

# Council Highlights

## Delegations

### Mr. Justin Rousseau, Expedition Management Consulting

- Mr. Justin Rousseau with Expedition Management Consulting presented on the Lac La Biche County Visitor Friendly Assessment that his firm conducted. The assessment was completed with grant funding from Alberta Culture and Tourism's *Visitor Friendly Alberta* program. The project cost was \$30,000, with 75% of the cost covered by the grant.
- The visitor friendly assessment is to serve as a guiding document for the County, and might help business owners and investors plan for new development.
- Mr. Rousseau highlighted the County's strengths for tourism, including its water-based activities, cultural attractions, and supply of restaurants and hotels. Some areas that the County should work on include improving maintenance of downtown Lac La Biche, establishing a public art program, and making Lac La Biche pedestrian-friendly. Mr. Rousseau condensed these improvements into an action plan.
- Council thanked Mr. Rousseau for his presentation, and directed Administration to bring forward proposals for implementing the action items in the Lac La Biche County Visitor Friendly Assessment.

### Mr. Rene Schaub, Lac La Biche Archery Club

- Mr. Rene Schaub of the Lac La Biche Archery Club presented to Council on his organization's partnership with Lac La Biche County. The club plans to build a new facility to host the 2019 3D World Archery Championship, scheduled for September 2 to 6, 2019 in Lac La Biche.

- The new archery facility will cost approximately \$1.9 million. In partnership with the Archery Club, Lac La Biche County applied to Alberta Culture and Tourism's Community Facility Enhancement grant program to cover some of the building cost.
- Should the application be successful, the County will spend \$750,000. An additional \$250,000 of the costs will be covered with in-kind contributions to the project. The grant will cover the remaining \$900,000.
- Council thanked Mr. Schaub for his presentation and update.

## New Business

### Lac La Biche County Protective Services Centre: Land Allocation

- Administration proposed a location for the new Lac La Biche County Protective Services Centre, which is projected to be built in 2019. The Centre will house County Peace Officers and firefighters, along with possible ambulance services staff. The location is just north of the County Centre yard, and south of the Bold Center.
- Council directed Administration to use the proposed location to plan for the Protective Services Centre.

### Sandbag Program

- High water levels are forecasted to be a concern this spring. Administration will continue to offer residents a free sand bag program in the event that water threatens their property. Staff will purchase enough sand bags to sustain an inventory of 5,000 bags, which will be replenished if demand is higher than predicted.
- Council accepted the briefing on the sandbag program as information.



### **Land Use Bylaw Amendment: Work Camps (Bylaw 18-006)**

- The current Land Use Bylaw mandates a 20 km buffer zone between work camps and hamlets in Lac La Biche County. Among other changes, an amended version of the Land Use Bylaw would reduce that buffer zone to 2 km around the boundaries of all hamlets in Lac La Biche County. Even with these buffers in place, work camps are still discretionary developments, and must be individually approved.
- The amended bylaw also includes a clause that requires public consultations be completed before issuing work camp development permits, ensuring that all adjacent landowners are informed of potential development.
- Council gave the amended Land Use Bylaw first reading. Before becoming law, Council must complete two more readings of the bylaw at a future meeting.
- Council directed Administration to host an open house to gather public feedback on Bylaw 18-006: Land Use Bylaw Amendment - Work Camps. After the open house, the feedback and amendment will be brought back to Council for second and third readings at a future meeting.