SUMMER VILLAGES OF LAC STE. ANNE COUNTY EAST AGENDA

HOST VILLAGE – Birch Cove Saturday, June 21, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Alberta Beach & District Senior Citizens Club 5012 49 Ave, Alberta Beach AB T0E0A0

Join Zoom Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81653113687?pwd=LU39L1vs3iNcRLMJtLgBYxTcjbE7l8.1

Meeting ID: 816 5311 3687 Passcode: 337182

CALL TO ORDER:

Introductions

Land Acknowledgement:

The Summer Villages of Lac Ste. Anne County East acknowledges that we are on Treaty 6 territory, the ancestral and traditional territory of the Cree, Dene, Blackfoot, Saulteau, Nakota Sioux, as well and the Metis. We acknowledge the many First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples whose footsteps have marked these lands for generations.

History Of Host Village:

Presented by Summer Village of Birch Cove Council

(1-3)

- 1. Adopt Agenda June 21st, 2025 Regular Meeting Agenda
- 2. Shane Getson, MLA Lac Ste. Anne Parkland (suspend agenda on arrival)

(4-6)

3. Approval of Minutes - March 1st, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

(7-13)

- 4. SVLSACE Financial Report (January 1st, 2025 to April 30th, 2025)
- 5. Committee Updates:
 - a. Highway 43 East Waste Commission (H43 East)
 - b. Lac Ste. Anne Seniors Foundation (LSA Foundation)
 - c. Lac Ste. Anne East End Bus Society (EEB Society)
- d. WILD Water Commission (WILD)
 - e. Water Quality and Watershed Reports (LILSA/NSWA)
 - f. Association of Summer Villages of Alberta (ASVA)

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g. Ste. Anne Regional Municipalities (SARM, Inactive)

(27-37) — h. Alberta Municipalities (AB Munis)

- 6. ABmunis Round Table Deborah Reid-Mickler, 9:30am
- 7. ASVA Round Table Mike Pashak, 10:15am
- 8. Presentation STARS Glenda Farnden (11:00 am)

STARS continues to be a preeminent life-saving and rescue operation in the province, particularly in rural and remote communities. STARS is reaching out to municipal partners and stakeholders to strengthen ties and share information and resources in the greater Lac Ste. Anne County region.

9. Occupational Health and Safety, Field Officer Inspections and Compliance:

As some of you will be aware, there has been a recent uptick in the presence of local OHS field officers in municipalities (of all sizes, including SVs). While there is no change in the legislation or our legislative duties that has resulted in this new presence, it is a good time to roundtable the experiences in the group and share some best practices. Our discussion with OHS has been that a multi-year trend of increasing workplace incidents has put pressure on their department to be more active in the field – in advisory, compliance and enforcement capacities.

While many of our members do not have active staff components, or certainly not above the five-employee threshold in the OHS legislation, we have been advised on some general compliance and industry best practices that we should all be aware of, including Hazard Assessments for the employees we do have, and Workplace Emergency Response Plans. Summer Village of Nakamun Park, for example, has met this compliance expectation with the creation of a Workplace Health and Safety Manual, including Safe Work Practices for all tasks and jobs, and new policies for employee and workplace safety. Other communities may have other solutions or experiences, but because the compliance deadlines (time from inspection to action) are short, the more we share now, the better off others will be in addressing these inspections.

- 10. 11:30am Lac Ste. Anne County (Open Invitation for Attendance, Discussion on Topics of Mutual Interest):
- 11. Thank you to host Birch Cove

Page 2 of 3

SUMMER VILLAGES OF LAC STE. ANNE COUNTY EAST AGENDA

HOST VILLAGE – Birch Cove Saturday, June 21, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Alberta Beach & District Senior Citizens Club 5012 49 Ave, Alberta Beach AB T0E0A0

12. Next Meeting Date:

-Sat. September 20th, 2025 -Sat. September 27th, 2025 -Other? (Next Host Castle Island)

13. Adjournment

Reminder:

Lunch Will Be Served Following the Meeting, and all Members and Guests Are Invited to Join

MINUTES OF THE SUMMER VILLAGES OF LAC STE. ANNE COUNTY EAST REGULAR MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY MARCH 1st, 2025 AT 9:00 A.M. HOSTED BY THE SUMMER VILLAGE OF YELLOWSTONE AT THE ALBERTA BEACH SENIORS CENTRE

Attendance

Bernie Poulin	Mayor	Silver Sands (Chair)
Ren Giesbrecht	Mayor	West Cove (Vice Chair)
Sandi Benford	Mayor	South View
Alan Christiansen	Deputy Mayor	Val Quentin
Gwen Jones	Mayor	Sunset Point
Don Bauer	Mayor	Yellowstone
Marlene Walsh	CAO	Val Quentin
Brian Brady	Deputy Mayor	Yellowstone
Mike Harney	Deputy Mayor	Sandy Beach
Tom Clark	Councillor	Yellowstone
Robin Murray	CAO	Yellowstone
Keith Pederson	Mayor	Nakamun Park
Greg Woronuk	Councillor	West Cove
Garth Ward	Deputy Mayor	South View
Lolita Chadd	Deputy Mayor	Ross Haven (Zoom)
Roger Montpellier	Councillor	Val Quentin
Colleen Richardson	Councillor	South View
Ian Kupchenko	Mayor	Castle Island (Zoom)
Deborah Reid-	Director	ABmunis
Mickler		ε
Graeme Horne	Councillor	Silver Sands (Zoom)
Dwight Moskalyk	Administrator/CAO	SVLSACE/Naka. Park
Dan Blackburn	Cyber Security	ABmunis(Zoom)
Joe Blakeman	Reeve	LSAC
Mike Pashak	President	ASVA
Denise Rambow	Service Coordinator	CPTED
TerryLee Ropchan	Executive Director	CPTED
100		

Call to Order:

Chairman Poulin called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Land

Acknowledgement

Chairman Poulin shared the land acknowledgement for Treaty 6 territory and ancestral lands.

Host Municipality History and Background

Don Bauer shared the history and background of Yellowstone as host municipality.

(1) Adopt Agenda:

Motion #1-25 (Agenda)

Sandi Benford – that the agenda for the March 1st, 2025 regular meeting be approved as presented.

Carried.



MINUTES OF THE SUMMER VILLAGES OF LAC STE. ANNE COUNTY EAST REGULAR MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY MARCH 1st, 2025 AT 9:00 A.M. HOSTED BY THE SUMMER VILLAGE OF YELLOWSTONE AT THE ALBERTA BEACH SENIORS CENTRE

(2) Minutes:

Motion #2-25 (Minutes)

Ren Giesbrecht – that the minutes of the September 28th, 2024 Regular Meeting be approved as presented.

Carried.

(3) Financial Update:

Motion #3-25 (Financial Reports) Don Bauer – that the financial report for September 1st, 2024 through December 31st, 2024 be accepted for information as presented.

Carried.

(5) Committee Reports:

Motion #4-25 (Committee Reports)

Mike Harney – that the committee reports for Highway 43 East Waste Commission, Lac Ste. Anne Seniors Foundation, Lac Ste. Anne East End Bus Society, WILD Water, LILSA/ALUS, Association of Summer Villages of Alberta, and the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association updates be accepted for information as written and verbally presented.

Carried.

(6) ASVA Presentation – Mike Pashak – 9:30am

Motion #5-25 (ASVA – Mike Pashak) Ren Giesbrecht – that the presentation by Mike Pashak on the Association of Summer Villages of Alberta updates and recent initiatives be accepted as information as presented.

Carried.

(7) CPTED Presentation – Terrylee Ropchan – 10:00am

Motion #6-25 (CPTED Presentation)

Sandi Benford – that the presentation of the Central Alberta Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) as given by Terrylee Ropchan and Denise Rambow be accepted as information as presented.

Carried.

(8) ABmunis Roundtable - Deborah Reid Mickler – 10:30am

Motion #7-25 (ABmunis – D. Reid-Mickler) Ren Giesbrecht – that the roundtable discussion and updates from ABmunis, as presented by Deborah Reid-Mickler, be accepted as information as presented.

Carried.

Recess - 10:56am

Chairman Poulin called a recess at 10:56am

Call to Order – 11:08am

Chairman Poulin called the meeting back to order at 11:08am.



MINUTES OF THE SUMMER VILLAGES OF LAC STE. ANNE COUNTY EAST REGULAR MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY MARCH 1st, 2025 AT 9:00 A.M. HOSTED BY THE SUMMER VILLAGE OF YELLOWSTONE AT THE ALBERTA BEACH SENIORS CENTRE

(9) SVLSACE 2025 Budget and Requisitions:

Motion #8-25 (Approval of Budget and Requisitions for 2025) Gwen Jones – that the SVLSACE 2025 Budget, 2025 Requisitions, and 2025-2027 Three Year Operating Plan, be approved as amended, and to include a \$5,500 allowance to facilitate a group training for elected officials requiring Part 2 training post-election, to be covered through SVLSACE reserves and held on a date in September 2025 as fits Brownlee's availability for same, and that Administration be authorized to send the requisition notices for same, with levies due June 1st, 2025, as discussed.

Carried.

Ren Giesbrecht – that SVLSACE coordinate two "Part 1" elected officials training sessions, one in late July and one in late August, through ASVA open to all members with the cost of registration fees for same borne by the participants (not SVLSACE).

Carried.

(10) Lac Ste. Anne County

Motion #9-25 (LSAC) Garth Ward – that the discussion with Lac Ste. Anne County council delegation be accepted as information, including discussions on:

- i) Upcoming ICF Renewals
- ii) Wastewater System Capital Expansions
- iii) Impacts of Provincial Budget 2025/2026

Carried.

(12) Next Meeting and Adjournment:

Motion #10-25 (Next Meeting)

Sandi Benford – that the next regular meeting of SVLSACE be set for 9:00am on Saturday June 21^{nd} , 2025 with Birch Cove as host.

Carried.

All matters being addressed Chairman Poulin adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Chairman	



SVLSACE 2025 FINANCIAL REPORT

PRESENTED for the June 21, 2025 MEETING

TRANSACTIONS SHOWN ACCOUNT FOR ACTIVITY FROM January 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025

Note: the account is fully reimbursed for standard monthly maintenance and service fees – those items are not shown on this report to save space but are found on the attached statements.

DATE	REFERENCE	REVENUE	EXPENSE	
	OPENING BALANCE			
Dec 31, 2024	Opening Balance	\$31,827.97		
Date:	PAYMENTS RECEIVED			
Jan. 31. 2025	Interest	\$78.40		
Feb. 28, 2025	Interest	\$65.84		
March 31, 2025	Interest	\$58.17		
April 17, 2025	Cheques (Dues and Fees)	\$12,552.59		
April 30, 2025	Interest	\$63.80		
April 30, 2025	TOTAL INCOME	\$44,646.77		
Date:	PAYMENTS SENT			
	Chg #204 – Catalis (2024 Dues)		\$5,898.90	
Jan. 2, 2025 March 11, 2025	Chg #207 – Catalis (2025 Dues)		\$6,252.75	
			\$143.40	
March 12, 2025	Chq #208 – Ren Giesbrecht			
March 14, 2025	Chq#209 – Wildwillow Ent.		\$143.33	
April 30, 2025	TOTAL EXPENSES			\$12,438.38
E		\$44,646.77		\$12,438.38
April 30, 2025	CLOSING BALANCE	\$32,208.39		
	€ :			

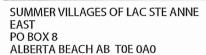
Deposit Account Statement

Statement date January 31, 2025

Transit number

Customer numb
Cheque images 1

Cheque images 1
Page number 1 of 3



Your ATB Financial Branch

08989 Onoway Branch 4910 50 St Onoway AB TOE 1V0

If you have any questions, contact us at 1 800 332-8383 or visit us at www.atb.com

A summary of Deposit Account Business Public Sector Account

Your balance forward on Dec 31, 2024		\$31,827.97
Debits to your account (1 item)	-	\$5,898.90
Credits to your account (1 item)	+	\$78.40
Your closing balance on Jan 31, 2025	=	\$26,007.47

Details of your account transactions

Date	Description	Debits to your account (\$)	Credits to your account (\$)	Balance (\$)
Dec 31	Balance forward			\$31,827.97
Jan 2	Cheque #00000000204	\$5,898.90 🗸		25,929.07
Jan 31	Interest Payment		\$78.40	26,007.47
Jan 31	Closing balance			\$26,007.47

Find an error? Give us a call or drop by a branch. We'll take care of it.





Deposit Account Statement

Statement date January 31, 2025

Transit number (

Customer numbe

Page number 3 of 3







Deposit Account Statement

Statement date February 28, 2025

Transit number

Customer number



SUMMER VILLAGES OF LAC STE ANNE EAST PO BOX 8 ALBERTA BEACH AB TOE 0A0

Your ATB Financial Branch

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If you have any questions, contact us at 1 800 332-8383 or visit us at www.atb.com



A summary of Deposit Account Business Public Sector Account

		经制度的联合证
Your balance forward on Jan 31, 2025		\$26,007.47
Debits to your account (0 items)	-	\$0.00
Credits to your account (1 item)	+	\$65.84
Your closing balance on Feb 28, 2025	=	\$26,073.31

Details of your account transactions

Date	Description	Debits to your account (\$)	Credits to your account (\$)	Balance (\$)
Jan 31	Balance forward			\$26,007.47
Feb 28	Interest Payment		\$65.84	26,073.31
Feb 28	Closing balance			\$26,073.31

Find an error? Give us a call or drop by a branch. We'll take care of it.



Deposit Account Statement

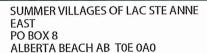
Statement date March 31, 2025

Transit number (

Customer numbe

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Page number 1 of 3



Your ATB Financial Branch

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If you have any questions, contact us at 1 800 332-8383 or visit us at www.atb.com

A summary of Deposit Account **Business Public Sector Account**

《公司》(宋文集] [10]		
Your balance forward on Feb 28, 2025		\$26,073.31
Debits to your account (3 items)	·-	\$6,539.48
Credits to your account (1 item)	+	\$58.17
Your closing balance on Mar 31, 2025	=	\$19,592.00

Details of your account transactions

Date	Description	Debits to your account (\$)	Credits to your account (\$)	Balance (\$)
Feb 28	Balance forward			\$26,073.31
Mar 11	Cheque #000000000207	\$6,252.75		19,820.56
Mar 12	Cheque #000000000208	\$143.40 🗸		19,677.16
Mar 14	Cheque #000000000209	\$143.33 🗸		19,533.83
Mar 31	Interest Payment		\$58.17 🗸	19,592.00
Mar 31	Closing balance			\$19,592.00

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As of June 16, 2025, you will see changes to the ATB Personal Line of Credit Terms and Conditions. To learn what this means for you, and to view the updated terms and conditions, visit go.atb.com Λ egalnotice



Deposit Account Statement

\$143.40 000208 2025-01-15 _] \$ 143,40

Statement date March 31, 2025

Transit number



Page number 3 of 3

Business Public Sector Accoun Cheque #00000000207	\$6,252.75	Business Public Sector Account Cheque #000000000208	\$14
PAYO Catalis Technologies Canada Ltd.	000207 2 0 3 5 0 1 - 1 5 \$ 6,353.75 - 7500LARS (1):11 100 OF ST NERI MAT 100 OF ST NERI MAT 100 OF ST NERI MAT	SUMMER VILLAGES OF LAC STE ANNIE EAST ALBERTA BLACH, AB, TOE EAST DOES OF THE MEMORIAL CONTROL PAYED PAYED REM CLESSFRUCKT AND FINANCIAL SEPONDO ABREAD CONTROL 1119-1525 16000000000000000000000000000000000000	000208 DATE 2 0 2 6 - 01 - 1 \$ 143,40 40 DOLLARS DESE







As of June 16, 2025, you will see changes to the ATB Personal Line of Credit Terms and Conditions. To learn what this means for you, and to view the updated terms and conditions, visit go.atb.com/legalnotice

Deposit Account Statement

Statement date April 30, 2025

Transit number

Customer numb

Page number 1 of 1



Your ATB Financial Branch

08989 Onoway Branch 4910 50 St Onoway AB

TOE 1VO

If you have any questions, contact us at 1 800 332-8383 or visit us at www.atb.com

A summary of Deposit Account Business Public Sector Account

(A)		
Your balance forward on Mar 31, 2025		\$19,592.00
Debits to your account (0 items)	-	\$0.00
Credits to your account (2 items)	+	\$12,616.39
Your closing balance on Apr 30, 2025	=	\$32,208.39

Details of your account transactions

Date	Description	Debits to your Credits to your account (\$) account (\$)	Balance (\$)
Mar 31	Balance forward		\$19,592.00
Apr 17	Deposit Cheque	\$12,552.59	32,144.59
Apr 30	Interest Payment	\$63.80	32,208.39
Apr 30	Closing balance		\$32,208.39

Find an error? Give us a call or drop by a branch. We'll take care of it.



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WILD Water held their AGM in April, including the presentation and adoption of the Financial Statements (2024), as well as a presentation on the 2025 Business Plan and Strategic Priorities for the Commission (2025-2030). The Financial Statements are available on the website, along with the full business plan. The summary presentation, as delivered by Management, is attached to this report.

Construction of Phase 5(a) – the last phase of the original build – is making great progress. The line installation from Alberta Beach to Darwell reached substantial completion in May, despite some early setbacks and uncertainty on pipe and material supply in the market. Tendering of the truck fill and mechanical work was completed in April and is expected to begin (with site work) by the end of June. The Commissioning date of the truck fill is expected to be February of 2026, but that schedule is conditional on material supply and tariff/trade market conditions.

Concurrent to the construction of Phase 5(a), the Commission is working aggressively to encourage and support connection to the system and development of regional distribution systems where possible. Included in these efforts are the outreach to Northern Gateway School Division (regarding potential for Darwell and Alberta Beach school connections), various stages of connections in Parkland and Lac Ste. Anne County, and the beginning stages of the Tri-Village conceptual design on Lac Ste. Anne.

It is expected that the Commission will apply for WFL Grant Funding in 2025/2026 to begin some system upgrades and retrofits meant to stabilize some elements of the existing system and prepare for the addition of new connections over the next 10+ years.

One poignant note at this time is a reminder of the Water Restriction regime used by WILD, as part of the larger Capital Region water association. As we are expecting another dry year with periods of water restriction and managed supply interruptions, Members should be aware of the tiered system used by the region and how it can impact their communities. Officially called the "Water Demand Management Conditions," there are three tiers – Schedule A, Schedule B, and Schedule C – noting different conditions.

- Schedule A is the least restrictive, placing a restriction on non-essential municipal water use (cleaning, flushing, street sweeping, fire drills, etc.).
- Schedule B is slightly more restrictive, adding on a voluntary restriction for nonessential residential and commercial use.
- Schedule C is the most restrictive, and elevates the restrictions to full bans on nonessential water use.

WILD will send these notifications out to members, and members are expected to update their own public forums (websites, email lists, etc.). WILD will also use their own email notice board and stakeholders are encouraged to subscribe to this platform as well.



2025 Business Plan:

Strategic Vision and Key Initiatives

From Capital Build

to

Utility Operations and Growth

Presented: April 29, 2025





Presentation Overview

Business Plan Background

Business Plan 2025 Review and Engagement Process

Business Plan 2025 Key Strategic Objectives and Goals

Action Plan 2025/2026

Growth and Sustainability Initiatives

Financial Projections and Budget



Business Plan Background

First Iteration in 2008:

Subsequent versions approved in 2012, 2015, 2017, 2020, 2025

Initially Required to "Prove" the Business Case for WILD:

Partnership/Membership Framework and WFL Funding Application

Repository for Membership and Capital Build Framework:

Master Plan of What Was Being Built, Updated with Each New Phase of the Build

New Era in 2025 Business Plan:

- Membership Build Phase is Ending, Utility Business Phase is New Focus
- We Know "What is Built." Now We Need to Make the Most of These Assets



2025 Business Plan Engagement

Different Focus for 2025 Business Plan:

Shift from Conceptual/Technical Reports to Corporate Identity and Supporting Member Needs

Review Began in 2024:

- Consultant-led revisions (Updating Tables and Analysis)
- Board Engagement and Review
- Membership Engagement and Input

Membership Engagement:

- Included a Period of Draft Review and Comment
- Resulted in Several Meaningful Revisions in the Final Draft:
- Historical Obligations and Context
- Future Collaboration and Advocacy Initiatives



Key Objectives and Goals 2025 Business Plan:

Engagement Informed Objectives and Goals:

Member Needs and Wants shape Corporate Identity and Mission

Utility Business Model As Roadmap:

- Objective and Goals Framed Through Utility Business Scope
- How We Engage, How We Advocate, How We Fund and Invest

Transparency in Corporate Outlook:

- Defined Objectives and Goals Action Plan 2025-2030+
- Targets for Completion and Implementation
- Predictability and Accountability in Planning and Execution



2025/2026 Action Plan

Action Plan - Pages 22 - 28 of the 2025 Business Plan:

List of Specific Actions to Fulfill the Mandate of the Business Plan

2025/2026 Action Items:

- Post-Construction "Settling" Items (Water Licensing, Advocacy, and Engagement with Peer Utility Groups)
- Membership and New Member Agreements (Formalize Rights and Obligations)
- New Bylaw and Policy Initiatives (New MGA, Need for New Rules/Local Rules, FOIP Act Changes/PMP)
- Planning for Growth and Sustainability (Asset Management and Water Distribution Planning/Support)
- "Strong Advocacy" Development Polices to Incentivise/Accelerate Connections in Priority Areas:
 - · For Example, in Environmentally Sensitive Lands, as identified in Member Water Distribution Plans or Commission Plans



Growth and Sustainability Goals

Engagement and Support for Water Distribution Investments:

- Planning, Partnerships, and Operational Support
- Examples include the Tri-Village Water Distribution Study and Alexis and Paul Mentorship Initiatives

Support for Member Distribution Planning:

Leadership Role in Policy Development, Setting Priorities, Regulating Growth

Expanding the Corporate Identity of WILD:

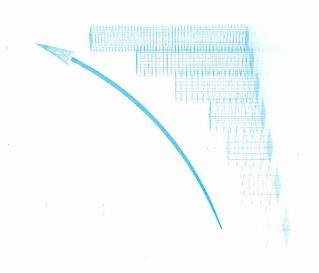
- Not Just a Utility Business, But a Responsible and Conscientious Business
- Long-term Perspective, Leadership on Environmental and Regional Socio-Economic Matters
- Obligation to be a Solution in Sustainable Regional Growth

Financial Projections and Budget

OVERVIEW OF KEY COST AND REVENUE TRENDS IN THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN



Revenue Forecasts (2025 – 2030)



Water Sales Analysis

Our revenue forecasts are heavily based on water sales projections. BP 2025 models an average growth of 1.7%, settling at ~650,000 cubic meters in total annual sales by 2030.

Member-Based Revenues:

Phase 5(a) will require member contributions in 2026/2027 to offset the 10% capital costs.

Member-based recovery of the Admin and Governance Budget will settle at 30% by 2030 (down from 35% in 2025).

Phase 5(b) and 5(c):

Grant funding will be sought for these internal expansion projects within the 5-year window. It is envisioned that WILD will cover the 10% funding needed for the balance of these, rather than relying on members directly.



Expense Management

Testing of Water Rates:

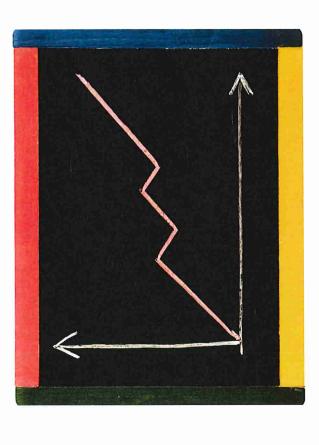
Water Purchases from CRPWSC account for roughly 1/3 of the annual budget. Regular rate reviews are a key element of cost management. The formula is set (AUC), but the application is external, so testing is required.

Cost Control Strategies

Investing in "fine-tuning" of assets and system to help keep operating and maintenance costs on target. Balance the need for 24/7 coverage with intermittent demand curves. Supply management and inventory development also key (especially with tariff cost and delay impacts).

Debt Management and Borrowing Strategies:

Monitoring lending rates and trends to ensure required borrowing is arranged at favorable rates (25-year debentures).





2025 Rates and Rate Forecasts

New Rate Structures Starting 2025:

- Member, Truck Fill and Customer Rates
- Review of Cost Allocation by Rate Class

Regional Bulk Rate Analysis:

Now an Annual Exercise under the Business Plan

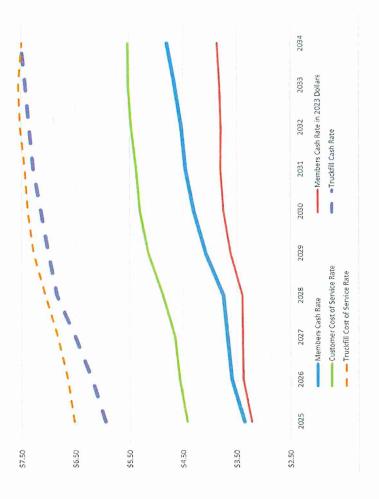
Cash vs. Utility Rate:

- Cash = Cost of Expenses and Transfers
- Utility = Cost of Service (incl. Rate of Return)
 - Both AUC Permitted Methods

2025 Cash Rate = \$3.36/m3 2025 Truck Fill Rate = \$5.95/m3 2025 Customer Rate = \$4.47/m3



Figure 6.3 WILD Regional Water System /m3 Rates 2025 - 2034



Questions?

Have you subscribed to the WILD Notice Board yet?

Register today to get email updates on service interruptions and other important developments on the system:

www.wildrwsc.com

Growth with Member Needs and

Regional Goals

Focus on Balancing Service

Focus on Shifting From Building

Infrastructure to Growing the

Service

2025 Business Plan Sets New

Expectations

Conclusion





AB Munis Report to the SVLSACE: April 7, 2025

Appointment of a new CEO:

ABmunis' Board of Directors proudly announced the appointment of Dana Mackie as the association's new CEO on December 12, 2024. Dana is an accomplished public policy executive who joins ABmunis from the Government of Alberta, where he worked for nearly 20 years in numerous sectors, including economic development, social services, environment and land management, climate change, and post-secondary education.

 Dana would like to be invited to an ASVA Board meeting to discuss common issues and concerns and how the ASVA and AB Munis can enhance advocacy efforts.

AB Munis Conventions 2024 Resolutions:

There were a number of resolutions that never made it to a vote because of time. As per policy the Board reviewed the outstanding resolutions and voted on them. After collecting the input, ABmunis Board adopted resolutions on:

o C3: Fires on Frozen Lakes

o C4: Increase Capital Funding for Accessible Playgrounds for All New,

Replacement or Renovated Alberta Public Schools with K-6 Programming

o C5: Doubling Speed Fines in Playground Zones and School Zones Adopted

o C8: Review of Provincial Animal Protection Act

The "report card" on AB Munis resolutions can be found at

https://www.abmunis.ca/advocacy-resources/resolutions

Advocacy Wins:

- New capital funding for child care spaces: On January 30, 2025 the Governments of Canada and Alberta announced \$53 million in funding over two years in the Building Blocks Capital Grant Program.
- Transit Funding: Over the past several years, ABmunis members have passed a number
 of resolutions related to public transit. These include Operational Transit Funding for
 Small to Medium Sized Municipalities, Permanent Transit Funding, and most recently
 Federal Funding for Compressed Natural Gas, Hydrogen and Clean Diesel Buses. As a
 result of these resolutions, ABmunis was engaged on the development of a permanent
 public transit program, known as the Canada Public Transit Fund. This program will
 provide \$3 billion annually for transit projects.
 - o Funding available starting in 2026 includes a Rural Transit Solutions Fund
 - Also this year an announcement for a Seniors transportation grant was announced.
- Lower interest rate for municipalities: At ABmunis 2024 Convention, Premier Smith announced that the Government of Alberta plans to revert to its former policy on how interest rates are set for provincial loans to municipalities.
- Wastewater Task Force Recommendations: In December 2024, Environment and Protected Areas released an updated municipal policies and procedures manual.
 - This revised manual includes many recommendations from the 2022 ABmunis Wastewater Innovation Task Force.



 Including updates focused on reducing red tape for municipalities and simplifying the process for municipalities to adopt new and innovative infrastructure technologies.

Fostering a Culture of Respect:

Municipal leaders are increasingly concerned with how some members of the public are treating municipal elected officials and municipal staff. Councillors and municipal staff are passionate people that care about their community, but we are concerned that the level of disrespect will drive people away from serving their community.

- AB Munis just released videos that feature insights from ABmunis and RMA board members about the benefits of running for council. Some of our member elected officials will be featured in similar videos very soon. These videos will help to dispel myths and create more awareness about the realities of serving on council.
- AB Munis is also working with RMA to host a number of webinars to help inform people
 who are considering running for council this fall. The first one is on April 23rd at 7:30 PM
 and will focus on Summer villages and villages.
- AB Munis also plan to have new tools ready after the fall election to help municipalities manage conflict within their council and with residents.

Water Availability and Engagement Session:

In November 2024, Alberta Environment and Protected Areas launched a Water Availability Engagement Guide to tackle pressing water management challenges and ensure Albertans have access to clean, reliable water for years to come. ABmunis staff have encouraged members to partake in the survey and the in-person Engagements. This year, the Sustainability and Environment Committee opted not to update the existing water policy. Instead, prioritizing remaining flexible and responsive to engagement initiatives led by EPA.

• The Sustainability and Environment Committee held an ad hoc meeting on December 11, 2024, to finalize AB Munis' written submission. Drawing on our previous water policies and leveraging the expertise of committee members, the submission emphasized the importance of accurate data, higher reporting standards, and strengthened collaboration between Alberta Municipalities and the provincial government. The finalized submission was delivered to the Ministry on January 3, 2025.

Drought Preparations and Water Conservation - 2025:

ABmunis continues to support drought preparations for our members including a drought webpage to consolidate drought updates.

- ABmunis participates in meetings on water-sharing agreements in the Southern Basin on a monthly basis. These meetings are currently on pause for the winter season, with plans to resume in the spring.
- In December 2024, the ABmunis board approved the updated Water Conservation, Efficiency, and Productivity Plan. This plan was sent to the Ministry of Environment and Protected Areas January 15, 2025.



Police Funding Model:

In December 2019, the Government of Alberta introduced a police funding model (PFM) that applies to municipalities with populations under 5,000, as well as municipal districts and counties.

- This model, implemented in 2020-21, aims to recover a portion of the costs of contracting the RCMP as Alberta's provincial police service under the Provincial Police Service Agreement (PPSA).
- As the police funding model expires in 2024-25, Public Safety and Emergency Services is expected to begin engaging on a renewed model in late 2024 or early 2025.
 Accordingly, ABmunis is:
 - Developing key messaging and policy positions in advance of engagement on a renewed police funding model.
 - Mobilizing and equipping members to participate in engagement and advocate effectively on the impacts of increased policing costs.
 - Assisting members to prepare budgets that reflect realistic policing costs for 2025 and beyond.

The province recently announced that they are temporarily freezing the amount municipalities are responsible for paying under the PFM. The provincial news release notes that "due to higher costs from recent RCMP collective agreements, the cost for policing in these smaller communities will increase to 39 per cent, with no corresponding increase in the services provided. To assist municipalities with these new costs, Alberta's government will pay the increase for one year and will begin engagement with them on their policing needs for the future."



AB Munis Report to SVLSACE May 21, 2025 (Submitted by Ren Giesbrecht)

ABmunis priority issues to discuss with MLAs:

- Infrastructure Funding
 - The province's investment in community infrastructure has trended upwards in the last three budgets but it is still hundreds of millions of dollars below historical levels.
 - In 2011, the province spent about \$444 per Albertan on municipal infrastructure.
 In Budget 2025, it is estimated to be \$321 per Albertan.
 - The province is passing the tax burden onto property owners and renters by forcing municipal governments to raise funding for infrastructure through property taxes.
 - Without more support, municipal property taxes will soar, or Albertans will see their roads, pipes, and community buildings start to crumble over time.
 - Municipalities want to be partners in growing Alberta but many communities are facing extreme growth pressures.
 - We think more Albertans should understand what is happening, so we are doing some research and sharing our findings through the media and our members.
- Respect for Municipal Autonomy and local decision making:
 - There is a lot going on and the province seems increasingly willing and interested in inserting itself into areas of municipal jurisdiction.
 - Some of the provisions in recent legislation like: Bills 20 and 50. Bill 20 in spring 2024:
 - Removed a municipality's authority to ask for a non-statutory study as part of an application for development or building permit.
 - Gave the provincial Cabinet authority to amend or repeal a municipality's bylaw.
 - Bill 50 in spring 2025 removes council's authority to set a code of conduct.
 - Local decisions are best made locally, rather than centralized through Ottawa or Edmonton.
 - Albertans are best served when all three levels of government focus on and stick to their responsibilities.
- Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) and preventative funding:
 - The FCSS program is a cornerstone of our communities, providing essential support to proactively support vulnerable individuals and families.
 - It is an efficient way to deliver preventive social services that allow municipalities to address the specific needs in their communities and how also align to provincial priorities.
 - By focusing on prevention, FCSS programs help address social issues before they escalate, ultimately improving the quality of life for all community members and generating considerable savings in other provincial systems such as healthcare, justice, and emergency medical services.



- The economic benefits of investing in prevention are well-documented, as preventative programs reduce the need for more costly interventions down the line.
- AB Munis members passed a resolution in September 2024 that calls for increased provincial funding for FCSS to match population growth and inflation rates. This would amount to a total of around \$161 million in 2025 -- \$56 million more than the annual funding provided by the Government of Alberta in the last few years.
- Not only has government funding been flat, expectations on FCSS programming often extend beyond a prevention mandate. We need to return to a focused mandate that is properly funded – and have a separate but related discussion on additional supports that are needed in our communities. ABmunis can help with that.

AB Munis 2024 Resolutions:

- AB Munis has received responses from the Government of Alberta on all resolutions that were passed at our September 2024 Convention.
- AB Munis committees and Board have now rated those responses and set an advocacy strategy for each based on their priority level.
- AB Munis report card on 2024 resolutions will be posted soon. Watch for the weekly newsletter for details.

AB Munis Advocacy Wins: (New - additional to last report)

- GIPOT: After six years of advocacy by ABmunis and our member municipalities, we are pleased to see the province commit to fully funding the GIPOT program by 2026-27.
 - In 2025-26, GIPOT funding will be paid at 75% of the eligible property tax owed.
 - In 2026-27, GIPOT funding will be paid at 100% of the eligible property tax owed.
- PFLC: In response to the resolution passed by ABmunis members in 2024, creation of Wildfire Prevention Committee, and the great work that came out of RMA's Municipal Wildfire Working Group, the Alberta government has created a Provincial Fire Liaison Committee (PFLC).
 - The PFLC will serve as a platform to develop and share information between the province and the fire service, identify and prioritize issues, build capacity, and address recruitment and retention challenges.
 - The committee will support work related to:
 - Fostering predictable, regular, and coordinated communication and collaboration.
 - Exploring key issues affecting local fire services and developing potential solutions at the local level.
 - Supporting provincial public education messages.



Establishing working groups focused on evolving issues and needs to foster coordinated provincial solutions.

Bill 50, Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2025:

- ABmunis is supportive of some of the proposed changes in Bill 50, but it also falls short
 of what we have advocated for in recent years. AB Munis appreciates Municipal Affairs'
 approach to consultation on ICFs over the past year but were not consulted on many
 other aspects of Bill 50 such as:
 - o The elimination of council code of conduct bylaws.
 - New requirements for the CAO to report information to council.
 - o The proposed changes to the Local Authorities Election Act.
 - With the sweeping changes made by Bill 20 last year and Bill 50 this year, AB
 Munis is increasingly concerned about the government's reactionary approach to legislate requirements on all municipalities just because of a few bad actors.
 - There is also concern about the top-down approach where the majority of amendments in Bill 20 and Bill 50 are not items being requested by municipalities.
 - Several recommendations for amendments to Bill 50 have been sent . This included:
 - Add stormwater to the list of services that must be addressed in an ICF.
 - Broaden the scope of arbitration when there is data to show that a service is commonly used by residents of the neighbouring municipality.
 - Remove the proposed requirement for reporting on the use of natural person powers

Bill 54, Election Statutes Amendment Act, 2025

- Most of Bill 54 applies to provincial matters outside the scope of municipalities but there
 are some proposed changes that directly impact Municipalities.
 - Require candidates for council, school boards, and third-party advertisers to report their campaign finances by September 30 of the election year instead of months after the election.
 - Remove the authority of municipalities to pass bylaws related to use of signage during a provincial election.
 - Amendments to clarify matters related to Senate elections as part the municipal election process.
 - o Bill 54 also proposes several changes to provincial election rules that create alignment with last year's Bill 20 changes to the Local Authorities Election Act. AB MUnis is concerned that Bill 54 may set a precedent for policy matters that are expected to be reviewed for municipalities in the future. For example, Bill 54 sets new rules for recall of MLAs and we are hopeful this doesn't predetermine what the province wants to do with recall of municipal elected officials.



Provincial Property Taxes:

- The Government of Alberta increased its tax on homes and property by 14% in 2025. Another 10% increase in provincial property tax is planned in 2026.
- The increases relate to the Government of Alberta's new plan to tie provincial property tax revenue to equal 33% of the operating costs of the K-12 school system.
- On average, almost 1/3 rd of the property tax charged on your home is a provincial tax. (That may be higher or lower depending on the value of homes in your community compared to other communities across Alberta.)
- The local municipal government has no control over the provincial property tax even though it is listed on the property tax bill that the municipality sends out.
- The provincial property tax is set by the Government of Alberta, and the local municipal government is required to collect the tax and send the money to the province for their use.
- While Albertans will appreciate the cut in personal income taxes in 2025, they may be surprised by changes in their provincial property tax.
- This is why ABmunis is releasing materials to help Albertans understand what taxes are set by their local council and what taxes are set by the provincial government.

Financial Research Project:

- This will be a topic at the AB Munis Summer MLCs: June 11: Picture Butte, June 12: Drumheller, June 25: Peace River, June 26: Devon
- In 2011, the province spent about \$444 per Albertan on municipal infrastructure.In Budget 2025, it is estimated to be \$321 per Albertan.[This excludes federal funding that flows through the province.]
- The province is passing the tax burden onto property owners and renters by forcing municipal governments to raise funding for infrastructure through property taxes.
- Without more support, municipal property taxes will soar, or Albertans will see their roads, pipes, and community buildings start to crumble over time.
- Details can be found in our Report on Alberta's 2025 Budget.
- The Government of Alberta is well aware that municipalities want more support for local infrastructure challenges but have not adequately responded.
- AB Munis has started a research project to inform Albertans and provincial leaders about the realities of provincial decisions and the impact on municipal finances and property taxpayers.
- The project will help Albertans understand:
 - What services municipalities provide versus services by the other levels of government
 - How much tax the average Albertan pays to their municipality versus the provincial government versus the federal government.
 - o How the province has downloaded responsibilities on municipal governments.
 - The extreme inflation on items that municipalities have to buy to provide local services.
 - How Alberta's scope of infrastructure is different from other provinces and why
 per-capita comparisons don't tell the full story.



- How Alberta's growth is impacting municipal budgets.
- How all these factors will translate to higher property taxes or changes in the quality of services that Albertans receive on a daily basis.
- AB Munis will be releasing our findings in phases throughout this year starting at the Summer MLCs

Police Governance:

- Changes to Alberta's Police Act require the establishment of new, mandatory civilian governance bodies for all municipalities policed by the RCMP.
- The Government of Alberta recently released two supporting regulations to clarify the powers, duties, functions, and composition of these new governance bodies: the Police Governance Regulation and the Police Governance (Ministerial) Regulation.
- Depending on their population and type of police service agreement, communities will be represented by one of the following types of governance bodies:
 - Municipal Policing Committees Communities with a population over 15,000 that are policed by the RCMP through a Municipal Police Service Agreement (MPSA) will be required to establish a municipal policing committee.
 - Regional Policing Committees Communities with a population of under 15,000 policed by the RCMP through an MPSA will be required to establish a Regional Policing Committee,
 - Provincial Police Advisory Board Communities policed by the RCMP under the Provincial Police Service Agreement (urban municipalities with populations under 5,000, as well as municipal districts and counties will be represented by a Provincial Police Advisory Board.
 - Municipalities are responsible for the costs of establishing, administering, and sustaining membership of municipal and regional policing committees, while the provincial government is responsible for the costs of the Provincial Police Advisory Board.
 - ABmunis' appointments to the Provincial Police Advisory Board are Trina Jones, Councillor for the Town of Legal and Director of Towns East, and Krista Gardner, Councillor for the Town of Calmar and Director of Towns West.

Police Funding Model

- As the police funding model expires in 2024-25, Public Safety and Emergency Services is expected to begin engaging on a renewed model in 2025.
- Accordingly, ABmunis is:
 - Developing key messaging and policy positions in advance of engagement on a renewed police funding model.
 - Mobilizing and equipping members to participate in engagement and advocate effectively on the impacts of increased policing costs. Assisting members to prepare budgets that reflect realistic policing costs for 2025 and beyond.
 - The province announced earlier this year that they are temporarily freezing the amount municipalities are responsible for paying under the PFM.



The provincial news release notes that "due to higher costs from recent RCMP collective agreements, the cost for policing in these smaller communities will increase to 39 per cent, with no corresponding increase in the services provided. To assist municipalities with these new costs, Alberta's government will pay the increase for one year and will begin engagement with them on their policing needs for the future."

Bill 49, the Public Safety and Emergency Services Statutes Amendment Act 2025

- Updates to the Emergency Management Act and related regulations are intended to strengthen community preparedness and disaster response and recovery, while ensuring an appropriate balance between emergency powers and individual rights.
- If passed, amendments will:
 - Add a new preamble to the act emphasizing Alberta's commitment to respecting individual and property rights during emergencies.
 - Update the legislated definition of 'emergency' to make it clear emergencies are sudden and temporary events, ensuring emergency powers are only used when necessary.
 - Require the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services to consult with the premier, cabinet or a cabinet committee before exercising provincial emergency powers, unless immediate action is required.
 - Require the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services or the local authority leading the local response to publish details of all relevant orders as soon as practicable using any methods necessary to inform those most affected. This new requirement would apply to orders related to controlling or prohibiting travel; restoring essential facilities or distributing essential supplies; evacuations; and procuring or fixing the prices of goods and services.
- If Bill 49 passes, Alberta's government is also planning the following amendments to regulations:
 - Allow local authorities, during the recovery phase after a disaster, to receive funding for costs associated with mitigating the risk of future disasters.
 - Require local authorities to create mitigation and evacuation plans to reduce the costs and impacts of potential disasters, and to improve coordination, transparency, and preparedness.
 - Amendments to the Scrap Metal Dealers and Recyclers Identification Act and relevant regulations are intended to make it easier for law enforcement to target illicit scrap metal sales and swiftly bring scrap metal traffickers to justice.
 - The province plans to amend regulations to require the vehicle identification number and/or proof of ownership of a catalytic converter to be recorded and reported to a database accessible to law enforcement. (This could therefore be considered an AB Munis advocacy win.)
- The Public Safety Statutes Amendment Act, 2024, amended the Police Act to allow the Alberta government to create an independent agency police service, which will assume police-like functions currently performed by the Alberta sheriffs. Bill 49 would make



further legislative amendments to help implement the new independent agency police service. If passed, amendments will:

- Specify that the new police service will be a Crown corporation, operationally independent from the Alberta government.
- Prevent the Alberta government from giving specific orders to the new police service so that police work is left up to the police themselves.
- Allow municipalities to choose the new independent agency police service as their policing provider, once the necessary standards, capacity, and frameworks are in place for it to offer these policing services. There is no timeline in place for when policing services will be available from the new agency.

Access to Healthcare: Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

- Tara Elwood, Councillor for the Village of Alberta Beach and Deputy Chair of the Safe and Healthy Communities Committee represents ABmunis on the Alberta Emergency Medical Services Standing Committee (AEMSSC).
 - This committee informs the Minister of Health of ongoing evaluations of the EMS system and provides recommendations for improvements.
 - ABmunis and RMA have collaborated to provide a statement of joint principles and key messages on EMS and access to healthcare to this committee.
 - In 2024, the province introduced a new stream of funding for the Medical First Response (MFR) program.
 - \$2.5 million was provided to municipal MFR agencies to offset some of the growing costs involved with providing MFR, including increased event volumes, population growth and general inflation of equipment and fuel.
 - ABmunis was pleased to see that the province has budgeted \$789 million for Emergency Health Services in 2025-26 to increase system capacity.
 - Budget 2025 also allocates \$60 million, including \$40 million in new funding, for the EMS Vehicles Capital Program to purchase new EMS vehicles and ambulances, upgrade the existing fleet, and acquire additional equipment. These actions align with the Alberta Emergency Services Provincial Advisory Committee and Alberta Emergency Health Services Dispatch Review recommendations, which ABmunis helped develop.

Munis 101 Course Offerings:

- If a municipality doesn't have the capacity to offer a robust orientation, the Munis 101 course is an option to meet the new council orientation timelines.
- Even if your municipality plans to bring in a consultant or a lawyer to do some orientation, we still recommend taking Munis 101 because it will reinforce the core concepts of council governance and help create networks with other elected officials.
- Munis 101 for summer villages will be offered Saturday, Sept 13 Online from 9 AM to 4 PM



Municipal Affairs Scope of Municipal Sustainability Strategy Review:

- Municipal Affairs requested a meeting with representatives of the ABmunis Board and as well as AB Munis Municipal Governance and Small Communities Committees to seek feedback on the scope and approach for a review of the Municipal Sustainability Strategy that the department is tasked with conducting later this year.
- Municipal Affairs staff indicate that the scope of the review will encompass the following topics:
 - o Municipal Indicators
 - o Viability Review Process
 - o Post review support
 - Tools Opportunities for communities to more proactively use the self-assessment and other tools to support viability.

