

## Request for Decision

<b>Title</b>	<b>Modernized Municipal Government Act: Continuing the Conversation Submission</b>
<b>Proposed Motion</b>	That Council authorize the Mayor to sign and submit the letter as presented on behalf of Council, to the Honourable Danielle Larivee, Minister of Municipal Affairs regarding the “Continuing the Conversation” discussion paper.
<b>Administrative Recommendation</b>	That Council approve the letter as presented, and authorize the Mayor to send the letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs on behalf of Council.
<b>Previous Council Direction</b>	<p>June 28, 2016 – Motion 235/16 That Council authorize the Mayor to submit the letter and position package, as presented, to the AAMDC, Alberta’s Industrial Heartland Association, and all Mayors and Reeves of Alberta Municipal Districts and Counties on behalf of Council regarding the Modernized Municipal Government Act.</p> <p>June 28, 2016 – Motion 236/16 That Council authorize the Mayor to sign and submit the letter as presented, on behalf of Council, to Honourable Danielle Larivee, Minister of Municipal Affairs regarding the Modernized Municipal Government Act.</p>
<b>Report</b>	<p><u>Background Information</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over the last three years, the Government of Alberta has undertaken a complete review of the <i>Municipal Government Act</i>, Alberta’s enabling legislation for municipalities. The amendments that were perceived as ‘non-controversial’ were introduced in 2015 and passed by the Legislative Assembly through Bill 20.</li> <li>• In the spring of 2016, <i>Bill 21: Modernized Municipal Government Act</i> was tabled, and the Provincial Government initiated a public consultation process given the substantive amendments suggested.</li> <li>• Sturgeon County Council submitted formal responses on Bill 21 to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and other stakeholders, including the AAMDC, in addition to attending several of the open house consultations hosted by Municipal Affairs in the summer.</li> <li>• Once feedback from the public was received, the Government of Alberta re-introduced Bill 21 in the fall sitting of the Legislature, and passed it on December 6, 2017. Administration believes the changes will come into effect in fall 2017.</li> </ul>

- Comparing version Bill 21 tabled in the Spring, and Bill 21 that was passed in the fall, the two most significant impacts from Sturgeon County’s perspective include:
  - Inter-municipal Collaboration Frameworks (ICFs): In the spring, it was suggested that municipalities with membership in a Growth Management Board (i.e. Capital Region Board) were exempt from being required to develop ICFs with other members of the Board. With the version that was passed, members of the CRB will be required to create ICFs with other members of the CRB only on matters not addressed in the growth management plan. ICFs will still have to be completed within a three-year timeframe, after the new MGA comes into effect. From a workload perspective, Sturgeon County may have to establish 15 ICFs (at the most) because of this change.
  - Centralized Industrial Assessment: Staying the course as previously acknowledged, the Provincial Government will continue assuming control of assessing all major industrial properties in the Province, including plants and refineries. More details will be established through corresponding Regulations, to be released for comment later this year.
- In addition to passing Bill 21, on December 6, 2016, the Government also released a discussion paper entitled “Continuing the Conversation.” This paper includes additional amendments the Government will consider incorporating into the *Modernized Municipal Government Act* in Spring 2017.
- Key members of Administration have reviewed the suggestions in this document, and have prepared the enclosed letter for Council’s review and approval.
- The Minister of Municipal Affairs has requested that any municipal feedback on “Continuing the Conversation” be provided by January 31, 2017.

External Communication

- None.

Relevant Policy/Legislation/Practices:

Sturgeon County Council 2015/16 Advocacy Priorities and Plan  
*Municipal Government Act*, RSA 2000 c. M-26


**Implication of Administrative Recommendation**

Strategic Alignment:

**Strong Local Governance and Regional Leadership** –Advocating for Sturgeon County’s interests to be present within the *Modernized Municipal Government Act* is consistent with providing effective leadership and management.

Organizational:

None.

	<u>Financial:</u> None.
<b>Alternatives Considered</b>	Council authorize the Mayor to submit the letter on behalf of Council, as amended.
<b>Follow up Action</b>	1. Administration will work with the Mayor to submit the correspondence prior to January 31, 2017 (Intergovernmental Affairs, January 2017)
<b>Attachment(s)</b>	1. Letter to Minister Larivee 2. "Continuing the Conversation" Report
<b>Report Reviewed by:</b>	 Trevor Duley, Senior Advisor Intergovernmental Affairs   Stephane Labonne, General Manager, Integrated Growth   Peter Tarnawsky, County Commissioner-CAO

## 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
<b>Strong Local Governance and Regional Leadership</b>			
<i>We promote consistent and accountable leadership through collaborative and transparent processes (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Consistent with neighborhood role (see MDP), master plans, policies</i></li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Considers fiscal stability and sustainability</i></li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Has a positive impact on regional and sub-regional cooperation</i></li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Respect the Natural Environment</b>			
<i>We acknowledge the importance of a healthy environment and will minimize and monitor our impact on ecosystems (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Compliance with Provincial and Federal regulations and/or legislation</i></li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Ensure effective environmental risk management</i></li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Community Identity &amp; Spirit</b>			
<i>We will build upon our strengths, where together we will create an inclusive, caring community (Strategic Plan, (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Promotes and/or enhances residents' identification with Sturgeon County</i></li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Enhances service provision through community partnerships</i></li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Supports Sturgeon County's cultural history</i></li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Planned Growth and Prosperity</b>			
<i>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)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Does the proposal align with the Integrated Regional Growth Strategy (map/policies) pg. 26 MDP</i></li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Considers cumulative costs and long-term funding implications</i></li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Targets growth around current or planned infrastructure</i></li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Maintain and Enhance Strong Communities</b>			
<i>We are committed to a safe, secure community, where our residents are respected and provided with access to opportunities. (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Positive impact on residents' quality of life</i></li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Supports and promotes volunteer efforts</i></li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Provides programs and services that are accessible to all residents</i></li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Operational Excellence</b>			
<i>We have the organizational capability to deliver consistent and defined levels of service to all stakeholders in a professional, efficient, and cost effective manner</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Staff have the knowledge, skills and capability to perform their jobs</i></li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Streamlines operational processes and policies</i></li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Promotes engagement and professional interaction with stakeholders</i></li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Considers a cost-structure which allows Sturgeon County to remain competitive within a regional, national and global context</i></li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>