

MINUTES
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF PINCHER CREEK NO. 9
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 17, 2025

10057

The Special Meeting of Council of the Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9 was held on Wednesday, December 17, 2025, in the MD of Pincher Creek Council Chambers.

Notice of this Special Council Meeting was posted on the MD website and social media.

- PRESENT** Reeve Rick Lemire, Deputy Reeve Tony Bruder, Councillors Dave Cox, Jim Welsch and John MacGarva.
- STAFF** CAO Roland Milligan, Director of Corporate Services Meghan Dobie, Utilities & Infrastructure Manager David Desabrais, and Executive Assistant Jessica McClelland.
- ALSO** Town of Pincher Creek: Mayor Wayne Oliver, Councillors Mark Barber, Bernice Cyr, Brian McGillivray, Gord McMullen, Sahra Nodge, and Valerie Wynder, CAO Konrad Dunbar, Director of Finance and Human Resources Wendy Catonio, and Executive Assistant Carolina Hunsperger.

Reeve Rick Lemire called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

A. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Councillor Jim Welsch 25/573

Moved that the Special Council Agenda for December 17, 2025 be approved as presented.

Carried

B. DELEGATIONS

a) Pincher Creek & District Library

Sam Stuart of Reimagine Design, along with Pincher Creek & District Library representatives, Manager Kayla Lorenzen, and Board Members Sandra Baker and Michele Barkwith, attended the meeting.

Sam Stuart presented a review of the existing library facility, engagement outcomes, and a potential design concept with a site plan. The current facility was built in 1999, and the Library is outgrowing the space. User demand for space and programming exceeds the facility's current footprint. Spatial limitations are a critical barrier to the library's ability to evolve in step with community needs and aspirations.

The library would like to offer more meeting space and has been discussing a partnership with Adult Learning to share a space. The Town has suggested that the library can include the current gym space as part of the renovations. Three options were proposed for the expansion and renovation, ranging from \$12,212,203 to \$2,879,441.

The library is arranging to move off-site during construction to allow programming to continue, but has not yet secured a location.

The Pincher Creek Municipal Library made following requests of MD Council:

1. Approval and financial support of \$2.5 Million - \$3.75 Million which is 20 - 30 % of the total financial amount, as per the Reimagine Architects cost estimate, as promised funds towards the project, so that we may start applying for matching grants using the promised funds.
2. A letter from MD Council that states they support the expansion at our current location.

This matter will be further discussed at the next Council meeting. Library representatives left the meeting at 6:50 pm.

b) RIPPLE Fund

Andrea Hlady and Dan Crawford attended the meeting to discuss the Regional Impact People Prosperity Legacy Echo (RIPPLE) Community Fund. This program has been in development for the past couple of years and is now ready to be released to the community.

Minutes
Special Council Meeting
Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9
December 17, 2025

Pincher Creek now has its own fund, in partnership with the Community Foundation for Lethbridge and Southwestern Alberta. This fund will allow people to donate, and all collected funds will stay within the Pincher Creek area. Currently, there is about \$1,500. Once it reaches \$10k, groups can apply for funding.

Currently, community groups can apply for funding twice a year, unless there is an emergency. The Community Foundation has a board that decides on funding, with a representative from Pincher Creek.

Council thanked them for their hard work getting this funding agreement in place. Andrea and Dan left the meeting at 7:04 pm.

C. NEW BUSINESS

a) Regional Water Supply Mitigation Strategy (Drought Projects Assessment)

Utilities & Infrastructure Manager David Desabrais presented information on the regional water supply mitigation strategy, as well as airport development.

b) Airport Development

The Town advised that they are interested in attending future airport development meetings. The MD will schedule one in early 2026 to bring partners back to the table and discuss developing the airport. Currently, the airport has no water or sewer, so those upgrades would need to be completed before expansion can proceed.

c) Captus Generation

Presently, there is no development application for CAPTUS; it is still in concept planning.

d) Update on the Memorial Community Centre Arena upgrade plans

The Town reported that the ice plant is failing and that the floor is leaking. They had an architect and an engineer conduct a study of the current structure. The structure itself could last another 20 years, with an upgrade to the truss system. Approximate costs are looking like \$1.2 million. Currently, they are looking at a concept plan and will come back to the MD in the next few months with potential options for the arena. A suggestion was made to hold a special Council meeting once the information is available, so both Municipalities can ask questions and provide clarification to the community.

e) Cabin Fever 2026 – Healthcare Committee

The Healthcare Committee plans to attend the University of Calgary Cumming School of Medicine exhibitor event in February 2026. This annual faculty development conference brings together rural physicians, residents, and healthcare professionals to share ideas, spark innovation, and explore the future of rural medical education. The purpose is to showcase Pincher Creek as a destination for living and practicing medicine. The Pincher Clinic is attending and has offered to have a committee member attend as well. A suggestion was made for the clinic to contact Alberta SouthWest and the South Canadian Rockies for information to distribute about the community.

Both the Town and MD set aside \$10k each for the Healthcare Committee to work on recruitment. For the funds to be released to the Healthcare Committee, the committee would need a resolution to the Town, as the money managers for these funds. The next Healthcare Committee meeting is in January.

Minutes
 Special Council Meeting
 Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9
 December 17, 2025

The last rural physician event was discussed. A dinner took place in September, hosted by the Pincher Clinic, where physicians learned about our community. Two MD Councillors were in attendance.

Currently, there is a disconnect between Rural Health Professional (RhPap) and the Healthcare Committee. The plan is to coordinate among the separate groups to get a clearer idea of what is needed for the community.

f) AB Muni

The resolution on Alberta Municipalities to advocate on behalf of rural and remote communities that the Government of Alberta immediately appoint a separate and dedicated general practitioner, and/or nurse practitioner as a voting member to the Health System Integration Council and within the new health board leadership structure to ensure that those who serve Albertans who live in rural and remote communities have an appropriate and continuous voice for their health care, was discussed.

This resolution has already been presented, and passed, at the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) and now at ABmunis.

E. CLOSED SESSION

Councillor Dave Cox 25/574

Moved that Council move into closed session to discuss the following, the time being 8:40 pm.

a) Update on Pincher Creek Community Early Learning Centres - ATIA – Sec 19.1

Councillor Jim Welsch 25/575

Moved that Council move out of closed session, the time being 8:58 pm.

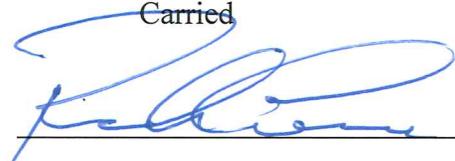
Carried

F. ADJOURNMENT

Councillor Tony Bruder 25/576

Moved that Council adjourn the meeting, the time being 8:59 pm.

Carried



 REEVE



 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER