AGENDA
COUNCIL MEETING
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF PINCHER CREEK NO. 9
February 11, 2025
3:00 pm
Council Chambers

A. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

B. DELIGATION

C. MINUTES/NOTES

1. Council Committee Minutes
   - January 28, 2025
2. Council Meeting Minutes
   - January 28, 2025

D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) Highway 3 Twinning Development Association
b) Proposed Curling Rink Location Opposition Group
c) Renewable Energy Study Presentation

F. COMMITTEE REPORTS / DIVISIONAL CONCERNS

1. Councillor Tony Bruder – Division 1
   - Waterton Biosphere Newsletter
2. Reeve Rick Lemire – Division 2
3. Councillor Dave Cox– Division 3
4. Councillor Jim Welsch - Division 4
5. Councillor John MacGarva – Division 5

G. ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

1. Operations

a) Public Works Department Report
   - Report from Public Works dated February 4, 2025
   - Schedule A – Shop/Fleet Report
b) Utilities & Infrastructure Report
   - Report from Utilities & Infrastructure dated February 5, 2025

2. Finance

3. Planning and Community Services

4. Municipal

a) CAO Report
   - Report from Administration, dated February 6, 2025

H. CORRESPONDENCE

a) For Action

a) Industrial Inquiry Commission Reviewing Canada Post
   - Letter from Canadian Union of Postal Workers

b) For Information

a) Project Cancellation Notification – Sunrise Solar Connection
   - Letter from AltaLink
b) Thank you Card – Donation
   - Card from Pincher Creek & District Food Centre
c) Watercourse Crossing Remediation Grant Program
   - Email from Alberta Forestry and Parks

d) Energy Mapping and Action Planning Final Report
   - 2024 Report from QUEST
e) Textile Recycling Opportunity and Diabetes Canada
   - Email from National Diabetes Trust
f) ICF Extension
   - Letter from Cardston County

I. NEW BUSINESS

J. CLOSED MEETING SESSION

a) Regional Drought Projects Assessment – Procurement – FOIP Sec. 24.1
b) Proposed Sale on Tax Forfeiture Property – FOIP Sec. 24.1

K. ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF PINCHER CREEK NO. 9
Tuesday, January 28, 2025 11:00 am
Council Chambers

Present: Reeve Rick Lemire, Deputy Reeve Tony Bruder, and Councillors Dave Cox, John MacGarva and Jim Welsch.

Staff: CAO Roland Milligan, Public Works Manager Alan McRae, Director of Corporate Services Meghan Dobie, Utilities & Infrastructure Manager David Desabrais, Development Officer Laura McKinnon, and Executive Assistant Jessica McClelland.

Reeve Rick Lemire called the meeting to order, the time being 11:00 am.

1. Approval of Agenda

Councillor Dave Cox

Moved that the agenda for the January 28, 2025, Committee Meeting be approved as presented.

Carried

2. Delegation

a) Highway 3 Twinning Development Association

Tenille Miller, Director of Advancement, Bill Chapman, Vice President and Peter Casurella, Non-Voting Advisor, with Highway 3 Twinning Development Association attended the meeting at this time.

They briefly overviewed the history and stages of the Highway 3 Twinning Development Association and the project. The twinning project is moving forward with 15 Municipalities, 17 Industry/Business Members and 20 Member Organizations.

Currently, the MD of Pincher Creek does not have a paid membership but certainly feels strongly about this project moving forward. The MD thinks that the Highway 3 Association has done its job; the Government is aware of the concerns on Highway 3, and the project is moving forward.

The Association feels that Membership is essential for the following reasons:

- OPPORTUNITY - to shape and assist in driving the process
- COMMUNICATION - to share questions, concerns, and information that will assist in planning within communities and businesses
- STRENGTH – to have one a collaborative voice and consistent messaging with the government
- LOBBYING/ADVOCATING – to maintain our presence and ensure the funding remains a priority and that that entire project is completed

They hope that the MD can help build relationships with the Piikani, advocate for how vital this project is for all people traveling Highway 3, and allow the MD of Pincher Creek to have a say in how the project moves forward.

Economic Impact, safety, concerns on certain areas not being on board, and lack of twinning through BC was also discussed. Council will further discuss at the next Council meeting.

Council thanked the delegation for attending, Highway 3 Association members left the meeting at this time, the time being 11:28 am.

b) Proposed Curling Rink Location Opposition Group

Ianthe Goodfellow and Shauna Romano attended the meeting to voice their concerns about the Curling Rinks' proposed location.

Ianthe and Shauna stated they aren't opposed to having a new curling rink, but have strong concerns on the location. They feel that the MD has participated in site locations for a new curling rink in previous years through the facilities committee, the recreation advisory committee, the Joint Council, the Regional Recreation Master Plan, and the Intermunicipal Collaborative Framework (ICF). They also have a petition signed by 375 people in the community that people want to see a different location.

Presently, the Curling Club has chosen the route of a private club, therefore stopping the release of documentation and stopping public collaboration. They feel that public funds and grants from taxpayers' sources are being used for a project on which the public has had no input. Citizens have yet to see the following documents:

- A geotechnical report
- Architectural concepts
- Engineering drawings (the only document released)
- Ownership and land lease agreements
- An operating business plan

The town promised to release this information to the public last August; it still hasn't been released.

Without this information, the following questions are still unanswered:

- Environmental impact
- Urban planning
- Community infrastructure

The dissolution of the Town Facilities Committee raises concerns. A $5 million project is being moved ahead without thorough community consultation, causing residents great concern. Shauna asks that MD look at all the questions they are bringing forward. She would like someone to revisit previous sites, including the downtown location.

MD Council has struggled with some of the same questions regarding documents and the release of information. Some of the Council agree that the curling club and the golf course work well together as they can share the restaurant, which could be utilized year-round. The Curling Rink should have been built many years ago, as the current building is over its life expectancy and needs to be rebuilt. While a multi-use facility would be nice, it wouldn't happen within the next five years.

While the opposition group feels that more information should be released, they were informed that the Curling Club doesn't need to release the information until the Development Permit stage. The MD and the Town are assisting with co-funding this project but are not its developers.

Councillor Dave Cox left the meeting at this time, the time being 11:50 am.

Council will further discuss this at the next Council meeting.

Ianthe Goodfellow and Shauna Romano left the meeting at this time, the time being 12:24 pm.

c) Renewable Energy Study Presentation

Tristan Walker, with Massif Energy, attended the meeting to discuss the Renewable Energy Conversation Systems Review. He discussed the existing projects, transmission infrastructure, proposed projects, Alberta municipal Bylaw examples, Provincial restrictions, and local tax income from renewable energy.

Through the Consultation Results and the 87 participants, the following was revealed:

- 38% don't support wind or solar development
- 75% concerned with existing turbines in the MD
- 60% want some level of redevelopment at existing sites
- 55% support development on brownfield sites
- 73% want engagement before site selection
- 65% want to use MLUST and public consultation in review process
- 70% want to see energy from local generation on their bills
- Waste management and agricultural collaboration are highest priority
- Prioritize construction near existing transmission lines and redeveloping brownfields/existing sites

In summary, Tristan suggested the following next steps:

1. Identify preferred updates to Land Use Bylaw
2. Engage with Provincial regulator regarding repowering sites
3. Submit letter requesting community choice exception
4. Engage with existing operators regarding repowering plans
5. Identify preferred locations for development within desired criteria

Tristan Walker left the meeting at this time, the time being 12:50 pm.

3. Closed Session

Councillor John MacGarva

Moved that Council move into closed session to discuss the following, the time being 12:50 pm.

a) Curling Club Funding Discussion – FOIP Sec. 24.1

Councillor Dave Cox returned to the meeting, the time being 1:04 pm.

b) Public Works Call Log – FOIP Sec. 24.1
c) Policy C-PW-003 Winter Maintenance on Roads – FOIP Sec. 24.1

Councillor John MacGarva

Moved that Council move out of closed session, the time being 2:12 pm.

Carried

4. Round Table

5. Adjournment

Councillor Tony Bruder

Moved that the Committee Meeting adjourn, the time being 2:48 pm.

Carried

_____
REEVE

_____
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

MINUTES
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF PINCHER CREEK NO. 9
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 28, 2025

The Regular Meeting of Council of the Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9 was held on Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at 3:00 pm, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal District Administration Building, Pincher Creek, Alberta.

PRESENT Reeve Rick Lemire, Deputy Reeve Tony Bruder, and Councillor John MacGarva and Jim Welsch.

STAFF CAO Roland Milligan, Public Works Manager Alan McRae, Director of Corporate Services Meghan Dobie, Utilities & Infrastructure Manager David Desabrais, Development Officer Laura McKinnon and Executive Assistant Jessica McClelland.

ABSENT Councillor Dave Cox

Reeve Rick Lemire called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

A. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Councillor Jim Welsch 25/034

Moved that the agenda for January 28, 2025 be amended to include:

E. Business Arising from the Minutes

d) Curling Rink/Arena Life Span

1. Operations

d) Policy C-PW-003 Winter Maintenance of Municipally Directed, Controlled, and Managed Roads and Airport Surfaces

4. Municipal

d) Policy A-ADMIN-003 Organizational Chart
e) Community Scholarship Committee

H. Correspondence for Action

f) RCMP Meeting at RMA
g) Letter of Support - Castle Mountain Resort
h) Letter of Support - Livingstone Sports Booster
i) Help Shape Your RCMP

AND THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

Carried

B. DELEGATION

C. MINUTES

1) Council Committee Meeting Minutes – January 14, 2025

Councillor John MacGarva 25/035

Moved that the minutes of the Council Committee Meeting of January 14, 2025 be approved as presented.

Carried

2) Council Meeting Minutes - January 14, 2025

Councillor Tony Bruder 25/036

Moved that the minutes of the Council Meeting of January 14, 2025 be amended to replace Councillor Tony Bruder, with Councillor Dave Cox in motion 25/024;

AND THAT the Minutes of Council Meeting January 14, 2025 be approved as amended.

Carried

3) Special Council Meeting Minutes – January 21, 2025

Councillor Jim Welsch 25/037

Moved that the minutes of the Special Council Meeting of January 21, 2025 be approved as presented.

Carried

D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

E. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) Non-Renewal of FCM Membership for 2025 County of Stettler No. 9

Councillor Tony Bruder 25/038

Moved that Council rescind resolution 25/022;

AND THAT the MD of Pincher Creek does not renew the FCM Membership for 2026.

Carried

b) Indoor Sports Courts Project

Councillor Tony Bruder 25/039

Moved that MD Council agrees to provide 50% of the funds to the Town of Pincher Creek for the indoor sports courts, up to a maximum of $75,000, with said funds coming from the Regional Community Initiative Reserve (6-12-0-754-6740);

AND THAT all grants must be applied to the total before determining the 50% contribution.

Carried

c) Regional Impact People Prosperity Legacy Echo (RIPPLE) Community Fund – Reviewing the Future Funding Agreement (Future Fund Agreement)

Councillor Jim Welsch 25/040

Moved that Council support the establishment of a Field of Interest Endowment Fund at the Community Foundation of Lethbridge and Southwestern Alberta, known as the RIPPLE Community Fund;

AND THAT that the MD become a signatory on the above said Fund.

Carried

d) Curling Rink/Arena Life Span

Councillor Tony Bruder 25/041

Moved that Administration be directed to send a letter to the Town of Pincher Creek to request detailed information on planned upgrades, replacement plans, and current life spans on both the Memorial Community Centre Arena and the Community Recreation Centre.

Carried

Minutes
Council Meeting
Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9
January 28, 2025

F. COMMITTEE REPORTS / DIVISIONAL CONCERNS

1. Councillor Tony Bruder – Division 1
   - Agricultural Service Board
   - Pincher Creek Emergency Services
   - Crowsnest Pincher Creek Landfill Association
2. Reeve Rick Lemire – Division 2
3. Councillor Dave Cox– Division 3
4. Councillor Jim Welsch - Division 4
   - Family and Community Services
   - Agricultural Service Board
   - Police Advisory Committee
   - Foothills Little Bow
5. Councillor John MacGarva – Division 5

Councillor John MacGarva 25/042

Moved to accept the Committee Reports as information.

Carried

G. ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

1. Operations

a) Public Works Operations Report

Councillor Jim Welsch 25/043

Moved that Council receive the Public Works Operations Report, including Schedule A – Shop/Fleet Report, for the period January 6, 2025, to January 19, 2025, as information.

Carried

b) Utilities & Infrastructure Report

Councillor John MacGarva 25/044

Moved that the Utilities & Infrastructure report for January 8, 2025, through January 22, 2025, be received as information.

Carried

c) Utility Bylaw Rate Open House – Setting of Date & Time

Councillor Tony Bruder 25/045

Moved that the Utility Bylaw Rate Open House be hosted on Thursday February 20, 2025 at the Lundbreck Hall from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Carried

d) Policy C-PW-003 Winter Maintenance of Municipally Directed, Controlled, and Managed Roads and Airport Surfaces

Councillor Jim Welsch 25/046

Moved that Council adopt Policy C-PW-003 Policy Winter Maintenance of Municipally Directed, Controlled, and Managed Roads and Airport Surfaces, as presented.

Carried

2. Finance

3. Development and Community Services

a) Road Closure Bylaw 1354-25 Portion of Statutory Road Allowance South of SW 18-6-1 W5 and North of Lot 1, Block 1, Plan 0810048

Councillor Tony Bruder 25/047

Moved that Council give first reading to Road Closure Bylaw 1354-25;

AND FURTHER that the required Public Hearing be set for February 25, 2025 at 3:00 pm.

Carried

4. Municipal

a) CAO Report

Councillor John MacGarva 25/048

Moved that Council receive for information, the CAO Report for the period January 10, 2025 to January 24, 2025.

Carried

b) ICF Extension Cardston County

Councillor Tony Bruder 25/049

Moved that the Council accept the recommendation of the MD of Pincher Creek No. 9 and Cardston County Chief Administrative Officers that a review of the Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Agreement has been undertaken as directed by municipal Council in accordance with Section 708.32 of the Municipal Government Act and it is the opinion of the Chief Administrative Officers that the Agreement remains valid in its current format and no changes are recommended at this time with the next review of the ICF agreement scheduled for 2031.

Carried

c) ICF Extension Willow Creek

Councillor Jim Welsch 25/050

Moved that Council accept the recommendation of the MD of Pincher Creek No. 9 and MD of Willow Creek Chief Administrative Officers that a review of the Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Agreement has been undertaken as directed by municipal Council in accordance with Section 708.32 of the Municipal Government Act and it is the opinion of the Chief Administrative Officers that the Agreement remains valid in its current format and no changes are recommended at this time with the next review of the ICF agreement scheduled for 2031.

Carried

d) Revised Policy A-ADMIN-003 Organizational Chart

Councillor Jim Welsch 25/051

Moved that Council adopt Policy A-ADMIN-003 Organizational Chart, as presented.

Carried

e) Community Scholarship Committee

The MD will assist the Community Scholarship Committee by providing administrative support to arrange meetings and take notes with the first meeting be scheduled for February 2025.

H. CORRESPONDENCE

1. For Action

a) Pincher Creek Community Volleyball Tournament February 16, 2025 - Request for Funding

Councillor Tony Bruder 25/053

Moved that Council donate $500 towards the February 16, 2025 Pincher Creek Community Volleyball Tournament;

AND THAT the amount be taken from (2-75-0-770-2765) Grants to Groups and Organizations;

AND FINALLY that the Pincher Creek Volleyball Group request and additional $500 from the Town of Pincher Creek.

Carried

b) Request to Meet with Honourable Devin Dreeshen, Minister of Transportation, during RMA

Councillor Tony Bruder 25/054

Moved that the MD of Pincher Creek request to meet with Honourable Devin Dreeshen, Minister of Transportation, during RMA;

AND THAT the items to discuss of Southfork and Maycroft Road as the agenda items.

Carried

c) Request for Corporate Sponsorship - Request to Purchase Banner for Matthew Halton

Councillor Jim Welsch 25/055

Moved that the request for Corporate Sponsorship - Request to Purchase Banner for Matthew Halton, be received as information.

Carried

d) Pinch-O-Crow Creekers - Request for Letter of Support

Councillor John MacGarva 25/056

Moved that Council provide the Pinch-O-Crow Creekers with a letter of support for their application for the Community Foundation Initiatives Program.

Carried

e) Fishburn Marr United Church Cemetery - Request for In-Kind Donation

Councillor Jim Welsch 25/057

Moved that MD Council provide in-kind services to the Fishburn Cemetery project including hauling and disposal of concrete to a maximum value of up to $3,000.

Carried

f) Request to Meet with RCMP Meeting at RMA

Council discussed a meeting with RCMP at RMA, at present time no meeting is required.

g) Castle Mountain Resort – Request for Letter of Support

Councillor Jim Welsch 25/058

Moved that Council provide a letter of support for Castle Mountain Resort towards their South Canadian Rockies Tourism Grant Application for an outdoor spring concert series.

Carried

h) Livingstone Sports Booster – Request for Letter of Support

Councillor John MacGarva 25/059

Moved that Council provide a letter of support for the Livingstone Sports Booster in their application to resurface the current outdoor basketball courts, replace basketball and soccer nets, and set up pickleball courts.

Carried

i) Help Shape Your RCMP

Councillor Tony Bruder 25/060

Moved that the MD promote “Help Shape Your RCMP” by placing the information on the MD social media and website.

Carried

2. For Information

Councillor Tony Bruder 25/061

Moved that the following be received as information:

a) Letter Acknowledging Appeal of Denial of Financial Assistance
   - Letter from Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services
b) Grassy Mountain Coal Project & Letter to Alberta Energy Minister
   - Email from Chris Spearman, Water For Food Group
c) Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA)
   - Letter from Alberta Forestry and Parks

Carried

I. NEW BUSINESS

J. CLOSED SESSION

Minutes
Council Meeting
Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9
January 28, 2025

Councillor John MacGarva 25/062

Moved that Council move into closed session to discuss the following, the time 5:06 pm.

a) Lundbreck Sanitary RV Dump Options – FOIP Sec. 24.1
b) Finance Charge Write Off- CP Rail – FOIP Sec. 24.1

Councillor John MacGarva 25/063

Moved that Council move out of closed session, the time being 5:30 pm.

Carried

a) Finance Charge Write Off- CP Rail

Councillor John MacGarva 25/064

Moved that Council write-off the finance charges on CP Rail's account in the 2024 fiscal year, in the amount of $3,300, with said funds coming from the tax rate stabilization reserve (6-12-0-735-6735).

Carried

K. ADJOURNMENT

Councillor Tony Bruder 25/065

Moved that Council adjourn the meeting, the time being 5:31 pm.

Carried

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REEVE

_____
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Friday, January 31, 2025

WATERTON
BIOSPHERE REGION

What's new with WBRA

WINTER IN WBR - Although many area residents have been enjoying the mild temperatures this month, it has translated into below average snowpack levels in the Waterton Biosphere Region. According to provincial data from www.rivers.alberta.ca, monitoring stations in WBR are reporting snowpack levels at 25% of normal for this time of year. With luck, maybe Mother Nature will deliver a bunch more of the white stuff in the coming months.
(Photo: T. Porter/WBR)

Fungus causing white-nose syndrome detected in WBR

WHITE-NOSE SYNDROME - An overwintering little brown bat displaying symptoms of white-nose syndrome. Photo: M. Moriarty/USFWS

Not the wish list gift we hoped for

Waterton Biosphere Region staff recently received the news that *Pseudogymnoascus destructans* (Pd), the fungus causing white-nose syndrome in bats, has been detected in WBR.

The positive result came from a guano sample collected from under a bridge over the Waterton River in fall 2024. Alberta Community Bat Program also noted possible detections in 2024 guano samples from the Banff and Calgary area, adding to previous detections in the Milk River watershed and in southeast and central Alberta.

What does this mean for our little brown bat populations in WBR?

We don't know yet what impact the fungus will have on little brown bats in our area. In other regions of the country where bats congregate to overwinter in caves and mine tunnels, white-nose syndrome (WNS) wiped out upwards of 90-95% of bats in these hibernacula.

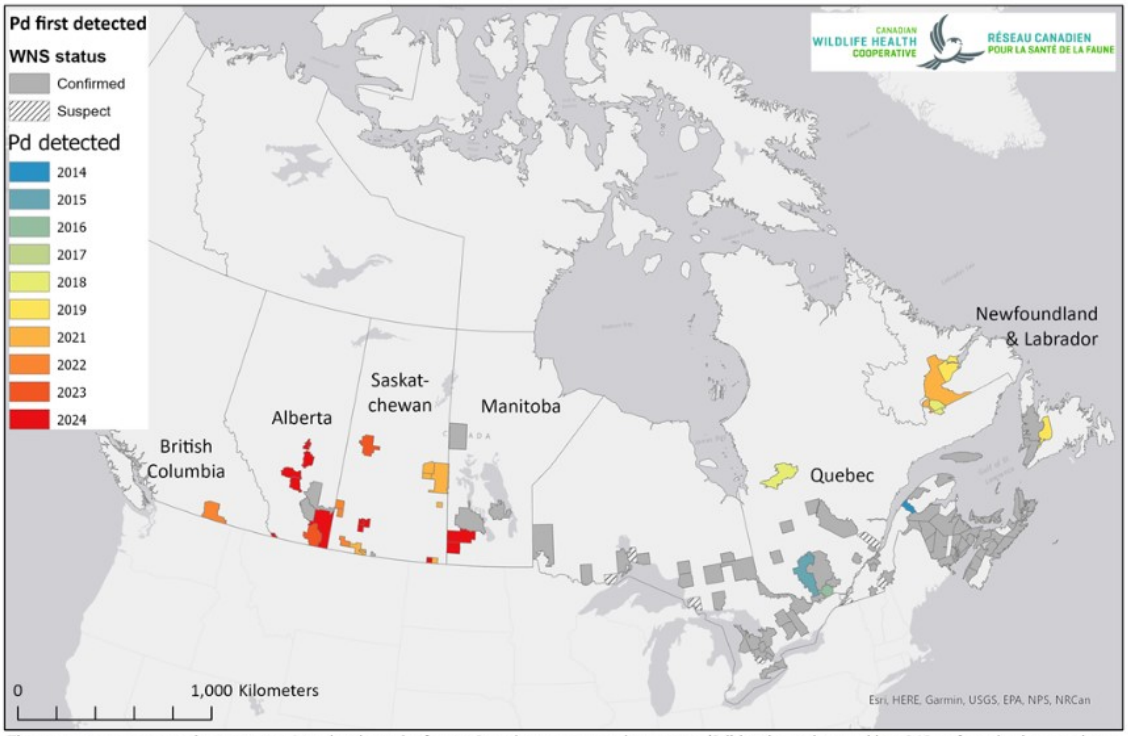
A recent study from the Maritimes showed that by 11 years post-WNS-invasion and mass mortality events, bat numbers had stabilized at low levels and fungal detection had dropped off when testing swabs taken from the hibernacula walls or when observing the few remaining bats.

In Alberta, population numbers are still high. But hibernacula locations, and

whether our bats even congregate in larger numbers at such sites, are a virtual unknown. If the winter hibernacula here are more numerous but host smaller groups (e.g., cracks in cliffs or river banks vs a few large caves or mine shafts), WNS spread and impacts could manifest differently.

Regardless of how low white-nose syndrome depresses populations, little brown bats will have a slow and long recovery period: females only produce one pup per season and fewer than 50% of those will likely make it to the end of their first year.

Pseudogymnoascus destructans detection in Canada



This map represents, in colour, areas in Canada where the fungus Pseudogymnoascus destructans (Pd) has been detected by qPCR or fungal culture without field signs or diagnostic confirmation of the disease white-nose syndrome (WNS) in accordance with the WNS case definition criteria. For reference, areas where Pd was detected with subsequent WNS diagnosis are marked in grey. See our WNS maps for more information on those areas. Polygon shapes and sizes of areas are based on county, division, sub-division, or ecological zoning. Shapefiles for these areas were provided by governmental partners or created through consultation with them.

Updated 18 December, 2024

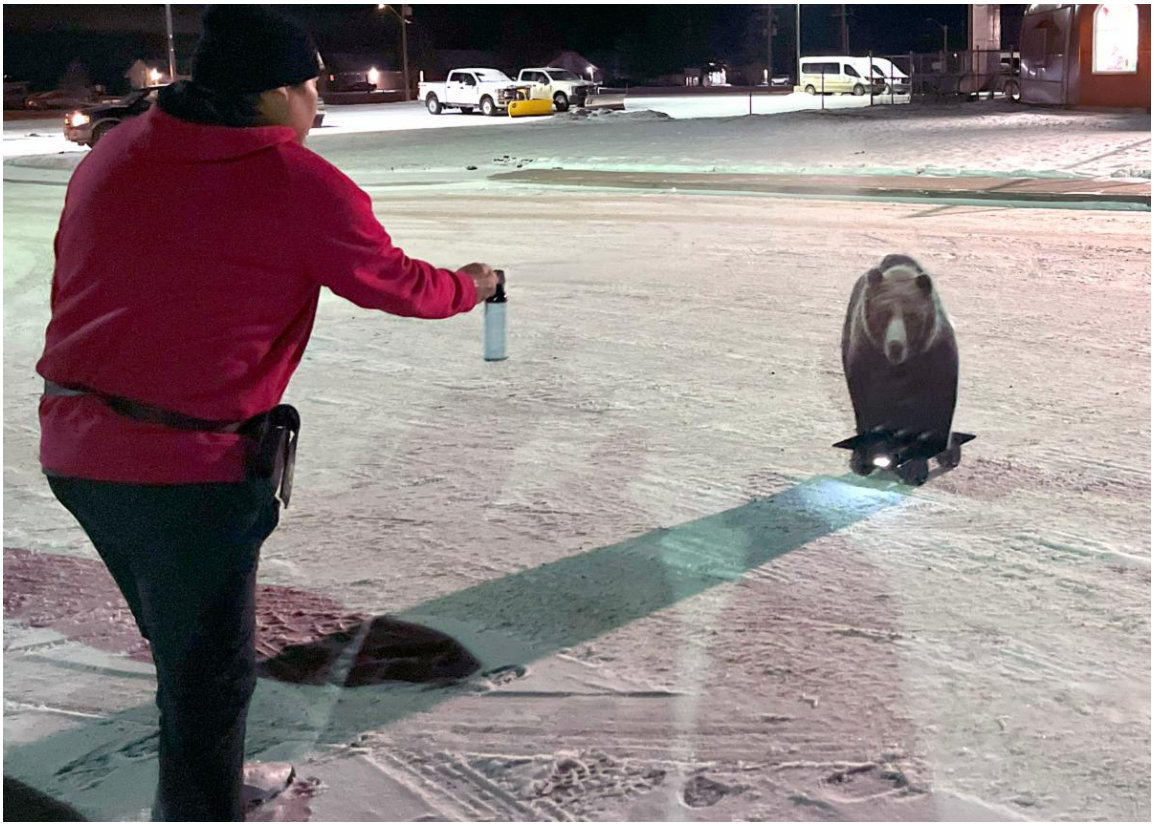
Map credit: Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative

What can you do now that the fungus has been detected?

Bats affected by WNS awake more frequently during hibernation to groom off the irritating fungus. This can lead to depletion of their fat stores as well as lead to dehydration, causing them to head out looking for food or water. If you see a winter-flying bat or find a dead bat between now and late April, please reach out to Elizabeth at eanderson@watertonbiosphere.com or 403-563-0058.

As we head into the spring, ensuring robust maternity colonies and healthy foraging sites in the surrounding landscape will be key in giving these bats opportunity to ride out potential impacts of WNS over the next few years. Please contact us if you're looking to support bats, or if you're experiencing a conflict related to bat roosting activities.

Bear Safety Training : Blood Reserve



BLOOD TRIBE BEAR SAFETY - Staff from the WBR were in Standoff on January 24th working with Blood Tribe Land Management to present a bear safety training session for area residents. Eleven people were on hand to learn about bear identification, bear awareness, attractant management, and the supports offered by the Carnivores and Communities Program. Above, attendees got to practice their bear spray prowess on the WBR's automated bear target.
(Photo: A. Morehouse/WBR)

New Staff Member at WBR

MEET THE NEW PERSON! - Laura Rance has joined the WBR staff this year as the organization's new Conservation Technician. She has a long history in conservation-related work and is eager to help make a difference in southwest Alberta.
(Photo: Submitted/WBR)

The Waterton Biosphere Region would like to welcome Laura Rance to the WBR team in the role of Conservation Technician. She will be working with Species At Risk, Supporting Landowners In Conservation and Stewardship, and other important tasks.

Laura brings a wide range of experience and skills to the team, as well as an infectious passion for the great outdoors. Originally from Lethbridge, Laura studied biological sciences at the University of Victoria and spent 13 years with Parks Canada. She has worked in various conservation capacities including public education and wildlife management.

Our new addition says she is excited to continue working in the conservation space and participating in land stewardship efforts outside the boundaries of protected spaces. She enjoys a variety of outdoor activities including cycling, hiking, and skiing. She currently resides in Pincher Creek with her family.

DOTC Date Announced

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! - The Waterton Biosphere Region is proud to announce the date for this year's Day on the Creek youth education event in Pincher Creek. Please mark May 15th on your schedule and join us for a day of learning on the landscape.

Project Season Fast Approaching

SUMMER SEASON PLANNING - The Waterton Biosphere Region would like to remind area stakeholders that now is the time to be thinking about applying for summer projects in our program areas. Above, a photo of a hopper bottom bin installed to prevent wildlife from accessing stored grain.
For more information about our programs and stewardship offerings click HERE. For more information about the Carnivores and Communities Program, click HERE
Photo: A. Loosen/WBR

Thank you for taking the time to read our e-Newsletter.
Follow us on social media and visit our website to learn more about the **Waterton Biosphere Region** and our initiatives.

If you would like to make a donation to the WBR to support our programs, please click button below.

DONATE

Visit our Website

Waterton Biosphere Reserve Association | BOX 7 | PINCHER CREEK, AB T0K 1W0 CA

Recommendation to Council

TITLE: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT	
PREPARED BY: Alan McRae	**DATE: February 4, 2025**
DEPARTMENT: PUBLIC	

WORKS ATTACHMENTS:

1.Schedule A – Shop/Fleet Report

APPROVALS:

	February 4, 2025		2025/02/04
PW MANAGER	**DATE**	**CAO**	**DATE**

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council accept the Public Works Department Report for the period of January 19th to February 1st as information.

-Guardrail clean-out on North side of Southfork Road
-Removal and rebuild of permanent snowfence in Division 2
-911 sign install
-Divisional Maintenance
-Sign replacement
-Hand slashing/brushing
-Culvert thawing in Division 5

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None

Presented to: Council
Date of Meeting: February 11, 2025

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT SCHEDULE "A"

SHOP/FLEET OPERATIONAL REPORT	
PREPARED BY: ALAN MCRAE	**DATE: FEBRUARY 4th, 2025**
DEPARTMENT: PUBLIC WORKS	**ATTACHMENTS: N/A**

SHOP/FLEET OPERATIONS SUMMARY:

Graders

Unit #72- 500hour service

Heavy Trucks/Equipment

Unit #2 (Excavator mulcher)- Install new bearings and make remote grease lines
Unit #420 (highway tractor)-Send DPF away to be cleaned
Unit #420 (highway tractor)-Radiator-existing ends put on new core and install DPF

Light Duty Truck/Trailers/Equipment

Unit #37 (skidsteer)- T/S Engine light
Unit #477 (flat deck)- T/S fuel issue and radiator leaking
Skidsteer post driver- R/R leaking oring and service unit

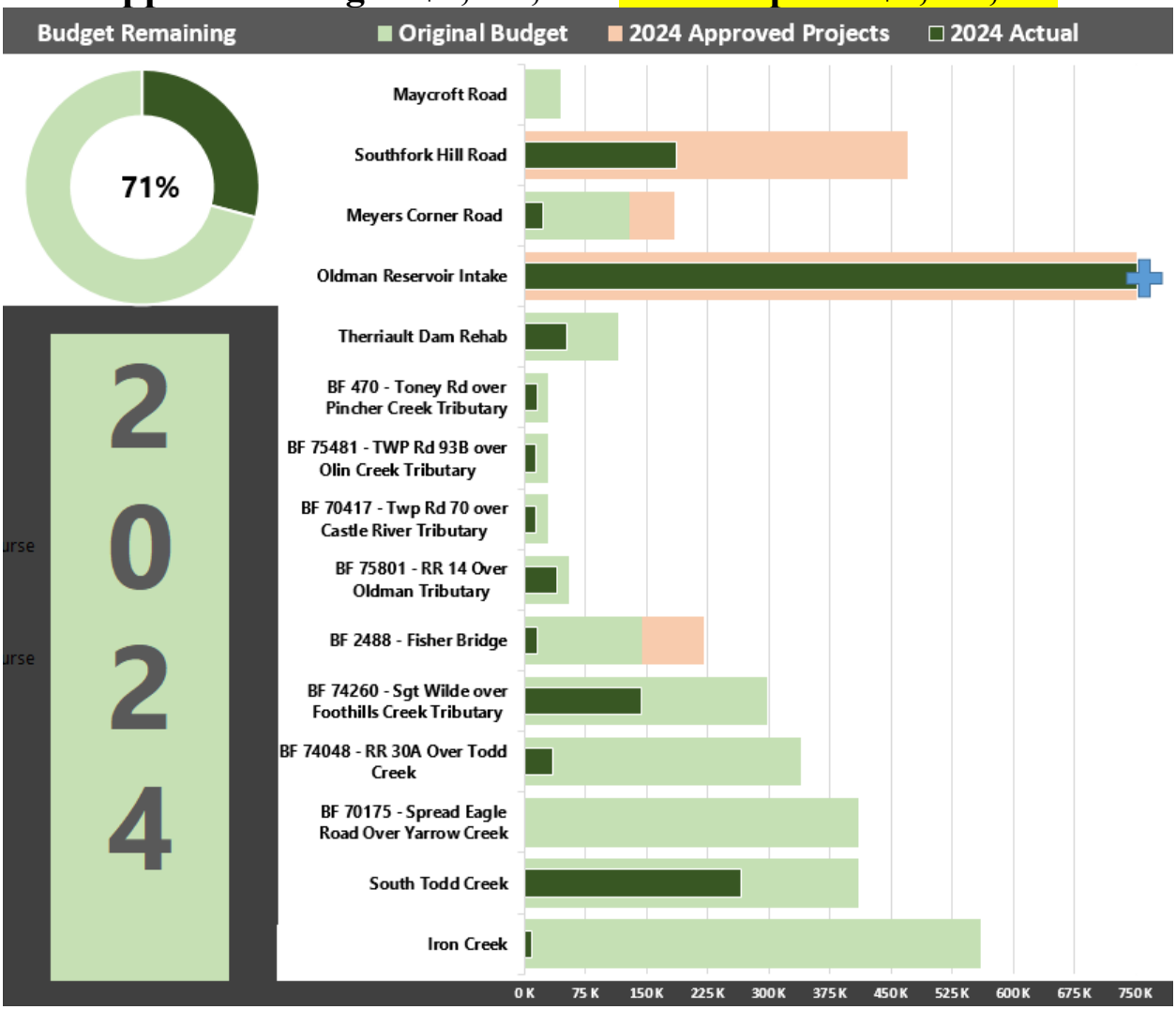
EVENTS

- Maintenance interval schedule reviewed and updated

M.D. OF PINCHER CREEK NO. 9
UTILITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT

General Projects Budget Update

2024 Approved Budget: $4,998,000. Feb 5th Spend: $2,367,914



2025 Approved Budget: $3,942,000. Feb 5th Spend: $0

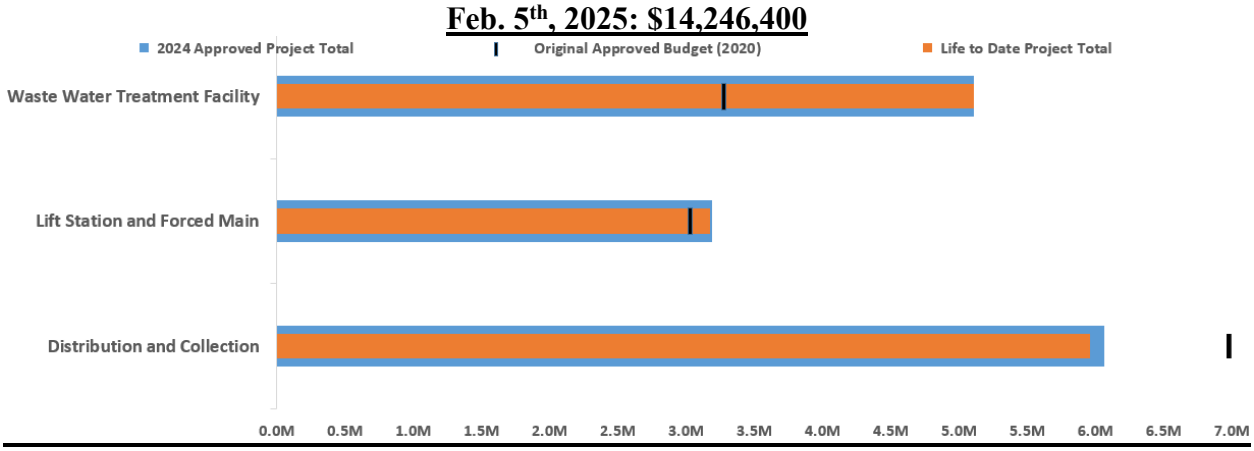
Large Ongoing Projects (Pre-2025 Construction Start)

- **Beaver Mines Water Distribution, Collection System**
  - Record drawings & GIS data received. Awaiting remaining closeout docs (Op. & Maint. manuals) from MPE & Record drawing revision
  - Construction complete. Awaiting rainstopper installation in a few manholes (warranty)

- **Beaver Mines Waste Facility/System**
  - Final turnover package received, GIS information received Jan 20th

- **Beaver Mines Forcemain & Lift Station**
  - Awaiting minor changes to Record drawings

Spend as of Feb 5th, 2025: $14,246,400 ~~Jan 21st, 2025: $14,140,215~~ / $14,360,646 (99%)



- **Oldman Reservoir Water Intake Low Level Project**
  - $1.68M grant application finalized Jan 30th, 2024
    - Approval received for $1.8M project, covering up to 75% of costs
  - DFPP (Drought and Flood Protection Program) grant application submitted June 6th
    - Approval received Aug. 6th to assist with topping up Capital Project and cover 70% of costs for a Drought Projects Assessment
  - Existing pump startup went well. One of two (2) new VFD installs went well, appears to be a manufacturer issue with the other
    - Manufacturer (Spartan Controls) tech site visit occurred Jan 16th
    - Troubleshooting Jan 15th with MPE resulted in partial fix or some ongoing pump control issues and identification of some required mechanical repairs on valves/instrumentation
    - Additional site visit with manufacturer complete Feb 5th, awaiting results

- **Bridge File 2488 – Fisher Bridge, NW-26-07-02-W5M**
  - Scour identified under existing abutment. Costed plan included for 2025 budget
  - DFO, Historical Resources, Public Lands Disposition submitted
    - DFO response received Sep 3rd with additional questions on work. Additional response received Nov. 29th indicating DFO is experiencing delays and directing MD to begin work on SARA permit
      - SARA permit submitted Dec. 19th. SARA permit formally requested Jan 9th, previous submission reiterated
    - Public Lands Disposition received Oct 3rd

- **Watercourse Crossing Inspection & Remediation Project – 100% Grant funded**
  - Anticipating regulatory Directives making dealing with SAR crossings mandatory

- Funding agreement signed Mar. 28th, 2023 for $1.55M to cover more assessment and engineering along with replacement of 2 crossings, to be complete by March 2025
    - Extension requested to March 31st, 2027, anticipate response in March
- 3rd grant application for additional top up funding submitted Dec. 5th for $900,500. Email response received that AB Government is planning to pull remaining unallocated funds back from WCR program as opposed to issuing additional grants
    - Requested discussion with funder regarding alternate uses for remaining $600,000 in funds already awarded under the program
    - BF 7080 Dungarvan Creek replacement is no longer recommended due to excess internal funds required for completion

- **WCR #2: S. Todd Creek Trib. under Chapel Rock Road, SE-23-009-03 W5M**
    - 100% grant funded
    - Work complete
    - Reassessment of road leveling required in Spring once thawed
    - Issues ongoing with Telus' temporary line installation on road shoulder. Telus' responsibility to resolve. Making efforts on our end to encourage resolution

Large Projects Planned for 2025 Implementation

Water Operations Remote Monitoring System Migration – *2025*

SCADA System Migration to VTScada. Includes replacement of main desktop at WTP, full migration programming and HMIs (Human Machine Interfaces), and licensing software

- Awarded Jan 22nd. Desktop computer arrived. Internally updating and sending to MPE
- Kickoff meeting complete Feb 5th, anticipate on-site commissioning in June

Meyers Corner Road Culvert Replacement

Replace failed 900mm culvert via boring method

- Sizing and aquatic assessment complete by Roseke in 2024. Design complete for a bored 1.37m x 35m Smooth Walled Welded Pipe
    - Geotechnical work complete, confirmed mostly clay (suitable for drilling)
    - Survey and conceptual design drawing complete
    - Contractor has confirmed unit pricing still stands. However, design length is 10m longer than original quote, increasing boring cost about $35,000
- Proceeding with ROW acquisition. Working with engineering firm and legal on revised general plan for land acquisitions and Public Lands dispositions going forward

Community Events Board, Admin Building

Single sided electric community events board on Admin building to advertise current events and upcoming meetings.

- Project contingent on receiving required permits
- Obtaining comparison quotes and models for Council review

- **Bridge File 70175 – Yarrow Creek Bridge Rehabilitation, NW-22-003-030 W4M**

  Perform a pile splice repair on two piles in the west abutment, replace the east pile cap, place fill and riprap at the west headslope, minor wheel guard repairs & repairs to timber span, channel realignment, and west abutment riprap work

  - Preliminary Engineering & Design complete
  - Sensitive stream habitat, SARA permit required. Construction window of August
    - DFO SARA permit approval received Jan 15th
  - Water Survey of Canada notified regarding measurement which needs to be moved
  - Land signoff taking longer than anticipated due to environmental easement questions. Information provided regarding environmental easement
    - SALTS approval received Oct 3rd
  - Working to closeout land acquisition. Refer to Meyers Creek for details

- **WCR #1: Iron Creek under Tapay (Carbondale) Road, LSD SE-15-006-03 W5M**
  Install new 4.7m x 2m x 15m L corrugated steel box culvert to remediate fish passage concerns on Iron Creek under the WCR program (100% funded)

  - Tender for install awarded to TA Excavating alongside South Todd Creek Tributary
  - Completion: September 30th, 2025
  - Permit submissions have begun. DFO has indicated review period for Species At Risk Act (SARA) permit will be 90 days despite delays in processing to date
    - DFO SARA approval received July 16th, 2024
    - Revised application required due to work not occurring in 2024 per DFO request Jan. 2, 2025. Submitted Jan. 6th
  - Land signoff complete

- **Bridge File 70417 – TWN RD 70 over Castle River Trib., SE-05-007-01 W5M**

  6.1m clear span bridge with extensive rot and voids in piles and pile caps. Replace with two (2) 2m x 27m L CSPs

  - Prelim. engineering complete Oct. 8th
  - Design and tender to include staged construction cost (optional), extended detour may be feasible
  - Design work kicked off Oct. 31st, 2025. STIP application submitted Nov. 26th
  - Design in final review with Roseke

- **Bridge File 00470 – Toney Rd over Pincher Creek Trib., SE-02-006-01 W5M**

  1.6m x 43m L culvert with significant perforations and minor deflections. Install Steel Wall Pipe Liner (SWPL)

  - Prelim. eng. complete Oct. 7th. Recommendation is installation of a steel wall pipe liner. Level 2 barrel inspection confirmed 1.4m liner is feasible
  - Design work kicked off November 5th, 2024. STIP application submitted Nov. 26th
  - Design nearing final review stage with Roseke

- **Bridge File 75481 – TWN RD 93B over Olin Creek Trib., SW-23-009-01 W5M**

  1.5m x 24m L culvert with high deflection and corrosion. Replace with two (2) 1.2m x 36m L CSPs

  - Preliminary engineering complete Oct. 11th. STIP application submitted Nov. 26th
  - Design 60% complete

- **Therriault Dam – Rehabilitation Work**

  Geotechnical and Hydrogeology study complete in 2023. 2024 preliminary engineering determined most economically viable solution to address undersized spillway/overtop potential. 2025 work includes detailed design work, regulatory submissions, and (pending regulatory approval and grant funding), tender/construction

  - RFP released on ACP Nov. 14th. Due back Dec. 6th for detailed design, regulatory work, tendering, and construction administration
    - 2 compliant proposals received. High evaluation: MPE Engineering (80% weighted)
  - Design kicked off Jan 8th. Anticipated schedule:
    - Begin regulatory submissions mid March, 2025
    - Design completion mid April – June 2025
    - Timing of further works dependant on grant release timing (anticipated Spring/Summer 2025) as well as regulatory approval timing
  - Design work underway

Large Projects Planned for 2026 Implementation

- **Southfork Hill Road**

  Emergent investigatory and repair work for the Southfork Hill slide issues

  - Geotechnical scope awarded and complete. Final geotech. report received Dec 9th
  - STIP application submitted Nov. 28th, 2024 with letters of support from Campground and nearby farming operation. Revision submitted Dec. 19th with additional letter of support from MLA and final geotech. report
    - Awaiting funding decision
  - Propose assessing need to begin work on detailed design, tender, and regulatory approvals after assessing Spring 2025 runoff effect on road conditions. Any work done prior to a grant decision would not be eligible for external funding

- **WCR #3: Dungarvan Creek under Oil Basin Road, LSD SW-17-003-29 W4M**

  Replace existing 4m x 4.5m x 37m L culvert with a 3 span girder bridge with steel substructure to remediate fish passage concerns on Iron Creek under the WCR program (anticipate 90% funded)

  - Prelimin. Eng. and a QAES report were complete in 2023/2024 on this culvert. It was identified as a priority for remediation under the WCR program

- A funding amendment was submitted Dec. 5th for additional funds to replace this culvert with a three span girder bridge
    - Feb 4th: WCR Program has indicated additional funding asks no longer being considered. BF 7080 was contingent on the success of this application. It is no longer recommended to move forward with the project at this time
- ~~Anticipated timeline:~~
    - ~~Await funding decision (Anticipate Spring 2025)~~
    - ~~Design/regulatory/land: 2025~~
    - ~~Construction: 2026~~

- **Pisony Road over Cow Creek Tributary Culvert, LSD NE-01-009-03 W5M**

  Non-bridge sized culvert failing on dead end road. 2024 funds to assess appropriate replacement sizing and design. Stream flows all year and culvert is likely undersized

  - Preliminary engineering and basic aquatic assessment kicked off Jan. 31st, 2025 with Roseke. Reduced prelim. engine. scope compared to Bridge Files
  - Anticipated construction 2026

- **Bridge File 71542 – Waldron Flats over Indian Creek, SE-07-010-01 W5M**

  2m x 2.2m x 32m L culvert with isolated perforations in the roof of 3 rings and 1 ring on the foot. Minor roof and sidewall deflection

  - Preliminary engineering and aquatic assessment kicked off Jan. 31st, 2025 with Roseke to determine appropriate replacement design or maintenance (liner). Currently, it is anticipated replacement will be required
  - Anticipate construction 2026

- **Bridge File 76203 – West End Maycroft over Ernst Creek, NW-26-010-03 W5M**

  2.5m x 1.8m x 20m L culvert with 3 cracked rings in sidewall with 85mm remaining. Deflection and corrosion also present

  - Preliminary engineering and aquatic assessment kicked off Jan. 31st, 2025 with Roseke to determine if maintenance of cracked seams is feasible via weld, shotcrete beam, etc. or if replacement has a better lifecycle value
  - Anticipate construction 2026

Studies and Planning Work

Lundbreck Lagoon Resiliency Analysis & Regionalization – *Engineering 2023/24*

Review Lagoons ability to take on more flow (both regular and high strength). Review Cowley Lagoons ability to do the same, and options for regionalization

- Notice of successful grant received Mar. 21st, 2023

- Lundbreck, Cowley, and regional report drafts received and reviewed. Once actual flow data is measured in 2024 the three (3) studies can be finalized
    - Draft final reports received Dec. 18th. Feedback given, awaiting final response

Regional Drought Strategic Implementation Strategy & Raw Water Storage Project

- Grant application for 3 month (25-year) forecasted volumes
    - Approval received for $3.4M project, up to 75% of costs. Signed and sent to ATEC
- Grant application for a Drought Projects Assessment
    - Approval received to cover up to 70% of costs. Grant contract reviewed and signed
- Scope of work drafted for Drought Projects Assessment. Pending Councils approval on procurement direction

Transportation Master Plan

$200,000 grant received from ACP to complete a Transportation Master Plan, consisting of a paved, gravel road condition assessment, culvert (non Bridge File) condition assessment, gravel pit analysis, airport runway assessment

- Gravel pit surveying complete, data was received and reviewed late December
    - Report drafting underway, anticipate completion by mid February
- Maycroft Road drone survey partially complete for 8km of roadway. Completing initial assessment for portion of road completed
- Gravel road assessment methodology reviewed with MPE for Spring 2025 start
- Airport load assessment work complete, data imports causing delays with processing
- Reviewed and provided feedback on culvert assessment methodology with MPE for Spring 2025 start
- Sapeta pit plan draft cost estimates received. Feedback provided, awaiting final estimate

Cridland Dam

Geotechnical work as recommended in 2021 Dam Safety Review due to observed seepage and unknown soil properties

- To be kicked off in 2025

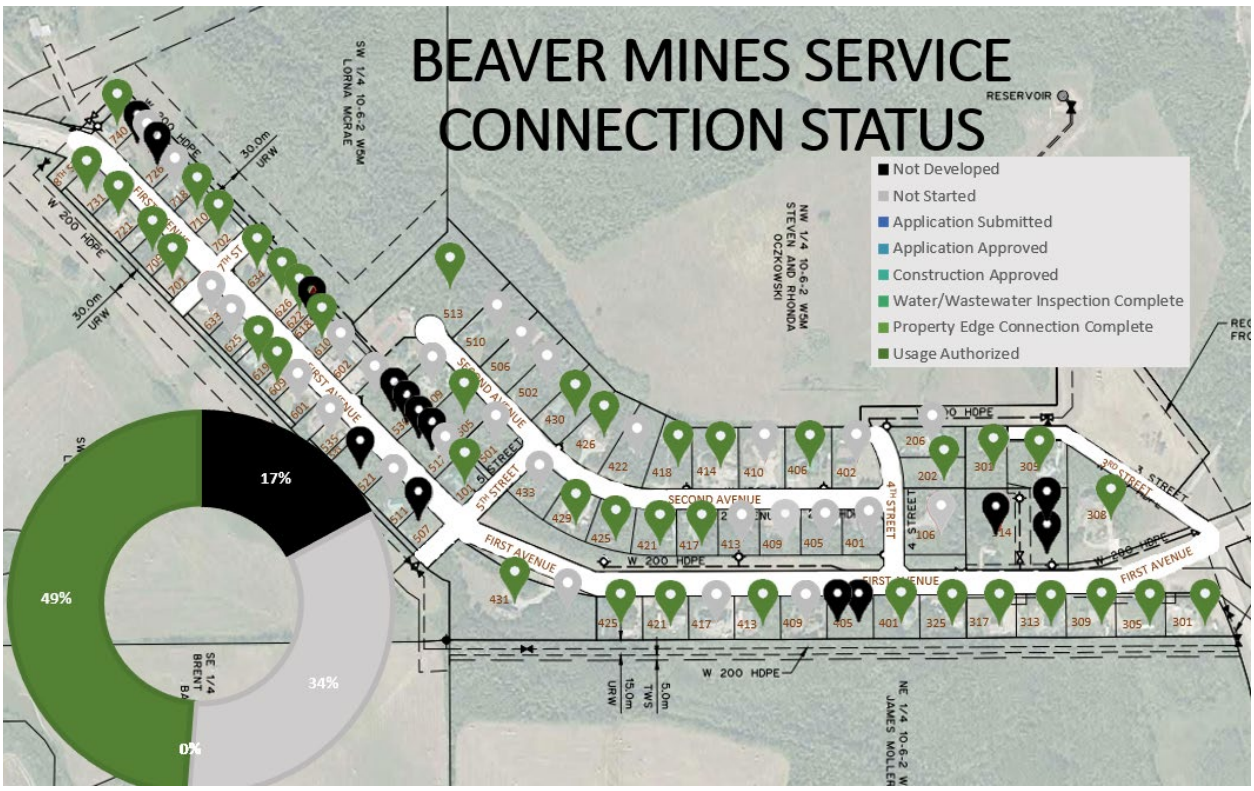
Miscellaneous

- 10 yr. bridge study interim update kicked off Jan. 27th, 2025 with Roseke

Operations Updates

Beaver Mines Lot Servicing

- 40/68 developed applications received, 40 approved, 40 connected (59 %)
    - Fifteen (15) undeveloped fully serviced locations
- Hydrant flow testing in BM was completed by PCES and passed for fire flow. PCES is updating the Fire Underwriters Survey



Standpipes

- Last known issue: Jan 10th, 2025 (global software cellular outage)

General Water Operations Updates February 5th, 2025:

- WTP furnace failure issues Feb 4th/5th. Resolved
- Troubleshooting and completing cleaning and maintenance work on piping at raw water station to mitigate ongoing control issues
- Replaced failed coagulant pump (motor failure) with spare, pricing substitute
- Annual operation reports complete for Lundbreck, Beaver Mines, and Regional Plant. Drafting underway for others
- Crane inspections awarded to contractor with restricted space experience, anticipated completion prior to Council
- Significant operations related work planned for 2025:
    - Plant health check for main treatment trains, plant header work, obsolete instrumentation replacement, WWTP protection system for cows/vehicles, sewer flushing in select BM areas, Utility Services Guidelines Update for Lundbreck and Rural Users, Reservoir inspections/cleaning (Lundbreck, Cowley), Lundbreck Lagoon sludge survey, WTP flocculation tank valves + strainers upgrade
- One (1) Lundbreck Lagoon aerator pump not working. Will require repairs
- In discussions with Cowley regarding coverage for their water distribution system
    - Cowley contracting day to day directly with 3rd party
    - Revised contract sent to Cowley Jan 28th, awaiting response
- WTP license expiring April, 2024
    - WPO drafting new operations, emergency response plan (ERP), and drinking water safety plan
- Private water line inspection complete South of Lundbreck. Initiating transfer of ownership for UROWS to MD

General Energy Related Updates February 5th, 2025:

- QUEST net zero accelerator
  - Economic opportunity analysis draft reviewed and comments sent for review
  - Project team has expressed potential need for extension. Budget is on track
  - Second energy planning meeting to be schedule for Spring 2025
- Clean Energy Improvement Program
  - Program being managed under contract going forward with Massif Energy
  - 14 ~~11~~ pre-qualifications received (4 MD, 10 Town). Four (4) applications fully submitted, one (1) underway
  - Loan portfolio annual review submitted to FCM
  - CEIP open house being scheduled for new year for contractors and residents

Recommendation:
That the Utilities & Infrastructure report for January 23rd – February 5th is received as information.

Prepared by: David Desabrais Date: February 5th, 2025

Council Meeting Date: February 11th, 2025

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

January 27, 2025 to February 7, 2025

Discussion:

Jan 27	Senior Management Team Mtg.
Jan 28	Council Committee and Council Mtgs.
Jan 30	Joint Health and Safety Committee Meeting
Feb 3	Pre-Audit Meeting (Safety Audit Training)
Feb 4	Planning Session
Feb 4	Subdivision Authority Meeting
Feb 4	Municipal Planning Commission Meeting
Feb 5	Public Works Safety Meeting
Feb 5	Interview for Safety Audit Training
Feb 5	Public Lands Act & ROW and/or Road Acquisition Discussion
Feb 6	JHSC – Public Works Shop and Office Inspection

Upcoming

Feb 10	Senior Management Team Meeting
Feb 10	MD Pincher Creek - Dispatch / Monitoring / Mapping Discussion (for CPO)
Feb 11	Council Committee and Council Meeting
Feb 12	Visit from M.D. Ranchland
Feb 13	Brownlee's Emerging Trends Virtual Presentation

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receive for information, the Chief Administrative Officer's report for the period January 27, 2025, to February 7, 2025.

Prepared by: CAO, Roland Milligan Date: February 6, 2025

Respectfully presented to: Council Date: February 11, 2025

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT ACTIVITY
January 24, 2025 to February 6, 2025

Correspondence from the Last Council:

- Letter of Support – Castle Mountain Resort Grant Application
- Letter of Support - Fishburn Marr United Church Cemetery Project
- Letter of Support - Livingstone School Outdoor Court/Playground project
- Letter of Support - Pinch-O-Crow Creekers CIP Grant Application
- Sports Court Flooring Donation
- Pincher Creek Community Volleyball Donation

Advertising/Social:

- Reminder – Coffee with Council – Twin Butte February 18, 2025
- Pincher Creek Emergency Services – Tender Documents Available
- Oldman Watershed Council – Community Meeting
- Utility Rate Open House – Lundbreck Hall - February 20, 2025
- RCMP Public Consultation
- Public Hearing 1354-25 Road Closure – February 25, 2025
- Updated Policies A-ADMIN-003 Organizational Chart and C-PW-003 Winter Maintenance of Municipally Directed, Controlled and Managed Roads and Airport Surfaces

Other Activities:

- Collaborated with Shootin the Breeze for the new advertising section
- Scheduled Utility Open House
- Joint Council Funding Sub Committee Meeting
- Draw basket for Curling Bonspiel

Invites to Council:

- Rural Crime Watch – has not responded
- Community Foundation - TBD

Upcoming Dates of Importance:

- Regular Committee, Council – February 11, 2025
- MD Ranchland Visit – February 12, 2025
- Emerging Trends – February 13, 2025
- Valentine's Day – February 14, 2025
- Family Day Holiday – February 17, 2025
- Coffee with Council – Twin Butte – February 18, 2025
- Utility Rate Open House – Lundbreck – February 20, 2025
- Regular Committee, Council – February 25, 2025

cupw • sttp

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www.cupw-sttp.org

CUPW respectfully acknowledges this office is located on the traditional unceded territory of the Anishinaabeg People.

Le STTP reconnaît, en tout respect, que son bureau est situé sur le territoire traditionnel et non cédé des peuples anishinaabés.

BY EMAIL AND MAIL

January 16, 2025

Rick Lemire, Reeve
Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9
PO Box 279
Pincher Creek, AB T0K 1W0

Dear Rick Lemire:

RE: Industrial Inquiry Commission Reviewing Canada Post

As you may know, the Canada Industrial Relations Board, as instructed by the Minister of Labour, Steven MacKinnon, ordered the resumption of mail service at Canada Post on December 17, 2024, under Section 107 of the *Canada Labour Code*. What many do not know is that under Section 108, he also created an Industrial Inquiry Commission led by William Kaplan that will work with CUPW and Canada Post to examine the future of the public post office with a very broad scope.

The Commission has been tasked with reviewing the obstacles to negotiated collective agreements, as well as making recommendations about the future structure of Canada Post. The Commission has until May 15, 2025, to submit its final report to the government.

While time is extremely short, the good news is that there is an opportunity for you to make a submission as part of the Commission's public review. CUPW would like to ensure that the views of municipalities are considered. Therefore, if at all possible, we would like you to provide input to the Commission.

During the last public review on the mandate of Canada Post in 2016, the active engagement of municipalities was critical in the decision to maintain door-to-door delivery and immediately stop the further rollout of community mailboxes. However, there is nothing to stop the Commission from making recommendations to bring that back or to suggest other cutbacks.

We have enclosed a sample resolution that your municipality can adopt about making a submission to the Commission, expanding services at the public post office, and the need for more robust public stakeholder consultation. We have also included a document with some suggested themes to consider for your written submission. If you can, please let us know if you plan to participate, pass a resolution, and can send us copies of the materials you submit.

Upcoming Federal Election

We also find ourselves in a period of federal political uncertainty, with the possibility of a federal election only months away. This will raise public discussion and debates on many issues affecting the public and all municipalities.

In all likelihood, it will be the next federal government that will determine what will be done with the Commission's report.

In the run-up to the federal election, we urge you to question the political parties on their intentions for Canada Post, and insist they make clear their public commitments regarding the following issues:

- Preserving our universal and public postal service;
- Maintaining the moratorium on post office closures;
- Maintaining door-to-door mail delivery; and,
- Establishing postal banking to offset the loss of financial services in many communities.

Thank you very much for considering our request. There's a lot at stake and we appreciate anything you can do to help. CUPW is confident that we can build on our past success and convince the Commission to recommend against service cuts, to maintain good jobs in our communities, expand services that generate additional revenues to keep Canada Post self-sustaining and allow us to build a universal, affordable and green public postal system for future generations.

For more information, please visit deliveringcommunitypower.ca or contact Brigitte Klassen at bklassen@cupw-sttp.org.

Sincerely,

Jan Simpson
National President

Encl.

c.c. National Executive Committee, Regional Executive Committees, Regional and National Union Representatives, CUPW Locals, Specialists

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Canada Post is Under Review through Section 108 of the *Canada Labour Code*

As you may know, the Minister of Labour, Steven MacKinnon, ordered the resumption of mail service at Canada Post just before the holiday break, ordering CUPW members to return to work under Section 107 of the *Canada Labour Code*. What many do not know is that under Section 108, he also created an Industrial Inquiry Commission lead by William Kaplan that will work with CUPW and Canada Post to examine the future of the public post office with a very broad scope.

It will review Canada Post's financial situation, the possible diversification or alteration of delivery models, Canada Post's viability as it is currently configured, as well as bargaining issues, including full-time employment, health and safety and job security and produce a report not later than May 15, 2025. Accordingly, Kaplan's "recommendations may include amendments to the collective agreement, and any other changes to be implemented, including the structures, rights and responsibilities of the parties in the collective bargaining process."

The Commission is Seeking Input

We have an incredibly short timeline to follow. Hearings will begin January 27 with statements from both CUPW and Canada Post. The good news is that there is an opportunity for third parties to send in a written submission to the Commission as part of its public review. CUPW and Canada Post must have their bilingual submissions in to the commission by end of day Monday, January 20. We do not have a date or mechanism yet for third-party submissions, but it could be very soon. CUPW would like to ensure that the views of community groups, municipalities, allied organizations and labour are also considered. Therefore, if at all possible, we would like you to provide input to the Commission.

Please let us know if you will be making a submission. Please contact Brigitte Klassen at bklassen@cupw-sttp.org, so we can provide you with more details on how to send it to the Commission as soon as we have more information.

As time is of the essence and to help get you started on your submission, here are some suggested themes to consider that are important supplements to CUPW's bargaining demands.

- Keep Canada Post a Public Service
- Maintain universal service at a uniform price
- Expanded services to diversify and generate new revenue streams, no service cuts
    - add financial services
    - maintain the moratorium on post office closures to enable community hubs (meeting spaces, sales of local crafts, community gardens, government services for all levels of government)
    - maintain door-to-door delivery and increase where financially viable
- Major changes to Canada Post should not be made without full public consultation conducted through a mandate review involving all stakeholders

Keep Canada Post a Public Service

The Commission will examine the financial situation at Canada Post. Currently, the Crown Corporation is required only to be self-sufficient. It is completely user-funded and does not rely on taxpayer dollars. Canada Post still tends to prioritize major, high-profit customers over the public and providing a public service. Canada Post must not lose sight of its public interest objectives.

Major changes to Canada Post and the *Canadian Postal Service Charter* should not be made without full public consultation and hearings conducted through a mandate review involving all stakeholders. There is simply not enough time to do this under the Labour Minister's *Canada Labour Code* Section 108 order.

Maintain universal service at a uniform price

There have also been calls in the media and by various think tanks to privatize or deregulate Canada Post with little regard for the impact on public service or working conditions. Though transaction mail has been in decline, there are still over 2 billion letters delivered every year to an increasing number of addresses. Canada Post has an exclusive privilege (a monopoly) to handle letters so that it is able to generate enough money to provide affordable postal service to everyone, no matter where they live, be it a large urban centre or a rural or isolated community. There is no comparison in the world of a deregulated or privatized post office that serves anything near Canada's vast size and geography.

It will become increasingly difficult for our public post office to provide universal postal service if the exclusive privilege is eroded or eliminated. The exclusive privilege funds its universality. If parts of the service are deregulated or privatized, competitors will leave it to Canada Post alone to provide increasingly expensive delivery service to rural and remote communities, while they compete in profitable urban areas.

Providing Canada Post with an exclusive privilege to handle addressed letters is a form of regulation. Reducing or eliminating this privilege is deregulation. We have this regulation for a reason.

Expanded services to diversify and generate new revenue streams, no service cuts

For years, CUPW has been advocating for new and expanded services to help diversify and create new revenue streams as a direct means to handling decline in letter volumes. Many of these services, such as postal banking, already exist in many other post offices around the world and they generate significant revenue. Around the world, more than 1.2 billion people hold postal bank accounts.

Providing new services through the existing corporate retail network ensures that good jobs remain for workers and their families in the communities in which they live.

Financial Services

Given Canada Post's vast retail network, postal banking would offer in-community service for those who are underbanked or who have had their financial institutions close and leave town. Today, there are many rural communities with post offices, but no banks or credit unions. Very few Indigenous communities are served by local bank branches. Hundreds of thousands of low-income Canadians don't have bank

accounts at all, and almost 2 million Canadians rely on predatory payday lenders for basic financial services.

Postal banking is relatively straightforward. Like commercial banks, post offices would provide everyday financial services like chequing and savings accounts, loans and insurance. Postal banking could also be used to deliver government loans, grants and subsidies to boost renewable energy projects and energy-saving retrofits.

In many countries, postal banking is also mandated to provide financial access for all citizens and to play a role in addressing social inequalities. Postal banking could provide reliable financial services that everyone needs at affordable rates.

Community Hubs and Moratorium on Post Office Closures

We have also advocated community hubs (provide government services for all levels of government, meeting space, sales of local crafts, community gardens) and EV charging stations.

One of Canada Post's demands during Negotiations was to have the *flexibility* to close more than 130 of the 493 corporate Retail Post Offices that are protected under the current CUPW-Canada Post Urban Postal Operations collective agreement. These are post offices that are run by Canada Post and are not franchises located inside another host business.

While about three-quarters of these are also covered by an additional 1994 moratorium on closures, for those that are not, they could end up being privatized or disappear altogether if we lose this contract language. Residents may then have to travel further for their postal needs. No franchise host business is going to give up retail space for community hubs, nor parking space for charging stations that generate revenue for Canada Post. Longstanding, good-paying, full-time jobs in our communities could be replaced with low-wage, part-time work.

You can find a list of the post offices under the moratorium and how they are protected here: https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/examendepostescanada-canadapostreview/rapport-report/bureaux-outlets-eng.html

Senior Check-Ins

We have proposed creating a senior check-in service as well. Senior check-ins could bring peace of mind to loved ones and relatives who don't live nearby. Japan, France and Jersey in the British Isles currently offer effective and successful senior check-in services through their national postal services. Door-to-door postal workers are already watchful for signs that something isn't quite right. They could be allotted extra time on their routes to simply check in on seniors or people with mobility issues who sign up for the service to make sure everything is okay and deliver peace of mind.

Find out more about our service expansion proposals at https://www.deliveringcommunitypower.ca

Canada Post and the Industrial Inquiry Commission

Whereas the Canada Industrial Relations Board, as instructed by the Federal Minister of Labour, Steven MacKinnon, ordered the end to the postal strike and the resumption of mail service at Canada Post on December 17, 2024, under Section 107 of the *Canada Labour Code.*

Whereas the Federal Minister of Labour, Steven MacKinnon, created an *Industrial Inquiry Commission* under Section 108 of *Canada Labour Code*, led by William Kaplan, that will work with the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) and Canada Post to examine the future of the public post office, including possible changes to the *Canadian Postal Service Charter.*

Whereas Canada Post is, first and foremost, a public service.

Whereas the *Commission* has been tasked with reviewing the obstacles to negotiated collective agreements between CUPW and Canada Post, the financial situation of Canada Post, Canada Post's expressed need to diversify and/or alter its delivery models in the face of current business demands, the viability of the business as it is currently configured, CUPW's negotiated commitments to job security, full-time employment, and the need to protect the health and safety of workers.

Whereas the *Commission* only has until May 15, 2025, to submit its final report to the government and make recommendations about the future structure of Canada Post.

Whereas while there is room for written input, the *Commission* process is not widely publicized, nor equivalent to a full and thorough public service review of Canada Post's mandate allowing for all stakeholder input, as has been undertaken by previous governments.

Whereas it will be crucial for the *Commission* to hear our views on key issues, including maintaining Canada Post as a public service, the importance of maintaining the moratorium on post office closures, improving the *Canadian Postal Service Charter*, home mail delivery, parcel delivery, keeping daily delivery, adding postal banking, greening Canada Post, EV charging stations, food delivery, improving delivery to rural, remote and Indigenous communities, and developing services to assist people with disabilities and help older Canadians to remain in their homes for as long as possible – and at the same time, helping to ensure Canada Post's financial self-sustainability.

Therefore, be it resolved that (name of municipality) provide input to the *Commission* in the form of a written submission.

Therefore, be it resolved that (name of municipality) will write the Federal Minister of Labour, Steven MacKinnon, and the Federal Minister of Public Services and Procurement of Canada, Jean-Yves Duclos, who is responsible for Canada Post, to demand that no changes be made to the *Canada Post Corporation Act*, Canada Post's mandate or the *Canadian Postal Service Charter* without a full, thorough, public review of Canada Post, including public hearings, with all key stakeholders, in every region of Canada.

PLEASE SEE THE MAILING INFORMATION FOR RESOLUTIONS ON REVERSE SIDE

MAILING INFORMATION

1) Please send your resolution to the Commission:

   - We do not have a mailing address at this time. As we understand it, this is the email address that will collect the documents on behalf of the Commission: edsc.cdi-iic.esdc@labour-travail.gc.ca

2) Please send your resolution to the Minsters responsible for Labour and Canada Post, and your Member of Parliament:

   - Steven MacKinnon, Federal Minister of Labour, House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6
   - Jean-Yves Duclos, Federal Minister of Public Services and Procurement of Canada, House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6
   - Your Member of Parliament

   Note: Mail may be sent postage-free to any member of Parliament. You can get your MP's name, phone number and address by going to the Parliament of Canada website at https://www.ourcommons.ca/Members/en

3) Please send copies of your resolution to:

   - Jan Simpson, President, Canadian Union of Postal Workers, 377 Bank Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K2P 1Y3
   - Rebecca Bligh, President, Federation of Canadian Municipalities, 24 Clarence St, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 5P3

/cope 225

ALTALINK
A BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY ENERGY COMPANY
2611 3rd AVE SE, CALGARY, ALBERTA, T2A 7W7
WWW.ALTALINK.CA

January 14, 2025

Sunrise Solar Connection
Project cancellation notification

Thank you for your participation in the Sunrise Solar Project Connection. In September 2024, AltaLink began consulting with stakeholders on the proposed project.

This letter is to inform you that on October 30, 2024, Sunrise Solar Project Limited Partnership (Sunrise Solar) informed the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) that they no longer require a connection to the electrical grid for their project. As a result, AltaLink's related project is no longer required.

Information from the AESO about the cancellation is included with this letter. If you have questions about the cancelled project, please contact the AESO at 1-888-866-2959 or stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca.

Project background

Sunrise Solar had previously planned to construct a new substation called Colony in the Municipal District of Pincher Creek, approximately five kilometres north of the Town of Pincher Creek.

AltaLink was proposing to connect the substation to the transmission grid by constructing approximately 180 metres of new 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line (to be named 412AL) and making associated modifications to existing transmission assets.

Contact us

We are available to address any questions or concerns you may have. Please contact us at stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca or 1-877-267-1453. You can also view more information about the project at http://www.altalink.ca/projects.

Sincerely,

Kris Gladue
Manager, Stakeholder Engagement

Cancellation of the Sunrise Solar Project Connection

The Sunrise Solar Project LP (Sunrise) request for transmission system access to connect its proposed Sunrise Solar Project (Facility) in the Pincher Creek area has been cancelled.

BACKGROUND

In September 2024, AltaLink began distributing an information package that included the AESO's Need Overview, *Sunrise Solar Project Connection*. The AESO Need Overview included the following transmission developments:

- Add one 138 kV transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing 138 kV transmission line 412L using a T-tap configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

NEXT STEPS

The above developments are no longer needed and the AESO will not submit an application to the Alberta Utilities Commission or consider this project under section 501.3 of the ISO rules, *Abbreviated Needs Approval Process*.

Information related to the Sunrise Solar Project Connection is available on the AESO's website at **https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/**

WHO IS THE AESO?

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) plans and operates Alberta's electricity grid and wholesale electricity market safely, reliably and in the public interest of all Albertans. We are a not-for-profit organization with no financial interest or investment of any kind in the power industry.

We appreciate your views, both on the need for transmission system development and proposed transmission plans. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us directly.

CONTACT US

Alberta Electric System Operator

AESO Stakeholder Relations
stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca
1-888-866-2959

3000, 240-4th Avenue SW
Calgary, AB T2P 4H4
Phone: 403-539-2450

www.aeso.ca | **@theaeso**

Pincher Creek & District · Community Food Centre

Chantal Halliquist

Darna Brown

Rose Murkin

Diane Bowen-Oghomoshi

Box 3158, Pincher Creek, Alberta T0K 1W0 (403) 632-6716
www.pinchercreekcommunityfoodcentre.ca

On behalf of the Board and Staff of the Pincher Creek and District Community Food Centre, thank you!

Sincerely,
Anne Gunn

January 31, 2025

To the M.D. of Pincher Creek,

Thank you so much for your $1200 donation to the Food Bank! We appreciate the M.D.'s continued support as we build our services for our neighbours in need.

Outlook

FW: Watercourse Crossing Remediation Grant Program

From David Desabrais <AdminInfra@mdpinchercreek.ab.ca>
Date Tue 2025-02-04 1:28 PM
To Roland Milligan <AdminCAO@mdpinchercreek.ab.ca>; Jessica McClelland <AdminExecAsst@mdpinchercreek.ab.ca>

This should perhaps get in front of Council For Information as well.

Regards,
David Desabrais, P. Eng.
Cell: 403 632 5184

From: Michael Wagner <michael.wagner@gov.ab.ca>
Sent: February 4, 2025 11:57 AM
To: David Desabrais <AdminInfra@mdpinchercreek.ab.ca>
Cc: Ben Mercer <Benjamin.Mercer@gov.ab.ca>; Wendy C Harrison (FPT) <Wendy.C.Harrison@gov.ab.ca>
Subject: Watercourse Crossing Remediation Grant Program

Hello David,

The Watercourse Crossing Program has received news that remaining funds for continuing work with municipalities under our grant program will not be extended. This impacts all current grant applications under our program as no funds will be made available at this time. I will reach out soon to have a discussion on what this means for projects that are currently underway as well as for those with planning currently underway. This does not impact any approved grants that are currently active or requests for extension of existing grant terms.

Although this is a significant impact to the program and our collaborative efforts, we will continue to work with municipalities on the prioritization and remediation of watercourse crossing in whatever way we can and continue to advocate for funding to support this important work as opportunities arise.

Michael Wagner
Provincial Watercourse Crossing Coordinator
Watercourse Crossing Program
Alberta Forestry and Parks
8660 Bearspaw Dam Road NW
Calgary, AB T3L 1S4
Phone: 403-297-6290
Cell: 403-554-2506
michael.wagner@gov.ab.ca

https://www.alberta.ca/watercourse-crossing-program

QUEST | Net-Zero Communities Accelerator Program

Energy Mapping and Action Planning Final Report

November 2024

Submitted to:

Municipal District of Pincher Creek | Town of Pincher Creek, Alberta

AUTHORS

Lead Authors

Ronak Patel, Program Manager - Sustainability Services, Alberta Municipalities

Andrea Miller, Program Lead - Sustainability Services, Alberta Municipalities

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The **Pincher Creek** region acknowledges the traditional territories of the **Niitsitapi** (Blackfoot) and the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the **Siksika**, the **Piikani**, the **Kainai**, the **Tsuut'ina**, and the **Stoney Nakoda** First Nations, including **Chiniki**, **Bearspaw**, and **Wesley** First Nations. Southern Alberta is also home to the **Métis** Nation of Alberta Region 3.

FUNDERS

SUNCOR ENERGY | SUNCOR ENERGY FOUNDATION
Alberta
cenovus ENERGY
Prairies Economic Development Canada
Développement économique Canada pour les Prairies

DELIVERY PARTNERS

Municipal Climate Change Action Centre

The Municipal Climate Change Action Centre was founded in 2009 as a collaborative initiative of Alberta Municipalities, Rural Municipalities of Alberta and the Government of Alberta. The Municipal Climate Change Action Centre provides funding, technical assistance, and education to municipalities and community-related organizations, helping them lower energy costs, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and improve climate resilience. Visit them at www.mccac.ca

Municipal Climate Change Action Centre | Alberta Municipalities Strength In Members

A Partnership Of: RMA Rural Municipalities of Alberta | Alberta

QUEST Canada

QUEST Canada is a registered Canadian charity that supports communities in Canada on their pathway to net zero. Since 2007, we've been facilitating connections, empowering community champions and advising decision-makers to implement energy use and emissions reduction solutions that best meet community needs and maximize local opportunities. We develop tools and resources, convene stakeholders and rights holders, and advise decision-makers — all with the goal of encouraging, assisting and enabling communities to contribute to Canada's net-zero goals. Visit them at www.questcanada.org

QUEST

This report was carried out with support from QUEST Canada and the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre, thanks to funding assistance from Suncor Energy Foundation, the Province of Alberta, Cenovus Energy, and Prairies Economic Development Canada. Notwithstanding this support, the views expressed are personal views of the authors, and the report's supporters and funders accept no responsibility for them.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 What is this Report About?

On September 25, 2024, the Town of Pincher Creek and the Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9 participated in an energy mapping and action planning workshop facilitated by the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre (MCCAC), as part of the Prairies Cohort of QUEST Canada's Net-Zero Communities Accelerator Program.

The workshop was attended by 9 participants representing diverse stakeholder groups, including municipal staff, consultants, and local organizations.

A presentation was made by the MCCAC identifying energy projects and climate action planning taken in the Pincher Creek Region to date, as well as planned and potential future projects.

Participants then participated in two sections of the workshop consisting of:

- **Energy Mapping**

  An interactive exercise engaging diverse local participants to identify strengths and opportunities for the various systems the Pincher Creek region has in place - energy efficiency, clean/renewable energy, transportation, infrastructure, land use, water, and waste using an interactive map of their community. Participants identified actions to achieve their vision of a Smart Energy Community.

- **Action Planning**

  The workshop provided an overview of the key considerations in developing a Community Energy Action Strategy, including actions which were identified based on QUEST's common local action strategies handout.

This report summarizes the results of the exercise, including diverse stakeholder perspectives on the opportunities for energy efficiency, waste energy integration, renewable energy, land use and transportation, and more, to reduce energy costs and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the community.

1.2 Who Is it Intended For?

This report is intended to inform the municipal staff, councillors, stakeholders and the broader public about:

- Local strengths, achievements and impacts

- Opportunities to improve energy efficiency, integrate clean energy and improve transport as part of a Community Energy Action Strategy (CEAS)
- Potential opportunities for the region to pursue, continue, prioritize, and partner on

This report represents recommendations provided to Pincher Creek as key considerations in redeveloping a Community Energy Action Strategy. As a living document, the report content can be edited or changed as the community sees fit.

1.3 High Level Summary of Key Findings

Based on the results of the pre-survey and the workshop, the Pincher Creek region has the following strengths and opportunities to advance community energy and emissions reduction initiatives.

Table 1: Description of strengths, areas for improvement, and opportunities

Areas	Key Strengths	Key Areas for Improvement and Opportunities
Energy Efficiency	Residential Clean Energy Improvement Program (CEIP)	Opportunities for energy efficient or net zero development with the planned relocation of the Pincher Creek Emergency Services building Prioritizing upgrades to aging infrastructure Prioritizing residential upgrades in older neighbourhoods, especially homes that are currently reliant on diesel. Education for residents around residential energy efficiency can support this work
Waste and renewable heat	Waste to heat is being looked at (Biodigester) Waste to energy potential site has been selected and is under consideration	Potential corporate and commercial sites for generation waste heat and microheat opportunities
Renewable power	The Region is regarded as the wind energy capital of Canada, with a total of 9 wind energy projects currently producing 511 MW of energy	Distributed solar opportunities have been identified Maintaining current wind infrastructure and staying aware of new technologies

Land use	Established Land Use Plan provides direction Climate Risk Assessment & Adaptation Plan for the Pincher Creek Region is in place to support land use decisions that mitigate climate risks	Expand affordable and renter-friendly housing options Abandoned buildings and surrounding areas are an opportunity to upgrade, redevelop, and densify. Industrial brownfield sites (old wells, gravel pits) can also be repurposed Connect land use decisions with opportunities to expand tourism
Transportation	On demand, accessible, door-to-door transit (Pincher Creek Handi-Bus)	Transportation decisions can support inter-regional travel, and result in greater connectivity to commercial and tourism destinations, supporting the local economy Expanded bus and rail connections, including a bus to the Pincher Creek Airport
Energy networks	Captus Generation Natural Gas Power Plan (cogeneration facility with carbon capture hub)	Promotion of the Captus project and communicating the availability of waste heat can attract new business and investors to the region (i.e. greenhouses)
Other		Organics diversion Food waste capture Industrial carbon capture

Overall opportunities to consider across each of the five areas included:

- Engage with marketing and communications staff to conduct outreach and education in both residential and commercial contexts to promote existing projects, encourage program uptake, and enhance awareness of viable emissions reduction opportunities.
- Communicate climate action values to attract new businesses and support community economic development and tourism.

2.0 COMMUNITY PROFILE

The Town of Pincher Creek is located in southwest Alberta where the prairies meet the Canadian Rocky Mountains. Covering nearly 3500 km2 of land, the MD of Pincher Creek is a community that manages growth and supports western heritage while preserving the natural environment.

- Population: 3,875 (Town) and 3,348 (MD)
- Local job/local workforce:
    - Town: 53% employment rate with 57% participation rate
    - MD: 62% employment rate with 66% participation rate
- Major Employers in the area:
    - Alberta Health Services
    - Castle Mountain Resort
    - Fortis Alberta
    - Livingstone Range School Division
    - Municipal District of Pincher Creek
    - Pincher Creek Co-op
    - Pieridae Gas Plant
    - Town of Pincher Creek
    - TransAlta
    - Vestas Canadian Wind Technology
    - Walmart

In 2023, the Town of Pincher Creek's community emissions totaled 59,840 tCO2e while the MD's community emissions totaled 66,258 tCO2e. This does not include emissions from large industries. Additional details about the Pincher Creek region's emissions profile can be found in the GHG Inventory Report, created by the Community Energy Association through the Net-Zero Community Accelerator.

The Municipal District of Pincher Creek and Town of Pincher Creek have an Intermunicipal Development Plan, adopted by both municipalities in 2010 to deal with land use planning matters of mutual interest. The goals of this plan are:

- To facilitate orderly and efficient development in the designated Urban Fringe district while identifying each municipality's opportunities and concerns.
- To identify the land uses each municipality envisages for the IMDP plan boundary.
- When practical, to harmonize both municipalities' development and subdivision standards and requirements.
- To identify possible joint ventures, such as the provision of municipal services.
- To provide for a continuous and transparent planning process that facilitates ongoing consultation and cooperation among the two municipalities and affected ratepayers.
- To provide methods to implement and amend the various policies of the plan which are mutually agreed to by both municipalities.

The Town and MD's individual Municipal Development Plans also serves as a foundational document from which other actions and decisions are based, and establishes a vision for future growth and development in the region.

The Town and MD are also guided by strategic direction outlined in numerous existing plans, including and not limited to, the South Saskatchewan Regional Plan, Area Structure Plans, Downtown Pincher Creek Area Redevelopment Plan, Town of Pincher Creek Land Use Bylaw, Subdivision and Development Policies, and numerous Master Plans.

Specific to the Town, the Town of Pincher Creek Council's Strategic Priorities 2022-2026 outlines Council's strategic vision for the Town's future. Actions connected to Community Energy Planning include:

- Assisting residents in attaining a good quality of life by providing high quality parks, culture, services and opportunities that will result in significant improvement in the wellbeing of our residents, and ensuring that existing and future infrastructure is maintained and sustainable.
- Maintaining and improving the physical assets of the Town, including increased efficiency in asset management, planning and budgeting, with the desired outcome that all Town systems work well and have future capacity.

The Town of Pincher Creek Community Economic Development Strategy (2021-2026) also outlines pathways to achieve community goals that align with Community Energy Planning while also advancing community economic development, including downtown corridor revitalization, building up rather than out, addressing housing shortages, improving community assets, and increasing tourism products and services.

3.0 COMMUNITY ENERGY AND EMISSIONS MAP EXERCISE RESULTS

3.1 Map Exercise Results

Goal

This exercise was completed with a goal of providing participants with a hands-on energy mapping experience to enable them to share knowledge, discuss local opportunities and apply basic techniques for identifying opportunities in a spatial context, including planning local efficiency, clean energy, transportation, and land use actions.

The energy mapping exercise engaged multiple stakeholders, using a map to identify opportunities for their CEAS and initiatives. The exercise enabled participants to share these opportunities, and discuss various aspects and viewpoints.

The following results represent a snapshot of what was heard by staff and stakeholders who participated in the energy mapping workshop. These results may be considered and expanded upon at Pincher Creek's discretion, in the creation of their CEAS.

Summary of Energy Mapping Activity

1. Energy Efficiency

Using green stars and circles, the participants identified potential buildings and neighborhoods for energy efficiency improvements. **These are listed here:**

- Replace aging infrastructure and develop new buildings with energy efficiency top of mind:
    - MD Shop
    - Memorial Community Arena
    - Curling Club
    - Livingstone School (Lundbreck, AB)
- Key municipal buildings for energy efficiency audits and retrofits:
    - Pincher Creek Swimming Pool
    - Historic Lebel Mansion
    - Pincher Creek Community Hall
    - Memorial Community Arena
        - Specifically identified as a geothermal energy opportunity.
    - MD Shop
    - Town Shop
    - Water and Wastewater Facilities

- Key residential opportunities for energy efficiency audits and retrofits, including those which are currently on reliant on diesel:
    - Foothills mobile home park
    - Hamlet of Lundbreck
    - Castle Mountain Region
- Key commercial, industrial, and institutional opportunities for efficiency audits and retrofits:
    - Pincher Creek Health Centre
    - Businesses and industrial operations in Pincher Station
    - Ranchland Mall
    - Fox Theatre
    - Walmart & Boston Pizza
    - Pieridae Gas Plant
    - Captus Generation Natural Gas Power Plant
    - O'Sullivan's Concrete
    - St Michael's Catholic Church
    - Other industrial, commercial, and institutional sites.

Workshop discussions including general action items, which are not site-specific. **These are listed here:**

- Focus on aging dated infrastructure. Consider what needs to be torn down and what can be upgraded.
- Look into older neighbourhoods for residential efficiency retrofits, and prioritize accordingly. Consider targeting older homes for the Clean Energy Improvement Program (CEIP).
- Educating residents on the benefits of energy efficiency and what upgrades may benefit their home.

2. Waste and Renewable Heat

Using red stickers and stars, the participants identified potential waste and renewable heat opportunities. **These are listed here:**

- Waste heat at the Memorial Community Arena with the Swimming Pool as the anchor
- Breweries (Wild Winds Brewer, Oldman River Brewing)
    - Microheat opportunities
- Landfill
    - Incentrator generates heat
    - Biodigester is being looked at but more information and an input source is needed
    - Education on new technologies would be of value
- Captus Generation
    - Burn waste and sequester carbon underground
- Pieridae Gas Plant
    - Waste heat
- Curling Club
    - Waste heat from Ice Plant

3. Renewable Power

Using green stickers and stars, the participants identified opportunities to integrate renewable power. **These are listed here:**

- Pool and Curling Club
  - Combined heat and power units
- Residential
  - Supporting rooftop solar with local battery / energy storage systems
- Commercial
  - Canadian Quarter Horse Association could develop onsite solar project
- Solar
  - Castle Mountain Resort (1)
  - Waterton Gas Plant / Park Front (2)
  - Main Street Pincher Creek (3)
  - Summerview / Oldman Dam / Castle View Campground (4)
  - Brownfield sites
- Wind
  - As older wind farms are being replaced, the region needs to stay aware of new provincial regulations and changes to wind energy technologies (turbines that produce significantly larger amounts of energy in comparison to older models).
    Focus on repowering existing projects.
    - High Priority: Kettles Hill and Castle Rock Ridge
    - Cowley Ridge

Workshop discussions also included general action items, which are not site-specific. **These are listed here:**

- A potential site has been selected for waste heat to power with carbon capture, but waste inputs would be needed from Calgary and Lethbridge as indicated above. Low priority at this time.
- Draw connections to wind and solar energy development recommendations within the MD's Municipal Development Plan.
- Maintain the necessary infrastructure and lobby provincial regulators to ensure that wind energy can remain a good revenue source for the MD.
- Look into hydrogen opportunities.
- Look into Small Modular Nuclear Reactor (SMR) feasibility.

4. Land Use

Using various colors of shading, participants identified zones for densification, mixed use, and restricted development. **These are listed here:**

- Green infrastructure
    - Stormwater retention in new development.
    - Community garden at Heritage Centre
- Abandoned buildings and surrounding areas are an opportunity to upgrade, redevelop, and densify
    - Sobey's building (old) in Downtown Pincher Creek
        - Connect to Rotary club study "Apple Tree" for a multi unit housing retrofit
    - Empty Lot Downtown (Site of a burned down restaurant)
    - Bargain Shop
    - Other sites
- Adding multiple housing options along mainstreet corridor
- Prioritizing affordable and renter friendly housing options.
- Commercial
    - Pincher Creek Station
    - Lundbreck Hamlet study (active project)
    - Look into expanded water and sewer infrastructure at the Pincher Creek Airport

Workshop discussions also included general action items, which are not site-specific. **These are listed here:**

- Connect actions to the Land Use Plan
- Connect land use actions to tourism opportunities
- Opportunities with Burmis Lundbreck Corridor Area Structure Plan and plans for residential development
    - The Burmis Lundbreck Corridor Area Structure Plan (ASP) defines a planning and development framework to guide future growth in the Plan Area by establishing a range of appropriate and compatible land uses, within a comprehensive development strategy.
    - The Burmis Lundbreck Corridor ASP considers existing land uses, surrounding developments, potential future land uses, public input, physical and environmental characteristics, infrastructure requirements, and growth trends.
    - The Burmis Lundbreck Corridor is an area experiencing country residential development pressures due to both its proximity to recreational areas (i.e. trout fishing in the Crowsnest River, skiing at Castle Mountain Resort) and the natural attributes offered in the area, and also because it is identified in the MDP as an area eligible for Group Country Residential development.

5. Transportation

Using yellow stickers, purple lines, and blue stars participants identified opportunities for transit amenities, EV charging, trail connectivity and inter-modal hubs. **These are listed here:**

- The Town can continue to support accessible door-to-door transportation through the Pincher Creek Handi-Bus.

- Increased transportation opportunities (bus & rail) to support tourism and interregional travel, including connectivity to and between Castle Mountain Resort, Waterton National Park, Pincher Creek Airport, Parks (Juan Teran Regional Park, Lions Ball Park) and Southern Alberta Ale Trail destinations.
- Increased connectivity to commercial destinations, i.e. Ranchland Mall and grocery stores
- Increased connectivity to other key destinations across the region:
    - Kootenai Brown Pioneer Village
    - Heritage Acres
    - Oldman Reservoir
    - Lundbreck Falls
    - Lost Things Distillery

6. Smart Energy Networks

Using a red marker and yellow stars, participants identified potential opportunities for district energy and district heat.

- Captus Generation Natural Gas Power Plant
    - Waste heat
    - Communicate that waste heat is available could be an economic development strategy to attract new business that may benefit (i.e. Greenhouses).

- Explore a district system that could connect the following sites
    - Water and wastewater sites
    - Swimming Pool
    - Memorial Community Arena
    - Crestview Lodge
    - Pincher Creek Airport

Workshop discussions also included general action items, which are not site-specific. **These are listed here:**

- Virtual power plant as a grid management solution. Virtual Power Plants use smart technology to optimize renewable energy and energy storage systems to provide power when most needed.

7. Other

Workshop discussions also included general action items, which are not site-specific. **These are listed here:**

- Organics diversion
- Regional food waste capture
- Industrial carbon capture

4.0 ACTION PLANNING ROUND-UP

4.1 Goal

To provide participants with an opportunity to discuss the most significant findings, and present their ideas for key areas for improvement, related needs, and potential actions.

4.2 Summary of Results

- **Energy Efficiency**: projects, policies, and other actions that aim to improve energy efficiency of residential and commercial buildings in the community, to reduce GHG emissions and lower energy costs and improve affordability.
    - ***High priority actions***
        - **Clean energy conversion (heating and cooling):**. Converting heating sources to more efficient methods such as natural gas, air sourced heat pumps), or geothermal will allow for a reduction in energy consumption and switch to more environmentally friendly means.
            - Improve awareness of all available programs and incentives and where to go to encourage clean energy conversion in the community through website resources and outreach.
            - As areas in the MD are off-grid (propane users) estimate the number of dwellings that could be converted, through a local survey, or based on data from energy providers, heating oil distributors and natural gas distributors if their data is available.
            - Obtain data annually from energy utility and incentive providers, about the number of incentives provided for clean energy conversions in order to measure GHG impact.
        - **Commercial energy efficiency:** Improving energy efficiency in the commercial sector can be accomplished using a combination of public education, incentives, policy and bylaws and partner initiatives. The community and partners could also develop a community retrofit project by combining energy efficiency initiatives.
            - Encourage energy performance ratings for all new commercial properties. Buildings larger than 5,000 square feet could be required to have sub-metering, and buildings larger than 10,000 square feet (e.g. commercial, multi-residential) could be required to do benchmarking and disclosure, based on utility data.
            - Obtain data annually from energy utility and incentive providers regarding the number of incentives provided for commercial efficiency

retrofits or new builds, in order to measure GHG impact. Establish working relationships with Fortis to provide high quality data for the MD as well as the Town.

- ***Medium priority actions***
  - **Commercial energy efficiency:**
    - Encourage energy efficiency with public education, including engaging businesses, such as a green shops program, and providing education on what grants are available. This work is already underway, but more focused staff time & capacity is needed.
    - Adopt building code bylaws, requiring minimum energy performance and efficiency standards or rating and labelling for different types of buildings (e.g. Energy Star, net-zero). This would collect information through the permitting process (e.g. energy or GHGs saved through high-efficiency or net-zero development). Follow provincial codes, but look into opportunities for building above code.
  - **Residential energy efficiency:** Improving energy efficiency in the residential sector can be accomplished using a combination of public education, incentives, policy and bylaws and partner initiatives such as installing low flow showerheads and weather stripping. The community and partners could also develop a community retrofit project by combining energy efficiency initiatives.
    - Encourage energy efficiency through a public education communications strategy. Provide broader education on the electricity grid and maintenance.
    - Encourage homeowners to apply for incentives from the utility, for energy audits and retrofit projects. This could include residential rebates, a total home energy savings program, net metering programs, federal government programs. Better mill rates could be offered for properties with higher energy performance.
- ***Low priority actions***
  - **Commercial energy *efficiency:***
    - Encourage businesses to apply for incentives from the utility for energy audits and retrofit projects. These could include a small business lighting program, commercial buildings retrofit program and net metering.
- ***No priority level indicated***
  - Continue to offer the residential Clean Energy Improvement Program, and enhance education and outreach to residents.
  - Consider opportunities to expand the Clean Energy Improvement Program to commercial and/or agricultural buildings.

- **Distributed Energy Resources**: Any distribution-connected resource that can potentially supply energy onto the grid. This includes resources such as residential solar panels, electric vehicles, home battery storage, distribution-connected generation, or distribution-connected energy storage of any type.

- **Wind energy**
  - Contact the utility before starting the process in order to ensure alignment with existing programs and technical requirements.
  - Conduct an energy technical mapping assessment and social acceptability analysis to help identify legally accessible land within the municipal boundary that has good wind regime, existing substation, appropriate setbacks, and social acceptance.
  - Determine potential GHG reductions and ROI based on size of the system, performance of the units, local wind regime, and infrastructure costs. Considerations for wildlife, ice, salt spray, and wind variability must also be taken into account.
- **Solar photovoltaic arrays and community solar farm:** Solar photovoltaic (PV) arrays provide an opportunity for municipalities to produce power for the grid, which would reduce greenhouse gas emissions and long-term costs.
  - Funding has been received to do a solar project. Outline potential risks, which could include the effect on the local environment with the removal of forests and farmlands to build a solar farm, effect on local the power grid with new inconsistent energy sources, effect on local water supplies as the solar panels degrade and leach poisonous chemicals into the soil, total solar potential, calculated through the number of sunlight hours per year, if and how the energy will be stored for later use, if the solar panels will be used for baseload or for peak demand, and cost and ROI of a system.
- **Solar PV (rooftop or ground mount):** Solar photovoltaic (PV) systems provide an opportunity for municipalities and citizens to produce power for use on site, which would reduce greenhouse gas emissions and long-term costs at the installed site.
  - Conduct a survey or study on what types of solar PV programs could work, what the potential uptake could be, and what real or perceived challenges might exist. Determine if the community or sister communities have their own professionals or students in this area that can come aboard to conduct these assessments.
  - Establish a Solar Ready Building Policy or Guideline for new buildings (i.e: requiring new buildings to be ready for net-metered small scale solar PV, and for solar thermal water heating).
  - Apply for federal and provincial incentive programs.
- **Micro-hydro:** Local features may present opportunities to generate electricity from hydro power. For example, there may be an existing dam, pipeline, a stream that could be damned, or gravity-fed outfalls that could be fitted with a turbine.
  - Identify locations that have the potential for micro hydro power generation.
- **Biomass**: actions could include converting heating systems to biomass pellet systems, CHP, or district heat.
  - Identify locations that have the potential for converting to biomass pellets and district heat, i.e. agricultural locations including the Cargill processing plant.
  - Conduct a study to determine feasibility for each system. Determine if the community or sister communities have their own professionals or students in

this area that can come aboard to conduct these assessments. This is of interest, although participants indicated that a private partner would be needed.
    - Connect with organizations working in the biomass space in Southwest Alberta
    - Implement a project (if community-owned facility).
  - **Waste to energy (e.g. landfills, organics, or wastewater)**
    - Conduct a study to determine the feasibility and implement a project to recover energy (electrical, thermal, or chemical) from inorganic waste, organic solid waste, and wastewater materials. This could be done through:
      - Gasification
      - Incineration
      - Depolymerization
      - Anaerobic digestion
      - Pyrolysis
      - Fermentation
  - **Renewable natural gas:** upgraded biogas, which is produced from raw materials such as agricultural waste, manure, municipal waste, plant material, sewage, green waste, wastewater, and food waste.
    - Identify opportunities to produce and use renewable natural gas.
      - Connect the opportunity to the proposed Captus Generation natural gas-firing plant with incorporated carbon capture & sequestration and the Pieridae Waterton Gas Plant, which will include connecting other carbon emitting sources to the Captus hub, using the waste heat, and renewable natural gas.

- **Land Use**
  - **Use brownfields:** Brownfields are former industrial sites where there is, or may be, contamination that could affect future use of the site. Due to our history of industrialization, they are numerous and varied in size, type of contamination, and location, and can range from former gas stations that may still have fuel tanks buried underground, to large industrial sites that have been abandoned.
    - Identify brownfield sites that could be used for renewable energy or green space (oil and gas sites, gravel, pits, gas station sites).
    - Complete the study of potential brownfield site for renewable energy installation or redevelopment to determining technical or financial feasibility, and begin to implement the recommended next steps (i.e. Summerview).
  - **Consult the community to update community plan or Land Use Plan:** Land use decisions have a long-term impact on greenhouse gas emissions and the wellbeing of a community. The location of roads, services, green spaces, utilities and how people move across the land can all be supported through land use planning. A community can reduce and avoid GHG emissions by consulting the community and updating the community plan or land use plan.
    - **High Priority:** In alignment with the Land Use Plan, develop an educational component to help the community understand why the community is moving in this direction for future development, and what benefits exist for people

considering purchasing a home, such as community wellbeing, energy affordability and GHG reduction. Consider additional educational & awareness campaigns for commercial developers.

- Consult the community on siting new mixed-use developments, identifying where to densify existing built environments, identifying where to improve active transportation networks, identifying where to generate clean energy, and introducing concepts such as net-zero ready buildings and require connecting to district energy where available. Capture this input in your community plan or land use plan.
- Encourage mixed use and transit-oriented developments with a diversity of building types, the community may:
    - *Encourage community members to think outside of the box and rethink what their community could and should look like.*
    - *Update the community plan or land use plan, with community input.*
    - *Identify areas for intensification. Encourage infill and densification and mixed-use development, with consideration to transit, housing, commerce, and boundaries for undeveloped areas to be protected if applicable.*
    - *Diversify land use mix in already built up, single use areas such as adding recreational areas, community facilities, housing and energy generation.*
    - *Reserve space for active transportation and prioritize access and circulation for pedestrians and cyclists.*
    - *Develop community improvement plans for brownfield or greyfield redevelopment, and infill.*
- Encourage local energy supply options, including:
    - *Encourage community members to think outside of the box and rethink what their community could and should look like*
    - *Update the community plan or land use plan, with community input, to include suitable locations for renewable energy development*
    - *Identify provisions (e.g. size, height, set-backs, other constraints) for wind, solar PV and district energy.*
    - *Include renewable energy as part of community improvement plans, including using brownfields.*
    - *Identify right-of-ways for district energy infrastructure.*
- Adopt policies that ensure building and energy developments preserve ecologically significant or sensitive areas, watersheds, and permafrost.
- Ensure community and council review and approval of key community and land use decisions.

- **Transportation**
    - **Active transport:** A community may encourage active transport and commute where transit exists. In addition to reducing GHGs, active transportation can help to reduce traffic congestion, reduce parking congestion, promote active living and contribute

positively to air quality and human health. Active transport networks also contribute to a more inclusive community and help bring cultures together.

- Continue to map the active transportation network and make it available and visible at high-traffic community centres and websites and groups.
- Access funding to provide infrastructure and encourage active transportation. This project can be done in 3 stages. First, the community would undertake a technical and financial study, followed by a pilot or demonstration phase, and finally, the implementation of a project.

- **Transportation demand management:** A comprehensive suite of transportation demand management actions could include supporting a diversity of active transportation options (to the degree that fits local context; cycling networks, bike share programs, pathways, and pedestrian-friendly sidewalks). This could also include supporting and providing public transit options with considerations for equitable access. For small or rural communities, options may include rideshare or carshare programs or buses. For mid-sized cities options also include city buses, rideshare or carshare, LRT systems and passenger rail stop. For large cities options include most or all of the above, including multiple stops for LRT systems, passenger rail, and rapid transit.
  - Continue to develop pedestrian-friendly sidewalks (expansion, streetscaping, shade tree planting). In particular, identify specific neighbourhoods where sidewalks need to be added.
  - Continue to develop bike parking facilities or bike racks
  - Bike lanes including painted bike lanes, cycle tracks with spatial or physical separation, “shared roadways” or sharrows and contraflow bike lanes
  - Multi-use trails
  - Starting ride sharing programs and expanding taxi service
    - Consider seasonal or event-based rideshare programs.
- **Fuel efficiency and electric vehicle replacements:** Fuel-efficient driving can save fuel costs , reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve road safety and prevent wear on vehicles.
  - Increase the number of EV charging stations locally and pilot installation of residential EV chargers, such as part of residential home charger rental or incentive program.
  - Conduct a campaign to educate citizens which promotes the benefits of switching to fuel efficient vehicles such as energy cost savings and GHG reduction. Highlight the available rebates and programs, and address barriers such as range anxiety.

- **Smart Energy Networks**
  - **Micro-grid Solutions:** Micro-grids are part of the broader trend towards the decentralization of energy systems. They can operate independently from the traditional grid and are often powered by local, renewable energy sources. One of the primary motivations for deploying microgrids is to enhance the resilience of the electricity supply.

- **Energy Management:** Effective energy management strategies are crucial for the efficient operation of microgrids. This includes coordinating the complex interactions between different energy sources and loads. Smart energy networks require a systemic approach that integrates various energy resources, including renewables, to ensure efficient distribution and usage. Consider innovations in energy storage such as virtual power plants or virtual batteries. Virtual power plants use smart technology to optimize renewable energy and energy storage systems to provide power when most needed.
- **Technology Integration:** Microgrids often incorporate advanced technologies such as energy storage systems and power electronics converters to manage the flow of electricity and maintain stability. This action would require additional staffing capacity.
- **Regulatory Frameworks Developing:** Appropriate regulatory frameworks that support the implementation and operation of microgrids is essential. This includes policies for grid connectivity, tariffs, and incentives for renewable energy integration.
- **Economic Analysis:** Conducting thorough economic analysis to ensure the financial viability of microgrid projects, including cost-benefit analysis, financing models, and identifying potential revenue streams.
- **Community Engagement:** Engaging local communities in the planning and development process of microgrids ensures that the solutions meet the specific needs and priorities of the community.
- **Environmental Impact:** Assessing the environmental impact of microgrid projects to ensure they contribute to sustainability goals, such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting clean energy.

- <u>Water Conservation</u>
  - ***High priority actions:***
    - **Promote water conservation**
      - Implement measures to promote water conservation, such as a public awareness campaign, and conduct retrofit program to conserve water, such as targeting:
        - Toilet dams
        - Low-flow showerheads
        - Faucet aerators or washers
        - Rainwater collection
  - ***Additional actions for consideration:***
    - **Optimize water and wastewater systems**
      - Implement measures to optimize water and wastewater systems to reduce energy consumed in pumping and treatment of water. This includes evaluation of linear infrastructure to prevent and repair water leaks and improving efficiency of water and wastewater treatment equipment. Measures could include:

        - Leak detection and repair
        - Water meters and water-use monitoring
        - Pressure-reducing valves
        - Efficiency upgrades to wastewater treatment equipment
    - **Promote potable and non-potable water re-use**
        - Establish a program to promote potable or non-potable water re-use. This could include public awareness campaigns (especially during drought periods). This could also include incentivizing rain-barrels.
    - **Stormwater management**
        - Implement measures to reduce peak flow, such as stormwater retention ponds and tanks, greening roofs, bioswales and permeable pavement. Also consider and prepare for changing weather patterns related to climate change that may impact infrastructure. Measures could include:
            - Stormwater retention ponds and tanks
            - Bioswales
            - Rain gardens
            - Permeable pavement
            - Green roofs

- **<u>Waste</u>**
    - Recycling
        - Utilize the Eco-Centre to continue programs to collect and recycle residential materials such as glass, plastic, metals and electronic waste as a means to reduce the embedded energy in products that use recycled materials.
    - Waste Reduction
        - Establish waste management programs to reduce non recyclable, inorganic residential landfill waste as a means to reduce the total embedded energy in discarded products. This may include garbage bag tags, plastic bag bans and re-use programs like community swap days.
    - Waste Diversion
        - Implement or expand waste management programs to divert waste that results from industrial, commercial and institutional (ICI) sectors, as well as construction, renovation and demolition (CRD).
    - Organics Collection
        - Provide incentives for composters
        - Ensure diversion to municipal use (e.g. soil for flower beds)
        - Diversion to landfill for energy production
        - Regional system that captures food waste from restaurants by dehydrating.

5.0 SUMMARY OF RESULTS

5.1. Summary of Key Strengths and Policies/Programs in Place

Through this workshop, a number of local assets and strengths were identified. Here is a list of strengths:

- The residential Clean Energy Improvement Program (CEIP) is available for residential property owners in the MD or Town of Pincher Creek to finance up to 100% of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects, with a 2% fixed interest rate and a limited time $450 incentive.
- The Town and MD can leverage their existing working relationship and shared capacities to realize greater opportunities for the benefit of the region as a whole.
- Preliminary work and discussions to assess waste and renewable heat are underway in the region, including a landfill biodigester and a waste heat facility site.
- The proposed Captus Energy project will aim to generate reliable natural gas-fired electricity, while repurposing the depleted natural gas field right below for permanent geologic storage of the associated carbon emissions.
- The Town and MD of Pincher Creek can build on the momentum of existing plans and climate action already completed, while also considering opportunities to advance new actions. Existing plans, policies, and programs that provide a strong strategic foundation to support Community Energy Action Strategy include:
    - Town of Pincher Creek Council's Strategic Priorities (2022-2026)
    - Town of Pincher Creek Community Economic Development Strategy (2021-2026)
    - Climate Risk Assessment and Adaptation Plan (2023)
        - In June 2023, the Town and MD of Pincher Creek in collaboration with members of the Piikani Nation Lands Department completed a Climate Risk Assessment & Adaptation Plan for the Pincher Creek Region. The plan equips the Town and MD with foundational information on climate risks for the region, including an economic analysis of the impact of these climate risks. In the development of the CEAS, the Town and MD can find alignment with the 35 recommended adaptation actions, spanning the themes of Health & Wellbeing, Disaster Resilience, Infrastructure, Parks & Environment, and Economy. This project also produced a Homeowner Climate Risk Assessment to support residents to prepare for and build resilience to extreme weather events.
    - South Saskatchewan Regional Plan (2014-2024)
    - Town of Pincher Creek Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9 Intermunicipal Development Plan (2010)
    - Area Structure Plans, Downtown Pincher Creek Area Redevelopment Plan, Town of Pincher Creek Land Use Bylaw, Subdivision and Development Policies, and numerous Master Plans.
- The Pincher Creek Region is also widely regarded as the wind energy capital of Canada. A total of 9 wind energy projects, consisting of 255 turbines, are currently producing 511 MW of energy in

the Pincher Creek area (data provided by the municipality, via the Municipal District of Pincher Creek, Renewable Energy Conversion Study Progress Report, 2021):

- Cowley Ridge 2001 (20 MW)
- Castle River #1 2001 (39 MW)
- Castle Rock 2012 (77 MW)
- Castle Rock 2 2020 (29 MW)
- Riverview 2020 (105 MW)
- Oldman 2 2014 (46 MW)
- Kettles Hill 2006 (63 MW)
- Summerview 1 2004 (66 MW)
- Summerview 2 2010 (66 MW)

5.2. Opportunities Identified

Through this workshop, a number of opportunities were identified. Here is a list of opportunities, prioritized based on the action planning round. Priorities include:

5.2.1. Mapping Exercise

- Prioritize energy efficiency upgrades on aging municipal assets & infrastructure.
- New buildings, such as the planned relocation of the Pincher Creek Emergency Services Building, can be developed as energy efficiently as possible.
- Look into older neighbourhoods for residential efficiency retrofits, and prioritize accordingly. Consider targeting older homes for the Clean Energy Improvement Program (CEIP).
- Residential neighbourhoods that are currently reliant on diesel are prime opportunities for clean energy conversion and energy efficiency.
- Consider targeting industrial, commercial, or institutional sites for energy efficiency audits and retrofits, i.e. Pincher Station.
- Continue to explore waste & renewable heat opportunities, bringing in more information and expertise as needed.
- Continue to investigate sites for on-site or rooftop solar.
- Look into new regulation for wind farms and stay aware of changes to wind energy technologies. Maintain the necessary infrastructure to ensure that wind energy can remain a good revenue source for the MD.
- Stay aware of new & innovative technologies and look into their feasibility for the region (i.e. hydrogen, small nuclear reactors)
- Expanding housing availability, including affordable and renter-friendly options, and densification along the mainstreet corridor.
- Exploring new transportation options can increase connectivity between key commercial and tourist destinations, reduce emissions, and contribute to regional community economic development and tourism goals. Tourism destinations across the region are an opportunity to demonstrate leadership in transit connectivity and emissions reduction.

5.2.2. Action Strategies Round Up

- **Community retrofit project or community efficiency financing program**
  - **Medium priority:** Continue to offer the residential Clean Energy Improvement Program, and enhance education and outreach to residents. Consider opportunities to expand to commercial and/or agricultural buildings.
- **Clean energy conversion**
  - **High priority:** Improve awareness of all available programs and incentives and where to go to encourage clean energy conversion in the community through website resources and outreach.
  - **High priority:** As areas in the MD are off-grid (propane users)estimate the number of dwellings that could be converted, through a local survey, or based on data from energy providers, heating oil distributors and natural gas distributors if their data is available.
  - **High priority:** Obtain data annually from energy utility and incentive providers, about the number of incentives provided for clean energy conversions in order to measure GHG impact.
- **Commercial energy efficiency**
  - **High priority:** Encourage energy performance ratings for all new commercial properties. Buildings larger than 5,000 square feet could be required to have sub-metering, and buildings larger than 10,000 square feet (e.g. commercial, multi-residential) could be required to do benchmarking and disclosure, based on utility data.
  - **High priority:** Obtain data annually from energy utility and incentive providers regarding the number of incentives provided for commercial efficiency retrofits or new builds, in order to measure GHG impact. Establish working relationships with Fortis to provide high quality data for both the Town and MD.
  - **Medium priority:** Encourage energy efficiency with public education, including engaging businesses, such as a green shops program, and providing education on what grants are available. This work is already underway, but more focused staff time & capacity is needed.
  - **Medium priority:** Adopt building code bylaws, requiring minimum energy performance and efficiency standards or rating and labelling for different types of buildings (e.g. Energy Star, net-zero). This would collect information through the permitting process (e.g. energy or GHGs saved through high-efficiency or net-zero development). Follow provincial codes, but look into opportunities for building above code.
- **Residential energy efficiency**
  - **Medium priority:** Encourage energy efficiency through a public education communications strategy. Provide broader education on the electricity grid and maintenance.
  - **Medium priority:** Encourage homeowners to apply for incentives from the utility, for energy audits and retrofit projects. This could include residential rebates, a total home energy savings program, net metering programs, federal government programs. Better mill rates could be offered for properties with higher energy performance.

- **Solar photovoltaic arrays and community solar farm**
    - Funding has been received to do a solar project. If not already done so, create a study of one option or compare several options for solar PV and solar thermal in the community.
- **Biomass**
    - Identify locations that have the potential for converting to biomass pellets and district heat, i.e. agricultural locations including the Cargill processing plant.
    - Conduct a study to determine feasibility for each system. Determine if the community or sister communities have their own professionals or students in this area that can come aboard to conduct these assessments. This is of interest, although participants indicated that a private partner would be needed.
- **Renewable natural gas**
    - Identify opportunities to produce and use renewable natural gas. Connect the opportunity to the proposed Captus Generation natural gas-firing plant with incorporated carbon capture & sequestration and the Pieridae Waterton Gas Plant.
- **Land Use: Use brownfields**
    - Identify brownfield sites that could be used for renewable energy or green space (oil and gas sites, gravel, pits, gas station sites).
    - Complete the study of potential brownfield site for renewable energy installation or redevelopment to determining technical or financial feasibility, and begin to implement the recommended next steps (i.e. Summerview).
- **Land Use: Consult the community to update community plan or Land Use Plan**
    - **High priority:** In alignment with the Land Use Plan, develop an educational component to help the community understand why the community is moving in this direction for future development, and what benefits exist for people considering purchasing a home, such as community wellbeing, energy affordability and GHG reduction. Consider additional educational & awareness campaigns for commercial developers.
- **Active transportation & Transportation demand management**
    - Continue to map the active transportation network and make it available and visible at high-traffic community centres and websites and groups.
    - Consider:
        - Continuing to develop pedestrian-friendly sidewalks (expansion, streetscaping, shade tree planting). In particular, identify specific neighbourhoods where sidewalks need to be added.
        - Continuing to develop bike parking facilities or bike racks
        - Bike lanes, including painted bike lanes, cycle tracks with spatial or physical separation, “shared roadways” or sharrows and contraflow bike lanes
        - Multi-use trails
        - Ride sharing programs and Taxi service. Consider seasonal or event-based rideshare programs.
- **Water Conservation**
    - **High priority: Promote water conservation**

        - Implement measures to promote water conservation, such as a public awareness campaign, and conduct retrofit program to conserve water, such as targeting:
            - Toilet dams
            - Low-flow showerheads
            - Faucet aerators or washers
            - Rainwater collection
    - **Optimize water and wastewater systems**
        - Implement measures to optimize water and wastewater systems to reduce energy consumed in pumping and treatment of water. This includes evaluation of linear infrastructure to prevent and repair water leaks and improving efficiency of water and wastewater treatment equipment. Measures could include:
            - Leak detection and repair
            - Water meters and water-use monitoring
            - Pressure-reducing valves
            - Efficiency upgrades to wastewater treatment equipment
    - **Promote potable and non-potable water re-use**
        - Establish a program to promote potable or non-potable water re-use. This could include public awareness campaigns (especially during drought periods). This could also include incentivizing rain-barrels.
    - **Stormwater management**
        - Implement measures to reduce peak flow, such as stormwater retention ponds and tanks, greening roofs, bioswales and permeable pavement. Also consider and prepare for changing weather patterns related to climate change that may impact infrastructure. Measures could include:
            - Stormwater retention ponds and tanks
            - Bioswales
            - Rain gardens
            - Permeable pavement
            - Green roofs

- **<u>Waste</u>**
    - Recycling
        - Utilize the Eco-Centre to continue programs to collect and recycle residential materials such as glass, plastic, metals and electronic waste as a means to reduce the embedded energy in products that use recycled materials.
    - Waste Reduction
        - Establish waste management programs to reduce non recyclable, inorganic residential landfill waste as a means to reduce the total embedded energy in discarded products. This may include garbage bag tags, plastic bag bans and re-use programs like community swap days.
    - Waste Diversion

        - Implement or expand waste management programs to divert waste that results from industrial, commercial and institutional (ICI) sectors, as well as construction, renovation and demolition (CRD).
    - Organics collection
        - Provide incentives for composters
        - Ensure diversion to municipal use (e.g. soil for flower beds)
        - Diversion to landfill for energy production
        - Regional system that captures food waste from restaurants by dehydrating.

5.3 What We Heard

After the workshop, participants were asked what their most important take-away was. These takeaways are presented here, and provide further insight into Pincher Creek's greatest strengths, needs, opportunities, and what next steps are needed.

- The Town and MD can continue to balance capital-intensive projects with smaller-scale updates. Starting with simple actions has the potential to make a big impact, and can sustain momentum long-term (i.e. insulation, solar on buildings).
- Similarly, local actions for bottom up efficiency (microgrids and localizing) can be a key focus for the region, and when necessary, partners and other communities (i.e. Calgary and Edmonton) can support larger-scale projects when needed. Economic viability is a key deciding factor when deciding the future of projects.
- The process of energy conservation is a continuous one, which requires capacity and regular review and evolution. Create a committee to direct and continue momentum on energy work. This could include continuing to advance the work outlined in the 2021 Energy Team Charter.
- Budget can be a deciding factor and constrain upgrades to aging infrastructure, despite being planned for in strategic planning documents. Budgeting for these projects, engaging members of the public, and speaking to external investors will work hand in hand to support priority-setting and achieve implementation.
- New developments are an opportunity to build energy efficiently from the onset. The region may be interested in incentivizing construction that goes beyond building and energy code.
- Investing in active and public transportation, including more buses to get cars off the road to Waterton, can support the tourism sector, reduce emissions, and demonstrate leadership.
- Education and collaboration will be priorities going forward. Education to business owners can drive buy-in from the commercial sector, and opportunities arise when we get the right people in the room to collaborate. Prioritize strategies to get people to participate in engagement opportunities and share their perspectives on their vision for the region.
- Community-level plans and projects should involve more than just the municipal government. Local businesses, non-profit organizations, residents, and regional partners can all play crucial roles in the plan. These partners should be engaged early in the process to build buy-in.
- Locations in the region like the Airport and brownfield sites should be better utilized for sustainable development.

6.0 CONCLUSION

This report highlights the consolidated results of the energy mapping exercise for the Town and MD of Pincher Creek, and identifies opportunities for their CEAS across the areas of energy efficiency, harnessing local energy opportunities, improving land use, transportation, and more.

The report is intended to be used to inform future planning decisions. The results can be used to inform the development of a CEAS, or specific projects and initiatives that the municipality or local stakeholders may wish to undertake. The report supports evidence-based decision making and ensures that the diverse perspectives presented here are considered when planning future initiatives.

Specific to the Pincher Creek region, the information and recommendations in this report can be used towards refreshing existing climate and energy plans. Overall, municipalities can support implementation of climate plans through continued leadership, governance, leveraged legislative tools, planning integration, and economic development.

As part of next steps in the Net Zero Community Accelerator Program, the Town and MD will complete a Community Energy Plan Implementation workshop. The workshop will focus on developing a governance structure, action plan, performance measurement process (i.e., KPIs and data management), and communication plan.

The Town and MD will also complete an Economic Impact Assessment, which provides an understanding of the economic development and job creation potential over the lifespan of the Community Energy Action Strategy.

QUEST Canada and the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre appreciate the opportunity to work with your municipality and local stakeholders to identify opportunities for integrated community-scale solutions to lower energy costs, reduce GHG emissions, and improve local resilience.

7.0 ANNEXES

1. Maps

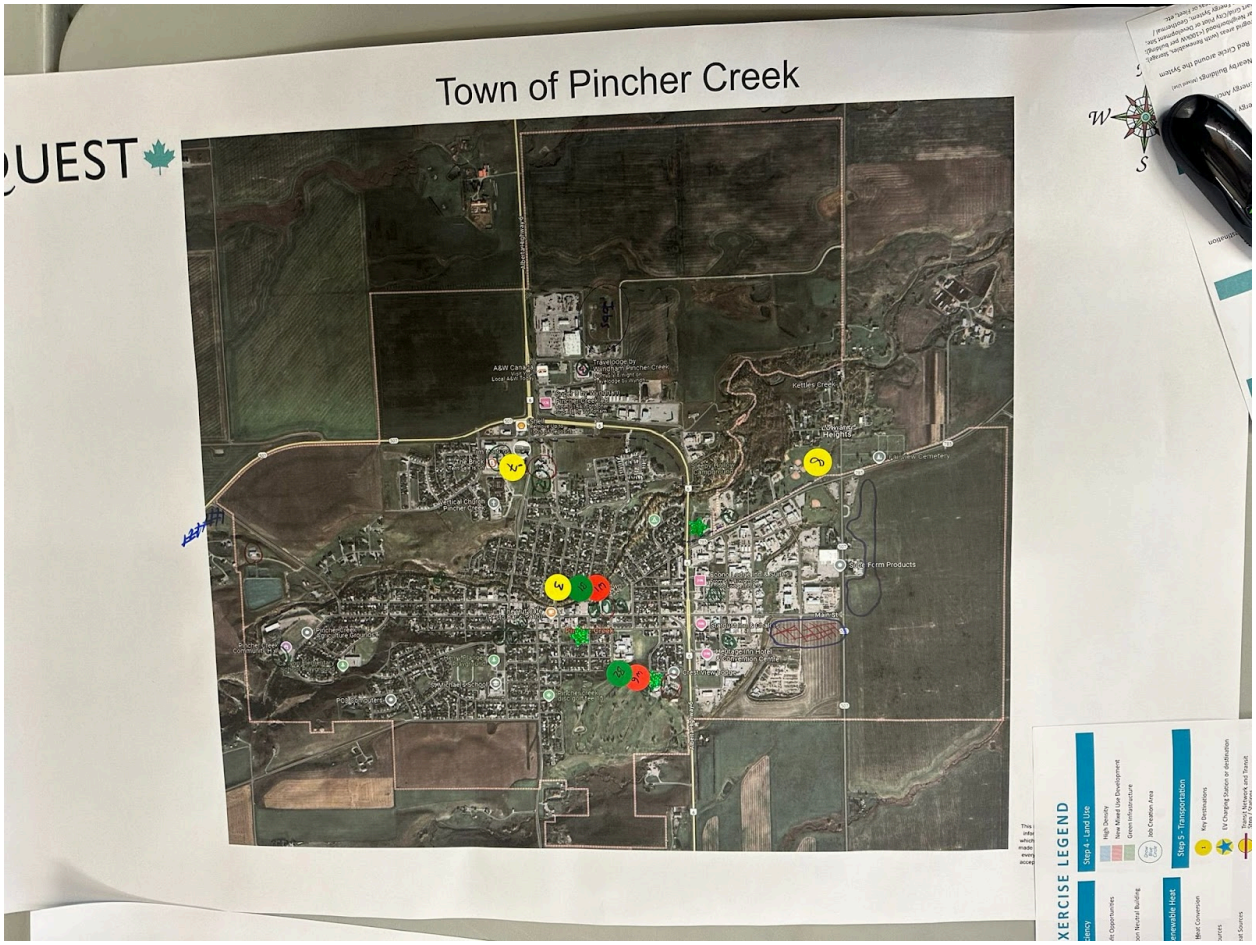

Figure 1: Town of Pincher Creek, Energy Mapping Results

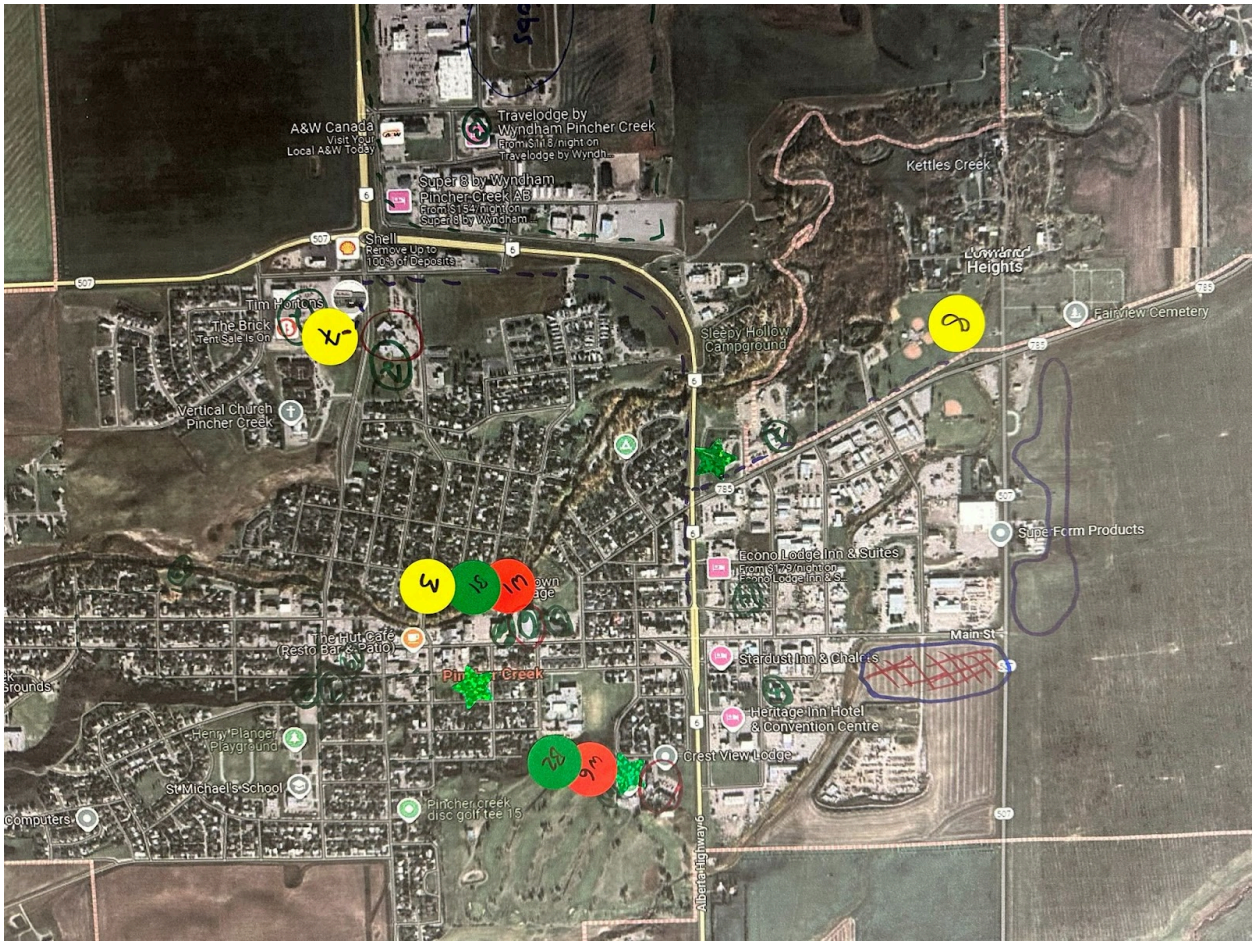

Figure 2: Downtown Insert, Town of Pincher Creek, Energy Mapping Results

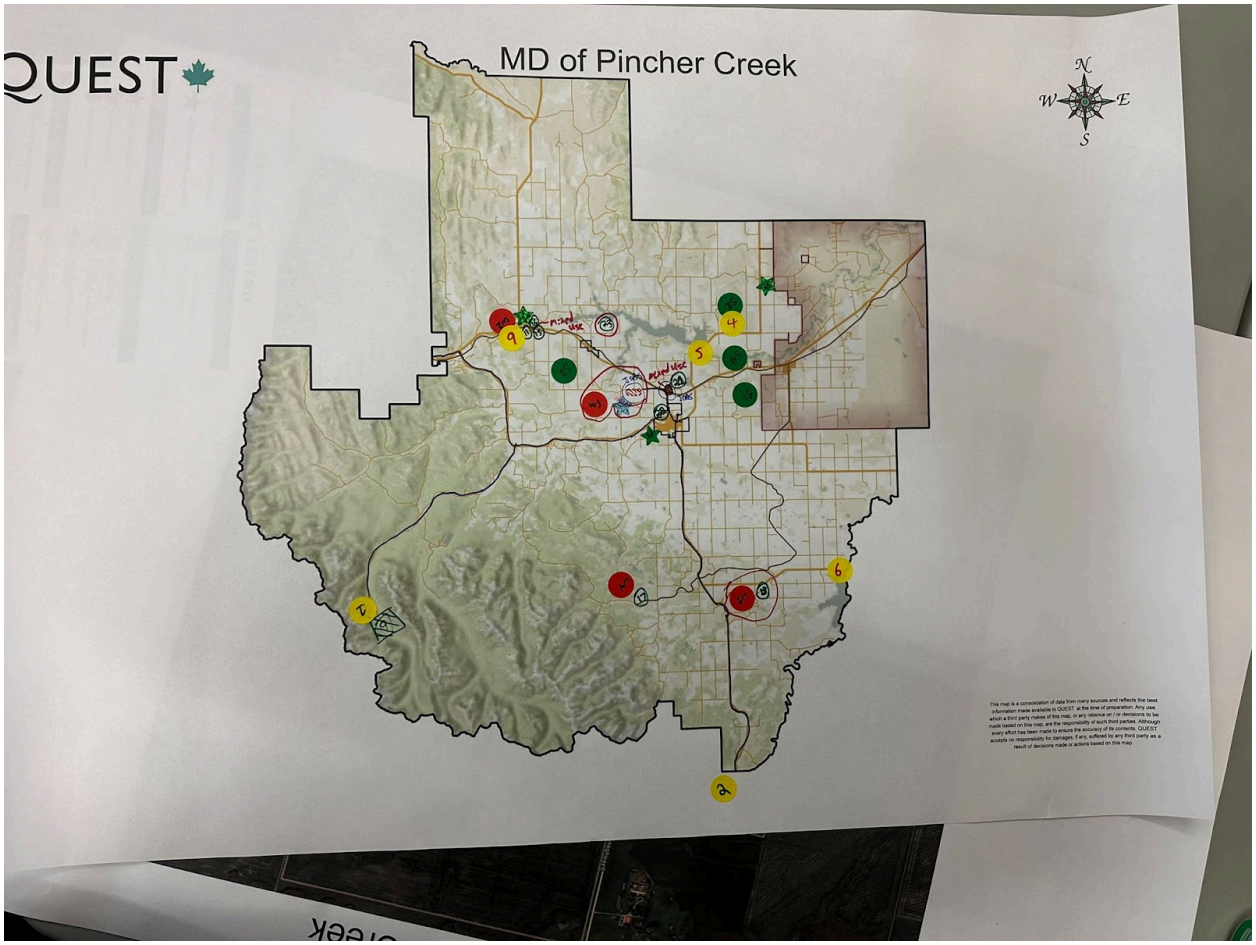

Figure 3: MD of Pincher Creek, Energy Mapping Results

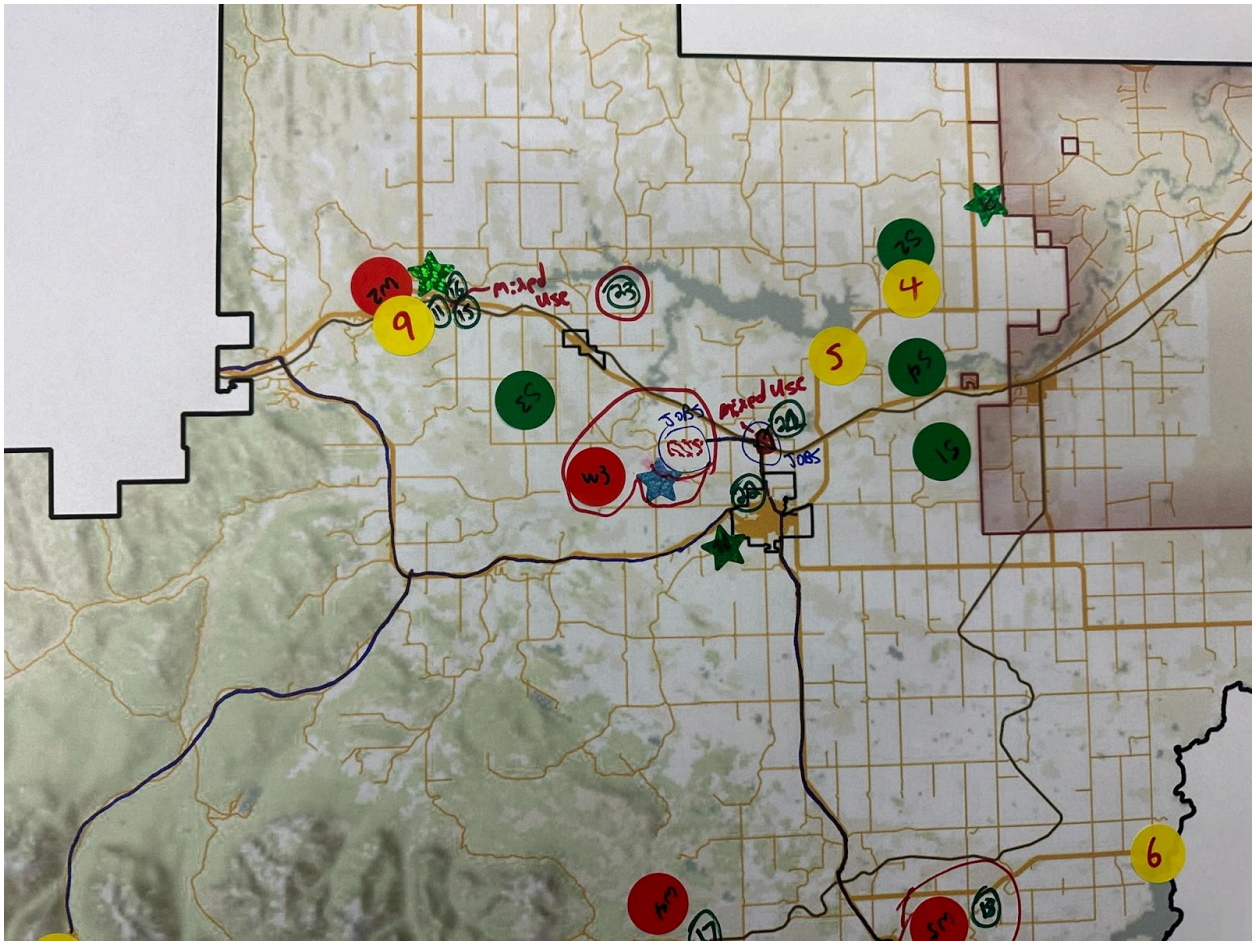

Figure 4: Insert, MD of Pincher Creek, Energy Mapping Results

2. Participant List

Name	Title	Organization
David Desabrais	Utilities and Infrastructure Manager	MD of Pincher Creek
Andrea Hlady	Director of Community Services	Town of Pincher Creek
Stacy Benson	Chamber Manager	Pincher Creek & District Chamber of Commerce
Tristan Walker	Executive (NCA Project Lead)	Massif Energy
Wayne Oliver	Councillor	Town of Pincher Creek
Jim Welsch	Councillor	MD of Pincher Creek
Tony Bruder	Councillor	MD of Pincher Creek
Dave Cox	Reeve	MD of Pincher Creek
John McGarva	Councillor	MD of Pincher Creek
Hammad Ahmed	Project Lead	Alberta Municipalities / MCCAC
Ronak Patel	Program Manager	Alberta Municipalities / MCCAC

Action Strategies Template		
Action strategy	**Item number**	**Strategy for implementation**
ENERGY EFFICIENCY		
Community retrofit project or community efficiency financing program or study. A community retrofit project aims to improve energy efficiency of residential and commercial buildings in the community, to reduce GHG emissions and lower energy costs and improve affordability. A Community Efficiency Financing Program can also be created to reduce barriers to energy efficiency retrofits in the community.	1	Develop a community retrofit project that would include energy efficiency, such as improving building envelope, and clean energy conversion measures. This can be done in partnership with a municipality who can access funding from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, or by obtaining funding through other sources like the local utility.
	2	Work with neighbouring municipality to develop a community efficiency financing program that would support energy efficiency, such as improving building envelope, and clean energy conversion measures. This can be done in partnership with a municipality who can access funding from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, or by obtaining funding through other sources like the local utility.
Clean energy conversion (heating and cooling). Fuel furnaces are less efficient than electric heaters, and other alternatives exist. Converting heating sources to more efficient methods such as natural gas, electric heaters, mini-splits, or forced heat will allow for a reduction in energy consumption and switch to more environmentally friendly means. This can help lower energy costs, maintenance costs, peak loads, and GHG emissions. This measure should be taken along with improving the envelope of buildings.	3	Consider further incentive programs by the utility and the municipality. Currently, homeowners and businesses may voluntarily convert heating systems, with support of incentives provided through provincial efficiency programs.
	4	Improve awareness of all available programs and incentives and where to go to encourage clean energy conversion in the community through website resources and outreach.
	5	Estimate the number of dwellings that could be converted, through a local survey, or based on data from energy providers, heating oil distributors and natural gas distributors if their data is available.
	6	Obtain data annually from energy utility and incentive providers, about the number of incentives provided for clean energy conversions in order to measure GHG impact.

Commercial energy efficiency Improving energy efficiency in the commercial sector can be accomplished using a combination of public education, incentives, policy and bylaws and partner initiatives. The community and partners could also develop a community retrofit project by combining energy efficiency initiatives.	7	Encourage energy efficiency with public education, including engaging businesses, such as a green shops program.
	8	Encourage businesses to apply for incentives from the utility for energy audits and retrofit projects. These could include a small business lighting program, commercial buildings retrofit program and net metering. Further incentive programs may be considered by the utility and municipality.
	9	Adopt building code bylaws, requiring minimum energy performance and efficiency standards or rating and labelling for different types of buildings (e.g. Energy Star, net-zero). This would collect information through the permitting process (e.g. energy or GHGs saved through high-efficiency or net-zero development).
	10	Mandate energy performance ratings for all new commercial properties. Buildings larger than 5,000 square feet could be required to have sub-metering, and buildings larger than 10,000 square feet (e.g. commercial, multi-residential) could be required to do benchmarking and disclosure, based on utility data.
	11	Obtain data annually from energy utility and incentive providers regarding the number of incentives provided for commercial efficiency retrofits or new builds, in order to measure GHG impact.
Residential energy efficiency Improving energy efficiency in the residential sector can be accomplished using a combination of public education, incentives, policy and bylaws and partner initiatives such as installing low flow showerheads and weather stripping. The community and partners could also develop a community retrofit project by combining energy efficiency initiatives.	12	Encourage energy efficiency through a public education communications strategy.
	13	Encourage homeowners to apply for incentives from the utility, for energy audits and retrofit projects. This could include residential rebates, a total home energy savings program, net metering programs, federal government programs. Further incentive programs may be considered by the utility and the municipality (e.g. discounts on EV charging units, permit fee adjustments, etc.)
	14	Adopt building code bylaws, requiring minimum energy performance and efficiency standards or rating and labelling for different types of buildings (e.g. Energy Star, net-zero). This would collect information through the permitting process (e.g. energy or GHGs saved through high-efficiency or net-zero development).
	15	Obtain data annually from energy utility and incentive providers regarding the number of incentives provided for commercial efficiency retrofits or new builds, in order to measure GHG impact.

WASTE & RENEWABLE HEAT & RENEWABLE POWER		
Education and engagement	1	"Educate residents and businesses on the potential and benefits of renewable energy, such as solar photovoltaic (Solar PV), wind power, micro-hydro and biomass. Apply for funding for an educational component or to help finance cost of pilot project. You may want to focus on specific types of renewable energy that are most well suited to your community, and showcase any community projects. Use your traditional means of communication, such as newsletters, social media, community hall gatherings and meetings.
Waste energy or district heat Each district heat system is unique, but all have common elements. These include using a renewable or waste heat source(s), piping the heat underground, converting homes and businesses to district heat, monitoring and managing load, and more. A technical study helps the community to understand all the components required and their cost.	2	Collaborate with community partners, such as businesses, to explore opportunities for integrating waste energy or expanding district heat.
	3	Ensure new or existing municipal facilities consider waste heat opportunities. Consider including with your building code.
	4	Conduct a technical and financial feasibility study.
	5	Create a pilot or demonstration upon completion of the technical and financial study. The municipality must fix their budget according to identified needs established during the study.
	6	Develop an implementation phase. District heat systems may require appropriate land-use provisions or right-of-way bylaws.
	7	Develop a guideline, policy, or bylaw to require connection to district heat (if available).
Wind energy Wind energy systems provide an opportunity to produce clean power, which would reduce greenhouse gas emissions and long-term costs. The reduction in GHG emissions depends on parameters such as the size of the system, performance of the units, and local wind regime.	8	Contact the utility before starting the process in order to ensure alignment with existing programs and technical requirements.
	9	Conduct an energy technical mapping assessment and social acceptability analysis to help identify legally accessible land within the municipal boundary that has good wind regime, existing substation, appropriate setbacks, and social acceptance. Reach out to QUEST Canada for advisory services related to renewable energy mapping assessments. Or, reach out to QUEST Canada for advisory services related to renewable energy mapping assessments.
	10	Determine potential GHG reductions and ROI based on size of the system, performance of the units, local wind regime, and infrastructure costs. Considerations for wildlife, ice, salt spray, and wind variability must also be taken into account.

Solar photovoltaic arrays and community solar farm Solar photovoltaic (PV) arrays provide an opportunity for municipalities to produce power for the grid, which would reduce greenhouse gas emissions and long-term costs. Municipalities can also enable citizens to 'lease' panels for a GHG or power credit). The reduction in GHG emissions depends on parameters such as the type and size of project, amount of kwH generated or offset, and the province's GHG coefficients for electricity, oil, gas and cost of the measure.	11	Does your community have its own land use bylaws and building codes? If so, make sure to consult these first. Also look up local or provincial regulations before starting this task. Contact the utility before starting the process, in order to ensure alignment with existing programs and technical requirements.
	12	Create a study of one option or compare several options for solar PV and solar thermal in the community (with FCM funding). Outline potential risks, which could include the effect on the local environment with the removal of forests and farmlands to build a solar farm, effect on local the power grid with new inconsistent energy sources, effect on local water supplies as the solar panels degrade and leach poisonous chemicals into the soil, total solar potential, calculated through the number of sunlight hours per year, if and how the energy will be stored for later use, if the solar panels will be used for baseload or for peak demand, and cost and ROI of a system. The community can then pilot a solar initiative. Determine if the community or sister communities have their own professionals or students in this area that can come aboard to conduct these assessments.
	13	Conduct a pilot, once EIAs are completed with regulatory approvals. Implement grid tying, such as ground mounted solar farm, which is a sizeable solar installation feeds into the grid. Community members could rent a solar panel or purchase power segments from the installation if virtual net metering is available.
	14	Build or expand a solar PV farm, once EIAs are completed with regulatory approvals. Once a community solar system is built, it would need to be marketed and would need to enroll customers.
	15	Establish a solar revolving fund to re-invest revenue into future projects.

Solar PV (rooftop or ground mount) Solar photovoltaic (PV) systems provide an opportunity for municipalities and citizens to produce power for use on site, such as net-metered, which would reduce greenhouse gas emissions and long-term costs. The reduction in GHG emissions depends on parameters such as the type and size of project, amount of kwH generated or offset, and the province's GHG coefficients for electricity, oil, gas and cost of the measure.	16	Conduct a survey or study on what types of solar PV programs could work, what the potential uptake could be, and what real or perceived challenges might exist. Determine if the community or sister communities have their own professionals or students in this area that can come aboard to conduct these assessments.
	17	"Establish a Solar Ready Building Policy or Guideline for new buildings (i.e: requiring new buildings to be ready for net-metered small scale solar PV, and for solar thermal water heating).
	18	Provide a rental, lease, or subsidy program for solar PV and thermal systems to assist homeowners in realizing the potential and cost savings related to a solar energy.
	19	Encourage solar PV Installations in residential and commercial buildings as a community retrofit project which could include financing solar PV and energy efficiency measures. Size the infrastructure for the facility use. Combine with storage if possible.
	20	Work with community partners to explore the installation of solar PV on buildings such as schools, community centers, shelters, fire stations, seniors homes, libraries, gas stations and grocery stores. Size the infrastructure for the facility use. Combine with storage if possible.
	21	If solar PV installation is on a community centre or shelter, combine with a diesel generator for backup power situations. If it's a solar thermal system, supplement with another heat source, which could include geothermal, biomass, district heat or conventional fuels such as natural gas.
	22	Apply for federal and provincial Incentive programs
Micro-hydro Local features may present opportunities to generate electricity from hydro power. For example, there may be an existing dam, pipeline, a stream that could be dammed, or gravity-fed outfalls that could be fitted with a turbine. A municipality that wishes to pursue micro-hydro must identify and assess the feasibility of potential in-stream, outfall, or dam installation and potential to tie in to the grid. A limiting factor of a micro hydro project could be location of the turbine in relation to the existing power grid. The costs of connecting to the grid must be factored in as part of the viability assessment.	23	Contact the utility before starting the process, in order to ensure alignment with existing programs and technical requirements.
	24	Identify locations that have the potential for micro hydro power generation.
	25	Study potential micro-hydro site for flow, distance to grid, and potential generating capacity to determine feasibility. Determine if the community or sister communities have their own professionals or students in this area that can come aboard to conduct these assessments.
	26	Implement a project to produce power to sell to the utility, or that powers a facility (net-metered). Some uitilies have restrictions on Micro-hydro systems larger than 100 kW. Recommended to contact the utility early in the planning stages

Biomass This action could include converting heating systems to biomass pellet systems, CHP, or district heat.	27	Identify locations that have the potential for converting to biomass pellets and district heat.
	28	Conduct a study to determine feasibility for each system. Determine if the community or sister communities have their own professionals or students in this area that can come aboard to conduct these assessments.
	29	Implement a project (if community-owned facility).
Waste to energy (e.g. landfills, organics, or wastewater) This action would include conducting a study, a pilot, and implementing a waste to energy project.	30	Conduct a study to determine the feasibility and implement a project to recover energy (electrical, thermal, or chemical) from inorganic waste, organic solid waste, and wastewater materials. This could be done through: - Gasification - Incineration - Depolymerization - Anaerobic digestion - Pyrolysis - Fermentation
Renewable natural gas	31	Identify opportunities to produce and use renewable natural gas.

LAND USE		
Use brownfields Brownfields are former industrial sites where there is, or may be, contamination that could affect future use of the site. Due to our history of industrialization, they are numerous and varied in size, type of contamination, and location, and can range from former gas stations that may still have fuel tanks buried underground, to large industrial sites that have been abandoned. Some brownfields can be used or renewable energy installations or community green space.	1	Identify brownfield sites that could be used for renewable energy or green space.
	2	Conduct a study of a potential brownfield site for renewable energy installation or redevelopment, determine technical or financial feasibility.
	3	Implement projects to repurpose a brownfield, produce clean energy and reduce GHG emissions.
	4	If done in partnership with a neighboring municipality, the municipality can apply for FCM funding if the site requires remediation or risk management or undertakes renewable energy production.
Consult the community to update community plan or land use plan. Land use decisions have a long-term impact on greenhouse gas emissions and the wellbeing of a community. The location of roads, services, green spaces, utilities and how people move across the land can all be supported through land use planning. A community can reduce and avoid GHG emissions by consulting the community and updating the community plan or land use plan. This could include designating areas for mixed-use development, generating clean energy, and more.	5	**Consult the community** on siting new mixed-use developments, identifying where to densify existing built environments, identifying where to improve active transportation networks, identifying where to generate clean energy, and introducing concepts such as net-zero ready buildings and require connecting to district energy where available. Capture this input in your community plan or land use plan.
	6	**Encourage mixed use and transit-oriented developments** with a diversity of building types, a community may: **(select measures to pursue)** **Encourage community members to think outside of the box and rethink what their community could and should look like.** **Update the community plan or land use plan, with community input.** **Identify areas for intensification.** Encourage infill and densification and mixed-use development, with consideration to transit, housing, commerce, and boundaries for undeveloped areas to be protected if applicable. **Diversify land use mix** in already built up, single use areas such as adding recreational areas, community facilities, housing and energy generation. **Reserve space for active transportation and** prioritize access and circulation for pedestrians and cyclists. **Develop community improvement plans** for brownfield or greyfield redevelopment, and infill.
	7	**Encourage local energy supply options** a community may: **(select measures to pursue):** **Encourage community members to think outside of the box and rethink what their community could and should look like** **Update the community plan or land use plan, with community input,** to include suitable locations for renewable

		energy development **Identify provisions** (e.g. size, height, set-backs, other constraints) for wind, solar PV and district energy. Include renewable energy as part of **community improvement plans, including using brownfields.** Identify **right-of-ways** for district energy infrastructure. **Create a common space or system where this info is accessible** to all admin departments, whether independently or working with first nation administration.
	8	Adopt policies that ensure building and energy developments **preserve ecologically significant or sensitive areas**, watersheds, and permafrost. Many indigenous young people are entering the policy-sphere. Your community could employ and or contract Indigenous youth studying or who have backgrounds in policy development.
	9	**Ensure community *and* council review and approval of key community and land use decisions.**
	10	**Develop an educational component** to help the community understand why the community is moving in this direction for future development, and what benefits exist for people considering purchasing a home, such as community wellbeing, energy affordability and GHG reduction.

TRANSPORTATION		
Active transport A comprehensive suite of transportation demand management actions could be undertaken in the community. This could include supporting a diversity of active transportation options (to the degree that fits local context; which could include cycling networks, bike share programs, pathways, and pedestrian-friendly sidewalks). This could also include supporting and providing public transit options with considerations for equitable access. For small or rural communities, options may include rideshare or carshare programs or buses. For mid-sized cities options also include city buses, rideshare or carshare, LRT systems and passenger rail stop. For large cities options include most or all of the above, including multiple stops for LRT systems, passenger rail, and rapid transit.	1	Partner with community organizations to launch new projects encouraging active transportation systems such as eBike sharing system, bicycle parking, resting and cooling stations, showers, lockers, signage to encourage active transportation, as well as incentives for bike purchases and exchange. Community organizations may take steps of their own like encouraging employees and installing bike parking.
	2	Create a map of the active transportation network and make it available and visible at high-traffic community centres and websites and groups.
	3	Access funding to provide infrastructure and encourage active transportation. This project can be done in 3 stages. First, the community would undertake a technical and financial study, followed by a pilot or demonstration phase, and finally, the implementation of a project.
	4	Pedestrian-friendly sidewalks (expansion, streetscaping, shade tree planting)
	5	Bike parking facilities or bike racks
	6	Bike lanes including painted bike lanes, cycle tracks with spatial or physical separation, “shared roadways” or sharrows and contraflow bike lanes
	7	Bike share programs
	8	Public bike tire pumps
	9	Multi-use trails
	10	Carsharing programs
	11	Ride Sharing programs
Fuel efficient driving Fuel-efficient driving can save you hundreds of dollars in fuel each year, improve road safety and prevent wear on your vehicle. If all drivers in Canada practiced fuel-efficient driving, we would collectively prevent six megatonnes of carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere each year. The combination of enhanced fuel efficiency, improved road safety and reduced GHG emissions make fuel-efficient driving a winning strategy for Canadian drivers.	12	Conduct a study to gather information on what barriers or perceived barriers there are to fuel-efficient driving, which audience you should target, what messages resonate well with that audience, how/where prompts should be used etc. Focus groups and observational studies are effective methods.
	13	Develop a pilot to test the effectiveness of social marketing techniques, to gather feedback from the community, and to make program changes.
	14	Implement a behaviour-change project involving a combination of social marketing techniques, based on the results of your pilot stage (include community-based social marketing techniques such as use of community leaders, prompts, commitments, and challenges).
	15	Develop public awareness tools including printed materials, forums, webinars, free presentations, social media campaigns, media and editorials.
	16	"Compliment activities with: (select which measures to pursue) - Access to eco-driving courses - Electric vehicle charging infrastructure - Incentives, rebates and mandates to switch personal and commercial vehicles to electric, hybrid, or low-carbon vehicles

		- Switching community fleet of vehicles to electric, hybrid, or low-carbon
Fuel efficient and electric vehicle replacements EV systems use electrical energy to power an electric motor, which ultimately reduces the need for gasoline and the dependence on damaging fossil fuels in a large part of the transportation sector. This transition will not only be more cost-effective for buyers in the long-term as EVs are cost-effective and deliver great performance, and it will also contribute to addressing the community's overall GHG emissions and air pollution levels. Aside from hybrid vehicles, the two most common types of EV options include fully electric vehicles and plug-in hybrid vehicles.	17	Increase the number of EV charging stations locally and pilot installation of residential EV chargers, such as part of residential home charger rental or incentive program.
	18	Create incentives that will reward individuals who choose to purchase EV or second-hand replacements, or demonstrably more fuel efficient compact vehicles. This could include rebates for home charger units, toward fuel efficient vehicle replacements, toward other consumer products (such as LEDs), or could be in the form of discounts for use of recreational facilities or local restaurants.
	19	Conduct a campaign to educate citizens which promotes the benefits of switching to fuel efficient vehicles such as energy cost savings and GHG reduction. Highlight the available rebates and programs, and address barriers such as range anxiety.
	20	These activities can be further complemented by: (select which measures to pursue): - Switching community-owned vehicles to electric, hybrid, or low-carbon - Enabling use of community-owned electric vehicles by community organizations when not in use - Creating an EV car share program
Idle-free policy The term "idling" refers to running a vehicle's engine when the vehicle is not in motion. This can occur while a car is being heated, cooled, stopped at a red light, or waiting while stationary with the engine running. The consequences of engine idling include wasting fuel and money, and causes excessive engine wear and is a main contributor to air pollution and the release of GHG emissions. For the average vehicle with a 3-litre engine, every ten minutes of idling costs over 1 cup of wasted fuel-and one half of a litre if your vehicle has a 5-litre engine. It is important to keep in mind that every litre of gasoline you use produces 2.4 kilograms of CO2.	21	Conduct a study first, to gather information on: where idling occurs, what barriers or perceived barriers there are for not idling, which audience you should target, what messages resonate well with that audience and how/ where prompts should be used.
	22	Develop a pilot to test effectiveness, gather feedback from the community, and make program changes.
	23	Implement a project involving a combination of social marketing techniques, based on the results of your pilot stage (include community-based social marketing techniques such as use of community leaders, prompts, commitments, and challenges).
	24	Develop public awareness tools including printed materials, forums, webinars, free presentations, social media campaigns, media and editorials.
	25	Provide alternatives for municipal staff, such as idle reduction technologies like block heaters, cab heaters, auxiliary power units, green energy and hybrid vehicles.
	26	Promote alternative shelter listing local restaurants and businesses that participate by promoting anti-idling.
	27	Provide alternative shelter such as parking shelter, bus shelter and rest areas.
	28	Consider a policy that states unnecessary idling is unacceptable in the community.
	29	Monitor effectiveness through digital surveys, observation studies and school or student projects.

SMART ENERGY NETWORKS		
Micro Grid Solution An action strategy for microgrid solutions typically involves several key steps to ensure the successful planning, design, and implementation of a microgrid system. Microgrids are part of the broader trend towards the decentralization of energy systems. They can operate independently from the traditional grid and are often powered by local, renewable energy sources. One of the primary motivations for deploying microgrids is to enhance the resilience of the electricity supply. Microgrids can maintain power during outages caused by extreme weather or other disruptions	1	Energy Management Effective energy management strategies are crucial for the efficient operation of microgrids. This includes coordinating the complex interactions between different energy sources and loads. Smart energy networks require a systemic approach that integrates various energy resources, including renewables, to ensure efficient distribution and usage.
	2	Technology Integration Microgrids often incorporate advanced technologies such as energy storage systems and power electronics converters to manage the flow of electricity and maintain stability
	3	Regulatory Frameworks Developing appropriate regulatory frameworks that support the implementation and operation of microgrids is essential. This includes policies for grid connectivity, tariffs, and incentives for renewable energy integration
	4	Economic Analysis Conducting thorough economic analysis to ensure the financial viability of microgrid projects, including cost-benefit analysis, financing models, and identifying potential revenue streams
	5	Community Engagement Engaging local communities in the planning and development process of microgrids ensures that the solutions meet the specific needs and priorities of the community
	6	Environmental Impact Assessing the environmental impact of microgrid projects to ensure they contribute to sustainability goals, such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting clean energy

WATER CONSERVATION		
Optimize water and wastewater systems	1	Implement measures to optimize water and wastewater systems to reduce energy consumed in pumping and treatment of water. This includes evaluation of linear infrastructure to prevent and repair water leaks and improving efficiency of water and wastewater treatment equipment. Measures could include: (select measures to pursue) - Leak detection and repair - Water meters and water-use monitoring - Pressure-reducing valves - Efficiency upgrades to wastewater treatment equipment
Promote water conservation	2	Implement measures to promote water conservation, such as a public awareness campaign, and conduct retrofit program to conserve water, such as targeting: - Toilet dams - Low-flow showerheads - Faucet aerators or washers - Rainwater collection
Promote potable and non-potable water re-use	3	"Establish a program to promote potable or non-potable water reuse. This could include public awareness campaigns (especially during drought periods). This could also include incentivizing rain-barrels.
Stormwater Management	4	Implement measures to reduce peak flow, such as stormwater retention ponds and tanks, greening roofs, bioswales and permeable pavement. Also consider and prepare for changing weather patterns related to climate change that may impact infrastructure. Measures could include (select measures to pursue): - Stormwater retention ponds and tanks - Bioswales - Rain gardens - Permeable pavement - Green roofs

WASTE		
Recycling	1	Ensure and create programs to collect and recycle residential materials such as glass, plastic, metals and electronic waste as a means to reduce the embedded energy in products that use recycled materials.
Waste reduction	2	Establish waste management programs to reduce non recyclable, inorganic residential landfill waste as a means to reduce the total embedded energy in discarded products. This may include garbage bag tags, plastic bag bans and re-use programs like community swap days.
Waste diversion	3	Implement or expand waste management programs to divert waste that results from industrial, commercial and institutional (ICI) sectors, as well as construction, renovation and demolition (CRD).
Organic collection	4	Select measures to pursue: - Provide incentives for composters - Ensure diversion to municipal use (e.g. soil for flower beds) - Diversion to landfill for energy production

OTHER		
Clothesline program Using clotheslines in replacement of drying machines has multiple advantages, such as low installation and repair costs, zero GHG emissions and saved money that would have been spent on the energy for the dryer. On average, households can save up to $15 to $20 per month. Additional benefits of using a clothesline for drying clothes is that the sun acts as a natural deodorizer, antibacterial and bleach for clothing and sheets. Drying clothes outdoors is also much more gentle, which will result in a longer lifespan for the clothing and reduce the need and cost for replacement.	1	Distribute free outdoor and indoor retractable clotheslines to eligible residents to help decrease energy consumption from the use of dryers throughout the year. First, review existing bylaws to determine where it is allowable, followed by a survey to determine who uses clothesline, and perceived barriers. Upon completion, launch pilot project, conduct follow-up survey, and develop a communications strategy.
Business energy challenge In order to encourage energy efficiency and clean energy conversion in the commercial sector, invite businesses to take part in a community energy challenge. The challenge could center on achieving energy efficiency and GHG reductions over a one month or twelve month period, and results could be submitted digitally. The energy and GHG reductions could be quantified through various data, for example, the of businesses, types of measures, energy bills and usage and a comparison of the average energy consumption per square foot.	2	Organize a business energy challenge once a year which could take form in a community feat or celebration to to look at the collective impact. Ideally around fall or winter. It can be based on measuring energy efficiency efforts over one month or over a full year.
	3	Invite community-owned businesses to take part in the energy challenge.
	4	Work with community partners to establish an effective communications and outreach plan, along with supplier channels and discounts.
	5	Organize a communications launch and award ceremony for recipients. This could be held at a pre-existing community event or festival.
	6	Invite nominees and submissions for the annual recognition of energy champions in commercial category. Energy champions will have achieved reduction in GHGs through energy efficiency, clean energy conversion (heating), renewable energy production and transportation.
	7	Engage a committee to review nominations and submissions. Selected submissions could be presented awards on an annual basis, communicated to the public, engaged when possible, and GHG reductions recorded as part of measuring community impact.
Community energy challenge In order to encourage energy efficiency and clean energy conversion in the residential sector, invite households to take part in a community energy	8	Organize a community energy challenge once a year, ideally around fall or winter. It can be based on measuring energy efficiency efforts over one month or over a full year.
	9	Invite households to take part in a Community Energy Challenge. Encourage participation and education through in-home visits

challenge. The challenge could center on achieving energy efficiency and GHG reductions over a one-month or twelve-month period, and results can be submitted via webpage. The energy and GHG reductions could be quantified through various data, including number of households, types of measures, energy bills and usage and comparing average energy consumption per square foot.	10	Work with community partners to establish effective communications, outreach, supplier channels and discounts.
	11	Organize a communications launch and recognition and award ceremony for recipients. This could be held at a pre-existing community event or festival.
	12	Invite nominees and submissions for annual recognition of energy champions in residential category. Energy champions will have achieved reduction in GHGs through energy efficiency, clean energy conversion (heating), renewable energy production.
	13	Engage a committee to review nominations and submissions. Selected submissions could be presented awards (annually), communicated to the public, engaged when possible, and GHG reductions recorded as part of measuring community impact.
	14	Prepare award selection, presentation, and communication.

Outlook

Re: Textile Recycling Opportunity and Diabetes Canada

From Jessica McClelland <AdminExecAsst@mdpinchercreek.ab.ca>
Date Tue 2025-01-28 10:52 AM
To David Desabrais <AdminInfra@mdpinchercreek.ab.ca>

will do!

Jessica McClelland
Executive Assistant
Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9
1037 Herron Drive, PO Box 279
Pincher Creek, AB T0K-1W0
Phone: 403-627-3130
Communications@mdpinchercreek.ab.ca

From: David Desabrais <AdminInfra@mdpinchercreek.ab.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 10:51 AM
To: Jessica McClelland <AdminExecAsst@mdpinchercreek.ab.ca>
Cc: Roland Milligan <AdminCAO@mdpinchercreek.ab.ca>
Subject: FW: Textile Recycling Opportunity and Diabetes Canada

For information for the next Council Meeting.

CNPC has indicated no concerns.

Thanks,
David Desabrais, P. Eng.
Cell: 403 632 5184

From: David Desabrais
Sent: January 28, 2025 10:51 AM
To: Kyle Ross <operationsmgr@pinchercreek.ca>
Cc: Roland Milligan <AdminCAO@mdpinchercreek.ab.ca>; 'Meghan Dobie (AdminFinance@mdpinchercreek.ab.ca)' <AdminFinance@mdpinchercreek.ab.ca>
Subject: FW: Textile Recycling Opportunity and Diabetes Canada

Hey Kyle,

A heads up that Diabetes Canada has asked us if they can place their clothing donation bins at the Eco Center. We don't see an issue with it, and plan to get this in front of our Council on Feb 11th for information prior to signing off and giving the formal go.

Let us know if there are questions or concerns.

Thanks,
David Desabrais, P. Eng.
Cell: 403 632 5184

From: Carolyn Higgins <Carolyn.Higgins@diabetes.ca>
Sent: January 28, 2025 9:10 AM
To: David Desabrais <AdminInfra@mdpinchercreek.ab.ca>
Subject: Textile Recycling Opportunity and Diabetes Canada

Good Morning David,

Thank you for your time yesterday. It was a pleasure to connect with you and Dean about textile recycling with Diabetes Canada at The Eco-Centre in Pincher Creek. As discussed, Dean is in support of this initiative and provided your contact information regarding MD support. Attached (for reference and use, if approved) is the consent form we use to register bin locations.

When community leaders partner, it allows us to support 1 in 3 Canadians affected by diabetes (more than 11 million Canadians)! Here's a picture of our highly secure "engineered" hosting bin which operates like a night deposit box.

The dimensions are 52"x41"x81" and we are 100% responsible for the program and it is 100% free. We place, service, maintain and insure our donation bins. With over 35 years in the textile diversion business and partnering with business and community leaders, textiles are diverted from landfill and converted into charitable dollars, to fund:

Education – Canadians diagnosed with diabetes learn how to manage and live with the disease.

Life-Saving research - leading the fight to end diabetes.

- Advocacy - the federal government reversed their decision to disallow a $1500 tax credit for medicine.
- D-Camps – Children with type 1 diabetes attend 12 medically supervised camps across Canada.

Here is some additional info about how it works when you partner with us in this way:

- We place a bin at your location – collaborating with you to find the right location on the property.
- Our bins provide area residents with a convenient way to donate and impact 11 Million Canadians affected by diabetes.
- We are responsible for maintaining, servicing, and insuring our bins.
- Our drivers pick up on a regular schedule and are available for immediate service at lethbridge.operation@diabetes.ca or by calling (403) 394-2828.

We look forward to this possibility and thank you for your time and consideration.

Kindest Regards,

Carolyn Higgins-Teichroeb
Territory Manager Southern Alberta
National Diabetes Trust

Diabetes Canada
C: 403-831-7663
Carolyn.Higgins@diabetes.ca

diabetes.ca | 1-800-banting | Leading the fight to **end diabetes**

Cardston County

January 28, 20025

Reeve and Council
MD of Pincher Creek
1037 Herron Ave Box 279
Pincher Creek, AB T0K 1W0

RE: ICF Extension

On January 27, 2025, Cardston County Council met at its regular council meeting and discussed extending the ICF Agreement between Cardston County and the MD of Pincher Creek. Motions 20.25 were presented and approved.

20.25:
Councillor Francis moved that Council accept the recommendation of the MD of Pincher Creek and Cardston County Chief Administrative Officers that a review of the intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Agreement has been undertaken as directed by Municipal Council in accordance with Section 708.32 of the Municipal Government Act and it is the opinion of the Chief Administrative Officers that the agreement remains valid in its current format and no changes are recommended at this time with the next review of the ICF agreement scheduled for 2031.

Carried

We will attach a copy of the resolution along with the MD of Pincher Creek Resolution to the ICF agreement for record keeping.

We appreciate the MD of Pincher Creek's willingness to keep our agreement in good standing, and we want to thank the Council and administration for their hard work.

Respectfully,

Randall M. Bullock

Randy Bullock, BS Fin
Reeve
Cardston County

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