



Council Meeting

River Valley Room, City of Edmonton
1 Sir Winston Churchill Square, Edmonton, AB

Wednesday, May 25, 2016
3:00 p.m.

Agenda

Call To Order

Minutes of Previous Meetings

1. Minutes from Council Meeting - May 18, 2016

Presentations

2. Wood Buffalo Policing Update
 - Presentation: Rob McCloy, Superintendent, Wood Buffalo RCMP Detachment
 - delegations
3. FireSmart Program
 - Presentation: Bob Couture, Director, Emergency Management
 - delegations
4. Business and Economic Recovery Plan
 - Presentation: Keith Smith, Acting Director, Economic Development
 - delegations

Motion to Move In-Camera

In-Camera

5. Status of Planning for Re-Entry (in-camera pursuant to Section 24 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*)
6. Rebuilding Cooperative Framework (in-camera pursuant to Section 24 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*)
7. Review of Municipal Programs and Services (in-camera pursuant to Section 24 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*)
8. Tax Penalty Options (in-camera pursuant to Section 24 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*)
9. Place-crete - Fire Affected Areas (in-camera pursuant to Section 24 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*)

Motion to Close In-Camera Session and Reconvene in Public

Adjournment

Unapproved Minutes of a Meeting of the Council of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo held in the River Valley Room at Edmonton City Hall in Edmonton, Alberta, on Wednesday, May 18, 2016, commencing at 3:00 p.m.

Present: M. Blake, Mayor
T. Ault, Councillor
L. Bussieres, Councillor
J. Cardinal, Councillor
S. Germain, Councillor
K. McGrath, Councillor
P. Meagher, Councillor
J. Stroud, Councillor
A. Vinni, Councillor
C. Voyageur, Councillor

Absent: C. Tatum, Councillor

Administration: M. Ulliac, Chief Administrative Officer
K. Scoble, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
E. Hutton, Executive Director
M. Johnstone, Executive Director
D. Leflar, Director, Legal and Legislative Services
A. Rogers, Senior Legislative Officer
A. Hawkins, Legislative Officer
S. Soutter, Legislative Officer

Call To Order

Deputy Mayor K. McGrath called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. and thanked the City of Edmonton for the opportunity of holding the Council Meeting in this venue.

Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher that the Agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Minutes from Council Meeting – April 26, 2016

Moved by Councillor T. Ault that the Minutes of the Regular Council meeting held on April 26, 2016 be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Minutes from Special Council Meeting – May 11, 2016

Moved by Councillor T. Ault that the Minutes of the Special Council meeting held on May 11, 2016 be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Recognition

- 3. Letters for Recognition**
- Letter from Queen Elizabeth II
- Letter from Vatican

Deputy Mayor K. McGrath read the letters received from Queen Elizabeth and the Vatican as they related to the wildfire event in the Fort McMurray region.

Public

- 4. Consideration of Municipal Utilities**
(3:15 p.m. – 3:17 p.m.)

Moved by Cr. P. Meagher:

That charges, rates and fees for the distribution, collection and treatment of solid waste, water and sanitary sewage as outlined in Utility Bylaw 10/001 not be applied for May and June, 2016; and

That penalties on outstanding amounts not be applied for May and June, 2016.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 5. Presentation of Rapid Damage Assessment Tool**
(3:17 p.m. – 3:35 p.m.)

Damon McGillivray, Manager, Safety Codes, spoke to the Rapid Damage Assessment Tool recognizing the work of the safety officers who gathered the tremendous amount of data contained within this tool

Arrival

Mayor Blake joined the meeting and assumed the Chair at 3:22 p.m.

Mr. McGillivray then provided a demonstration of the Fire Assessment Tool, through the Municipality's website, which has been created to provide residents with an opportunity to view the current condition of their property prior to re-entry. The link will be live following this demonstration for Council. He confirmed that only public information is contained within the site.

- 6. Wood Buffalo Housing & Development Corporation Update**
(3:35 p.m. – p.m.)

Dale Bendfeld, Acting Executive Director of Community and Protective Services, provided an update from the Wood Buffalo Housing & Development Corporation, identifying that there are currently 385 unfurnished social housing units available to assist returning residents. It was also noted that there was a plan in place for other property owners to assess individual vacancy rates, which has been delayed due to the latest developments.

He confirmed that there will be assessment centres to determine what type of housing is available once re-entry is in place.

Mr. Bendfeld committed to report back on the following:

- Social housing waitlist and how that is being taken into consideration at this time;
- Number of units previously available to the school boards for housing teachers on a interim basis and whether or not the same number or additional ones would still be available.

Motion to Move In Camera

Moved by Councillor P. Meagher that the meeting move In Camera pursuant to section 24 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act..

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Recess:

A brief recess occurred at 3:49 p.m. to allow the gallery to clear; following which Council met in-camera.

7. Discussion with Provincial Officials

(in-camera pursuant to Section 24 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act)

8. Re-Entry Considerations

(in-camera pursuant to Section 24 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act)

9. 2016 Property Taxation Considerations

(in-camera pursuant to Section 24 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act)

10. Discussion of Long Term Plans

(in-camera pursuant to Section 24 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act)

Motion to Reconvene to Public

Moved by Councillor T. Ault that the meeting reconvene in public.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Adjournment

Council concluded its in-camera matters at 5:56 p.m., at which time Mayor M. Blake declared the meeting adjourned.

Mayor

Chief Legislative Officer



Subject: Wood Buffalo Policing Update

APPROVALS:

Superintendent Rob McCloy, Officer in Charge
Dale Bendfeld, Acting Executive Director

Administrative Recommendation:

THAT the Wood Buffalo Policing Update be accepted as information.

Summary:

Wood Buffalo RCMP Detachment played a key role during the evacuation of residents during the recent wildfire. The Wood Buffalo RCMP Detachment will resume full day-to-day policing operations on Monday May 23rd, with 24 hour general duty policing.

Background:

Since the start of the wildfire emergency in the Municipality, the Wood Buffalo RCMP members remained on the front lines until they were relieved of duty on May 7th. At that point, policing operations were taken over by RCMP Officers from across the Country. The 300 extra policing resources that came to assist in our community's time of need arrived from Newfoundland, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, British Columbia and throughout Alberta. These resources provided safety and security required to meet the needs of the community and to maintain the mandatory evacuation order.

Wood Buffalo RCMP Detachment Members, as of May 23, will be providing day-to-day policing activities and will have resumed normal policing operations. A large presence of uniform members will be visible in order to provide enhanced security as we move toward the re-entry of citizens to our community. This uniform presence is being supplemented with 'plainclothes' resources, Forensic Identification, Police Dog Services and the Criminal Crash Investigation Team, all of which are part of Wood Buffalo RCMP Detachment. As the situation changes within the community in the coming weeks and months, the Detachment's operations will adapt and meet those changes as we return to normal operating service levels. At this time, the Detachment capacity is near normal staffing levels on the policing aspect and we are working to restore administrative services to the public once re-entry to the community has begun.

At present, the Wood Buffalo RCMP Detachment Senior Management Team is planning to respond to an increase of calls for service once re-entry occurs. We anticipate an increase in domestic dispute calls and an increased level of theft and mischief complaints. We have reviewed our resources available and confirm that we are prepared to respond accordingly.

Rationale for Recommendation:

The Wood Buffalo RCMP Detachment looks forward to returning home and resuming our role as the community's police force. We are committed to providing services that our residents expect and deserve. The returned presence of the Wood Buffalo RCMP will offer comfort and assurance that as we work together, normalcy will return.

Strategic Plan Linkages:

Pillar 1 – Building Responsible Government

Pillar 2 – Building Balanced Regional Services

Safe Resilient Together



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF WOOD BUFFALO

FireSmart Planning & Implementation May 25, 2016

Bob Couture
Stew Walkinshaw

Safe Resilient Together



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF WOOD BUFFALO

Objectives

- **Identify** hazard & risk
- Develop prescriptions to **mitigate**
- **Implement** activities to reduce hazard

Priority Areas

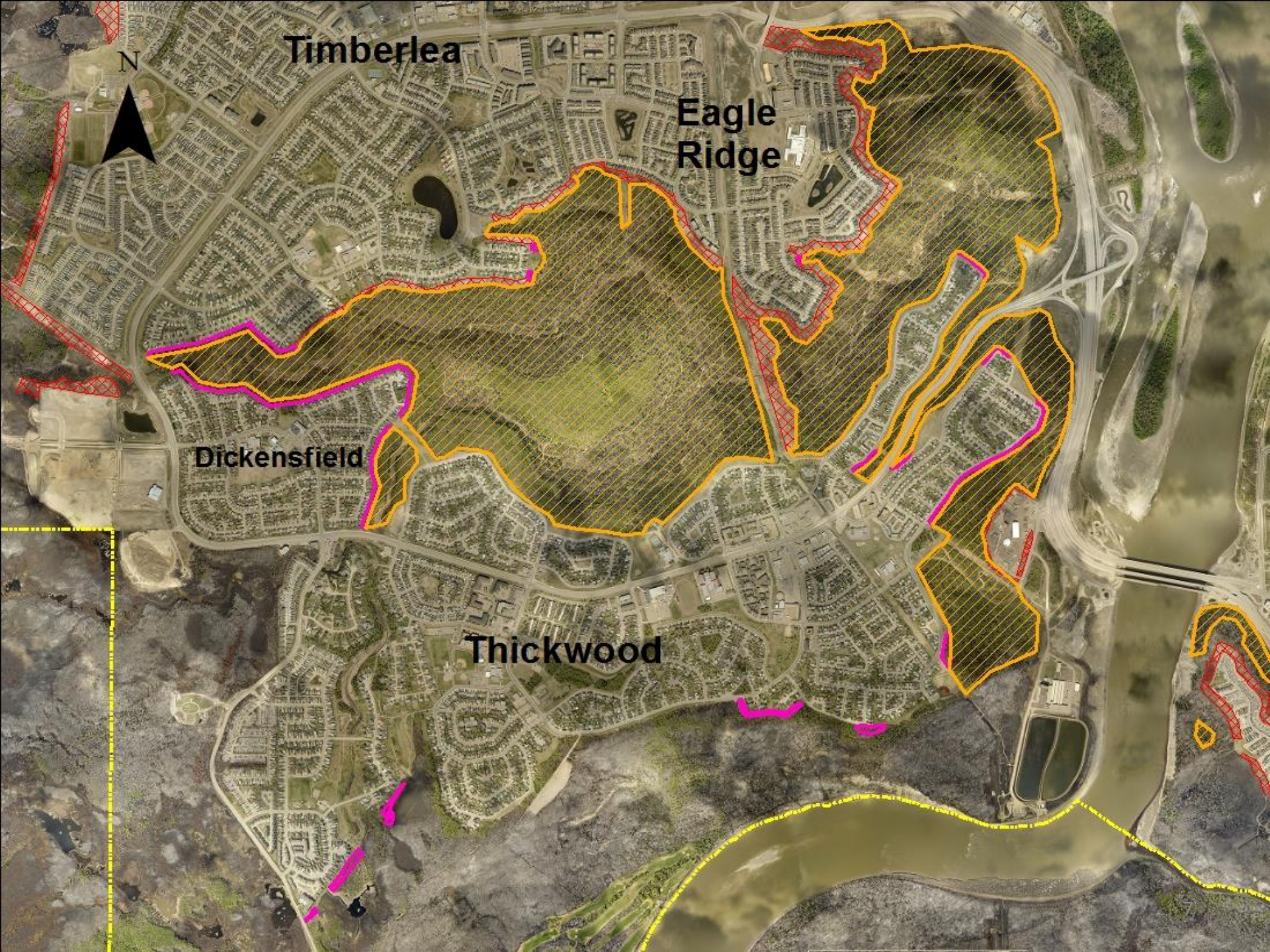
- Areas **immediately impacted** by the fire
 1. Birchwood Trails/Conn Creek
 2. Anzac
 3. Thickwood/Water Treatment Plant Hill
 4. Confederation Way North
 5. Abasand Hillside
 6. Gregoire/Airport Road
 7. Parsons Creek

Hazard & Risk

- Identify hazard & risk in post-fire green islands within and adjacent to developed areas
 - Wildland fuels **immediately adjacent** to development areas
 - Debris piles **pushed against the forest**
 - Wildland fuels **in proximity** of development areas

Mitigation

- Mitigate in 2 Phases:
 - Phase 1 – Hazard areas immediately adjacent to development – fuels removal
 - Phase 2 – Hazard areas in proximity of developed areas – fuels reduction



Timberlea

Eagle
Ridge

Dickensfield

Thickwood



Anzac



N

Parsons Creek

Stone
Creek

Timberlea



N



Gregoire

Keyano



Parsons Creek

Implementation

- Eagle Ridge - fireguard debris disposal started
May 22
- Burton Pl/Berard Cr -
fuels removal started
May 23



FireSmart Planning Status

- Conklin ~ 2004
- South Janvier (Chard) – 2004
- Fort McMurray Urban Service Area – 2010
- Fort McKay – 2016 Draft
- Fort Chipewyan – 2016
- Gregoire Lake Estates – 2016 Draft
- Fort McMurray First Nation – 2016 Draft
- Chipewyan Prairie First Nation - 2016



Subject: FireSmart Program

APPROVALS:

Bob Couture
Director, Emergency Management

Administrative Recommendation:

THAT the FireSmart Program information being presented to Council be accepted as information.

Summary:

FireSmart is a national program aimed at reducing the threat of wildfire to life and property in communities within wildland/urban interface.

The program is based on identification of wildfire hazard and risk and mitigating those hazards and risks through:

- Vegetation Management
- Public Education
- Development and Legislation
- Inter-Agency Cooperation
- Cross-Training
- Emergency Planning

Implementation of a FireSmart program can protect private individuals, municipalities, and industry and can reduce the likelihood of catastrophic fire events, and minimize the damage of those fires that do occur.

The Regional Emergency Operations Centre (REOC) has retained the services of Stu Walkensha, a subject matter expert on FireSmart. Mr. Walkensha has, and is currently conducting a review of the program within the region. This will identify areas that are of immediate concern or threat, that will be mitigated immediately with a plan and recommendation into the future.

Background:

The RMWB developed a FireSmart Plan for the Urban Service Area in 2010 and began implementation soon after. FireSmart planning and implementation for other RMWB communities include:

- Fort McKay - new plan prepared through Alberta Agriculture and Forestry in 2016, currently at DRAFT stage.
- Fort Chip - plan prepared through Alberta Agriculture and Forestry 2016.
- Conklin - plan done following the 2002 House River fire, significant implementation.

- Chard (Janvier South) - plan done through Alberta Agriculture and Forestry in 2004.
- Chipewyan Prairie First Nation (Janvier) - new plan done by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry and Chipewyan Prairie FN in 2016.
- Anzac - New plan done through Forestry 2016, currently at DRAFT stage.
- Fort McMurray First Nation (Gregoire Lk) - new plan done through Alberta Agriculture and Forestry 2016, currently at DRAFT stage.
- Gregoire Estates - new plan done through Alberta Agriculture and Forestry in 2016, currently at DRAFT stage.

Strategic Plan Linkage:

Pillar 6 – Building a Sustainable Region

Business and Economic Recovery Plan

In Response to Fort McMurray Wildfires

Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo

Economic Development Department

May 25, 2016

Business & Economic Recovery Continuum



Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency

The Goal

The purpose of the Plan is to accelerate business and economic recovery in the Wood Buffalo region

- By leading the business and economic recovery process, a coordinated approach for the region will maximize efforts and resources amongst
 - all local stakeholders,
 - business support organizations and
 - governments
- The Plan is based on determining the needs of our businesses at all stages in the recovery process and being responsive to those needs
- Proactively managing the Wood Buffalo brand

The Team

The Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo (RMWB) Economic Development Department will lead the Business and Economic Recovery Plan.

In collaboration and partnership with Key Guiding Partners:

- RMWB Council
- Local Stakeholders
- Economic Developers of Alberta (EDA)

RMWB Council Role and Involvement

Council is our key partner in this recovery.

As we determine the business community's needs for recovery we will be

- compiling recommendations and
- bringing them forward to Council for input

Local Stakeholders & Task Force

Collaboration with local stakeholders is imperative to meet community needs

- Government of Alberta
- Business Support Task Force
- Fort McMurray Chamber of Commerce (FMCOC)
- Fort McMurray Construction Association
- Community Futures Wood Buffalo
- Northeastern Alberta Aboriginal Business Association (NAABA)
- Keyano College
- Fort McMurray Tourism
- Oil Sands Community Alliance (OSCA)
- Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC)
- Urban Development Institute (UDI)

EDA Partnership

- Economic Developers of Alberta (EDA) is a non-profit organization who is leading the economic development network for the Province of Alberta
- We are partnering with EDA to initiate the Business and Economic Recovery Plan faster. Senior project managers:
 - Angela Groeneveld, a business recovery specialist
 - Leann Hackman-Carty, an economic recovery specialist

Partners

- Government of Alberta (GOA)
- The Canadian Red Cross Society
- Economic Developers Alberta (EDA)
- Industry
- Calgary Economic Development (and others)
- Alberta Innovates Technology Futures (AITF)
- TEC Edmonton
- International Economic Development Council (IEDC)
- ExecutivePulse
- NGO's/Mental Health Professionals

Potential Funding Partners

- Government of Canada
- Government of Alberta
 - Municipal Affairs
 - Economic Development & Trade
- The Canadian Red Cross Society
- Corporate

The Business and Economic Recovery Plan

A 3 - 5 year plan that addresses business and economic recovery

- short-term, intermediate term, long term

Key Considerations

- Timing is critical
- Responsive to needs: **“The plan is fluid”**

Plan Overview

The Plan consists of three phases:

Phase One: Immediate Business Response	Phase Two: Business and Economic Response and Recovery	Phase Three: Full Business and Economic Recovery and Implementation
A. Business Recovery Hotline B. Monetary Relief for Businesses C. Business Recovery Welcome Centre D. Business Recovery Tradeshows E. Refining Phase 2 Plan	A. Recovery Assessment B. Business Recovery Park C. Refining Phase 3 Plan	A. Implementation

PHASE 1: IMMEDIATE BUSINESS RESPONSE

Phase 1 includes the following five priorities:

Priority A: Business Recovery Hotline

Priority B: Monetary Relief for Businesses

Priority C: Business Recovery Welcome Centre

Priority D: Business Recovery Tradeshow

Priority E: Refining Phase 2 Plan

PHASE 1

Priority A: Business Recovery Hotline

- Funded by The Canadian Red Cross Society
- Business Recovery Hotline: May 30, 2016 will provide information about resources for businesses
 - new updates for businesses
 - business re-entry information
- Every Wood Buffalo business will be asked to register and complete a Business Recovery Survey, which will identify immediate and short-term needs of the business community

PHASE 1

Priority B: Monetary Relief for Businesses

- Funding is currently being finalized with The Canadian Red Cross Society
- In conjunction with the Business Recovery Hotline, monetary relief for businesses with an RMWB business license
- Businesses must call the Hotline and register to be eligible for monetary relief

PHASE 1

Priority C: Business Recovery Welcome Centre

- A Business Recovery Welcome Centre will open for the re-entry dates
- A one-stop shop for returning businesses to get local, municipal, provincial and federal resources
- Welcome Centre is currently being developed with local stakeholders and other interested parties

PHASE 1

Priority D: Business Recovery Tradeshows

- After re-entry: tradeshows will be launched in collaboration with local stakeholders to address business recovery issues
- Trade shows will also assist local businesses in obtaining work related to the rebuild:
 - Brings the business community together to discuss rebuilding the community together
 - Help business owners evaluate options and make decisions on whether or not to rebuild/reopen

PHASE 1

Priority E: Refining Phase 2 Plan

- During Phase 1, the Phase 2 plan will be built out as the needs of the businesses are identified
- This is an ongoing activity during Phase 1

PHASE 2

Business and Economic Response and Recovery

Phase 2 includes the following three priorities:

Priority A: Recovery Assessment

Priority B: Business Recovery Park

Priority C: Refining Phase 3 Plan

PHASE 2

Priority A: Recovery Assessment

- Economic Recovery Assessment Teams
 - Business Walks Survey
 - One-on-one business interviews
 - Focus Groups (ecdev related organizations, industry groups, etc.)
- Community Report/Recommendations

PHASE 2

Priority A: Recovery Assessment (continued)

Possible Recommendations from Assessment

- *Economic Development Capacity (ex. Revised Economic Development Strategy)*
- *Economic Development Data*
- *Business Assistance & Training*
- *Business Retention and Expansion Plan*
- *Business Investment & Attraction Plan*

PHASE 2

Priority B: Business Recovery Park

- Set up a temporary business park (if need is identified and land is available)



PHASE 2

Priority C: Refining Phase 3 Plan

- During Phase 2, the Phase 3 plan will be built out as new business recovery needs are identified
- This is an ongoing activity during Phase 2

PHASE 3

Full Business and Economic Recovery and Implementation

Priority A: Implementation

- Review & prioritize recommendations
- Secure funding support
- Act/Implement
- Community Economic Development Program (EDA)

NEXT STEPS

Council adoption of the Business and Economic Recovery Plan.



Subject: Business and Economic Recovery Plan

APPROVALS:

Keith Smith, Acting Director
Dale Bendfeld, Acting Executive Director

Administrative Recommendation:

THAT the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo's Business and Economic Recovery Plan be adopted.

Summary:

The proposed Business and Economic Recovery Plan is a 3 to 5 year plan that addresses short-term, intermediate and long term business and economic recovery. The purpose of the Plan is to accelerate business and economic recovery in the Wood Buffalo region to enable small and medium enterprises to remain in the region, assist in overall business continuity, and continue the diversification of the economy. By leading the business and economic recovery process, a coordinated approach for the region will maximize efforts and resources amongst all local stakeholders, business support organizations and governments. The Plan is based on determining the needs of our businesses in all stages of the recovery process and being responsive to those needs.

Background:

Businesses will be heavily impacted by the loss of revenue, business disruption, potential damages to their business properties, and/or loss of inventory. The event is not just the loss or impact on infrastructure and homes, but the impact on businesses and their ability to serve and compete in a regional, national and global economy.

To support Wood Buffalo businesses, the Business and Economic Recovery Plan consists of 3 Phases:

Phase 1: Immediate Business Response

Phase 2: Business and Economic Response and Recovery

Phase 3: Full Business and Economic Recovery and Implementation

As each phase will influence the next phase of the Plan, at this time the sole focus is on building out and obtaining funding for Phase 1.

Currently, the Municipality's Economic Development Department is partnering with Economic Developers of Alberta (EDA) to implement Phase 1 - Priorities A and B of the Business and Economic Recovery Plan. EDA is a non-profit organization who is the leading economic development network for the Province of Alberta. We are working with two senior project managers, Angela Groeneveld, a business recovery specialist, and Leann Hackman-Carty, an

economic recovery specialist, who are enabling us to mobilize our efforts faster. We foresee a long-term relationship due to their proven post-disaster project management experience, lessons learned and partnership and funding connections in disaster recovery.

To date, the development of Phase 1, Immediate Business Response, is outlined below:

Priority A: Business Recovery Hotline

A Business Recovery Hotline will launch May 30, 2016 that will provide information about resources for businesses, any new updates for businesses, and business re-entry information. Every Wood Buffalo business will be asked to register and complete a Business Recovery Survey, which will identify immediate and short-term needs of the business community. The Canadian Red Cross Society is providing funding to EDA for Phase 1 - Priority A.

Priority B: Monetary Relief for Businesses

In conjunction with the Business Recovery Hotline, monetary relief for businesses will provide financial relief to every business with a Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo business license. Businesses must call the Hotline and register to be eligible for monetary relief. Funding is in the process of being finalized by The Canadian Red Cross Society to EDA for Phase 1 - Priority B.

Priority C: Business Recovery Welcome Centre

A Business Recovery Welcome Centre will open for the re-entry dates. This is a one-stop shop for businesses returning to get local, municipal, provincial and federal resources to assist with recovery. The Welcome Centre is currently being developed with local stakeholders and other interested parties wanting to help businesses return to operation as soon as possible.

Priority D: Business Recovery Tradeshow

After re-entry has been established, tradeshow will be launched in collaboration with local stakeholders to address business recovery issues. The tradeshow will also assist local businesses in obtaining work related to the rebuild.

Priority E: Refining Phase 2 Plan

During Phase 1, the Phase 2 plan will be built out as the needs of businesses are identified.

The Business and Economic Recovery Plan will be led by the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo's Economic Development Department; however, collaboration with local stakeholders is imperative to ensure that the needs of the business community are met and that economic recovery incorporates various non-profit, corporate, and government-funded business support organizations.

As we learn the business community's needs for recovery, we will be compiling recommendations and bringing them forward to Council for input.

Budget/Financial Implications:

Funding has been obtained from The Canadian Red Cross Society for Phase 1, Priority A and is currently being finalized for Priority B of the Business and Economic Recovery Plan. Financial support will be sought to fund the remainder of the Plan at each step that funding is needed. There will not be any change to the 2016 Economic Development Budget to execute the Plan.

Rationale for Recommendation:

It is imperative to learn the needs of our business community and to respond quickly to support them through the business and economic recovery process. By leading the Business and Economic Recovery Plan, we will be positioned to address short-term, intermediate and long-term business and economic recovery for Wood Buffalo.

Administration supports the adoption of the Business and Economic Recovery Plan.

Strategic Plan Linkages:

Pillar 2 – Building Balanced Regional Services

Pillar 3 – Building a Vibrant Economy Together

Pillar 6 – Building a Sustainable Region

