



February 26, 2025

Honourable Ric McIver
Minister of Municipal Affairs
320 Legislature Building
10800 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Sent via email: [REDACTED]

Dear Minister McIver:

Re: Deadline for Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks (ICF's) – Former CMRB Member Municipalities

On November 22, 2024, the Calgary Metropolitan Region Board (CMRB) was informed that Growth Board membership would become voluntary in nature and no longer mandatory as required per the *Act*. As a result of this decision, and members of the Board expressing their intent to no longer participate in a voluntary regional board, the CMRB decided that the necessary path forward in light of this provincial decision was to discontinue operations as of May 1, 2025, and advised your department accordingly.

With Ministerial Order (MSD: 017/25), which rescinds the approval of the CMRB's Regional Evaluation Framework (REF) and the Growth Plan, the Town of Okotoks is beginning to think ahead to the future of intermunicipal planning in and around its boundaries. Under the CMRB, the Town was not required to complete an Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework by Section 708.28(1) which states that "municipalities that have common boundaries must create a framework with each other by April 1, 2020, unless they are members of the same growth management board."

In the absence of the CMRB, the Town would be required as per Section 708.28(1) to develop an Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF) with its neighbouring municipality to address services that are mutually beneficial to both municipalities in accordance with the *Act*.

In order to ensure that our municipality meets the requirements of the *Act* and continues to work with its neighbor in providing quality services to all residents, whether they be within Okotoks or in close proximity, the Town is seeking clarity on a date that the Province will require ICF's for former Growth Board member municipalities to be completed by. Given the resourcing commitment and complexity of these arrangements while balancing the urgency and

Office of the Mayor

P.O. Box 20, Station Main
5 Elizabeth St. Okotoks, AB, T1S 1K1

☎ 403-938-8904

✉ tthorn@okotoks.ca

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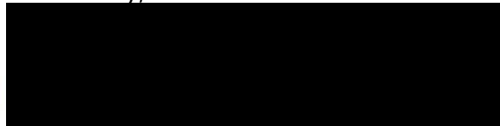
importance of having these in place between municipalities, the Town would propose that an eighteen-month timeframe is provided for the drafting and approval of these frameworks by former Growth Board member municipalities.

The Town understands that this is an important matter that impacts some of the fastest-growing municipalities in Alberta in both the Calgary and Edmonton regions. Clarity and understanding on the process for moving forward on service provision in these regions across municipal boundaries is an important piece towards building an Alberta that provides a strong quality of life for existing and new residents. Furthermore, these frameworks provide increased certainty of funding responsibilities for various services across jurisdictions that not only benefit those who reside in these regions, but those looking to invest and do business in Alberta.

We look forward to any further clarity or direction that you can provide regarding timelines for the completion of ICF's for those municipalities who were not previously required to have them in place.

If you would like to discuss this matter in greater detail, please contact me at 403-938-8904.

Sincerely,



Rachel Swendseid

Deputy Mayor

On behalf of Mayor Tanya Thorn, BA, ICD.D (she/her)

Blackfoot Name: Óóhkotok Aakíí

c: Elaine Vincent, CAO, Town of Okotoks: 