

Regular Meeting of the Village of Alix Council, to be held on
Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Public Hearing: Proposed Bylaw 453/20-02
3. Agenda: Amendments and Adoption
4. Adoption of the Minutes: a) Minutes of Regular Meeting – Wednesday, April 19, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.
5. Delegation: None
6. Bylaws: a) Fee Schedule Bylaw 478/23 – Request for Decision 23-19
7. Unfinished Business: None
8. New Business: a) Alix Public Library Board - Financial Reviewer and Board Members – Request for Decision 23-20
9. Financial Reports: None
10. Committee Reports: a) Lacombe Foundation – Councillor Gilliat
b) Lacombe Regional Solid Waste Commission – Councillor Gilliat
11. Administrative Reports: None
12. Correspondence and Information: a) Minister of Municipal Affairs, Rebecca Schulz – Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF) Agreement – Review Extension
b) ABmunis – Update on RCMP Retroactive Salary Costs
c) Minister of Municipal Affairs, Rebecca Schulz – 2023 Minister’s Awards for Municipal and Public Library Excellence
d) Wolf Creek Public Schools – Implementation of New Transportation Requirements
e) Alix Mirror Wellness Supports Society - AGM
13. Closed Meeting: a) FOIP Section 25 - Economic Interests of a Public Body
14. Adjournment



PUBLIC NOTICE Of PUBLIC HEARING Village of Alix

Notice is hereby given that the Council of the Village of Alix has given first reading to **Bylaw 453/20-02** at the April 5, 2023 regular Council meeting, for the purpose of amending Land Use Bylaw 396/11 as follows;

All that portion of 45th Street contiguous with Lots 1-3, Block L, Plan 5676 AE, Excepting thereout all mines and minerals, be re-designated from a Road Allowance to Heavy Vehicle Residential District (R4).

A copy of Bylaw #453/20-02 may be inspected by the public in the Village of Alix Municipal Office between 8:00 A.M. and Noon and 1:00 P.M. and 4:00 P.M., Monday to Friday.

The Council of the Village of Alix will hold a **Public Hearing** in the Council Chambers at the Alix Village Office 4849-50th Street, Alix Alberta on **Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.** for the purpose of hearing submissions on the proposed changes.

Anyone wishing to submit a letter or other communication concerning this matter may do so provided they are typewritten or legibly written and include the name of the writer, mailing address, electronic address (as applicable) and must focus on the proposed amending bylaw. Submissions must be received by the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) not later than 12:00 noon on Thursday, April 28, 2023 to be included in the Agenda of Council. Submissions must be addressed to: Village of Alix, Box 87, Alix, AB T0C 0B0. Submissions may be hand delivered to 4849 – 50 Street, mailed, faxed to 403-747-3663, or emailed to cao@villageofalix.ca.

The personal information in submissions made is collected under the authority of the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, Section 33(c) for the purpose of public participation in land use decision making. Submissions meeting criteria will be included in the public meeting Council Agenda as received. The personal information included in the submission will be publicly available, in accordance with Section 40(1) of the FOIP Act. If you have any questions regarding the collection of this information please contact FOIP Program Administrator Tanya Meston at 403-747-2495.

Any person who wishes to address Council on any matter mentioned herein, may do so for a period of five minutes, exclusive of any time required to answer questions. Anyone addressing Council shall limit their comments to the matter contained in the proposed bylaw amendment and the recommendations being discussed.

Dated at the Village of Alix on April 13th, 2023
Michelle White, CAO
Ph: 403-747-2495

VILLAGE OF ALIX

BYLAW No. 453/20-02

Amendment to the Alix Land Use Bylaw No. 396/11

BEING a Bylaw of the Village of Alix, in the Province of Alberta, to amend Bylaw No. 396/11 being the Alix Land Use Bylaw.

NOW THEREFORE, the local authority of the Village of Alix, in Council duly assembled, enacts as follows:

THAT the Alix Land Use Bylaw No. 396/11 be amended as follows:

All that portion of 45th Street contiguous with Lots 1-3; Block L; Plan 5676 AE, Excepting thereout all mines and minerals, be re-designated from a **Road Allowance to Heavy Vehicle Residential District (R4)**

THIS Bylaw shall come into force and effect on final reading thereof.

Read a first time this 5th day of April, 2023.

Read a second time this day of , 2023

Read a third time and finally passed this day of , 2023

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Alix Council, held on Wednesday, April 19 2023, at 6:00 P.M.

Present: Mayor Rob Fehr, Councillors Tim Besuijen, Janice Besuijen, Edwin Cole and Barbara Gilliat

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 #068/23: Moved by Councillor T. Besuijen that the Village of Alix Council approve the agenda with the following amendment:

Add: Unfinished Business: a) Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors Re: Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership

Correspondence: i) Alix Chamber of Commerce Request

CARRIED

Minutes: a) Regular Meeting – April 5, 2023

Resolution #069/23: Moved by Councillor Gilliat that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Village of Alix Council held on Wednesday, April 5, 2023, be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

Delegation: a) Scott St. Arnaud, B.Comm., CPA CA-Gitzel & Company – 2022 Financial Statement Presentation

Mr. Scott St. Arnaud, CPA, CA from Gitzel & Company entered the meeting at 6:02 P.M.

Mayor Fehr called a recess at 6:59 P.M.

Mayor Fehr reconvened the meeting at 7:09 P.M.

Mr. St. Arnaud retired from the meeting at 7:09 P.M.

Resolution #070/23: Moved by Councillor Gilliat that the Village of Alix Council hereby adopts the 2022 Financial Statements as presented.

CARRIED

Bylaws: a) Tax Rate Bylaw #477/23

Resolution #071/23: Moved by Councillor T. Besuijen that the Village of Alix Council give first reading to Bylaw #477/23 being a bylaw to authorize the rates of taxation to be levied against assessable property within the Village of Alix for the 2023 taxation year.

CARRIED

Resolution #072/23: Moved by Councillor J. Besuijen that the Village of Alix Council give second reading to Bylaw #477/23.

CARRIED

Resolution #073/23: Moved by Councillor Gilliat that the Village of Alix Council give permission for third and final reading to the Tax Rate Bylaw #477/23 at this time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaws: (cont)

Resolution #074/23: Moved by Councillor Cole that the Village of Alix Council give third and final reading to Bylaw #477/23.
CARRIED

Unfinished Business: a) Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors – Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership

Resolution #075/23: Moved by Councillor Gilliat that the Village of Alix Council hereby enter into a funding agreement with Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors for Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership - Wastewater Lagoon Upgrade Phase 2 (Cell 6) up to a maximum grant of \$2,311,362.75.
CARRIED

New Business: None

Financial Reports: a) Bank Reconciliation – March 31, 2023
b) Accounts Payable Cheque Listing – March 15 – April 3, 2023
c) Tax Trial Balance – April 13, 2023

Resolution #076/23: Moved by Councillor T. Besuijen that the Village of Alix Council hereby accept the Financial Reports as presented.
CARRIED

Committee Reports: a) RCMP Town Hall Meeting – Councillor Cole
b) Regional Fire Meeting – Mayor Fehr

Resolution #077/23: Moved by Councillor T. Besuijen that the Village of Alix Council accept the Committee Reports as presented.
CARRIED

Administrative Reports: a) Chief Administrative Officer's Report
b) Emergency Management Report

Resolution #078/23: Moved by Councillor J. Besuijen that the Village of Alix Council hereby accept the Administrative Reports as presented.
CARRIED

Correspondence and Information: a) Alix Public Library – Canada Day Funding Request

Resolution #079/23: Moved by Councillor Cole that the Village of Alix Council hereby grants the Alix Public Library \$500.00 to help fund 2023 Canada Day Celebrations.
CARRIED

b) Alix and Area Community Resource Centre – Quarterly Newsletter
c) Minister of Municipal Affairs, Rebecca Schulz – Municipal Census Regulation
d) Minister of Municipal Affairs, Rebecca Schulz – Upcoming New Alberta Code Editions

Correspondence and
Information: (cont)

- e) Mayor Grant Creasey, City of Lacombe – Seniors Housing in Central Alberta
- f) School Age Care Directors Association – Lights on After School Alberta
- g) The Town of Tofield – Exemption of Newspaper from EPR Program Revisions
- h) Canadian National (CN) – CN Right-of-Way Vegetation Control
- i) Alix Chamber of Commerce Request for Community Survey RE: Increase in Night Patrol Services

Resolution #080/23: Moved by Councillor Gilliat that Correspondence Items (a) through (i) be accepted as information.

CARRIED

- Closed Meeting:
- a) FOIP Section 17 – Personal Privacy RE: Human Resources Matter
 - b) FOIP Section 27 – Privileged Information RE: Legal Matter

Resolution #081/23: Moved by Councillor Cole that the Village of Alix Council go into a Closed Meeting at 8:22 P.M. to discuss FOIP Section 17, Personal Privacy regarding a Human Resources matter and FOIP Section 27, Privileged Information regarding a Legal matter.

CARRIED

Resolution #082/23: Moved by Councillor Gilliat that the Village of Alix Council return to the Public Meeting at 8:59 P.M.

CARRIED

Resolution #083/23: Moved by Councillor Cole that the Village of Alix Council accept the employee complaint letter submitted to Deputy Mayor Besuijen on April 12, 2023 as information.

CARRIED

Adjournment:

Resolution #084/23: Moved by Councillor J. Besuijen that this Regular Meeting of the Village of Alix Council be adjourned at 9:02 P.M.

CARRIED

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer

ADMINISTRATION REPORT



Date: April 27, 2023
Memo To: Village Council
From: Tanya Meston
Subject: Fee Schedule Bylaw 478/23

RFD 23-19

1. **PURPOSE** – To update the Village of Alix Fee Schedule Bylaw.
2. **BACKGROUND** – A recent review of fees and services associated with the Cemetery Bylaw and Land Use Bylaw has been completed by staff and an update to the Fee Schedule Bylaw is required. This Bylaw should be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure charges are kept up to date.
3. **OPTIONS** –
 1. Keep existing Fee Schedule Bylaw 471/22 in place.
 2. Give 1 reading of proposed Bylaw 478/23 and allow time for public comment.
 3. Give all 3 readings and pass Bylaw 478/23.
4. **DISCUSSION** – The Cemetery Bylaw rates and description for Open & Close services performed by the Public Works department, was reviewed and clarification is required to differentiate rates for work performed during work hours and after hours and between different months of the year. These proposed changes in wording will help provide for a clear understanding of rates and services for all parties involved. The Land Use Bylaw application fee for an application to amend the Land Use Bylaw will remain unchanged but an addition of the advertising cost has been proposed. An increase to the fee for a development permit application for a discretionary use is proposed to account for the cost of a Municipal Planning Commission Special Meeting to be held.
5. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS** – A proposed rate addition of \$50 for “open & close ground prep for full burial (summer rate, May 1 – Oct 31)” under Cemetery. An addition of “advertising cost” will be determined at the time of an application to amend the Land Use Bylaw fee of \$300 is received. An increase to a development permit application fee for a discretionary use from \$125 to \$200 under Land Use Bylaw.
6. **LEGAL** – The MGA states that Council may only act by resolution or bylaw. Section 63(1) states “A council of a municipality may, by bylaw, revise any of its bylaw or any one or more provisions of them...”
7. **POLITICAL/PUBLIC IMPLICATIONS** – By consolidating all fees and charges into one bylaw, it is easier for residents or individuals being charged to find the bylaw authorizing that charge.
8. **OTHER COMMENTS** –
9. **RECOMMENDATIONS** – Option #3, I recommend the following resolutions:

“that the Village of Alix Council give first reading to Fee Schedule Bylaw 478/23, being a bylaw to establish a fee schedule.”

“that the Village of Alix Council give second reading to Fee Schedule Bylaw 478/23.”

“that the Village of Alix Council give permission for third and final reading to Fee Schedule Bylaw 478/23 at this time.”

“that the Village of Alix Council give third and final reading to Fee Schedule Bylaw 478/23.”



Author

**BYLAW #478/23
"SCHEDULE A"
Fee Schedule**

ADMINISTRATION

<u>Faxing</u>	per page received	1.00
	per page sent	2.00
<u>N.S.F. Cheque</u>		25.00
<u>Photocopying</u>	black & white (per page)	0.10
	colour (per page)	0.25
<u>Pins</u>	GST Included	3.00

BUSINESS LICENSES

	local	50.00
	non-local	100.00
	temporary	25.00
	hawkers & peddlers	25.00

CAMPGROUND

	per stall/day	35.00
	per stall/ month	850.00

CEMETERY

<u>Plot Sales</u>	full burial plot (each)	250.00
	cremation burial plot (each)	100.00
	veteran, full or cremation plot	50% of listed cost

<u>Registration</u>	transfer fee	25.00
	registration of additional burials per plot	25.00

<u>Open & Close</u>	open & close for cremation burial (regular work hours – May 1 – Oct 31)	100.00
	open & close for cremation burial (overtime work hours – May 1 – Oct 31)	200.00
	open & close ground prep for any burial (winter rate, Nov 1 – Apr 30)	200.00
	open & close ground prep for full burial (summer rate, May 1 – Oct 31)	50.00

<u>Work Permit Fee</u>	work permit for monument companies	50.00
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LAND USE BYLAW

<u>Bylaw Amendment</u>	application to amend Land Use Bylaw only	300.00 + advertising cost
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<u>Compliance Certificate</u>		100.00
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<u>Development Permits</u>	Permitted uses	100.00
	Discretionary uses	200.00
	Subdivision Development Appeal Board Fee	250.00

TAXES

<u>Assessment Review Board</u>	assessment complaint filing fee	100.00
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<u>Tax Certificates</u>	requested by persons not owning the property	35.00
	requested by registered owner	N/C

<u>Tax Searches</u>	no certificate issued	25.00
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ADMINISTRATION REPORT



Date: April 27, 2023 RFD 23-20
Memo To: Village Council
From: Tanya Meston
Subject: Library Board financial reviewer and board member update

1. **PURPOSE** – To determine if Council will accept the Library Board’s proposed change to their financial auditor and board members.
2. **BACKGROUND** – Please see attached letter.
3. **OPTIONS** –
 1. Pass the resolution outlined below
 2. Defeat the resolution outlined below
4. **DISCUSSION** – Diane Klassen was appointed as the Alix Public Library Board financial reviewer by the board on October 8, 2021 and by Council resolution on October 12, 2021.
5. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS** – none
6. **LEGAL** – Libraries Act s. 9 “The municipal board shall
 - (a) keep accounts of its receipts, payments, credits and liabilities.
 - (b) have a person who is not a member of the municipal board and whose qualifications are satisfactory to council review the accounts each calendar year and prepare a financial report in a form satisfactory to council, and
 - (c) submit the financial report to council immediately after its completion.”Municipal Affairs Library Grants department requires a resolution of Council to approve a new financial reviewer.
7. **POLITICAL/PUBLIC IMPLICATIONS** –
8. **OTHER COMMENTS** –
9. **RECOMMENDATIONS** – Option #1. I recommend the following resolution:

“that the Village of Alix Council hereby approves the appointment of Callie Sauer as the financial reviewer for the Alix Public Library Board, Cathy Perry as an Alix Public Library Board member for a three year term and Brant Perry as an Alix Public Library Board member for a two year term.”



Author

Village of Alix Library
Box 69
Alix AB TOC 0B0

Village of Alix
Box 87
Alix, AB TOC 0B0

April 24, 2023

Attn Village Council

The Village of Alix Library Board has passed a motion at their March Board Meeting to appoint the following people to our Board.

Cathy Perry – 3 year term
Brant Perry – 2 year term

We also voted to appoint Ms. Callie Sauer as our auditor.

We would like the Village Council to approve these appointments.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Gilliat". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'B' and 'G'.

Barbara Gilliat
Board Chair
Village of Alix Library

**Lacombe Foundation
Regular Board Meeting
March 27, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm at the Lacombe Foundation Office

Metrix gave a presentation regarding the audit.

Correspondence

Covid Funding Update – Funding has been extended until June 30, 2023

Ukrainian Evacuee Eligibility – Evacuees will be eligible for rent subsidy and can be housed in senior self contained housing or senior lodges.

Virtual Dementia Tour – Will be held April 3rd at the Lacombe Lodge

Financial

Both lodges continue to have vacancies, but we are still on target with the budget.

CAO Report

Capital Projects – The Bethany Group is looking for a project managing group to help look for grants for the proposed Lacombe Lodge redevelopment. The biggest stumbling block is that Parkview Manor which is part of the proposed development is owned by the GOA while the manor itself is owned by the Lacombe Foundation. The dual ownership makes us ineligible for many sources of funding and it has been difficult to get answers from anyone in the government. Our proposed development is not on the list for any funding at the moment.

New Business

Election/Advocacy strategy for lodge redevelopment

It was recommended that Lacombe Foundation start an advocacy campaign to get the word out about our current situation.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm

Lacombe Regional Solid Waste Commission
Regular Board Meeting
February 22,2023
Prentiss Office

The meeting was called to order at 1:15 pm

Audit – Dan Luymes gave a presentation regarding the upcoming audit.

New Skid Steer Purchase – LRWSC has a skid steer and a 2014 Massey Ferguson tractor used for site work. The tractor is up for replacement, but it is recommended that a skid steer be purchased in place of a tractor. The tractor has limitations, whereas a second skid steer would be much more flexible. Purchase could be made using our Unrestricted Surplus Reserve. A motion was passed authorizing up to \$80,000 for a skid steer.

Strategic Planning – The last Strategic Planning was in April 2019 facilitated by Lacombe County employees. There are many new Board members since then and it may be beneficial to have a new planning session. It was decided to have an in-house session sometime in the near future.

Manager's Report

The new Freightliner Tri-Drive has arrived and should be delivered April 1, 2023. The old truck that is being replaced was going to be sent to auction, estimated to receive \$90,000 - \$100,00. A local waste hauler has enquired after the truck and has offered \$130,000 for it and two trailers. Possession is April 1, 2023

Safety Manuals are being updated for all sites.

Ultimate Services, the company proposing the composting facility are still working on their proposal for Alberta Environment. They thought they had it all done but are now required to present a Wildlife Survey.

Next Meeting April 26,2023

Meeting Adjourned at 3:30 pm



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 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



ALBERTA
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary-Shaw*

MINISTERIAL ORDER NO. MSD:024/23

I, Rebecca Schulz, Minister of Municipal Affairs, pursuant to Section 605(2) of the *Municipal Government Act*, make the following order:

The date by which a municipality must review an intermunicipal collaboration framework, as required by Section 708.32(1) of the *Municipal Government Act*, is amended from at least every five years to at least every seven years.

This order expires March 31, 2027.

Dated at Edmonton, Alberta, this 6th day of April, 2023.



Rebecca Schulz
Minister of Municipal Affairs

CAO

From: Cathy Heron <president@abmunis.ca>
Sent: April 17, 2023 4:16 PM
To: CAO
Subject: Update on RCMP Retroactive Salary Costs
Attachments: Email to Mayors and CAOs re update on RCMP retroactive salary costs - Attachment 1 - FCM Draft Resolution.docx; Email to Mayors and CAOs re update on RCMP retroactive salary costs - Attachment 2 - FCM Draft News Release.docx

Dear Municipal Colleagues:

With the release of the federal budget in March 2023, Public Safety Canada confirmed that the federal government is passing along the costs of RCMP retroactive salary increases to contract partners. ABmunis has received several inquiries about how this decision affects Alberta municipalities, so I am pleased to share the following information with you.

Municipalities with Populations over 5,000

If you are a municipality with a population over 5,000 and you contract the RCMP directly as your municipal police service, you should have received an invoice for the total amount owing, as well as a letter from Public Safety Canada enclosing a Confirmation of Intent document. Public Safety Canada has requested that contract partners complete and submit the Confirmation of Intent document by April 15, 2023 to indicate whether they will:

1. Pay the invoice in full within the 45 days stated in the Municipal Police Service Agreement (MPSA); or,
2. Request an extended payment schedule with up to two years to pay in full (i.e. until March 31, 2025).

Note that the April 15, 2023 deadline for submitting the Confirmation of Intent document has been extended to May 15, 2023.

If you have not received an invoice or letter from Public Safety Canada, please contact Ministry staff at ps.cmcsec-cgesec.sp@ps-sp.gc.ca.

Municipalities with Populations under 5,000

If you are a municipality with a population under 5,000, your community will in all likelihood receive your police services from the RCMP, under the Provincial Police Service Agreement (PPSA). Accordingly, your municipality is not an RCMP contract partner and is not directly affected by this retractive pay settlement. Your municipality pays for its policing costs to the Government of Alberta, under the police funding that was introduced in 2020. The Government of Alberta has committed to maintaining the police funding model for PPSA communities and has verbally communicated to ABmunis that it will not be passing their RCMP retroactive salary costs onto municipalities.

Going Forward

ABmunis will focus on the current round of collective bargaining to help ensure contract partners are provided with more accurate cost estimates and timelines as bargaining progresses. We also encourage members to support FCM's continuing advocacy on this topic by using the attached documents:

- A draft resolution, which can be adopted and used to ensure a resolution opposing this decision can be swiftly passed at your next municipal council meeting.
- A draft press release, which affected municipalities can use to articulate their position on this important development in line with FCM's ongoing advocacy. This resource may be useful in engaging with local media or local MPs on this important issue.

Template Resolution – Prioritizing Municipal Input in Future RCMP Contract Policing Decisions

WHEREAS, The Government of Canada has made the decision in Budget 2023 to make municipalities responsible for all retroactive costs stemming from the latest RCMP collective bargaining agreement; and

WHEREAS, These extraordinary one-time costs, which in some jurisdictions amount to millions of dollars, will cause significant hardship for communities and residents across the country, and were negotiated without meaningful consultation or a seat at the table for the municipalities responsible for paying the bill; and

WHEREAS, Municipal governments are already paying a growing share of policing costs, but unlike other orders of government, cannot run deficits to spread out the impact of these extraordinary one-time sums, and have limited revenue tools; and

WHEREAS, Local governments will now be forced to make difficult decisions that will impact residents, such as cutting essential services, reducing policing levels, raising property taxes significantly, and/or cancelling work on local infrastructure, at a time when Canadians' concerns about community safety and the cost of living are already rising; and

WHEREAS, Going forward, it is critical that municipalities be proactively engaged in any forthcoming processes related to contract policing to prevent this occurring again; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That [insert municipality's name] joins the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in calling on the federal government to commit to ensuring that local governments are meaningfully consulted, fully informed, and at the table on issues related to policing costs given the municipal role in keeping our communities safe; and be it further

RESOLVED, That [insert municipality's name] conveys this support in writing to local Members of Parliament.

[DRAFT TEMPLATE response to RCMP retroactive costs decision]
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[DATE], 2023

[MUNICIPALITY] responds to update from the Government of Canada on the issue of retroactive RCMP costs

[CITY/TOWN, PROVINCE] – The [MUNICIPALITY] responded today to the federal government’s disappointing decision to pass unbudgeted and unaccounted for costs on to municipalities.

Despite months of municipal advocacy led by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), provincial-territorial associations and local leaders across Canada, the federal government has indicated in the most recent federal budget it will not be meeting the request to absorb the retroactive costs associated with the latest RCMP collective bargaining agreement.

Tuesday’s budget further confirmed that communities across Canada that are dependent on RCMP services for local policing, including [MUNICIPALITY], are expected to cover these costs—a decision falling well short of the call from municipalities to fully absorb the costs.

“[Quote from local representative]”

Local governments were not at the table for these negotiations. And while cost estimates were provided to some municipalities, these turned out to be far below the final agreement’s increase over six years, with retroactive pay going back to 2017. The cost to [MUNICIPALITY] associated with these retroactive payments is expected to be [COST ESTIMATE IF AVAILABLE].

This decision is an example of a federal commitment that deeply impacts municipalities, without municipalities being properly consulted or involved. Municipal governments are paying a growing share of policing costs, but they cannot run deficits and have limited revenue tools.

FCM has clearly reiterated the need for municipalities to be actively involved in any future processes regarding contract policing, calling this recent decision unacceptable. This is a position supported in full by [MUNICIPALITY].

-30-

For more information:

Municipality Media Relations if available, inc. phone number and email
FCM Media Relations, (613) 907-6395, media@fcm.ca

April 19, 2023

Dear Chief Elected Official or Library Board Chair:

I am pleased to invite your municipality or library board to provide submissions for the 2023 Minister's Awards for Municipal and Public Library Excellence. This program recognizes excellence in municipal government initiatives and provision of library services. It promotes knowledge-sharing to build capacity. These awards offer an opportunity to recognize the truly great work happening in communities across Alberta.

This is the second year we are bringing together two of the ministry's recognition programs under one umbrella. This broader program recognizes innovation and excellence by both municipalities and library boards. Award submissions will continue to be evaluated by your peers and colleagues in the field, and winning initiatives will be highlighted in future communications.

Submissions will be accepted in the following categories:

- **Building Economic Strength (open to all municipalities)** – award will be given for an innovative initiative that builds the economic capacity and/or resiliency of the community, and/or improves the attractiveness of the community to businesses, investors, and visitors.
- **Enhancing Community Safety (open to all municipalities)** – award will be given for an innovative initiative that engages the community to address a safety issue. This could involve crime prevention, infrastructure enhancements (for example: lighting, accessibility, traffic calming measures) and community services initiatives.
- **Partnership (open to all municipalities)** – award will be given for an innovative initiative involving a local or regional partnership that achieves results that could not have otherwise been accomplished by the municipality alone. This could involve cooperation, coordination and collaboration with other municipalities, businesses, Indigenous communities, non-profit organizations, community groups, and other orders of government to achieve a specific outcome.
- **Public Library Services (open to library boards serving a population over 10,000)** – award will be given for a library service initiative that demonstrates excellence and/or innovation. The initiative should demonstrate responsiveness to community need(s) and provide direct benefit to the public.
- **Public Library Services (open to library boards serving a population under 10,000)** – two awards will be given for a library service initiative that demonstrates excellence and/or innovation. The initiative should demonstrate responsiveness to community need(s) and provide direct benefit to the public.
- **Red Tape Reduction (open to all municipalities)** – award will be given for an innovative initiative that improves a municipal program or service by saving time, money, and resources, or impacts municipal operations by reducing regulatory, policy, or process requirements.

- **Service Delivery Enhancement (open to all municipalities)** – award will be given for an innovative initiative that improves, or presents a new approach to, how a municipality can deliver a program or service.
- **Smaller Municipalities (open to municipalities with populations less than 5,000)** – award will be given for a municipal initiative that demonstrates leadership, resourcefulness, or innovation, or both, to better the community.

Further details about eligibility and submission requirements are available on the Minister's Awards for Municipal and Public Library Excellence webpage at www.alberta.ca/ministers-awards-for-municipal-excellence.aspx. The deadline for submission is June 15, 2023.

I encourage you to share your success stories and offer my gratitude to you for the service you provide to Albertans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca Schulz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rebecca Schulz
Minister



Wolf Creek Public Schools

April 20, 2023

Honourable Adriana LaGrange
Minister of Education
228 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Luci Henry
Board Chair, Ward A

Kelly Lowry
Vice Chair, Ward D

Lana Thompson
Ward B

Trudy Bratland
Ward C

Brent Buchanan
Ward D

Darryl Stendie
Ward E

Tim De Ruyck
Superintendent of Schools

6000 Highway 2A
Ponoka, Alberta T4J 1P6

Phone: (403) 783-3473
Fax: (403) 783-3483

RE: Implementation of New Transportation Requirements Effective Fall of 2024

Dear Minister LaGrange:

When the provincial funding announcement was made on February 28, 2023 it was noted that student transportation requirements would change, such that K-6 students who live greater than one kilometre, and 7-12 students living greater than two kilometres, will be eligible for school bus transportation effective in September of 2024. We feel it is important to communicate what this is going to mean for Wolf Creek Public Schools.

Within Wolf Creek Public Schools this change will mean an additional 1700-1800 students will be eligible for transportation, which will require an additional 36 bus routes. This will require the purchase of 42 additional school buses (including spares), at a cost of approximately 6.5 million dollars. We would need the funding by the summer of 2023 in order to hope the buses arrive in time for the fall of 2024. As an aside, we are still waiting for buses which were ordered in February 2022.

In addition, substantial work will be required to our existing transportation facilities to accommodate this substantial growth to our bus fleet. We also know we already struggle to maintain enough drivers, even with ongoing recruitment efforts. We also know these additional buses could create bus lane congestion issues, particularly in our larger communities of Ponoka, Lacombe, and Blackfalds. Finally, the distinction between K-6 and 7-12 students will create difficulties for families who have children within the same household who may not all be eligible for transportation.

PAGE TWO...Adriana LaGrange

To our knowledge there was no prior consultation with the field to determine the operational viability of such a substantial announcement. We sincerely hope this will be a consideration going forward, and we look forward to any updates which can be provided to assist school divisions in implementing the new transportation requirements for the fall of 2024.

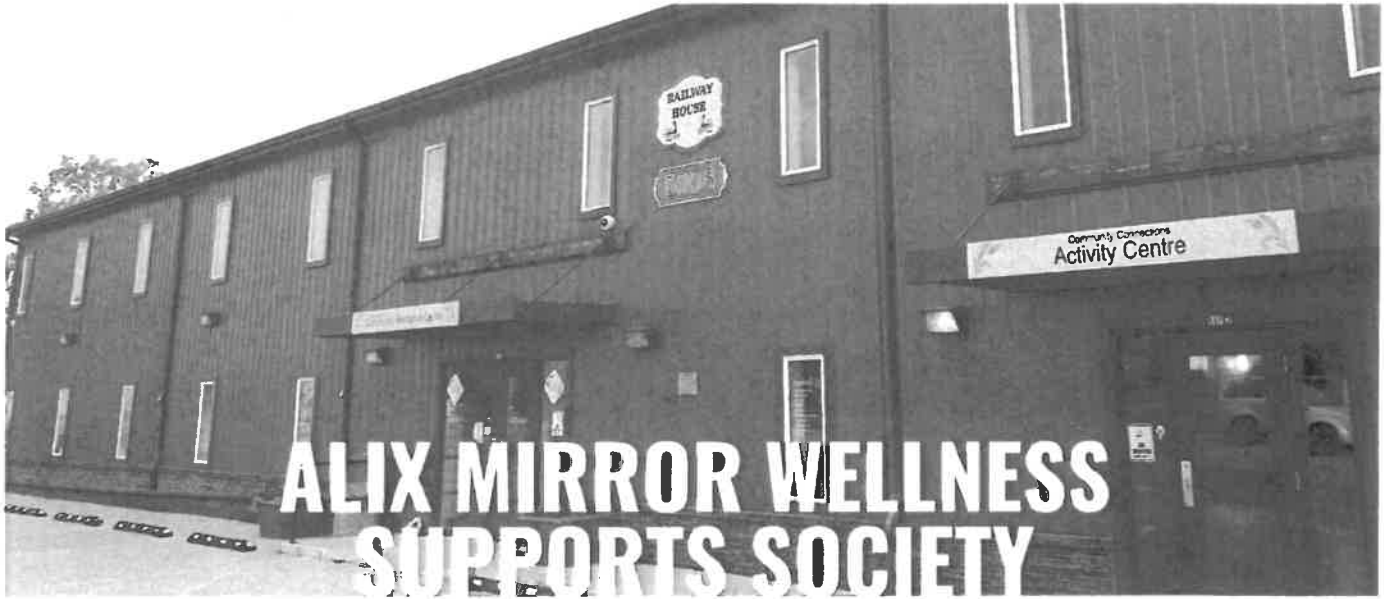
Sincerely,



Lucie Henry
Board Chair

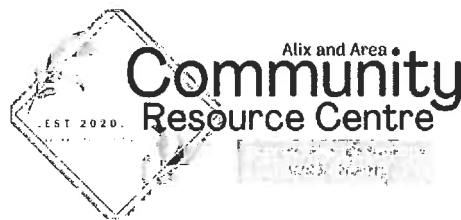
cc: ASBA
Sarah Hoffman, Education Critic for the Opposition
All Alberta School Divisions
All Municipalities within Wolf Creek Public Schools





AGM

Everyone is welcome.



DAY MAY 25	TIME 7:30PM	Bay 1, 5008 50 Ave Alix, AB
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