

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

**2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**3.0 MINUTES**

**3.1 REGULAR MEETING HELD DECEMBER 16, 2025**

[Schedule A](#)

**4.0 ACTION ITEMS:**

**4.1 PROPOSED LAND USE BYLAW AMENDMENT APPLICATION – DATA PROCESSING FACILITIES – AXIOM OIL AND GAS INC.**

Administration recommends that:

- Council gives 1<sup>st</sup> reading of Bylaw 02-2026, amending Land Use Bylaw 4-2024 to add “Data Processing Facility” as a Discretionary Use in Section 12. Agricultural Land Use District (AG), subsection 12.3 and
- Council set the Public Hearing for Bylaw 02-2026, amending Land Use Bylaw 4-2024 for February 3, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. in the County of Barrhead Council Chambers.

[Schedule B](#)

**4.2 2026 APPOINTMENT OF CANDIDATES TO ALUS PARTNERSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC)**

Administration recommends that:

- Council re-appoint Lorrie Jesperson as the County of Barrhead ASB member on the PAC as recommended by the ASB for a 1-year term.
- Council re-appoint Nadine Quedenbaum as the public member from the County of Barrhead for a 2-year term.
- Council accepts the nominations from Westlock County and County of Athabasca as presented.

[Schedule C](#)

**4.3 2026 MEMBER-AT-LARGE APPOINTMENT TO SDAB**

Administration recommends that Council appoints Mr. Wilfred Ruhl to the Subdivision & Development Appeal Board for the term January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2029.

[Schedule D](#)

**4.4 2026 MEMBER-AT-LARGE APPOINTMENT TO LIBRARY BOARD**

Administration recommends that Council appoint 1 member-at-large to the Barrhead Library Board for a term from January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2028 as recommended by the Barrhead Library Board.

[Schedule E](#)

**4.5 PROPOSAL TO NAME A GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURE IN THE COUNTY OF BARRHEAD**

Administration recommends that Council directs Administration to respond to the Alberta Geographical Names Program with information that has been gathered and inform them that Council does not object to the proposal that the name Kepke Snye be officially adopted for a wetlands water feature located near SE 31-61-5-W5.

[Schedule F](#)

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**4.6 PROVINCIAL AGRITOURISM ADVOCACY**

Administration recommends that Council approve the resolution “Access to Liability Insurance for Agritourism Operators” which requests RMA to request the GOA to review Ontario’s Growing Agritourism Act and support the GOA in assessing the relevance of this legislation to Alberta Agritourism and the challenges faced by responsible producers trying to access adequate liability insurance; and further, that this resolution be forwarded to the January 12, 2026 Pembina Zone meeting for consideration.

[Schedule G](#)

**4.7 ENGINE 33 DISPOSAL DECISION**

Administration recommends that Council direct CAO to sell Engine 33, a 2007 Freightliner - Rosenbauer Fire Pumper Truck, to the Village of Riverhurst, Saskatchewan for the price of \$45,000 conditional upon their satisfactory inspection.

[Schedule H](#)

**4.8 ALLOWANCE FOR DOUBTFUL ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE & WRITEOFF OF UNCOLLECTABLE ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE**

Administration recommends that:

1. Council authorizes Administration to write-off the three (3) outstanding Account Receivable accounts as recommended in the amount of \$2,250.76 as these accounts have been at the collection agency for more than one year and are uncollectable.

and

2. Council accept for information the allowance for doubtful accounts of \$1,453.39 as at December 31, 2025.

[Schedule I](#)

**4.9 APPROVE 2025 CANCELLED TAXES**

Administration recommends that Council approve the 2025 cancelled tax transactions as presented.

[Schedule J](#)

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**5.0 REPORTS**

**5.1 COUNTY MANAGER REPORT**

Administration recommends that Council accept the County Manager’s report for information.

- Resolution Tracking List

[Schedule K](#)

**5.2 ENFORCEMENT SERVICES REPORT**

Administration recommends that Council accept the Community Peace Officer report for Winter 2025 for information.

[Schedule L](#)

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**5.3 PUBLIC WORKS REPORT** (11:00 a.m.)

Administration recommends that Council accept the Director of Infrastructure's Public Works Report for information.

- [Schedule M](#)

2025 Road Maintenance Program Recap

- [Schedule N](#)

**5.4 COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

[Schedule O](#)

**6.0 ADJOURNMENT**

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**REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL - HELD DECEMBER 16, 2025**

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Regular Meeting of the Council of the County of Barrhead No. 11 held December 16, 2025, was called to order by Deputy Reeve Preugschas at 9:00 a.m.

**PRESENT**

Reeve Erik Munck (joined at 9:34 a.m.)  
Councillor Ray Crisler  
Councillor Bill Chapman (joined at 10:38 a.m.)  
Councillor Lorrie Jespersen  
Councillor Chais Ellwein  
Deputy Reeve Walter Preugschas  
Councillor Tyson Bergsma

**THESE MINUTES ARE  
UNOFFICIAL AS THEY HAVE  
NOT BEEN APPROVED BY THE  
COUNCIL.**

**STAFF**

Debbie Oyarzun, County Manager  
Pam Dodds, Executive Assistant  
Ken Hove, Director of Infrastructure  
Shae Guy, Community Peace Officer

Tamara Molzahn, Director Corp. Services  
Dawn Fedorvich, Director Rural Dev.

**ATTENDEES**

RCMP – District Superintendent Tony Hanson, Staff Sgt Jeff Sehn, & Sgt Colin Hack

Town and Country Newspaper – Barry Kerton

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**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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2025-410 Moved by Councillor Jespersen that the agenda be approved as presented. Carried 5-0.

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**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 4, 2025**

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2025-411 Moved by Councillor Crisler that the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held November 4, 2025, be approved as circulated. Carried 5-0.

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**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 27, 2025**

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2025-412 Moved by Councillor Ellwein that the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held November 27, 2025, be approved as circulated. Carried 5-0.

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**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING HELD DECEMBER 2, 2025**

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2025-413 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held December 2, 2025, be approved as circulated. Carried 5-0.

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**PUBLIC WORKS REPORT**

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Ken Hove, Director of Infrastructure, reviewed the written report for Public Works & Utilities and answered questions from Council.

2025-414 Moved by Councillor Jespersen that the report from Public Works be received for information. Carried 5-0.

Ken Hove departed the meeting at 9:08 a.m.

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**REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL - HELD DECEMBER 16, 2025**

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**2026 DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE APPOINTMENT TO BRWC**

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2025-415 Moved by Councillor Jespersen that Council nominates Mr. Ivan Kusal to be recommended to the BRWC for re-appointment to the director-at-large position for the term January 1 to December 31, 2026.

Carried 5-0.

**OPERATIONAL AGREEMENT – BARRHEAD REGIONAL WATER COMMISSION**

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2025-416 Moved by Councillor Crisler that Council authorizes the Reeve and County Manager to sign the Operational Agreement as presented by the BRWC.

Carried 5-0.

Shae Guy joined the meeting at 9:18 a.m.

**UPDATE TO POLICY PS-012 CPO UNIFORM & EQUIPMENT STANDARDS**

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2025-417 Moved by Councillor Ellwein that Council approve Policy PS-012 CPO Uniform & Equipment Standards as amended.

Carried 5-0.

Shae Guy departed the meeting at 9:32 a.m.

Reeve Munck and Tamara Molzahn joined the meeting at 9:34 a.m.

Reeve Munck takes over the Chair for the meeting.

**BYLAW 1-2026 – RATES & FEES BYLAW**

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2025-418 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council gives 1<sup>st</sup> reading to Bylaw 1-2026 – Rates & Fees Bylaw.

Carried 6-0.

2025-419 Moved by Councillor Ellwein that Council gives 2<sup>nd</sup> reading to Bylaw 1-2026.

Carried 6-0.

2025-420 Moved by Deputy Reeve Preugschas that Council consider 3<sup>rd</sup> reading for Bylaw 1-2026.

Carried 6-0.

2025-421 Moved by Councillor Jespersen that Council gives 3<sup>rd</sup> reading to Bylaw 1-2026 – Rates & Fees Bylaw.

Carried 6-0.

Tamara Molzahn left the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

**RECESS**

Reeve Munck recessed the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

Reeve Munck reconvened the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

**DELEGATION – RCMP**

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RCMP District Officer, Supt. Tony Hanson, District Advisory NCO, Sgt Jeff Seinne, & Barrhead Detachment Commander, Sgt Colin Hack, met with Council at 9:55 a.m. and provided updates on budget, staffing, and services offered by RCMP.

Dawn Fedorovich joined the meeting at 10:09 a.m.

Councillor Chapman joined the meeting at 10:38 a.m.

2025-422 Moved by Councillor Crisler that Council accept the RCMP report for information.

Carried Unanimously.

Council thanked the RCMP delegation for their presentation and they left the meeting at 10:59 a.m.

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**REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL - HELD DECEMBER 16, 2025**

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**RECESS**

Reeve Munck recessed the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

Reeve Munck reconvened the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

Tamara Molzahn rejoined the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

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**2026 INTERIM OPERATING BUDGET & 2026 CAPITAL BUDGET**

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2025-423 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council approve the 2026 INTERIM Operating Budget of \$19,181,064 as presented. Carried Unanimously.

2025-424 Moved by Deputy Reeve Preugschas that Council approve the 2026 Capital Budget of \$10,624,042 as presented. Carried Unanimously.

Dawn Fedorovich departed the meeting at 11:54 a.m.

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**GENERAL CONSENSUS TO EXTEND THE MEETING**

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At 11:54 a.m. the Reeve received general consent from all Councillors present to extend the meeting until completed.

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**DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT**

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2025-425 Moved by Councillor Ellwein to accept the following Director of Corporate Services reports for information:

- Cash, Investments & Taxes Receivable as of November 30, 2025
- Payments Issued for the month of November 2025
- YTD Budget Report for 11 months ending November 30, 2025
- YTD Capital Recap for period ending November 30, 2025
- Elected Official Remuneration Report as of November 30, 2025

Carried Unanimously.

Tamara Molzahn departed the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Deputy Reeve Preugschas left the meeting at 12:02 p.m. and rejoined at 12:03 p.m.

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**COUNTY MANAGER REPORT**

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Debbie Oyarzun, County Manager, reviewed the 2025 Resolution Tracking List and provided the following updates to Council:

- Office closed December 22-26, 2025, for Christmas Break
- January 12, 2026 - Pembina Zone meeting being held virtually.
- January 29, 2026 - Committee of the Whole meeting
- Administration working with Misty Ridge committee to finalize operating & lease agreement
- AAIP Rural Renewal Stream – October 2025 Stat Report
- Public Auction (Tax Sale) update
- Misty Ridge Ski Club committee appointment reconsideration as requested by elected officials

2025-426 Moved by Councillor Crisler that Council rescinds motion appointing Reeve Munck as the Council representative and Councillor Bergsma as the alternate representative on the Misty Ridge Ski Club committee.

Carried Unanimously.

**REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL - HELD DECEMBER 16, 2025**

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2025-427	Moved by Councillor Crisler that Council appoint Councillor Bergsma as the Council representative on the Misty Ridge Ski Club committee.	Carried Unanimously.
2025-428	Moved by Councillor Crisler that Council appoint Reeve Munck as the Council alternate representative on the Misty Ridge Ski Club committee.	Carried Unanimously.
2025-429	Moved by Councillor Ellwein that the County Manager's report be received for information.	Carried Unanimously.

**COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

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2025-430	Moved by Deputy Reeve Preugschas that Councillors provide a short form written report to be included in the agenda package for every upcoming Regular Council meeting which is to be submitted no later than end of day the preceding Thursday.	Carried 5-2.
	Councillor Chapman reported on his discussion with the new Executive Director of the Barrhead Public Library, attendance at Strategic Planning Session for Attraction & Retention Committee, and BRWC meeting.	
	Councillor Bergsma reported on his attendance at the BDSHA meeting, and Misty Ridge meeting.	
	Councillor Jespersen reported on his attendance at the Seed Cleaning Plant meeting and AGM, a FCSS meeting, and an ASB meeting.	
	Reeve Munck reported on his attendance at the Regional Airport meeting, the BRWC meeting, and the Barrhead Polar parade.	
	Deputy Reeve Preugschas provided updates on the provincial ASB, Barrhead Attraction & Retention committee, Twinning committee, Barrhead Museum meeting, and volunteer activities for Northwest of 16 Regional Tourism committee, and attendance at Barrhead Chamber meeting.	
	Councillor Ellwein reported on his attendance at the Barrhead Ag Society dinner, the Festival of Trees, the Barrhead Polar parade, and the Empowering Minds presentation by Ian Hill, organized by Barrhead Ag Society.	
	Councillor Crisler reported on his attendance at the Seed Cleaning Plant meeting and AGM, the Barrhead Regional Airport meeting, the BARCC meeting, Meadowview Lutheran Church Christmas concert, and volunteer activities working a Casino for Meadowview Community Club.	

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

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2025-431	Moved by Councillor Chapman to receive the following items for information:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• BRFS - 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Statistics – July to September 2025</li><li>• Misty Ridge Meeting Minutes – November 19, 2025</li></ul>	Carried Unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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2025-432	Moved by Councillor Bergsma that the meeting adjourns at 1:16 p.m.	Carried Unanimously.
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# REQUEST FOR DECISION

JANUARY 6, 2026

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**TO: COUNCIL**

**RE: PROPOSED LAND USE BYLAW AMENDMENT APPLICATION – DATA PROCESSING FACILITIES – AXIOM OIL AND GAS INC.**

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**ISSUE:**

Application has been received to amend Land Use Bylaw No. 4-2024 to add “Data Processing Facility” as a Discretionary Use in subsection 12.3 (Agricultural Land Use District).

**BACKGROUND:**

- Axiom Oil and Gas Inc. is proposing a modular power generation and data processing facility near an existing gas plant. Project is designed to utilize stranded natural gas to generate up to 6 MW of off-grid electricity.
- Land Use Bylaw No. 4-2024 s.3.1.63 currently defines “Data Processing Facility” as:

*“a building, dedicated space within a building, or a group of buildings used to house computer systems and associated infrastructure and components for the digital transactions required for processing data. This includes, but is not limited to, digital currency processing, non-fungible tokens, and blockchain transactions.”*
- Although defined, “Data Processing Facility” is not listed within the Permitted or Discretionary Uses, of any Land Use District, and therefore an application for a Data Processing Facility could not even be considered by the Municipal Planning Commission (MPC).
- LUB s.10.11 currently lists requirements for Data Processing Facilities in the County.
  - 10.11.1 Time period for a development permit for the operation of a Data Processing Facility shall be at the discretion of the Development Authority based on the scope of the project. A development permit may be issued for a maximum of 5 years.
  - 10.11.2 Quality of the exterior treatment and design of all the buildings shall be to the satisfaction of the Development Authority and shall be compatible with other buildings in the vicinity.
  - 10.11.3 Development Authority may require additional landscaping in addition to the regulations described in Section 9.12 of this Bylaw.
  - 10.11.4 A noise impact assessment may be required by the Development Authority. If deemed necessary, a noise mitigation plan that may include a noise monitoring system may also be required.
  - 10.11.5 A Data Processing Facility that includes a power plant shall have a minimum setback of 1,500 m from a wall of an existing dwelling unit.
  - 10.11.6 Notwithstanding the above, the setback distance may be reduced with no variance required if a noise impact assessment and noise mitigation plan is deemed sufficient to the satisfaction of the Development Authority.
  - 10.11.7 Any development shall be designed to mitigate all off-site nuisance factors including excessive noise, odour, traffic, dust, and other impacts to the satisfaction of the Development

Authority. A mitigation plan shall be provided at the time of development permit application to demonstrate that these nuisance factors have been mitigated.

#### **ANALYSIS:**

- Discretionary Use allows the Development Authority to exercise discretion when determining if the proposed development is appropriate for the site conditions, surrounding land uses and potential impacts of each application.
  - A Permitted Use “must be approved” if it meets all the standard regulations, whereas Discretionary Use “may be approved.”
- 1<sup>st</sup> reading is the introduction of the proposal to Council in the form of an amending Bylaw (attached).
  - 1<sup>st</sup> reading does not mean an approval.
  - Following approval of 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the amending Bylaw 02-2026, a formal public hearing is required.
- Public Hearing provides the applicant, the County of Barrhead, and affected landowners the opportunity to comment on the proposed amendment.
  - Pursuant to *MGA* s. 216.4(1), a public hearing is required prior to Council considering 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the bylaw.
  - Advertising a Public Hearing is required at least once a week for 2 consecutive weeks in the local paper and at least 5 days prior to the Public Hearing date.
  - Notice can also be published on the County of Barrhead website, social media and the B.A.R.C.C alert system.
- A Bylaw is not approved until it receives the 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading of Council.
- Approval of Bylaw 2-2026, amending the LUB 4-2024, to include “Data Processing Facility” to the list of discretionary uses in the Agricultural Land Use District does not guarantee issuance of a Development Permit. It does, however, allow the Municipal Planning Commission (MPC) to consider a development permit application.

#### **STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:**

Consideration of the request to amend LUB 4-2024 to include Data Processing Facility as a Discretionary Use in the Agricultural Land Use District aligns with the County 2022 – 2026 Strategic Plan as follows:

**PILLAR 1 Economic Growth & Diversity**

**Outcome** 1 County increases its tax base.

**Goal** 1.1 County attracts & encourages investment.

**Strategy** 1.1.3 Manage growth while reducing barriers to development with review of LUB and policies.

#### **ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS THAT:**

Council gives 1<sup>st</sup> reading of Bylaw 02-2026, amending Land Use Bylaw 4-2024 to add “Data Processing Facility” as a Discretionary Use in Section 12. Agricultural Land Use District (AG), subsection 12.3 and

Council set the Public Hearing for Bylaw 02-2026, amending Land Use Bylaw 4-2024 for February 3, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. in the County of Barrhead Council Chambers.



## Land Use Bylaw Amendment Request

August 20, 2025

Layne Mullen  
Development Officer  
LMullen@countybarrhead.ab.ca

Dear Layne,

RE: Land Use Bylaw Amendment Request – Inclusion of Data Processing Facility as a Discretionary Use in AG and RG Districts

On behalf of Axiom Oil and Gas Inc., I am writing to formally request an amendment to the County of Barrhead Land Use Bylaw (Bylaw No. 4-2024) to include “Data Processing Facility” as a discretionary use in the following land use districts:

- AG – Agricultural District
- RG – Rural General District

We are proposing to develop a modular data processing and power generation facility at our existing oil and gas site near Manola (11-18-059-02W5M), which is currently zoned Agricultural. The purpose of this facility is to utilize on-site natural gas for the generation of electricity, which will power modular data processing units for blockchain-based computing.

This initiative supports rural economic diversification, improves utilization of existing infrastructure, and aligns with environmentally conscious development practices by reducing flaring and making use of otherwise stranded energy.

Axiom Oil and Gas Inc. holds the surface lease at the proposed site and will comply with all relevant permitting and technical requirements following Council approval of the requested bylaw amendment.

We can provide further details or a presentation to Council upon request. The application fee will be submitted in accordance with the County’s current Rates & Fees Bylaw.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let us know if any additional information is required to process this request.

Sincerely,

Aaron Murphy, P.Tech.(Eng.), PMP  
Production Technologist  
Axiom Oil and Gas Inc.  
403-200-4009

## Project Summary

Axiom Oil and Gas Inc. is proposing a modular power generation and data processing project near its existing 11-18-059-02W5M gas plant. The project is designed to utilize approximately  $40 \text{ e}^3 \text{m}^3/\text{day}$  ( $\sim 1.4 \text{ MMscf/d}$ ) of stranded natural gas to generate up to 6 megawatts (MW) of off-grid electricity. This power will be used for a modular data processing facility, including blockchain (Bitcoin) mining, in compliance with County Bylaws and provincial environmental regulations.

### **Location:**

The proposed development is located on private land approximately 3 km southwest of the 11-18-059-02W5M gas plant. Axiom has secured landowner approval to expand the surface footprint on the property and will formalize access through a surface lease or purchase agreement.

### **Purpose:**

This initiative is designed to recover value from otherwise stranded gas by converting it into electricity and monetizing it through a distributed data processing use. The facility will remain off-grid, eliminating the need for electrical transmission infrastructure and reducing public visibility.

### **Zoning Amendment Request:**

Axiom is requesting that “Data Processing Facility” be added as a discretionary use in both the Agricultural (AG) and Rural General (RG) land use districts. This would allow the County to consider development permits for modular data operations on agricultural lands while applying the existing standards in LUB Section 10.11.

### **Approvals & Compliance:**

The project will be subject to:

- Land Use Bylaw amendment and development permit (County of Barrhead)
- Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (EPEA) air approval
- Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) exemption notification for isolated generation

Estimated project commissioning: Q2 2026.

## Presentation to County of Barrhead

### 1. Background

- Natural gas from the Manola field is subject to AECO spot pricing, often uneconomical to produce.
- This project would allow Axiom to recover value from that gas.
- Modular data centres would be deployed off-grid, powered entirely by clean-burning natural gas.

### 2. Land Use Overview

- Site is located on privately owned agricultural land ~3 km from the gas plant.
- Landowner has provided written consent to expand site usage.
- Axiom proposes a Land Use Bylaw amendment to add “Data Processing Facility” as a discretionary use in:
  - Agricultural (AG) District
  - Rural General (RG) District (optional)

### 3. What We’re Requesting

- Land Use Bylaw Amendment
  - Add “Data Processing Facility” as a discretionary use to AG and/or RG zoning
  - No rezoning is required
- Development Permit (after amendment)
  - Axiom will submit formal application after amendment is passed

### 4. Why It Matters

- Modular crypto mining is a rapidly evolving sector
- There is a short market window to capitalize on strong BTC prices
- Approving this project helps:
  - Diversify rural economic activity
  - Monetize otherwise wasted natural gas
  - Support emission-reducing technologies like flare gas avoidance and high-efficiency engines

### 5. Municipal Benefits

- Tax revenue from new equipment and infrastructure
- Local contractor engagement
- Ability to regulate through existing LUB + discretionary process
- Opportunity to be a leader in innovative rural energy development

## **6. Precedent & References**

- Similar bylaw amendments adopted by:
  1. Westlock County
  2. Sturgeon County
  3. Beaver County

Each of these counties has successfully integrated data processing as a discretionary use in AG-zoned land.

## **7. Timeline & Next Steps**

- Bylaw Amendment Letter submitted August 2025
- Council Review and Public Hearing – Sept/Oct 2025
- Amendment Approval Target – October 2025
- Development Permit Submission – Immediately following

## **8. Summary**

Axiom is seeking Council's support to: - Amend the LUB to add "Data Processing Facility" to AG/RG - Enable a local power generation + crypto mining facility - Move quickly to seize a valuable economic opportunity for the County and our company.

We are available for any presentations or public hearings Council may require.

## Regulatory Pathway Summary – Axiom BTC Mining Project

The primary regulatory bodies involved are the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) and Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (EPEA).

### 1. Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)

Approval Type:

- AUC Exemption Notification (under Rule 007, Section 13)

Applicability:

Applies to isolated generating units not connected to the Alberta Interconnected Electric System (AIES)  
Must not exceed public safety or environmental thresholds

Submission Requirements:

- Notification letter (project scope, location, ownership, fuel type)
- Site layout and technical details of gensets
- Confirmation that project is fully isolated and serves no third parties

### 2. Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (EPEA)

Approval Type:

- EPEA Industrial Approval (Air) under the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act

Applicability:

Required for facilities with aggregate thermal input  $\geq 10$  MW (natural gas engines)  
Includes both power generation and any combustion-based equipment onsite

Submission Requirements:

- Detailed application including site design, equipment specifications, emission estimates
- Public disclosure, environmental impact review, and potential stakeholder engagement
- Requires engineering consultant support



## COUNTY OF BARRHEAD NO. 11

Province of Alberta

### BYLAW NO. 2-2026

Amending Land Use Bylaw No. 4-2024

Page 1 of 1

**A Bylaw of the County of Barrhead No. 11, in the Province of Alberta, to amend the Land Use Bylaw No. 4-2024.**

**WHEREAS**, the *Municipal Government Act*, of the Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, and amendments thereto, authorizes the Council to establish and amend a Land Use Bylaw, and

**WHEREAS**, Council deems it necessary and desirable to amend the Land Use Bylaw to add “Data Processing Facility” as a Discretionary Use in the Agricultural Land Use District;

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Council of the County of Barrhead No. 11, in the Province of Alberta, duly assembled enacts as follows:

1. That the Land Use Bylaw of the County of Barrhead No. 11, Bylaw 4-2024, be amended as follows:
  - a) In Section 12. Agricultural Land Use District (AG), subsection 12.3 Discretionary Uses, add “Data Processing Facility” to the list of discretionary uses.
2. Invalidity of any section, clause, sentence, or provision of this bylaw shall not affect the validity of any other part of this bylaw, which can be given effect with such invalid part or parts.
3. This bylaw comes into force upon third and final reading and signing in accordance with the *Municipal Government Act*.

FIRST READING GIVEN the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2026.

SECOND READING GIVEN the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2026.

THIRD READING GIVEN the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reeve

\_\_\_\_\_  
Seal

\_\_\_\_\_  
County CAO

**ADVERTISED IN THE BARRHEAD LEADER ON:**

• \_\_\_\_\_

**PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON \_\_\_\_\_**



# REQUEST FOR DECISION

JANUARY 6, 2026

C

**TO: COUNCIL**

**RE: 2026 APPOINTMENT OF CANDIDATES TO ALUS PARTNERSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC)**

**ISSUE:**

Representatives from the County of Barrhead needs to be appointed to the ALUS Partnership Advisory Committee (PAC) and the PAC appointments from the partnering municipalities' need to be accepted.

**BACKGROUND:**

- County of Barrhead is the administrative partner for the ALUS Program and is responsible for the delivery of the program in the County of Barrhead, Westlock County and Athabasca County.
  - ALUS Program (see attached) helps farmers/ranchers build nature-based solutions on their land to support sustainability agriculture and improve biodiversity
  - Approach is to reward farmers/ranchers for restoring or transforming marginal lands into natural areas that produce economically valuable ecosystem goods and services such as healthy soils, cleaner air and water, pollinators and wildlife habitats
- It is a requirement to have a PAC in place to participate in the ALUS program, as stated in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed November 12, 2021
- Section 3.3 of the Terms of Reference (TOR) states that the PAC structure shall consist of 6 voting members with representation from each municipal partner as follows:
  - One (1) producer and one (1) ASB member or elected official from the County of Barrhead,
  - One (1) producer and one (1) ASB member or elected official from Westlock County,
  - One (1) producer and one (1) ASB member or elected official from Athabasca County.
- Section 3.6 of the TOR states that the PAC will include the following non-voting members:
  - Maximum of 2 representatives from relevant non-government organizations
- November 2025 - Public member vacancies for PAC were advertised in the local paper, County website, BARCC alert, and the ALUS-BWA Facebook page.

**ANALYSIS:**

- December 9, 2025 – County of Barrhead ASB nominated Lorrie Jespersen as the ASB member to sit on the PAC.
- One (1) County of Barrhead ratepayer has expressed interest in sitting on the PAC as the public member.
- PAC members should represent the diversity of farming operations within the ALUS group and have experience with community engagement.

- PAC is responsible for making decisions on the ALUS Barrhead-Westlock-Athabasca program and set priorities for projects that will take place in the immediate future.
- All members of PAC should be familiar with agriculture and environmental/conservation issues.
- New appointments will expire for County of Barrhead members as follows:
  - December 31, 2026 for ASB member
  - December 31, 2027 for member-at-large
- Representation from the partnering municipalities and the potential candidates from the County of Barrhead are listed below:

County	Nomination
<b>Athabasca</b>	Councillor Rob Minns
	Kelly Olson
<b>Westlock</b>	ASB member Mike Montgomery
	Dean Weigand
<b>Barrhead</b>	Lorrie Jespersen (as recommended by the ASB)
	1 applicant for public member - Nadine Quedenbaum

- Kerri O'Shaughnessy, Riparian Specialist from the Alberta Riparian Habitat Management Society (Cows & Fish) will be on the PAC as a non-voting member.

#### **STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:**

Consideration of the applicants and appointment of members to the ALUS PAC Committee aligns with the County 2022 – 2026 Strategic Plan as follows:

**PILLAR      3 Rural Lifestyle**

**Outcome**    *3 County maintains its rural character and is recognized as a desirable location to invest, work, live and play.*

**Goal**            3.4 County protects & preserves the environment.

**PILLAR      4 Governance & Leadership**

**Outcome**    *4 Council is transparent & accountable.*

**Goal**            4.3 County demonstrates leadership.

#### **ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS THAT:**

- Council re-appoint Lorrie Jesperson as the County of Barrhead ASB member on the PAC as recommended by the ASB for a 1-year term.
- Council re-appoint Nadine Quedenbaum as the public member from the County of Barrhead for a 2-year term.
- Council accepts the nominations from Westlock County and County of Athabasca as presented.

# WHERE AGRICULTURE & NATURE MEET



## OUR VISION

Sustaining agriculture, wildlife and natural spaces for communities and future generations.

### A PROGRAM DEVELOPED BY FARMERS FOR FARMERS

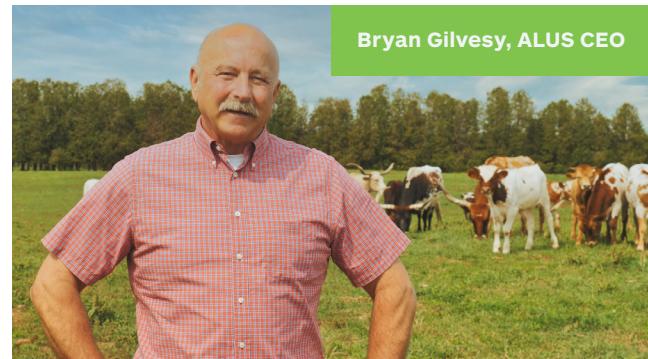
The ALUS concept was born from kitchen-table conversations about the shortcomings of conventional approaches to farm-based conservation. This new conservation model placed communities at the centre of program delivery and rewarded farmers for each acre of ecosystem goods and services their projects produced.

Over two decades later, the program is now delivered by communities across the country. The ALUS network of farmers and ranchers have restored tens of thousands of acres of nature on their lands through projects designed with their needs in mind.

“

**The ALUS program is truly like no other. Farmers receive acknowledgement for the environmental work that they’re doing—work that benefits the greater good of all society.**

**Duane Movald,  
ALUS Brazeau (Alberta)**



**Bryan Gilvesy, ALUS CEO**

### THE ALUS ADVANTAGE

The ALUS program is voluntary. No 30-year contracts or conservation easements are required to participate. And as a non-profit charitable organization, all revenues are reinvested back into the delivery of the program to better support the people creating change on the ground and with their hands in the dirt.

ALUS has a long history of investing in farmers and ranchers who produce clean air, clean water, wildlife habitat and other ecosystem goods and services on their farms for the benefit of people and communities. We'd like to invest in you.

**Join us in building solutions to some of our most pressing environmental challenges.**



Paul Caplette, ALUS farmer and 2022 Dave Reid Award winner.



Helping farmers and ranchers build nature-based solutions on their land to sustain agriculture and biodiversity for the benefit of communities and future generations. [Learn more at alus.ca](http://alus.ca).



## OUR VISION IN ACTION

When you join an ALUS community, you join a network of farmers and likeminded people who can help you restore or transform marginal parcels of your land into natural areas that produce economically valuable ecosystem goods and services like healthy soils, cleaner air and water, and pollinator and wildlife habitat. This natural infrastructure helps build biodiversity and community resilience to flood, drought and other extreme weather. You'll receive annual per-acre payments for your ongoing stewardship of your projects.

## A PRINCIPLE-BASED, FARMER-LED PROGRAM YOU CAN TRUST

**ALUS was founded on eight core principles. These principles place knowledge, trust and people at the centre of what we do.**



### Community developed

The ALUS program is designed to be flexible and responsive to local priorities. Communities can customize the program to help build rural resilience in tangible and meaningful ways.



### Integrated

The ALUS program complements existing conservation programs, including federal and provincial government frameworks.



### Farmer delivered

Agricultural producers are uniquely positioned to deliver nature-based solutions. They have the land, tools and know-how to create positive environmental change for communities.



### Targeted

ALUS projects are focused on marginal and uneconomic or ecologically sensitive parcels of land that can be used to produce vital ecosystem goods and services.



### Science based

ALUS provides guidance and technical expertise based on sound scientific principles and verification guidelines to support the design and implementation of nature-based solutions.



### Accountable

ALUS projects are independently monitored, verified and audited by trusted farm organizations or institutions. Data collection processes adhere to the highest standards in data integrity and privacy.



### Market driven

ALUS recognizes the ecosystem goods and services that farmers and ranchers produce have economic value on the voluntary marketplace. ALUS facilitates value exchange and corporate and private investment in ALUS projects.



### Voluntary

Farmers and ranchers participate in ALUS based on voluntary, flexible agreements that suit their operation and provide financial compensation for the management of the ecosystem goods and services produced on their lands.

## JOIN US IN BUILDING NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS THAT CREATE RESILIENT COMMUNITIES.



[Become an ALUS farmer](#)



[Launch an ALUS community](#)



[Become a corporate sponsor](#)

[Learn more at \*\*ALUS.ca\*\*](#)





# REQUEST FOR DECISION

JANUARY 6, 2026

D

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TO: COUNCIL

RE: 2026 MEMBER-AT-LARGE APPOINTMENT TO SDAB

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**ISSUE:**

Council is requested to appoint a member-at-large to Subdivision & Development Appeal Board.

**BACKGROUND:**

- Advertising for member-at-large positions was posted on the County website, in the Barrhead Leader, and by a BARCC Alert.
- Appointments to the SDAB expired December 31, 2025.
- December 2, 2025 – Council appointed 5 members to the SDAB leaving 1 vacant position to fill.
- SDAB appointments are for a 4-year term 2026-2029

**ANALYSIS:**

- Mr. Wilfred Ruhl had been a member of the SDAB for the previous term and has the training required for a board member.
- Applicant was away and missed the original deadline however a vacant position remains.
- Council's consideration of the application may require Council to move to an in-camera session under ATIA s. 22 *Confidential Evaluations* during the February 3, 2026, regular meeting of Council.

**STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:**

Consideration of the applicants and appointment of members to Council Committees aligns with the County 2022 – 2026 Strategic Plan as follows:

**PILLAR            4 Governance & Leadership**

**Outcome**        4 *Council is transparent & accountable.*

**Goal**              4.2 County demonstrates open & accountable government.

**Strategy**          4.2.1 Council has the tools and information necessary to make informed decisions which are shared publicly.

**ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS THAT:**

Council appoints Mr. Wilfred Ruhl to the Subdivision & Development Appeal Board for the term January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2029.



# REQUEST FOR DECISION

JANUARY 6, 2026

E

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**TO: COUNCIL**

**RE: 2026 MEMBER-AT-LARGE APPOINTMENT TO LIBRARY BOARD**

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**ISSUE:**

Current term has expired for 1 member-at-large for the Barrhead Library Board and a new appointment is required.

**BACKGROUND:**

- October 28, 2025 – Council for the County of Barrhead appointed Councillor Chapman as the County representative on the Barrhead Public Library Board.
- Town and County of Barrhead entered into an agreement for an Intermunicipal Library Board on February 14, 2012.
  - Requires 7 members at large who may be residents of either the County of Barrhead or the Town of Barrhead, one of which shall be from the Neerlandia Library Society.
- September 18, 2025 – Library Board confirmed that they would like to have 1 vacant member advertised as a member is retiring.
- County and Town advertised for applicants to fill the vacant position, with a total of 4 applications forwarded to the Library Board for consideration.

**ANALYSIS:**

- New member-at-large appointment is for a 3-year term expiring December 31, 2028.
- December 16, 2025 – Library Board evaluated the applications and is recommending the County and Town appoint Ms. Patricia Noble to the Barrhead Library Board.
- Council's consideration of the recommendation from the Barrhead Library Board and evaluation of the applicant may require Council to move to an in-camera session under ATIA s. 22 Confidential Evaluations during the January 6, 2026, regular meeting of Council.

**STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:**

Appointment of public members to boards and committees to represent the County aligns with the County 2022 – 2026 Strategic Plan as follows:

**PILLAR      4 Governance & Leadership**

**Outcome**      *4 Council is transparent & accountable.*

**Goal**      4.2 County demonstrates open & accountable government.

**Goal**      4.3 County demonstrates leadership.

**ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS THAT:**

Council appoint 1 member-at-large to the Barrhead Library Board for a term from January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2028 as recommended by the Barrhead Library Board.



# REQUEST FOR DECISION

JANUARY 6, 2026

F

**TO: COUNCIL**

**RE: PROPOSAL TO NAME A GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURE IN THE COUNTY OF BARRHEAD**

**ISSUE:**

Alberta Geographical Names Program (Alberta Culture, Multiculturalism, & Status of Women) received an application to name a wetland water feature in the County of Barrhead and is seeking the views and position of the County on the naming proposal.

**BACKGROUND:**

- Section 18 of the *Historical Resources Act* (RSA 200) gives authority for the naming of geographical features in Alberta to the Minister of Arts, Culture and Status of Women.
- All naming proposals are evaluated using the “Principles of Geographical Naming in Alberta,” which are based on established national and international guidelines and practices.
- Once geographical names are adopted by the Minister, provincial and federal names and mapping databases are updated so that the name will begin appearing on official base maps.
- Naming application proposes that the name Kepke Snye be adopted for a wetlands water feature located at 54°18'48.2 N -114°44'3.9 W (SE-31-61-5 W5 and adjacent parcels).
  - A “snye” is a backwater or side channel to a river or stream.
- This water feature does not have an official name but appears to be known locally as “Holmes Crossing Slough” due to its proximity to Holmes Crossing, a historic ferry crossing on the Athabasca River. Holmes Crossing was named for William Holmes, who arrived in 1905 and was the 1<sup>st</sup> postmaster and operated the ferry from 1906 to 1913.
- Proposed name Kepke Snye is intended to commemorate the Kepke family that arrived in the area in 1930, settling originally at NE 12-61-6-W5 (5 km SSW of the slough).
  - In 1945, Walter Kepke moved his family to Holmes Crossing and took over the ferry operations for 2 years before returning to farming and moved to NE 17 61-5-W5 (4 km SSE of the slough).

**ANALYSIS:**

- Geographical Names Manual outlines several principles for approving geographical names. These include:
  - Local Usage Priority - established, commonly used local names should be considered 1<sup>st</sup> when naming geographical features.
  - Historical Name Preference - if no current local name exists, documented historical names take precedence over new proposals.
  - Descriptive Naming - when neither current nor historical names are available, a name that clearly describes the feature itself may be used.
  - Commemorative Naming
    - Allowed only when aligned with naming principles and supported locally.
    - Must honour individuals or events with widely recognized lasting contributions.

- Personal names: posthumous (5-year wait), not proposed by family, but with family consent; employment-based contributions usually excluded.
- Events must be at least 5 years old and culturally significant.
- Tragedies/accidents generally not commemorated unless they have enduring impact.
- Kepke Family and adjacent landowners have been notified.
- Geographical Names Program Coordinator has confirmed that all conditions have been vetted, and the name meets their requirements. GOA is seeking any other information the County may have or any objections to the potential naming. The following will be shared with the coordinator:
  - County land files show that Walter Kepke and his brother John Kepke owned land near Holmes Crossing
  - John Kepke enlisted with the Calgary Highlanders during WW2 and died in service in 1945.
  - Barrhead Centennial Museum provided some family references from the “Links with the Past” book published in 1897.
  - Some residents refer to the small unnamed pond north of Clear Lake as “Kepke Lake”, but origin of the naming is unknown.

#### **STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:**

Consideration of the GOAs request regarding naming a geographical feature in the County aligns with the County 2022 – 2026 Strategic Plan as follows:

**PILLAR      3 Rural Lifestyle**

**Outcome**    *3 County maintains its rural character and is recognized as a desirable location to invest, work, live and play.*

**Goal**            3.2 County promotes & celebrates success/achievements.

#### **ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS THAT:**

Council directs Administration to respond to the Alberta Geographical Names Program with information that has been gathered and inform them that Council does not object to the proposal that the name Kepke Snye be officially adopted for a wetlands water feature located near SE 31-61-5-W5.



December 3, 2025

Debbie Oyarzun  
County Manager  
County of Barrhead No. 11  
5306 – 49 Street  
Barrhead, AB T7N 1N5

[Sent via email: [doyerzun@countybarrhead.ab.ca](mailto:doyerzun@countybarrhead.ab.ca)]

Dear Ms. Oyarzun:

The Alberta Geographical Names Program has received an application to name a wetland water feature in the County of Barrhead No. 11 and is seeking the views and position of the county on the naming proposal. Maps are included with this letter showing the delineation and location of the water feature.

*Holmes Crossing Slough / Kepke Snye*

The naming application proposes that the name Kepke Snye be adopted for a wetlands water feature located at 54°18'48.2 N -114°44'3.9 W (54.313394 N -114.734430 W), south of the Athabasca River and approximately three kilometres southeast of Fort Assiniboine. A “snye” is a backwater or side channel to a river or stream.

This water feature does not have an official name but appears to be known locally as “Holmes Crossing Slough” due to its proximity to Holmes Crossing, a historic ferry crossing on the Athabasca River. Holmes Crossing is named for William Holmes, who arrived in the area 1905. Holmes was the first postmaster and operated the ferry from 1906 to 1913.

The proposed name Kepke Snye is intended to commemorate the Kepke family. The Kepke family arrived in the area in 1930, settling originally at NE 12-61-6-W5 (about five kilometres SSW of the slough). In 1945, Walter Kepke moved his family to Holmes Crossing and took over the ferry operations for two years before returning to farming and moving again to NE 17 61-5-W5 (four kilometres SSE from the slough).

Section 18 of the *Historical Resources Act* gives authority for the naming of geographical features in Alberta to the Minister of Arts, Culture and Status of Women. All naming proposals are evaluated using the “Principles of Geographical Naming in Alberta,” which are based on established national and international guidelines and practices. Once geographical names are adopted by the Minister, provincial and federal names and

Debbie Oyarzun  
County of Barrhead No. 11

December 3, 2025  
Page 2

mapping databases are updated so that the name will begin appearing on official base maps.

As part of the review process for geographical naming proposals, the opinion, position, and concerns of the municipalities in which the geographical feature is located are solicited. I would appreciate receiving any comments or information that the County of Barrhead may have on these two geographical naming proposals by **January 31, 2025**.

Please contact me if you have any questions about the proposal or the naming process. I can be reached by telephone at 780-431-2334 (toll free by first dialling 310-0000) or by email at [ronald.kelland@gov.ab.ca](mailto:ronald.kelland@gov.ab.ca).

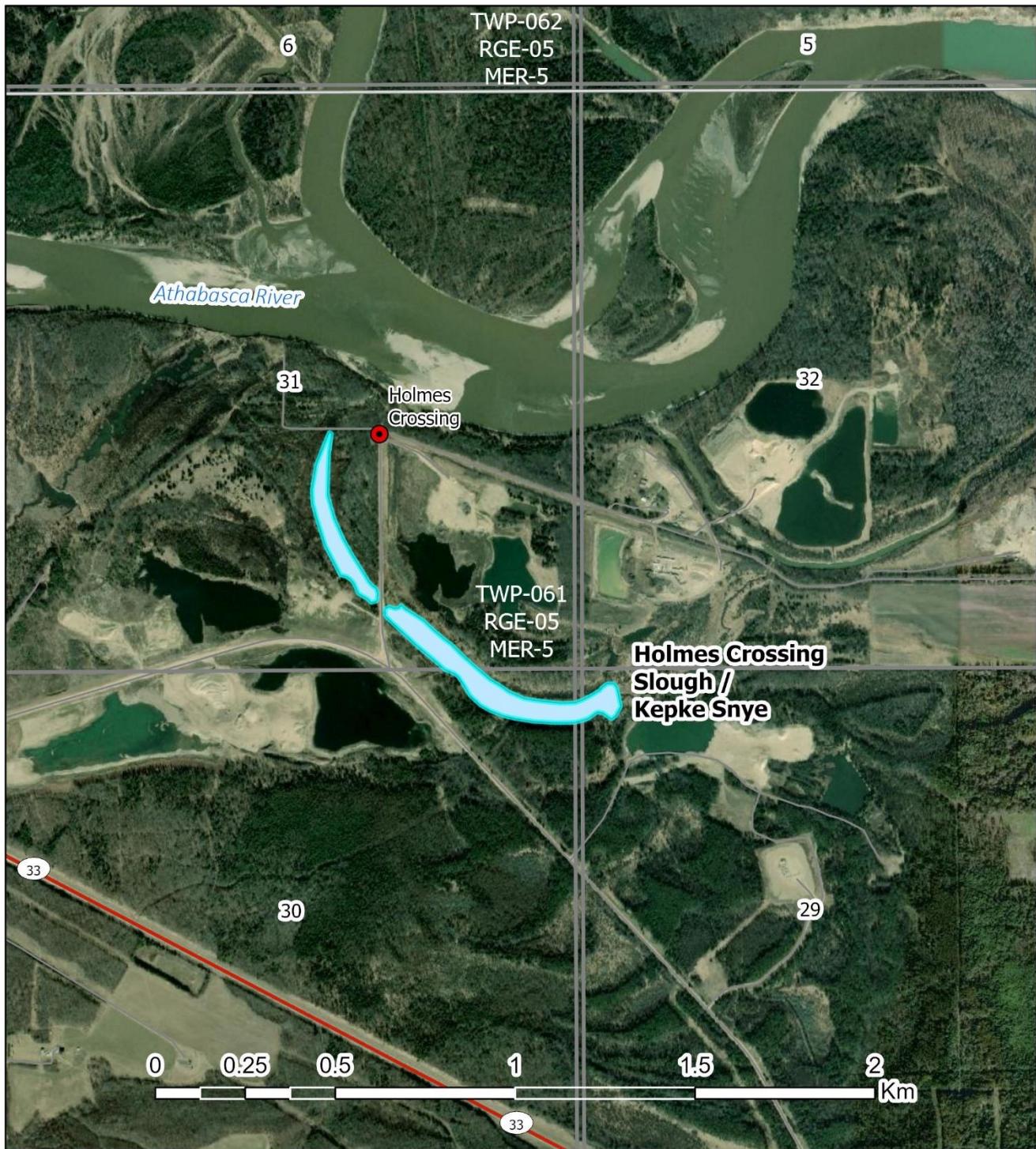
I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Ronald Kelland  
Geographical Names Program Coordinator

Enclosure

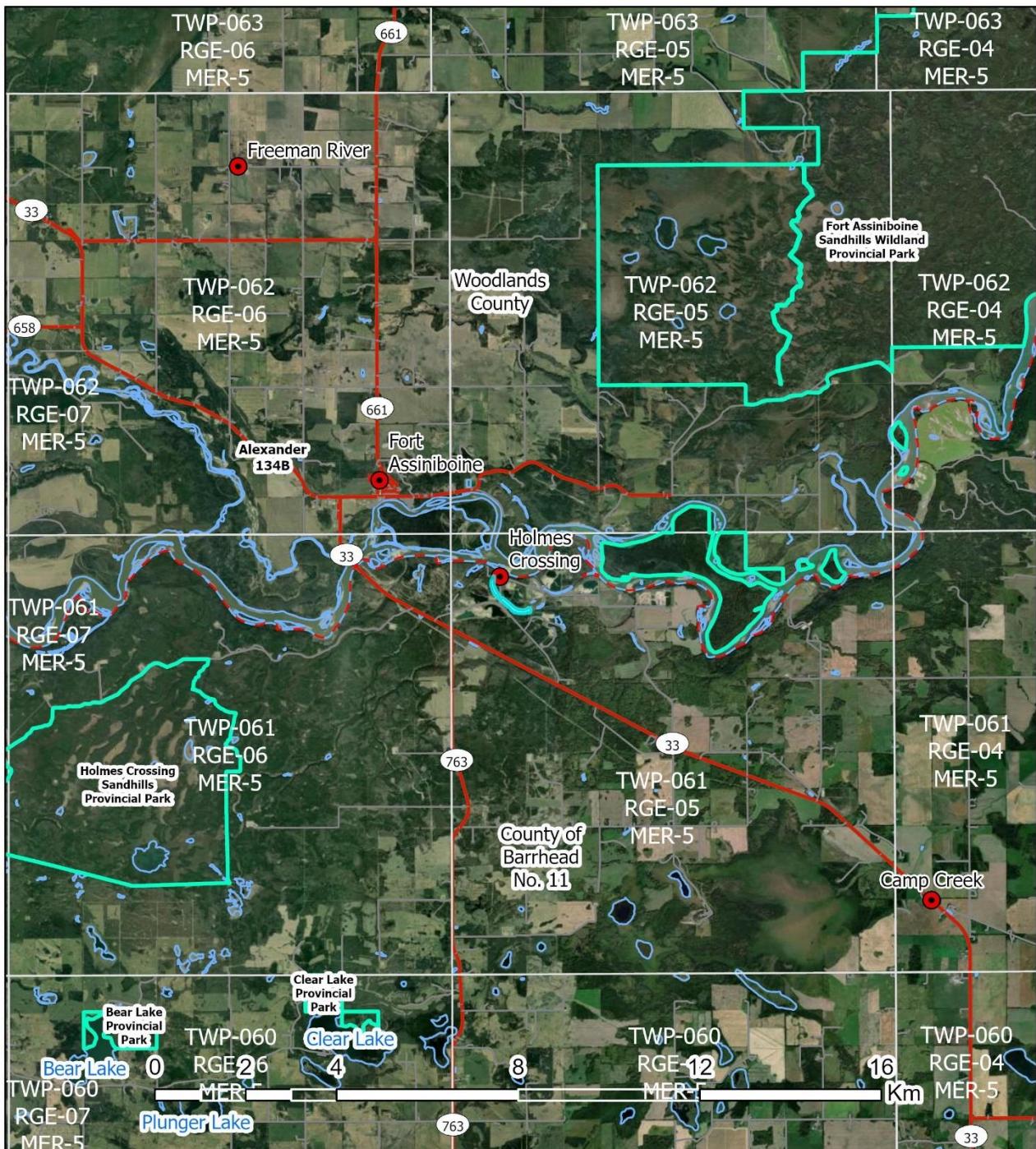


## **Holmes Crossing Slough (Unofficial) Kepke Snye (Proposed)**

**File Nos. GN 17176 & GN 17177  
November 2025**

*Alberta*





Alberta

## Holmes Crossing Slough (Unofficial) Kepke Snye (Proposed)

File Nos. GN 17176 & GN 17177  
November 2025





# REQUEST FOR DECISION

JANUARY 6, 2026

G

**TO: COUNCIL**

**RE: ACCESS TO LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR AGRITOURISM OPERATORS (ADVOCACY)**

**ISSUE:** Advocacy efforts are required to support agritourism operators to access adequate liability insurance.

**BACKGROUND:**

- December 9, 2025 – ASB discussed challenges facing Alberta Agritourism operators and is recommending that Council undertake advocacy efforts through the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) to encourage the province to address access to adequate liability insurance for farmers engaging in agritourism.

***Resolution Process***

- RMA resolution process is fundamental to informing RMA's advocacy priorities.
- Resolutions can be endorsed by:
  - RMA District (recommended)
  - Individual member municipality
- County of Barrhead is a member of District 3 (Pembina Zone). Membership of District 3 includes:

Athabasca County	Thorhild County	County of Wetaskiwin
County of Barrhead	Lac Ste Anne County	Woodlands County
Brazeau County	Parkland County	Yellowhead County
Leduc County	Sturgeon County	
MD Lesser Slave River	Westlock County	

- Resolutions to be considered at RMA convention should:
  - Address issues that are provincial in scope and do not focus solely on local issues
  - Seek changes in legislation, regulations or policy, address funding or program issues, or encourage alternative policy approaches related to rural municipalities.
  - Provide clear direction to RMA on advocacy efforts

***Agritourism***

- Agritourism refers to tourism activities conducted on a working farm, offering hands-on, experiential, and educational interactions with agriculture.
- Travel Alberta's goal is to double Alberta's tourism economy by 2035 (\$12.74B to \$25B). One component is to support new and expanded agritourism experiences across Alberta.
- 2024 Destination Canada's Global Traveler Research Program Survey – estimated 2.9 million overseas travelers and 2.5 million US travelers are interested in experiencing rural Alberta over the next 2 years.

- Many Alberta farmers would like to diversify their operations to increase sustainability or retain family members on the farm.
  - In 2023, Alberta Farm Fresh Producers surveyed its membership and more than 40% of respondents indicated that selling value-added products and providing on-farm experiences could help diversify farm income and raise awareness about agriculture among urban dwellers.
- Farmers face physical, financial, social, and regulatory barriers when diversifying into agritourism.
  - To support responsible agritourism, producers require **liability protection/insurance coverage** which is not available or available only through elevated premiums that are cost prohibitive.
- 2024 – Ontario approved Bill 186, *Growing Agritourism Act*
  - Provides liability protection for agritourism operators
  - Expected to create a safer environment for both agritourism operators and visitors through risk awareness
  - Encourages farmers to diversify their income through agritourism and contribute to economic development in rural Ontario
  - [Ontario's New Rules of the Farm \(Bill 186\) - YouTube](#)

#### **ANALYSIS:**

- Attached DRAFT Resolution “Access to Liability Insurance for Agritourism Operators” follows the RMA resolution writing guidelines including title, preamble, operative clause, and member background.
- Next Pembina Zone meeting is January 12, 2026
  - Resolutions supported at the Zone meeting would qualify for the 2026 Spring RMA Convention in March.
- Agritourism has the potential to contribute to the local and provincial economy and solve other long-standing rural challenges such as but not limited to the following:
  - maintaining agricultural farmland through new market opportunities for small farms
  - rejuvenating rural towns through social and economic benefits by attracting tourists and creating supply-chain networks
  - creating jobs in rural Alberta
  - raising awareness of agriculture careers
  - providing farmers with the opportunity to increase sustainability by diversifying and supplementing their income
  - help secure the future of the family-owned farm and assist in succession planning
- Agritourism has the potential to address the growing consumer demand of tourists and has a positive impact on farmers, the local economy and the province. Farmers, however, are having difficulty in obtaining adequate liability insurance for visitors on their farm – whether it is a class of students, or visitors from the urban centers or from abroad.

- Most insurance companies do not offer coverage for agritourism and expect the “activity” to stop, or full farm policies have been threatened to be cancelled
- A few insurance companies that are willing to have the conversation either significantly restrict the activities or substantially increase the premiums for liability insurance that makes it unaffordable
- Some farmers have indicated that the only form of coverage available was from out of province
- Many farmers simply operate without the additional coverage which puts them at risk
- To participate in Alberta Open Farm Days, farmers must carry general liability insurance (which is appropriate) with the province extending a blanket policy for all operators.

- Province appears to recognize the value of agritourism and demonstrates support (see attached quotes), but they need to understand the obstacles in accessing adequate insurance that limits the growth of agritourism in Alberta. Recommended actions would be to:
  - Review the current insurance structure as it applies to agritourism in Alberta and increase accessibility of appropriate coverage with reasonable premiums
  - Review Ontario’s *Growing Agritourism Act* and assess relevance to Alberta
- With the province continuing to promote agritourism we need to ensure that farmers can accept these visitors safely and without additional liability.

#### **STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:**

Council’s consideration of advocacy efforts on behalf of agricultural tourism operators aligns with the County 2022-2026 Strategic Plan as follows:

##### **PILLAR 1 Economic Growth & Diversity**

**Outcome** 1 *County increases its tax base.*

**Goal** 1.3 County supports innovation in agriculture.

**Strategy** 1.3.1 Encourage diversification of agriculture and value-added opportunities.

##### **PILLAR 4 Governance & Leadership**

**Outcome** 4 *Council is transparent & accountable.*

**Goal** 4.3 County demonstrates leadership.

**Strategy** 4.3.2 Create opportunities for engagement and advocacy with provincial and federal governments, associations, and agencies.

#### **ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS THAT:**

Council approve the resolution “Access to Liability Insurance for Agritourism Operators” which requests RMA to request the GOA to review Ontario’s *Growing Agritourism Act* and support the GOA in assessing the relevance of this legislation to Alberta Agritourism and the challenges faced by responsible producers trying to access adequate liability insurance; and further, that this resolution be forwarded to the January 12, 2026 Pembina Zone meeting for consideration.

“ “By supporting agricultural-based businesses and operators, we are helping showcase Alberta’s small businesses and farms to the world, while boosting the local economy and creating jobs across the province.”

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*Andrew Boitchenko, Minister of Tourism and Sport*

“ “Alberta’s farmers and ranchers are some of the best ambassadors for our province. By opening their gates and sharing their stories, they’re helping more people experience the passion, hard work, and pride that define Alberta agriculture. Agri-tourism not only strengthens rural economies, it deepens the connection between consumers and the people who produce their food.”

---

*RJ Sigurdson, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation*

## ACCESS TO LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR AGRITOURISM OPERATORS

County of Barrhead

Pembina Zone 3

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**WHEREAS** the Government of Alberta appears to recognize the value of agritourism as can be seen in recent press releases; however, the GOA needs to understand the obstacles in accessing adequate liability insurance that limits the growth of agritourism in Alberta; and

**WHEREAS** Travel Alberta's goal is to double Alberta's tourism economy by 2035 (\$12.74B to \$25B) with one component being new and expanded agritourism experiences offered across Alberta; and

**WHEREAS** the 2024 Destination Canada's Global Traveler Research Program Survey – estimated 2.9 million overseas travelers and 2.5 million US travelers are interested in experiencing rural Alberta over the next 2 years; and

**WHEREAS** agritourism has the potential to address the growing consumer demand of tourists and has a positive impact on farmers, the local economy and the province; and

**WHEREAS** Alberta Farm Fresh Producers surveyed its membership and more than 40% of respondents indicated that selling value-added products and providing on-farm experiences could diversify farm income and raise awareness about agriculture among urban dwellers; and

**WHEREAS** to support responsible agritourism, producers require liability protection through adequate insurance coverage that extends standard farm liability insurance to cover the unique risks associated with welcoming visitors onto a working farm; and

**WHEREAS** agritourism insurance is either simply not available, very restrictive or available only through elevated premiums that are cost prohibitive, resulting in severely limiting the growth of agritourism in Alberta; and

**WHEREAS** other provinces such as Ontario have implemented the *Growing Agritourism Act* that provides liability protection for agritourism operators by creating a safer environment for both agritourism operators and visitors through risk awareness which as a result, encourages farmers to diversify their income and contribute to rural economic development.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) request the Government of Alberta to review Ontario's *Growing Agritourism Act* and support the GOA in assessing the relevance of this legislation to Alberta Agritourism and the challenges faced by responsible producers trying to access adequate liability insurance.

### Member Background

Definition of "agritourism" varies depending on the source, however, in general it is opening farm gates to visitors by turning access to agricultural products, services or experiences into tourist destinations all while creating supplemental income for producers and celebrating Alberta's agricultural heritage.

Agritourism has the potential to contribute to the local and provincial economy and solve other long-standing rural challenges such as but not limited to the following:

- rejuvenating rural towns through social and economic benefits by attracting tourists and creating supply-chain networks
- creating jobs in rural Alberta
- providing farmers with the opportunity to increase sustainability by diversifying and supplementing their income

Farmers, however, are finding it difficult to obtain appropriate liability insurance for visitors on their farm – whether it is a class of students, or visitors from the urban centers or from abroad.

- Most insurance companies do not offer coverage for agritourism and expect the “activity” to stop, or full farm policies have been threatened to be cancelled
- A few insurance companies willing to have the conversation, either significantly restrict agritourism activities or substantially increase premiums that make coverage unaffordable
- Many farmers simply operate without the additional coverage which puts them at risk
- To participate in Alberta Open Farm Days, farmers must carry general liability insurance with the province extending a blanket policy for all operators

In 2024, Ontario approved Bill 186, *Growing Agritourism Act*

- Provides liability protection for agritourism operators
- Expected to create a safer environment for both agritourism operators and visitors through risk awareness
- Encourages farmers to diversify their income through agritourism and contribute to economic development in rural Ontario
- [Ontario's New Rules of the Farm \(Bill 186\) - YouTube](#)

RMA Resolution – 8-23S Provincial Review of Agribusiness & Agritourism (passed February 2023) remains active with a status of INTENT NOT MET as the primary ministry Alberta Agriculture & Irrigation has not yet responded.

- RMA has recently initiated the formation of an Agritourism Working Group with the following mandate

“Agritourism Strategy Working Group is established to guide the development of a comprehensive provincial strategy that supports the responsible growth, promotion, and regulation of agritourism in Alberta. The Working Group will facilitate collaboration between municipal and provincial stakeholders and identify opportunities to align policy, streamline regulatory frameworks and enhance economic outcomes. This Working Group

will assess current challenges and opportunities, recommend strategic actions, and encourage the promotion of agritourism in the province."

- Agritourism Strategy Working group currently focuses on financial and regulatory hurdles; however, it does not address a very important operational need of access to liability insurance.

With the province continuing to promote agritourism with quotes such as;

*"By supporting agricultural-based businesses and operators, we are helping showcase Alberta's small businesses and farms to the world, while boosting the local economy and creating jobs across the province."* Andrew Boitchenko, Minister of Tourism & Sport

*"Alberta's farmers and ranchers are some of the best ambassadors for our province. By opening their gates and sharing their stories, they're helping more people experience the passion, hard work, and pride that define Alberta agriculture. Agri-tourism not only strengthens rural economies, it deepens the connection between consumers and the people who produce their food."* RJ Sigurdson, Minister of Agriculture & Irrigation

Support for this resolution ensures the practical operating aspect of producers having access to adequate liability insurance to responsibly participate in agritourism activities is not lost in the larger strategic initiative of the Agritourism Strategy Working Group.

We need to ensure that farmers can accept these visitors safely and without additional liability; let producers welcome the public without risking the farm!



# REQUEST FOR DECISION

JANUARY 6, 2026

H

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TO: COUNCIL

RE: ENGINE 33 DISPOSAL DECISION

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**ISSUE:**

Offer has been received by the County for Unit #513 - 2009 Freightliner - Rosenbauer Fire Pumper Truck (Engine 33) which is a tangible capital asset of the County that can be disposed of in accordance with Policy FN-005.

**BACKGROUND:**

- 2025 – New Freightliner - Rosenbauer Wildland Urban Interface Engine Type 3 (Engine 36) purchased to replace 2007 Freightliner - Rosenbauer Fire Pumper Truck (Engine 33)
- Engine 33 is an asset of the County and has been offered for service in accordance with the Barrhead Regional Fire Services Agreement between the County of Barrhead & Town of Barrhead.
- Methods of disposal under Policy FN-005 for items that have a resale value include the following:
  - Trade in
  - Offer surplus item to another department with the County
  - Sell the surplus item through a competitive process, such as a public auction
  - Offer the surplus item to a charitable or non-profit organization at fair market value
  - **Another disposal option determined by a Dept. Head; CAO approval is required.**
- Policy FN-005 requires Council approval for disposal of a tangible capital asset.

**ANALYSIS:**

- Now that Engine 33 has been replaced by Engine 36, County has the choice to dispose of Engine 33 or put in storage and hold for potential deployment during the wildfire season.
- Due to the unique nature of Engine 33 (fire truck), County Administration requested the Fire Chief to handle inquiries/offers on Engine 33 with an original asking price of \$50,000.
- County has received an offer of \$45,000 for Engine 33 from the Village of Riverhurst, Saskatchewan (population 152)
  - Offer is conditional upon satisfactory inspection by the Village of Riverhurst
- Following table outlines pros and cons for 4 options to consider regarding the future of Engine 33 –
  - 1) Sell (accept offer of \$45K); 2) Sell via auction; 3) Keep for Backup & Deployment and 4) Donate
  - Some uncertainty exists when considering the 4 options, such as:
    - Whether GOA will request the deployment of Engine 33, or will they select the more versatile unit Engine 36
    - Availability of year-round indoor, heated, secure storage with 24 hr access at a reasonable cost
    - Uncertainty of service life remaining and future costs of maintenance and repairs

Options	Pros	Cons/Other Considerations
<b>Sell Engine 33 - offer of \$45,000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unit is almost 19 yrs old; keeping it longer will decrease resale value</li> <li>Sale proceeds would go into County Reserves to help fund future equipment purchases</li> <li>No additional costs for unit – e.g. storage, insurance, maintenance, repairs, etc.</li> <li>Other units can be deployed at the same or higher per hour rate if Engine 33 is sold</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lose opportunity to collect deployment revenue from GOA for Engine 33 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requires a min. deployment of approx. 96 hrs to match offer</li> </ul> </li> <li>Lose opportunity to retain extra unit for service; although would result in a cost for storage in addition to insurance, maintenance, repairs, etc.</li> </ul>
<b>Sell Engine 33 – via auction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Possibility of receiving a higher price</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sale of specialized equipment at an auction is unpredictable; even with a reserve bid unit may not sell</li> <li>No opportunity to negotiate</li> </ul>
<b>Keep for backup &amp; deployment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opportunity to collect additional deployment revenue from GOA for Engine 33 (\$470/hr) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If contacted, an ave. deployment is approx. 60-98 hr</li> </ul> </li> <li>Unit is available to BRFS as backup if another Engine is deployed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GOAs preference for deployment will be Engine 36 based on it's versatility</li> <li>Other units can be deployed if Engine 33 is sold (Engine 36 @ \$470/hr; Engine 37 @ \$600-\$700/hr) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adequate units would still be available to service County</li> </ul> </li> <li>Requires year-round indoor, heated, secure storage with 24 hr access <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Availability &amp; cost is unknown at this time (however, potential site in Neerlandia is not available)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Anticipate an increase in maintenance &amp; repair costs as unit continues to age; cost to repair impellor on pump is approx. \$24K if needed (repairs in the last 2 yrs – fuel system, vacuum leak, fuel line)</li> </ul>
<b>Donate</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recognition for County</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No financial or service value to County</li> </ul>

**STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:**

Council approval of the disposal of a tangible capital asset is done in accordance with Policy and aligns with the County 2022 – 2026 Strategic Plan as follows:

**PILLAR 2 Municipal Infrastructure & Services**

**Outcome** 2 *County has the necessary tools & information to deliver programs and services efficiently.*

**Goal** 2.1 Infrastructure & services balance County capacity with ratepayer needs.

**PILLAR 4 Governance & Leadership**

**Outcome** 4 *Council is transparent & accountable.*

**Goal** 4.2 County demonstrates open & accountable government.

**Strategy** 4.2.1 Council has the tools and information necessary to make informed decisions which are shared publicly.

**ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS THAT:**

Council direct CAO to sell Engine 33, a 2007 Freightliner - Rosenbauer Fire Pumper Truck, to the Village of Riverhurst, Saskatchewan for the price of \$45,000 conditional upon their satisfactory inspection.



# REQUEST FOR DECISION

JANUARY 6, 2026

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TO: COUNCIL

RE: ALLOWANCE FOR DOUBTFUL ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE & WRITEOFF OF UNCOLLECTABLE ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

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**ISSUE:**

Allowance for Doubtful Accounts is presented annually to Council for information.

Three (3) Accounts Receivable accounts totaling \$2,250.76 have been with the Collection Agency for more than one year and should be removed from the County's accounting records.

**BACKGROUND:**

- January 16, 2023 – Council approved Policy FN-004 Collection of Accounts Receivable:
  - Allowance for doubtful accounts is presented annually to Council for information.
  - Accounts placed at a collection agency for a minimum of 1 year will be recommended to Council to write-off
- March 5, 2024 – Council approved Policy PW-001 Sale of Aggregate which required the sale of aggregate to eligible purchasers be on a prepayment basis.
- Writing off an Accounts Receivable account does not preclude the Collection Agency from pursuing collection of the account.
  - Should any funds be received by the Collection Agency from the debtor the County would recognize funds received back into revenue when received.
- Civil action for debt collection is required for invoices that either cannot be added to the tax roll and / or the invoice is not associated with a County landowner.

**ANALYSIS:**

- As at December 31, 2025, there are a total of 37 accounts with the Collection Agency for a total balance of \$41,072.83.
  - 33 of the accounts at collection have been previously authorized by Council to be removed from the County's books.
  - 4 of the accounts are currently with the Collection Agency and are recorded as an Accounts Receivable in the County's books (summarized below)
    - Three (3) of the 4 accounts were set up as an Allowance for Doubtful Accounts at December 31, 2024. These accounts are recommended to be written off.
    - One (1) of the 4 accounts was set up in 2025. An allowance for doubtful accounts has been recorded on this account.
- Most doubtful/uncollectable accounts are related to fire services (vehicle fires that can't be put onto taxes).

**Accounts Recommended to be Written Off at December 31, 2025:**

Customer ID	Invoice Date	Date Sent to Collections	Original Amount	Interest	Total Account to Cancel	Type of Service Provided
RANGE0002	June 13, 2024	Dec 11, 2024	\$750.00	\$45.51	\$795.51	Fire Services
MAHON0004	Sept 5, 2023	July 17, 2024	\$114.46	\$67.98	\$182.44	Gravel <i>*partial recovery in 2023/24 – collected \$500</i>
BENDE0003	Dec 14, 2023	May 27, 2024	\$1,200.00	\$72.81	\$1,272.81	Fire Services
			\$2,064.46	\$186.30	<b>\$2,250.76</b>	

**Allowance for Doubtful Accounts:**

Customer ID	Invoice Date	Date Sent to Collections	Amount	Interest	Total Allowance	Type of Service Provided
SCHUS0001	May 14, 2025	Dec 2, 2025	\$1,350.00	\$103.39	\$1,453.39	Fire Services
			\$1,350.00	\$103.39	<b>\$1,453.39</b>	

**STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:**

Council's annual review of outstanding Accounts Receivable aligns with the County 2022-2026 Strategic Plan as follows:

**PILLAR      4 Governance & Leadership**

**Outcome**      *4 Council is transparent & accountable.*

**Goal**      4.2 County demonstrates open & accountable government.

**Strategy**      4.2.1 Council has the tools and information necessary to make informed decisions which are shared publicly.

**ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS THAT:**

1. Council authorizes Administration to write-off the three (3) outstanding Account Receivable accounts as recommended in the amount of \$2,250.76 as these accounts have been at the collection agency for more than one year and are uncollectable.
2. Council accept for information the allowance for doubtful accounts of \$1,453.39 as at December 31, 2025.



# REQUEST FOR DECISION

J  
JANUARY 6, 2026

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**TO: COUNCIL**

**RE: APPROVE 2025 CANCELLED TAXES**

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**ISSUE:**

Council is required to approve any cancellation of taxes.

**BACKGROUND:**

- MGA regulates the process for Taxation to ensure a consistent process is implemented across AB.
- MGA s. 347(1): If a council considers it equitable to do so, it may, generally or with respect to a particular taxable property or business or a class of taxable property or business, do one or more of the following, with or without conditions:
  - a) Cancel or reduce tax arrears;
  - b) Cancel or refund all or part of a tax;
  - c) Defer the collection of a tax
- 2021 – Council approved Bylaw No 7-2021 Non-Residential Tax Incentive Bylaw which provides for exemption of taxes when new investment exceeds at least \$20,000 in eligible assessment categories.
- January 7, 2025 – Council approved Administration requesting the Registrar of Land Titles Office to cancel the existing certificates of title for the 2 parcels of land not sold at Public Auction held December 4, 2024, and issue certificates of title in the name of the County of Barrhead.
  - County became owner of the 2 parcels of land by way of Tax Forfeiture title. These properties were assessed for taxation in 2025.

**ANALYSIS:**

- Eligible properties under the Non-Residential Tax Incentive Bylaw are levied the full amount of taxes. If they meet all the conditions of the agreement, including paying the balance of their taxes by the due date, the exempted amount should be canceled as per Bylaw 7-2021.
- 1<sup>st</sup> tax year that Bylaw 7-2021 came into effect was 2022. Tax cancellations for the last 5 years were:

Year	Total Cancelled	Tax Incentive Bylaw	Other Reasons
2020	\$232.09	N/A	\$232.09
2021	\$nil	N/A	\$nil
2022	\$9,889.57	\$577.86 (1 roll)	\$9,311.71
2023	\$17,413.99	\$17,413.99 (9 rolls)	\$nil
2024	\$18,730.23	\$18,440.74 (8 rolls)	\$289.49

- Following table provides a summary of:
  - tax cancellations for 2025 under the Non-Residential Tax Incentive Bylaw
  - tax cancellation on 2 properties that were in Tax Forfeiture status, but were assessed and are the County's responsibility:

Roll #	Amount Cancelled	2025 Reason for Cancelling
539044021	\$503.71	Non-Residential Tax Incentive Bylaw
530112010	\$775.01	Non-Residential Tax Incentive Bylaw
531344015	\$1,242.83	Non-Residential Tax Incentive Bylaw
527092001	\$939.64	Non-Residential Tax Incentive Bylaw
	<b>\$3,461.19</b>	Subtotal – Non-Residential Tax Incentive Bylaw
527192055	\$122.52	County portion of taxes on tax forfeiture property. Property was sold in 2025 and costs and taxes owing from previous owner of \$19,419.90 were collected in full.
528154102	\$88.69	County portion of taxes on tax forfeiture property. Property was sold in 2025 and costs and taxes owing from previous owner of \$5,848.45 were collected in full.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,672.40</b>	

#### STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:

Review and implementation of the Non-Residential Tax Incentive Bylaw and other cancelled taxes aligns with the County 2022 – 2026 Strategic Plan as follows:

**PILLAR**      **1 Economic Growth & Diversity**

**Outcome**      **1 *County increases its tax base.***

**Goal**      1.1 County attracts & encourages investment.

**PILLAR**      **4 Governance & Leadership**

**Outcome**      **4 *Council is transparent & accountable.***

**Goal**      4.2 County demonstrates open & accountable government.

#### ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS THAT:

Council approve the 2025 cancelled tax transactions as presented.



## 2025 COUNCIL RESOLUTION TRACKING LIST

(Items beyond the normal course of business)

Resol. #	Resolution Topic	Responsible	Comments	Status
2025-430	Councillors provide written report to be included in agenda pkg for Regular Council mtg to be submitted by end of day preceding Thursday.	EO/CAO		Underway
2025-426-428	Rescinded Misty Ridge committee appointments; appointed Bergsma as rep & Reeve as alternate	EA/CAO	Website updated	Complete Dec 19/25
2025-423-424	Approved 2026 Interim Operating & Capital budgets	CS/CAO	Posted to website	Complete Dec 22/25
2025-421	Adopted Rates & Fees Bylaw 1-2026	EA/CAO	Website updated	Complete Dec 31/25
2025-417	Approved Policy PS-012 CPO Uniform & Equipment Standards as amended.	CPO/EA	Policy updated in Mfiles	Complete Dec 19/25
2025-416	Authorized Reeve & CAO to sign BRWC Operational Agreement	EA/CAO	awaiting signature	Underway
2025-415	Nominated I. Kusal for BRWC member-at-large	EA/CAO	BRWC Manager and applicant notified	Complete Dec 16/25
2025-406	Accept offer of \$75.5K incl. GST for sale of tax forfeiture property Lot E Plan 8322259 (3.11 acres)	CS/CAO	Sale completed, payment received; Realtor notified, legal	Complete Dec 19/25
2025-403	Purchase (3) 2026 Cat motor graders, trade in (2) 2021 Cat motor graders to Fanning Canada; sell 2016 Cat motor grader to Wallis Bros. Construction	PW/CAO	Suppliers notified	Underway
2025-402	Submit 2026-2028 Traffic Safety Plan to GOA PSES Peace Officer Program	CPO/CAO	Submitted to GOA; Awaiting signature from RCMP	Complete Dec 16/25
2025-401	Reappoint Library Board members	EA/CAO	Library director notified	Complete Dec 3/25
2025-394-400	Appointed Members-at-large to County Committees	EA/CAO	All applicants notified; website to be updated in January	Underway
2025-387	Supported ACP Grant application on behalf of BRWC with no matching contribution req.	EA/CAO	Commission Manager provided with resolution of Council	Complete Dec 2/25
2025-386	Approved STIP application funding requests for BF 74837, 75922, 80831	PW/CS/EA	Grant applications submitted to GOA	Complete Nov 28/25

2025-383	New initiatives be brought back to a future Project Priority session with Council to explore consideration for the 2026 Budget.	CAO	Tent. Sched. COW Jan 29/26	Underway
2025-380	Increased amount of reimbursement for Councillor electronic devices from \$500 to \$1,000, directed Admin to include in draft budget, financial plans, etc. and revise Policy HR-001 to reflect the new amount.	CS/CAO	Budget, policies, updated to reflect Council direction	Complete Nov 20/25
2025-377	Approved up to a 90-day extension for offering Council Orientation under the MGA s. 201.1(2)	CAO	Legal session, Assessment 101, Roads 101, P&D 101, CPO program complete; others planned	Underway
2025-369-375	Approved 2026 Fire/ERC Budgets	CS/CAO	Incorporated into County 2026 Interim budgets & plans	Complete Nov 4/25
2025-368	Approved Library Board 2026 Budget & Local Appropriation	CS/CAO	Incorporated into County 2026 Interim budgets & plans	Complete Nov 4/25
2025-367	Approved 2026 FCSS operating budget.	CS/CAO	Incorporated into County 2026 Interim budgets & plans	Complete Nov 4/25
2025-363-366	Approved 2026 Landfill Budgets	CS/CAO	Incorporated into County 2026 Interim budgets & plans	Complete Nov 4/25
2025-361-362	Approved 2026 Joint Twinning budgets/plans	CS/CAO	Incorporated into County 2026 Interim budgets & plans	Complete Nov 4/25
2025-359-360	Approved reserve bids and Terms & Conditions for public auction	COMM	Advertised & put on website	Complete Nov 18/25
2025-350	Denied request for cancellation of penalties in amount of \$448.01 in whole on tax roll 150047008.	CS	Letter sent to landowner with decision	Complete Nov 6/25
2025-346	Rescheduled Oct 30 C.O.W. meeting to Nov 7.	CAO	Meeting requests have been sent to Council	Complete Oct 30/25
2025-345	Accepted offer of \$121,000 plus gst for sale of 10-ac parcel within Pt. SW 15-58-2-W5	CAO	Property sold; Contract signed, transferred file to lawyer for closing documents	Complete Nov 14/25
2025-340	Cancelled Regular Scheduled Council meetings on Jan 20, Mar 17, Aug 4, Nov 3, 2026 to accommodate scheduling conflicts, stat holiday, and summer break, leaving a total of 21 Regular Council meetings, and that Council approve amended 2026 calendar.	EA/CAO	Calendar updated	Complete Oct 30/25
2025-339,340	Reaffirm/Receive Health & Safety Policies	SAF/CAO	Update policies, COR audit checklist	Complete Oct 29/25

2025-300-337	Appointment to Committees	EA/CAO	Notifications made	Complete Oct 31/25
2025-298,299	Appointment of Reeve & Deputy Reeve	EA/CS/CAO	Notifications made	Complete Oct 31/25
2025-293	Supported appt of Ms. Burton as Regional ASB rep; funds to be incl in Ag Services Dept budget for per diems and travel	RD/CS/CAO	Included in 2026 Draft Interim budget	Complete Nov 27/25
2025-291	Rescinded obsolete policies 26.02,26.04,26.05,26.08,26.11,26.12	EA/CAO	Policies rescinded in mfiles	Complete Oct 9/25
2025-290	Approved Policy PD-002 Commemorative Naming as amended	RD/EA	Policy amended and updated in mfiles	Complete Oct 9/25
2025-289	Approved donation of \$1,060 to Attraction & Retention Committee to assist with Barrhead Hospital Post-Secondary Event BBQ; funded from Council PR Budget.	EA/CAO	Committee Notified and cheque issued	Complete Oct 24/25
2025-288	Approved \$2,500 donation to Neerlandia Historical Society under Community Grants Policy for Windmill Restoration project.	EA/CAO	Society notified and cheque requisitioned	Complete Oct 7/25
2025-279	Denied request for cancellation of property taxes on Roll # 532313024 and 541292000	CS/CAO	Letter send to landowner	Complete Sep 24/25
2025-278	Proclaimed Oct 2025 as Cybersecurity Awareness Month	CS/COMM	Web page created; Proclamation posted in office	Complete Sep 29/25
2025-275	Accepted 2026 budget "What We Heard" report for information.	COMM/CAO	Posted to website	Complete Sep 16/25
2025-274	Approved not renewing AAIP's RRS after Nov 4	COMM/CAO	Registered employers have been notified and website updated	Complete Sep 18/25
2025-273	Adopted Bylaw 8-2025 Repealing Code of Conduct Bylaw 3-2017	EA/CAO	Signed and removed from website	Complete Sep 16/25
2025-269	Adopted Bylaw 7-2025 Intermunicipal Relations Committee Bylaw	EA/CAO	Signed and posted to website	Complete Sep 16/25
2025-264	Adopted Bylaw 6-2025 Meeting Procedures Bylaw	EA/CAO	Signed and posted to website	Complete Sep 23/25
2025-254	Directed Admin to finalize scheduling with NRCB & ILWG - Stock Talk Initiative in the new year; include ASB members	CAO	Email sent to ILWG, looking at dates.	Underway

2025-253	Apply for funding opportunity from FCM's Local Leadership for Climate Adaptation initiative for "Valuing Natural Assets for Climate Resilience in the County of Barrhead"	RD/CAO	Grant application submitted on Sept 9/25	Complete Sep 9/25
2025-251	Approved signing agreements with landowners for road reconstruction project 25-741	PW/CAO	Agreements fully executed	Complete Sep 2/25
2025-239	Approved Property Tax Penalty Exempt List for 436 tax rolls as identified.	CS	System updated	Complete Aug 19/25
2025-238	Approved additional 0.5 mile of shoulder pull cost in Stuber's Cat Service Ltd. contract for \$5,050 with funding coming from 2025 budget.	PW/CS	Payment made to contractor	Complete Aug 20/25
2025-236	Awarded Grazing Lease for S½ of 4-60-4-W5 to B. Koberstein (\$15,250/yr; 2026-06-01 to 2028-10-31)	EA/CAO	Signing Complete; Agreement provided to new leaseholder for signature; All applicants notified	Complete Nov 27/25
2025-235	Denied request to cancel or reduce fire invoice #IVC000004900 in the amount of \$3,000.	EA/CAO	Letter sent informing of decision	Complete Aug 20/25
2025-234	Authorized rescheduling the Council & Org meeting from Oct 21 to Oct 28, 2025	EA/CAO	Public notice posted	Complete Aug 20/25
2025-229	Authorized the Reeve and Deputy Reeve to sign CAO employment contract.	HR/CAO	Contract signed	Complete Jul 16/25
2025-228	Directed Admin to proceed with prelim geo-technical and develop work plan re partnership project with LSAC.	PW/CAO	Discussed during budget wrkshp in Nov; LSAC project lead contacted Sep 22/25, Oct 8/25, LSAC advised on July 25/25	Underway
2025-227	Directed Admin to proceed with additional named insured concern as discussed in-camera.	CS/CAO	ANI has paid in full & applied for ANI status for 2025/2026. Advised ANI of Council direction	Complete Sep 22/25
2025-220	Approved Policy AD-008 Tax Recovery Process	EA	Updated in Mfiles	Complete Jul 16/25
2025-218	Rescinded policies 11.10-03, 12.13, 12.16, 12.23, 12.25, 24.04	EA	Updated in Mfiles	Complete Jul 16/25
2025-217	Approved Policy PS-015 CPO - RCMP Encrypted Radio as presented.	EA/CPO	Updated in Mfiles	Complete Jul 16/25
2025-216	Rescinded Policy 62.13 Rural Beautification and Policy 62.03 Agriculture Conservation Award.	EA	Updated in Mfiles	Complete Jul 16/25
2025-215	Approved Policy AG-003 Rural Stewardship & Enrichment as amended	EA/AF/RD	Updated in Mfiles	Complete Jul 16/25
2025-213	Appointed Ms. Layne Mullen as Development Authority Officer with all powers, duties and functions as outlined in LUB 4-2024.	CAO	Appointment made	Complete Jul 15/25

2025-212, 287	Refer member-at-large application back to Library Board for review & recommendation.	EA/CAO	Back to Council Oct 7/25 following review by board; Library director notified	Complete Oct 7/25
2025-200	Bring back information on "Intensive Livestock Working Group – Stock Talk Initiative" and how the County could collaborate with them	CAO/RD	RFD to Council Sept 2/25	Complete Sep 2/25
2025-199	Bring back information on historic YRL per capita contributions.	CAO	Provided to Council during August 19, 2025 Council meeting	Complete Aug 19/25
2025-194	Proceed with the acquisition of related vehicle & officer equipment up to \$77,141 to be funded by unrestricted reserves	CPO/CAO	Tentative completion for Mar/26 (last item is Axon in-car camera); Vehicle equipment has been purchased with installation occurring Oct-Jan.	Underway
2025-193	Award the contract to Wolfe Chevrolet for the purchase of a 2025 Chevy Silverado SSV at a cost of \$57,359 excluding GST	CPO/CAO	Expected to be in service Jan/26; Patrol vehicle received Jun 20/25; scheduled for outfitting on Oct 27/25.	Underway
2025-192	Approve the additional CPO FTE and direct Administration to include the position in the 2026 Operating budget	CS/CAO	Included in 2026 Draft Interim budget	Complete Nov 27/25
2025-191	Approve community grant of \$2,047.50 to Agnes Memorial Mosside United Church	EA/CAO	Letter of approval sent to applicant	Complete Jun 25/25
2025-190	Engage legal counsel to explore options for alternative access to SE 26-59-06-W5	CAO	Legal counsel has been engaged, file review underway	Underway
2025-189	Directed Policy Committee to review Policy 32.04 Road Construction Standards.	PW/CAO	Admin has started the review of Policy 32.04 & associated policies	Underway
2025-188	Denied request to increase standard of undeveloped road allowance S of SE-26-59-6-W5	EA/CAO	Letter sent to landowner with update	Complete Jul 9/25
2025-187	Approve Manola Lagoon Sounding & Assessment Project at a cost of \$27,087 with additional funding coming from current year revenue	PW/CS	Sounding completed, awaiting final report; Manola lagoon sounding is scheduled for August 18, 2025.	Underway
2025-186	Approve signing STIP grant agreement w/GOA for BF 74972 & 76144 for max of \$405,000 each	EA/CAO	Agreements signed; Waiting for updated agreements from GOA	Complete Aug 14/25
2025-185	Award contract contract for BF 74538 & 74974 to Plains Constructors for \$489,200	PW/CAO	Contracts finalized	Complete Jul 8/25
2025-174	Approved 2024 Annual Report	COMM/CAO	posted to website	Complete Jun 4/25
2025-173	Approved 2026 Budget Schedule	CS/CAO	meeting invites sent out	Complete Jun 4/25
2025-172	Cancel property taxes in the amount of \$7,464.70, owed by Government of Alberta	CS	Journal entry completed	Complete Jun 5/25

2025-171 & 219	Direct Policy Committee to review Policy FN-004 Collection of Accounts Receivable	CS/CAO	Updated in Mfiles; Tentative to Council Jul 15/25; Scheduled for Jun 24/25 Policy Com.	Complete Jul 16/25
2025-170	Cancel finance charges for \$693.65 plus any accrued interest for account ALUSC0001.	CS/CAO	Journal entry completed	Complete Jun 5/25
2025-169	Set Dec 3 at 2:00pm for Public Auction and CAO to be auctioneer	CAO	Info posted to website, etc. Reserve bids & Terms to Council Nov 4/25	Complete Nov 5/25
2025-158	Apply for Roadside Dev Permit; upon receipt sign a Use Agreement with NSC for construction of a community baseball diamond on NE 28-61-3-W5 near Neerlandia Wastewater Lagoon	EA/CAO	Agreement signed; Received RDPT Jul 9/25, making arrangements to sign use agreement; Submitting application for Dev Permit; Inquiry made with GOA	Complete Jul 15/25
2025-157	Awarded contract for BF 72815 to Griffin Contracting Ltd. for \$172,725	PW	Contract finalized; Contractor notified	Complete Jun 24/25
2025-156	Awarded shoulder pull program contract to Stuber's Cat Service Ltd. for \$116,150.00 to complete 11.5 miles of roadway	PW	Contract finalized; Contractor notified	Complete May 26/25
2025-153	Approved updated 2025 Capital Budget	CS/CAO	Complete	Complete May 20/25
2025-152	Adopted Rates & Fees Bylaw 5-2025	EA/CAO	Posted to website	Complete May 23/25
2025-148	Accepted Status Report for 2024 ASB Business Plan	RD	Complete	Complete May 20/25
2025-146-147	Appointment of Weed and Pest Inspectors	AG/CAO	ID cards issued	Complete May 30/25
2025-133-135	Approve signing landowner agreements for construction projects 24-640, 24-740, and 25-240	PW/CAO	Fully executed	Complete May 7/25
2025-130	Approve contract with Marshall Lines 2014 for 2025 County roadway and airport line painting project for a total cost not to exceed \$ 89,711.70.	PW/CAO	Contract finalized; Contractor notified	Complete Jun 11/25
2025-129	Approve contract with Marshall Lines 2014 for 2025 Crack Sealing Program on County roadways and the airport for a total cost of \$107,010.	PW/CAO	Contract finalized; Contractor notified	Complete Jun 11/25
2025-128	Sign agreements BF 74538 land acquisition	PW/CAO	Fully executed	Complete May 7/25
2025-119	Direct Reeve to respond to committee concerns	CAO	Reeve sent email as directed	Complete Apr 15/25
2025-113	Awarded tender for BF 77360 to Plains Constructors for \$348,073 including site occupancy	PW/CAO	Contract Signed; Contractor notified	Complete May 21/25

2025-112	Adopted 2025 Property Tax Bylaw 4-2025	CS/EA	Posted to website	Complete Apr 16/25
2025-107-108	Approved 3-Year Financial Plan & 10-Year Capital Plan	CS/CAO	Posted to website April 22, 2025	Complete Apr 22/25
2025-106	Revised 2025 Capital Budget from \$6,408,757 to \$9,543,169	CS/CAO	Posted Operating Budget, Capital Budget, Budget Presentation and Budget Overview to website April 22, 2025	Complete Apr 22/25
2025-105	Adopt 2025 Operating Budget as presented with operating expenditures & revenue of \$21,124,510	CS/CAO	Posted Operating Budget, Capital Budget, Budget Presentation and Budget Overview to website April 22, 2025	Complete Apr 22/25
2025-104	Approved agreement with PHSD for County to conduct 2025 elections on behalf of PHSD	RO	Fully executed	Complete Apr 23/25
2025-099	2025 Police Funding Model recalculation, to the EcDev Op Budget and IT Reserve and to bring back adjustments in the 2025 Draft budget - Apr 15	CS/CAO	Adjustments incorporated into 2025 DRAFT Budget for Council consideration	Complete Apr 15/25
2025-094	Agreement for bee hives on County land	EA/CAO	Fully executed; applicant notified of need for all hives to be included in agreement	Complete Apr 10/25
2025-091,152	Bring back Rates & Fees Bylaw to incorporate golf cart permit fees	CPO/CAO	To Council May 20, 2025; Revisions to be brought back with 3rd reading	Complete May 20/25
2025-089-090, 123	Gave first 2 readings to Golf Cart Pilot Project Bylaw and submit to AT for approval	CPO/CAO	May 6 - gave 3rd reading and sent back to AT; AT feedback received; Return to Council May 6; Waiting for AT approval before bringing back for 3rd reading	Complete May 6/25
2025-086, 124-126	1st reading of Community Standards bylaw; bring back in May	CPO/CAO	May 6 - Adopted amended bylaw; Return to Council May 6; Open to public comment	Complete May 6/25
2025-084	Appointment of Fire Guardians	EA/CAO	Fire Chief & Guardians notified & website updated	Complete Apr 3/25
2025-081	Appoint Greilach Lussier LLP as Auditor for 2025-29	CS	Auditor informed of decision	Complete Apr 1/25
2025-080	Approve 2024 audited financial statements(FS) & FIR; post FS to website	CS/COMM	Signed and posted to website	Complete Apr 22/25
2025-070	Submit topic of Challenges with Gravel Pit Provincial Approval & Renewal Process to RMA Mayors & Reeves meeting; CAO to draft statement to be presented by Reeve at the RMA Ministerial Bear Pit session	CAO	Topic presented at RMA Mayors & Reeves's mtg Mar 17/25, and statement made by Reeve at RMA Ministerial Bear Pit session to Minister Schultz Mar 18/25	Complete Mar 18/25
2025-065	Cancel finance charges in amount of \$218.86 for customer RIVER0002.	CS	Cancelled finance charges	Complete Mar 21/25

2025-064	Amend 2025 Operating Budget to include \$2,900 for a Rural Living Expo, event to be Apr 26 or May 3 (admin decides); offered in conjunction with County Appreciation Dinner.	CS/CAO	Amount included in budget	Complete Mar 6/25
2025-057	Uphold Order to Remedy Contravention for file #2024-162-1032 and varied deadline to comply with Order to April 30, 2025.	CPO/CAO	Follow up notification in writing was sent to appellant	Complete Feb 20/25
2025-051	Accepted all yr-end financial reports subject to audit adjustments & yr end finalizations	CS	Prepared for audit	Complete Feb 20/25
2025-049-050	Appoint Assessor & approve 3-year contract	CS/CAO	Contract fully executed; Waiting for signatures	Complete Mar 6/25
2025-047	Approve update to Policy PS-012 CPO Uniform & Equipment Standards	CPO/EA	Policy updated & submitted to Provincial Peace Officer Program	Complete Feb 20/25
2025-046, 167	Approve \$2,500 community grant to Barrhead Golf & Recreation Club	EA/CAO	Final report received; Letter sent to recipient and cheque initiated	Complete Feb 25/25
2025-043-045	Appoint ARB Chair, Clerk, and panelists	EA	CRASC notified	Complete Feb 19/25
2025-042	Approved right-of-way agreements for BF 77360	EA/CAO	Agreements signed	Complete Feb 18/25
2025-034	Release 2024 funding to Barrhead Historical Society	CS	Cheque issued	Complete Mar 4/25
2025-033, 093	Approves forwarding Bylaw 9-2024 road closure package to AT in accordance with legislated process for Road Closures.	EA/CAO	AT approved closure & Council approved bylaw; Documents have been submitted electronically for approval	Complete Apr 1/25
2025-032	Approve 2024 reserve transactions as presented in 2024 Reserve Report	CS	Transaction complete	Complete Feb 4/25
2025-029	Approve becoming a municipal member of Northwest of 16 Regional Tourism Association for 2025 at an annual fee of \$1,000	RD/CAO	Admin attended AGM; Application form completed, signing under new Director, vendor being set up in accounting	Complete Mar 24/25
2025-027, 030	Approve additional funding sources for 2024 capital & operational projects	CS	Transactions complete	Complete Feb 4/25
2025-025	Approve marketing sponsorship opportunity request from Western Directives Inc & Nature Alive Adventures Inc in the amount of \$5,000.	EA/CAO	Payment submitted, project confirmed	Complete Feb 11/25
2025-024	Purchase 2025 Ford F-550 crew cab 4x4 truck from Barrhead Ford for \$87,965.00	AG	Truck received & being outfitted with sprayer; Unit has been ordered (4 month delivery)	Complete Jul 2/25
2025-023	Purchase steamer & trailer unit from Pumps & Pressure for a cost of \$44,744.50	PW	Received; Unit has been ordered, estimated delivery May 2025	Complete May 30/25

2025-013	Write-off one outstanding AR account for \$1,965.02 as this account is uncollectable	CS	Journal entry completed	Complete Jan 8/25
2025-011	Cancel existing certificates of title for 2 parcels of lands not sold at Dec 4/24 Public Auction; issue in name of County	Tax Clerk/CAO	Documentation submitted to land titles	Complete Jan 9/25
2025-008-010	Approve COPTER exemptions	CS	Entries made	Complete Jan 9/25
2025-006	Appoint Library member-at-large	EA/CAO	Library director notified	Complete Jan 9/25
2024-504-505	1st reading of Road Closure bylaw; Set public hearing for Feb 4/25 at 1:00 pm	EA/CAO	Feb 4/25 - Public Hearing	Complete Feb 4/25
2024-503	Admin to research details on marketing sponsorship opportunity; bring back report to Feb 4/25 Council meeting.	COMM/CAO	Feb 4/25 - presented to Council for decision	Complete Feb 4/25
2024-502	Received correspondence regarding Fire Invoice #00004415 for information.	EA/CAO	Received for information; Letter not required, rescind motion; Email drafted to landowner regarding decision	Complete
2024-501	Approved lease agreement renewal in SE 16-59-2-W5	EA/CAO	Lease finalized; Mailed to leaseholder for signature	Complete Jan 22/25
2024-457-460	Municipal Election Resolutions	EA/CAO	Website updated	Complete Jan 2/25
2024-449	Bring back options/recommendations on use of sand/salt on County roads in Thunder Lake.	PW/CAO	Draft report submitted to CAO for review; Preliminary discussions with staff	Underway
2024-410; 2025-188-190	Bring back options on use of an undeveloped road allowance to allow access to recreational property at SE 26-59-6-W5.	CAO/PW/DEV	To Council Jun 17/25, denied request & directed to explore alternative options with legal; Cross departmental review underway	Complete Jun 17/25
2024-398	Directs CAO to move forward with exploring/negotiating options with GOA to become anchor tenant of ADLC.	CAO	Discussed during budget wrkshps in Nov; Mtgs with AB Infrastructure & a developer; Reeve & CAO engaged Minister Infrastructure at RMA, followed up requested by Minister; Mtg rescheduled Feb 25/25; Preliminary contact made with GOA to schedule mtg in new year; Draft Concept Floor Plans complete	Underway
2024-343	Include discussion on the condition of Twp Rd 604 leading to Clear Lake Campground in the 2025 budget workshops.	CS/CAO	Patching, blading, & gravel budgeted in 2025; Further discussion during Nov 27&28 budget workshop; Council reminded of topic on Oct 10/24 budget mtg; will bring back for further discussion once Rural Road Study completed by consultants	Complete Apr 15/25

2024-301	Form an IAC with Town and CAO to work with Town Admin to develop a draft bylaw to establish and define the function of an IAC	CAO	To Council Sep 16/25; Town approved Sep 9/25; Aug 21/25 ICF recommendation on IRC Bylaw; DRAFT Bylaw shared w Town CAO; Apr 30/25 met Sturgeon County to discuss models; Jan 7/25 CAOs met to discuss next steps; Sept 10/24 Town Council accepted recommendation from ICF Committee to establish forum for elected officials to exchange info of mutual interest	Complete Sep 16/25
2024-270	Approved purchase of 2025 Caterpillar 150 AWD motor grader from Finning for \$574,500 & trade-in Unit #219, a 2019 Caterpillar 140M3 motor grader, to Finning for \$305,000.	PW/CAO	New grader delivered; Suppliers have been notified	Complete May 22/25
2024-269	Approved purchase of 2025 Caterpillar D2 LGP dozer from Finning for \$277,173 & trade-in Unit #305, a 2019 Caterpillar D4K LGP dozer to Finning for \$95,000	PW/CAO	New dozer delivered; Suppliers have been notified	Complete May 22/25
2024-225	Flag Agriculture, Small Scale Operation for future discussion	CAO		Not started
2024-149, 179	Approved purchase salt/sand storage building incl installation from Coverco Buildings Ltd. for the price of \$395,426.65 excluding GST.	PW	Complete except for door installation; Contractor currently building structure; Pad constructed by COB; Contracts awarded for paving, building; Company notified	Underway
2024-070	Dispose of Unit 542, Unit 533 along with its plow attachments, which are Units 535, 536, and 537, as well as the plow attachments from Unit 543, which are Units 544 and 540.	PW/CS	Sold at auction	Complete Aug 1/25
2024-062	Council approved signing the land exchange agreement and to cancel the portion of Road Plan 2000MC north of NW 2-62-4-W5 containing approximately 0.938 ha (2.32 acres).	EA/DEV	Submitted to Land Titles for Registration; Approval received and sent to surveyor to finalize road plan; Alberta Transportation contacted for permission to close portion of road plan	Underway
2023-296; 2025-158	Negotiate Use Agreement with NSC to construct a ball diamond near Neerlandia Lagoon and bring back to Council for final consideration.	CAO/DEV	Pending Roadside Dev Permit, agreement approved by Council; To Council May 20/25; NSC signed Apr 21/25; to be returned to Council; Resent to NSC March 24/25 ; Agreement shared with NSC; project likely put on hold until 2025; Draft agreement being prepared to support discussions	Complete May 20/25

2023-208	Administration to send a letter of intent to Maykut Farms expressing the County's desire to enter into a lease agreement in 2026 for a portion of the gravel pit located in NE 3-63-4-W5.	PW/CAO	Revisions made & resent to pit owner; Letter of Intent sent to pit owner; Discussion with owner to confirm specifications, letter drafted; Gravel pit owner notified verbally of County's intent	Underway
2022-448	Draft congratulatory letter for Reeve's signature to new Min of MA and provide info on County of Barrhead strategic initiatives.	CAO/EA	New minister, revising message	Underway
2022-166	Preliminary consolidated report on status of wastewater infrastructure	CAO/PW/DF	Manola project approved, to be incorporated into report upon completion; Consolidating all lagoon reports (T.L. received Dec/22); incorporating asset management principles and discussions with LSAC	Underway
2021-174	VSU - letter to MLA re support and current service delivery model	CAO/EA	Met with VSU representative to better understand situation/impact; Rough draft prepared	Underway
2019-352	Follow-up letter to Minister Municipal Affairs	EA/CAO	Notes distributed	Underway
2018-029	Service Contract Review	FIN/EA/CAO	Initial list has been compiled.	Underway
2017-325	Develop a bylaw to provide necessary tools to deal with enforcement issues as an interim step	CAO/Dev	Community Standards Bylaw adopted; 1st reading to Council Apr 1/25; Admin review Feb 26/25, tentative date for Council is Apr 1/25; Reviewed with Council at Dec 5/24 Committee of Whole; Bylaw is drafted, timeline to be discussed with Council; Work with LSA Bylaw enforcement to draft bylaw to use in the interim while developing a more substantive bylaw through public consultation	Complete May 6/25
2017-245	Policy for Special Events	CAO/Dev	Discussion with Council at Dec 5/24 Committee of Whole; Reviewing policies from neighbouring municipalities	Underway



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# WINTER REPORT

September 2025 to  
December 2025



# Introduction

Between September and December, our Enforcement Services department actioned **100** calls for service and generated **437** files across the County. The following pages provide a detailed breakdown of the numbers.

County of Barrhead No. 11 Enforcement Services department consists of one (1) full-time Community Peace Officer (CPO) which became fully operational on February 29, 2024. In June of 2025, County Council approved the addition of another full-time CPO which will be split between Emergency Management (25%) and Enforcement Services (75%). Our 2<sup>nd</sup> officer will be joining our team in early January 2026, and is anticipated to be fully operational by late-February. Additional patrol vehicle has been ordered and outfitted, ensuring that a unit will be available as soon as authorization is provided by Alberta Public Safety & Emergency Services.

Our department has continued to work closely with the Barrhead Regional Fire Service, as well as the Barhead RCMP detachment. High visibility patrols, complaint response, and collaborative initiatives have continued.

Our department actioned 100 calls for service and generated 437 files across the County between September and December. Compared to the same time period in 2024, this represents a 7% decrease in calls for service and a 7% increase in files.

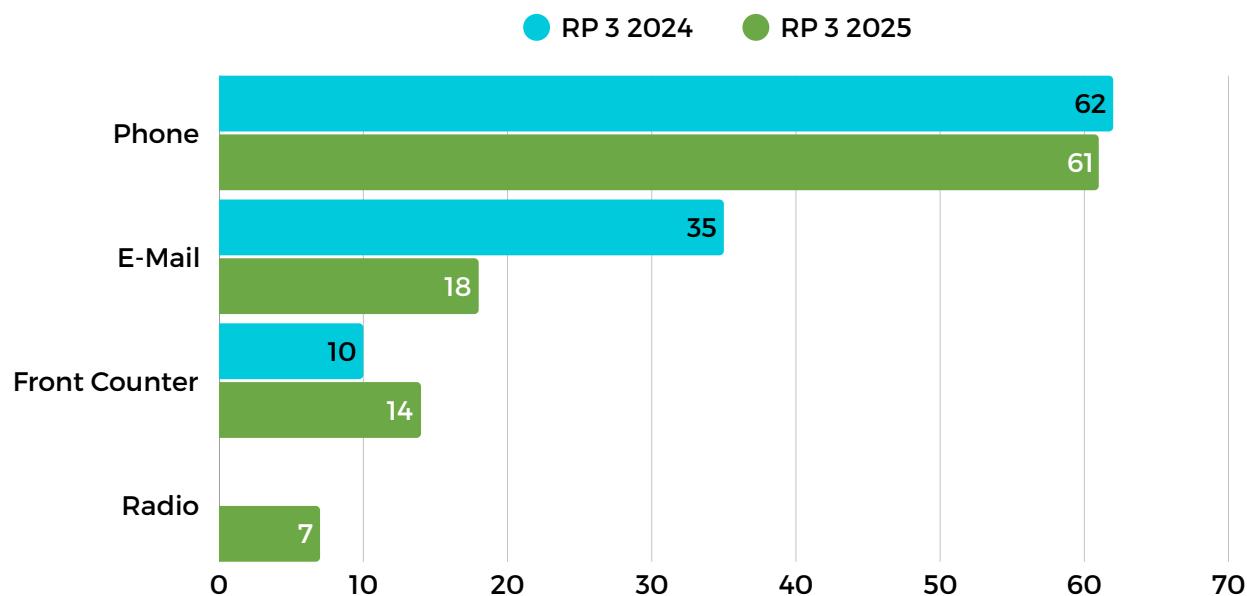
Our Peace Officer is not only responsible for complaint response, they are also expected to attend court and conduct proactive patrols for targeted issues. You can see a breakdown of this work below:

- Court (13) - 17.75 hours
- Meetings (12) - 19 hours
- School Zone Patrol (5) - 6.25 hours
- Community Event (3) - 8 hours

# Department Statistics

## Calls for Service

Our department actioned 100 calls for service between September and December. This represents a 7% decrease over the same period in 2024. Table below illustrates the methods in which these calls were received.



Our Peace Officer is authorized to enforce the following federal & provincial legislation:

- *Animal Protection Act*
- *Dangerous Dogs Act*
- *Environmental Protection & Enhancement Act*
- *Forest & Prairie Protection Act*
- *Fuel Tax Act*
- *Gaming, Liquor, and Cannabis Act*
- *Canada Shipping Act (Federal)*
- *Highway Development & Protection Act*
- *Innkeepers Act*
- *Petty Trespass Act*
- *Tobacco, Smoking, Vaping Reduction Act*
- *Traffic Safety Act*
- *Trespass to Premises Act*
- *Dangerous Goods Transportation & Handling Act (Federal)*

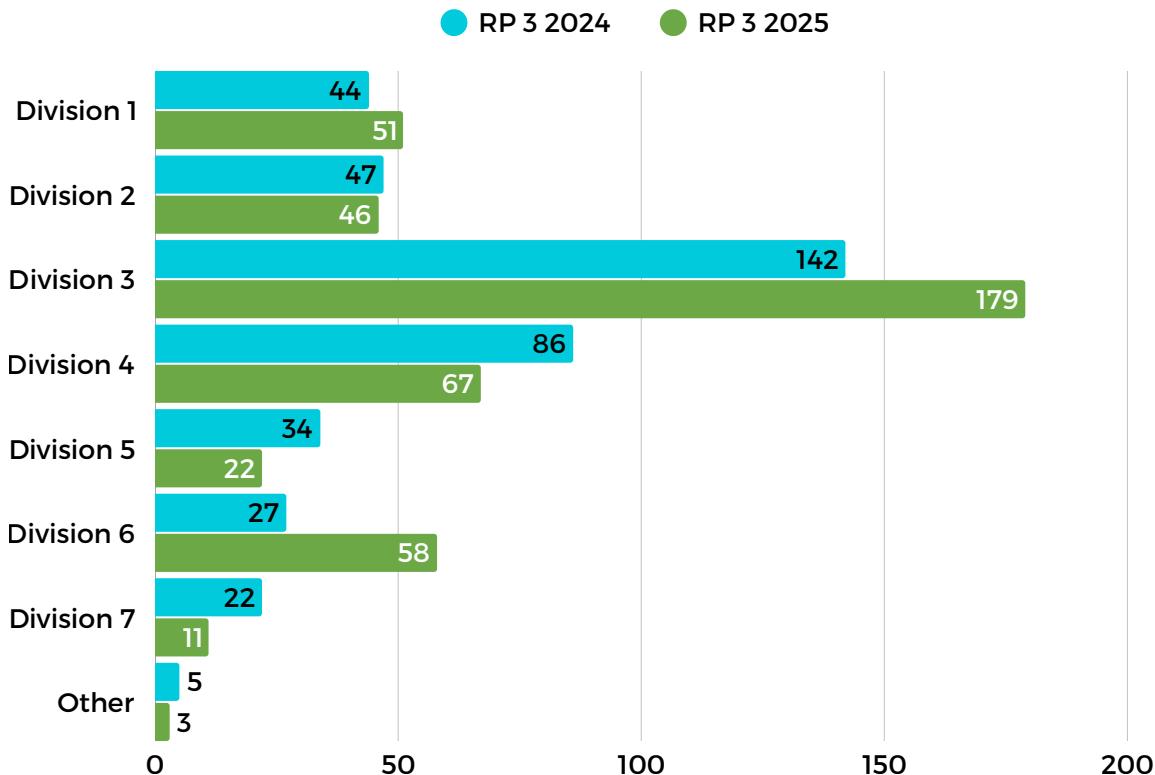
Our Peace Officer is also appointed to enforce all County of Barrhead municipal bylaws, including but not limited to:

- Animal Control Bylaw
- Traffic Bylaw
- Public Reserves Bylaw
- Prevention & Control of Fires Bylaw
- Community Standards Bylaw
- Land Use Bylaw

# Department Statistics

## Files by Division

Our department generated 437 files between September and December. This represents a 7% increase over the same period in 2024. Graphic below illustrates the location of these files broken down by electoral division.



Our Peace Officer created 337 self-generated files while patrolling County roads across all divisions of the County. Higher concentration of files in Division 3 is largely attributed to the number of roads with higher traffic volumes, resulting in more traffic incidents being recorded.

### Reporting Periods:

Report Period 1 (RP1) covers from January 1 to April 30

Report Period 2 (RP2) covers from May 1 to August 31

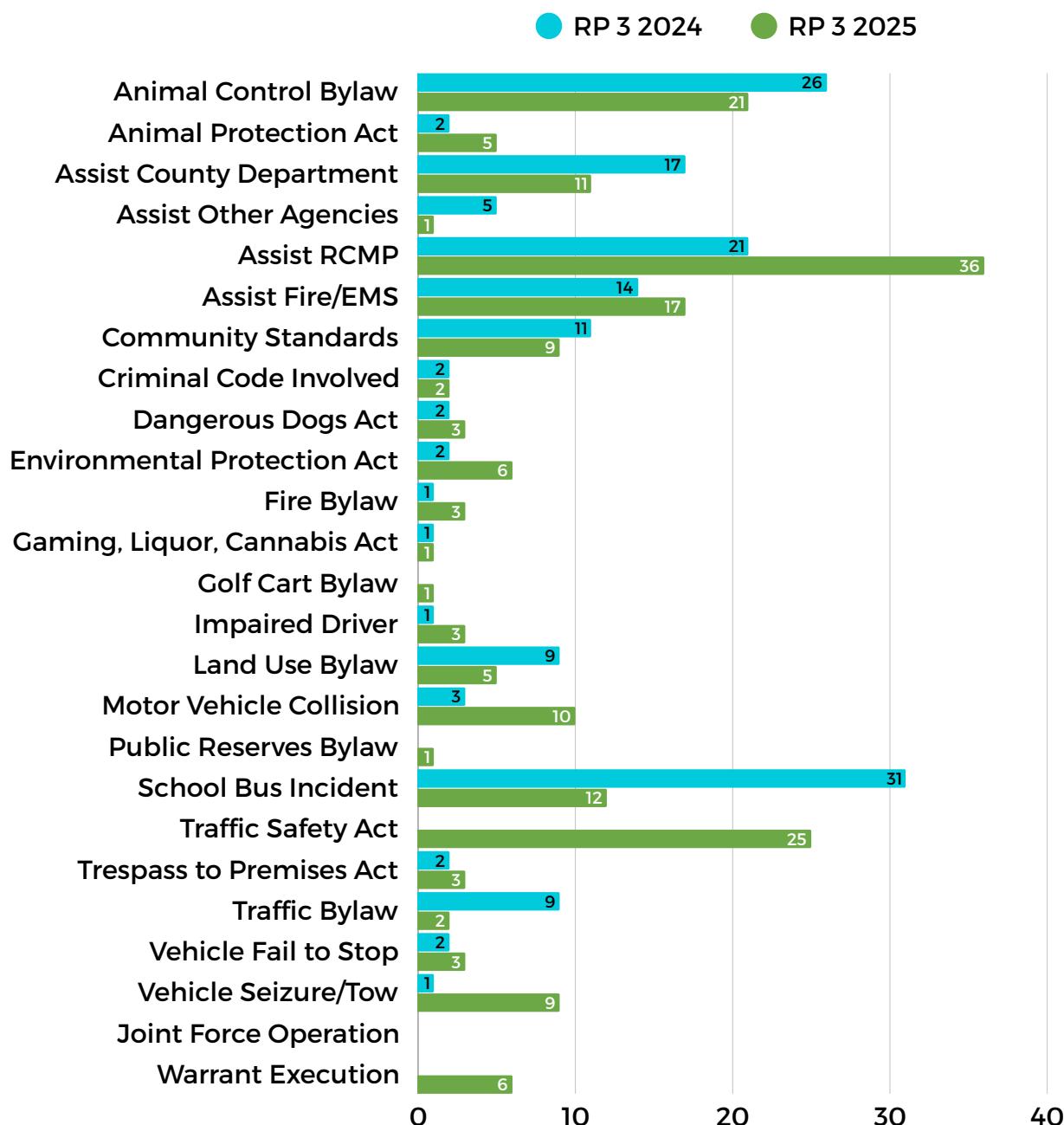
Report Period 3 (RP3) covers from September 1 to December 31

# Department Statistics

## Files by Incident Type

Our department identified many different types of incidents requiring Peace Officer action. Graphic below illustrates a breakdown of the incidents.

It is important to note that the numbers below will equal a number greater than the total number of files, as a file can have more than one file type associated with it. For example: a traffic stop involving an impaired driver would be captured under - Assist RCMP and Impaired Driver

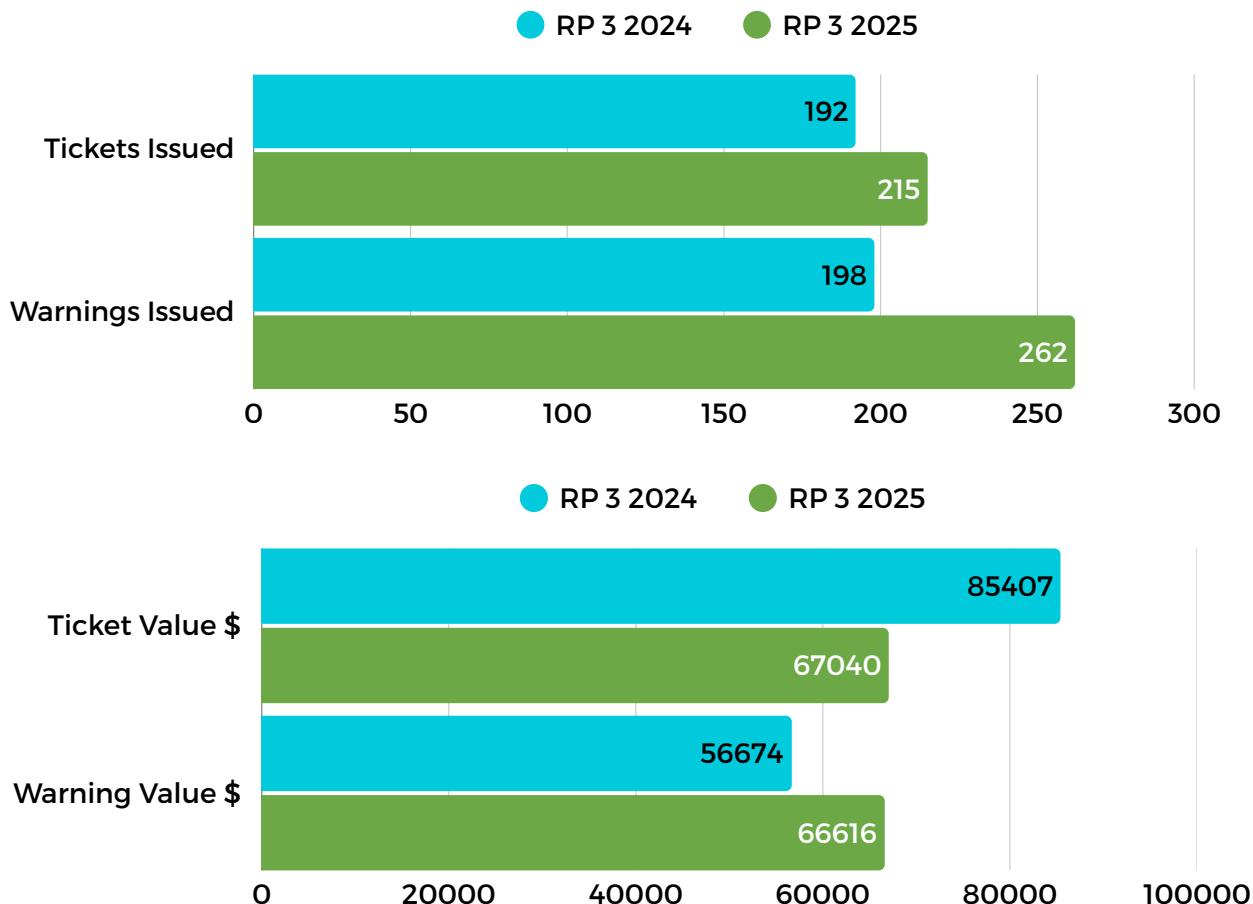


# Traffic Safety

## Traffic Enforcement

Traffic enforcement has been occurring throughout the County on local roads and provincial highways. Speed continues to be a concern with the highest violation observed being **100kph over the speed limit**. Proactive patrols occur in different areas of the County depending on complaints received and offences noted while on patrol.

Table below provides a breakdown of the tickets issued, warnings issued, and the monetary value of the tickets and warnings. Warnings represent incidents which resulted in education as opposed to a fine being issued.



# Notable Offences

Below is just a snapshot of compiled offences which posed a risk to public safety and were thankfully intercepted by our department. This list is not exhaustive and outlines the need for consistent presence throughout the County.

- Driver observed travelling:
  - **190kph in a posted 90kph zone** on Township Road 594
  - **154kph in a posted 100kph zone** on Highway 18
  - **150kph in a posted 100kph zone** on Highway 18
  - **129kph in a posted 70kph zone** on Highway 33
  - **113kph in a posted 30kph school zone** on Highway 651
  - **106kph in a posted 30kph school zone** on Highway 651
  - **91kph in a posted 30kph school zone** on Highway 651
- Vehicle observed without a licence plate on Highway 33, resulting in a traffic stop. Vehicle determined to be uninsured and unregistered. Vehicle was towed and driver charged.
- Vehicle observed speeding on Highway 33, resulting in a traffic stop. Driver displayed signs of impairment, resulting in a 24-hour licence suspension and a speeding ticket being issued.
- Vehicle observed speeding on Highway 33, resulting in a traffic stop. Vehicle determined to be uninsured and unregistered. Vehicle was towed and driver charged.
- Vehicle observed on Range Road 40 with no lights visible on the rear trailer at night, resulting in a traffic stop. Driver determined to have no licence and a warrant for their arrest. Driver was arrested and charged.
- Vehicle observed speeding on Township Road 594, resulting in a traffic stop. Driver determined to be a suspended driver and had a warrant for their arrest. Driver was arrested and charged. Vehicle was seized for 30 days as per the Suspended Driver Program.

# Notable Offences

Continued from previous page.

- Log truck stopped on Range Road 40 for a compliance check. Determined log truck was overweight without a permit, resulting in a \$5,300 fine.
- Vehicle observed failing to stop at a stop sign on Township Road 574, resulting in a traffic stop. Driver displayed signs of impairment, resulting in a 24-hour licence suspension, a vehicle seizure, and ticket being issued.
- Vehicle observed speeding on Highway 654, resulting in a traffic stop. Driver displayed signs of impairment, resulting in a 24-hour licence suspension and tickets being issued.
- Vehicle observed following too closely, resulting in a traffic stop. Driver determined to be suspended indefinitely from driving and had an active warrant for their arrest. Driver was arrested and charged with various traffic offences. Vehicle was seized for 30 days as per the Suspended Driver Program.
- Vehicle observed speeding on Township Road 613, resulting in a traffic stop. Vehicle determined to be unregistered and uninsured with liquor open and within reach of the driver and passenger. Vehicle was towed and driver was charged.
- Vehicle stopped on Highway 18 due to expired registration. Vehicle determined to be uninsured. Vehicle towed and driver charged.
- Log truck stopped on Highway 777 for a compliance check. Determined log truck was overweight on a 75% road ban without a permit, resulting in a \$5,800 fine.

# Conclusion

Moving into the spring, focus will continue on complaint response and proactive activities. As our 2<sup>nd</sup> CPO is expected to start in early January 2026, focus will be on onboarding and familiarization to ensure our department is well-positioned to respond to community needs with the necessary resources.

2026-2028 Traffic Safety Plan was approved by Council in December 2025, as required by Alberta Public Safety & Emergency Services. Work will begin on implementing the plan to ensure a continued focus on traffic safety within the County. Work continues on various projects such as the development of a Special Events Bylaw and modernization of the Public Reserves Bylaw.

As the year continues, work will continue with partner agencies and stakeholders to provide consistent enforcement presence throughout the County to ensure public safety.

If you'd like to lodge a complaint or contact our department, our 24/7 complaint line number is 780-284-9757.





## Public Works Director of Infrastructure Report

### January 6, 2026

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#### ***Graders & Snowplows***

- Graders and snowplow trucks have been busy clearing snow and sanding roads.
  - Operators worked extended hours and every day throughout the Christmas holidays including Christmas Day

#### ***Labour***

- Staff were on duty over the Christmas break to deliver fuel, diesel exhaust fluid and blades to operators and equipment as required.

#### ***Shop***

- Breakdowns over the holidays - 3 graders with mechanical issues. Shop & Fleet Supervisor was able to get one up and running and the dealerships had to send mechanics out to repair warranty problems on the other 2 units. These units did spend 1 – 4 days broken down on the road.

#### ***Utilities***

- December 17 - staff discovered pooled water in the hamlet of Manola and a leak was suspected.
  - Water was traced back to a vacant residence and upon inspection and a meter inquiry, the leak was determined to be occurring inside the building.
  - CC for the property was located, and water services were turned off.
  - Owner was informed of the break and that significant water volumes had gone through their meter during this time.
- Water quality testing was carried out through the Christmas holidays to ensure that we remain in compliance with operating approvals.
- All other testing and monitoring are being carried out as per normal operations.

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## Recap of 2025 Road Maintenance Program

As of November 30, 2025

Division	Yards of Gravel	Cost of Gravel	Misc Gravel	Misc Drainage	MC250	MG30	Permazyme	Shoulder Pull	Patchmix Oil	Total	Budget	Balance
Division 1	9,427.46	\$155,553.09	\$4,356.00	\$1,304.09						\$161,213.18	\$170,925	\$9,711.82
Division 2	14,438.40	\$238,233.60	\$3,415.50	\$1,549.58	\$134,870.87	\$4,720.00				\$382,789.55	\$394,445	\$11,655.45
Division 3	9,710.00	\$160,215.00	\$3,003.00	\$2,695.03	\$99,598.80	\$3,320.00	\$11,600.00			\$280,431.83	\$296,785	\$16,353.17
Division 4	10,349.85	\$170,772.53	\$6,270.00	\$2,546.55		\$19,414.07	\$18,850.00	\$40,400.00		\$258,253.15	\$296,405	\$38,151.86
Division 5	6,284.00	\$103,686.00	\$891.00	\$1,727.03						\$106,304.03	\$116,475	\$10,170.97
Division 6	14,930.80	\$246,358.20	\$5,412.00	\$466.06			\$11,600.00	\$80,800.00		\$344,636.26	\$390,050	\$45,413.74
Division 7	12,573.50	\$207,462.75	\$2,244.00	\$5,359.95		\$19,199.99				\$234,266.69	\$236,780	\$2,513.31
Patchmix Oil									\$11,433.52	\$11,433.52	\$26,640	\$15,206.48
<b>Totals</b>	<b>77,714.01</b>	<b>\$1,282,281.17</b>	<b>\$25,591.50</b>	<b>\$15,648.29</b>	<b>\$234,469.67</b>	<b>\$46,654.06</b>	<b>\$42,050.00</b>	<b>\$121,200.00</b>	<b>\$11,433.52</b>	<b>\$1,779,328.21</b>	<b>\$1,928,505.00</b>	<b>\$149,176.80</b>

**Recap of 2025 Road Maintenance Program**

As of November 30, 2025

Division	Yards of Gravel	Cost of Gravel	Gravel Budget	Gravel Balance
Division 1	\$9,427.46	\$155,553.09	\$155,925.00	\$371.91
Division 2	\$14,438.40	\$238,233.60	\$231,000.00	-\$7,233.60
Division 3	\$9,710.00	\$160,215.00	\$155,925.00	-\$4,290.00
Division 4	\$10,349.85	\$170,772.53	\$174,075.00	\$3,302.48
Division 5	\$6,284.00	\$103,686.00	\$101,475.00	-\$2,211.00
Division 6	\$14,930.80	\$246,358.20	\$235,950.00	-\$10,408.20
Division 7	\$12,573.50	\$207,462.75	\$201,300.00	-\$6,162.75
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$77,714.01</b>	<b>\$1,282,281.17</b>	<b>\$1,255,650.00</b>	<b>-\$26,631.17</b>

Misc Gravel	Misc Drainage	Misc Budget	Misc Balance
\$4,356.00	\$1,304.09	\$15,000.00	\$9,339.91
\$3,415.50	\$1,549.58	\$15,000.00	\$10,034.92
\$3,003.00	\$2,695.03	\$15,000.00	\$9,301.97
\$6,270.00	\$2,546.55	\$15,000.00	\$6,183.45
\$891.00	\$1,727.03	\$15,000.00	\$12,381.97
\$5,412.00	\$466.06	\$15,000.00	\$9,121.94
\$2,244.00	\$5,359.95	\$15,000.00	\$7,396.05
<b>\$25,591.50</b>	<b>\$15,648.29</b>	<b>\$105,000.00</b>	<b>\$63,760.21</b>

Patchmix	Patchmix Budget	Patchmix Balance
<b>\$11,433.52</b>	<b>\$26,640.00</b>	<b>\$15,206.48</b>

Division	MC250	MG30	Permazyme	Oil Budget	Oil Balance
Division 1					
Division 2	\$134,870.87	\$4,720.00		\$148,445.00	\$8,854.13
Division 3	\$99,598.80	\$3,320.00	\$11,600.00	\$125,860.00	\$11,341.20
Division 4		\$19,414.07	\$18,850.00	\$39,330.00	\$1,065.93
Division 5					
Division 6			\$11,600.00	\$11,600.00	\$0.00
Division 7		\$19,199.99		\$20,480.00	\$1,280.01
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$234,469.67</b>	<b>\$46,654.06</b>	<b>\$42,050.00</b>	<b>\$345,715.00</b>	<b>\$22,541.27</b>

Shoulder Pull	S/P Budget	S/P Balance
\$40,400.00	\$68,000.00	\$27,600.00
\$80,800.00	\$127,500.00	\$46,700.00
<b>\$121,200.00</b>	<b>\$195,500.00</b>	<b>\$74,300.00</b>

Total Balance
<b>\$9,711.82</b>
<b>\$11,655.45</b>
<b>\$16,353.17</b>
<b>\$38,151.86</b>
<b>\$10,170.97</b>
<b>\$45,413.74</b>
<b>\$2,513.31</b>
<b>\$149,176.80</b>



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**TO: COUNCIL**

**RE: COUNCILLOR REPORT – REEVE ERIK MUNCK, DIVISION 1**

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**DATE:** December 12-31, 2025

**COUNCIL APPOINTED COMMITTEES/ACTIVITIES:**

**Airport**

**Economic Development Committee**

**Policy Committee**

**Barrhead Regional Water Commission**

**VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES/EVENTS:**

**OTHER:**

- Dec 21 - response to an email from a member of the public regarding winter road conditions on Hwy 33 (copy sent to Councillors and CAO)



## OUNCILLOR REPORT

**TO: COUNCIL**

**RE: COUNCILLOR REPORT – COUNCILLOR CHAPMAN, DIVISION 3**

**DATE: December 16-31, 2025**

**COUNCIL APPOINTED COMMITTEES/ACTIVITIES:**

**Agricultural Service Board**

**Fire Services Committee**

**Landfill Committee**

**Barrhead Library Board**

**Yellowhead Regional Library Board**

**Barrhead Regional Water Commission**

**VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES/EVENTS:**

**OTHER:**

Request that Council support me as an additional member on the Doctor attraction and retention committee as I neglected this request prior to Christmas break.



## OUNCILLOR REPORT

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**TO: COUNCIL**

**RE: COUNCILLOR REPORT – COUNCILLOR ELLWEIN, DIVISION 5**

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**DATE:** December 16-31, 2025

**COUNCIL APPOINTED COMMITTEES/ACTIVITIES:**

**Barrhead & District Agricultural Society**

**Fire Services Committee**

**VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES/EVENTS:**

**OTHER:**



## OUNCILLOR REPORT

**TO: COUNCIL**

**RE: COUNCILLOR REPORT – COUNCILLOR PREUGSCHAS, DIVISION 6**

**DATE: December 16-31, 2025**

### **COUNCIL APPOINTED COMMITTEES/ACTIVITIES:**

#### **Agriculture Service Board:**

#### **Economic Development Committee:**

#### **Museum:**

- Update presentations planned for Town and for County.

#### **Barrhead Attraction and Retention Committee (ARC):**

#### **FCSS:**

- FCSS meeting Dec 22 – working on recognition of sponsors
- Plan name change to: Barrhead Regional FCSS.
- Policy change regarding long service awards.
- Debate whether FCSS board needs two board members from each municipality or just one??

#### **Twinning Committee:**

- Meeting to plan delegation to Japan in August.

#### **Policy Committee:**

### **VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES/EVENTS:**

- Regional Tourism NW of 16:
  - Upcoming networking sessions – Jan 14 at Tawatinaw, Jan 28 at Whitecourt.
  - Nature Alive has completed their 6 episodes – they will be broadcast on Wild TV in June 2026.
  - Plan to attend TIA conference in February.
  - Working on grant application. Looking for support letters from Munis.
  - Attended Travel-ING AGM via zoom.
- Attended Chamber of Commerce meeting Dec 18
  - Executive selected at meeting: Pres Shannon Carlson, VP Dave Sawatzky, Secretary Mike. Administrative Assistant Katie.

### **OTHER:**



## OUNCILLOR REPORT

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**TO: COUNCIL**

**RE: COUNCILLOR REPORT – COUNCILLOR BERGSMA, DIVISION 7**

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**DATE:** December 16-31, 2025

**COUNCIL APPOINTED COMMITTEES/ACTIVITIES:**

**Community Futures Yellowhead East**

**Economic & Community Development Committee**

**Misty Ridge Ski Club**

**Barrhead & District Social Housing Committee**

**Policy Committee**

**VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES/EVENTS:**

**OTHER:**