

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

3. CLOSED MEETING

- 3.1. Council CAO Dialogue – Advice from officials – ATIA S. 29(1)(b)(iii)
- 3.2. Water Licence Opportunity – Advice from officials – ATIA S. 29(1)(a)
- 3.3. Land Administration Agreement – Advice from officials – ATIA S. 29(1)(a)
- 3.4. Annexation Update – Disclosure harmful to intergovernmental relations & Disclosure harmful to economic and other interests of a public body – ATIA S. 19(1), 26(1)(a)(ii), & 30(1)(c)
- 3.5. Medical Services – Advice from officials – ATIA S. 29(1)(a)

4. PUBLIC HEARING

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the public are welcome to provide comments regarding items on the agenda in person during the Council meeting, virtually, or in writing. Should you wish to provide public comments virtually or in writing, please fill out the Request to Speak at a Council Meeting form that can be located on the Town's website and submit it to: LSAdmin@strathmore.ca by the end of the day on the Sunday before the Council meeting. In order to ensure procedural fairness, Council requests that the public refrain from speaking on items that have been or will be heard through a public hearing process.

6. DELEGATIONS

Members of the public and community organizations are welcome to attend a Regular Council Meeting as a delegation to present an item to Town Council for consideration. If you are interested in attending as a delegation please fill out the Delegation Request form that can be located on the Town's website and submit it to: LSAdmin@strathmore.ca by noon, seven (7) days before a Regular Council Meeting.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

- 8.1 Regular Council Meeting Minutes – February 4, 2026
- 9.1 2027-2029 Marigold Library System Agreement
- 9.2 Handi-Bus MOU Amendment
- 9.3 2026 FCSS Grant Funding Advisory Board – Application Summary
- 10.2.1 Marigold Library Board Updates – January 2026 and 2025 Service Highlights
- 11.1 Sacred Heart Academy and Holy Cross Collegiate – Annual Education Results Report
- 11.2 2026 Minister's Awards for Municipal and Public Library Excellence Program

8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

- 8.1. Regular Council Meeting Minutes – February 4, 2026
[Agenda Item - AIR-26-034 - Pdf](#)

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12. ADJOURNMENT		



Request for Decision

To: Council

Staff Contact: Kevin Scoble, Chief Administrative Officer

Date Prepared: January 20, 2026

Meeting Date: February 18, 2026

SUBJECT: **Regular Council Meeting Minutes – February 4, 2026**

RECOMMENDATION: THAT Council adopt the February 4, 2026 Regular Council Meeting Minutes as presented in Attachment I.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:



Affordable Living



Climate Resiliency



Community Development



Community Wellness



Economic Development



Financial Sustainability

HOW THE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES ARE MET:

N/A

SUSTAINABILITY

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY:

N/A

SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY:

N/A

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY:

N/A

IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION:

GENERAL:

Pursuant to Section 208(1)(iii) of the *Municipal Government Act*, the minutes of the February 4, 2026 Regular Council Meeting are given to Council for adoption.

ORGANIZATIONAL:

N/A

OPERATIONAL:

N/A

FINANCIAL:

N/A

POLICY:

N/A

IMPLEMENTATION:

N/A

BACKGROUND:

N/A

KEY ISSUE(S)/CONCEPT(S):

N/A

DESIRED OUTCOMES:

N/A

COMMUNICATIONS:

Once signed, the February 4, 2026 Regular Council Meeting Minutes will be posted on the Town's website.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS/MOTIONS:

1. Council may adopt the recommended motion.
2. Council may provide further direction regarding the Regular Council Meeting Minutes.

ATTACHMENTS:

[Attachment I: REGULAR COUNCIL - 04 Feb 2026 - Minutes](#)

Claudette Thorhaug, Legislative Services Officer

Approved
- 08 Feb
2026

Johnathan Strathdee, Manager of Legislative Services

Approved
- 12 Feb
2026



MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

6:00 PM - Wednesday, February 4, 2026

Council Chambers, 1 Parklane Drive, Strathmore AB

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Mayor Pat Fule (virtual), Councillor Claude Brown, Councillor Jim Chisholm, Councillor Matt Hyde, Councillor Melissa Langmaid, Councillor Richard Wegener, and Deputy Mayor Brent Wiley

STAFF PRESENT:

Kevin Scoble (Chief Administrative Officer), Jamie Dugdale (Director of Infrastructure, Operations, and Development Services), Mark Pretzlaff (Director of Community and Protective Services), Kara Rusk (Director of Strategic, Administrative, and Financial Services), and Johnathan Strathdee (Manager of Legislative Services)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Mayor Wiley called the February 4, 2026 Regular Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1.1. Traditional Land Acknowledgement for the First Meeting in February (Piitaikisom)

We honour all the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries. We acknowledge that the ancestral and traditional lands on which we gather are Land of the Blackfoot Confederacy and Treaty 7 territory, a traditional meeting ground for many Indigenous peoples, and in particular our neighbors, Siksika Nation on whose traditional territory we work, live, and play, and on whose traditional territory we stand and where Strathmore resides.

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Resolution No. 035.02.26

Moved by Councillor Langmaid

THAT Council adopt the February 4, 2026 Regular Council Meeting Agenda as presented.

FOR: Councillor Brown, Councillor Chisholm, Councillor Hyde, Councillor Langmaid, Councillor Wegener, and Deputy Mayor Wiley

AGAINST: None.

CARRIED

3. **CLOSED MEETING**

Resolution No. 036.02.26

Moved by Councillor Brown

THAT Council move In Camera to discuss items related to section 29(1)(b)(iii) and 29(1)(a) of the *Access to Information Act* at 6:02 p.m.

FOR: Councillor Brown, Councillor Chisholm, Councillor Hyde, Councillor Langmaid, Councillor Wegener, and Deputy Mayor Wiley

AGAINST: None.

CARRIED

3.1. Council CAO Dialogue – Advice from officials – ATIA S. 29(1)(b)(iii)

3.2. Annexation Agreement with Wheatland County – Advice from officials – ATIA S. 29(1)(a)

Mayor Fule joined the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

Resolution No. 037.02.26

Moved by Councillor Langmaid

THAT Council move out of Camera at 7:00 p.m.

FOR: Mayor Fule, Councillor Brown, Councillor Chisholm, Councillor Hyde, Councillor Langmaid, Councillor Wegener, and Deputy Mayor Wiley

AGAINST: None.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 038.02.26

Moved by Councillor Wegener

THAT Council adopt the recommendation for Closed Meeting Item 3.2, Annexation Agreement with Wheatland County, as presented in the Confidential Administrative Report and as discussed In Camera.

AND THAT the details of the discussion remain confidential pursuant to S. 29(1)(a) of the *Access to Information Act*.

FOR: Mayor Fule, Councillor Brown, Councillor Chisholm, Councillor Hyde, Councillor Langmaid, Councillor Wegener, and Deputy Mayor Wiley

AGAINST: None.

CARRIED

4. PUBLIC HEARING

4.1. Land Use Bylaw Amending Bylaw No. 25-21 (209 Sixth Avenue, Strathmore)

Deputy Mayor Wiley opened the Public Hearing for Bylaw No. 25-21 at 7:08 p.m. This public hearing was held pursuant to the Municipal Government Act, RSA 2000, Chapter M-26 and amendments there to.

- There were no written submissions received.
- Glen Ferguson presented for Administration.
- Brenda Sproule spoke in favor of Bylaw No. 25-21.

Deputy Mayor Wiley closed the Public Hearing for Bylaw No. 25-21, being a bylaw to amend the Town's Land Use Bylaw No. 14-11 at 7:20 p.m.

5. BYLAWS

5.1. Land Use Bylaw Amending Bylaw No. 25-21 (209 Sixth Avenue, Strathmore)

Resolution No. 039.02.26

Moved by Councillor Brown

THAT Council give Second Reading to Bylaw No. 25-21, being a bylaw to amend Land Use Bylaw No. 14-11.

FOR: Mayor Fule, Councillor Brown, Councillor Chisholm, Councillor Hyde, Councillor Langmaid, Councillor Wegener, and Deputy Mayor Wiley

AGAINST: None.

CARRIED

Resolution No. 040.02.26

Moved by Councillor Wegener

THAT Council give Third and Final Reading to Bylaw No. 25-21, being a bylaw to amend Land Use Bylaw No. 14-11.

FOR: Mayor Fule, Councillor Brown, Councillor Chisholm, Councillor Hyde, Councillor Langmaid, Councillor Wegener, and Deputy Mayor Wiley

AGAINST: None.

CARRIED

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

7. DELEGATIONS

None.

8. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Resolution No. 041.02.26

Moved by Councillor Wegener

THAT Council adopt the recommendations of the following agenda reports by an omnibus motion:

- 9.1 Regular Council Meeting Minutes – January 21, 2026
- 9.2 Special Council Meeting Minutes – January 23, 2026
- 9.3 Special Council Meeting Minutes – January 24, 2026
- 9.4 Special Council Meeting Minutes – January 25, 2026
- 10.2 Capital Budget Amendment – Municipal Enforcement Patrol Vehicle
- 10.3 Operating Budget Amendment – Municipal Planning Intern
- 10.5 Accounts Receivable Write-Offs
- 11.2.1 WADEMSA Report – December 19, 2025
- 11.2.2 WADEMSA Report – January 2026 Call Volumes
- 11.2.3 WADEMSA – Per Capita Rates Letter

FOR: Mayor Fule, Councillor Brown, Councillor Chisholm, Councillor Hyde, Councillor Langmaid, Councillor Wegener, and Deputy Mayor Wiley

AGAINST: None.

CARRIED

9. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

9.1. Regular Council Meeting Minutes – January 21, 2026

The following motion was adopted by the consent agenda:

THAT Council adopt the January 21, 2026 Regular Council Meeting Minutes as presented in Attachment I.

9.2. Special Council Meeting Minutes – January 23, 2026

The following motion was adopted by the consent agenda:

THAT Council adopt the January 23, 2026 Special Council Meeting Minutes as presented in Attachment I.

9.3. Special Council Meeting Minutes – January 24, 2026

The following motion was adopted by the consent agenda:

THAT Council adopt the January 24, 2026 Special Council Meeting Minutes as presented in Attachment I.

9.4. Special Council Meeting Minutes – January 25, 2026

The following motion was adopted by the consent agenda:

THAT Council adopt the January 25, 2026 Special Council Meeting Minutes as presented in Attachment I.

10. BUSINESS

10.1. Annexation Application Report and Submission to the Land Use and Property Rights Tribunal (LPRT)

Resolution No. 042.02.26

Moved by Councillor Langmaid

THAT Council direct Administration to take all necessary actions to prepare and submit the annexation application to the Land and Property Rights Tribunal (LPRT) as outlined in the attached report.

FOR: Mayor Fule, Councillor Brown, Councillor Chisholm, Councillor Hyde, Councillor Langmaid, Councillor Wegener, and Deputy Mayor Wiley

AGAINST: None.

CARRIED

10.2. Capital Budget Amendment – Municipal Enforcement Patrol Vehicle

The following motion was adopted by the consent agenda:

THAT Council adopts a budget amendment in the amount of \$7,200 funded from the Capital - Fire Reserve for the equipment that was installed in the 2024 Capital Budget Item - Municipal Enforcement Patrol Vehicle.

10.3. Operating Budget Amendment – Municipal Planning Intern

The following motion was adopted by the consent agenda:

THAT Council adopts an Operating Budget amendment in the amount of \$36,800, to support the addition of a Municipal Planning Intern, to come from the Development Application Reserve.

10.4. Youth Club Building Lease

Resolution No. 043.02.26

Moved by Councillor Wegener

THAT Council authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to sign the 2026 lease agreement with Golden Hills School Division, as presented in Attachment I.

FOR: Mayor Fule, Councillor Brown, Councillor Chisholm, Councillor Hyde, Councillor Langmaid, Councillor Wegener, and Deputy Mayor Wiley

AGAINST: None.

CARRIED

10.5. Accounts Receivable Write-Offs

The following motion was adopted by the consent agenda:

THAT Council approves accounts receivable amounts in arrears of \$4,320.00, identified in Attachment I, be written off as uncollectible at December 31, 2025.

11. COUNCILLOR INFORMATION & INQUIRIES

11.1. QUESTIONS BETWEEN COUNCILLORS AND COUNCIL STATEMENTS

11.1.1. Mayor Fule shared that at a future Council meeting, he would like to request Administration explore potential improvements to the undeveloped cement area at the Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre.

11.2. BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

11.2.1. WADEMSA Report – December 19, 2025

11.2.2. WADEMSA Report – January 2026 Call Volumes

11.2.3. WADEMSA – Per Capita Rates Report

11.3. QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD

None.

11.4. ADMINISTRATIVE INQUIRIES

None.

11.5. NOTICES OF MOTION

None.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Fule adjourned the February 4, 2026 Regular Council Meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Mayor

Director of Strategic, Administrative,
and Financial Services



Request for Decision

To: Council

Staff Contact: Kevin Scoble, Chief Administrative Officer

Date Prepared: January 12, 2026

Meeting Date: February 18, 2026

SUBJECT: **2027-2029 Marigold Library System Agreement**

RECOMMENDATION: THAT Council authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to sign both the *2027-2029 Marigold Library Agreement* and *Schedule C, being the 2027-2029 Requisition for Marigold Library System*, as presented in Attachment II.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:



Affordable Living



Climate Resiliency



Community Development



Community Wellness



Economic Development



Financial Sustainability

HOW THE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES ARE MET:

Libraries are a community anchor that positively contribute to quality of life for residents by providing services and acting as a gathering place.

Marigold Library is an operational hub that provides the IT infrastructure (including internet and wi-fi) for collections and delivery, along with library software and much more - to help Strathmore residents access library services and resources, both onsite at our local library and online.

SUSTAINABILITY

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY:

N/A

SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY:

N/A

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY:

N/A

IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION:**GENERAL:**

Strathmore is a member of the Marigold Library System, the current agreement expires at the end of 2026.

Marigold has provided an updated Agreement for the Parties comprising the Marigold Library System (as approved by the Marigold Library Board on November 22, 2025). This Agreement will require signatures.

In addition, the Marigold Library Board is submitting an updated Schedule C for both Municipality and Municipal Library Board approval. *Schedule C – Requisition for Marigold Library System* outlines the levy rates that will appear on requisitions in 2027, 2028, and 2029.

ORGANIZATIONAL:

The organizational implications are limited to staff time to prepare this report and, if the agreement is approved by Council, arrange for signatures and delivery.

OPERATIONAL:

N/A

FINANCIAL:

Marigold Library Systems has submitted their new requisition schedule which includes increased payments from Municipalities:

- A \$0.17 per capita levy increase from 2026 to 2027 (**\$6.92 per capita for 2027**, up from \$6.75 in 2026)
- A \$0.17 increase from 2027 to 2028 (**\$7.09 per capita for 2028** up from \$6.92 in 2027)
- An \$0.18 increase from 2028 to 2029 (**\$7.27 per capita for 2029**, up from \$7.09 in 2028)
- The library board levy will remain the same for 2027-2029 at \$4.50 per capita.

The population for the requisition calculation will be the population for the Municipality published by the Government of Alberta for the fiscal year prior to the fiscal year in which the requisition is paid.

The total requisition for the Marigold Library System in 2024 was around \$97,000, while the requisition for 2025 was approximately \$99,000, and will be (depending on population) approximately \$101,000 in 2026.

Total request estimates for 2027-2029 are as follows:

2027 \$103,800

2028 \$106,350

2029 \$109,500

POLICY:

N/A

IMPLEMENTATION:

If the attached Agreement and Schedule C are approved, Administration will arrange for the CAO's signature and will coordinate with the Library Board to obtain the required Municipal Library Board signature. A final copy with both parties signatures will be kept on file and provided to the Marigold Library System prior to their May 30, 2026 deadline.

BACKGROUND:

The Marigold Library System is a not-for-profit collaborative of 43 municipalities in southern Alberta, which provides public library services and support. Marigold is not a public library, rather it provides materials, IT infrastructure, and support for public libraries. It supports the sharing of print, audio visual, and electronic resources, as well as mail services between public libraries including the Strathmore Municipal Library.

Agreement

Amendments to the Marigold Agreement approved by the Marigold Board include:

- Minor changes throughout ensure consistency with Marigold policy.
- A statement was added to the end of Section 18 to confirm that the population of a Municipality will be "as set out in the current Schedule C – Requisition by the Marigold Board."
- Section 28, the list of services provided by Marigold, was simplified into broader categories that more accurately capture Marigold's core services.
- A line was added stating "The provision of library services will be defined in Marigold Library Board policy."
- In section 19 and 20, "one month" was replaced with "30 days" for consistency.
- Schedule A was updated to reflect the entities eligible to become parties to the Marigold Agreement.

Schedule C

Attachment II includes the proposed Marigold Library System per capita levy rates for 2027-2029 (Schedule C – Requisition for Marigold Library System). Strathmore falls into part II, Municipalities with Library Boards.

Part II For those Municipalities with Library Boards:

The contributions to the Marigold Library System by Municipalities having Municipal Library Boards or Intermunicipal Library Boards* shall be as follows for the period stated:

- 2027** \$6.92 per capita to be paid directly to the Marigold Library System
- 2028** \$7.09 per capita to be paid directly to the Marigold Library System
- 2029** \$7.27 per capita to be paid directly to the Marigold Library System

For reference:

The 2023 per capita levy for the Town of Strathmore was \$6.35

The 2024 per capita levy for the Town of Strathmore was \$6.46

The 2025 per capita levy for the Town of Strathmore was \$6.59

The 2026 per capita levy for the Town of Strathmore is \$6.75

For 2027-2029 there are no changes to the Municipal Library Board's contribution of \$4.50 per capita.

Increases or decreases of per capita requisitions in Schedule C constitute an amendment to the Marigold Library Agreement, as seen in Attachment II, which shall be passed in accordance with paragraph 42.

If Strathmore chooses not to sign the Schedule C amendment by the Marigold Library Board, and if 60% of the parties do sign the requested amendment, then Strathmore will still be required to follow the new fee structure.

The document requires signing before May 30, 2026.

KEY ISSUE(S)/CONCEPT(S):

Administration has received a request from the Marigold Library System to sign both a revised agreement with Marigold Library and the Schedule C Requisition. This schedule will set the per capita levy rates for 2027-2029.

DESIRED OUTCOMES:

Administration is recommending that Council authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to sign both the Marigold Library Agreement and the Schedule C Requisition.

COMMUNICATIONS:

N/A

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS/MOTIONS:

That Council refer this matter to a Committee of the Whole for further discussion.

ATTACHMENTS:

[Attachment I: Letter Strathmore Marigold Agreement & Schedule C 2027-2029 Redacted](#)

[Attachment II: Marigold Agreement & Schedule C Requisition 2027-2029](#)

Mark Pretzlaff, Director of Community and Protective Services	Approved - 13 Jan 2026
Christy Marlatt, Legal and Risk Management Coordinator	Approved - 14 Jan 2026
Leana Ashbacher, Senior Manager of Financial Services	Approved - 15 Jan 2026
Kara Rusk, Director of Strategic, Administrative, and Financial Services	Approved - 02 Feb 2026
Kevin Scoble, Chief Administrative Officer	Approved - 11 Feb 2026
Johnathan Strathdee, Manager of Legislative Services	Approved - 12 Feb 2026

January 9, 2026

Mr. Kevin Scoble
Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Strathmore
1 Parklane Drive, P.O. Box 2280,
Strathmore, AB T1P 1K2

Dear Mr. Scoble,

Enclosed with this letter is the *Agreement by and between the Parties comprising the Marigold Library System* (the *Marigold Agreement*) as approved by the Marigold Library Board on November 22, 2025. Also enclosed is the *Schedule C – Requisition for Marigold Library System (Schedule C)* outlining the levy rates that will appear on requisitions in 2027, 2028, and 2029.

As your municipality is a member of Marigold Library System, and as per the *Marigold Agreement*, the Marigold Board is submitting the *Marigold Agreement* and *Schedule C* for approval. A signature is required on each of these two documents. We kindly request that these documents be reviewed by May 30, 2026.

1. Marigold Agreement

Amendments to the *Marigold Agreement* approved by the Marigold Board include:

- Minor changes throughout ensure consistency with Marigold policy.
- A statement was added to the end of Section 18 to confirm that the population of a Municipality will be “as set out in the current Schedule C – Requisition by the Marigold Board.”
- Section 28, the list of services provided by Marigold, was simplified into broader categories that more accurately capture Marigold’s core services.
- A line was added stating “The provision of library services will be defined in Marigold Library Board policy.”
- In section 19 and 20, “one month” was replaced with “30 days” for consistency.
- Schedule A was updated to reflect the entities eligible to become parties to the *Marigold Agreement*.

2. Schedule C of the Marigold Agreement

In reviewing Schedule C, the Marigold Board considered what is necessary to maintain services and manage inflationary pressures, while ensuring the levy request remains mindful of municipal budgets. The proposed levy rates reflect rising costs across multiple areas—computer hardware and equipment, eBooks and physical books, software licensing, vehicles, employee benefits, and general supplies. Schedule C reflects:

- For municipalities without library boards, the year-over-year increase is 6 cents for 2027, 7 cents for 2028, and 18 cents for 2029.
- For municipalities with library boards, the year-over-year increase is 17 cents in 2027 and 2028, and 18 cents in 2029. The increase for municipalities with library boards is higher than for municipalities without library boards because the proposed library board levy rate remains fixed at \$4.50 per capita for the three years.

- Applying these levy rates will ensure contributions from municipalities with and without library boards are aligned by 2029.

“Redline” versions of the *Marigold Agreement* and *Schedule C* are enclosed with this letter for your reference.

Pending approval, please complete the municipal signatures on both the *Marigold Agreement* signature page (page 9) and *Schedule C*, and coordinate with the library board to obtain their signatures. Once complete, please retain copies of each document for your files, and forward copies signed by both parties (the municipality and library board) to Marigold Library System. If you need any assistance coordinating the signatures with the library board, please let us know.

Marigold responds to the needs of our members and supports our service population in 42 municipalities. We are the operational hub for the library system, providing services that complement—rather than duplicate—the work of local public libraries. By pooling resources, leveraging bulk purchasing, and building strategic partnerships, we maximize the financial investment of our members and deliver the most valuable products and services at the lowest possible cost.

Marigold provides managed technology and IT support, including internet and wifi at member libraries, in addition to networked and onsite services, licensed platforms and software, Helpdesk assistance, and technology planning. We purchase an allotment of books, eBooks, digital content, and other materials for member libraries each year, and extend service into the digital space by providing library websites and apps.

Our operations enable sharing of collections through our TRAC Consortia partnership and Marigold van delivery, which brings interlibrary loans to member libraries at least once a week, ensuring residents have access to a wide range of materials. We provide professional development and training for library staff and boards to strengthen local expertise. Our marketing support helps libraries and municipalities build awareness of library services in their communities.

We appreciate the support for library services that your municipality provides. Thank you for your consideration of the attached documents.

Please contact me with any questions or for further information.

Sincerely,

ATIA Sec. 20(1)

Lynne Price, CEO
Marigold Library System
B 1000 Pine Street
Strathmore, AB
T1P 1C1
lynne@marigold.ab.ca



An Agreement
by and between
the parties comprising
Marigold Library System

January 1, 1984
Amended January 1, 1995
Amended April 15, 2000
Amended August 2002
Amended November 1, 2002
Amended June 20, 2007
Amended April 22, 2008
Amended August 1, 2008
Amended January 29, 2022
Amended November 26, 2022
Amended November 22, 2025

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An Agreement by and between
the parties comprising the
Marigold Library System
(hereinafter referred to as "this Agreement")

This Agreement is made as of the 1st day of January 1984, with amendments to January 29, 2022, between such of the Municipalities, Improvement Districts and Special Areas contained in Schedule A as have appropriately ratified, endorsed and executed this Agreement or terms identical to this Agreement.

BECAUSE the *Libraries Act and Regulation R.S.A. 2000 Chap. L-11*, as amended, hereinafter referred as "the Act" provides:

- a) that a Municipality, Improvement District, Special Area, Métis settlement or school authority may enter into an agreement to associate with one or more such organizations to establish, maintain and operate a Library System;
- b) for a Library System board so established to be a corporation as set out in *the Act* and
- c) that the Minister may make a grant upon the establishment of the Library System and may thereafter make annual grants where the Minister decides that the Library System is providing satisfactory service;

AND BECAUSE the Parties to this Agreement:

- a) desire to collaborate to provide enhanced public library service to their residents,
- b) are prepared to jointly finance and operate a Library System service to their residents,
- c) recognize that the most effective way to provide a high quality of library service is through collaboration,
- d) are prepared to support the development and maintenance of public library services through the Library System for the benefit of all parties, including the party that signs this Agreement,
- e) agree that all library materials which are available through their respective Library Service Points shall be Accessible to the residents of all Parties, and
- f) recognize the responsibility of each Party to have a representative fully participating in the management of the Marigold Board.

NOW the Parties to this Agreement agree with each other as follows:

1. Schedules A, B and C are attached to and form part of this Agreement.
2. When used in this Agreement, the terms defined below have the same meaning as they have in *the Act*, unless otherwise defined in this Agreement.
 - a) "Accessible" - library resources shall be available to all residents of the Parties to this Agreement in the same way as to residents served by the Local Library. If use is restricted in a Local Library, the restriction shall apply to all residents in the system.

- b) "Community Library" - Marigold uses the term "Community Library" for those libraries (Library Service Points) located in member municipalities that do not have a Library Board.
- c) "Community Library Incorporated Society" – a Society incorporated or continued under the *Societies Act R.S.A. 2000 Chap.S-14*, that oversees the day-to-day operations and supervision of a library in a Municipality that does not have its own Library Board.
- d) "Governing Board" – Marigold Board is the "Governing Board" for municipalities that have not formed a Library Board as set out in *the Act*. These municipalities have signed this Agreement to become members of Marigold Library System, and in return Marigold Board provides public library services and promotes the value of public libraries to residents in those municipalities. Marigold also complies with the provincial requirements for reporting and for distribution of provincial per capita grants for those municipalities.
- e) "Independent Public Accountant" - a person holding a recognized professional accounting designation such as CPA (Chartered Professional Accountant), CA (Chartered Accountant), CMA (Certified Management Accountant), CGA (Certified General Accountant), or a similarly qualified individual.
- f) "Intellectual Property" – anything created by or on behalf of Marigold which results from intellectual process. Intellectual Property includes, but is not limited to, literary works (any written work intended to provide information, instruction or pleasure), artistic works and computer program files. Such works and information may be stored in any format. Intellectual Property specifically includes Marigold's automated files and databases.
- g) "Intermunicipal Library Board" - a Library Board established pursuant to Part 1.1 of *the Act*.
- h) "Library Board" - a Municipal or Intermunicipal Library Board.
- i) "Library Service Point" – in accordance with *the Libraries Regulation* (hereinafter referred to as "*the Regulation*" under *the Act*, refers to a facility that provides public library services under the control and management of a board.
- j) "Library System" - a Library System established pursuant to Part 2 of *the Act*.
- k) "Local Library" - a Municipal Library, Intermunicipal Library, or a Community Library.
- l) "Minister" - the Minister with authority for public libraries as defined in *the Act*.
- m) "Municipal Library Board" - a Library Board established pursuant to Part 1 of *the Act*.
- n) "Member Municipality" - any incorporated city, town, village, summer village, municipal district, special area, improvement district or any other eligible entity that is or could become a party to this Agreement.
- o) "Personal Property" – any movable or intangible thing that is subject to ownership and not classified as Real Property.
- p) "Real Property" - land and anything growing on, attached to, or erected on it, excluding anything that may be severed without injury to the land. Real property can be either corporeal (ex. soil and buildings) or incorporeal (ex. easements).

Name

3. There is hereby established by Ministerial Order, a Library System known as the Marigold Library Board as set out in Section 14(2) of *the Act*, hereinafter referred to as "Marigold".

Operation

4. The Parties to this Agreement shall maintain and operate Marigold in accordance with *the Act* and any regulations promulgated under *the Act*.
5. The Parties to this Agreement shall provide public library service to all their residents through the Library System as defined by this Agreement.
6. The Parties to this Agreement shall make all library materials and resources belonging to Marigold and local libraries accessible to the residents of all Parties.

The Marigold Library Board

7. The general management, regulation and control of Marigold is vested in and shall be exercised by the Governing Board of Marigold, hereinafter referred to as "Marigold Board", with the powers and duties set out in *the Act*.
8. Where a Municipality is a Party to this Agreement, it shall appoint one member to Marigold Board. The preference for an appointment will be an individual who has an active involvement in the library community such as membership on the Local Library Board.
9. Appointments to Marigold Board shall be made in accordance with *the Act*.
10. Marigold Board shall be governed by *the Act*, this Agreement and the governing documents adopted by Marigold Board.
11. Marigold Board shall establish an Executive Committee of not more than ten (10) persons. That committee shall oversee the general operations of Marigold between Marigold Board meetings and carry out such further activities as may be directed by Marigold Board.
12. Marigold Board shall hire a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) whose responsibility shall be the administration of Marigold. Marigold Board shall fix the compensation and all other terms of employment of the CEO.
13. Marigold Board shall maintain adequate insurance coverage for its property, liabilities and operations.
14. Marigold Board shall cooperate with other libraries, Library Systems, library associations and with the Government of Alberta in the development, maintenance and operation of networks for enhancing public library services.

Powers and duties of Library Boards

15. Each Library Board within Marigold should:

- a) hire such Municipal Library employees as are necessary for the provision of library service to the community,
- b) act as liaison between their community, their Municipal Council and Marigold Board to communicate Library Board policy and community need,
- c) in cooperation with Marigold Board, set policies and procedures for the operation of the library including minimum number of library hours, management, use and services,
- d) cooperate with Marigold Board in implementing system-wide policies,
- e) submit copies of all library policies, bylaws, goals and objectives and plan of service documents to Marigold Board when updated,
- f) perform such additional duties as are necessary to operate library service in their community and
- g) forward a copy of its budget for the current year, a copy of its annual report and audited financial statements for the preceding year to Marigold Board on or before June 30.

16. Marigold Board will act as the Governing Board for any Municipality that does not have a Municipal Library Board or an Intermunicipal Library Board. That relationship will be governed by an agreement between Marigold and any such Municipality.

Financial

- 17. The fiscal year of Marigold and Marigold Board shall be January 1 to December 31, both dates inclusive, or as may be amended by Marigold Board from time to time.
- 18. For the purposes of the per capita requisition in paragraphs 19 and 20, the population of a Municipality that is a Party to this Agreement shall be deemed to be the population for the Municipality published by the Government of Alberta for the fiscal year prior to the fiscal year in which the requisition is paid, as set out in the current Schedule C – Requisition for Marigold Library System.
- 19. Each Party to this Agreement shall pay to Marigold Board the annual per capita requisition as set out in the current Schedule C within 30 days of the invoice date.
- 20. Each Municipal Library Board or Intermunicipal Library Board in Marigold shall pay to Marigold Board the annual per capita requisition as set out in the current Schedule C within 30 days of the invoice date.
- 21. Increases or decreases of per capita requisitions in Schedule C constitute an amendment to this Agreement, which shall be passed in accordance with paragraph 42.
- 22. Residents of Municipalities that do not participate in any Alberta Library System are not eligible to use the services provided by Marigold Board, as outlined in Section 28 of this Agreement.

23. Marigold Board shall keep distinct and regular accounts of its receipts, payments, credits, assets and liabilities and shall have these accounts for each fiscal year audited by an Independent Public Accountant. Such accounts shall be kept in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices as defined by the Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations (ASNFPO).
24. Marigold Board shall cause audited financial statements for each fiscal year to be prepared and presented by an Independent Public Accountant by the last day of April in the year following the fiscal year to which they relate, and to be presented to Marigold Board at the Annual General Meeting.
25. Marigold Board may apply for any grants for which it is eligible.
26. Any Party not having a Municipal Library Board or an Intermunicipal Library Board authorizes Marigold Board to apply for provincial operating grants on their behalf in accordance with government regulations.

Services provided by Marigold Board

27. Subject to the provisions of *the Act* and *the Regulation* and subject to the provisions of this Agreement, Marigold Board shall manage and control Marigold by organizing, promoting and maintaining comprehensive and efficient library services.
28. Marigold Board shall equip, establish and maintain Library System service for the residents of the Parties to this Agreement and the services provided shall include:
 - a) Information technology services
 - b) Resource sharing support for library collections
 - c) Library collection services
 - d) Programming services
 - e) Communications and marketing services
 - f) Professional support and training services

The provision of library services will be defined in Marigold Library Board policy.

Expansion of Marigold

29. The Parties to this Agreement agree that any eligible entity within the boundaries of Marigold as set out in *the Regulation* may become a Party to this Agreement and a member of Marigold Board by:
 - a) signing an agreement with Marigold Board incorporating the terms and conditions of this Agreement as amended, and
 - b) adhering to policy concerning terms and conditions for integrating library services for acceptance of new or returning Parties to this Agreement, and
 - c) receiving the approval of the Minister.
30. Admission and the date of admission shall be determined by Marigold Board.

31. Any Party to this Agreement admitted to Marigold after April 1 in any year shall pay a share as determined by Marigold Board of the annual requisition within 30 days of the date of admission.

Reports

32. Marigold Board shall present an annual report on the previous year's operations to the council and to the Library Board of each Member Municipality and to the Minister within 60 days after the Annual General Meeting of Marigold Board.
33. Marigold Board shall provide a copy of the financial statements prepared and certified by the Independent Public Accountant. Copies will be prepared and sent to each Member Municipality and to the Minister within 60 days of passing by Marigold Board.

Ownership of Property

34. Marigold owns the Real and Personal Property (including Intellectual Property rights) paid for or created by Marigold in Marigold's Municipal Libraries and Community Libraries.
35. All books, periodicals and library materials transferred to a member library's collection remain the property of that library's Library Board unless they are sent to Marigold for withdrawal or other disposition. Marigold insures the physical collection at member libraries.
36. All books, periodicals and library materials transferred to a Community Library's collection remain the property of the Member Municipality unless they are sent to Marigold for withdrawal or other disposition. Marigold insures the physical collection at Community Libraries.

Withdrawal and Termination

37. Any Party to this Agreement may withdraw from this Agreement in accordance with *the Act*. Any notice of withdrawal shall be received by Marigold Board by December 31 of any year to be effective at the end of Marigold's next fiscal year. If a Party to this Agreement gives notice to withdraw, Marigold Board shall, not later than ninety (90) days prior to the effective date of withdrawal, provide in writing to the council and Municipal Board as appropriate, an appraisal of the expected effects on library services to the residents of the Municipality concerned. Marigold Board may request a reconsideration of the notice to withdraw.
38. If a Party to this Agreement withdraws from this Agreement pursuant to *the Act*, that Party shall be deemed to have forfeited any right, title or interest in the assets of Marigold Board, including Marigold Board's Real and Personal Property of any nature.
39. Marigold Board may expel any Party hereto from this Agreement for substantial misconduct or breach of this Agreement upon motion by the Executive Committee. At least 60 days written notice stating specific grounds for the motion shall be delivered to all the Parties to this Agreement and all Library Boards and be voted upon at the next General meeting after the notice period has expired. The motion shall be passed only upon a majority comprising 75% of Marigold Board members in attendance at said meeting.

Extension

40. The provisions of this Agreement shall be binding upon the Parties to this Agreement and any of their successors.
41. A separate contract may be negotiated by Marigold Board with any eligible non-member entity to acknowledge the different administrative and funding procedures and to define the type and extent of library service to be provided, as negotiated and approved by Marigold Board.

Amendment

42. This Agreement shall be amended by a motion for amendment passed by Marigold Board. Such amendment shall be effective upon receipt by Marigold Board of written notification from 60% of the Parties to this Agreement representing 60% of the people living within the boundaries of Marigold that they so authorized such amendment. The Parties to this Agreement shall conform to such amendment upon notification from Marigold Board that the amendment is in effect.

Entire Agreement

43. This Agreement, including all schedules appended, constitutes the entire Agreement between the Parties with respect to the subject matter and all prior Agreements, representations, statements, negotiations and undertakings by and between the Parties to this Agreement are superseded hereby.

Execution in Counterpart

44. This Agreement may be executed in counterpart and all the executed counterparts together shall constitute this Agreement.

IN WITNESS THEREOF the undersigned being one of the Parties set out in Schedule A to this Agreement has duly executed this Agreement.

(Member Municipality)

Authorized Signature

Date

Print Name and Title

Seal:

Municipal Library Board or Intermunicipal Library Board* (City, Town, Village)

Authorized Signature

Date

Print Name and Title

*A Municipal Library Board or Intermunicipal Library Board is established pursuant to *the Act*.

Schedule A

Parties which shall be admitted to Marigold Library System:

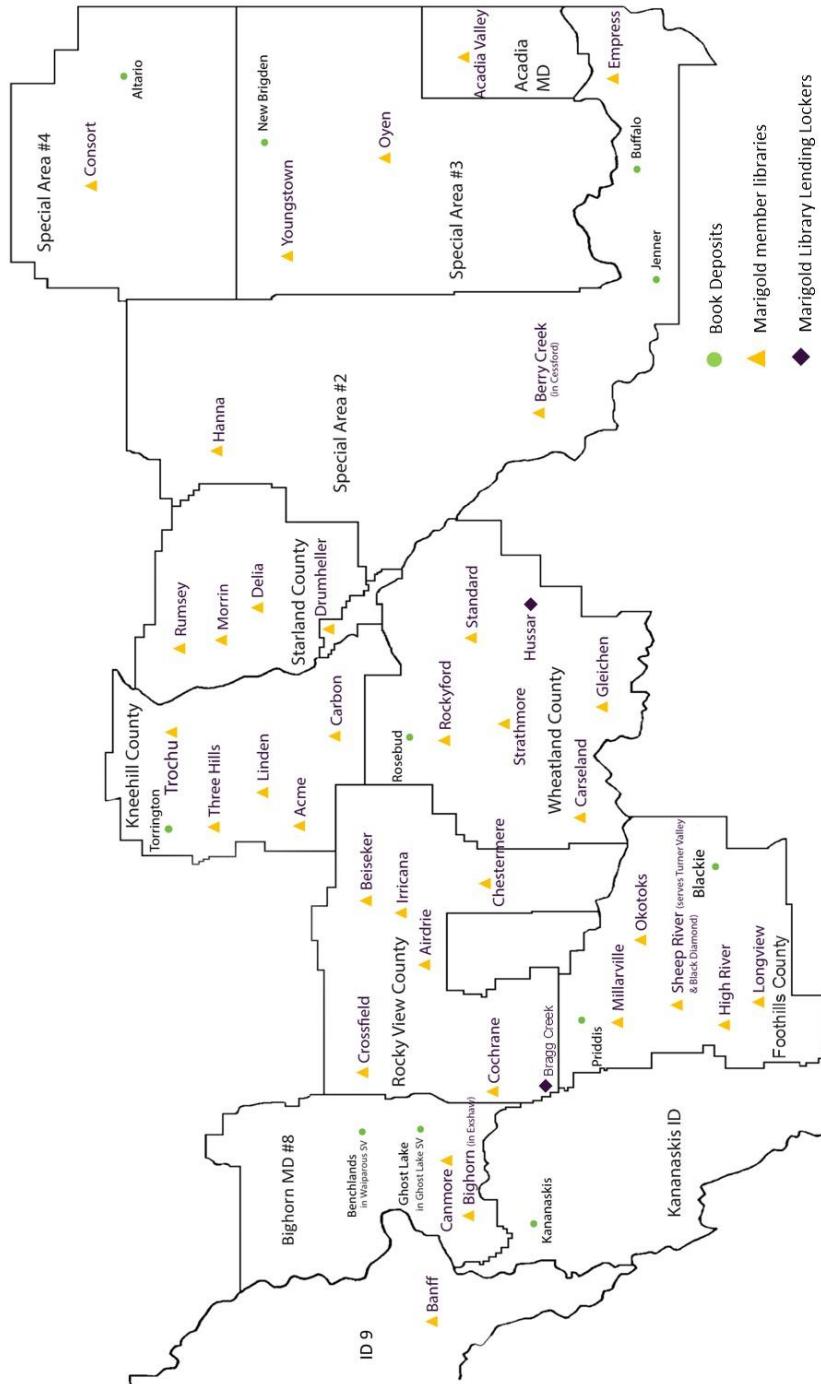
1. Council of the Municipal District of Acadia
2. Council of the Village of Acme
3. Council of the City of Airdrie
4. Council of the Town of Banff
5. Council of the Village of Beiseker
6. Council of the Municipal District of Bighorn
7. Council of the Town of Canmore
8. Council of the Village of Carbon
9. Council of the City of Chestermere
10. Council of the Town of Cochrane
11. Council of the Village of Consort
12. Council of the Town of Crossfield
13. Council of the Village of Delia
14. Council of the Town of Diamond Valley
15. Council of the Town of Drumheller
16. Council of the Village of Empress
17. Council of Foothills County
18. Council of the Summer Village of Ghost Lake
19. Council of the Town of Hanna
20. Council of the Town of High River
21. Council of the Village of Hussar
22. Improvement District #9 Banff
23. Council of the Town of Irricana

24. Kananaskis Improvement District
25. Council of Kneehill County
26. Council of the Village of Linden
27. Council of the Village of Longview
28. Council of the Village of Morrin
29. Council of the Village of Munson
30. Council of the Town of Okotoks
31. Council of the Town of Oyen
32. Council of the Village of Rockyford
33. Council of the County of Rocky View
34. Special Areas #2, #3 and #4 (Special Areas Board)
35. Council of the Village of Standard
36. Council of Starland County
37. Council of the Town of Strathmore
38. Council of the Town of Three Hills
39. Council of the Town of Trochu
40. Council of the Village of Veteran
41. Council of the Summer Village of Waiparous
42. Council of Wheatland County
43. Council of the Village of Youngstown

MARIGOLD LIBRARIES, BOOK DEPOSITS AND LIBRARY LENDING LOCKERS

Schedule B

Map of Marigold Boundary



Schedule C

Requisition for Marigold Library System

Attached to and part of this Agreement by and between the Parties comprising the Marigold Library System.

Part I For those Municipalities without Library Boards

The contributions to the Marigold Library System by Counties, Municipal Districts, Special Areas, Improvement Districts, or any other Municipality without a Library Board shall be as follows for the period stated:

2027	\$11.52 per capita paid directly to the Marigold Library System
2028	\$11.59 per capita paid directly to the Marigold Library System
2029	\$11.77 per capita paid directly to the Marigold Library System

Part II For those Municipalities with Library Boards

The contributions to the Marigold Library System by Municipalities having Municipal Library Boards or Intermunicipal Library Boards* shall be as follows for the period stated:

2027	\$6.92 per capita to be paid directly to the Marigold Library System
2028	\$7.09 per capita to be paid directly to the Marigold Library System
2029	\$7.27 per capita to be paid directly to the Marigold Library System

Part III For Municipal Library Boards

The contributions to the Marigold Library System by Municipal Library Boards or Intermunicipal Library Boards* shall be as follows for the period stated:

2027	\$4.50 per capita to be paid directly to the Marigold Library System
2028	\$4.50 per capita to be paid directly to the Marigold Library System
2029	\$4.50 per capita to be paid directly to the Marigold Library System

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the undersigned being one of the Parties set out in Schedule A - Parties which shall be admitted to Marigold Library System, has duly executed this amendment to the Agreement:

(Member Municipality) Authorized Signature

Date

Print Name and Title _____ (Seal)

(Member Library Board or Intermunicipal Library Board*) Authorized Signature

Date

Print Name and Title _____

Retain one copy for your files and forward one original copy signed by both parties to Marigold Library System.

Population: On August 24, 2024, the Marigold Board approved the motion for Schedule C levy rates: To apply the Municipal Affairs population from April 1 of the year preceding the fiscal year.

*Established pursuant to the Province of Alberta *Libraries Act and Regulation R.S.A. 2000 Chap. L-11.*



Request for Decision

To: Council

Staff Contact: Kevin Scoble, Chief Administrative Officer

Date Prepared: January 14, 2026

Meeting Date: February 18, 2026

SUBJECT: **Handi-Bus MOU Amendment**

RECOMMENDATION: THAT Council approve the Strathmore Handi-Bus Memorandum of Understanding First Amending Agreement as presented in Attachment I, and authorize the Mayor and CAO to execute the same.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:



Affordable Living



Climate Resiliency



Community Development



Community Wellness



Economic Development



Financial Sustainability

HOW THE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES ARE MET:

The Town's relationship with the Strathmore Handi-Bus Association aligns with Council's Strategic Priorities around Community Wellness.

SUSTAINABILITY

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY:

N/A

SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY:

N/A

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY:

N/A

IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION:

GENERAL:

The general implications of the proposed MOU Amendment is to allow the Strathmore Handi-Bus to submit its financial statements to the Town accompanied by a review engagement rather than a formal audit.

ORGANIZATIONAL:

The organizational implications are limited to the development of this amendment, associated report and staff time to coordinate execution.

OPERATIONAL:

N/A

FINANCIAL:

As Audited Financial Statements are costly and would inherently be passed back to the Town for funding, the Town would be confident if the Handi-Bus provided the Town financial statements that are completed by review engagement, which is also known as a limited assurance or negative engagement.

Auditors conduct a review engagement after an accountant's completed an audit of a company's financial statements, and therefore, the auditor provides limited assurance on the accuracy of the financial statement. During the engagement, the auditor performs inquiry and analytical review procedures to provide a moderate level of assurance required to provide a negative assurance report.

POLICY:

N/A

IMPLEMENTATION:

If Council is satisfied with the proposed MOU Amendment, Administration will arrange for its execution.

BACKGROUND:

In April of 2022, the Town entered into a memorandum of understanding ("MOU") with the Strathmore Handi-Bus Association ("SHB"), the purpose of which was to formalize annual funding arrangements between the Town and SHB. Upon the expiry of the initial four-year term

of the MOU (being January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2024), the MOU was subsequently extended for a two-year term and will expire December 31, 2026 .

The MOU in its current form includes a provision requiring that SHB provide the Town with a copy of their audited financial statements annually. Since the execution of the MOU, SHB has submitted a request to Administration to amend the requirement for financial statements to be audited and allow for submission of a less formal review engagement.

Although a review engagement provides for limited assurance and relies generally on plausibility versus strong evidence, it is a more cost-effective practice for small organizations such as SHB and is designed to determine if the financial statements are fair and plausible based on inquiries with management and analytical procedures.

Administration has determined the amendment to be low-risk in this case, and the proposed Amending Agreement provides for the requested substitution.

KEY ISSUE(S)/CONCEPT(S):

The key issue for Council's consideration is whether Council is satisfied with the proposed Amending Agreement, as presented.

DESIRED OUTCOMES:

The desired outcome is for Council to grant its approval of the proposed Amending Agreement and direct Administration to arrange for its execution.

COMMUNICATIONS:

N/A

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS/MOTIONS:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

[Attachment I: Amending Agreement Handi-Bus Association Financial Statements](#)

Kara Rusk, Director of Strategic, Administrative, and Financial Services

Approved
- 04 Feb
2026

Kevin Scoble, Chief Administrative Officer

Approved
- 11 Feb

2026
Approved
- 11 Feb
2026
Approved
- 12 Feb
2026

Veronica Anderson, Legislative Services Officer

Johnathan Strathdee, Manager of Legislative Services

FIRST AMENDING AGREEMENT

THIS CONTRACT ADDENDUM, made in duplicate, as of the _____ day of _____, 20____.

BETWEEN:

THE TOWN OF STRATHMORE
a municipality pursuant to the Municipal Government Act, RSA 2000, c M-26
having its office at #1 Parklane Drive, Strathmore, Alberta
(the "Town")

- AND -

THE STRATHMORE HANDI-BUS ASSOCIATION
an organization incorporated pursuant to the *Societies Act* (Alberta)
having its office at PO Box 2533 Station Main
Strathmore, Alberta
(the "Association")

WHEREAS the Town and the Association (the "Parties") entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (the "MOU") dated the 20th day of November, 2024 for the purposes of an annual funding arrangement whereby the Town will provide the Association funding to assist the Association with maintaining its operations in Wheatland County and the Town of Strathmore.

AND WHEREAS the Parties desire to amend the MOA on the terms and conditions set forth in this contract amendment (the "Amending Agreement").

AND WHEREAS this Amending Agreement is the first amendment to the MOA.

NOW THEREFORE in consideration of the Parties agreeing to amend their obligations in the existing Contract, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree to keep, perform and fulfill the promises, conditions and agreements below.

AMENDMENTS

Section 3.2 of the MOA is amended to read as follows:

3. The Association shall commit to the following for the term of this Agreement:

3.2 Provide to the Town annual financial statements with accompanying Review Engagement as well as an annual report on operations, including statistics regarding the number of trips and clients served who reside in the Town and Wheatland County, by May 31st of each year throughout the term of this Agreement.

NO OTHER CHANGES

Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Amending Agreement, all of the terms and conditions of the MOA remain in full force and effect.

MISCELLANEOUS TERMS

Capitalized terms not otherwise defined in this Amending Agreement shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the MOA. Headings are inserted for the convenience of the Parties only and are not to be considered when interpreting this Amending Agreement. Words in the singular mean and include the plural and vice versa.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have executed this Agreement on the date specified on Page 1 hereto.

For the Town of Strathmore:

Name: Pat Fule
Title: Mayor

Name: Kevin Scoble
Title: Chief Administrative Officer

For the Strathmore Handi-Bus Association:

Name:
Title: Chairperson

Name:
Title: Board Member



Report for Council

To: Council

Staff Contact: Kevin Scoble, Chief Administrative Officer

Date Prepared: January 26, 2026

Meeting Date: February 18, 2026

SUBJECT: **2026 FCSS Grant Funding Advisory Board - Application Summary**

RECOMMENDATION: For Information

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:



Affordable Living



Climate Resiliency



Community Development



Community Wellness



Economic Development



Financial Sustainability

HOW THE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES ARE MET:

The Family & Community Support Services and Calgary United Way grant programs are designed to provide financial assistance to community organizations that improve and strengthen Strathmore's preventive social services outcomes and programs for residents.

SUSTAINABILITY

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY:

N/A

SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY:

The Family & Community Support Services and Calgary United Way grant programs exists to establish a grant funding program for Strathmore community organizations to offer social outcome based programs and preventative initiatives to enhance Strathmore residents overall well-being and quality of life.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY:

N/A

IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION:**GENERAL:**

N/A

ORGANIZATIONAL:

N/A

OPERATIONAL:

None except for the staff time associated with preparing this report.

FINANCIAL:

Not applicable as all funds were allocated as part of the 2026 Family & Community Support Services grant program.

POLICY:

Family & Community Support Services Grant Program Policy No. 5102 states that Council is responsible for approving, by resolution, funding recommendations.

IMPLEMENTATION:

N/A

BACKGROUND:

Applications for the 2026 Family & Community Support Services grant program were reviewed by the Family & Community Support Services Advisory Board on December 11, 2025 and on January 7, 2026, with the following funding recommendations:

- 5 for Life Early Childhood - Early Childhood Development Support program - \$15,392.00
- Accredited Supports to the Community - Healthy Families program - \$4,500.00
- Growing Families Society - Bridging the Gap program - \$24,884.00
- Hope Bridges Society - Music Discovery program - \$7,560.00
- S.T.A.N.D. ASA - Equine Healing Retreat for Survivors program - \$5,100.00
- Strathmore Library - Visiting Library Service program - \$15,000.00

- Golden Hills School Division - Family School Community Resource Counseling program - \$22,753.00
- Christ the Redeemer - Family School Liaison program - \$9,101.00

These recommendations were approved (Resolution No. 014.01.26) at the January 21, 2026, Council meeting.

As part of the resolution, Council requested additional information regarding the applications.

Attached is the summary of the organizations and their programs that were recommended and approved for funding.

KEY ISSUE(S)/CONCEPT(S):

With the approval of the funding recommendations as presented at the January 21, 2026, Council meeting, all funds associated with the 2026 Family & Community Support Services grant program have been allocated.

DESIRED OUTCOMES:

N/A

COMMUNICATIONS:

N/A

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS/MOTIONS:

1. Council may provide further direction.

ATTACHMENTS:

[Attachment I: 2026 FCSS Grant Funding Council Summary](#)

Mark Pretzlaff, Director of Community and Protective Services

Approved
- 11 Feb

2026

Kevin Scoble, Chief Administrative Officer

Approved
- 11 Feb

2026

Johnathan Strathdee, Manager of Legislative Services

Approved
- 12 Feb

2026



UNITED WAY/STRATHMORE PARTNERSHIP



2026 FCSS Grant Funding Application Summary

Applicant: 5 for Life

Agency Overview: 5 for Life engages in providing free opportunities that focus on gross, fine motor skills, literacy, social, competence, self-regulation, and language skills.

Financial Request: \$15,392.00

Advisory Board Recommendation: \$15,392.00

FCSS Provincial Prevention Priority #4: Child, Youth, and Family Supports

FCSS Provincial Prevention Strategy #2 & #4: Enhance access to social supports and foster a sense of belonging

Program Objectives Align to Province: Developmental, support caregiver learning, build community awareness

Program Outcomes – 5 for Life Early Childhood supports and promotes healthy development of 0–5-year-olds and their family/caregivers by providing activities, awareness, and connection to community through physical literacy and other related activities.

Applicant: Accredited Supports to the Community

Agency Overview: Accredited Supports to the Community engages in providing free in-house visits, offering guidance, increasing knowledge of child development, building protective factors, and strengthening parenting and accesses local referrals

Financial Request: \$4,500.00

Advisory Board Recommendation: \$4,500.00

FCSS Provincial Priority #4 – Child, Youth, and Family Supports

FCSS Provincial Prevention Strategy #1 & #2: Develop and maintain healthy relationships and Enhance access to social supports

Program Objectives Align to Province: Evidence-based home visiting, provides in-home support with a qualified practitioner, family-oriented goals, referrals and to increase caregiver capacity

Program Outcomes: Direct family/ caregiver support to improve parent knowledge, resilience, and will be tracked through tools like Ages & Stages Questionnaire.

Applicant: Bridging the Gap (BTG)

Agency Overview: Bridging the Gap engages in providing free opportunities that focus on social interaction and connection designed to create happier and healthy seniors in our community

Financial Request: \$24,884.00

Advisory Board Recommendation: \$24,884.00

FCSS Provincial Priority #2 & #5: Mental Health Supports and Aging Well in the Community

FCSS Provincial Prevention Strategy #2, # 3 & #5: Enhance access to social support, foster sense of belonging, and promotes social inclusion

Program Objectives Align to Province – Participant driven that aims to prevent social isolation and build community awareness to the Senior population – Aging Well in the community is a direct link to the 2023 Strathmore Social Needs Assessment.

Program Outcomes – Bridging the Gap engages in providing free opportunities that focus on social interaction and connection designed to create happier and healthy seniors in our community and to foster a sense of belonging.

The Christ the Redeemer Catholic Separate School

Agency Overview: Christ the Redeemer Family School Liaison program helps prevent crisis by building youth and family capacity to manage challenges early, instead of therapy, it strengthens coping skill, social awareness and relationships. Collaboration with families is essential to ensure that when working to support students in school and natural supports are involved. This support provides accessible, no cost preventive support and skill building opportunities

Financial Request: \$10,000.00

Advisory Board Recommendation: \$9,101.00

FCSS Provincial Prevention Priority #2 & #4: Mental Health and Child, Youth and Family Support

FCSS Provincial Prevention Strategy #1 & #6: Develop and strengthen skills that build resilience and develop and maintain healthy relationships

Program Objectives Align to Province: The program is a school based, preventive based initiative to support healthy development of children and youth. Development concerns covered are life skills to manage social, emotional and behavioral challenges.

Program Outcomes – Supports student well-being and personal growth through individual student meetings to skill building groups and classroom presentations. These activities strengthen students' problem solving, social and emotional skills while encouraging positive relationships.

Applicant: Golden Hills School Division

Agency Overview: Strengthens family units by offering support to improve home environments, which is crucial for a child's development and mental health. This dual focus on peer and family relationships provides a holistic solution to noted community challenges. Furthermore, our program is designed to develop and strengthen skills that build resilience. All program components are overseen and reviewed by our clinical supervisor.

Financial Request: \$25,000.00

Advisory Board Recommendation: \$22,753.00

FCSS Provincial Prevention Priority #2 & 4: Mental Health and Child, Youth and Family Support

FCSS Provincial Prevention Strategy #1 & #6: Develop and strengthen skills that build resilience and develop and maintain healthy relationships

Program Objectives Align to Province: The Family School Community Resource Counseling program is a vital service for K-12 students and families to proactively strengthen protective factors and promote well-being. Using a strength-based model, the program builds capacity for success at school, home and in the community.

Program Outcomes: Students gain positive coping skills and emotional regulation techniques; parents will have more access to resources. Intermediate Outcomes: Students will demonstrate increased use of positive coping skills and improved emotional regulation; parents and caregivers will report increased confidence in their parenting skills. Long-Term Outcomes: Students reach their full potential, families are stable and connected, and community youth mental health improves.

Applicant: Hope Bridges Society

Agency Overview: Music Therapy is the use of music by an accredited music therapist to work towards non-musical goals, which could include physical rehabilitation, developing confidence, improving wellbeing and self-expression, and/or building relationships. The multi-faceted nature of Music Therapy is one of many reasons why it can be such a powerful tool for participants.

Financial Request: \$7,560.00

Advisory Board Recommendation: \$7,560.00

FCSS Provincial Priority #2: Mental Health Supports

FCSS Prevention Strategy #4 & #5: Foster sense of belonging and promote social inclusion

Program Objectives Align to the Province: Music Discovery provides inclusive access to the transformative power of music therapy/ musical learning. The program is designed to encourage social interaction, connection, and community between all adults, regardless of ability, while having fun and improving mental wellness.

Program Outcomes: Provide barrier-free Music Therapy with accredited music therapist. Enhance diversity and social inclusion through the reduction of participation barriers and to break down stereotypes for adults with disabilities.

Applicant: STAND Against Sexual Assault (ASA)

Agency Overview: Guided by survivors, we offer peer support, holistic healing workshops, and prevention-focused education to cultivate a compassionate, empowering space where healing takes root, resilience is restored, and lasting change becomes possible.

Financial Request: \$5,100.00

Advisory Board Recommendation: \$5,100.00

FCSS Provincial Priority #1 & #4: Mental Health Supports

FCSS Prevention Strategy #1, # 4 & #6: Develop & strengthen skills that build resilience, enhance access to social support and foster sense of belonging.

Program Objectives Align to Province: We offer peer support, holistic healing workshops, and prevention-focused education to cultivate a compassionate, safe space where healing happens, and lasting change becomes possible. We envision a world where all survivors are seen, believed, and supported.

Program Outcomes: The Girls Finding Courage, Connection, and Confidence Retreat aims to create meaningful, lasting change for girls ages 14–16 by improving mental health awareness, emotional resilience, and self-confidence. Measurable outcomes include: 1. Develop and maintain healthy relationships through communication and self-awareness. 2. Foster a sense of belonging through shared experiences and supportive peer connection. 3. Build resilience and coping skills using mindfulness, prevention education, and reflection.

Applicant: Town Of Strathmore Library

Agency Overview: Visiting Library Service provides library materials to enhance quality of life and promote the joy of lifelong learning to all residents of Strathmore who are unable to visit the library in person.

Financial Request: \$15,000.00

Advisory Board Recommendation: \$15,000.00

FCSS Provincial Priority #5: Senior Supports

FCSS Prevention Strategy #5: Promote Social inclusion

Program Objectives Align to Province: The program will focus and ensure those most at risk of isolation stay connected with regular and consistent connections through the screened volunteers. Volunteers are trained to connect and identify issues that may require additional referral for intervention or other related supports.

Program Outcomes: Desired impact to remove isolation for local seniors, create a sense of belonging, participants feel value, and to meet the needs of the participants.

Board Updates



January 24, 2026 Board Meeting Highlights

Welcome

Marigold Board welcomed Brenda Balutis, the recently appointed representative from the Town of Canmore.

Financial Statements

Unaudited financial statements to December 31, 2025 were accepted as presented.

Marigold Library System Plan of Service 2026—2030

Communications & Engagement Manager Jessie Bach presented the draft Plan of Service, *Strengthening Connections, Building Capacity*. The Board accepted the Plan as amended. The Province of Alberta Municipal Affairs Public Library Services Branch requires a current Plan of Service prior to issuing funding for library systems.

Community Libraries' Plans of Service

Chief Operating Officer Laura Taylor presented a proposed extension for the community libraries' Plans of Service, to 2030. The Marigold Board serves as the Governing Board for seven libraries in municipalities without library boards (Berry Creek, Bighorn, Carseland, Gleichen, Langdon, Millarville, and Rumsey Community Libraries).

Learning Opportunities for Marigold Board Members

The [Public Library Services Branch \(PLSB\)](#) Advisory team will deliver two webinars for library system board members on **February 10 and 11, 2026**. They will focus on the relationship between library systems and participating libraries, and the role of system board members.

Click the link(s) below to register:

[Feb 10, 2026, 6:30-8:00 PM](#)

[Feb 11, 2026, 2:00-3:30 PM](#)



Upcoming Board Meetings:

Saturday, April 11, 2026 9:30 AM

Marigold Library System & Western Irrigation District Community Room, Strathmore

Saturday, August 22, 2026 9:30 AM

Marigold Library System & Western Irrigation District Community Room, Strathmore

Questions?

Contact CEO Lynne Price
lynne@marigold.ab.ca

Marigold Library System

B 1000 Pine Street
Strathmore Alberta, T1P 1C1 | 1-855-934-5334
[marigold.ab.ca](#)

Board Updates—January 24, 2026



Digital Service Update: Savannah Sillito

The Board heard a presentation from Digital Experience Consultant Savannah Sillito.

In the past year Marigold launched new website updates and features based on library staff feedback, including the new room reservation feature, which one library noted has increased usage, assisted advocacy efforts, and saved staff time. A new email notification system was launched, making emails more colourful and modern. Patrons now have the option to use a digital library card and as of January 2026, over 900 digital cards have been registered. Savannah traveled to a number of libraries for in-person training and hosted webinars on a variety of topics.

CEO & COO Updates

CEO L. Price presented Marigold's 2025 service highlights to the Board. Staff were acknowledged for the launch of TRACpac+, the introduction of new website features and functionality, IT projects including comprehensive support for new library builds, driver safety, a successful Marigold Conference, and much more. The Marigold Board was also recognized for their contributions to Marigold's success in 2025. See the attached "2025 Highlights & Achievements" for a detailed list of service highlights.

Lynne provided an update on advocacy efforts in support of the Alberta Municipalities' Resolution passed in fall, which focused on an request to increase per capita funding and apply current population to the provincial funding formula.

Long-term employees Barb Froese and Mike Froese have provided notice of their retirement for March 31. Barb and Mike, who began work at Marigold in 2007 and 2010 respectively, have been an integral part of the Marigold family for many years, and have made significant contributions to Marigold's success.

COO L. Taylor provided an update on the Marigold facility. Laura also shared information about the regional library systems' salary survey, the [Marigold Making a Difference Awards](#), and eResource news. In February, Laura will be participating in a virtual "train the trainer" event hosted by the Centre for Free Expression.



May 13, 2026

Annual Marigold Library System Conference for library staff and board members

Best Western Premier Calgary Plaza Hotel and
Conference Centre—Calgary, AB
www.marigoldconference.ca

2025 Highlights & Achievements

Marigold Library System

In 2025, we once again saw an increase in the number of books, DVDs, video games, and more borrowed from library collections across the system. Marigold responded by focusing on expanding community capacity, evaluating and refining our services and workflows, and advocating for the value of Marigold and public library service. This approach enabled us to strengthen service delivery and deepen our support for member libraries through thoughtful stewardship and effective use of existing resources.

It is always a challenge to select highlights, given the scope of work, initiatives, and engagement Marigold staff undertake in a year. Here are some highlights from 2025:

The launch of TRACpac+, the new online library catalogue, was a major consortia-wide initiative completed in 2025. During the nine-month rollout Marigold's team demonstrated exceptional commitment and technical expertise, helping keep the project on schedule and producing all launch communications and marketing material. The project required close collaboration between the TRAC regional systems to develop training tools and resources for library staff and patrons. Special recognition is extended to Kristine den Boon, Director of Service Delivery, who chaired the implementation team and provided key leadership.

Marigold's IT Services team supported construction and renovation projects, in Airdrie and Acme, with Richard Kenig, Director of IT Services, coordinating with contractors, municipalities, and Municipal Affairs Public Library Services Branch throughout these projects. IT staff completed onsite installations of the access points, switches, and phone systems.

Marigold IT completed new server installations at Marigold HQ while ensuring libraries experienced zero downtime.

Marigold's Collection Services team completed a major cleanup of cataloguing metadata. Accurate, consistent metadata improves patron discovery and circulation processes, strengthens reporting and collection analysis, and prepares Marigold for future technology initiatives.

In late 2024, Marigold's Delivery Services team introduced new workflows that significantly increased efficiency for our larger libraries. Several Directors and Managers have reported saving weeks—if not months—of staff time in 2025. The new workflow allowed library staff to focus more on patron services and make better use of workroom space.

Marigold hosted two SAIT practicum students and welcomed the SAIT Library Technician class to headquarters for a tour. Practicum students provide valuable project support for Marigold while strengthening our relationship with SAIT and helping develop future library professionals through hands-on experience and mentorship.

Staff introduced several new website features based directly on member library feedback.

Marigold's delivery drivers had another accident-free year on the routes!

Below is a selection of quotations from and about Marigold staff, and the work we do!

The purpose of Marigold makes me very proud of working here. I absolutely love it. Marigold is the greatest work environment I have ever experienced. I also think Marigold is the best employer in Strathmore.

I just want to tell you how thankful I am for the amazing service I get from my library consultant. [She] is quick, responsive, helpful, and she never makes me feel badly when I have dropped the ball. I hope you know what a gem she is.

[The room booking software] has increased the usage, because people find the calendar more accessible and easier to book. This increased usage helps our advocacy related to the need of a bigger library and how the library continues to support personal and community needs. It isn't just the increased usage, even though more groups are using the space the amount of administrative time related to coordinating room bookings has decreased. Win-Win!

I just wanted to extend a big thank you to the staff at Marigold who compile and send out the newsletter called Professional Development Resources for Library Staff & Board Members...I find this resource so helpful and relevant to not just my own training needs and interests, but for so many folks on our team. I wanted to take a minute to say the newsletter is great, appreciated, and well-used here!

Thank you so much for negotiating a lower price for us! This is awesome!

I really like reading the informal newsletters about what's happening throughout Marigold. I especially enjoy seeing the various activities that other libraries are hosting.

I'm reaching out to express my appreciation for your efforts, and those of others at Marigold, to host the PLSB ILL meeting on Friday. The great facilities helped make the day a pleasurable experience.

I got a thank you card in the mail yesterday, from the Book Vault at Norquest College (in Ft. Saskatchewan, one of our donation spots). Good to know that we're making a difference there!

Thank you for the way you distill information neatly and effectively. The regulatory environment is changing a lot for us these days. It is so helpful to have it all laid out for us.

Thanks so much for making the trek out last night. The trustees found the information in your talk helpful and interesting. I think the scope of collaboration and the nature of the work that you do isn't always apparent to them otherwise.



ADMINISTRATIVE INQUIRY

Submitted: **February 12, 2026**
Meeting Date: **February 18, 2026**

SUBMITTED BY: Mayor Fule

SUBJECT: Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre – Sport Court Feasibility

In an effort to maximize the use of the Town's facilities and generate more revenue I would like to request Administration explore potential improvements to the undeveloped cement area at the Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre, specifically the feasibility of developing a proper court.

The current cement area does not meet the needs of residents. While it will be an investment, I have received external information that showed a potential increase in rentals for club volleyball and basketball at the Sports Centre, should we have three operating courts.

I would like to ask Administration to return to the April 15, 2026, Regular Council meeting with a cost estimate for a third sport court to be installed at the Strathmore Motor Products Sports Centre, with lines for badminton, basketball, volleyball and pickleball and have Administration provide economic and service benefits of these improvements.



Strathmore

NOTICE OF MOTION

Date: February 12, 2026

Meeting Date: February 18, 2026

SUBMITTED BY: Councillor Langmaid

SUBJECT: Fire Dispatch Services

WHEREAS Municipalities are responsible for developing and maintaining safe and viable communities, pursuant to the Municipal Government Act;

AND WHEREAS Council is responsible for reviewing service delivery models to ensure they meet operational needs and the needs of the community;

AND WHEREAS Council desires that fire dispatch services are delivered in a manner that is sustainable, cost effective, and aligned with the long-term strategic objectives of the municipality;

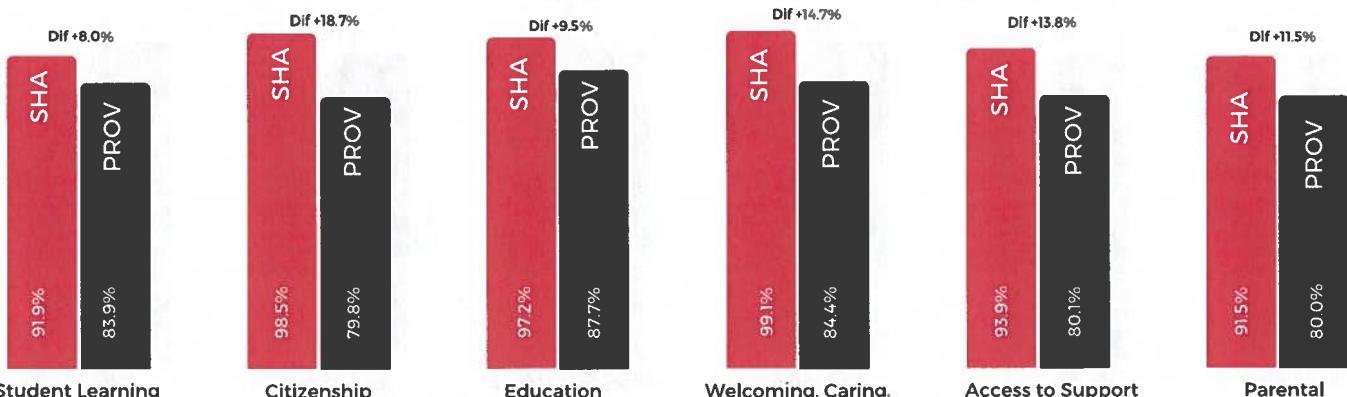
Notice is hereby given that the following motion will be brought forward for consideration at the Regular Council Meeting on March 4, 2026.

THAT Council direct Administration to review fire dispatch services and bring a report to Council for consideration, including alternative options and/or opportunities for fire dispatch services for the Town of Strathmore and other regional partners.



ALBERTA ASSURANCE ANNUAL EDUCATION RESULTS

Alberta Education Assurance is a set of 12 performance measures calculated by Alberta Education for schools and school boards across the province. Schools and school boards are evaluated based on achievement, improvement, and overall performance.



Student Learning Engagement

- Students at your child's school are engaged in learning that is useful and interesting.

Citizenship

- Students at your child's school follow the rules, help each other when they can, respect each other, are encouraged at school to be involved in activities that help the community, are encouraged at school to try their best.

Education Quality

- Your child clearly understands what they are expected to learn at school, finds school work challenging, finds school work interesting, is learning what they need to know.
- Parents are satisfied with the quality of education your child is receiving at school.

Welcoming, Caring, Respectful, and Safe Learning

- Students at your child's school care about each other, respect each other, treat each other well.
- Teachers care about your child.
- Your child is safe at school and on the way to and from school and is treated fairly by adults at your school.
- Your child's school is a welcoming place to be.

Access to Support and Services

- At school, there are appropriate supports and services available to your child to help with their learning.
- When your child needs it, teachers at your child's school are available to help them.
- You can get the support you need from the school to help your child be successful in their learning.
- Your child can easily access programs and services at school to get help with school work and with problems that are not related to school work.

Parental Involvement

- To what extent are you involved in decisions about your child's education and decisions at your child's school?
- How satisfied are you that your input into your child's education is considered?
- How satisfied are you with the opportunity to be involved in decisions in your child's education and with your child's school?

[Click here for our full Annual Education Results Report](#)

Faith Survey Results

99% Percentage of students, parents, and teachers who indicate that they are satisfied with the relationship that exists between the school and the local Catholic parish.

99% Percentage of students, parents and teachers who are satisfied with the religious celebrations that are celebrated with the school.

98% Percentage of students, parents and teachers who are satisfied with what is being taught in religion classes.

98% Percentage of students, parents and teachers who indicate they are satisfied with the level of Catholic faith formation of students at the school.

99% Percentage of students, parents and teachers who indicate they are satisfied with the efforts to live our Catholic Social Teaching at school.

Insight

Sacred Heart Academy is committed to forming every person who enters our doors into a disciple of God by witnessing to our faith through authentic experiences—school assemblies, Masses, liturgies, and our own SHA faith traditions. This is who we are, even when no one is watching.

Insights

- Sacred Heart Academy achieved excellence in all six measures—Citizenship, Education Quality, Parental Involvement, Student Learning Engagement, Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environments, and Access to Support Services—placing us in the top 5% of the province. All measures outscored provincial results.
- A 91.9% satisfaction rate in Student Growth and Achievement—also reflected in our Provincial Achievement results—along with a 97.2% satisfaction rate in the Quality of Education at Sacred Heart Academy, is a testament to the intentional commitment and dedication of our staff. By thoroughly understanding our students' needs and strengths and implementing evidence-based, high-impact strategies, we remain committed to ensuring success for every student.
- Our school's excellence, with a 95.7% satisfaction rating in the area of Citizenship, is a significant point of pride for our community. We are committed to ensuring that our students and families recognize how the work we do within our school fosters the development of active, caring citizens who positively contribute to our school, town, province, country, and the world.
- At Sacred Heart Academy, we celebrate our outstanding achievement of a 97.6% stakeholder satisfaction rate in the Welcoming, Caring, Respectful, and Safe Learning Environments measure. This accomplishment reflects our intentional commitment—as staff and students—to creating an environment where everyone, whether they are here to work, learn, visit, play on our playground, wait at our bus stops, or ride our buses, feels welcomed, cared for, respected, and safe.



HOLY CROSS COLLEGIATE

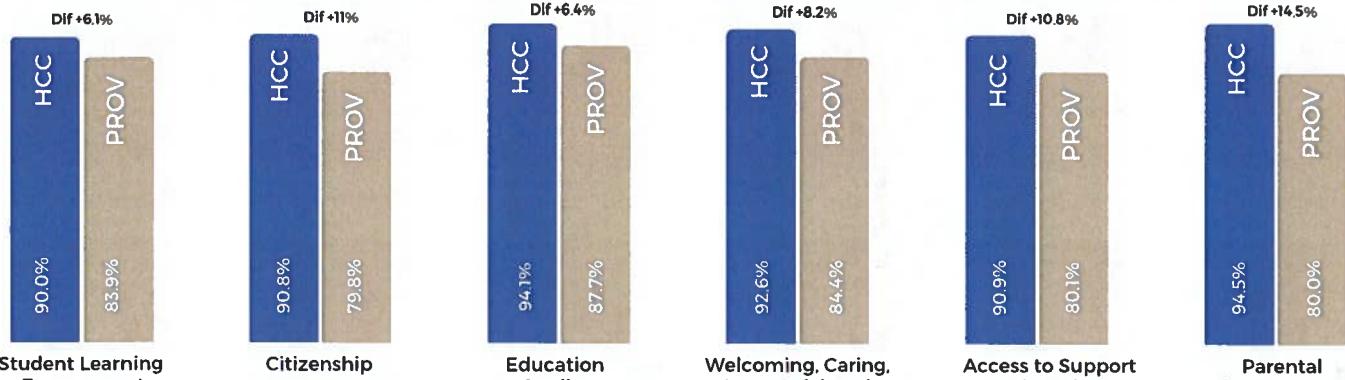
2024-2025

annual education results report

An Overview of Our Performance

ALBERTA ASSURANCE ANNUAL EDUCATION RESULTS

Alberta Education Assurance is a set of 12 performance measures calculated by Alberta Education for schools and school boards across the province. Schools and school boards are evaluated based on achievement, improvement, and overall performance.



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Welcoming, Caring, Respectful, and Safe Learning

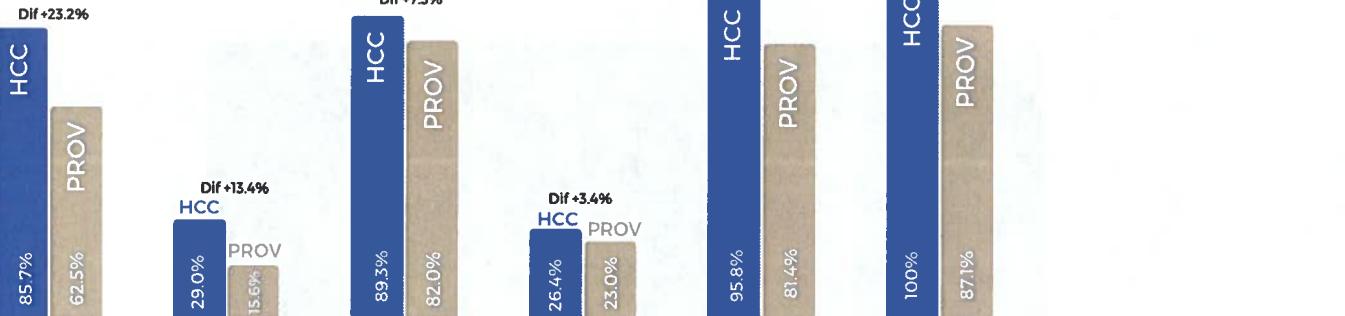
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Gr. 9 Provincial Achievement Test (Acceptable)

- PAT acceptable is the percentage of students who achieve the acceptable standard on Grade 9 Provincial Achievement Tests.

Gr. 9 Provincial Achievement Test (Excellence)

- PAT excellence is the percentage of students who achieve the standard of excellence on Grade 9 Provincial Achievement Tests.

Diploma (Acceptable)

- Diploma exam result (acceptable) is the percentage of students who achieve acceptable standard (i.e. a mark of 50%) on a diploma exam.

Diploma (Excellence)

- Diploma exam result (excellence) is the percentage of students who achieve the standard of excellence (i.e. a mark of 80%) on a diploma exam.

3-Year Completion

- 3-Year Completion represents students who graduate within 3 years of entering Grade 10.

5-Year Completion

- 5-Year Completion represents students who graduate within 5 years of entering Grade 10.

[Click here for our full Annual Education Results Report](#)

Faith Survey Results

Percentage of students, parents, and teachers who indicate that they are **98%** satisfied with the relationship that exists between the school and the local Catholic parish.

Percentage of students, parents and teachers who are satisfied with the religious celebrations that are celebrated with the school. **98%**

Percentage of students, parents and teachers who are satisfied with what is being taught in religious education classes. **92%**

Percentage of students, parents and teachers who indicate they are satisfied with the level of Catholic faith formation of students at the school. **94%**

Percentage of students, parents and teachers who indicate they are satisfied with the efforts to live our Catholic Social Teaching at school. **97%**

For the question, Percentage of parents, students, and teachers who indicate they are satisfied with the religious celebrations that are held at the school, our rating was 98.2%. This is a measure we are extremely proud of.

Insights

- Our three and five year high school completion rates remain very strong. The results are 95.8% and 100% respectively, 14.4% and 12.9% above the province.
- The PAT Acceptable rate was 85.7% outperforming the province by 23.2%, incredible.
- Holy Cross had a safe and caring measure of 92.6%, greater than the province by 8.4%.
- Student learning engagement was 90.0%, 6.1% above the provincial average.



ALBERTA

MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Peace River*

AR121350

January 8, 2026

Dear Chief Elected Official or Library Board Chair:

I am pleased to invite your municipality or library board to provide submissions for the 2026 Minister's Awards for Municipal and Public Library Excellence (MAMPLE). This program recognizes excellence in municipal government initiatives and the provision of library services and promotes knowledge sharing to build capacity. These awards offer an opportunity to recognize the truly great work happening in communities across Alberta.

The 2026 program features four municipal and two library award categories. For each municipal category, one award will be given for municipalities with populations under 10,000, and one for municipalities with populations over 10,000. For each library category, two awards will be given to library boards serving populations under 10,000, and two for library boards serving populations over 10,000.

Submissions will be accepted in the following categories:

- **Building Economic Strength (open to all municipalities)**

Awarded for an initiative that exemplifies:

- building the economic capacity and/or resiliency of the community; and/or
- improving the attractiveness of the community to businesses, investors, and visitors.

- **Enhancing Community Engagement or Livability (open to all municipalities)**

Awarded for an initiative that exemplifies:

- increasing accessibility of community services;
- fostering inclusive and welcoming communities;
- improving engagement opportunities for community members; and/or
- strengthening wellness and safety responsiveness.

- **Partnership (open to all municipalities)**

Awarded for an initiative that exemplifies:

- enabling a local or regional partnership* that achieves results that could not have been accomplished by the municipality alone;
- generating lasting relationships between partners; and/or
- leveraging the unique skill sets or resources of each partner.

*Partners may include municipalities, businesses, First Nations, non-profit organizations, community groups, and other orders of government.

.../2

- **Red Tape Reduction or Service Delivery Enhancement (open to all municipalities)**
Awarded for an initiative that exemplifies:
 - improving upon or presenting a new approach to how a municipality can deliver a program or service;
 - streamlining processes and reducing administrative requirements, leading to more efficient service delivery;
 - saving time, money, and/or resources by implementing practices that enhance operational effectiveness;
 - reducing regulatory, policy, or procedural requirements to simplify access to municipal services for residents and businesses; and/or
 - promoting transparency and accountability in municipal operations, fostering trust within the community.
- **Public Library Services (open to all library boards, serving a population under 10,000)**
Awarded for an initiative that exemplifies:
 - demonstrating responsiveness to community need(s); and
 - providing direct benefit to the public.
- **Public Library Services (open to all library boards, serving a population over 10,000)**
Awarded for an initiative that exemplifies:
 - demonstrating responsiveness to community need(s); and
 - providing direct benefit to the public.

Details regarding eligibility and submission requirements are available on the Minister's Awards for Municipal and Public Library Excellence webpage at www.alberta.ca/ministers-awards-municipal-public-library-excellence. **The deadline for submissions is March 31, 2026.**

Questions about the program from municipalities can be sent to municipalexcellence@gov.ab.ca or program advisors may be reached at 780-427-2225 (toll-free by first dialing 310-0000).

Questions about the program from library boards can be sent to libraries@gov.ab.ca or program advisors can be reached at 780-427-4871 (toll-free by first dialing 310-0000).

I encourage you to share your success stories, and I look forward to celebrating these achievements with your communities.

Sincerely,



Dan Williams, ECA
Minister of Municipal Affairs