesses and personal services currently available in Alix is nearly finished. From there, gaps will be identified and then residents polled to determine priority ranking.
3. Lacombe Regional Emergency Management Partnership – LEREMP has submitted a grant application for funds to cover the costs of a full scale exercise for 2025. LREMP is also actively investigating the process of formally becoming partners under a Ministerial Order. This would change (reduce) meeting requirements for member municipalities in future years.
4. Alberta Transportation – Council’s advocacy efforts with Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors at the Alberta Municipalities conference last fall for transitional speed zones entering Alix were successful! We received paperwork for the Highway 12 Transitional Speed Zone Amendment on January 24th outlining the new/proposed 80 km/hr zones on the east and west sides of Hwy 12 adjacent to our municipal boundary. Map attached.

Highway 12 – Alix Proposed Transition Zones





January 13, 2024

Councillor Tim Besuijen
Village of Alix
PO Box 87
Alix, AB T0C 0B0

Dear Councillor Besuijen:

Re: Funding Request for Operations and Maintenance of Alix Nature Trail


Please be advised that your request for funding for operations and maintenance of the Alix Nature Trail was presented for Council's consideration at the January 11, 2024 Council meeting.

The following resolution did not receive Council approval:

That Council approve an annual operating grant to the Alix Nature Trail Society in the amount of \$13,000.00 for the operations and maintenance of the Alix Nature Trail.

If further clarification is required, please contact my office.

Sincerely,



TIM TIMMONS, CLGM
County Manager
Lacombe County

/jp

Challenges and concerns

Before federal institutions start using generative AI tools, they must assess and mitigate certain ethical, legal and other risks. For example, these tools can generate inaccurate content; amplify biases; and violate intellectual property, privacy and other laws. Further, some tools may not meet federal privacy and security requirements. When institutions use these tools, they must protect personal information and sensitive data. As well, because these tools generate content that can look as though a human produced it, people might not be able to tell whether they are interacting with a person or a tool. The use of these tools can also affect the skill and judgment of public servants and can have environmental costs.

Generative AI tools rely on models that pose various challenges, including limited transparency and explainability. They also rely on training data that is difficult to access and assess. These challenges stem in part from large model sizes, high volumes of training data, and the proprietary nature of many of the tools. In addition, the outputs of the models are constrained by the prompts and the training data, which may lack context that is not publicly available on the Internet. Training data could also be outdated; for example, ChatGPT is trained on data up to 2021, so it has a limited ability to provide information on events after that. ^{Footnote4} ^{Footnote5} As well, these tools have limitations that reduce their utility for certain purposes; for example, they tend to perform poorly on tasks related to emotion. ^{Footnote6} ^{Footnote7}

Generative AI could also pose risks to the integrity and security of federal institutions, given its potential misuse by threat actors. Federal institutions should be aware of these risks and ensure that the necessary mitigation measures are in place in accordance with the [Canadian Centre for Cyber Security's guidance on generative AI](#).

[Guide on the use of Generative AI - Canada.ca](#)

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) POLICIES BECOMING A PRIORITY

Jan 16, 2024

As artificial intelligence (AI) solutions are increasingly adopted in municipal government, the need for policies governing interactions and uses of these technologies has grown.

There is little doubt that local governments can benefit from using AI solutions like ChatGPT, but their use also exposes municipalities to a wide range of risks. Moreover, it also starts to raise questions that elected officials and administrators may not be ready (or able) to answer at this time.

Some of the fundamental risks or questions an AI Policy seeks to address include:

- **Ethics** – how is the potential for bias managed and/or mitigated?
- **Disclosure & transparency** – how does decision-making occur? Can users explain how the technology arrived at the proposed decision?
- **Governance** – how will AI solutions be governed in terms of development, usage and accountability?
- **Data security** – which data and information sources are used? Are they secure and maintained to ensure there is no tampering or outside influence?

For example, many of today's job application software and services use AI to pre-screen candidate submissions. Are organizations aware of how the suitability of candidates is determined?

All levels of government, including municipalities across Alberta, are already thinking about their relationship and interactions with AI, and some are taking steps to put it into policy.

For more information, please contact Dan Blackburn, Senior Director of Growth and Innovation.