

## Request for Decision

<b>Title</b>	<b>AAMDC Resolution – Gravel Pit Reclamation</b>
<b>Proposed Motion</b>	That Council endorse the recommended resolution regarding gravel pit reclamation and refer it to the October 17, 2016, Alberta Association of Districts and Counties (AAMDC) Pembina Zone Meeting for consideration.
<b>Administrative Recommendation</b>	Administration recommends Council endorse the proposed resolution as presented. If acted upon by the Government of Alberta, the resolution would have positive impacts on the County, its residents and the region.
<b>Previous Council Direction</b>	July 12, 2016, Motion 263/16: That Council discuss gravel extraction reclamation timelines (WITHDRAWN - in order to work with Administration to develop a proposed AAMDC resolution for Council’s consideration prior to next Pembina Zone meeting).
<b>Report</b>	<p><u>Background Information</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This Request for Decision is the follow-up to the above item, whereby the enclosed resolution is recommended for Council consideration to be referred to the October 17, 2016, AAMDC Pembina Zone Meeting.</li> <li>• The resolution speaks to the Provincial Code of Practice for Gravel Pits, whereby gravel pits that came into operation prior to August 15, 1978, in Alberta are exempt from requiring a reclamation plan to be developed every five years, which creates issues with enforcement and certainty regarding reclamation.</li> <li>• The resolution suggests that relevant legislation be amended to establish similar requirements for all gravel pits, regardless of when they were established, with the aim of providing greater certainty for residents around reclamation timelines and requirements.</li> <li>• Moreover, with review of the Community Aggregate Payment (CAP) Levy as part of the <i>Municipal Government Act (MGA)</i> review later in 2016 and early 2017, the resolution suggests that changes to the levy could result in direct, open funding for reclamation efforts and research. In essence, if the levy were to be adjusted to a higher rate, municipalities could remain entitled to the revenues generated from the current rate (\$0.25 per tonne), and anything above this could be directed towards reclamation of orphaned and abandoned gravel pit sites.</li> </ul>

- The initial intent in the development of the CAP Levy was that monies received from it be directed to communities and infrastructure affected by sand and gravel activity.
- The current CAP Levy is set to expire December 31, 2017. As part of the MGA Review, the Alberta Sand and Gravel Association is lobbying for a centralized authority to collect and disperse CAP Levy monies, with a percentage of CAP monies allocated to research reclamation techniques and the reclamation of orphaned and abandoned sites.
- The Association's position is largely informed by the concern that funds raised through the CAP Levy are not necessarily being direct and openly invested back into projects for affected communities and infrastructure.
- The proposed resolution suggests that the AAMDC lobby the Province to explore opportunities to allocate a portion of future funds received from the levy towards reclamation efforts, *if* the current levy amount collected by municipalities were adjusted to reflect current conditions.
- The current Community Aggregate Payment Levy amount is \$0.25/tonne and has not been adjusted since 2006.
- In 2015, Sturgeon County collected \$685,439 from the levy, with majority of the funds being distributed as follows:
  - West Sturgeon Agricultural Society: \$43,265
  - Villeneuve Athletic Association: \$43,265
  - Calahoo-Villeneuve ASP Community Groups: \$81,859
  - Calahoo-Villeneuve Eligible Applicants Reserve: \$40,929
  - Community Services Advisory Board: \$41,317
  - County Nominated Projects (Calahoo Hall Project): \$400,000.

External Communication

- N/A

Relevant Policy/Legislation/Practices:



Community Aggregate Payment Levy Bylaw (1078/06)  
 Community Aggregate Payment Levy Regulation 263/2005  
 Code of Practice for Pits (September 1, 2004)  
*Municipal Government Act, RSA 2000 c. M-26*

**Implication of Administrative Recommendation**

Strategic Alignment:

**Strong Local Governance and Regional Leadership** – Providing the resolution to the AAMDC for consideration is consistent with Council's practice of representing Council's advocacy interests at the Provincial order of Government.

**Planned Growth** – The intent of the Resolution builds upon the Alberta Sand and Gravel Association's position, which is consistent with Sturgeon County having a positive business environment that supports a strong economic foundation.

	<p><u>Organizational:</u></p> <p>Sturgeon County Administration will support Council in providing the resolution to the AAMDC Pembina Zone and there afterwards at the AAMDC Fall Convention, should the Pembina Zone approve on October 17, 2016.</p> <p><u>Financial:</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
<b>Alternatives Considered</b>	Council may wish to amend the Resolution as presented, or may choose not to forward on to the AAMDC Pembina Zone for consideration.
<b>Implications of Alternatives</b>	<p><u>Strategic Alignment:</u></p> <p>N/A</p> <p><u>Organizational:</u></p> <p>N/A</p> <p><u>Financial:</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
<b>Follow up Action</b>	1. Administration will confirm with AAMDC Pembina Zone representatives Council's decision regarding the proposed Resolution.
<b>Attachment(s)</b>	Gravel Pit Reclamation Resolution
<b>Report Reviewed by:</b>	<p></p> <p>Trevor Duley, Senior Advisor Intergovernmental Affairs</p> <p></p> <p>Stephane Labonne, General Manager Integrated Growth</p> <p></p> <p>Peter Tarnawsky, County Commissioner-CAO</p>

## 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Ensure effective environmental risk management</i></li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>