

2026 Resolution Status Update

Volume 1





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Introduction

The Resolution Status Update is divided into two sections.

- ◆ Section 1 provides detailed information on the government response to the fall 2025 resolutions and includes the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) Board of Directors’ reaction to the response as well as anticipated follow up.
- ◆ Section 2 updates members by reporting on all active resolutions, grouped by advocacy area.
- ◆ Section 3 provides a detailed update and explanation of status changes included in the Resolution Status Update.

Definition of Terms

Following endorsement by RMA members, resolutions are sent to the appropriate level of government for response. Once a response is received, RMA labels the resolution with one of five indicators which determines the status of that resolution. The intention of providing a status for each resolution is to evaluate whether the government response meets the intent of the resolution. The status is not intended to reflect RMA’s advocacy efforts on a resolution.

STATUS	DESCRIPTIONS
● Accepted	Meets RMA criteria as outlined in a) the resolution and b) as per the expectations of the Board of Directors.
● Accepted in Principle	The development addresses that action is being taken to meet the intent of the resolution, but further action is required.
● Accepted in Part	Some resolutions include multiple ‘asks’ in the operative clause. This status indicates that one of the ‘asks’ has been met while others require further action.
● Intent Not Met	The intent of the resolution has not been met as outlined in the resolution or the current developments do not meet the approval of the Board of Directors.
● Incomplete Information	RMA has not received enough information to assign a status. Further follow up is required for RMA to make an informed decision on how to proceed.

Resolutions at a Glance

#	RESOLUTION NAME	STATUS
1-25F	Funding for Protein Programs in Alberta Food Banks – Support for Livestock Processing Fees	● Intent Not Met
2-25F	Quasi-Judicial Decisions and Inter-agency Communication	● Intent Not Met
3-25F	Review of RMA Advocacy Reporting	● Accepted in Principle
4-25F	Amendment to Food and Drug Regulations to Enable Regulated On-Farm Sale of Unpasteurized Dairy Products	● Intent Not Met
5-25F	Increasing Funding for Alberta’s Libraries	● Intent Not Met
6-25F	Increased Enforcement in Rural Alberta to Deter Rural Crime	● Intent Not Met
8-25F	Sustainable Fee Model for Alberta Registry Agents to Protect Rural Service Access	● Intent Not Met
9-25F	Recognition of “Historical Hamlets” to Enable Provincial Funding Eligibility	● Intent Not Met



Section 1 Government Responses to Fall 2025 Resolutions

RMA recently received responses to the resolutions adopted at the Fall 2025 convention from the Government of Alberta and Government of Canada. The following table provides an overview of the initial assessment to resolutions following the response. RMA emphasizes that this table only reflects the initial response received from the Government of Alberta and Government of Canada and that advocacy efforts on all resolutions are in progress.

Resolution 1-25F: Funding for Protein Programs in Alberta Food Banks – Support for Livestock Processing Fees

Summary:

Resolution 1-25F calls on the Government of Alberta to work in partnership with food banks and industry partners to develop a funding stream that supports the processing of livestock for food banks. Dedicated financial support will reduce cost burdens on food banks and help ensure that Albertans who rely on food banks have access to high-quality protein sources.

Link to Full Resolution: [1-25F: Funding for Protein Programs in Alberta Food Banks – Support for Livestock Processing Fees – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Nearly 1 in 3 households in Alberta experience food insecurity. In 2026, the Government of Canada released a National Food Security Strategy. The strategy includes enhanced support for food hubs (including food banks), distribution systems, and processing infrastructure. RMA will monitor the implementation of measures outlined in the strategy and advocate for initiatives that consider rural perspectives and needs.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to the ministries of Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation and Alberta Assisted Living and Social Services
- ◆ RMA has engaged in an initial discussion with Food Banks Alberta to better understand the potential need for such a program and operational details.

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ What impact a dedicated funding stream for livestock processing would have on food security for those who rely on food banks
- ◆ Challenges that Food Banks Alberta members currently face with providing adequate protein sources to food bank users
- ◆ What, if any, considerations must be made to ensure that livestock processing is conducted in alignment with Food Banks Canada’s Standards of Excellence
- ◆ The role of the agriculture industry in making livestock available for dedicated food bank access

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation
- ◆ Alberta Assisted Living and Social Services
- ◆ Food Banks Alberta

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue to build an understanding of the critical role of food banks in rural communities and the challenges in accessing nutritious food in a rural context
- ◆ Conduct further research on the Canada Food Banks Standards of Excellence, grassroots initiatives such as Project Protein, and the overall landscape of food banks in rural Alberta

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 2-25F: Quasi-Judicial Board Decisions and Inter-Agency Communications

Summary:

Resolution 2-25F calls for quasi-judicial agencies in Alberta and provincial ministries to collaboratively develop a formalized inter-agency communication approach to help support consistency, enforcement and oversight in development approval decisions.

Link to full resolution: [2-25F: Quasi-Judicial Decisions and Inter-agency Communication – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Recent changes to the *Municipal Government Act* through Bill 28 enhance the power of Alberta Environment and Parks to approve aggregate pits regardless of their alignment with local land use plans and bylaws. This will result in further complexity among provincial ministries and agencies by adding an additional requirement for inter-agency communication in relation to aggregate pits. At this point, Alberta Environment and Parks has not indicated any intention to amend their approval or communication processes to reflect this change to decision-making responsibilities.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ RMA has sent this resolution to the following Government of Alberta offices and ministries:
 - ◇ Premier’s Office
 - ◇ Environment and Protected Areas
 - ◇ Energy and Minerals
 - ◇ Agriculture and Irrigation
 - ◇ Transportation and Economic Corridors
 - ◇ Affordability and Utilities
- ◆ RMA is currently developing an updated version of the final report of its 2023 Member Committee on Quasi-Judicial Agencies, due in part to resolution 2-25F. The updated report is expected to be released in late 2026.

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ What are the current communication procedures among quasi-judicial agencies and between quasi-judicial agencies and provincial ministries?
- ◆ Where do other instances of inter-agency communication issues exist?
- ◆ Have any quasi-judicial agencies acted in response to recommendation 6 from RMA’s QJAC report, which calls for the following: “That the AER, AUC and NRCB collaborate to harmonize their respective engagement and approval processes as much as possible”?

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA is in the process of gathering input on this issue from both members and quasi-judicial agencies in relation to updating the 2023 QJAC report

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue research to understand existing inter-agency communication procedures to help support advocacy towards the establishment of a formalized communication framework.
- ◆ Identify specific opportunities and recommendations for improved communications approaches and consistency.

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 3-25F: Review of RMA Advocacy Reporting

Summary:

Resolution 3-25F calls for a review of RMA’s advocacy reporting processes to support RMA’s engagement and advocacy efforts and ensure advocacy information is shared with members as effectively as possible.

Link to Full Resolution: [3-25F: Review of RMA Advocacy Reporting – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

RMA reports on our advocacy efforts in a variety of ways such as monthly resolution highlights, social media features, district meeting updates, member visit summaries, and the twice annual Resolution Status Update. In 2026, RMA also began featuring short reports to highlight research and advocacy on select resolutions. Learn more about RMA’s new resolution report series [here](#).

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ RMA has began the process of conducting an internal review of our resolution and advocacy processes to assess how best to improve member reporting.
- ◆ RMA has created and filled a new Member Engagement and Outreach Manager position within the Policy and Advocacy Department. Part of the responsibilities of this role are to improve sharing of RMA advocacy priorities and positions with members, as well as gather member input, data and perspectives to inform RMA advocacy work.

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ What gaps or weaknesses exist in current advocacy reporting from the perspective of members and what would success look like?
- ◆ How would changes to advocacy reporting procedures shift expectations for staff, members and stakeholders?

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA is currently focused on developing an internal plan to action this resolution, which is likely to include a review of reporting processes used by other similar organizations as well as direct engagement with members.

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will continue research, internal reviews and member engagement to develop recommendations that best support advocacy reporting for RMA members

Current Status:

- **Accepted in Principle**

Resolution 4-25F: Amendment to Food and Drug Regulations to Enable Regulated On-Farm Sale of Unpasteurized Dairy Products

Summary:

Resolution 4-25F calls for the allowance of regulated on-farm sale of unpasteurized dairy, as well as the ability, through legislative amendments, for provincial governments to develop their own safety and oversight frameworks for the sale of unpasteurized dairy.

Link to full resolution: [Resolution 4-25F: Amendment to Food and Drug Regulations to Enable Regulated On-Farm Sale of Unpasteurized Dairy Products](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

The response from Health Canada outlines the various health risks of the consumption of unpasteurized dairy products and maintains that the existing regulations will not be revisited to enable the regulated sale of these products. The response does not provide consideration towards supporting agricultural economic development and direct-to-consumer markets that are especially prevalent in rural communities.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Health Canada

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ What specific legislative amendments at the federal level would need to be made to enable provincial safety and oversight of direct-to-consumer sale of unpasteurized dairy products?
- ◆ How have food safety practices and technologies in other jurisdictions that enable the direct-to-consumer sale of unpasteurized dairy been implemented and how could these approaches be applied in Alberta?

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA continues to learn more about the issues highlighted in Resolution 4-25F to best inform engagement and advocacy

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will continue research and seek out further advocacy opportunities and policy changes to support the regulated sale of direct-to-consumer unpasteurized dairy

Current Status:

- **Intent Not Met**

Resolution 5-25F: Increased Funding for Alberta’s Libraries

Summary:

Resolution 5-25 calls on the Government of Alberta to update the per capita rate for the Public Library Operating Grant to reflect inflationary pressures. The resolution also seeks a commitment to index the operating grant to inflation and use updated population data from Municipal Affairs.

Link to Full Resolution: [5-25F: Increasing Funding for Alberta’s Libraries – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2022, Albertans borrowed over 37 million items from public libraries. Libraries offer more than book loans; in addition to other media loans such as games, music, and movies, libraries offer free services including employment training, community events, programming, and education.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs and Alberta Treasury Board and Finance

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ What cost pressures libraries in rural Alberta are facing due to population growth and inflation
- ◆ How a funding increase for libraries of \$1 million in Alberta Budget 2026-27 will be allocated
- ◆ How the announcement of \$5.4 million in network support will aid ease of service delivery for rural and remote libraries
- ◆ How additional library administrative and compliance requirements introduced through Bill 28 will impact library budgets

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Municipal Affairs, Alberta Treasury Board and Finance

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will monitor for additional funding announcements for rural and remote libraries
- ◆ RMA will continue to advocate for support for libraries and emphasize the integral role of libraries as community hubs across Alberta.

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 6-25F: Increased Enforcement in Rural Alberta to Deter Rural Crime

Summary:

Resolution 6-25F calls on the Government of Alberta to implement additional strategies to prevent rural crime. In particular, the resolution seeks an expansion of police detachment services in rural Alberta.

Link to Full Resolution: [6-25F: Increased Enforcement in Rural Alberta to Deter Rural Crime – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Set to commence in Fall 2026, RMA’s Justice Committee will serve as a forum for research, discussion, and collaboration among members and key stakeholders. Together, the committee will assess the challenges of addressing rural crime and work to improve members’ understanding of the criminal justice system and its relationship to rural issues. The committee will recommend solutions geared toward enhancing safety and reducing crime in rural communities.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ If and how the Police Funding Model (PFM) has directed resources to areas most in need of additional capacity and the impacts of the PFM on rural crime rates.
- ◆ How the deployment of the Alberta Sheriffs Police Service (ASPS) in rural communities will intersect with existing RCMP police services, and whether it will positively impact community safety in rural and remote communities
- ◆ If and how the Provincial Police Advisory Board will improve policing outcomes in small and rural communities policed under the Provincial Police Service Agreement (PPSA)

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA met with the Deputy Commissioner of the RCMP
- ◆ RMA has engaged with Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services
- ◆ Alberta Sheriffs Police Service

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA is in the process of forming a member committee to examine the justice system from a rural perspective. The committee will begin meeting in Fall 2026
- ◆ RMA is finalizing an impact analysis of the PFM, set to be released later in 2026
- ◆ RMA is tracking the implementation of the ASPS and will monitor the ASPS’s effectiveness in filling gaps in rural policing

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 8-25F: Sustainable Fee Model for Alberta Registry Agents to Protect Rural Service Access

Summary:

Resolution 8-25F calls on the Government of Alberta to update the Alberta Registry fee guide to reflect the cost of living, inflation, and minimum wage. The resolution states that modernizing fees, many of which have not been updated since 2005, will help registries in rural areas stay open and support rural Albertans’ access to registry services close to home.

Link to Full Resolution: [8-25F: Sustainable Fee Model for Alberta Registry Agents to Protect Rural Service Access – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

There are 197 Alberta Association of Registry Agents (AARA) member agents across 137 Alberta communities. 75% of member agents are in rural communities. Ten rural registries have ceased operations since 2021.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to the Ministry of Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ What fee structure would enable rural registries to remain open long-term
- ◆ What updates could be made to allow registries to deliver services online
- ◆ If other government services can be added to registry agents’ portfolios to enhance long term business sustainability and viability

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Ministry of Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will continue to advocate for sustainable registry agent fees and the core role that registry agents have in government service provisions in rural communities.

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 9-25F: Recognition of Historical Hamlets to Enable Provincial Funding Eligibility

Summary:

This resolution calls for provincial infrastructure grant programs to recognize hamlets established prior to Alberta’s formation in 1905 as “historical hamlets.” This designation would acknowledge long standing settlement patterns and ensure these communities are not disadvantaged by modern grant eligibility criteria. RMA members are also calling for the inclusion of historical hamlets within provincial potable water funding programs – specifically Water for Life and the Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership – to secure equitable access to potable water infrastructure funding for residents in these areas.

Link to Full Resolution: [9-25F: Recognition of “Historical Hamlets” to Enable Provincial Funding Eligibility – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Prior to the creation of the Province of Alberta in 1905, many hamlets were formed across what was then part of the Northwest Territories. While these “historical hamlets” continue to exist today and require urban-style infrastructure and servicing, many include residential lot sizes that are non-standard or slightly above the maximum lot size threshold used to define a hamlet for the purposes of many provincial grant funds. As a result, rural municipalities are unable to access specialized hamlet-specific funding to enable higher service levels in historical hamlets.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors
- ◆ RMA has highlighted this issue through the Closing the Gap campaign, which outlines disparities in funding for programs such as Water for Life (W4L), and the Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership (AMWWP)

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Better understand rural impacts of changes to water and wastewater programs such as W4L, AMWWP, and related provincial initiatives, including how shifts in program function, rationale, and eligibility criteria contribute to reduced access for historical hamlets
- ◆ Explore the possible long-term effects of continued cumulative failures to address the growing deterioration of water and wastewater infrastructure in historical hamlets, and how these failures compound over time
- ◆ Investigate the probability of losing historical hamlets that may occur as a result of unsustainable water and wastewater infrastructure deterioration, and the implications for residents, service delivery, and regional viability

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will continue to advocate for increased water and wastewater program funding to prevent further deterioration of rural infrastructure and support a sustainable level of service in all communities, including historical hamlets
- ◆ RMA will continue seeking out further advocacy and policy changes that advance safe, reliable, and potable water access across rural Alberta, ensuring that historical hamlets are not excluded from essential infrastructure investment

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met



Section 2

Resolution Status Update

The following table is a summary of RMA’s current resolutions excluding the resolutions adopted in Fall 2025, which are detailed in Section 1, and Spring 2026, some of which are still awaiting government responses. Recent developments on the resolutions are detailed below in the corresponding categories, and readers are reminded that although resolution statuses may remain unchanged, work on each resolution is ongoing. Each resolution has a three-year lifespan to reflect the nature of shifting government policy development and timelines associated with legislative changes and implementation.

Resolutions at a Glance

#	Resolution Name	Status
Agriculture		
8-24S	Support for the Export of Live Horses for Slaughter	● Accepted
Broadband & Connectivity		
13-24F	Review of Broadband Funding Application Processes	● Intent Not Met
Community Services		
2-24F	Increased Funding Support for Rural Family and Community Support Services Programs	● Intent Not Met
19-24F	Exemption from Food Banks Canada’s Standard of Excellence and Accreditation Requirements for Small and/or Rural Local Food Banks	● Intent Not Met
4-23F	Provincial Downloading of Operating Costs for Deteriorating Provincially Owned Housing	● Intent Not Met
9-23F	Review of Affordable Housing Funding Programs	● Intent Not Met
20-23F	Post-COVID Bridging Support for Small and Medium Community Facilities and Agricultural Societies	● Accepted in Part
Education		
15-25S	Enhancing Access to Post-Secondary Education for Rural Alberta Students	● Intent Not Met
Emergency Services		
10-25S	Provincial Assistance for Fire Apparatus Replacement in Alberta	● Intent Not Met
5-24F	Tax Credits for Volunteer Firefighting and Search and Rescue Volunteer Services	● Intent Not Met
1-24S	Declining Fire Department Services Across Rural Alberta	● Intent Not Met
7-24S	Establishing a Provincial Level of Service for Emergency Social Services (ESS)	● Accepted
3-23F	Minimum Standards for Adequate Ambulance Services in Rural Alberta	● Intent Not Met
Energy		
14-25S	Public Interest Oil and Gas Company	● Incomplete Information
Environment		
1-25S	Requirement for Municipal Consultation Prior to Registration of Conservation Easement	● Intent Not Met
11-25S	Opposition to the Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act	● Intent Not Met
4-25S	Re-evaluation of Wetlands Policy to Streamline Road Construction and Improvements in Rural Alberta	● Intent Not Met
7-24F	Improved Water License Approval and Compliance Processes	● Intent Not Met

#	Resolution Name	Status
Environment (cont’d)		
8-24F	Reinforcing Railway Fire Mitigation Procedures	● Accepted in Principle
11-24F	Enhanced Brushing Along Powerlines to Mitigate Wildfires	● Intent Not Met
16-24F	Wildlife Predator Compensation Program Amendment to Include Coyotes	● Intent Not Met
17-24F	Improved Grizzly Bear Management to Ensure Human, Livestock and Wildlife Safety	● Intent Not Met
2-24S	Water Apportionment Performance	● Intent Not Met
6-23F	Expediting the Implementation of an Alberta Flood Regulation	● Intent Not Met
7-23F	Strategy for Management of Wildland Fires Outside Forest Protection Area	● Accepted in Part
8-25S	Opposition to Water Act Amendments and Lack of Consultation	● Intent Not Met
Health & Seniors		
5-25S	Rural Participation on the Integration Council for Refocusing Alberta’s Health Care System	● Intent Not Met
1-24F	Attraction and Retention Strategy for Rural Health Care Professionals	● Accepted in Part
10-24F	Full-Time (24/7) Home Care Support in Lodges/Supportive Living Accommodations	● Intent Not Met
ER1-24S	Government Support for Physician Assistants	● Accepted in Part
10-23F	Enhancing Home Care Services for Rural Residents in Alberta	● Accepted in Principle
17-23F	Sustainable Community Hospice Funding Model	● Intent Not Met
Municipal Governance & Finance		
12-25S	Enabling Service of Offence Notices for Bylaw Matters via Ordinary Mail	● Accepted in Principle
16-25S	Decentralize Provincial Offices to Stimulate Economic Growth	● Incomplete Information
3-24F	Collection of Unpaid Municipal Property Taxes by Way of Royalties	● Intent Not Met
ER2-24S	Municipal Taxes Misrepresented as Municipal Franchise Fees	● Intent Not Met
4-24S	Maintaining Non-Partisan Municipal Elections	● Intent Not Met
5-24S	Legislation Consultation with Municipalities	● Intent Not Met
6-24S	Interim Funding for Lost Oil and Gas Revenue	● Intent Not Met
2-23F	Amendments to the Municipal Government Act – Section 619	● Intent Not Met

#	Resolution Name	Status
Municipal Governance & Finance (cont’d)		
12-23F	Growth Management Board Voluntary Membership	● Accepted
ER1-23F	Limiting Third-Party Services in ICF Agreements	● Accepted
Planning & Development		
3-24S	Continued Support for Regional Economic Development Alliances	● Intent Not Met
5-23F	Municipal Involvement in Quasi-Judicial Agencies	● Accepted in Part
11-23F	Compensation Resulting from Regulatory Changes	● Incomplete Information
Policing & Rural Crime		
4-24F	Amend <i>Municipal Government Act</i> to Designate Police Funding Model Levy as Requisition	● Intent Not Met
12-24F	Accountability in the Establishment of an Independent Agency Police Service in Alberta	● Intent Not Met
14-24F	Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Coverage for Community Peace Officers Under the Workers’ Compensation Act	● Intent Not Met
15-24F	Member Committee to Understand the Criminal Justice System	● Accepted in Principle
8-23F	Implementation of Provincial Police Advisory Board	● Intent Not Met
Transportation & Infrastructure		
9-25S	Water and Wastewater System Funding	● Intent Not Met
18-24F	Renewable Electricity and Grid Stability	● Intent Not Met
ER3-24S	Opposition to Federal Zero Emission Vehicle Mandate	● Accepted in Principle
1-23F	Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program Funding	● Intent Not Met
14-23F	Provincial High-Load Corridor Protection	● Intent Not Met
15-23F	Province-Wide Regulations for E-Scooters and Miniature Personal Electric Vehicles	● Intent Not Met
Other		
16-23F	Federal-Provincial Partnership to Counter the United States Inflation Reduction Act	● Intent Not Met
19-23F	Government of Alberta Ministry Changes	● Incomplete Information

AGRICULTURE





Resolution 8-24S: Support for the Export of Live Horses for Slaughter

Summary:

Resolution 8-24S calls on RMA to oppose proposed federal restrictions on the export of live horses to ensure that this vital agricultural market is not negatively impacted. These changes are especially important considering Alberta slaughter facilities already have a well-established global market and supply of livestock.

Link to Full Resolution: [8-24S: Support for the Export of Live Horses for Slaughter – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

As of December 2025, Bill C-355 has failed to reach third reading and royal assent before the end of its session. This represents a positive legislative outcome for rural Alberta as agricultural producers of horses will not be required to navigate the restrictive regulatory barriers to ensure their products get to market, which were proposed in Bill C-355.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation, Rural Economic Development Canada, Agriculture and Agri-food Canada, and Export Promotion, International Trade and Economic Development Canada
- ◆ RMA has integrated this issue in federal advocacy positions and activities

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How impacts to the horse export industry are measured as a result of restrictive policies and bills such as Bill S-270 (inactive) and Bill C-355 (inactive)

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA continues to learn more about the issues highlighted in Resolution 8-24S to best inform engagement and advocacy

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue monitoring upcoming bills and proposed amendments to legislation

Current Status:

- Accepted

BROADBAND & CONNECTIVITY



Resolution 13-24F: Review of Broadband Funding Application Processes

Summary:

Resolution 13-24F calls for increased broadband infrastructure investment and development in rural Alberta. This resolution also highlights the discrepancy in broadband service availability maps and actual service coverage in rural Alberta.

Link to Full Resolution: [13-24F: Review of Broadband Funding Application Processes – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Alberta historically lagged behind the other provinces in ensuring that rural populations had reliable access to high-speed internet. However, recent government initiatives have significantly reduced the number of rural households without adequate connectivity. This progress continues: in early 2026, the Government of Alberta and Government of Canada announced an additional \$224.78 million in joint funding aimed at accelerating rural broadband infrastructure development. If associated commitments are delivered, another 83,000 homes in rural and remote Alberta communities will gain access to high-speed internet within the next two years. Alberta also currently boasts a 98.1% connectivity rate across the province, a percentage higher than every other province and territory except Quebec. This marks a substantial shift from past underperformance and demonstrates the impact of sustained investment in rural broadband infrastructure.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Technology and Innovation, Innovation, Science and Industry Canada, and the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC)

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Whether the Universal Broadband Fund (UBF) eligibility will be updated to reflect more accurate, on-the-ground coverage assessments, particularly in rural and remote areas where broadband availability maps may overstate service quality
- ◆ How mobile service providers conduct stakeholder consultation and engagement across the three levels of government including notification of tower upgrades and installation, network planning, and consultation processes
- ◆ If and how community broadband projects will be evaluated and funded under the federal Building Communities Strong Fund’s Local Impacts Stream.

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA representation on the Cybera Board of Directors
- ◆ PrairiesCan
- ◆ Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue following up with ministries and stakeholders to support collaborative strategy development
- ◆ Continue seeking out opportunities for further correspondence, engagement and advocacy
- ◆ Better understand the data and methodology used to inform the National Broadband Internet Service Availability Map

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met



COMMUNITY SERVICES



Resolution 2-24F: Increased Funding Support for rural Family and Community Support Services Programs

Summary:

This resolution seeks fair and reasonable FCSS funding to support the availability of preventative social services for rural municipal residents. RMA advocates that the Government of Alberta should both increase and index funding to inflation and population growth. Doing so would ensure that FCSS services are appropriately funded and responsive to community needs.

Link to Full Resolution: [2-24F: Increased Funding Support for Rural Family and Community Support Services Programs – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Despite population growth, growing case complexity, and ballooning costs, FCSS funding remains stagnant. Budget 2026 maintains funding at 2023 levels (\$105 million). RMA's report examining FCSS service delivery challenges in rural Alberta found that 63% of rural municipalities contribute more than their legislated share of FCSS funding to off-set shortfalls in provincial contributions. The full report is [available here](#). Recommendations, concerns, and key background information contained in this report continues to reflect RMA's advocacy priorities on this issue.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Seniors, Community and Social Services, Alberta Health Services, and Alberta Children and Family Services
- ◆ Jointly advocating on this issue with ABMunis and the Family, Community, and Social Services Association
- ◆ Leveraging findings and recommendations in RMA's 2023 FCSS service delivery report, completed jointly with the University of Alberta's Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Municipal cost pressures associated with non-core FCSS service delivery
- ◆ Rural municipal over contributions and shared funding arrangements for regional FCSS delivery
- ◆ Changes to the availability of provincial social services in rural communities in recent years

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ ABMunis
- ◆ Family and Community Support Services Association of Alberta
- ◆ Minister of Assisted Living and Social Services twice in 2025 to discuss this issue

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue to advocate for increased and indexed funding for core FCSS operations

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 19-24F: Exemption from Food Banks Canada's Standard of Excellence and Accreditation Requirements for Small and/or Rural Local Food Banks

Summary:

Resolution 19-24F calls for RMA to advocate that small and rural municipalities should be exempted from Food Banks Canada's Standard of Excellence. This resolution highlights that rural foodbanks share similar challenges to Indigenous and northern foodbanks, who are currently exempt from the Standard of Excellence. The resolution highlights that it can be difficult for small rural food banks to attain Food Banks Canada's standard, leading to concerns that food banks will lose access to grants and support through Food Banks Canada and Food Banks Alberta if they cannot meet the updated requirements.

Link to Full Resolution: [19-24F: Exemption from Food Banks Canada's Standard of Excellence and Accreditation Requirements for Small and/or Rural Local Food Banks – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

At present, rural food banks may receive services from both Food Banks Canada and Food Banks Alberta, who play different roles in supporting and regulating food banks. Food Banks Alberta has 113 members.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Seniors, Community and Social Services, Food Banks Alberta, Food Banks Canada, and Agriculture and Agri-food Canada

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Food banks operations, governance, and funding
- ◆ The implications of the Standards of Excellence for rural food banks
- ◆ Food Banks Canada's decision to grant an exemption to northern food banks
- ◆ Clarity as to if and how the standards are binding for food banks

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Food Banks Canada
- ◆ Alberta Assisted Living and Social Services
- ◆ Food Banks Alberta

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue to monitor updates to the Food Banks Canada's Standard of Excellence and any challenges rural municipalities experience meeting the updated service level.
- ◆ Continue to advocate for standards and requirements that reflect the unique capacity limitations and structures of small rural food banks

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 4-23F: Provincial Downloading of Operating Costs for Deteriorating Provincially Owned Housing

Summary:

Resolution 4-23F calls on the Government of Alberta to retain ownership and responsibility for all provincial housing and increase grants provided to housing management bodies (HMBs) to support the cost of operations and maintenance.

Link to Full Resolution: [4-23F: Provincial Downloading of Operating Costs for Deteriorating Provincially Owned Housing – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

[Bill 28](#); *Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026*, enables HMBs to requisition municipalities for operating and capital reserve funds. Additionally, Bill 28 allows the Minister to mandate a set requisition level for capital reserve funds. RMA notes that this change reflects a download of responsibility for maintaining assets that are primarily provincially owned onto municipalities and may reflect a significant increase in requisition costs for members. RMA will continue to analyze the impact of this change.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Seniors, Community and Social Services
- ◆ RMA prepared a comprehensive rural affordable housing advocacy strategy to address this and related concerns identified in other resolutions
- ◆ Conducted two member surveys
- ◆ Currently developing an affordable housing report to be released later in 2026

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ To what extent members are requisitioned for and/or make financial contributions to Housing Management Body (HMBs) capital costs or capital reserves
- ◆ How changes under Bill 28 in relation to expand the scope of requisitions to include capital maintenance costs will impact RMA members
- ◆ What improvements to supply, accessibility, and structural condition will be realized from increased Government of Alberta funding for Seniors Lodges

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA members
- ◆ Seniors Lodge Review Panel

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue to analyze results of two member surveys and incorporate findings into a final report and recommendations for enhancing clarity in requisitioning processes
- ◆ Advocate for clear thresholds and scope in relation to expanded requisitioning requirements under Bill 28.

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 9-23F: Review of Affordable Housing Funding Programs

Summary:

Resolution 9-23F calls on the Government of Alberta to improve the Affordable Housing Partnership Program (AHPP) application process to reduce financial commitments that municipalities must make without a guarantee of funding. Further, the resolution calls for a data-driven model to be used when setting funding priorities. These changes will streamline applications and allow for the judicious use of public funds. Finally, this resolution calls on the Government of Alberta to develop modular home designs to reduce design costs and speed up development of affordable housing.

Link to Full Resolution: [9-23F: Review of Affordable Housing Funding Programs – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Of 41 projects supported through the Affordable Housing Partnership Program’s most recent round of funding in May 2026, only 11 were located outside of Edmonton or Calgary.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Seniors, Community and Social Services
- ◆ Conducted two member surveys
- ◆ Preparing an affordable housing report to be released in 2026
- ◆ Informed RMA members about the Government of Canada’s housing design catalogue release
- ◆ Hosted the Government of Alberta for an Affordable Housing Partnership Program webinar
 - ◇ <https://rmalberta.com/news/monthly-resolution-update-november-2025/>

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ What adjustments can be made to the AHPP application process to improve access to funding for rural communities, and whether the Government of Alberta is interested in reviewing the program
- ◆ To what extent the CMHC housing design catalogue has been utilized in Alberta
- ◆ If and how changes to development approvals enacted in Bill 28 will impact housing development in rural areas

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA members
- ◆ Alberta Assisted Living and Social Services

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue to analyze results of two member surveys and incorporate findings into a report on affordable housing in rural Alberta

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 20-23F: Post-COVID Bridging Support for Small and Medium Community Facilities and Agricultural Societies

Summary:

Resolution 20-23F calls for adequate funding for agricultural societies and community facilities, particularly in relation to financial hardship caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Members are seeking more financial support from the Government of Alberta.

Link to Full Resolution: [20-23F: Post-COVID Bridging Support for Small and Medium Community Facilities and Agricultural Societies – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2025, [35 agricultural societies received Government of Alberta funding](#) for capital projects. RMA recognizes that agricultural societies enhance the social fabric and promote vibrancy in rural Alberta. RMA will continue to advocate for their sustainability and longevity.

RMA is optimistic that the Local Impacts Stream of the federal Building Communities Strong Fund will support increased investment in rural community facilities.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation, Alberta Seniors, Community and Social Services, and Alberta Tourism and Sport
- ◆ Hosted the Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies and the County of Barrhead to discuss agricultural societies and a community hall strategy at the Fall 2024 Convention
- ◆ Met with the Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies to discuss priorities and joint advocacy opportunities

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ RMA understands that the Government of Alberta has made several financial investments in agricultural societies, but that the capacity building component and financial investment in community facilities is lagging

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies
- ◆ Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will continue to monitor investment in agricultural societies and advocate for enhanced investment and capacity building for community facilities

Current Status:

- Accepted in Part





EDUCATION

Resolution 15-25S: Enhancing Access to Post-Secondary Education for Rural Alberta Students

Summary:

This resolution seeks enhanced Government of Alberta support to rural students who choose to pursue higher education. Resolution 15-25S calls on the Government of Alberta to implement a multi-faceted plan to reduce rural barriers to post-secondary education.

Link to Full Resolution: [15-25S: Enhancing Access to Post-Secondary Education for Rural Alberta Students – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

The *Expert Panel on Post-Secondary Institution Funding and Alberta’s Competitiveness* report was released in October 2025. The report notes that Alberta some post-secondary institutions reserve space for rural learners in select disciplines – primarily medicine and healthcare.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Education, Alberta Advanced Education, and Alberta Technology and Innovation
- ◆ Released a video message in September 2025
- ◆ Conducted internal research and analysis on opportunities and barriers associated with rural access to post-secondary education
- ◆ Initial discussions with the University of Calgary’s Centre for Inclusive Governance in relation to possible research related to the resolution.

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ The most effective way to engage with the range of government ministries and institutions to understand and overcome current barriers
- ◆ What policy levers would provide the most benefit to prospective post-secondary students in rural areas

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Multiple school boards and rural education interest groups

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Explore ways to communicate the benefits of rural education to key decision-makers
- ◆ Continue to advocate for programs that improve access to post-secondary education for rural learners

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met





EMERGENCY SERVICES

Resolution 10-25S: Provincial Assistance for Fire Apparatus Replacement in Alberta

Summary:

Resolution 10-25S, callsfor common sense fire apparatus replacement that is both safe and fiscally responsible. Members resolve that RMA should urge the Government of Alberta to provide rural municipalities and rural fire departments with more financial, technical and logistical support to maintain and replace ageing fire apparatus.

Link to Full Resolution: [10-25S: Provincial Assistance for Fire Apparatus Replacement in Alberta – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

For insurance grading purposes, fire apparatus in rural areas are graded as “available for first line of duty” for 20 years. Fire apparatus vehicles undergo rigorous testing to comply with the national standard for insurance grading. Fire apparatus vehicles are downgraded regardless of the equipment’s condition, level of usage, and maintenance history. Purchasing a new fire truck can cost between \$100,000 and \$1 million depending on its capabilities.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs and Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services
- ◆ Collaborated on rural fire department issues with the Alberta Fire Chiefs Association
- ◆ Collaborated with RMA Insurance to obtain Fire Underwriters Survey data

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Determine to what extent standards align with the actual condition and effectiveness of fire apparatus
- ◆ Explore existing funding program limitations in meeting the need

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Internal discussions with RMA Insurance
- ◆ Alberta Municipal Affairs
- ◆ Alberta Fire Chiefs Association

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Develop an understanding of municipal costs related to existing replacement requirements and opportunities for savings linked to possible changes
- ◆ Explore existing fire apparatus funding programs
- ◆ Continue to collaborate with RMA Insurance

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 5-24F: Tax Credits for Volunteer Firefighting and Search and Rescue Volunteer Services

Summary:

Resolution 5-24F seeks action from the Government of Alberta in supporting the attraction and retention of firefighting and search and rescue volunteers. RMA advocates that the Government of Canada should increase the volunteer and paid on call firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services tax credit to \$10,000.

Link to Full Resolution: [5-24F: Tax Credits for Volunteer Firefighting and Search and Rescue Volunteer Services – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

The Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs (CAFC) estimates that as of 2023, there were 125,628 firefighters in Canada, nearly 90,000 of which were volunteers. The Government of Canada increased the firefighter tax credit from \$3,000 to \$6,000 in Budget 2024. RMA continues to advocate for further tax credit increases, as well as other means, to improve rural firefighter and search and rescue volunteer attraction and retention.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs, Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services, Emergency Preparedness Canada, and Finance Canada
- ◆ RMA released a [report on rural volunteerism](#) that includes an analysis of challenges faced by rural fire departments

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ If the increased tax benefit has improved attraction and retention rates of volunteer firefighters in member municipalities.
- ◆ What other practices or incentives have or may help improve volunteer firefighter recruitment
- ◆ The impact that an increased tax benefit may have on influencing volunteer recruitment and retention

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Albera Fire Chiefs Association
- ◆ Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services
- ◆ Alberta Municipal Affairs

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will continue to seek opportunities to partner with the Government of Alberta in federal advocacy on this issue

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 1-24S: Declining Fire Department Services Across Rural Alberta

Summary:

Resolution 1-24S calls on RMA to collaborate with government and community stakeholders to help ensure rural fire services have adequate training and equipment funding to sustain ongoing requirements and the recruitment of new volunteers. The Fire Underwriters Survey can complicate declining fire services in rural Alberta.

Link to Full Resolution: [1-24S: Declining Fire Department Services Across Rural Alberta – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Budget 2026 did not add any new funding for fire training or equipment. RMA continues to work with the Alberta Fire Chiefs Association to support rural fire departments. RMA hosted an Alberta Fire Chiefs Association presentation on the Alberta Fire Services Core Competency Framework at the Fall 2025 Convention.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs, Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services, and Emergency Preparedness Canada
- ◆ RMA hosted the Alberta Fire Chiefs Association for a workshop on Alberta Fire Services Core Competency Framework at the Fall 2025 Convention
- ◆ Ongoing participation on an Alberta Fire Chiefs Association attraction and retention committee

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ The impact of the Fire Underwriters Survey on municipal costs and equipment replacement requirements
- ◆ The attraction and retention strategies that are currently in practice

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Fire Chiefs Association
- ◆ Alberta Municipal Affairs
- ◆ RMA Insurance

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue to partner with other stakeholders to seek changes to the Fire Underwriters Survey
- ◆ RMA will continue to advocate to the Government of Alberta for enhanced training and equipment funding

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 7-24S: Establishing a Provincial Level of Service for Emergency Social Services (ESS)

Summary:

Resolution 7-24S seeks updates to the Government of Alberta’s existing Emergency Social Services Framework. Rural municipalities asked the Government of Alberta to provide more specific guidance around Emergency Social Services – including to better define what they consider as basic survival needs and which services are discretionary.

Link to Full Resolution: [7-24S: Establishing a Provincial Level of Service for Emergency Social Services – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

The Government of Alberta updated [the Emergency Social Services Framework in 2025](#). The framework will be updated every five years.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Seniors, Community and Social Services and Public Safety and Emergency Services
- ◆ RMA published a report in response to the Government of Alberta’s updated 2025 Emergency Social Services Framework

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ The Government released an updated Emergency Social Services Framework in 2025, which included changes that addressed the operative clause of the resolution. RMA will monitor implementation of the framework determine its effectiveness
- ◆ How the Government of Alberta will monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the updated framework, and potential opportunities for further improvement

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA is currently waiting for the Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services response to RMA’s report and will develop next steps when a response has been received
- ◆ RMA will continue to advocate to the Government of Alberta for ongoing review of the Emergency Social Services Framework to ensure it supports effective municipal emergency response

Current Status:

- Accepted



Resolution 3-23F: Minimum Standards for Adequate Ambulance Services in Rural Alberta

Summary:

Resolution 3-24F calls on the Government of Alberta to ensure adequate ambulance staffing and reasonable response times in rural areas. Ambulances should be available across rural Alberta to provide reasonable and timely emergency responses.

Link to Full Resolution: [3-23F: Minimum Standards for Adequate Ambulance Services in Rural Alberta – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

The Government of Alberta announced their intent to issue an RFP for ambulance service in rural Alberta. Future contracts tendered by the RFP process will be in place for 10 years. RMA awaits details regarding the RFP.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Health and Alberta Health Services
- ◆ Regular participation on the Alberta EMS Standing Committee
- ◆ RMA sat on the Alberta EMS Provincial Advisory Committee prior to the standing committee
- ◆ Monitored health system restructuring for changes to EMS service levels and service delivery
- ◆ Emphasized the need for ongoing renegotiations of ambulance service contracts to not degrade service levels below current standards

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ The potential impact of the rural ambulance service request for proposals (RFP) on rural service delivery
- ◆ The outcome of current Government of Alberta efforts to resolve staffing shortages

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Health, now Alberta Acute Care
- ◆ EMS Standing Committee
- ◆ Participation on EMS Standing Committee subcommittees, including air ambulance services, dispatch, and Medical First Response

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will closely monitor the ambulance RFP process and advocate for transparency and local input into decision-making.
- ◆ RMA will continue to provide the rural perspective on the EMS Standing Committee and advocate for adequate ambulance staffing and reasonable response times in rural Alberta

Current Status:

- **Intent Not Met**

ENERGY





Resolution 14-25S: Public Interest Oil and Gas Company

Summary:

Resolution 14-25S calls on RMA to investigate the development of an oil and gas company that is mandated to operate within the guidelines of public interest. This proposed approach is intended to mitigate the ongoing unpaid oil and gas property tax issue without contributing to the loss of viable assets.

Link to Full Resolution: [14-25S: Public Interest Oil and Gas Company – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Although the PTAS final report does not specifically propose the formation of a public interest oil and gas company, the report does take a multi-stakeholder approach to addressing the municipal impacts of non-payment of property taxes by oil and gas companies. In particular, the PTAS recommendations call for reforms to the AER’s reporting and performance assessment procedures that support increased accountability from oil and gas companies in arrears or at risk of being in arrears.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ Participation in the engagement process informing the development of the Government of Alberta’s Mature Asset Strategy, with an emphasis on the need for any policy or regulatory changes that enable prolonged operation of marginal oil and gas assets not increase risks to municipalities, surrounding landowners, or the environment.
- ◆ Regarding the unpaid oil and gas property tax issue: formation of and participation in the Property Tax Accountability Strategy (PTAS) in collaboration with the Government of Alberta
- ◆ Development of PTAS recommendations that directly address the regulatory barriers that have contributed to the unpaid oil and gas property tax issue

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ The specific ways that a public interest company would help resolve the unpaid tax issue
- ◆ The implications that implementing a public interest company would have on RMA, municipalities and the industry at large
- ◆ Options for better integrating public interest considerations into the regulatory oversight of the oil and gas industry as a whole
- ◆ Best approach on conducting further investigation and research

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Internal discussions among RMA staff across the Advocacy, Business Services and Legal departments as to the process and feasibility of forming an entity described in Resolution 14-25S

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue internal discussions and research towards investigating the development of a public interest oil and gas company

Current Status:

- Incomplete Information

ENVIRONMENT



Resolution 1-25S: Requirement for Municipal Consultation Prior to Registration of Conservation Easement

Summary:

Resolution 1-25S calls for mandated municipal consultation prior to registration of a conservation easement through amendment of the Conservation Easement Registration Regulation. Currently, qualified organizations seeking to register a conservation easement on a given area of land are required to notify municipalities as per the *Alberta Land Stewardship Act* but are not required to consult with them.

Link to full resolution: [1-25S: Requirement for Municipal Consultation Prior to Registration of Conservation Easement – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

The response from Alberta Environment and Protected Areas indicates that the *Alberta Land Stewardship Act* and associated Conservation Easement Registration Regulation are not expected to be changed to fulfill the requests of Resolution 1-25S. In March 2025, the regulation’s expiry date was extended to April 2030.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Environment and Protected Areas
- ◆ Inquired with the Conservation Land Registry to request data and learn more about existing conservation easements in Alberta

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ The specific impacts to municipalities in relation to the expropriation process, infrastructure disruption and maintenance, as well as land use and development planning, and how these impacts are measured
- ◆ Specific cases in other municipalities that highlight the issues presented in Resolution 1-25S
- ◆ In addition to regulation change, how can multi-stakeholder collaboration and communication between municipalities, landowners and qualified organizations be conducted to help address the issues related to land use and development as highlighted in the resolution

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA participated in Environment and Protected Areas’ Advisory Committee and Water Working Group
- ◆ RMA has discussed the resolution and broader perspectives on conservation easements with the Corvus Centre for Conservation Policy

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Explore possible regulation and/or legislation wording changes that would fulfill the operative clause of the resolution
- ◆ Continue seeking out opportunities for further advocacy and policy change such as minister meetings and stakeholder engagement participation

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 8-25S: Opposition to *Water Act* Amendments and Lack of Consultation

Summary:

Resolution 8-25S calls for recent changes to the *Water Act* made by the Government of Alberta to be reconsidered, given members concerns about lack of proper consultation with municipalities, especially concerning inter-basin water transfers. Concerns are also raised about water availability and its definitions in the *Water Act*, which members support enhancing through data-driven rainwater recording

Link to Full Resolution: [8-25S: Opposition to *Water Act* Amendments and Lack of Consultation – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

During the 2025 *Water Act* review, the Government of Alberta proposed both positive and concerning changes to water management. Many of these were subsequently implemented through Bill 7. Many licensing procedures are proposed to be streamlined which may promote efficiency, increase water availability and support rural economies. However, some changes, specifically to the Director’s authority, basin boundaries, and inter-basin transfers, may pose risks to rural water access and security. RMA continues to monitor the impacts of these policy implementations to ensure rural municipal needs are met.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Environment and Protected Areas
- ◆ RMA conducted a preliminary analysis of Bill 7 (the *Water Amendment Act*) tabled in late 2025. Some key changes observed by RMA include:
 - ◇ New definitions for “return flows” and “water for reuse”
 - ◇ Expanded Director authority
 - ◇ A new “lower-risk” inter-basin transfer category
 - ◇ Major Basin Consolidation: combines Peace/Slave river basin-Athabasca and Slave the Athabasca river basins
- ◆ RMA continues to seek clarity from the Government of Alberta on the intent of many of the Bill 7 changes and how they will be applied in practice.

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How the consolidation of the Peace/Slave river basin and the Athabasca river basin could alter provincial oversight of water management, and impact rural municipalities, economies and ecosystems
- ◆ The specifics of the newly implemented “lower-risk transfer” criteria for inter-basin transfers, particularly in whether and how regulations may be used to ensure inter-basin transfers remain as a last resort measure
- ◆ Other rural-specific impacts resulting from the forthcoming implementation of the *Water Amendment Act*

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA participated in meetings with the Minister of Environment and Protected Areas during which Resolution 8-25S was a topic of discussion
- ◆ RMA participated in Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the *Water Act* engagement process and provided written submissions pertaining to this resolution. RMA’s submission for Phase 2 of the engagement is available [here](#)

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Conduct research on municipal and economic impacts resulting from proposed and newly implemented water policy changes
- ◆ Continue seeking out opportunities for further engagement such as minister meetings and stakeholder consultations
- ◆ Develop a more in-depth member summary and analysis of Bill 7
- ◆ Meet with the Minister of Environment and Protected Areas to better understand the policy intent of several Bill 7 changes, including those relevant to Resolution 8-25S

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 4-25S: Re-evaluation of Wetlands Policy to Streamline Road Construction and Improvements in Rural Alberta

Summary:

Resolution 4-25S calls on the Government of Alberta to change the Wetland Policy to remove restrictive barriers to road construction and improvements in rural Alberta. Changes to the policy would support vital rural Alberta industries and support local economic development.

Link to Full Resolution: 4-25S: Re-evaluation of Wetlands Policy to Streamline Road Construction and Improvements in Rural Alberta – RMA

DID YOU KNOW?

The Office of the Auditor General (OAG) of Alberta issued several recommendations to the Government of Alberta related to wetlands replacement processes in 2010 and in July 2026. The OAG recommended increased monitoring to track responsibilities of wetland replacement agencies and improved management and tracking of unused funds. The OAG found that these recommendations were successfully implemented. Improved processes related to wetland replacement may help rural municipalities work with up-to-date information and access funds to support wetland replacement activities. RMA intends to continue monitoring the implementation of these changes and assess whether they meaningfully fulfill the requests of this resolution.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Environment and Protected Areas

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How does the Government of Alberta track data and information related to wetlands, including wetlands maps?
- ◆ What data and information determines the calculation of wetlands replacement fees?

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Participation on Alberta Environment and Protected Areas’ Agri-Environmental Partnership Board

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will continue research and seek out further advocacy opportunities to support updates to the Alberta Wetlands Policy and streamlined processes to

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 11-25S: Opposition to the Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act

Summary:

Resolution 11-25S calls for the withdrawal of the *Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act* (the Act) due to the economic impacts of ambitious and inflexible net-zero policies. This resolution also urges the federal and provincial governments to highlight the beneficial impacts of carbon, particularly towards agricultural productivity and rural economic development.

Link to Full Resolution: [11-25S: Opposition to the Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

The federal advocacy targets for Resolution 11-25S have not responded to RMA’s initial letter and request to consider the issues presented in the resolution.

In November 2025, the Office of the Auditor General of Canada tabled its report reviewing the implementation of the Act and highlighting short-comings in meeting emissions reduction goals. However, the report did not include a review of impacts to rural and remote communities or considerations and recommendations on how best to amend the Act to minimize detrimental impacts to rural communities.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Energy and Minerals, Alberta Environment and Protected Areas, Environment and Climate Change Canada, and Energy and Natural Resources Canada

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How the consolidation of the Peace/Slave river basin and the Athabasca river basin could alter provincial oversight of water management, and impact rural municipalities, economies and ecosystems
- ◆ The specifics of the newly implemented “lower-risk transfer” criteria for inter-basin transfers, particularly in whether and how regulations may be used to ensure inter-basin transfers remain as a last resort measure
- ◆ Other rural-specific impacts resulting from the forthcoming implementation of the Water Amendment Act

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA continues to learn more about the issues highlighted in Resolution 11-25S to best inform engagement and advocacy

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue seeking out opportunities for further advocacy and policy change such as minister meetings and stakeholder engagement participation

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 7-24F: Improved Water License Approval and Compliance Processes

Summary:

Resolution 7-24F calls for water management policy improvements by requiring only Alberta Environment and Protected Areas to have decision-making authority on water licenses, that Temporary Diversion License applications follow the procedures and guidelines as specified by legislation and that every attempt is made to find alternative sources of water for industry use before resorting to freshwater.

Link to Full Resolution: [7-24F: Improved Water License Approval and Compliance Processes – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

The First in Time, First in Right (FITFIR) priority system is how water is managed between user groups in Alberta and only a few jurisdictions in North America. FITFIR means that the oldest water licensees have priority rights to water, especially in times of shortage. This may present challenges for rural municipalities if industrial licensees, with considerably high water demand have seniority over some municipal or individual licenses. With that said, the establishment of water sharing agreements, particularly during the 2024 drought season, took a proactive approach to water sharing between stakeholders to prevent the FITFIR priority system from being applied to the significant detriment of some rural water users during acute water shortage periods.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Energy and Minerals, Alberta Environment and Protected Areas and the Alberta Energy Regulator
- ◆ RMA shared the [Water Amendment Act Member Resource](#) in early 2026. Some key legislative changes observed by RMA include:
 - ◇ New definitions for “return flows” and “water for reuse” that help limit freshwater use
 - ◇ Expanded Director authority
 - ◇ Increased public access to monitoring and reporting data
- ◆ Organized a webinar info session in May 2026 with the Government of Alberta for RMA members to learn and ask about legislative changes to the Water Act
- ◆ RMA has engaged with members and other stakeholders to better understand local risks and impacts associated with high levels of industry water use.

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Occurrences of industry non-compliance with legislation concerning Temporary Diversion License approvals
- ◆ How newly implemented monitoring and reporting procedures as part of the *Water Amendment Act* will improve public transparency and trust
- ◆ Further clarity on AER’s screening criteria for decision-making concerning industry fresh-water use and how this criteria was and will be communicated to stakeholders and the public

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA has participated in meetings with Alberta Environment and Protected Areas during which Resolution 7-24F was a topic of discussion
- ◆ RMA participated in Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the *Water Act* engagement process and provided written submissions pertaining to this resolution. RMA’s submission for Phase 2 of the engagement is available [here](#)

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Conduct research on ecosystem, municipal and economic impacts resulting from proposed and newly implemented water policy changes
- ◆ Continue seeking opportunities for advocacy and policy change such as minister meetings and stakeholder engagement participation, particularly during follow-up engagements scheduled for mid to late 2026
- ◆ Seek opportunities for collaboration with industry and government to explore alternatives to freshwater use for fracking

Current Status:

- **Intent Not Met**

Resolution 8-24F: Reinforcing Railway Fire Mitigation Procedures

Summary:

Resolution 8-24F calls for the provincial and federal governments to work collaboratively with railway companies to expand fire suppression resources and strategies. Railway activity has been identified as a contributor to wildfires, particularly in remote and densely forested regions.

Link To Full Resolution: [8-24F: Reinforcing Railway Fire Mitigation Procedures – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

CN Rail’s firefighting train fleet was further expanded in 2025 with new firefighting stand-alone railcars that carry 25,000 gallons of water each. RMA will continue to monitor the effectiveness of these fire suppression strategies for rural regions and municipalities.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors, Alberta Forestry and Parks and, Alberta Emergency Management Agency
- ◆ This resolution was sent to Emergency Preparedness Canada, Transport Canada and, Energy and Natural Resources Canada

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors, Alberta Forestry and Parks and, Alberta Emergency Management Agency
- ◆ This resolution was sent to Emergency Preparedness Canada, Transport Canada and, Energy and Natural Resources Canada

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Inquired with CN and CPKC on the status of following trains and other fire suppression strategies and resources
- ◆ Invited CN to present at RMA Spring 2026 convention about ongoing mitigation strategies employed by CN.

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Follow up on inquiry with CN and CPKC and incorporate relevant learnings into resolution reporting
- ◆ Continue seeking out ways to shape the implementation of the Alberta Wildfire Mitigation Strategy
- ◆ Continue seeking out opportunities for further advocacy and policy change such as minister meetings and stakeholder engagement participation

Current Status:

- **Accepted in Principle**

Resolution 11-24F: Enhanced Brushing Along Powerlines to Mitigate Wildfires

Summary:

Resolution 11-24F calls for increased powerline brushing initiatives and procedures in remote regions and highly forested areas to help minimize wildfire risk and mitigate wildfires in rural communities. This resolution also calls for a comprehensive review of powerline right-of-way widths across the province to help support wildfire mitigation through vegetation management.

Link to Full Resolution: [11-24F: Enhanced Brushing Along Powerlines to Mitigate Wildfires – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

In May 2026, following an assessed high risk of wildfire spread, AltaLink implemented their newly developed Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) for the first time. Intended as a last resort, the PSPS protocol is executed either in response to active fires or based on the risk of ignition from potential fires and involves a regulated shutoff of electricity in a given region. Various factors inform the execution of a PSPS such as wind speeds, temperature, ground conditions and fuel sources.

While RMA is encouraged by the proactive efforts made by utility companies such as AltaLink to mitigate wildfire risk, these efforts should also be measured against the potential for significant service impacts to municipalities and changes should be communicated clearly and transparently to all affected municipal stakeholders.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Forestry and Parks and Alberta Affordability and Utilities
- ◆ Conducted preliminary research on powerline-caused fires in Alberta
- ◆ Engaged with utilities companies and participated in webinars to learn more about brushing initiatives and other wildfire mitigation procedures employed by utility companies

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How successful wildfire mitigation resulting from implementing powerline brushing and vegetation management is best measured
- ◆ Whether there are specific areas of the province where brushing is sub-standard
- ◆ The commitments and details of the standing wildfire agreements between the Government of Alberta and powerline operators referenced in the government response
- ◆ If and to what extent brushing and mitigation practices influence AltaLink decision-making in relation to their Public Safety Power Shut-Off (PSPS) procedures.

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Inquired with various electricity distribution companies to learn about the status of their respective vegetation management initiatives
- ◆ RMA continues to learn more about the issues highlighted in Resolution 11-24F to best inform engagement and advocacy

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue conducting research and information-gathering to evaluate the effectiveness of identified vegetation management and brushing programs
- ◆ Continue seeking out opportunities for further advocacy and policy change such as minister meetings and stakeholder engagement

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 16-24F: Wildlife Predator Compensation Program Amendment to Include Coyotes

Summary:

Resolution 16-24F calls for coyotes to be included in the Wildlife Predator Compensation Program as a compensable species to support livestock producers that are forced to incur significantly high costs due to coyote predation. Growing coyote populations are placing a greater strain on rural livestock producers.

Link to Full Resolution: [16-24F: Wildlife Predator Compensation Program Amendment to Include Coyotes – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

[A 2017 study](#) on Agriculture and Livestock predation in Alberta found that among survey respondents, 74% reported that coyote was the species of most concern when asked about impacts and loss to livestock. [Another study](#) on the subject notes that Alberta’s original Livestock Predator Compensation Program covered coyotes until they were removed in 1981, likely due to provincial austerity measures, despite coyote predation accounting for the majority of compensation claims. Both research papers highlight the concerns raised by producers and the significant impacts on livestock due to coyote predation.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation and Alberta Environment and Protected Areas
- ◆ Participated in webinars and information sessions that provide overviews of proposed legislative changes to wildlife management

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Whether existing wildlife and coyote predation techniques are effective for rural municipalities and why

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Engaged with Alberta Beef Producers
- ◆ RMA continues to learn more about the issues highlighted in Resolution 16-24F to best inform engagement and advocacy

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Request third-party reviews of the Wildlife Predator Compensation Program referenced in Alberta Forestry and Parks’ response
- ◆ Compile existing research to assist with communicating key issues and messaging

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 17-24F: Improved Grizzly Bear Management to Ensure Human, Livestock and Wildlife Safety

Summary:

Resolution 17-24F calls for the development of a grizzly bear management plan that is properly funded, enforced and administrated by Conservation Officers and problem wildlife specialists. These proposed initiatives would help address the risks to livestock, property and human safety posed by problem bears in rural Alberta.

Link to Full Resolution: [17-24F: Improved Grizzly Bear Management to Ensure Human, Livestock and Wildlife Safety – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Along with the response from Alberta Forestry and Parks, the response from Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services points to the Fish and Wildlife Enforcement services stating that this agency is well-resourced and equipped to minimize and address human-grizzly bear encounters. In June 2026, the Minister of Forestry and Parks has stated that the Government of Alberta is considering all available options regarding provincial grizzly bear management including the requests of resolution 17-24F. However, the government response does not commit to increasing support or funding for Fish and Wildlife Conservation Officers.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Forestry and Parks
- ◆ Participated in webinars and information sessions that provide overviews of proposed legislative changes to wildlife management

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Forestry and Parks
- ◆ Participated in webinars and information sessions that provide overviews of proposed legislative changes to wildlife management

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Engaged with Alberta Beef Producers
- ◆ RMA continues to learn more about the issues highlighted in Resolution 17-24F to best inform engagement and advocacy

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Request problem bear occurrence data from the Government of Alberta to help inform key messaging development
- ◆ Compile existing research to assist with communicating key issues and messaging
- ◆ Continue seeking out opportunities for further correspondence, engagement and advocacy

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 2-24S: Water Apportionment Performance

Summary:

Resolution 2-24S supports the Government of Alberta retaining a greater share of the South Saskatchewan River according to the terms of the 1969 Master Agreement on Apportionment. This policy change would be aligned with the Government of Alberta’s stated goal of increasing water availability in the province.

Link to Full Resolution: [2-24S: Water Apportionment Performance – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Alberta has always allowed at least 50% of the natural flow of the South Saskatchewan River to the province of Saskatchewan, and has frequently allowed at least 75% of the natural flow to the province of Saskatchewan. Historically, even when Alberta has consumed water at a level matching provincial needs while still allowing a minimum of 50% of the natural flow to leave the province, there is still a large surplus that remains. This is water that could otherwise be used during drought periods or severe shortage. With a more concerted effort to maximize Alberta’s share of the water, particularly at large government-owned reservoirs and diversions, Alberta should be able to retain a greater portion of its share of the water in drought years to reduce the impact of drought without detriment to downstream regions in Saskatchewan.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Environment and Protected Areas

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Whether existing wildlife and coyote predation techniques are effective for rural municipalities and why

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA continues to learn more about the issues highlighted in Resolution 2-24S to best inform engagement and advocacy

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue seeking out opportunities for further correspondence, engagement and advocacy
- ◆ The GOA continues to conduct feasibility studies and water storage engagements – RMA will consider how to highlight the issues and requests of this resolution towards relevant engagement submissions.

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 6-23F: Expediting the Implementation of an Alberta Flood Regulation

Summary:

Resolution 6-23F calls for a collaborative stakeholder approach to flood management in rural Alberta. RMA would like to work with the Government of Alberta to develop flood management regulations that would commit sufficient resources and funding for rural municipalities seeking to conduct proactive flood management.

Link to Full Resolution: [6-23F: Expediting the Implementation of an Alberta Flood Regulation – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

The Drought and Flood Protection Program (DFPP), launched in March 2024, provides municipalities with critical funding to implement flood management and prevention projects. However, policy and regulatory changes are also required to ensure municipalities can adequately carry out flood management and fulfill all the asks of this resolution.

In late 2025, the Government of Alberta announced that \$25 million will be allocated towards the DFPP as part of the five-year, \$125 million funding commitment.

Furthermore, additional flood mapping studies have been launched in Spring 2026 across 10 communities. While monitoring, reporting and planning efforts are crucial towards supporting flood management, commitments have not been made by the Government of Alberta towards regulation development of the creation of a strategic and multi-stakeholder flood management approach.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Environment and Protected Areas

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How recent funding provisions towards flood mitigation can be complemented with strategic flood management implementations
- ◆ How various flood mapping completed recently is informing decision-making at both levels of government, particularly without the presence of a regulation

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ How recent funding provisions towards flood mitigation can be complemented with strategic flood management implementations
- ◆ How various flood mapping completed recently is informing decision-making at both levels of government, particularly without the presence of a regulation

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ How recent funding provisions towards flood mitigation can be complemented with strategic flood management implementations
- ◆ How various flood mapping completed recently is informing decision-making at both levels of government, particularly without the presence of a regulation

Current Status:

- **Intent Not Met**

Resolution 7-23F: Strategy for Management of Wildland Fires Outside Forest Protection Area

Summary:

Resolution 7-23F calls for the formation of a multi-stakeholder working group to develop a collaborative long term wildfire management strategy outside the Forest Protection Area. Non-Forest Protection Area (FPA) regions have experienced an increase in extreme wildfire events in recent years, all while non-FPA municipalities operate under resource and budgetary limitations.

Link to Full Resolution: [7-23F: Strategy for Management of Wildland Fires Outside Forest Protection Area – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

The Government of Alberta (GOA) has recently launched the Mutual Aid Incentive Pilot Program, intended to provide municipalities with up to \$125,000 per fire in support for early wildfire response. Funding can be used towards any resource necessary for response such as helicopters and other aircraft, personnel and additional suppression methods. The GOA has also recently expanded the Disaster Recovery Program, now the Hazard Assistance and Resilience Program, to include planning and initial response costs in addition to damage and recovery costs. These are welcome changes and RMA intends to continue monitoring how their implementation will impact municipalities, especially those located outside the FPA.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to the relevant provincial ministries and organizations: Forestry and Parks, Environment and Protected Areas, Municipal Affairs, ABMunis, Alberta Fire Chiefs Association
- ◆ Formed the Wildfire Working Group (WWG) and developed a final report of 31 recommendations sent to specific stakeholders
- ◆ Provided input towards the Provincial Fire Level of Service engagement emphasizing the need to provide meaningful resources and funding to rural municipalities required to meet emergency service provision standards

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ What legislative and/or policy changes may need to be implemented to fulfill the recommendations of the WWG
- ◆ Government priorities in relation to implementing the various WWG recommendations

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA engaged and collaborated with a wide range of municipal, provincial, and industry stakeholders to develop the WWG final report.
- ◆ Provided input to the Provincial Fire Level of Service engagement to Municipal Affairs in July 2025
- ◆ Follow up meetings with relevant ministry departments to collaboratively action some of the WWG recommendations

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue following up with ministries and stakeholders to supportive a collaborative strategy development
- ◆ Continue seeking out opportunities for further correspondence, engagement and advocacy
- ◆ Continue engagement and participation on the Provincial Fire Liaison Committee
- ◆ Continue seeking out ways to shape the implementation of the Alberta Wildfire Mitigation Strategy to support wildfire management in non-FPA regions

Current Status:

- **Accepted in Part**

HEALTH & SENIORS



Resolution 5-25S: Rural Participation on the Integration Council for Refocusing Alberta’s Health Care System

Summary:

Resolution 5-25S calls for that the inclusion of a rural generalist physician on the Integration Council to represent rural Alberta’s health interests.

Link to Full Resolution: [5-25S: Rural Participation on the Integration Council for Refocusing Alberta’s Health Care System – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Regional Advisory Councils have been established and are currently engaged in setting their first annual plans. The advisory councils have two key roles: advising the healthcare system and liaising with the community. Many advisory councils are focusing on recruitment and retention concerns. RMA will continue to advocate to ensure community feedback is meaningfully incorporated into the advisory councils’ recommendations to the Government of Alberta.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Health
- ◆ RMA raised this request in a meeting with the Minister of Primary and Preventative Care
- ◆ Held meetings with the Rural Health Branch of Primary and Preventative Care
- ◆ Investigated opportunities for collaboration with ABMunis, which recently endorsed a similar resolution

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ The Minister’s responded to the resolution and denied RMA’s request for a rural generalist to participate on the Integration Council. As a result, RMA is working to ensure rural health interests are represented in other ways
- ◆ Whether there are opportunities to collaborate with the Rural Health Branch to promote rural interests, through health advisory councils or other means

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ The previous Minister of Alberta Health
- ◆ Alberta Primary and Preventative Care

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will follow up on actions related to ongoing collaboration with Alberta Primary and Preventative Care
- ◆ Action items include building connections between rural municipalities and rural health advisory councils, setting up regular meetings with the Rural Health Branch, and reviewing all health announcements through a rural municipal lens

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 1-24F: Attraction and Retention Strategy for Rural Health Care Professionals

Summary:

Resolution 1-24F seeks to promote rural communities’ interest in funding RHPAP and actioning the Rural Health Action Plan. The Government of Alberta should invest in the Rural Health Action Plan and the Rural Health Professions Action Plan’s (RHPAP) work to help alleviate the rural healthcare worker shortage.

Link to Full Resolution: [1-24F: Attraction and Retention Strategy for Rural Health Care Professionals – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Released in 2024, the Rural Health Action Plan (RHAP) includes initiatives in five areas: workforce, models of care, prevention and wellness, access, and community care. While the GOA has undertaken some action in relation to the RHAP, RMA is continuing to monitor progress and advocate for action on the various priority actions contained within the strategy, especially in relation to workforce. The GOA has indicated an intent to report on implementation of the RHAP to this point later in 2026.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Health, Seniors, Community and Social Services, Alberta Mental Health and Addiction and Alberta Advanced Education
- ◆ Accessed publicly available information to gauge rural municipal investment in attraction committees and other efforts (i.e. hiring healthcare staff, subsidizing or owning clinic space or housing)
- ◆ RMA is involved in the Rural Health Collaborative Group, which is working to improve healthcare for rural and remote communities alongside RHPAP, ABMunis, The Rural Development Network, Health Cities, and the Rural Health Branch of the Government of Alberta.

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How best to engage the Government of Alberta given health system changes and new health ministers
- ◆ The impact of rural hospitals closures and service disruptions on rural communities

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Primary and Preventative Health Services

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will work to answer questions about hospital closures and service disruptions
- ◆ RMA will continue to carefully monitor the implementation of Alberta’s refocused healthcare system and implications on frontline rural healthcare worker staffing

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 10-24F: Full-Time (24/7) Home Care Support in Lodges/Supportive Living Accommodations

Summary:

Resolution 10-24F calls for updated care and resource access for seniors in rural seniors lodges and supportive living facilities. More supports for seniors will enable them to remain in their accommodation for longer.

Link to Full Resolution: [10-24F: Full-Time \(24/7\) Home Care Support in Lodges/Supportive Living Accommodations – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Seniors Lodges are foundational to communities across Alberta. A uniquely-Albertan program, Seniors Lodges support independent living for low-income Albertans over 65 years old. As life expectancy has increased over time, so has the average age of seniors living in lodges: this means that the complexity of the healthcare supports that are required to help lodge residents stay independent have increased. Improving home care support in lodges will reduce demand for continuing care spaces while and help rural Albertan seniors remain in their home communities as long as possible.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Seniors, Community and Social Services, Health, and Alberta Health Services
- ◆ Participated in the Seniors Lodge Review Panel, which recommended better integration of homecare with seniors lodges
- ◆ Collected essential background information on seniors lodge funding, governance, and level of care

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Changes to seniors care and living options under the restructured Ministry of Assisted Living and Social Services
- ◆ How healthcare restructuring will better support access to home care for older Albertans
- ◆ Funding for home care in mixed-use facilities (i.e. Alberta Health Services in a seniors lodge)

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Seniors Lodge Review
- ◆ Alberta Seniors, Community and Social Services

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue to advocate to the Government of Alberta for updated care and resources in seniors lodges
- ◆ Monitor the implementation of recommendations of the Seniors Lodge Review Panel report, including home care integration in lodges

Current Status:

- **Intent Not Met**

Resolution ER1-24S: Government Support for Physician Assistants

Summary:

RMA resolution ER1-24S calls for the Government of Alberta to standardize the scope of practice for physician assistants in rural Alberta, fund post-secondary seats for physician assistant master’s programs, and increase funding for rural physician assistant positions.

Link to Full Resolution: [ER1-24S: Government Support for Physician Assistants – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

RHPAP offers six [Rural Healthcare Student Awards](#) of \$5000 to healthcare students, including students studying to be a physician assistant. Preference is given to applicants who have lived in a rural Alberta community for five or more consecutive years and who are interested in rural healthcare. No seats in the Masters of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) program at the University of Calgary are reserved for rural students. The first cohort of MPAS will graduate this August, which could introduce up to 20 new members to the PA workforce.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Health and Alberta Advanced Education
- ◆ RMA discussed the resolution at a Rural Health Professions Action Plan (RHPAP) presentation

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How many physician assistants are currently practicing in rural Alberta
- ◆ University of Calgary’s Masters of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) program enrollment, growth, and impact
- ◆ Benefits of reserved training seats for rural students

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ The Canadian Association of Physician Assistants
- ◆ Alberta Advanced Education
- ◆ Previous Minister of Alberta Health

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Engage the University of Calgary’s Physician Assistant Program
- ◆ Continue to monitor the Physician Assistant training program and benefits to rural communities
- ◆ Monitor the number of Physician Assistants working in rural Alberta to assess the potential value of increasing MPAS seats or incentivizing Physician Assistants to practice in rural areas

Current Status:

- **Accepted in Part**

Resolution 10-23F: Enhancing Home Care Services for Rural Residents in Alberta

Summary:

Resolution 10-23F seeks continued improvements to home care access for rural residents to continue to bolster their ability to age in place. More support for seniors will lead to stronger rural communities and support holistic aging in place, thereby reducing pressure on the acute care system.

Link to Full Resolution: [10-23F: Enhancing Home Care Services for Rural Residents in Alberta – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

The Alberta Continuing Care Association released a [position paper](#) in 2025 that emphasized the ongoing need for home and community care options in rural areas. Recommendations include incentives for rural-based positions as well as travel and mileage costs for healthcare workers who are commuting to rural areas.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Health, Alberta Health Services, Seniors, Community and Social Services
- ◆ Monitored the implementation of new healthcare pillars
- ◆ Met with the Minister of Primary and Preventative Health Services to discuss rural healthcare
- ◆ Reviewed public details of the Assisted Living Framework

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ What actions have been taken to improve access to home care services in rural communities
- ◆ How the ministries of Assisted Living and Social Services and Primary and Preventative Health Services currently collaborate to support home care
- ◆ RMA is seeking to access the full version of the Government of Alberta’s Assisted Living Framework

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Primary and Preventative Health Services

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue to monitor home care service announcements under Assisted Living Alberta
- ◆ Remain engaged with the implementation of the Seniors Lodge Review

Current Status:

- **Accepted in Principle**

Resolution 17-23F: Sustainable Community Hospice Funding Model

Summary:

Resolution 17-23F calls on the Government of Alberta to introduce a sustainable operational funding model for the many programs and care services rural hospices offer. Access to end-of-life care close to home is essential for rural Albertans.

Link to Full Resolution: [17-23F: Sustainable Community Hospice Funding Model – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

RMA’s hospice report is [available here](#). The report includes six recommendations related to rural hospice access, government collaboration with local hospice societies, and the need for a sustainable hospice funding model.

The Government of Alberta stated an intent to add 25 new hospice beds in Alberta by 2026. RMA continues to monitor for updates on the status and location of these beds.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Health, Alberta Health Services, Seniors, Community and Social Services
- ◆ RMA released a report with a series of recommendations to better support rural hospice operations
- ◆ Met with the Minister of Health
- ◆ Explored stakeholder joint advocacy

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Monitor the implementation of new healthcare pillars and the role of hospice support in strengthening the “continuing care” pillar
- ◆ Assess the willingness of the Government of Alberta to implement some or all of RMA’s recommendations related to enhancing rural hospice service provision

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Health
- ◆ ABMunis
- ◆ Alberta Hospice Palliative Care Association
- ◆ Alberta Independent Residential Hospice Alliance

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will continue to advocate for government action on this issue, particularly in conjunction with the Government of Alberta’s newly formed rural health policy team

Current Status:

- **Intent Not Met**

MUNICIPAL GOVERNANCE & FINANCE



Resolution 12-25S: Enabling Service of Offence Notices for Bylaw Matters via Ordinary Mail

Summary:

Resolution 12-25S calls on the Government of Alberta to amend the *Provincial Offences Procedure Act* (POPA) to make it easier for municipalities to serve bylaw offence notices. This includes expanding the use of ordinary mail for service, allowing common municipal bylaw offences to be served by regular mail, and permitting municipalities to authorize mailed service in their bylaws when reliable address information is available.

Link to Full Resolution: [12-25S: Enabling Service of Offence Notices for Bylaw Matters via Ordinary Mail – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Peace officers across Alberta are legally required to confirm delivery of the ticket to the exact accused or charged individual - often this means “in-person.” This is simple in urban areas where the accused is more likely to live in close proximity to law enforcement offices and stations, but difficult in rural areas where law enforcement are often responsible for individuals that live in hard-to-reach areas.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services and Alberta Justice
- ◆ Advocated to the Government of Alberta for legislative changes to allow safer and more efficient methods of delivering violation tickets
- ◆ Raised awareness of the safety, administrative, and financial burdens associated with current hand-delivery requirements
- ◆ Researched alternative delivery methods and potential legislative updates

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Which alternative delivery systems for violation tickets and notices would be legally viable, efficient, and safe for rural municipalities
- ◆ How current legislation could be amended to reduce administrative burdens and enforcement barriers
- ◆ The operational and cost impacts of different delivery options for rural law enforcement

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Justice
- ◆ Alberta Courts and Justice Service

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue working with the Alberta Justice and Alberta Courts and Justice Services to reduce administrative burdens and red tape
- ◆ Further research and identify practical alternatives for delivering violation tickets and notice-related documents in rural areas
- ◆ Develop and advocate for legislative language changes that enable safer, more efficient enforcement practices for rural municipalities

Current Status:

- Accepted in Principle

Resolution 16-25S: Decentralize Provincial Offices to Stimulate Economic Growth

Summary:

Resolution 16-25S calls on the Government of Alberta to relocate some ministry offices from Edmonton to rural areas to help grow local economies.

Link to Full Resolution: [16-25S: Decentralize Provincial Offices to Stimulate Economic Growth – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

The Government of Alberta employs approximately 27,000 people, not including senior officials. Of these 27,000 people, approximately 60% work in Edmonton.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to the Premier’s Office, Service Alberta, and Alberta Red Tape Reduction
- ◆ Released an analysis of [Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Act](#), 2026, highlighting how the legislation further centralizes authority and control of local services and decision-making in the Government of Alberta

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ The complete picture of economic impacts on rural areas resulting from centralization of authority and special presence of service delivery in “urban” centres such as Edmonton
- ◆ The long- and short-term effects of Bill 28 on the delivery of provincial services in rural municipalities, including changes in cost, frequency, and pervasiveness of service disruptions

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Premier’s Office
- ◆ Alberta Service Alberta
- ◆ Alberta Red Tape Reduction

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Once a response has been delivered by representatives of the Government of Alberta, RMA will seek to begin consultation on improving service delivery through decentralization

Current Status:

- Incomplete Information

Resolution 3-24F: Collection of Unpaid Municipal Property Taxes by Way of Royalties

Summary:

Resolution 3-24F calls on the Government of Alberta to require oil and gas companies to pay municipal property taxes as a condition of receiving or maintaining the right to develop these resources. For example, the Government of Alberta may offset uncollectible taxes by sharing a portion of royalty revenues with municipalities.

Link to Full Resolution: [3-24F: Collection of Unpaid Municipal Property Taxes by Way of Royalties – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Rural Municipalities across Alberta were owed approximately \$253.9 million in unpaid oil and gas municipal taxes in 2024. The problem is escalating: \$43 million in unpaid oil and gas municipal taxes was added in 2023, and another \$67.8 million was added in 2024. This does not include amounts subject to tax repayment agreements or amounts written off.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs (MA), Alberta Energy and Minerals (EM) and the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER)
- ◆ In partnership with the Government of Alberta, RMA published the Property Tax Accountability Strategy (PTAS) Report which outlined clear, actionable recommendations that, if implemented, would close collection loopholes and significantly deter the non-payment of municipal property taxes by oil and gas companies

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ What specific measures does the Government of Alberta plan to take to address unpaid municipal oil and gas property tax arrears, and how do these align with the recommendations in the PTAS report?
- ◆ Has there been any significant change in reported municipal tax arrears since the release of the PTAS report, and what does this indicate about early progress?
- ◆ Following implementation, how effective are the PTAS recommendations in reducing tax arrears, and how could these legislative, regulatory, and social-licence measures be strengthened?
- ◆ Has making tax arrears a prerequisite for holding an AER licence meaningfully deterred companies from accruing or maintaining municipal tax arrears?
- ◆ Have royalties been used as a mechanism to mitigate the fiscal impacts of municipal property tax arrears?
- ◆ Have royalties been utilized to support or fund the Provincial Education Requisition Credit (PERC) program?
- ◆ How effectively are regulatory bodies fulfilling their oversight and enforcement responsibilities related to municipal tax arrears, including the consistency and strength of their actions?

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ The PTAS Working Group consists of Municipal Affairs, Energy and Minerals, and RMA, with input provided by the AER
- ◆ RMA frequently engages with members on this issue to maintain a current understanding of the issue

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will continue to monitor the Government of Alberta’s progress in implementing the full suite of PTAS Report recommendations
- ◆ RMA will continue to evaluate real-world effects of any PTAS recommendations that are implemented, including their impact on municipal revenue stability and industry compliance
- ◆ RMA will continue to apply sustained pressure on the Government of Alberta to implement the PTAS Report recommendations in their entirety

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution ER2-24S: Municipal Taxes Misrepresented as Municipal Franchise Fees

Summary:

Resolution ER2-24S calls on the Government of Alberta to require all public utility providers – such as electricity and gas companies – to clearly and accurately itemize all distributor-imposed fees on customer bills, including municipal taxes and franchise fees. This is an important step to ensure municipal taxes are accurate and transparent.

Link to Full Resolution: [ER2-24S: Municipal Taxes Misrepresented as Municipal Franchise Fees - RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Electricity generated from wind power has surged from just 3.742 GWh in 2003 to 9718.0 GWh in 2023 – making it Alberta’s second-largest source of electricity behind natural gas. Nuclear energy development has continued to gather interest as an emerging market. As these new methods of electricity generation are introduced, complexities may be introduced into the billing process. Clearly itemizing distributor-imposed charges, including municipal taxes and franchise fees, helps ensure transparency and accuracy for both customers and municipalities as Alberta’s electricity system continues to grow.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs and Alberta Affordability and Utilities

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Alberta Affordability and Utilities asserts that past amendments to the *Electric Utilities Act* and *Gas Utilities Act* have strengthened oversight of utility pricing, but this has not been demonstrated in practice, and with no corresponding legislative changes, the transparency implications of any forthcoming regulations remain uncertain
- ◆ The total impact of electricity companies presenting unnegotiated charges to consumers and framing certain fees in ways that imply municipal involvement where none exists
- ◆ How these charges have changed over the past year as public awareness of the issue has increased
- ◆ The *Energy and Utilities Statutes Amendment Act, 2025*, has initiated a restructured energy market, and its effects on billing transparency and electricity transmission practices are still emerging and will require ongoing monitoring

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Municipal Affairs
- ◆ Alberta Affordability and Utilities

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Monitor and evaluate new data centre regulations introduced through the *Utilities Statutes Amendment Act, 2025*, and the *Financial Statutes Amendment Act (No. 2), 2025*, to determine how they affect public utility costs and associated franchise fees
- ◆ Continue to contact the government on this issue and advocate for proper and effective regulatory changes

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 4-24S: Maintaining Non-Partisan Municipal Elections

Summary:

Resolution 4-24S requests the Government of Alberta to not introduce partisan politics into local government elections. RMA should also advocate for amendments to the *Local Authorities Election Act* that explicitly ban any form of political party involvement in local elections – including party endorsements of candidates, direct or indirect party donations, or any other partisan influence.

Link to Full Resolution: [4-24S: Maintaining Non-Partisan Municipal Elections - RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

In the 2025 municipal elections – the first year political parties were permitted in Alberta – only three of Edmonton’s 13 elected candidates and six of Calgary’s 15 were affiliated with a political party. In Edmonton, however, two of the party-affiliated officials disaffiliated after the election, leaving Edmonton city council with just one party-affiliated member.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs
- ◆ RMA provided feedback to the Government of Alberta related to the *Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act*, 2024, which introduced local political parties in Edmonton and Calgary as a pilot project, with an emphasis that government has not provided clarity as to the policy intent of introducing political parties or considered impacts in rural and small urban communities.
- ◆ RMA conducted a comprehensive analysis of the relevant sections of the *Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act*, 2025, which amended the *Local Authorities Election Act* to introduce municipal parties and increase the funding limits for parties and their candidates

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How government is evaluating the impact of political parties in the Edmonton and Calgary elections in 2025, and how they will apply these findings to determining whether to expand political parties provincially, eliminate political parties, or maintain their presence in Edmonton and Calgary only
- ◆ What, if any, effect the increased funding allowances had on the results of the 2025 Calgary and Edmonton municipal elections
- ◆ The likely outcomes/impacts of introducing municipal political parties and increasing funding limits in rural municipalities
- ◆ Whether the Government of Alberta intends to maintain allowance of political parties in Edmonton and Calgary for future municipal elections, eliminate any use of political parties, or expand use provincially, and on which basis they will make a decision.

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Municipal Affairs

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA is continuing to advocate for the removal of political parties from municipal elections
- ◆ RMA is advocating for fairer and more balanced approaches to campaign funding that promote democratic norms
- ◆ RMA is continuing to request data and information from the Government of Alberta as to their evaluation of the pilot carried out in Edmonton and Calgary in 2025

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 5-24S: Legislation Consultation with Municipalities

Summary:

Resolution 5-24S calls on the Government of Alberta to amend the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA) to require the Minister to provide municipalities advance notice of any provincial actions that will reduce municipal revenue or increase municipal costs. This requirement would not apply to legislation or actions that affect the entire province generally rather than municipalities specifically.

Link to Full Resolution: [5-24S: Legislation Consultation with Municipalities – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Of the 31 Bills introduced by the Government during the 2026 Winter Session of the Legislative Assembly, 14 introduce changes that will likely increase municipal spending pressures and further constrain local decision making authority, underscoring a growing pattern in which provincial legislation reshapes municipal responsibilities without providing the resources or autonomy needed to carry them out effectively.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs
- ◆ All engagements between RMA and government bodies relate to this resolution; while significant municipal involvement and input will be required to actualize the resolution, these opportunities have not consistently materialized

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ What is the scope of “meaningful consultation,” and how should practice of this consultation take place or operate
- ◆ The Government of Alberta’s willingness to enhance consistency in how they engage with municipalities
- ◆ The extent to which the Government of Alberta’s increased centralization of authority over traditional municipal jurisdictions has reduced municipalities’ ability to carry out provincial priorities, irrespective of the associated costs

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Municipal Affairs

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue to advocate for the inclusion of a rural voice in relation to issues that affect rural municipalities, while advocating for continued and strengthened local autonomy
- ◆ Continue to voice clear expectations for how the Government of Alberta should engage with RMA and municipalities, including timelines, background information, legislative and regulatory priorities, etc.

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 6-24S: Interim Funding for Lost Oil and Gas Revenue

Summary:

Resolution 6-24S calls on the Government of Alberta to restore the Well Drilling Equipment Tax Regulation (WDET) and eliminate the 35% assessment reduction on low-producing wells. Rural municipalities incur infrastructure costs to support new oil and gas industry operations. The WDET, or alternatively equivalent funding, would enable municipalities to recover some of the infrastructure costs incurred.

Link to Full Resolution: [6-24S: Interim Funding for Lost Oil and Gas Revenue – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

The WDET was cancelled in response to pressures from both the 2019 oil crash and COVID pandemic. The Government of Alberta has refused to re-implement the WDET now that oil has increased in price and the pandemic is over. Exacerbating the issue is unpaid oil and gas municipal taxes which continues to rise. Rural Alberta municipalities lost \$332 million in municipal tax revenue between 2021 and 2023 alone because of unpaid oil and gas municipal taxes.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs (MA) and Alberta Energy and Minerals (EM)
- ◆ Engaged with the MA, EM, and the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER)
- ◆ Incorporated lost WDET revenue and the 35% assessment reduction into the 2024 Below the Drill campaign, highlighting the municipal fiscal impacts of provincial policy decisions that subsidize oil and gas operating costs
- ◆ Secured Government of Alberta agreement to include recommendations for mechanisms that would increase financial assistance for municipalities from oil and gas companies in lieu of unpaid taxes within the Property Tax Accountability Strategy (PTAS) Report

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ The local fiscal impacts of the WDET elimination and the 35% assessment reduction on rural municipalities
- ◆ Whether and how the Government of Alberta measures the effects of these two policy decisions on industry competitiveness, and how those considerations are weighed against municipal fiscal impacts
- ◆ How the Government of Alberta intends to implement the recommendations of the PTAS Report related to increasing municipal funding
- ◆ Confirmation that PTAS Report recommendations are functioning as intended to support the return of funds to municipalities that have experienced reduced property tax revenues following the removal of the WDET

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Municipal Affairs
- ◆ Alberta Energy

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue to advocate for adequate industry contributions to municipal infrastructure and services, both in relation to new development and aging assets

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 2-23F: Amendments to the Municipal Government Act – Section 619

Summary:

This resolution calls for changes to the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA) that ensure Alberta regulators align their decisions with municipal land use plans related to agricultural lands, municipal infrastructure, existing land use, and impacts on local projects. Specifically, the resolution seeks to amend s. 619 of the MGA to integrate the changes.

Link to Full Resolution: [2-23F: Amendments to the Municipal Government Act – Section 619 – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Countries that have meaningfully decentralized – such as Switzerland, Germany, and Norway – demonstrate how shifting decision making closer to communities stabilizes democracy by reducing zero sum politics, increasing citizen trust, and creating multiple centres of accountability that prevent power from concentrating in any single institution. Swiss municipalities hold substantial authority over taxation, education, and infrastructure; Germany intentionally decentralized after WWII to prevent future authoritarianism; and Norwegian municipalities control major public services such as education, planning, and welfare delivery – areas in which Norway is widely regarded as exceptional. Across all three jurisdictions, high civic participation and strong democratic legitimacy are outcomes that have remained consistent.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs
- ◆ Formed a Member Committee on Quasi-Judicial Agencies, which produced a final report recommending that regulators be required to align approval decisions with municipal land use plans
- ◆ Advocated for changes to AUC’s Rule 007, which guides the approval of renewable energy projects, to require the AUC to ensure projects align with municipal land use plans as a condition of approval
- ◆ Collaborated with the Natural Resources Conservation Board to develop recommended legislative changes to better align confined feeding operation approvals with municipal land use plans
- ◆ Advocated against changes to the MGA that permit Land and Property Rights Tribunal (LPRT) decisions to override municipal land use planning without consultation with municipal councils or in consideration of municipal land-use plans

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ The long- and short-term consequences of the Government of Alberta introducing overriding authority at the tribunal level and the limitation of municipal involvement and influence in regulatory approval processes
- ◆ Assessing how proposed changes to Land-Use regulations, such as the changes to Rule 007 and the introduction of LPRT overriding authority to the MGA, may affect the relationship between provincial regulators and municipal land use planning bylaws, especially given the authority granted by section 619 of the MGA

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Municipal Affairs
- ◆ Alberta Utilities Commission
- ◆ Natural Resources Conservation Board
- ◆ Ministry of Affordability and Utilities

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue advocating for changes that better integrate municipal statutory land use planning into provincial regulatory decision-making
- ◆ Encourage and support member municipalities to leverage changes made to Rule 007 providing more influence to local land use plans
- ◆ Advocate against the reduction of land-use planning authority for municipalities
- ◆ Seek reforms that better recognize municipalities as unique and impacted stakeholders, rather than relying solely on voluntary or encouraged consultation approaches

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 12-23F: Growth Management Board Voluntary Membership

Summary:

Resolution 12-23F calls on the Government of Alberta to remove mandatory growth management boards from the Municipal Government Act. If the Government of Alberta does not eliminate them, RMA should push for changes that make participation in growth management boards voluntary instead of mandatory.

Link to Full Resolution: [12-23F: Growth Management Board Voluntary Membership – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

There were two major GMBs in Alberta, one each for the communities that surrounded and included Calgary and Edmonton. RMA members sat on both GMBs before their eventual defunding. Both GMBs still technically exist in legislation but participation is no longer mandatory.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs
- ◆ RMA has voiced concerns with the impact of Growth Management Boards (GMBs) on rural land use planning and service deliverability
- ◆ Prior to the resolution being passed, RMA released a report in February 2023 titled [Seeking Balance: Voting Inequalities in Alberta’s Growth Management Boards](#). The report included several recommendations to address voting inequities in the board structure.
- ◆ RMA organized an engagement session with rural municipalities that were former GMB members; the intention of the session was to allow members to share their experience

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How municipal collaboration can be balanced with local autonomy in the post-GMB context
- ◆ The impact of Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks which have moved in to replace the now-defunct GMBs

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Municipal Affairs
- ◆ RMA members that formerly belonged to GMBs

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ In late 2024, the Government of Alberta eliminated mandatory GMBs, as per the resolution’s request
- ◆ RMA will continue to monitor the effects of a post-GMB context and the effects of Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks on intermunicipal agreements and collaboration

Current Status:

- Accepted

Resolution ER1-23F: Limiting Third-Party Services in ICF Agreements

Summary:

Resolution ER1-23F seeks legislative clarity that third-party services are excluded from Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks (ICFs). The resolution also supports limitations on funding demands to ensure that rural municipalities do not incur a disproportionate amount of costs resulting from ICFs

Link to Full Resolution: [ER1-23F: Limiting Third-Party Services in ICF Agreements – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

The Municipal Affairs Statues Amendment Act, 2025, made several updates to ICFs that align with RMA’s advocacy. It reintroduced five mandatory services for arbitration, emphasized data-backed decision-making, and clarified that third-party services like policing and libraries cannot be included.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs
- ◆ Released a [Member Engagement Guide](#) on Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks (ICFs)
- ◆ Recommended to the Government of Alberta to clarify which third-party services are to be addressed through ICFs

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Bill 50 was released in April 2025; this Bill changed many aspects of the *Municipal Government Act* and ICFs
- ◆ Bill 50 clarified several matters related to this resolution including:
 - ◇ Core areas that must be covered under an ICF
 - ◇ Third party agreements should be addressed outside the ICF process
 - ◇ Strict rules on inclusion of municipal services
- ◆ RMA continues to monitor the effects of these changes

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Municipal Affairs
- ◆ ABMunis and various other relevant advocacy groups
- ◆ Member Municipalities

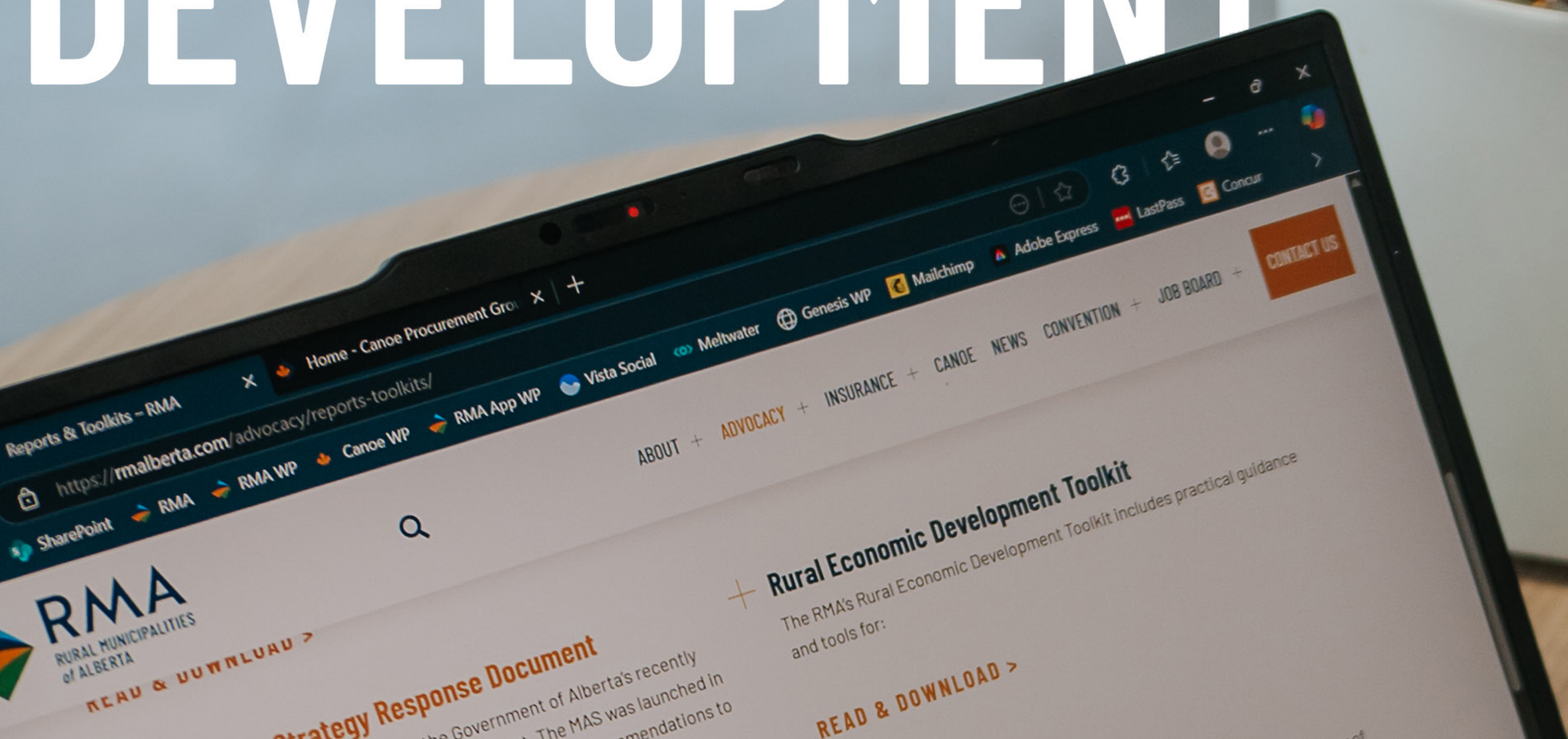
What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA has advocated to the Government of Alberta and Municipal Affairs for clarity on other effects of Bill 50 such as the removal of municipal council codes of conduct
- ◆ RMA is continuing to monitor for further developments, but considers this resolution “Accepted” based on Bill 50’s changes to the MGA
- ◆ RMA is collaborating with ABMunis and Alberta Municipal Affairs to update the existing ICF workbook to reflect legislative changes to the ICF process, including in relation to third-party services.

Current Status:

- Accepted

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT



Resolution 3-24S: Continued Support for Regional Economic Development Alliances

Summary:

Resolution 3-24S seeks that the Government of Alberta clarify the purpose of REDA’s and support their contributions to rural economic activity, while also ensuring REDA’s have access to the required funding to do their work. Sustainable long-term funding for REDAs would ensure they meet a consistent purpose that can help promote rural economic development.

Link to Full Resolution: [3-24S: Continued Support for Regional Economic Development Alliances – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

REDAs operate across Alberta, with significant funding and capacity support from rural municipalities. REDAs play an important role in maintaining a long-term, ongoing regional economic development presence in rural areas. The decision to stop funding REDAs may result in greater economic disparities in rural Alberta.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Seniors, Community and Social Services, Alberta Health, and Alberta Health Services
- ◆ Released a [Rural Economic Development Toolkit](#) and hosted a series of rural economic development webinars
- ◆ Met with the Premier of Alberta and the Minister of Jobs, Economy and Trade

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ The Government of Alberta’s vision as to the role of REDAs in supporting rural economic development
- ◆ How and to what extent REDAs support rural economic developmentWhether the move from stable provincial funding to a grant-based program will result in a download of funding responsibility onto municipalities or degrade local economic development capacity in rural areas

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Premier of Alberta
- ◆ Various REDAs

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA is preparing an updated rural economic development report to highlight rural Alberta’s contributions to the provincial GDP
- ◆ RMA will continue to advocate for a reversal of the Government of Alberta’s decision to eliminate REDA operating funding in 2027
- ◆ RMA will assess how the transition to a competitive grant-based funding model for REDAs will impact their activities and effectiveness

Current Status:

- Accepted

Resolution 5-23F: Municipal Involvement in Quasi-Judicial Agencies

Summary:

Resolution 5-23F calls on RMA to work with the Government of Alberta to improve coordination and municipal engagement in quasi-judicial agency processes. More specifically, RMA would like to see increased accountability, participation and transparency for municipalities involved in project approval and hearing processes across provincial quasi-judicial agencies.

Link to Full Resolution: [5-23F: Municipal Involvement in Quasi-Judicial Agencies – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Broad and undefined use of public interest is prevalent among regulatory bodies and organizations, both in Alberta and in various jurisdictions across Canada. [Goodday et. al.](#) find that lack of regulator definitions of public interest likely stem from a lack of legal definition of public interest and in these cases, further interpretation and discretion is given to the relevant decision-maker(s). RMA’s 2023 QJAC report highlights how a lack of public interest definitions contributes to inconsistencies for municipalities navigating regulatory processes and complicates municipalities’ ability to ensure their perspectives and needs are considered within the public interest towards approval decisions concerning proposed developments.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to the following provincial ministries and agencies: Municipal Affairs, Energy and Minerals, Agriculture and Irrigation, Affordability and Utilities, Alberta Energy Regulator, Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) and the Natural Resources Conservation Board (NRCB)
- ◆ Formed the Quasi-Judicial Agencies Member Committee (QJAC) in 2023 and developed the [final report](#) and [technical report](#)
- ◆ Provided submissions to multiple components of the AUC Rule 007 inquiry and developed a corresponding [member guide](#)
- ◆ Engaged with the AUC regarding the standard renewables setbacks consultation that occurred in early 2026
- ◆ Engaged with the NRCB and participated in their Policy Advisory Group in relation to approval of confined feeding operations

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Details about reclamation security requirements following the June 2025 release of the Renewables Code of Practice
- ◆ How the NRCB intends to update legislation such as AOPA to align with current day contexts and challenges
- ◆ Clarity on AUC development of a possible standardized setback in relation to renewable energy approvals
- ◆ How public interest informs decision-making at the AER, even as a clear definition is not actively used and public interest decision factors are not communicated publicly

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Sent follow up letters to the quasi-judicial agencies – most recently to the NRCB regarding amendments to the *Agricultural Operations and Practices Act* (AOPA)
- ◆ Meetings with the AUC
- ◆ Meetings with the NRCB
- ◆ Meetings with RMA members to learn about emerging relevant issues firsthand

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue engagement and meetings with ministries, RMA members and the quasi-judicial agencies
- ◆ Continue seeking out opportunities for further advocacy and policy change such as minister meetings and stakeholder engagement participation
- ◆ Revisit the 2023 QJAC report recommendations to evaluate progress among the quasi-judicial agencies

Current Status:

- Accepted in Part

Resolution 11-23F: Compensation Resulting from Regulatory Changes

Summary:

Resolution 11-23F calls on the Government of Alberta to implement a process to review all current and future laws for any negative financial impacts on private property owners. The resolution also requests that government implement recommendation six from the Special Committee on Real Property Rights and to compensate private property owners affected by changes to the Historical Resources Act.

Link to Full Resolution: [11-23F: Compensation Resulting from Regulatory Changes – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

The Special Committee on Real Property Rights (SCRPR) was formed to address various issues related to property rights and ownership in Alberta. This included examining the adequacy of legal remedies for property owners deprived of their use, expanding real property rights, and ensuring adequate expropriation processes. The SCRPR developed six recommendations. Recommendation six states: “That the Government develop a comprehensive compensation structure by which owners of real property are compensated if regulatory changes result in the removal of reasonable uses of real property.”

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Justice and Alberta Arts, Culture and Status of Women

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ The rules and regulations surrounding compensation for deprivation of use of real property
- ◆ This relationship with certain tribunals such as the Land and Property Rights Tribunal and the recommendation
- ◆ The effects that are causing strife and disenfranchisement for landowners based on their reliance on tribunals while seeking legal remediation

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Justice
- ◆ Alberta Arts, Culture and the Status of Women

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will continue to seek a response to the resolution from the Government of Alberta
- ◆ RMA will continue to advocate for the core tenants expressed in this resolution in other areas of policy advocacy
- ◆ RMA will continue to monitor implementation and other action related to the Special Committee on Real Property Rights recommendations

Current Status:

- **Incomplete Information**





POLICING & RURAL CRIME

Resolution 4-24F: Amend *Municipal Government Act* to Designate Police Funding Model Levy as Requisition

Summary:

Resolution 4-24F calls on the Government of Alberta to ensure the PFM can be listed as a requisition on municipal tax bills. This would serve as a positive step in creating accountability and transparency between local governments, the Government of Alberta, and taxpayers.

Link to Full Resolution: [4-24F: Amend *Municipal Government Act* to Designate Police Funding Model Levy as Requisition](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

RMA's has advocated extensively for changes to the PFM. Member resources are available [here](#). Changes were made to allow for municipalities to list the PFM as a separate line item on tax bills. Given that the PFM will continue to require municipalities to make significant cost contributions to policing with little linkage to local service levels, it is crucial that municipalities are enabled to transparently communicate what items are included on municipal tax bills. RMA will continue to advocate for the PFM to be listed as a requisition, which would more clearly illustrate that municipalities are contributing to a provincially-mandated program.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs and Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services
- ◆ RMA recommended the PFM cost be listed as a requisition when engaged on the PFM in summer 2025
- ◆ Released multiple PFM member resources
- ◆ RMA is actively analyzing the updated PFM and will release an impact analysis in 2026.
- ◆ RMA analyzed changes made to the *Municipal Government Act* through Bill 28 that allow municipalities to display the equivalent portion of a property owner’s tax bill that would be allocated to the PFM, without formally designating the cost as a requisition.

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ The function of the new PFM and how it will impact rural municipalities

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services
- ◆ Alberta Municipal Affairs
- ◆ PFM Engagement Consultant

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will continue to support municipalities through advocacy and resources as they navigate the PFM
- ◆ RMA will continue to advocate in support of listing the PFM as a requisition
- ◆ Monitor the equitability of the PFM and advocate for improvements to the model
- ◆ This resolution will continue to provide a key position on RMA’s PFM advocacy

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 12-24F: Accountability in the Establishment of an Independent Agency Police Service in Alberta

Summary:

Resolution 12-24F calls on the Government of Alberta to provide clarity related to the formation of the Alberta Sheriffs Police Service and its impacts on policing in rural areas. A police service – like the Alberta Sheriffs Police Service – should have only been introduced with majority municipal support. The Government of Alberta should provide full ASPS financial transparency.

Link to Full Resolution: [12-24F: Accountability in the Establishment of an Independent Agency Police Service in Alberta](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

RMA prepared an Alberta Sheriffs Police Service member resource available [here](#). RMA is actively engaged with the Alberta Sheriffs Police Service and is closely monitoring what steps are being taken to expand the scope and powers available to Alberta Sheriffs Police Service. Most recently Bill 15, the Public Safety and Emergency Services Statutes Amendment Act, established the ASPS as a Crown corporation and created a path for Alberta Sheriffs to become full police officers.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution and separate requests for information were sent to Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services
- ◆ Established regular meetings with the Albera Sheriffs Police Service (ASPS)
- ◆ RMA is closely monitoring the implementation of the ASPS
- ◆ Reviewed policing recommendations from the Alberta Next Panel
- ◆ Provided input on legislative developments enabling ASPS formation, emphasizing the need for transparency and local accountability
- ◆ Developed a document titled History of the Alberta Sheriffs Police Service outlining the linkage between the GOA’s 2021 engagement on a provincial police service with various legislative changes to the *Police Act* that enabled the expanded mandate of Alberta Sheriffs.

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ RMA is working to answer many unanswered questions related to Bill 49 and Alberta Sheriffs Police Service – details available here
- ◆ What recommendations from the Alberta Police Service Transition study have been implemented
- ◆ The overall cost of implementing the ASPS provincewide and locally
- ◆ How local governance and service delivery of policing through the ASPS will be managed

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Sheriffs Police Service
- ◆ Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services
- ◆ RCMP

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue to advocate for clarity as to ASPS governance, service delivery standards, costs, and alignment/co-existence with RCMP and other policing bodies in Alberta

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 14-24F: Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Coverage for Community Peace Officers Under the Workers’ Compensation Act

Summary:

Resolution 14-24F seeks to ensure community peace officers (CPOs) receive the same presumed post-traumatic stress disorder protections as first responders under the Workers Compensation Act. CPOs are first responders who deserve the same protections as other first responders.

Link to Full Resolution: [14-24F: Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Coverage for Community Peace Officers Under the Workers’ Compensation Act](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Check out this [infographic highlighting the issue](#). RMA is pleased to have been able to jointly advocate with ABMunis and the Alberta Association of Community Peace Officers. Thank you to those organizations that have sent letters of support.

The Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Services recently moved to train Alberta Sheriffs who were already performing police-like duties to become full police officers. While announcing this initiative, the Minister noted that many peace officers have seen their scope expand in previous years. Indeed, the Minister emphasized that serving in the Alberta Sheriffs needed just six weeks of training to bring them to the training standard of full police officers. RMA will continue to advocate that given peace officers are subject to conditions and responsibilities that are nearly in line with police officers, that they receive PTSD coverage that reflects the growing scope of their duties.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services and Jobs, and Alberta Jobs, Economy, Trade and Immigration
- ◆ Partnered with ABMunis and the Alberta Association of Community Peace Officers
- ◆ Prepared an infographic to raise awareness
- ◆ Prepared ministerial letters and a submission
- ◆ Held minister and stakeholder meetings

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How to obtain the Government of Alberta’s request for data on:
 - ◇ Community Peace Officer’s incidence of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder claims and psychological injury claims
 - ◇ Community Peace Officer’s employer benefit usage
 - ◇ Support from other CPO employers
- ◆ The additional costs associated with providing PTSD coverage for peace officers

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ ABMunis
- ◆ Internal discussions with Canoe Benefits
- ◆ Alberta Association of Community Peace Officers
- ◆ United Nurses of Alberta
- ◆ Government of Alberta and the Workers Compensation Board

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Work with resolution advocacy partners
- ◆ Meet minister requests as appropriate
- ◆ Continue to advocate for legislative changes

Current Status:

- **Intent Not Met**

Resolution 15-24F: Member Committee to Understand the Criminal Justice System

Summary:

Resolution 15-24F calls on RMA to form a member committee to support rural municipalities’ understanding of rural crime and the criminal justice system from a rural municipal perspective. The resolution directs the committee to develop solutions and advocacy approaches to criminal justice changes for rural communities.

Link to Full Resolution: [15-24F: Member Committee to Understand the Criminal Justice System](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

The criminal justice member committee will begin in summer 2026. RMA will continue to share information on the committee’s work and the member committee application as it becomes available.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ RMA has prepared the Terms of Reference for the member committee
- ◆ Member recruitment and committee work will begin in summer 2026

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Evaluate committee member applications
- ◆ A comprehensive overview of the criminal justice system as it pertains to rural municipalities

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA members

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA looks forward to implementing the committee and sharing results with members in 2026

Current Status:

- **Accepted in Principle**



Resolution 8-23F: Implementation of Provincial Police Advisory Board

Summary:

Resolution 8-23F calls on the Government of Alberta to ensure rural municipalities and rural policing interests are represented on the Provincial Police Advisory Board. The Provincial Police Advisory Board should ensure small rural communities served by the RCMP, under the Provincial Police Service Agreement, have fair representation.

Link to Full Resolution: [8-23F: Implementation of Provincial Police Advisory Board](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

RMA submitted two RMA board member names for participation on the Provincial Police Advisory Board to the Government of Alberta in late 2024. RMA recently learned that the board will commence operations in July 2026. RMA looks forward to representing the interests of our membership on the board, and better understanding how it will be resourced, how decisions will be made, and other governance and operational details.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services
- ◆ RMA participated on the Interim Police Advisory Board until it last met in spring 2025
- ◆ RMA appointed two board member to the Provincial Police Advisory Board (PPAB) in 2024

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Updates on board governance, resourcing, engagement, meeting frequency and timelines, as well as the board's scope of duties.
- ◆ How the board will engage with and represent the interests of such a broad range of rural and small urban municipalities

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services
- ◆ RCMP

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA plans to assign two representatives to the PPAB as per the Police Governance (Ministerial) Regulation
- ◆ RMA will use their presence on the PPAB to emphasize the need for the PPAB to meaningfully engage with rural and small urban municipalities and represent their priorities in provincial police priority-setting

Current Status:

- **Intent Not Met**



TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

Resolution 18-24F: Renewable Electricity and Grid Stability

Summary:

Resolution 18-24F calls for more grid stability by mandating that renewable energy developments should have a minimum amount of on-demand electricity for use by the province’s electrical grid. These issues are especially important given that the province’s electricity grid increasingly relies upon renewable energy.

Link to Full Resolution: [18-24F: Renewable Electricity and Grid Stability](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

In June 2025, the AESO announced that new large load projects such as data centres will be subject to a collective 1200-Megawatt limit until at least 2027 due to a lack of grid capacity to support the load requirements of this emerging sector. While this decision is beyond the scope of the resolution, it does demonstrate the need for significant growth in Alberta power generation and transmission infrastructure, which could be at least partially supported by a requirement that new renewable energy facilities provide a minimum amount of electricity to the grid.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Affordability and Utilities and the Alberta Utilities Commission

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ What are the multi-stakeholder implications of defining minimum electricity contribution thresholds by the size of a given development
- ◆ How do the different types of renewable energy present differences in implementing the minimum electricity contribution threshold
- ◆ How will AESO’s redesign of the Restructured Energy Market (REM) help fulfill the asks of this resolution
- ◆ How does the Government of Alberta plan to integrate or develop electricity infrastructure to accommodate for emerging sectors such as nuclear energy

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA continues to learn more about the issues highlighted in Resolution 18-24F to best inform engagement and advocacy

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue monitoring the outcomes of the REM redesign and implementation of the mandatory Day-Ahead Market (DAM)
- ◆ Continue seeking out opportunities for further correspondence, engagement and advocacy

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution ER3-24S: Opposition to Federal Zero Emission Vehicle Mandate

Summary:

Resolution ER3-24S calls for the amendment or withdrawal of the federally imposed Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) mandate. The ZEV will negatively affect the light vehicles that rural Albertans and businesses rely on, thereby disproportionately impacting rural and northern communities.

Link to Full Resolution: [ER3-24S: Opposition to Federal Zero Emission Vehicle Mandate](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Recently, the [Government of Canada announced a pause on the ZEV mandate](#), including the removal of the 2026 target and a commitment to launching a 60-day review of the overall regulation. While this policy change represents needed relief for rural Albertans and a promising step in the right direction, it is important that the regulation review is comprehensive and inclusive of rural municipalities and industries. This would ensure that vital rural industries and rural livelihoods are not disproportionately impacted by unbalanced emissions reduction mandates.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Natural Resources Canada and Rural Economic Development Canada
- ◆ Rural Economic Development Canada forwarded the resolution to Environment and Climate Change Canada; RMA has not received a response

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How the initial ZEV mandate targets will be adjusted, especially considering the mandate is currently paused
- ◆ Details surrounding the 60-day review of the mandate and its process
- ◆ How rural needs and capacities will be considered towards future iterations of the ZEV mandate

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA continues to learn more about the issues highlighted in Resolution ER3-24S to best inform engagement and advocacy

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue seeking out opportunities for further correspondence, engagement and advocacy

Current Status:

- Accepted in Principle

Resolution 1-23F: Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program Funding

Summary:

Resolution 1-23F calls on the Government of Alberta to substantially increase the funding available for the Local Road Bridge Program (LRBP) stream in the Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program (STIP). Local roads and bridges provide critical infrastructure for both Alberta residents and provincial industries. Provincial funding support is critical to address the infrastructure deficit.

Link to Full Resolution: [1-23F: Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program Funding](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Roads and bridges are essential for the transportation of goods and services across Alberta. Without a large increase in STIP funding, rural municipalities will likely be unable to cover the remediation cost, and their condition will deteriorate – this will have an immediate impact on Alberta’s economy. Budget 2024 announced a slight increase to STIP of \$500,000 for the 2024 fiscal year for a total of \$44.5 million, with a total of \$111 million allocated over the next three years. However, funding remains inadequate – RMA found that it would cost \$11.99 billion to repair all rural municipal roads and \$2.29 billion to repair all rural bridges.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors (TEC)
- ◆ Released the [Infrastructure Deficit Project Report](#) in 2024 explaining associated costs and real impacts of the government’s continued failure to fund rehabilitation and improvement projects for rural infrastructure including roads and bridges
- ◆ On-going conversations with TEC and Municipal Affairs on the issue of infrastructure deficit and the need for improved funding models, based in part on Closing the Gap campaign
- ◆ Engaged TEC in 2025 and 2026 to begin addressing allocation funding models for STIP

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Aside from the direct impact of a severe lack of funding, RMA is researching specific potential short- and long-term impacts on provincial and local economies resulting from deteriorating roads and bridges
- ◆ RMA would like to better understand opportunities to determine funding priority for the limited funding and redirect the infrastructure funding narrative to better support rural infrastructure as a result of their high economic output

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors
- ◆ Alberta Municipal Affairs

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA launched the [Closing the Gap](#) campaign which built on and updated the findings in the [Rural Municipal Infrastructure Deficit Project](#), raising government and public awareness of the issue and push for a collaborative solution
- ◆ RMA released the [Closing the Gap: Rural Infrastructure Deficit Member Toolkit](#), providing municipalities with the information, messaging, and materials needed to participate in the campaign by adding their own voice to advocate for a long term provincial–municipal partnership to manage and invest in rural infrastructure

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 14-23F: Provincial High-Load Corridor Protection

Summary:

Resolution 14-23F calls on the Government of Alberta to work with municipalities to protect and coordinate the provincial high-load corridor network to support industries that require the movement of high loads

Link to Full Resolution: [14-23F: Provincial High-Load Corridor Protection](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Development of Alberta’s HLC began in 1985 and now includes approximately 5,000 km of Alberta’s provincial highway network; there are around 150,000 oversize and overweight permits issued annually for use of these HLCs.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors (TEC)
- ◆ Reviewed and responded to the Government of Alberta’s (TEC) response regarding the High-Load Corridor (HLC) network
- ◆ Met with representatives from TEC to discuss the continued protection of HLCs
- ◆ RMA has advocated for broader review and protection of high-load corridors beyond the Edmonton region

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ RMA is seeking greater clarity on how and when tangible improvements to the protection of high-load corridors will occur across the province
- ◆ RMA wants to better understand whether the Edmonton Region Network Study (ERNS) will lead to concrete policy, mapping, or corridor protection changes, and how those outcomes may be applied elsewhere in Alberta
- ◆ RMA is also working to better understand local member concerns and challenges related to HLCs to ensure they are clearly communicated to the province

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors
- ◆ Direct engagement with member municipalities that are directly affected by the HLC

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ The Government of Alberta has not released the ERNS, with no indication that the study was completed; RMA will seek confirmation with TEC on the results of the study and accessing the information collected through the ERNS project
- ◆ Support improved communication between RMA members and the provincial government regarding local HLC issues
- ◆ RMA will track outcomes and results, and continue advocacy until measurable improvements in HLC protections are achieved

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 9-25S: Water and Wastewater System Funding

Summary:

Resolution 9-25S calls on the Government of Alberta to restore and expand Water for Life Program (W4L) funding so that it supports not only new water and wastewater projects but also the repair and replacement of existing distribution systems. Many rural municipalities cannot afford these critical upgrades on their own, and current provincial funding levels fall short – threatening resident affordability, public health, and long-term rural sustainability.

Link to Full Resolution: [9-25S: Water and Wastewater System Funding – RMA](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

When the Bearspaw feeder main in Calgary failed, forcing hundreds of thousands of residents to ration water, the repair cost was estimated at \$15 to \$20 million – for a single watermain in a single municipality, albeit an urban one. Even with the Government of Alberta nearly doubling Water for Life funding to \$97.6 million in Budget 2026, the program’s total annual budget would be quickly exhausted if multiple major failures occurred across the province. Alberta’s current funding levels are nowhere near sufficient to address large scale repairs and restoration needs across all communities.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors
- ◆ Assessed and identified the total cost to repair and restore rural water and wastewater infrastructure at approximately \$310 million
- ◆ Evaluated provincial W4L funding commitments and compared them against identified rural infrastructure needs
- ◆ Publicly raised concerns about implications that municipalities are responsible for delays or underutilization of W4L funding
- ◆ Introduced the [Closing the Gap](#) campaign to raise public awareness about Alberta’s growing infrastructure deficit and the shared responsibility of municipalities and the Government of Alberta in addressing it

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ The extent to which alleged municipal failures to meet application or spending timelines influence provincial W4L funding decisions
- ◆ How application data provided by municipalities is interpreted and used by the minister and Cabinet in setting funding levels
- ◆ Whether and how qualification criteria for W4L could be updated to better reflect rural infrastructure realities
- ◆ The long-term fiscal impact of underfunding repair and restoration versus adequately funding infrastructure upfront

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue advocating for W4L funding levels that align with the estimated \$310 million required for rural water and wastewater infrastructure repair and restoration
- ◆ Push for expanded and more appropriate eligibility and qualification criteria for W4L funding
- ◆ Seek greater clarity and accountability around provincial claims related to municipal application timelines and fund utilization
- ◆ Formally establish working groups that directly confront Alberta’s widening water and wastewater funding gaps and drive concrete and systemic solutions
- ◆ Maintain pressure on the GOA to reduce long-term municipal reliance on provincial grants by supporting sustainable, upfront infrastructure investment

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 15-23F: Province-Wide Regulations for E-Scooters and Miniature Personal Electric Vehicles

Summary:

Resolution 8-23F calls on the Government of Alberta to ensure rural municipalities and rural policing interests are represented on the Provincial Police Advisory Board. The Provincial Police Advisory Board should ensure small rural communities served by the RCMP, under the Provincial Police Service Agreement, have fair representation.

Link to Full Resolution: [15-23F: Province-Wide Regulations for E-Scooters and Miniature Personal Electric Vehicles](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Approximately 4,600 injuries linked to rental e-scooter use were reported in Calgary and Edmonton in 2025 – this figure is likely an underestimate.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors (TEC)
- ◆ Considered and assessed the issue raised in the resolution regarding the acceptance and regulation of personal miniature electric vehicles (PMEVs)
- ◆ RMA has positioned itself as a provincial advocate and conduit for rural municipalities on this issue
- ◆ RMA met with TEC to review TEC’s broad authority under the *Traffic Safety Act* and discuss the shift toward establishing minimum provincial standards for PMEVs, including how they will be defined across device types
- ◆ RMA engaged TEC on proposed operating rules for PMEVs that ensure provincial clarity while maintaining municipal flexibility
- ◆ RMA emphasized the importance of municipal bylaw authority, working to ensure that municipalities will maintain the ability to restrict or prohibit PMEV use, set local penalties, and tailor operating permissions to local contexts

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Clarity on the outcomes of the provincial review of the e-scooter pilot project and how these findings will shape broader micromobility legislation
- ◆ RMA wants to better understand how and when updated legislation or a permanent framework for PMEVs will be developed, including minimum provincial standards and device definitions
- ◆ RMA is also looking to understand the process and timeline for future consultations on PMEV regulation, particularly regarding operation, enforcement, and municipal flexibility within the provincial framework

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Monitor the release of the government’s promised findings from the PMEV review and assess implications for rural municipalities
- ◆ Advocate for meaningful engagement with rural municipalities in the development of any permanent PMEV regulatory framework
- ◆ Continue to track progress and maintain the resolution’s status until concrete actions or outcomes are delivered by the province

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

OTHER



Resolution 16-23F: Federal-Provincial Partnership to Counter the United States Inflation Reduction Act

Summary:

Resolution 16-23F calls on the Government of Alberta to start a meaningful dialogue with the federal government to explore ways to work together on challenges from the US *Inflation Reduction Act* (IRA) and the risks it poses to Alberta’s agriculture sector. RMA is also being requested to push for a joint task force to assess how the IRA affects Canadian producers.

Link to Full Resolution: [16-23F: Federal-Provincial Partnership to Counter the United States Inflation Reduction Act](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

The IRA is projected to reduce US emissions by 32-42% below 2005 levels by 2035. A part of the IRA functions to address agricultural practices that – if executed – will likely significantly cut emissions from agriculture-related sources; however, specific reductions from the sources within the field of agriculture are not detailed.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Agriculture and Irrigation Canada; Agri-food Canada; and Alberta Jobs, Economy and Trade
- ◆ RMA has monitored the US *Inflation Reduction Act* (IRA) and its potential impacts on Alberta’s agricultural sector
- ◆ RMA assessed government responses from Alberta Jobs, Economy, and Trade regarding programs, supports, and conservation initiatives intended to counter U.S. competitive advantages
- ◆ RMA evaluated political and legal developments related to the IRA and subsequent U.S. legislation (*One Big Beautiful Bill Act* (BBB))

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ The ongoing competitive impact of U.S. tax incentives and programs on Alberta producers
- ◆ RMA wants clarity on how provincial and federal programs in Canada may mitigate these disadvantages
- ◆ RMA is monitoring U.S. legislative changes, including the BBB, to assess how these shifts affect the competitive landscape for Canadian agriculture

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Jobs, Economy and Trade
- ◆ Agriculture and Irrigation Canada
- ◆ Agri-food Canada

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will continue advocating for Alberta’s agricultural sector, to ensure it can compete despite US subsidies
- ◆ RMA will work with all levels of government to encourage policy development that supports Canadian producers
- ◆ RMA will monitor the implementation and impacts of U.S. legislation (IRA and BBB) and any federal-provincial responses to adjust advocacy strategies accordingly

Current Status:

- Intent Not Met

Resolution 19-23F: Government of Alberta Ministry Changes

Summary:

Resolution 19-23F calls on the Government of Alberta to report on the costs of ministry reorganizations or name changes. As these changes have occurred regularly in past years and may be considered an ineffective use of ministry budgets, the Government of Alberta should minimize these organizational changes.

Link to resolution: [19-23F: Government of Alberta Ministry Changes](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Alberta has one of the most frequently reshuffled cabinets in Canada. Between 2015 and 2023, several ministries were renamed, merged, or split more than a dozen times – sometimes with entire portfolios like “Tourism and Sport” or “Forestry and Parks” appearing and disappearing in just a few months. This kind of change can make it challenging for citizens and politicians to keep track of who is responsible for what.

What action has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to the Government of Alberta’s Executive Council
- ◆ RMA has reviewed and contextualized the summarized historical changes to various provincial ministries, including Alberta Jobs, Economy and Trade; Alberta Arts, Culture and Status of Women; Alberta Immigration and Multiculturalism; Alberta Tourism and Sport; and Alberta Forestry and Parks
- ◆ RMA has assessed the status of this resolution in light of the lack of government response
- ◆ RMA has committed to ongoing advocacy for this resolution by seeking further opportunities for correspondence and input

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Underlying factors and implications behind the practice of expanding and restructuring ministries
- ◆ How the shifting structure of ministries impacts policy and decision-making in areas relevant to this resolution
- ◆ Clarifying government priorities and responses related to the issues covered by Resolution 19-23F

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA has not received a response from the Executive Council
- ◆ Accordingly, RMA has not had an opportunity to engage directly with the Government of Alberta on this issue
- ◆ RMA may engage with member municipalities to track impacts of ministry changes

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue to advocate by seeking government correspondence and opportunities for input
- ◆ Monitor ministry changes and structure to understand potential implications for policy and municipal interests
- ◆ RMA will update the resolution status once a government response is received and more information is available

Current Status:

- Incomplete Information



Section 3

Status Changes

Resolution 8-25S:

Opposition to *Water Act* Amendments and Lack of Consultation

The government response acknowledges Environment and Protected Areas efforts to engage municipalities and stakeholders on the changes to water management and regulatory processes. RMA provided input on phase one and phase two of the engagement and also developed a member resource on Bill 7 and the Water Amendment Act

The Government of Alberta (GOA) has committed to adhering to the Water For Life strategy; keeping the “First-In-Time, First-In-Right” system; not implementing changes that reduce current water allocations; and not adding any new royalties, bulk, or volumetric pricing for water.

RMA recognizes the value and importance of streamlining license procedures as such measures increase water availability, especially during crucial times, promote efficiency and minimize unnecessary delays. RMA is encouraged by many of these proposed changes and will monitor how their implementation will benefit members RMA is also encouraged by legislative amendments that suggest the GOA seeks to enable alternative methods to increasing water availability, such as streamlining processes related to wastewater and rainwater usage, and by legislative amendments that propose the public disclosure of water license information and data, increasing transparency.

However, simplifying water management processes like inter-basin transfers without proper transparency and accountability mechanisms could have significant impacts on both local economies and ecosystems. Additionally, enabling greater decision-making authority for the Director is incompatible with stated goals to conduct adequate stakeholder consultation, opening up the risk for adverse impacts without municipalities being given the opportunity to provide input. The GOA has also proceeded with the consolidation of the Peace Peace/Slave river basin and the Athabasca river basin, which could more easily enable the transfer and movement of water that would have previously required an Inter-Basin transfer approval enabled by a special act of the legislature. Furthermore, some legislative amendments confer greater discretion and authority to the Director under the Water Act; although this may encourage more streamlined processes, it is unclear at this time whether this new measure will undermine or support municipal autonomy in water management decisions. Given the government response and the recent changes to the Water Act , this resolution is assigned a status of Intent Not Met. RMA will continue monitoring the impacts of the recent legislative changes to water management to ensure that the needs and interests of rural municipalities are meaningfully represented in any future changes.

● Intent Not Met





Resolution 8-24S: Support for the Export of Live Horses for Slaughter

The response from Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation indicates an acknowledgment of the issues related to the export of live horses for slaughter but does not include clear commitments to make progress on the issues specific to the requests of the resolution.

As of December 2025, Bill C-355 has failed to reach third reading and royal assent before the end of its session. This represents a positive legislative outcome for rural Alberta as agricultural horse producers will no longer be required to navigate restrictive regulatory barriers to ensure their products get to market.

As both Bill C-355 and Bill S-270 are no longer active, RMA assigns this resolution a status of Accepted and will continue to monitor for any new legislation that introduces restrictions and prohibitions of the export of live horses for slaughter.

- Accepted

Resolution 7-24F:

Improved Water License Approval and Compliance Processes

Resolution 7-24F highlights concerns about freshwater being prioritized for industry at rural communities’ expense. To address this issue, rural municipalities want the Government of Alberta to:

- ◆ More easily enable alternatives to freshwater used for hydraulic fracturing
- ◆ Remove the AER as a decision-making authority regarding water license applications for energy resource activities to ensure that only EPA retains sole decision-making authority
- ◆ Ensure that temporary diversion license (TDL) applications follow the procedures and guidelines outlined in legislation and that decision-making information relating to TDL applications be made available to the public.

Although the Government of Alberta response acknowledges some of the concerns and requests highlighted in Resolution 7-24F, it does not make commitments towards the specific action items in the resolution’s operative clauses. It is encouraging that EPA references past actions taken to limit freshwater usage by industry in Directive 077. However, the response does not address the lack of adherence to, and inconsistent enforcement of this policy observed by RMA members concerning the requirement for industry applicants to consider all other alternative water sources to discourage the use of freshwater, as highlighted in the resolution. Additionally, the government response does not address one of Resolution 7-24F’s operative clauses which calls for amendments to the Responsible Energy Development Act that would ensure license granting authority for only EPA instead of the Alberta Energy Regulator as well.

On April 28th 2025, EPA announced the launch of Phase Two of their engagement process on water availability which includes a survey designed to gather feedback from key stakeholders and members of the public that will inform future amendments to the Water Act. Some of the survey questions seek to streamline administrative processes that will increase water availability, promote transparency and improve efficiency. These could be welcome changes for rural municipalities, especially in the southern regions of the province that routinely have challenges with water availability during drought periods or other shortages.

The GOA’s Water Availability Engagement and subsequent Water Amendment Act have proposed many changes to water management in Alberta. the Water Amendment Act has outlined new definitions of “return flows” and “water for reuse” which could help minimize unnecessary freshwater use. Bill 7 also proposes changes to reporting and disclosure for agreements, transfers and licenses to promote transparency, which could support greater oversight for Temporary Diversion License approvals.. Although several Water Act amendments are related to some of the resolutions’ asks, it is unclear at this time whether their implementation will meaningfully address these asks. RMA assigns this resolution a status of Intent Not Met RMA is seeking clarity from the GOA on details surrounding the relevant Water Act amendments and will continue monitoring the practical implications of the Water Act amendments on rural municipalities.

● Intent Not Met





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