



## AGENDA ITEM

City of Lacombe and Lacombe County

Intermunicipal Collaborative Framework Agreement

February 27, 2020

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### BACKGROUND

As you know, by March 31, 2020, municipalities that share a common boundary must create an Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF) with each other. This legislated requirement was introduced in the Modernized Municipal Government Act in 2016.

The purpose of the ICF is to:

- “provide for integrated and strategic planning, delivery and funding of intermunicipal services”;
- “allocate scarce resources efficiently in the providing of local services”; and,
- “ensure municipalities contribute funding to services that benefit their residents”.

Members of the City of Lacombe and Lacombe County ICF negotiating teams have met six times since commencing the ICF negotiation process in August of 2019. The meetings have been extremely productive, and despite having some differing perspectives regarding other services that should be considered for cost-sharing as well as the appropriate models and formulas to be used for determining cost-sharing levels we have been able to reach consensus on all of the issues at hand.

The result of our discussions is the development of a draft ICF Master Agreement (see attached) which establishes the following principles and outcomes:

- Access will be provided to shared municipal facilities, programs and services to each other’s residents in a manner that does not differentiate among them;
- A joint approach will be taken to capital planning for capital assets that deliver mutual benefit;
- A shared investment for shared benefit has been agreed to regarding capital planning and cost-sharing;
- The municipalities will be provided an opportunity for input into policy and service level development regarding operating cost-sharing;
- The updating of existing intermunicipal agreements, the rescinding of obsolete agreements and the development of new agreements will



be completed in an orderly and scheduled manner with all to be completed prior to the October 2021 municipal election.

Action requested of Council is consideration of approval of the subject ICF Master Agreement.

## **ANALYSIS**

The City of Lacombe and Lacombe County ICF Master Agreement addresses the requirements of the Municipal Government Act and its associated regulations, including a dispute resolution process.

### Alternatives:

1. Approve the ICF Master Agreement, as presented.
2. Take other action(s) as determined by Council.

## **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

The budget implications of the ICF Master Agreement will be as per the respective sub-agreements between the City and the County and will be addressed through the County's annual operating budget.

## **LEGISLATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES**

Pursuant to Section 708.28(1) of the Municipal Government Act (MGA) municipalities that have common boundaries must, within 2 years from the coming into force of this section, create a framework with each other.

Section 180(1) of the MGA states that Council may only act by resolution or bylaw.

Section 708.33 of the MGA states that in order to create a framework, the municipalities that are to be parties to the framework must each adopt a bylaw or resolution that contains the framework.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN**

The following elements of the County's Strategic Plan are relevant to this issue:

### Our Mission:

"Building a safe and vibrant community through leadership, innovation and the development of healthy relationships".

### Our Key Principles:

"Recognizing our history and solid foundation, we approach the role of providing the best possible level of municipal services for our citizens through a base of collaborative and supportive teamwork".



Finance Strategy – Strategic Priority A:

Manage the financial assets of the County in order to obtain maximum value.

Service Delivery Strategy – Strategic Priority A:

Provide appropriate service levels to our citizens.

Service Delivery Strategy – Strategic Priority “B”:

Maintain effective cooperation and collaboration with neighbouring urban municipalities.

Service Delivery Strategy – Key Action Item 8.8 (B)

Complete Intermunicipal Development Plans and Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks with neighbouring municipalities.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Lacombe County sees the value in engaging and informing the public/stakeholders through a variety of mediums as outlined in the *Policy AD(40): Public Participation Policy*. The appropriate level of engagement for each public participation opportunity is selected on a project-to-project basis.

For this item, the following engagement will take place:

- *Inform:* To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions

Highlights of all County Council meetings are published on the County Website and in the County News.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council approve the following resolution:

That the City of Lacombe and Lacombe County Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Master Agreement be approved.

**PREPARED BY:** Tim Timmons, County Manager

**REVIEWED BY:** Tim Timmons, County Manager

