

Member Requests for Decision



Spring 2025 Municipal Leaders' Caucus
Version Date: February 27, 2025

Background

Alberta Municipalities (ABmunis) conducts an annual process at our Spring Municipal Leaders' Caucus where ABmunis' Regular Member municipalities have the option to present a Request for Decision (RFD) to seek member approval to give direction to ABmunis' Board of Directors.

Member RFDs are similar to member resolutions but there are key differences, which are explained on [our website](#).

The deadline to submit an RFD for consideration at ABmunis' Spring 2025 Municipal Leaders' Caucus closed on February 18, 2025. ABmunis received two RFDs that will be put to a vote by members at ABmunis' Spring Municipal Leaders' Caucus in Edmonton on March 6-7, 2025.

Process

At the Spring 2025 Municipal Leaders' Caucus, registered delegates who are elected officials of an ABmunis' Regular Member municipality will have the option to discuss and vote on the two enclosed RFDs.

For each RFD, Regular Members will have up to 45 seconds to make a comment or raise a question on the floor during the RFD session. Following the discussion, Regular Members will vote on each RFD. An RFD is adopted by the membership if 51 per cent or more of votes cast are in favour.

If adopted by members, ABmunis will take action based on the direction provided in the RFD.

Questions

Any questions about the RFD process may be directed to advocacy@abmunis.ca.

MEMBER REQUEST FOR DECISION

SPRING MUNICIPAL LEADERS' CAUCUS

DATE:

March 6, 2025

TOPIC:

Expand Powers of Bylaw Enforcement Officers to Remove Vehicles

RECOMMENDATION:

The Town of Vegreville Council requests that the Alberta Municipalities Board advocate to the Government of Alberta to amend section 1(1)(ff) of the Alberta *Traffic Safety Act* to expand the definition of a peace officer to include “a Bylaw Enforcement Officer appointed under the *Municipal Government Act* for the purpose of Section 77(1)(c) and 160(1) of this Act” so that bylaw enforcement officers have the power to remove vehicles that are in contravention of a municipal bylaw.

BACKGROUND:

Several years ago, Level 2 Community Peace Officers were removed from the Alberta *Peace Officer Act*, and municipalities had to revert their Peace Officer Programs to include either Peace Officer Level 1 or Bylaw Enforcement Officers, only.

As such, municipalities rely on bylaw enforcement officers to enforce municipal bylaws that are given their power only through the Alberta *Municipal Government Act* (MGA). Bylaws can be created to remove vehicles that are in contravention of a bylaw (towing a vehicle) or sending parking violations through the mail.

The challenge municipalities face is that to remove a vehicle from a public street or private property and issue tickets by mail fall under sections 77(1)(c) and 160(1) of the Alberta *Traffic Safety Act*. The *Traffic Safety Act* does not permit bylaw enforcement officers the authority to access vehicle information or tow a vehicle. Only a peace officer as defined within the *Traffic Safety Act* is authorized to do so. In many cases, municipalities like the Town of Vegreville do not have the necessary resources to carry out these actions.

ENCLOSURES:

Letter of Support from the Village of Alberta Beach



Alberta Beach

Box 278 • Alberta Beach • Alberta • T0E 0A0
Telephone: 780-924-3181 • Fax: 780-924-3313

January 23, 2025

Town of Vegreville
P.O. Box 640
Vegreville, AB
T9C 1N6

Attention: Mitch Newton, Manager of Protective Services

Re: Alberta Municipalities Resolution – Changes to the Alberta Traffic Safety Act

Alberta Beach Council at their last regular Council meeting held on January 21, 2025 approved to support the Town of Vegreville in their Alberta Municipalities Resolution regarding changes to the *Alberta Traffic Safety Act*, as outlined in your correspondence of May 2024 and submitted to Alberta Beach Council by Councillor Tara Elwood.

Further we understand the resolution is to request an amendment to the *Alberta Traffic Safety Act* to include in the definitions the following; "that a Bylaw Enforcement Officer appointed under the *Municipal Government Act* for the purpose of Section 77(1)(c) and 160(1) of this Act".

Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned or Councillor Tara Elwood if you require any further information.

Sincerely,


Kathy Skwarchuk,
CAO

Cc: Alberta Beach Council

MEMBER REQUEST FOR DECISION

SPRING MUNICIPAL LEADERS' CAUCUS

DATE:

March 6, 2025

TOPIC:

Self-Pay Option for Community Peace Officer Induction Program

RECOMMENDATION:

The Council from the Town of Vegreville requests that the Alberta Municipalities Board advocate to the Government of Alberta to reconsider the decision to not allow students to self-fund their training in the Community Peace Officer Induction Program.

BACKGROUND:

Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services' Training Academy is responsible for accrediting local peace officer training programs. Lac La Biche County operates a Law Enforcement Training Centre with a Community Peace Officer Induction Program (CPOIP).

In September 2024, Lac La Biche County was informed that it is being requested by the Training Academy to stop allowing general members of the public to self-fund their training in the CPOIP and that application to CPOIP only be available to persons sponsored by a municipality. This decision was made based on it not complying with the Peace Officer Program Policy Manual and also "not a good practice" as it is perceived that they are catering and teaching persons things that only people currently employed in the field should know.

Without self-pay students, municipalities have the extra burden to hire untrained candidates, fund their training through provincially recognized CPOIP programs, with the risk that the candidate does not complete or pass this training. This causes strain on municipal budgets and limits the ability to fill vacancies. The opportunity to hire a candidate who is provincially trained, with the required field training, gives municipalities the ability to access a pool of new candidates for their positions.

ENCLOSURES:

None



Alberta Municipalities Strength In Members

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