

Subject: Fort Chipewyan Transport Canada Wharf**APPROVALS:****Jamie Doyle**_____
Director_____
Chief Administrative Officer**Recommended Motion:**

THAT the Mayor send a letter on behalf of Council to the Government of Canada, supporting the community of Fort Chipewyan's position that the Transport Canada Wharf remains a responsibility of the Federal Government and confirming that the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo will not assume ownership or maintenance responsibility for this infrastructure.

Summary and Background:

The Transport Canada Wharf (Wharf) in Fort Chipewyan, commonly known as "Big Dock", was built in the 1970's and is an important piece of infrastructure, providing our residents and community partners with supplies, business, access and safety. For some time, maintenance of the Wharf has been neglected, dredging of the harbour is critical to retain its docking and launching functionality.

On May 1, 2018, a Special Council Meeting was held in Fort Chipewyan where discussions occurred amongst the community and Council. The following resolution of Council was passed at that time:

THAT the Mayor send a letter on behalf of Council to the Government of Canada requesting immediate and continuous support in maintaining the Transport Canada Wharf in Fort Chipewyan Alberta, specifying the necessity of maintaining adequate functionality of this wharf for the safety and sustainability of the whole Community; and

THAT Council request the First Nations and Metis Nations of Fort Chipewyan to give their support in addressing the need of the population as a whole to maintain the wharf, through participation in a formal meeting of interested stakeholders to be held within ninety days to move forward on a collaborative advocacy strategy.

Since 2018, advocacy efforts included discussions and correspondence exchanged with Government Officials whereby the Municipality urged the Government of Canada to maintain possession of the Wharf and undertake the required maintenance, including

dredging of the harbour, to ensure functionality.

The Municipality has been approached by our community partners requesting that Council send a letter to the Government of Canada supporting the communities' position that the Wharf remains within the jurisdiction of the Government of Canada and that the Municipality will not assume this responsibility.

Budget/Financial Implications:

There is no budget or financial implication associated with sending a letter as requested by the community.

Rationale for Recommendation:

The Transport Canada Wharf ownership and responsibility has not transferred to the Municipality and remains under the Government of Canada's jurisdiction of care and control; therefore, Administration supports the request for a letter in alignment with community partners. Should the proposed motion be passed by Council, the letter from the RMWB will accompany letters from Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation, Mikisew Cree First Nation, and the Fort Chipewyan Métis Association on this matter.

Strategic Priorities:

Responsible Government
Rural and Indigenous Communities and Partnerships