



For Immediate Release

Inter-Municipal Collaboration Committee (ICC) Approves Fire Services Sub-Agreement

April 28, 2017, Olds, Alberta – News release

The Town of Olds and Mountain View County formed the Inter-Municipal Collaboration Committee (ICC) in late December 2015. This committee works cooperatively to ensure growth management, planning, programs and services are delivered efficiently and economically to all residents.

As part of the ICC mandate to review existing agreements, the ICC has completed the review of the Fire Services Sub-Agreement and the following major changes have been passed by both Town of Olds and Mountain View County Councils:

- Amending the preamble to mirror the preamble contained in the Master Agreement. The reason for writing the preamble in this fashion is to highlight the areas of mutual benefit.
- The Term of the Agreement, Section 2.1, has been changed to match the term of the Master Agreement
- Section 4 Fire Governance – has been changed to make the ICC Committee responsible for fire and disbanding the Fire Committee. The ICC is responsible for negotiating the Fire Service Agreement and provides for regular ongoing communication with the intent of fostering effective collaboration. It is difficult to achieve this with a Committee that meets three times each year.
- Section 6.2 is amended so that the County will only be making two payments each year for its share of the costs. Payments will be January 31 and July 31 as opposed to quarterly
- Section 7 Revenue – has the Operating Reserve capped at \$50,000. 65% of the revenue will be attributed to the base cost elements of the Agreement reducing the net amount required to be paid by each municipality. This also applies to revenue in excess of the \$50,000 Reserve cap. Base costs are the fixed costs to operate the Fire Department and are shared equally by both municipalities.
- Section 10 Termination – has been amended to reflect the Termination clause in the Master Agreement.
- The ICC requested that a process be developed for the purchase of small equipment. The process contained in Schedule “F” requires the following;
 - The Fire Chief to annually submit the 5 year small equipment replacement plan to the ICC for approval.
 - Expenditures not included in the Plan must be submitted to each Council for approval subject to Section 248(1)(a) of the Municipal Government Act.
 - Emergency expenditures must be approved by each municipalities Chief Administrative Officer.

The majority of these changes were requested by the appropriate staff from both respective Municipalities and the fire committee. Both Councils approved those changes in previous council meetings and provided recommendations. The ICC considered those recommendations and upon completion their final review the ICC approved the following further changes to Section 4, by renaming to "Fire Administrative Oversight", and Section "G" a Terms of Reference was added.

The Agreement as negotiated and written continues to support the spirit of collaboration between the two municipalities and can be viewed on the Town of Olds website (www.olds.ca) or the Mountain View County website (www.mountainviewcounty.com).

For more information:

Mayor Judy Dahl
Town of Olds
403-556-6981 ext. 4802
mayor@olds.ca

Reeve Bruce Beattie
Mountain View County
403-335-3311 ext. 110
bbeattie@mvcountry.com