



LAC LA BICHE COUNTY POLICY

TITLE: LEGAL ADVICE	POLICY NO: CS-14-004
RESOLUTION: 16.861	EFFECTIVE DATE: DECEMBER 11, 2012
LEAD ROLE: CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	NEXT REVIEW DATE: OCTOBER 1, 2021
SPECIAL NOTES/CROSS REFERENCE: CS-14-004 Legal Advice Procedure	AMENDMENT DATE: OCTOBER 13, 2016

POLICY STATEMENT:

1. Lac La Biche County is a public body; legislative compliance is a statutory duty and the County will take the necessary steps to protect the interests of the municipality.
2. Lac La Biche County will seek the services of legal counsel, where in the opinion of the Chief Administrative Officer, the advice is required to:
 - a) minimize the potential risk of litigation;
 - b) obtain assistance on interpretation and implication of relevant new and/or existing legislation or legal precedent;
 - c) clarify statutory powers and responsibilities;
 - d) clarify the County's responsibility to protect the health, safety and well-being of the County's employees, ratepayers, residents, the general public or the protection of property;
 - e) ensure the best economic outcome for the County; or
 - f) represent the County in matters proceeding to a hearing or trial.
3. The Chief Administrative Officer may, at his/her discretion, further delegate the authority to obtain legal advice. The Chief Administrative Officer will also establish and maintain a relevant administrative procedure outlining the responsibilities of those with the aforementioned delegated authority.
4. The Mayor, at his or her discretion, may obtain legal advice where the issue involves the Office of the Mayor. This authority is limited to matters pertaining to the employment of the Chief Administrative Officer or matters related to the conduct of Council Members. Unless authorized by resolution of Council, the Mayor shall not seek legal advice on behalf of Councillors for matters pertaining to pecuniary interest or conflict of interest, including pecuniary or conflict interest of the Mayor. Advice obtained through the Mayor will be presented in full to County Council.

5. As outlined in the Council Members' Code of Conduct, to determine if matters before County Council give rise to a pecuniary interest or a conflict of interest, Members of Council may seek legal advice either through a resolution of Council or independently. Independent legal advice is at the personal expense of the requesting Member.

“Original Signed”
Chief Administrative Officer

October 25, 2016
Date

“Original Signed”
Mayor

November 1, 2016
Date