

Agenda Item: <u>D.6</u>

Request for Decision

July 17, 2017 Pembina River Zone Meeting Title **Proposed Motion** 1. That Council endorse the recommended resolution regarding farm workplace legislation and refer it to the July 17, 2017 Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties (AAMDC) Pembina River Zone Meeting for consideration. 2. That Council appoint Councillor Evans as the Resolution Champion for the July 17, 2017 Pembina River Zone Meeting. 3. That Council accept the July 17, 2017 Pembina River Zone briefing as information. **Administrative** That Council approve the proposed AAMDC Resolution as presented, as a Recommendation means of furthering the advocacy efforts suggested by Sturgeon County's Agricultural Service Board. **Previous Council** June 27, 2017 (unadopted Minutes) Direction Motion 311/17 - That Council direct Administration to draft a resolution for the July 17, 2017 Pembina Zone Meeting to bring awareness to the agriculture impacts of Bill 6 and Bill 17. Motion 310/17 - That Council submit an amended letter to the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry requesting further clarity on the Enhanced Protection for Farm and Ranch Workers Act as well as Bill 17: The Fair and Family-Friendly Workplace Act and the implications that these Acts will have on agricultural producers, as recommended by the Agricultural Service Board. Report **Background Information** At the June 27, 2017 regular Sturgeon County Council meeting, the Sturgeon County Agricultural Service Board brought forward a recommended letter for Council's consideration to send to the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, requesting that the Minister complete a Provincial Communications Plan to "close the loop" regarding impacts to agriculture producers, workers and stakeholders as a result of workplace legislation changes (in specific relation to Enhanced Protection for Farm and Ranch Workers Act and the Fair and Family Friendly Workplaces Act). Council reviewed, amended and approved the recommended letter to be sent to the Minister.

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- Following this item, Council directed Administration to prepare a resolution for the July 17, 2017 AAMDC Pembina River Zone Meeting with the intent of advocating this topic through an additional forum.
- The suggested resolution for Council's consideration has been reviewed electronically by the Agricultural Service Board and AAMDC staff. The resolution seeks that the AAMDC request that the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, and Ministry of Labour, develop and implement a communications plan to advise Alberta's agriculture sector of actual and intended changes regarding workplace legislation, with the outcome of establishing increased awareness and effective change management.
- Should Council approve the resolution, Administration has
 recommended that Council appoint Councillor Evans as the Resolution
 Champion, as Councillor Evans made the Motion at the June 27th
 Council meeting directing Administration to draft and bring forward a
 resolution to Council. The Resolution Champion would be responsible
 for speaking to the resolution at the Pembina River Zone Meeting, and
 ensure that a Seconder for the Resolution is secured.
- In conversation with the AAMDC Pembina River Zone Secretary,
 Sturgeon County Administration is projecting that the July 17 Agenda
 Package will be distributed on July 10, and Administration will provide a
 verbal update to Council on other proposed resolutions from other
 AAMDC members, if available.

External Communication

• The letter endorsed by Council to the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry was sent to the Minister's Office via email on June 28, 2017 (Attachment 2).

Relevant Policy/Legislation/Practices:

- Enhanced Protection for Farm and Ranch Workers Act, SA 2015, c. 19
- Bill 17 Fair and Family Friendly Workplaces Act

Implication of Administrative Recommendation

Strategic Alignment:

Strong Local Governance and Regional Leadership – Taking the Resolution forward is consistent with this Focus Area, given that the Agricultural Service Board has initiated this work and reviewed the Resolution, thus ensuring citizens are engaged as active participants in municipal governance. Moreover, Council actively participates, influences, and represents Sturgeon County's interests, per the Strategic Plan, at the regional, provincial and federal levels.

Organizational:

None.

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Financial: None. **Alternatives** Council may choose not to approve the Resolution, or to appoint a different Considered Resolution Champion. **Implications of** Strategic Alignment: **Alternatives** The sentiment expressed in the letter dated June 27, 2017 likely carries more weight provincially if the AAMDC and its membership are communicating the same message and advocating the issue. Not approving the resolution may be a missed opportunity in this regard. Organizational: None. Financial: None. **Follow up Action** 1. Administration will submit the resolution to the AAMDC Zone Secretary (Intergovernmental Affairs, July 2017). 2. Administration will support the Resolution Champion to find a Seconder for the Pembina River Zone Meeting (Intergovernmental Affairs, July 2017). Attachment(s) 1. Farm Workplace Legislation Resolution (Attachment 1) 2. June 27, 2017 Letter to Minister of Agriculture and Forestry (Attachment 2)

Report Reviewed

by:

Trenor Duley

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Strategic Alignment Checklist

Vision: Sturgeon County: a diverse, active community that pioneers opportunities and promotes initiative while embracing rural lifestyles.

Mission: Provide quality, cost effective services and infrastructure to meet the diverse needs of the Sturgeon County community, while improving competitiveness and sustainability.

| Focus Areas | Not consistent | N/A | Consistent |
|--|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Strong Local Governance and Regional Leadership | | | |
| We promote consistent and accountable leadership through collaborative and transparent processes (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP) | | | |
| Consistent with neighborhood role (see MDP), master plans, policies | | × | |
| Considers fiscal stability and sustainability | | × | |
| Has a positive impact on regional and sub-regional cooperation | | | \boxtimes |
| Respect the Natural Environment | | | |
| We acknowledge the importance of a healthy environment and will minimize and monitor our impact on ecosystems (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP) | | × | |
| Compliance with Provincial and Federal regulations and/or legislation | | | \boxtimes |
| Ensure effective environmental risk management | | | |
| Community Identity & Spirit | | | |
| We will build upon our strengths, where together we will create an inclusive, caring community (Strategic Plan, (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP) | | | \boxtimes |
| Promotes and/or enhances residents' identification with Sturgeon County | | | × |
| Enhances service provision through community partnerships | | × | |
| Supports Sturgeon County's cultural history | | | \boxtimes |
| Planned Growth and Prosperity | | | |
| We encourage varied and integrated enterprises that enhance our strong economic base, while balancing the needs of the community and natural environment. (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP) | | | ⊠ |
| Does the proposal align with the Integrated Regional Growth Strategy (map/policies) pg. 26 MDP | | × | |
| Considers cumulative costs and long-term funding implications | | \boxtimes | |
| Targets growth around current or planned infrastructure | | \boxtimes | |
| Maintain and Enhance Strong Communities | | | |
| We are committed to a safe, secure community, where our residents are respected and provided with access to opportunities. (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP) | | × | |
| Positive impact on residents' quality of life | | | \boxtimes |
| Supports and promotes volunteer efforts | | \boxtimes | |
| Provides programs and services that are accessible to all residents | | | |
| Operational Excellence | | |] |
| We have the organizational capability to deliver consistent and defined levels of service to all stakeholders in a professional, efficient, and cost effective manner | | ⊠ | |
| Staff have the knowledge, skills and capability to perform their jobs | | | |
| Streamlines operational processes and policies | | \boxtimes | |
| Promotes engagement and professional interaction with stakeholders | | | |
| Considers a cost-structure which allows Sturgeon County to remain competitive within a regional, national and global context | | | |

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