

**MEETING DATE: JULY 15, 2025**

# **REQUEST FOR DECISION - TO COUNCIL**

## **SUBJECT**

**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING DATE REVISION**

## **RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the County of Vermilion River cancel the Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025 organizational and regular meeting of Council.

And

THAT the County of Vermilion River approve the date of Thursday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 9 AM for the mandatory Councillor training on roles of municipalities, municipal organization and function, roles and responsibilities of council and Councillors, roles and responsibilities of the Chief Administrative Officer and staff, conducted by Mr. Russ Farmer.

And

THAT the County of Vermilion River approve the date for the 2025 organizational meeting and mandatory Councillor training in regards to key municipal plans, policies, and projects, budgeting and administration, and public participation for Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9 AM.

## **DETAILS**

Background: On May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Bill 50 received Royal Assent, and on June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 the Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs advised of the changes to the Municipal Government Act of Alberta (MGA) as per Bill 50.

Discussion: Relevant Policy/Legislation Practices: Attempt to keep up to date and in alignment with current legislation. Based upon revisions to the MGA approved recently training and orientation for all Councillors is required prior to organizational meeting and/or attending any Council meetings. As such meetings dates are required to be revised in order to meet these new timelines and requirements. Mr Russ Farmer has



been hired and booked to provide Councillor Orientation/training in regards to roles of municipalities, municipal organization and function, roles and responsibilities of council and Councillors, roles and responsibilities of the Chief Administrative Officer and staff training on Thursday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

In accordance with Bill 50, and the amendments to the MGA, orientation/training must be completed prior to the organizational meeting and before any Council member attends a Council meeting or takes the oath of office. As per the MGA Section 192(1) Organizational meetings must be held not later than 14 days after the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in October so October 31<sup>st</sup> or November 3<sup>rd</sup> are the only dates available for the organizational meeting. After the organizational meeting orientation/training will be undertaken in regards to key municipal plans, policies, and projects, budgeting and administration, and public participation.

Further information in regards to Bill 50:

Some items in regards to Bill 50 have yet to be determined, such as regulations in regards to use of natural person powers, this will be updated to Council as they become available.

The Code of Conduct Bylaw for all municipalities have been deemed repealed as per the new provisions in the MGA provide that any existing bylaw is already deemed to be repealed. Section 145(10) of the MGA now provides that:

(10) A bylaw or any portion of a bylaw or a resolution or any portion of a resolution passed by a municipality prior to the coming into force of this subsection that provides for a code of conduct for councillors or members of council committees who are not councillors or addresses the behaviour or conduct of those councillors or members and that was in effect immediately before the coming into force of this subsection is repealed on the coming into force of this subsection.

Other changes to Bill 50 and the MGA have come in force in regards to Council disqualification, public hearings, Councillor conflict of interest, Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks, multi year property tax incentive for residential properties, non-profit housing tax exemption, Provincial cabinet intervention in Bylaws, validating recall petitions, etc.

Desired Outcome (s): To ensure that all Councillors are trained/oriented as per current Provincial requirements.



#### Response Options:

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## IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION

Organizational: Training

Financial: \$3,500

Communication Required: Post on website.

Implementation: As approved by Council.

## ATTACHMENTS

- Organizational Meeting Date Revision – July 15, 2025 Council Meeting



PREPARED BY: A. PARKIN

DATE: July 8, 2025