

2025 Resolution Status Update





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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 Spring 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.

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.

Below are the descriptions of all resolution ranking statuses.

STATUS	DESCRIPTION
● 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.



Reactions at a Glance

#	RESOLUTION NAME	STATUS
1-25S	Requirement for Municipal Consultation Prior to Registration of Conservation Easement	● Intent Not Met
4-25S	Re-evaluation of Wetlands Policy to Streamline Road Construction and Improvements in Rural Alberta	● Intent Not Met
5-25S	Rural Participation on the Integration Council for Refocusing Alberta's Health Care System	● Intent Not Met
8-25S	Opposition to Water Act Amendments and Lack of Consultation	● Accepted in Part
9-25S	Water and Wastewater System Funding	● Intent Not Met
10-25S	Provincial Assistance for Fire Apparatus Replacement in Alberta	● Intent Not Met
11-25S	Opposition to the Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act	● Intent Not Met
12-25S	Enabling Service of Offence Notices for Bylaw Matters via Ordinary Mail	● Accepted in Principle
14-25S	Public Interest Oil and Gas Company	● Incomplete Information
15-25S	Enhancing Access to Post-Secondary Education for Rural Alberta Students	● Intent Not Met
16-25S	Decentralize Provincial Offices to Stimulate Economic Growth	● Incomplete Information



Section 1 Government Responses to Spring 2025 Resolutions

RMA recently received responses to the resolutions adopted at Spring 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 1-25S:

Requirement for Municipal Consultation Prior to Registration of Conservation Easement

Summary

Resolution 1-25S calls for this consultation to be mandated through the amendment of the Conservation Easement Registration Regulation. 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.

What actions 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 infrastructure disruption and planned maintenance and how these impacts are measured
- ◆ Specific cases in other municipalities that highlight the issues presented in Resolution 1-25S

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA participation on Environment and Protected Areas' Advisory Committee and Water Working Group

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

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.

Resolution 4-25S:

Re-evaluation of Wetlands Policy to Streamline Road Construction and Improvements in Rural Alberta

Summary

Given how vital road network maintenance is for rural communities and industries, Resolution 4-25S calls for changes to the wetland policy to remove restrictive barriers to road construction and improvements in rural Alberta.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution 4-25S was sent to Alberta Environment and Protected Areas

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Whether the Wetland Policy can be amended to remove restrictive barriers to road construction without amending the *Water Act*
- ◆ The specific links between geologic slumping in wetlands and road construction and/or improvements
- ◆ The specific discrepancies between the Government of Alberta's outdated wetland maps and the current landscape
- ◆ Expected costs municipalities incur due to wetland regulation barriers when seeking to construct or maintain roads

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA participation on Environment and Protected Areas' Advisory Committee and Water Working Group

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

DID YOU KNOW?

The government response from Alberta Environment and Protected Areas highlights many of the policy changes implemented over the years to help streamline road construction and maintenance from requiring extensive approvals and assessments. However, the response does not consider amending any legislation and does not address the discrepancies in Government of Alberta maps and data.

Resolution 5-25S:

Rural Participation on the Integration Council for Refocusing Alberta's Health Care System

Summary

Members want RMA to be a voice for rural healthcare and to work to ensure rural voices are represented in shaping rural healthcare. Rural municipalities would like a rural generalist physician included on the Integration council to represent rural Alberta's health interests.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Health
- ◆ Met with the Minister of Primary and Preventative Care
- ◆ Ongoing meetings with the Rural Health Branch of Primary and Preventative Care

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ The minister said no to RMAs' request for a rural generalist to participate to the Integration Council
- ◆ As a result, RMA is working to ensure rural health interests are represented through other ways
- ◆ For example, RMA is actively working with the Rural Health Branch to explore collaboration and promote rural interests while also learning more about health advisory councils
- ◆ How rural health interests may be represented in other ways

Who has RMA engaged with?

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

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will follow up on action it from meeting with the Minister of Primary and Preventative Care
- ◆ Action items include asking questions about rural 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

DID YOU KNOW?

In addition to the Integration Council's work, rural health interests are served by Government of Alberta Regional Advisory Councils. RMA has established regular meetings with the Rural Health Branch of Primary and Preventative Care, which has provided an opportunity to learn more about the council's work.

Resolution 8-25S:

Opposition to Water Act Amendments and Lack of Consultation

Summary

Resolution 8-25S calls for water management decisions 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

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Environment and Protected Areas
- ◆ RMA has 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-Athabasca and Slave basins

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA has 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](#)

Current Status: • Accepted in Part

DID YOU KNOW?

There are both positive and detrimental changes that were proposed by the Government of Alberta as part of the *Water Act* stakeholder engagement period. Many licensing procedures are proposed to be streamlined which promote efficiency, increase water availability and support rural economies. However, some water management processes were proposed to be overly simplified, with the director maintaining decision-making authority, rather than encouraging a more stakeholder-involved decision-making process. RMA continues to monitor the impacts of these new policy implementations to ensure rural municipal needs are met.

Resolution 9-25S:

Water and Wastewater System Funding

Summary

RMA should urge the Alberta government 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.

What actions 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

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Ministry of Transportation and Economic Corridors

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

Through the W4L program, Alberta municipalities received \$33.4 million in grant funding for various projects in 2025, much less than the require \$334 million needed to repair all Alberta rural municipal water infrastructure to sustainable levels.

Resolution 10-25S:

Portion of Funding from Public Lands Camping Pass Directed to Municipalities Provincial Assistance for Fire Apparatus Replacement in Alberta

Summary

Members want RMA to advocate for common sense fire apparatus replacement that is both safe and fiscally responsible. RMA should urge the Government of Alberta to provide rural municipalities and rural fire departments with more financial support to maintain and replace ageing fire apparatus.

What actions has RMA taken?

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

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ What are the liabilities around fire apparatuses and the standard that requires replacement at a certain time
- ◆ What are existing funding program limitations in meeting the need

Who has RMA engaged with?

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

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA looks forward to answering questions about fire apparatuses and equipment replacement to better understand the issue at hand
- ◆ Explore existing fire apparatus funding programs
- ◆ Collaborate with RMA Insurance

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

At present, years of service requirements for fire apparatus restrict use of vehicles and equipment to a limited time frame, irrespective of maintenance requirements. This causes municipalities to spend taxpayer dollars to replace expensive equipment that is still functional.

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.

What actions has RMA taken?

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

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ The specific ways in which the federal net-zero policy and other similar policies have negatively impact rural communities
- ◆ If the removal of the Act is not possible, how could it be amended in collaboration with rural communities to eliminate negative disproportionate impacts

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

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 of the implementation of the Act 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.

Resolution 12-25S:

Enabling Service of Offence Notices for Bylaw Matters Via Ordinary Mail

Summary

RMA should urge the Alberta government 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 – such as property maintenance, snow removal, grass cutting, and animal control – to be served by regular mail, and permitting municipalities to authorize mailed service in their bylaws when reliable address information is available.

What actions 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
- ◆ Initiated research into alternative delivery methods and potential legislative updates

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ The Ministry of Justice (Alberta)
- ◆ Alberta Courts and Justice Service

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.

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue working with the Ministry of 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

DID YOU KNOW?

In many rural areas, peace officers are legally required to hand-deliver violation tickets – even when the recipient lives hours away – making a single enforcement action significantly more costly and risky than in urban settings where electronic or mail-based delivery options are more readily available.

Resolution 14-25S:

Public Interest Oil and Gas Company

Summary

Resolution 14-25S calls for 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.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ Regarding the unpaid oil and gas property tax issue: formation of and participation in the Property Tax Accountability Strategy (PTAS)

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Internal discussions among RMA staff across the Advocacy, Business Services and Legal departments

Current Status: • Incomplete Information

DID YOU KNOW?

In many ways, rural municipalities are very limited in securing tax recovery; although rural municipalities can seize and sell oil and gas assets, they cannot operate them. Furthermore, many oil and gas wells are old and carry with them significant liabilities that would render their sale insufficient for tax recovery. In general, the insolvency of oil and gas companies that are in arrears, whether they contain producing wells or not, leave municipalities with few regulatory tools to independently pursue meaningful tax recovery.

Resolution 15-25S:

Enhancing Access to Post-Secondary Education for Rural Alberta Students

Summary

RMA members want students who choose to pursue higher education to be free to do so with fewer barriers. RMA members would like to see rural students have more equitable access to post-secondary education.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Education, Advanced Education, and Alberta Technology and Innovation
- ◆ Prepared a resolution action plan and strategy
- ◆ Released a video message in September 2025

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Rural post-secondary education is not just about a lack of access – there are also a lot of strengths and benefits to rural education

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

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

RMA learned that most post-secondary institutions are located in large urban municipalities like the Cities of Edmonton and Calgary. RMA learned that the data supports that rural students do indeed face barriers and that many stable and/or growing populations will continue to require sustainable solutions to supporting rural education.

Resolution 16-25S:

Decentralize Provincial Offices to Stimulate Economic Growth

Summary

The Rural Municipalities of Alberta will encourage the provincial government to move some ministry offices from Edmonton to rural areas to help grow local economies.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Premier's Office, Ministry of Service Alberta and Ministry of Red Tape Reduction – currently awaiting response

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

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Premier's Office
- ◆ Ministry of Service Alberta
- ◆ Ministry of Red Tape Reduction

What will RMA do moving forward?

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

Current Status: • Incomplete Information

DID YOU KNOW?

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



Section 2

Resolution Status Update

The following table is a summary of RMA's current resolutions excluding the resolutions adopted in Spring 2025, which are detailed in Section 1, and Fall 2025, 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 in Principle
8-23S	Provincial Review of Agribusinesses and Agritourism	● Intent Not Met
BROADBAND AND CONNECTIVITY		
13-24F	Review of Broadband Funding Application Processes	● Intent Not Met
5-23S	Access to Mobile Wireless (Cellular) Services	● 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
10-23S	Victim Services Delivery Model	● Intent Not Met
12-23S	Casino Opportunities for Charitable Organizations	● Intent Not Met
15-23S	Capital Funding Support for Housing Management Bodies	● Intent Not Met
EMERGENCY SERVICES		
5-24F	Tax Credits for Volunteers 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)	● Intent Not Met
9-23S	Rural Fixed Wing Medivac Services	● Intent Not Met
3-23F	Minimum Standards for Adequate Ambulance Services in Rural Alberta	● Intent Not Met
ENERGY		
14-23S	Hydrogen Industry Support	● Accepted

ENVIRONMENT		
7-24F	Improved Water License Approval and Compliance Processes	● Accepted in Part
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	● Intent Not Met
HEALTH AND SENIORS		
1-24F	Attraction and Retention Strategy for Rural Health Care Professionals	● Intent Not Met
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
6-23S	Rural Access to Supports for Addiction, Homelessness and Mental Health	● Intent Not Met
MUNICIPAL GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE		
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
12-23F	Growth Management Board Voluntary Membership	● Accepted
ER1-23F	Limiting Third-party Services in ICF Agreements	● Accepted
1-23S	Enhanced Support for Receiving Municipalities in Dissolutions	● Intent Not Met
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT		
3-24S	Continued Support for Regional Economic Development Alliances	● Intent Not Met
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT (cont.)		
5-23F	Municipal Involvement in Quasi-Judicial Agencies	● Accepted in Part
11-23F	Compensation Resulting from Regulatory Changes	● Incomplete Information
13-23F	Municipal Access to Open Data	● Intent Not Met
16-23S	Applied Research Associations Funding	● Intent Not Met
7-23S	Revision of the Alberta Land Stewardship Act to provide for an Expiration Date in Conservation Easement Agreements	● Intent Not Met
POLICING AND RURAL CRIME		
4-24F	Amend Municipal Government Act 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
11-23S	Reforming the Bail System to Address Rural Crime	● Intent Not Met
TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE		
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
2-23S	Provincial Funding Stream for Non-Residential Infrastructure	● Intent Not Met
3-23S	Amendments to the National Building Code	● Accepted in Part
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
4-23S	Strategic Direction for RMA	● Accepted
17-23S	Negative Impact of Bill C-21 on Albertans	● Intent Not Met
19-23S	Non-Profit Exemption from Federal Fuel Charge	● Incomplete Information

AGRICULTURE



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

Summary

Resolution 8-24S calls for less 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.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Agriculture & Irrigation, Rural Economic Development Canada, Agriculture and Agri-food Canada, Export Promotion, International Trade and Economic Development Canada

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 in Principle

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 no longer be required to navigate restrictive regulatory barriers to ensure their products get to market.

Resolution 8-23S: Provincial Review of Agribusiness and Agritourism

Summary

RMA members want RMA to advocate for more support for agribusiness and agritourism as an important part of strengthening rural economies. RMA is asking the Government of Alberta to undertake a joint provincial/municipal review of agribusiness and agritourism to enhance their value add to rural Alberta.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to the following provincial ministries: Agriculture and Irrigation, Forestry, Parks and Tourism and Municipal Affairs
- ◆ Met with the Deputy Minister of Tourism and Sport in summer 2024
- ◆ Laying the groundwork for an agritourism strategy and report

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ What are the gaps in agritourism services and opportunities

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA member representatives
- ◆ Agritourism industry representatives
- ◆ Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation
- ◆ Alberta Jobs, Economy, Trade and Immigration
- ◆ Alberta Tourism and Sport

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA may undertake an agritourism working group leading to a strategy and report in 2026-2027 if Government of Alberta participants are willing

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

There are amazing agribusinesses and agritourism opportunities and experiences all across rural Alberta! RMA looks forward to supporting rural agribusinesses and agritourism through an opportunity to work with stakeholders and the Government of Alberta.

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

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Technology and Innovation, Innovation, Science & 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
- ◆ How mobile service providers conduct stakeholder consultation and engagement across the three levels of government

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA representation on the Cybera Board of Directors

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue following up with ministries and stakeholder to supportive a collaborative strategy development
- ◆ Continue seeking out opportunities for further correspondence, engagement and advocacy

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

The response from the CRTC does not provide any clarity regarding the discrepancy between its broadband coverage compared to what is actually reported by rural municipalities. The response does state that the CRTC is working with service providers to improve accuracy yet does not acknowledge or seek to correct how eligibility for the Universal Broadband Fund (UBF) relies on inaccurate broadband coverage maps.

Resolution 5-23S: Access to Mobile Wireless (Cellular) Services

Summary

Resolution 5-23S calls for the CRTC to verifiably improve cellular coverage in rural Alberta to ensure the operation of businesses and timely emergency response. The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) insists that rural Alberta regions have full cellular network coverage while rural municipalities assert that these reports often do not reflect reality for rural businesses, residents and communities.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to the CRTC (no response)
- ◆ Provided input towards the CRTC's National Public Alerting System engagement in Fall 2025 highlighting:
 - Impacts of poor cellular coverage on rural communities
 - Existing coverage gaps related to reporting and map accuracy that impact community services and municipal response

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Whether the CRTC has been addressing problems related to mapping and reporting inaccuracies
- ◆ How the CRTC measures cellular service coverage and reports to municipalities
- ◆ The specific ways in which lack of cellular services has impacted rural municipalities

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Provided input towards the CRTC's National Public Alerting System engagement in Fall 2025

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Follow up with the CRTC to seek clarity on progress concerning issues related to cellular network coverage
- ◆ Continue seeking out opportunities for further correspondence, engagement and advocacy

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

Although the CRTC has invested \$17 million through the Broadband Fund to improve cellphone coverage in rural areas, none of these areas were located in Alberta. No further updates, including changes or acknowledgement of the inaccurate cellular coverage maps, have been shared by the CRTC otherwise.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

A scenic mountain landscape with a house in the foreground. The image shows a range of mountains in the background, with a prominent peak on the right. In the foreground, there are houses and utility poles with power lines. The sky is filled with clouds, and the overall scene is a blend of urban and natural environments.

Resolution 2-24F:

Increased Funding Support for Rural Family and Community Support Services Programs

Summary

RMA members want RMA to advocate for fair and reasonable FCSS funding that promotes and supports the availability of preventative social services for rural municipal residents. The Government of Alberta should increase funding to FCSS to keep up to population growth and inflation and reduce the requirement for municipal over investment.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Seniors, Community and Social Services, Alberta Health Services, and Children and Family Services
- ◆ Advocating with Alberta Municipalities and the Family, Community, and Social Services Association

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Funding proposals for non-core FCSS service delivery
- ◆ Rural municipal over contributions and shared funding arrangements for regional FCSS delivery

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Municipalities
- ◆ Family, Community, and Social Services Association of Alberta
- ◆ Minister of Assisted Living and Social Services

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue to work with Alberta Municipalities and Family, Community, and Social Services of Alberta to jointly advocate for increased funding for core FCSS operations

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

RMA's FCSS report is [available here](#). Recommendations, concerns, and key background information contained in this report continues to be relevant to RMA member concerns around insufficient FCSS funding today.



Resolution 19-24F:

Exemption from Food Banks Canada's Standard of Excellence and Accreditation Requirement for Small and/or Rural Local Food Banks

Summary

Members want RMA to help ensure rural food banks are not unreasonably burdened by the Standard of Excellence so that they may continue providing this valued service to rural municipal residents. It can be difficult for small rural food banks to meet Food Bank Canada's new Standard of Excellence. Members want RMA to advocate for an exemption for small rural food banks.

What actions 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
- ◆ Developed resolution action plan

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 decision to grant an exemption to northern food banks

Who has RMA engaged with?

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

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA looks forward to learning more about food bank operations, governance, and funding
- ◆ RMA will answer questions about the Standard of Excellence implications for small rural food banks and Food Banks Canada's decision to exempt northern food banks

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

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.

Resolution 4-23F:

Provincial Downloading of Operating Costs for Deteriorating Provincially Owned Housing

Summary

Members want RMA to ensure any rural municipal capital and/or capital reserve contributions are freely given and not the result of improper requisitioning or inadequate capital funding from the Government of Alberta. Resolution 4-23F proposes rural municipalities should not be responsible for Housing Management Board costs.

What actions 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 concern and related concerns identified in other resolutions
- ◆ Conducted two member surveys
- ◆ Preparing an affordable housing report to be released in 2026

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How members are requisitioned for and/or make financial contributions to Housing Management Board capital costs or capital reserves

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA members
- ◆ Seniors Lodge Review

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue to analyze results of two member surveys and incorporate findings into a final report

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

RMA's member survey found that multiple RMA members have been requisitioned for capital costs and/or capital reserves over a period of five years. RMA looks forward to advocating for improved requisitioning practices and capital funding.

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

Summary

Members want RMA to work with the Government of Alberta to improve the Affordable Housing Partnership Program and efforts to ensure the creation of more affordable housing is a responsible use of taxpayer funds. RMA members would like to see the Government of Alberta review the Affordable Housing Partnership Program for transparency and introduce a housing design catalogue.

What actions 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

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How the Government of Alberta's November 2025 Affordable Housing Partnership Program funding announcement will impact members

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA members
- ◆ Ministry of Assisted Living and Social Service

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue to analyze results of two member surveys and incorporate findings into a final report

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

RMA [released information](#) on the Government of Canada's housing design catalogue. RMA would be happy to hear your municipalities' reaction to this resource and whether it could benefit housing in your municipality.

Resolution 20-23F:

Post-COVID Bridging Support for Small and Medium Community Facilities and Agricultural Societies

Summary

Members want RMA to help promote agricultural societies and community facilities contributions to rural communities, including striving to ensure adequate funding. Community facilities and agricultural societies took a hit from Covid-19 public safety measures. Members want RMA to advocate for more financial support from the Government of Alberta.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation, Seniors, Community and Social Services, and 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
- ◆ Minister of 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

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2025, [35 agricultural societies received Government of Alberta funding](#) for capital projects. RMA understands agricultural societies continue to provide an important function for rural communities and will continue to advocate for their sustainability and longevity.

Resolution 10-23S: Victim Services Delivery Model

Summary

Members want RMA to maintain advocacy efforts in engaging the Government of Alberta on the roll out of the new Victim Services delivery model and its implications for rural communities and victims of crime. Victim Services should not have been regionalized. Services should be locally relevant.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services and Justice
- ◆ Numerous meetings with the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services
- ◆ and staff supporting Victim Services
- ◆ Exploring joint stakeholder advocacy
- ◆ Media availabilities to draw attention to the issue

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ The full extent of gaps created in the system as a result of service regionalization

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services
- ◆ Premier of Alberta
- ◆ Media
- ◆ Alberta Police Based Victims Service Association
- ◆ Victim Services

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will follow up on action items resulting from a meeting with Victim Services in November 2025, including learning more about public spending and reporting on the new delivery model

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

RMA looks forward to receiving more information and reporting from the Government of Alberta on how this model has been evaluated and will report back to RMA members when information is available.

Resolution 12-23S: Casino Opportunities for Charitable Organizations

Summary

Members want RMA to push for the creation of a more equitable charitable gaming model that distributes funds fairly to charitable organizations outside of Edmonton and Calgary. Rural charities receive disproportionately less charitable gaming funds from the AGLC. RMA wants to see the Government of Alberta and Alberta Gaming Liquor and Cannabis correct this.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Treasury Board and Finance
- ◆ Released an updated Charitable Gaming report in spring 2025
- ◆ Prepared a charitable gaming campaign to accompany the report

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How best to continue to engage the Minister of Red Tape – RMA has not received a response

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Minister of Red Tape Reduction

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA continues to strategize how best to reinvigorate charitable gaming advocacy

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

RMA continues to carefully monitor relevant news and watch for opportunities to promote key messaging.



Resolution 15-23S:

Capital Funding Support for Housing Management Bodies

Summary

Members want RMA to ensure seniors lodge capital funds are appropriately sourced and funded. A lack of operations and capital funding from the Government of Alberta to Housing Management Board's can have a detrimental impact on seniors lodge and lead to higher municipal funding asks.

What actions has RMA taken?

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

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ What residual effects of underfunded capital maintenance and renewal for rural municipalities have arisen

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA members
- ◆ Seniors Lodge Review

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue to analyze results of two member surveys and incorporate findings into a final report

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

A lack of capital maintenance and renewal funding appears to have an impact on habitability, which had subsequently impact a Housing Management Board's cost recovery ability and therefore increase the operating deficit rural municipalities pay.

A paved road curves through a dense forest. The road is marked with a yellow center line and white shoulder lines. Utility poles with wires are visible on the right side. The forest consists of various green trees, with some yellow autumn leaves visible on the right. The sky is clear and blue.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Resolution 5-24F:

Tax Credits for Volunteer Firefighting and Search and Rescue Volunteer Services

Summary

Members want RMA to be actively engaged on rural fire and search and rescue prevention and how the Government of Alberta can support these essential volunteers' attraction and retention. Rural municipalities asked the Government of Canada increase the volunteer and paid on call firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services tax credit to \$10,000.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to the following provincial ministries: Municipal Affairs and Public Safety and Emergency Services
- ◆ This resolution was sent to the following federal ministries: Emergency Preparedness and Finance
- ◆ RMA [released a report](#) on rural volunteerism that includes challenges faced by rural fire departments

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ RMA is looking into existing tax benefits and how they support volunteer firefighter and search and rescue volunteer attraction and retention
- ◆ What are the fiscal and financial impacts of increasing tax benefits, including how they may save the Government of Alberta money

Who has RMA engaged with?

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

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will incorporate resolution 5-24F into a broader rural fire department advocacy strategy

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

The Government of Canada increased the firefighter tax credit from \$3,000 to \$6,000 in budget 2024. RMA continues to advocate for means that will improve rural firefighter and search and rescue volunteer attraction and retention.



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

Summary

Members want 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.

What actions has RMA taken?

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

Who has RMA engaged with?

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

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

RMA continues to work with the AFCA to support rural fire departments, and hosted their presentation on the Alberta Fire Services Core Competency Framework at the Fall 2025 Convention.

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

Summary

Members wanted RMA to communicate rural municipalities concerns with the previous Emergency Social Services framework to the Government of Alberta and jointly work on an improved and updated document. Rural municipalities asked the Government of Alberta to provide more specific guidance around Emergency Social Services – including to provide what they consider basic survival needs and which services are discretionary.

What actions has RMA taken?

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

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ RMA would be pleased to better understand members reactions to the 2025 Emergency Social Services framework

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA is currently waiting for the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services response to RMAs report and will develop next steps when a response has been received

Current Status: • Accepted

DID YOU KNOW?

The Government of Alberta's 2025 Emergency Social Services Framework is [available here](#).

Resolution 9-23S: Rural Fixed Wing Medivac Services

Summary

Members want RMA to work with the Government of Alberta to make that air ambulance service providers are meeting their contractual obligations and that any decisions to discontinue services are made appropriately and communicated well. Some rural communities have lost fixed wing medivac services as a result of a skilled pilot shortage. These communities do not always receive timely and effective communication about how their airport may be upgraded or when Alberta Heath Services has opted to discontinue fixed wing air services in a community.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation, Forestry Parks and Tourism, and Municipal Affairs
- ◆ RMA requested the air ambulance review of landing sites from the Government of Alberta
- ◆ RMA understands the review has not yet been released or is not publicly available

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How Alberta Health Services approaches decisions to discontinue services at a site
- ◆ If fixed wing services fall under Acute Care Alberta and/or emergency medical services because of the change in focus in healthcare
- ◆ The proportion of these services that are contracted versus operated provincially

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Health

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will continue to monitor for the reviews release
- ◆ RMA will take appropriate action based on the review results and recommendations

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

RMA has made several efforts to check on the status of the review and/or obtain the final document. RMA will report on review findings when it becomes available.

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

Summary

Members want RMA to advocate to the Government of Alberta and communicate how essential it is that rural communities are staffed and have reasonable response times. Ambulances should be available across rural Alberta to provide reasonable and timely emergency responses.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Health and Alberta Health Services
- ◆ Regular participation on the Alberta EMS Standing Committee. RMA sits on subcommittees regarding air ambulance services, dispatch, and Medical First Response.
- ◆ RMA sat on the Alberta EMS Provincial Advisory Committee prior to the standing committee
- ◆ Monitoring health restructuring for changes to EMS service levels and service delivery

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How could EMS be impacted by health restructuring
- ◆ How are current efforts working to resolve staffing shortages

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Minister of Health, now Minister of Acute Care
- ◆ EMS Standing Committee and participants

What will RMA do moving forward?

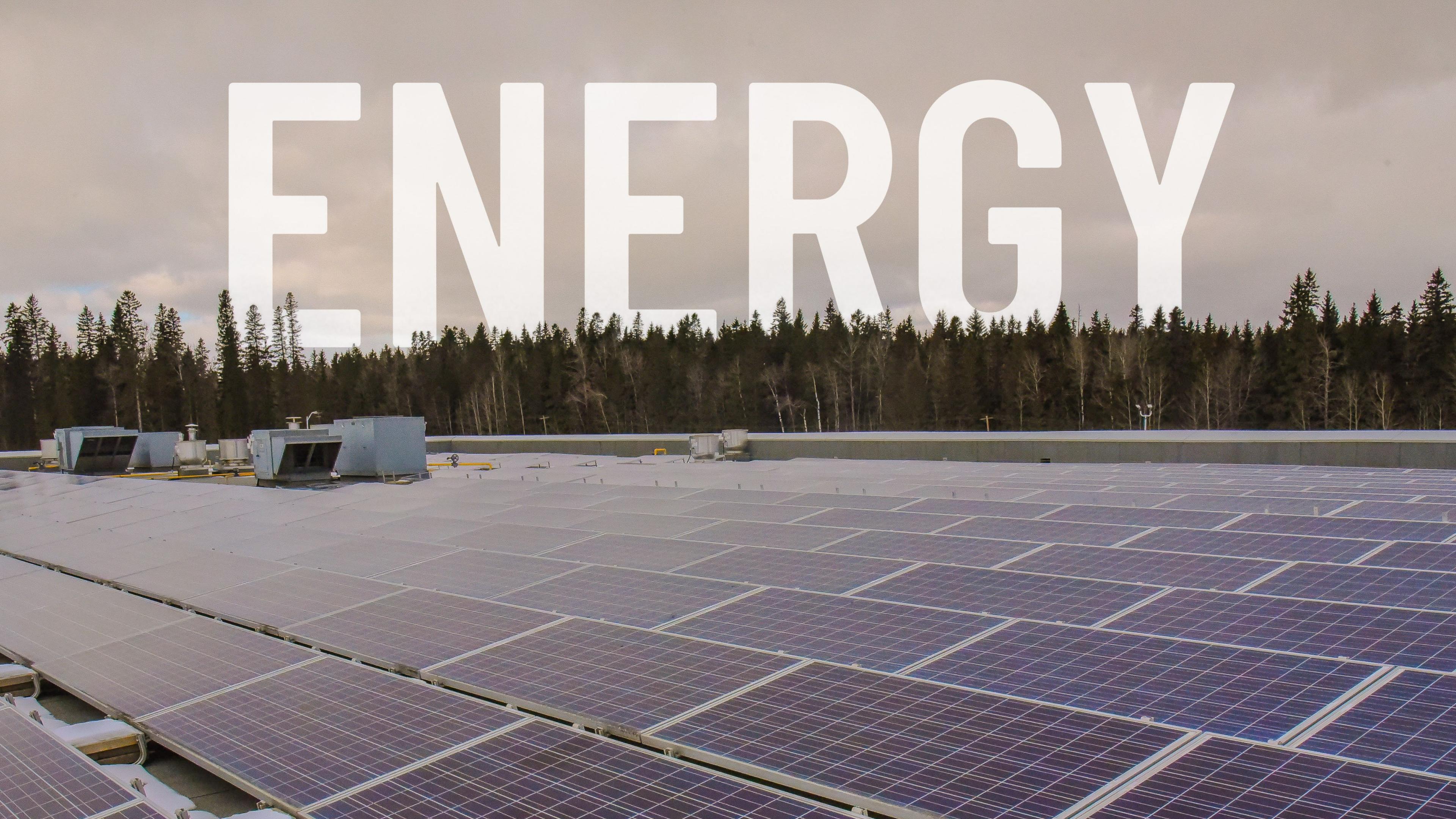
- ◆ RMA will continue to provide the rural perspective on the EMS Standing Committee

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

Bill 55, the *Health Statutes Amendment Act*, made changes to the *Emergency Health Services Act*. RMA continues to carefully monitor changes to the healthcare system's refocusing.

ENERGY

A wide-angle photograph of a building's roof covered in a dense array of solar panels. The panels are dark blue with white grid lines. In the background, a dark evergreen forest is visible under a cloudy sky. The word 'ENERGY' is overlaid in large, bold, white letters across the top of the image.

Resolution 14-23S:

Hydrogen Industry Support

Summary

Resolution 14-23S calls for increased support and investment towards hydrogen energy in Alberta to support economic development and diversification in rural Alberta. This resolution seeks to establish the province as a national and global leader in attracting hydrogen industry activity.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Energy & Minerals
- ◆ Participated in webinars and info sessions regarding or containing discussions about the hydrogen economy

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA continues to learn more about the issues highlighted in Resolution 14-23S to best inform engagement and advocacy

Current Status: • Accepted

DID YOU KNOW?

The [opening of the Calgary Region Hydrogen Hub](#), of which Wheatland County is a partner, represents a multi-stakeholder investment towards securing Alberta's position in the hydrogen economy by supporting economic development and energy diversification.

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How national and international partnerships and collaboration have changed since agreements such as the Canada-Germany Hydrogen Alliance, especially in light of changing global trade contexts due to U.S. tariffs

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue monitoring provincial funding announcements, funding allocations and policy changes that support the emerging hydrogen sector in Alberta



ENVIRONMENT



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 deciding 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.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ Sent this resolution to Alberta Energy & Minerals, Alberta Environment and Protected Areas and the Alberta Energy Regulator
- ◆ RMA has 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” that help limit freshwater use
 - Expanded Director authority
 - Increased public access to monitoring and reporting data

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA has participated in meetings with the Minister of 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](#)

Current Status: • Accepted in Part

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 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 Bill 7 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

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 out opportunities for further advocacy and policy change such as minister meetings and stakeholder engagement participation
- ◆ Develop a member-facing resource analyzing Bill 7 in more detail, highlighting rural-specific impacts



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.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to the relevant provincial ministries and agencies: Alberta Transportation & Economic Corridors, Alberta Forestry & Parks, Alberta Emergency Management Agency
- ◆ This resolution was sent to the relevant federal ministries such as Emergency Preparedness Canada, Transport Canada, Energy and Natural Resources Canada
- ◆ Inquired with Canadian National Railway (CN) and Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) to learn more about the status of following trains and other fire suppression strategies and resources

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Inquired with CN and CPKC on the status of following trains and other fire suppression strategies and resources

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Data on the effectiveness of following trains in improving wildfire spread and damage outcomes in rural and remote communities
- ◆ Further details on fire suppression strategies and resources developed and implemented by railway companies such as costs, future implementations and the status of discussions with different levels of government
- ◆ Whether following trains and other fire suppression strategies were referenced and supported in the Alberta Wildfire Mitigation Strategy

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Follow up on RMAs' inquiry with CN and CPKC and incorporate relevant learnings into resolution reporting
- ◆ Follow up with the Government of Alberta regarding the status 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

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 municipalities.

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

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ Information gathering and introductory research on powerline-caused fires in Alberta

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

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

The Government of Alberta response from Environment and Protected Areas indicates collaborative work underway with power line operators to help minimize ignitions in forested areas. Although an average of 75 wildfires per year were attributed to powerlines between 2006 and 2024, this number increases to 86 when considering 2018 to 2024, suggesting the issue has remained stable or even worsened slightly in more recent years.

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.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Agriculture & Irrigation and Alberta Environment & 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?

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

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

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.

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 well-funded, properly managed and is 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.

What actions 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?

- ◆ If Conservation Officers are limited to what incidents they can respond to based on whether it takes place in a provincial park or other defined land
- ◆ Problem bear occurrence statistics and how they inform decision-making at the government level

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ 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

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. However, the government response does not commit to increasing support or funding for Fish and Wildlife Conservation Officers.

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 alignment with the Government of Alberta's stated goal of increasing water availability in the province

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Environment and Protected Areas

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Whether the outcomes of the dam and river feasibility studies referenced in EPA's response have been implemented in the Government of Alberta's water retention strategies

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

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

Alberta has always allowed at least 50% of the natural flow to the province of Saskatchewan, and has frequently allowed at least 75% of the natural flow to the province of Saskatchewan. Even when Alberta consumes water within 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.

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, primarily through the development of regulations that would commit sufficient resources and funding for rural municipalities seeking to conduct proactive flood management.

What actions 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

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA participation on Alberta Environment & Protected Area's Advisory Committee and Water Working Group

What will RMA do moving forward?

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

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

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.

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.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to the relevant provincial ministries and organizations: Forestry and Parks, Environment and Protected Areas, Municipal Affairs, Alberta Municipalities, 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

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Provided input towards 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 information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ What kind of legislative and/or policy changes may need to be implemented to fulfill the recommendations of the WWG

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

Current Status: • Accepted in Part

DID YOU KNOW?

RMA sent the final WWG report and relevant recommendations to a variety of government ministries and stakeholders, seeking a commitment from them to collaborate with RMA to make progress on implementation. Various ministries have provided responses and expressed a willingness to work together with RMA and other stakeholders to action the recommendations of the WWG report. RMA has since appointed representatives to the Provincial Fire Liaison Committee and the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Advisory Committee. RMA also met with EPA and has committed to reaching out to relevant organizations as part of advocacy efforts regarding the WWG recommendations.



HEALTH & SENIORS



Resolution 1-24F:

Attraction and Retention Strategy for Rural Healthcare Professionals

Summary

Members want RMA to help promote rural communities' interest in funding RhPAP and actioning the Rural Health Action Plan. Rural Albert needs a need rural healthcare win. The Government of Alberta should invest in the Rural Health Action Plan and the Rural Health Professions Action Plan (RhPAP) work to help alleviate the rural healthcare worker shortage.

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to the following provincial ministries: Health, Seniors, Community and Social Services, Mental Health and Addiction and 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)
- ◆ Evaluated rural hospital closures

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Minister of Primary and Preventative Health Services

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Rural healthcare is complex. How can RMA best engage the Government of Alberta with so many moving pieces and new health ministers?
- ◆ How rural hospitals have been impacted by closures and service disruptions

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

DID YOU KNOW?

RMA looks forward to better understanding rural health complexities and collaborating with the Government of Alberta on how RMA can communicate rural health concerns.



Resolution 10-24F:

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

Summary

Members want RMA to advocate for updated care and resource access for seniors in rural seniors lodges and supportive living facilities. More supports for senior's will enable them to remain in their accommodation longer.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Seniors, Community and Social Services, Health, and Alberta Health Services
- ◆ Participated on the seniors lodge review panel
- ◆ Collected essential background information on seniors lodge funding and governance

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Changes to seniors care and living options under the restructured senior's health ministry
- ◆ Funding in mixed use facilities (i.e. Alberta Health Services in a seniors lodge)

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Seniors Lodge Review
- ◆ Minister of Seniors, Community and Social Services

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Undertake a review of the Seniors Lodge Review final report and share results with members

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

The final report from the Seniors Lodge Review is [available here](#).

Resolution ER1-24S:

Government Support for Physician Assistants

Summary

Members want RMA to better understand how Physician Assistants can serve rural communities and strengthen rural healthcare, while encouraging the Government of Alberta to maintain their increased level of support. Rural municipalities would like to see more Physician Assistants employed in rural Alberta to help alleviate the rural healthcare worker shortage and training seats created.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Health and Advanced Education
- ◆ Distributed the Resolution to the Minister of Advanced Education and the then Minister of Health

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Training program enrollment grow and successes
- ◆ Benefits of reserved rural student training programs

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Minister of Advanced Education
- ◆ Previous Minister of Health

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Engage the University of Calgary where the Physician Assistant Program is offered
- ◆ Continue to monitor the Physician Assistant training program and benefits to rural communities

Current Status: • Accepted in Part

DID YOU KNOW?

The Government of Alberta introduced a Physician Assistant Training Program at the University of Calgary in 2024. To date, none of these positions have been reserved for rural applicants.

Resolution 10-23F:

Enhancing Home Care Services for Rural Residents in Alberta

Summary

Members want RMA to advocate for continued improvements to rural resident's home care access to continue to bolster rural seniors ability to age in place. More supports for seniors will lead to stronger rural communities.

What actions has RMA taken?

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

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How do the Ministers of Assisted Living and Social Services and Primary and Preventative Health Services support home care
- ◆ RMA is seeking to access the full version of the Assisted Living Framework to learn more

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Minister of Primary and Preventative Health Services

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue to monitor home care service announcements under Assisted Living Alberta
- ◆ Remain engaged on the implementation of the Seniors Lodge Review
- ◆ Reevaluate following the release of RMA's affordable housing report

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

The Seniors Lodge Review found enhanced services, such as home care, may make seniors lodges more livable. RMA will continue to carefully monitor the implementation of the recommendations in the seniors lodge review, including if changes to level of care or available services change.

Resolution 17-23F:

Sustainable Community Hospice Funding Model

Summary

Members want RMA to help generate more support from the Government of Alberta to introduce a sustainable operational funding model for the many programs and care services hospices offer. Access to end-of-life care close to home is essential for rural Albertan's.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Health, Alberta Health Services, Seniors, Community and Social Services
- ◆ Drafted a report that received considerable media attention – shared it with the then Minister of Health
- ◆ Met with the Minister of Health
- ◆ Explored stakeholder joint advocacy

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Monitoring implementation of new healthcare pillars
- ◆ Met with the Minister of Primary and Preventative Health Services to discuss rural healthcare
- ◆ How to best proceed moving forward

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ The previous Minister of Health
- ◆ Media
- ◆ Alberta Municipalities
- ◆ Alberta Hospice Palliative Care Association
- ◆ Alberta Independent Residential Hospice Alliance

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will continue to monitor related Government of Alberta announcements

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

RMA's hospice report is [available here](#). RMA remains open to working with the Government of Alberta and hospice societies to help implement a sustainable operational funding model.

Resolution 6-23S:

Rural Access to Supports for Addiction, Homelessness and Mental Health

Summary

Members want RMA to advocate to the Government of Alberta to continue monitoring Recovery Alberta's and other program and funding's effectiveness addressing rural addiction, homelessness and mental health challenges. RMA members would like to see the Government of Alberta better fund rural municipalities and community organizations outside of Edmonton and Calgary to address rural addictions, homelessness and mental health.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Health, Public Safety and Emergency Services, and Mental Health and Addiction
- ◆ RMA sent a letter to the Minister of Mental Health and Addiction requesting more information and a seat on a 2024 homelessness funding model panel. The Government of Alberta has not responded to RMA

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ To what extent does Recovery Alberta meet rural Alberta's mental health and addiction needs

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Minister of Mental Health and Addiction

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue to monitor the implementation and rollout of Recovery Alberta to ensure rural Alberta is being well served

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

Recovery Alberta was legally established in 2024. RMA continues to monitor the implementation and changes to Recovery Alberta Services.



MUNICIPAL GOVERNANCE & FINANCE



Resolution 3-24F:

Collection of Unpaid Municipal Property Taxes by Way of Royalties

Summary

RMA has asked the Alberta Government to require oil and gas companies to pay municipal property taxes on their oil and gas properties as a condition for getting or keeping the right to develop these resources and collect any unpaid oil and gas property taxes from these companies through royalty revenues and give the money to the municipalities.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs (MA), Alberta Energy and Minerals (EM) and the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER)
- ◆ Organized and established the Property Tax Accountability Strategy (PTAS) Working Group with MA and EM to look at all aspects of the municipal tax collection scheme in Alberta

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ The PTAS Working Group consists of MA, EM, and RMA, with input provided by the AER

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ What components of the current tax-collection legislative framework are functioning effectively, and where are the deficiencies?
- ◆ What enforcement mechanisms are available to regulatory bodies – such as the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) – and how are these tools currently being applied in practice?
- ◆ How effective are the existing tax-collection enforcement mechanisms in securing payment from oil and gas operators?
- ◆ What legislative or regulatory changes could strengthen the tax-collection framework and improve industry compliance?
- ◆ How effectively are regulatory bodies operating in their oversight and enforcement roles with respect to municipal tax arrears?

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ The PTAS Working Group was established to investigate the operations of the current tax collection framework in Alberta and look for improvements. These findings will be jointly released in the future.

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

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.



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

Summary

RMA should urge the Alberta Government 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.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs (MA) and Alberta Affordability and Utilities (AU).
 - The response from MA did not directly address the issues highlighted in the resolution
 - Follow up communications with AU have not received an answer

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ AU contends that past amendments to the *Electric Utilities Act* and *Gas Utilities Act* ensure stronger regulatory oversight on this issue; this has yet to be confirmed
- ◆ The total impact of the apparent misrepresentation by electricity companies by presenting charges that were not negotiated to the consumer, and presenting charges to the consumer that appear to imply municipal involvement when there is none

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Ministry of Municipal Affairs
- ◆ Ministry of Affordability and Utilities

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ New changes are being introduced through Bill 8 and Bill 12, 2025 – these will be evaluated for any positive momentum on this issue
- ◆ Continue to contact the government on this issue and advocate for proper and effective regulatory changes

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

Electricity generated from wind power in Alberta has increased dramatically over the past 20 years, going from 374.2 GWh in 2003 to 9718.0 GWh in 2023 and increasing. Wind power now generates the second most amount of electricity in Alberta behind natural gas.

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

Summary

RMA should urge the Alberta government not to 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.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs
- ◆ RMA has attempted to engage the Alberta Government on this issue on numerous occasions without being permitted audience
- ◆ RMA conducted a comprehensive analysis of the relevant sections of *Bill 50*, which amended election rules to introduce municipal parties and increase the funding limits for parties and their candidates.

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ What, if any, effect political parties had in the 2025 Calgary and Edmonton municipal elections
- ◆ What, if any, effect the increased funding allowances had on the results of the 2025 Calgary and Edmonton municipal elections
- ◆ What the likely outcomes of the introduction of municipal political parties and increased funding limits on rural municipal elections might be

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Ministry of 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

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

In the 2025 municipal elections – the first year political parties were permitted in Alberta – only 3 of Edmonton's 13 elected candidates and 6 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.

Resolution 5-24S: Legislation Consultation with Municipalities

Summary

RAMA should urge the Alberta Government to amend the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA) to require the minister to give 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.

What actions has RAMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs
- ◆ All engagements that occur between RAMA and government bodies are touched by the tone of this resolution – RAMA expects that there will be significant involvement and input required from municipalities; these have not always materialized

Who has RAMA engaged with?

- ◆ Ministry of Municipal Affairs

What information is RAMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ What is the scope of “meaningful consultation”, and how should practice of this consultation take place or operate

What will RAMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue to advocate for a rural voice at the discussion table on operations that affect rural municipalities, while advocating for continued and strong local autonomy

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

Ontario, British Columbia, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and the Yukon all have statutory mechanisms that mandate a significant level of open communication and consultation between the respective provincial governments and municipalities.

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

Summary

RAMA should call on the Alberta government to bring back the Well Drilling Equipment Tax Regulation (WDET), or alternatively provide equivalent funding, so municipalities can recover the infrastructure costs created by active industry operations.

What actions has RAMA 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)
- ◆ Organized and established the Property Tax Accountability Strategy (PTAS) working group with MA and EM to look at all aspects of the municipal tax collection scheme in Alberta including possible implications of implementing taxes such as WDET

Who has RAMA engaged with?

- ◆ The PTAS Working Group consists of MA, EM, and RAMA, with input provided by the AER

What information is RAMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ What components of the current tax-collection legislative framework are functioning effectively, and where the deficiencies are
- ◆ What enforcement mechanisms are available to regulatory bodies – such as the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) – and how these tools are currently being applied in practice
- ◆ How effective the existing tax-collection enforcement mechanisms are in securing payment from oil and gas operators
- ◆ What legislative or regulatory changes could strengthen the tax-collection framework and improve industry compliance
- ◆ How effectively are regulatory bodies operating in their oversight and enforcement roles with respect to municipal tax

What will RAMA do moving forward?

- ◆ The PTAS Working group was established to investigate the operations of the current tax collection framework in Alberta and look for improvements.
- ◆ The findings of PTAS will be jointly released in the future.

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

The WDET was cancelled in response to pressures from both the 2019 oil crash and COVID; the Alberta Government has been stalwart in their refusal to return to implementation of 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.

Resolution 2-23F:

Amendments to the Municipal Government Act – Section 619

Summary

Members want RMA to advocate for changes to the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA) that ensures that 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, they seek to amend s. 619 of the MGA to integrate the changes.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs
- ◆ Reviewed and analyzed the draft blackline changes to AUC Rule 007 when it was provided for feedback.
- ◆ Released an analysis outlining which proposed Rule 007 changes align with its advocacy and which do not.
- ◆ Continued to advocate for stronger recognition of municipal land use planning within provincial regulatory processes.
- ◆ Recommended that its members provide input to the AUC calling for major changes to the approval process.

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Ministry of Municipal Affairs
- ◆ Alberta Utilities Commission

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ The direction the Government of Alberta intends to take regarding municipal involvement and influence in regulatory approval processes
- ◆ Assessing how proposed changes to Land-Use regulations, such as the changes to Rule 007, may affect the relationship between provincial regulators and municipal land use planning bylaws, especially given the authority granted by section 619 of the MGA

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 submit input requesting significant changes to Rule 007.
- ◆ 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

DID YOU KNOW?

The MGA is one of Alberta's oldest statutes, originally drafted in 1968. Through numerous amendments that have refined its operation as the province has modernized and grown, it has become one of the most extensive pieces of legislation affecting Albertans on a daily basis. It governs key areas such as municipal taxation, land and property rights, and intermunicipal collaboration.

Resolution 12-23F:

Growth Management Board Voluntary Membership

Summary

RMA should ask the Alberta government to remove mandatory growth management boards from the Municipal Government Act. If the government does not eliminate them, RMA should push for changes that make participation in growth management boards voluntary instead of mandatory.

What actions 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.
- ◆ RMA organized an engagement session with rural municipalities that were formerly GMB members; the intention of the session was to allow members to share their experience.

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Ministry of Municipal Affairs
- ◆ RMA members that formerly belonged to GMBs

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ The post-GMB environment
- ◆ The effect of Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks which have moved in to replace the now-defunct GMBs

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ The defunding of GMBs has affected the ask of the resolution, completing the resolution's requirements.
- ◆ RMA will continue to monitor the effects of a post-GMB world and the effects of Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks on intermunicipal agreements and collaboration.

Current Status: • Accepted

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, however.

Resolution ER1-23F:

Limiting Third-Party Services in ICF Agreements

Summary

RMA will ask the provincial government to keep third-party services out of ICFs and to stop urban municipalities from passing their own costs onto rural municipalities.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs
- ◆ Provided a submission to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs arguing for the resolutions contents to be subscribed to and adopted
- ◆ Worked with Alberta Municipalities on developing agreed-upon core services
- ◆ Participated in the ICF engagement process with the Government of Alberta, including release of a member engagement guide
- ◆ Recommendations adopted by the Government of Alberta

Who has RMA engaged with?

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

Current Status: • Accepted

DID YOU KNOW?

Bill 50 changed a number of items in the MGA. Bill 50 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. Bill 50 also removed codes of conduct and changes CAO reporting rules, prompting RMA to seek further clarification on potential impacts for rural municipalities.

Resolution 1-23S:

Enhanced Support for Receiving Municipalities in Dissolutions

Summary

Members want RMA to advocate to the Alberta government for a review of the financial compensation, timelines, processes, and other provincial supports provided to municipalities that absorb dissolved neighbouring municipalities, to ensure these supports reflect the immediate and ongoing needs of the receiving municipality.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs
- ◆ Reviewed relevant legislation such as the *Municipal Government Act*
- ◆ Collected and analyzed relevant information to create the [Post-Dissolution Impacts Study](#) in 2024
- ◆ Recommended to Municipal Affairs to implement a guidebook and resource directory for absorbing municipalities
- ◆ Recommended to Municipal Affairs to implement a sustainability monitoring and supports program for "at-risk" RMA members
- ◆ Engaged Municipal Affairs on the topic of developing relevant indicators to improve the viability assessment and prevent unviable municipalities

Who has RMA engaged with?

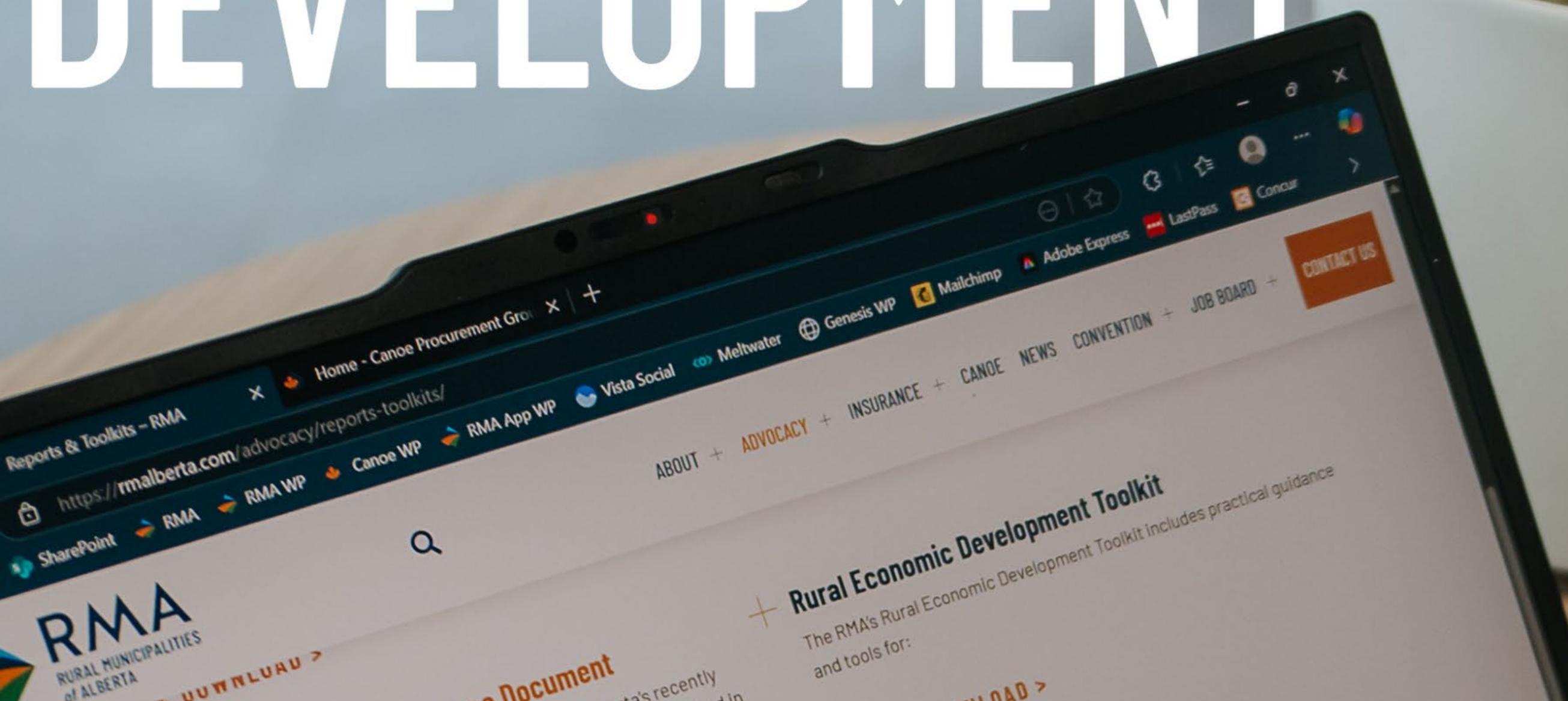
- ◆ Ministry of Municipal Affairs
- ◆ Various consulting groups

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

Alberta has seen many municipalities dissolve. As of today, there are 106 communities that previously held some form of urban municipality status before being amalgamated into the surrounding rural municipality.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT



Resolution 3-24S:

Continued Support for Regional Economic Development Alliances (REDAs)

Summary

Members want RMA to work with the Government of Alberta to help communicate REDA's purpose and 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.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Seniors, Community and Social Services, Health, and Alberta Health Services
- ◆ Released a Rural Economic Development Toolkit and hosted a series of rural economic development webinars
- ◆ Met with the Alberta Premier in summer 2024

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How have members realized benefits from the toolkit
- ◆ How are REDAs continuing to benefit their regions

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Premier of Alberta
- ◆ Various REDAs

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA has plans to update a previous rural economic development report to highlight rural Alberta's contributions to the provincial GDP

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

RMA hosted three economic development toolkit webinars in April and May 2024. Thank you for attending!



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

Summary

Resolution 5-23F calls for 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.

What actions 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 and the Natural Resources Conservation Board
- ◆ Formed the Quasi-Judicial Agencies Member Committee (QJAC) in 2023 and developed the [final report](#) and [technical report](#)
- ◆ Provided submissions as part of the AUC Rule 007 inquiry and developed a corresponding [member guide](#)

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 Alberta Utilities Commission
- ◆ Meetings with the Natural Resources Conservation Board
- ◆ Meetings with RMA members to learn about emerging relevant issues firsthand

Current Status: • **Accepted in Part**

DID YOU KNOW?

The AUC's rule 007 inquiry concluded in February 2024 and resulted in several wins for rural municipalities pertaining to this resolution including:

- ◆ Municipal participation rights will be automatically granted for hearing proceedings
- ◆ Municipalities will be eligible to request cost recovery for participation
- ◆ Securities continue to be required for proposed developments

Resolution 11-23F: Compensation Resulting from Regulatory Changes

Summary

RMA should ask the Alberta government to put a process in place to review all current and future laws for any negative financial impacts on private property owners. RMA should also ask the government to implement Recommendation 6 from the Special Committee on Real Property Rights and to compensate private property owners affected by changes to the *Historical Resources Act*.

What actions has RMA taken?

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

Who has RMA engaged with?

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

Current Status: • **Incomplete Information**

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."

Resolution 13-23S: Municipal Access to Open Data

Summary

Resolution 13-23S calls on RMA to advocate for the Government of Alberta to continue providing Open data to municipalities. The resolution highlights the many barriers to Open Data access that rural municipalities must navigate as well as the alternative approaches rural municipalities have been required to implement in order to ensure Open Data access

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Service Alberta & Red Tape Reduction and Alberta Technology and Innovation
- ◆ Action related to Wildfire Working Group (WWG) Recommendation 11 encourages increased access to open data on fire behavior to support municipal decision-making during emergency responses

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Met with Alberta Environment Protected Areas concerning WWG Recommendation 11 and open data access for emergency responses

Current Status: • Accepted in Part

DID YOU KNOW?

The Government of Alberta response indicates an awareness of the need for improved access to Open Data and a commitment to continue to utilize Alberta's Technology and Innovation Strategy to advance this priority. The ministry also welcomed feedback and specific opportunities from municipalities, which aligns with the RMA's goal of increased communication between levels of government. In Budget 2024-2025, \$10 million was allocated towards addressing data constraints for upcoming unspecified programs. Furthermore, the 2025-2026 provincial budget allocates \$7.5 million towards the implementation of the Data Strategy, which outlines the government's vision for publicly beneficial open data through the Ministry of Technology and Innovation.

Resolution 16-23S: Applied Research Associations Funding

Summary

Resolution 16-23S calls for increased and sustainable operational funding for Applied Research Associations (ARA) to help support the agricultural sector. ARAs are non-profit organizations that generate locally specific and unbiased agricultural research, provide capacity-building resources by enabling learning opportunities, facilitate partnerships between community members and stakeholders, and help drive innovation in the agricultural sector.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Advanced Education, Alberta Agriculture & Irrigation and Alberta Technology & Innovation

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMA continues to learn more about the issues highlighted in Resolution 16-23S to best inform engagement and advocacy

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

Although Budget 2025 does not allocate funding from 2025-2026 onwards, the Government of Alberta announced in June 2025 a one-time grant of \$3.2 million to invest in Agri-research through twelve Applied Research Associations. As this announcement represents a one-time allocation rather than a long-term funding commitment, RMA assigns this resolution a status of Intent Not Met and will continue advocating for more sustainable funding and support for Applied Research Associations.

Resolution 7-23S:

Revision of the Alberta Land Stewardship Act to provide for an Expiration Date in Conservation Easement Agreements

Summary

Resolution 7-23S calls for amendments to the Alberta Land Stewardship Act to include 40-year expiration dates for conservation easements. This proposed change would enable increased flexibility in land use planning and development and maximize the potential value of land within municipalities.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Environment and Protected Areas
- ◆ RMA participated in a Government of Alberta engagement on various land conservation tools in late 2024

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How would existing conservation easement expiry dates vary by region and surrounding land use across Alberta?

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Members and stakeholders from various sectors on this issue, including several land stewardship organizations concerned about the impacts that placing an expiration date on easements may have on the protection of land

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Follow up on Government of Alberta engagement from 2024
- ◆ Request a response from AEPA concerning the resolution

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

In July 2025, the Government of Alberta announced the launch of two new private land conservation programs with the intention of providing more investment and funding towards shorter term and temporary conservation easements. While this change may not represent the implementation of an expiry date for conservation easements, it suggests that the Government of Alberta recognizes the inflexibility of the current system, particularly for rural economic development, and is seeking to address it in alternative ways.





POLICING & RURAL CRIME

Resolution 4-24F:

Amend Municipal Government Act to Designate Police Funding Model (PFM) Levy as Requisition

Summary

Members want RMA to work with 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.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs and 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

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ RMA is actively working to understand the function of the new PFM and how it will impact rural municipalities

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services
- ◆ Ministry of Municipal Affairs
- ◆ PFM Engagement Consultant

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ As changes to the PFM do not include listing the PFM as a requisition, RMA will continue to advocate in support
- ◆ This resolution will continue to provide a key position on RMAs PFM advocacy

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

RMA's PFM member [resources are available here](#). RMA will be closely engaged in supporting members as the new PFM is rolled out in 2026 and as RMA learns more about how the Alberta Sheriffs Police Service will be funded.



Resolution 12-24F:

Accountability in the Establishment of an Independent Agency Police Service in Alberta

Summary

Members want RMA to remain closely engaged with the Government of Alberta as the Alberta Sheriffs Police Service is introduced and to communicate the necessity of transparency, accountability, and rural representation in its creation. 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.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services
- ◆ Sent letter to the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services seeking more information
- ◆ Established regular meetings with the Alberta Sheriffs Police Service
- ◆ RMA is closely monitoring the implementation of the Alberta Sheriffs Police Service
- ◆ Reviewed policing recommendations from the Alberta Next Panel Report

Who has RMA engaged with?

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

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 will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue to work with stakeholders to answer questions
- ◆ Share information and resources with RMA members

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

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 will update members on any news in a timely fashion.

Resolution 14-24F:

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Coverage for Community Peace Officers (CPOs) Under the Workers' Compensation Act

Summary

Members want RMA to ensure Community Peace Officer's 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.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services and Jobs, Economy and Trade
- ◆ Partnered with Alberta Municipalities 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

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Alberta Municipalities
- ◆ Canoe Benefits
- ◆ Alberta Association of Community Peace Officers
- ◆ United Nurses of Alberta
- ◆ Government of Alberta and the Workers Compensation Board

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

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

Resolution 15-24F:

Member Committee to Understand the Criminal Justice System (CJS)

Summary

RMAs want RMA to support rural municipalities understanding of rural crime and the CJS. Rural crime is complex – RMAs want to improve their understanding of the CJS and contribute solutions.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ RMA has prepared the Terms of Reference and member application
- ◆ Committee work will begin in 2026

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

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

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ RMAs

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

DID YOU KNOW?

The CJS committee is getting to work in 2026! RMA will continue to share information on the committee's work and the member committee application as it becomes available.

Resolution 8-23F:

Implementation of Provincial Police Advisory Board

Summary

Members want RMA to work with 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.

What actions 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 members to the Provincial Police Advisory Board in 2024

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ RMA would like to know when the Provincial Police Advisory Board will begin meeting and how frequently the board will meet
- ◆ Similarly, RMA is interested to find out which other Provincial Police Advisory Board members will be participating

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services
- ◆ RCMP

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA was pleased the Government of Alberta acknowledged RMA's 2024 appointments to the Provincial Police Advisory Board in December 2025
- ◆ RMA looks forward to the Provincial Police Advisory Board beginning to meet and advancing rural municipalities policing priorities to the RCMP

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

RMA submitted RMA board member names for participation on the Provincial Police Advisory Board to the Government of Alberta prior to the Interim Police Advisory Board's last meeting in spring 2025. While RMA was pleased RMA board members appointments were confirmed (roughly one year later), RMA continues to seek more information from the Government of Alberta on when the Provincial Police Advisory Board will assume meeting.

Resolution 11-23S:

Reforming the Bail System to Address Rural Crime

Summary

Members want RMA to work with the Government of Alberta to revise the existing bail structure to help make rural communities safer. Rural municipalities would like to see the Government of Alberta use provincial powers to make it more difficult for offenders to obtain bail.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services and Justice
- ◆ Carefully monitored Government of Alberta developments
- ◆ Co-signed a letter with western Canadian municipalities asking the Government of Canada to reform the federal bail system

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How to integrate this resolution with RMAs Criminal Justice Committees' work

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Western Canadian Municipalities
- ◆ Government of Canada
- ◆ Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA is carefully monitoring the implementation of Alberta's new ankle monitor program and the Government of Canada's *Bail and Sentencing Reform Act*

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

The Government of Alberta introduced an ankle monitoring program for high-risk offenders in 2024. RMA will continue to monitor relevant changes through 2026. RMA looks forward to better understanding the *Bail and Sentencing Reform Act* and incorporating the bail function into Criminal Justice Committee work.





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.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Affordability & 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

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

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.

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.

What actions 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

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.

Resolution 1-23F: Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program Funding

Summary

Members want RMA to advocate to the Alberta Government 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.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors (TEC)
- ◆ Released a series – *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
- ◆ Engaged TEC in 2025 to begin addressing allocation funding models for STIP, LGFF, and other associated programs

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Ministry of Transportation and Economic Corridors
- ◆ Ministry of Municipal Affairs

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

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, RMA found that it would cost \$11.99 billion to repair all rural municipal roads and \$2.29 billion to repair all rural bridges. Funding remains inadequate.

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

Summary

RMA should ask the Government of Alberta to work with municipalities to protect and coordinate the provincial high-load corridor network. High-load corridors should be protected and coordinated in order to support industries that require the movement of high loads and their economic contributions and support the continuity of established utility lines.

What actions 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 in 2024 to discuss the continued protection of HLCs
- ◆ RMA has advocated for broader review and protection of high-load corridors beyond the Edmonton region

Who has RMA engaged with?

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

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

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.

Resolution 15-23F:

Province-Wide Regulations for E-Scooters and Miniature Personal Electric Vehicles

Summary

RMA should ask the Alberta government to work with municipalities and the public to develop consistent, province-wide rules for the operation and personal use of e-scooters and other small personal electric vehicles. Although e-scooters and miniature personal electric vehicles are available for purchase across Alberta, the absence of province-wide legislation has led to varied municipal approaches to keeping members of the public safe.

What actions 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
- ◆ Reviewed TEC's response related to micromobility legislation and pilot projects
- ◆ RMA has positioned itself as a provincial advocate and conduit for rural municipalities on this issue, despite having no other active resolutions that are directly related

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Ministry of Transportation and Economic Corridors

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Clarity on the outcomes of the provincial review of the e-scooter pilot project and broader micromobility legislation
- ◆ RMA wants to better understand how and when updated legislation or a permanent framework for micromobility will be developed
- ◆ RMA is also looking to understand how rural municipalities will be engaged for future consultations on micromobility regulation

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Monitor the release of the government's promised findings from the micromobility review
- ◆ Advocate for meaningful engagement with rural municipalities in the development of any permanent micromobility 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

DID YOU KNOW?

E-scooters first arrived in Alberta in 2019, with Calgary and Edmonton receiving permission from the Government of Alberta to conduct pilot projects for shared rentals. These projects were a success and continue to operate to today.

Resolution 2-23S:

Provincial Funding Stream for Non-Residential Infrastructure

Summary

Members want RMA to seek the establishment of a dedicated funding model that would enable long-term investment in capital infrastructure. Capital infrastructure plays a critical role in supporting industrial economic development in rural Alberta and should be funded appropriately as a result.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to the following provincial ministries: Municipal Affairs (MA), Transportation & Economic Corridors (TEC), and Infrastructure
- ◆ Released a series of [Infrastructure Deficit Project Reports](#) in 2024 that explained the associated costs and real impacts of the government's continued failure to fund rehabilitation and improvement projects for rural infrastructure including utilities, roads, and bridges
- ◆ On-going conversations with TEC and MA on the issue of the infrastructure deficit and the need for improved funding models
- ◆ Engaged TEC in 2025 to begin addressing allocation funding models for STIP, LGFF, and other associated programs

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Ministry of Municipal Affairs
- ◆ Ministry of Transportation and Economic Corridors

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

Infrastructure does not deteriorate in a linear fashion – deterioration increases exponentially when repairs do not occur over time. While there may be little initial change in a project's condition, if infrastructure is not properly protected, the deferred investment may lead to a dramatic and quick reduction in both condition and value. Maintaining Infrastructure at a higher condition level is the most cost-effective method for preserving infrastructure. Unfortunately, available financing through programs such as STIP and LGFF have declined since 2017.

Resolution 3-23S:

Amendments to the National Building Code

Summary

Members want RMA to ensure the Alberta government considers the potential negative impacts on Albertans that may result from proposed National Building Code changes. The 2025 National Building Code revisions introduced building code direction that prioritized greenhouse gas emissions reductions. RMA will continue to advocate for and participate in building code engagements.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Alberta Municipal Affairs
- ◆ Monitored and assessed national and provincial developments related to greenhouse gas (GHG) objectives in building and construction codes
- ◆ Participated in provincial code review processes, providing input alongside other municipal, industry, and safety stakeholders
- ◆ Reviewed and evaluated the Government of Alberta's response and actions related to the adoption of energy efficiency requirements in Alberta's building codes

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Ministry of Municipal Affairs
- ◆ Canadian Board for Harmonized Construction Codes (CBHCC), indirectly through Alberta's participation in national code development
- ◆ Safety Codes Council and other municipal, industry, and technical stakeholders involved in building code development

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ RMA is seeking to better understand how national GHG objectives and net-zero-related requirements may influence future editions of Alberta's building codes
- ◆ RMA wants clarity on the extent of provincial flexibility to diverge from national model codes, particularly regarding net-zero emissions requirements
- ◆ RMA is also working to understand the implications of energy efficiency tiers on rural municipalities, including impacts on affordability, capacity, and implementation

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will continue advocating for increased flexibility in Alberta's building codes, particularly regarding net-zero emissions requirements
- ◆ RMA will remain engaged in national and provincial code development discussions to represent rural municipal interests
- ◆ RMA will monitor future code updates and assess whether changes better align with the intent of the resolution

Current Status: • Accepted in Part

DID YOU KNOW?

Alberta has the power to tweak Canada's National Building Code to fit local needs. While the National Model Codes aim for consistency across the country, Alberta can adopt "tiers" of energy efficiency so buildings can be safer and more energy-efficient without forcing everyone to go fully net-zero all at once. These tiers will allow Alberta to customize the energy blueprint for homes while still keeping an eye on national standards



OTHER



Resolution 16-23F:

Federal-Provincial Partnership to Counter the United States Inflation Reduction Act

Summary

RMA should ask the Alberta government 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 advantages it gives American agriculture. RMA should also push for a joint task force to assess how the IRA affects Canadian producers.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to the following provincial and federal ministries: Agriculture and Irrigation; Jobs, Economy and Trade; and Agri-food Canada
- ◆ 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))

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Ministry of Jobs, Economy, and Trade (Alberta)
- ◆ Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (Canada)
- ◆ Ministry of Agri-food (Canada)

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

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.



Resolution 19-23F: Government of Alberta Ministry Changes

Summary

RMA should ask the Alberta government to report on the costs of changes like 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.

What actions 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 Jobs, Economy & Trade; Arts, Culture & Status of Women; Immigration & Multiculturalism; Tourism & Sport; and Forestry & 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

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

Current Status: • Incomplete Information

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 & Sport” or “Forestry & Parks” appearing and disappearing in just a few months. This kind of change can make it tricky for citizens (and even politicians) to keep track of who's responsible for what.

Resolution 4-23S: Strategic Direction for the RMA

Summary

Members want RMA to develop a member-driven strategic direction and plan to guide the organization's activities. The criteria listed below will guide RMA's planning and activities through 2027. RMA is pleased to have accepted this member resolution and to continue improving the quality of advocacy and business services available to rural municipalities.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ Drafted strategic direction
- ◆ Drafted vision: strong, uniquely rural communities and resilient rural lands that support and drive Alberta.
- ◆ Drafted Mission: Strengthening rural Alberta through effective advocacy and valued services.
- ◆ Drafted Values:
 - Leading in a proactive, solutions-focused and accountable manner
 - Being relationship-focused and fostering collaboration
 - Interacting with civility as a non-partisan and respectful organization
 - Communicating with intention and integrity
 - Continuously improving as an innovative organization

Current Status: • Accepted

DID YOU KNOW?

RMA has been active since 1909, representing Alberta's 69 counties and municipal districts. RMA aims to help rural municipalities achieve strong, effective local government through advocacy and various services, including insurance and procurement. The organization is committed to strengthening rural Alberta communities and has a strategic plan that reflects the diverse needs in its members.

Resolution 17-23S: Negative Impact of Bill C-21 on Albertans

Summary

Members want RMA to advocate for rural recreational access to hunting with firearms. As changes to firearms legislation in the *Firearms Act* could restrict firearms usage, RMA members want RMA to continue to advocate for rural recreational firearm opportunities.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Justice Canada
- ◆ Monitored the implementation of Bill C-21

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ Where in rural Alberta gun owners may surrender their prohibited firearms
- ◆ RMA would like to better understand the Government of Alberta's proposal to exempt police from participating in the surrender/buyback program

Who has RMA engaged with?

- ◆ Minister of Justice (Canada)

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ Continue to monitor the implementation of Bill C-21 and similar federal legislation
- ◆ Monitor the implementation of the firearms surrender/buyback program

Current Status: • Intent Not Met

DID YOU KNOW?

Bill C-21 passed on December 15, 2023. RMA remains engaged on public safety legislation at the provincial and federal levels.

Resolution 19-23S: Non-Profit Exemption from the Federal Fuel Charge

Summary

RMA will ask the Government of Canada to change the *Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act* (GGPPA) so that registered non-profit organizations can apply to be exempt from the federal fuel charge. RMA will also ask the federal government to follow through on its earlier commitment to support non-profit organizations by letting them receive some of the money collected from the federal fuel charge to help cover their rising operating costs.

What actions has RMA taken?

- ◆ This resolution was sent to Finance Canada
- ◆ Advocated for amendments to the *Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act* (GGPPA) to exempt natural gas and propane used in agricultural production
- ◆ RMA staff have engaged informally with the federal government to ensure a rural perspective is considered in discussions about carbon tax exemptions

What information is RMA trying to better understand?

- ◆ How the federal repeal of the consumer fuel charge and modifications to the GGPPA affect rural Albertans, particularly agricultural operations
- ◆ RMA seeks clarity on non-profit access to Low Carbon Economy Fund (LCEF) funding given the fuel charge repeal
- ◆ Monitor future implications for carbon pricing on rural communities and agricultural competitiveness

What will RMA do moving forward?

- ◆ RMA will continue to work with the federal government to ensure rural municipalities' voices are included in any carbon pricing discussions
- ◆ RMA will monitor the impact of the fuel charge repeal and LCEF allocations on rural municipalities and non-profits
- ◆ RMA will update the resolution status once a formal government response is received from the Provincial or Federal government, or as further developments occur

Current Status: • Incomplete Information

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2021, the Supreme Court of Canada found the GGPPA constitutionally valid after a challenge lead by the Government of Alberta. Alberta – alongside Ontario and Saskatchewan – argued that fuel charges and pricing mechanisms for greenhouse gas emissions were outside Federal authority. The Court found that the GGPPA affected limits on the emission of pollutants from the consumption of fossil fuels, and not the fossil fuels themselves. As this pollution crossed interprovincial and international borders, regulating the pollutants fell squarely into the constitutional and regulatory authority of the Federal Government. This allowed the GGPPA to survive as created.

Contributors

The Rural Municipalities of Alberta wishes to thank the Board of Directors members who provided content, input, and advice to this Resolution Status Update:

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