

Agenda	Item:	C.1

# Request for Decision

Title	Relocation of Public Hearing (continuation from February 28, 2017) - Land Use Bylaw 1385/17
Proposed Motion	That Council relocate the scheduled Public Hearing that is to be held on March 28, 2017 at 1:30 p.m. for proposed Land Use Bylaw 1385/17, from Sturgeon County Centre to the Morinville Cultural Centre, 9502-100 Avenue, Morinville.
Administrative Recommendation	Administration recommends that Council change the location of the Public Hearing to allow for more public access to the hearing.
Previous Council Direction	None.
Report	Background Information
	<ul> <li>The February 28, 2017 Public Hearing was attended by almost 150 members of the public. Following the hearing it was identified that there were concerns with hosting high numbers of public in Sturgeon County Centre.</li> <li>Firstly, one of the main concerns is that there were many members of the public that had to stand for the entire length of the hearing and some were in the hallway where they were not able to hear the public's submissions. Additionally, there was a delay with the live stream in the overflow room (Cardiff room). This proved to be an issue for members of the public who had registered to speak as they were not able to hear when it was their turn.</li> <li>Further, the rooms in Sturgeon County Centre simply cannot accommodate more than 100 people at a time.</li> <li>Administration recommends that in this special circumstance that a relocation of the public hearing is warranted. In order to transact this legislatively, Council must choose to hold a Special Council Meeting to change the location of the meeting. Given the timelines involved, the decision was made to waive the notice requirement. The Municipal Government Act (MGA) allows the authority for Council to do so and have exercised this option in this emergent situation.</li> <li>Further, it is recognized that allowing our residents to provide input into the Public Hearing is extremely important to the process and needs to be flexible. It is equally as important that we provide a consistent and transparent process when dealing with these matters.</li> </ul>

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#### **External Communication**

• If Council approves the recommended relocation, the Legislative Services Department will work with the Communications Department to publicize the change in location in as many places as possible. A notice will be located in the following places: Morinville *Free Press* and the Redwater *Review*, road signs, postings at all County lobbies, social media and website. Further, emails will be sent to each of the members of the public who submitted public input to the LUB advising them of the change in location.

## Relevant Policy/Legislation/Practices:

- Municipal Government Act, RSA 2000, c.M-26, sections 194 and 199.
- Pubic Engagement Policy

## Implication of Administrative Recommendation

#### Strategic Alignment:

Strategic Plan goals met:

**Goal 1.1.4**. - Citizens are engaged as active participants in municipal governance; representing the broader community.

**Goal 3.1.1** - Facilitate improved communications so all residents have ready access to information, including high speed internet.

This recommendation also aligns with the following focus areas:

**Strong Local Governance and Regional Leadership** – The recommendation promotes consistent and accountable leadership through collaborative and transparent processes.

**Maintain and Enhance Strong Communities** – Administration is committed to helping foster a community, where our residents are respected and provided with access to opportunities.

**Community Identity & Spirit** – Addressing the concerns raised would demonstrate a commitment by Sturgeon County to the well-being of its residents.

#### Organizational:

There is impact on Administration to facilitate this change, however it is felt that this change in location is warranted. To make this change successful it will require Legislative Services and the Communications Department to work collaboratively.

#### Financial:

There is a cost to rental of the facility (est. \$700) and the A/V equipment (TBD).

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# Alternatives Considered

Council could choose to continue with the plan to hold the Public Hearing within County Centre.

# Implications of **Alternatives**

## Strategic Alignment:

This does not align Operational Excellence, wherein the County promotes engagement and professional interactions with stakeholders.

### Organizational:

Exceeding the capacity of people within Sturgeon County Centre does not align with the Health and Safety Policy in which the organization upholds to high regard.

#### Financial:

There would be no financial impact if no change in location was made.

#### **Follow up Action**

- 1. Advertise change in venue (Legislative Services March 23-28, 2017).
- 2. Contact individuals who provided submissions for the LUB directly (Legislative Services - March 23, 2017).
- 3. Confirm Morinville Cultural Centre booking and address all technical and setup requirements (Communications/Legislative Services - March 23-28, 2017).

**Attachment(s)** None.

# **Report Reviewed** by:

Christine Beveridge

Mother Bedensof.

Senior Legislative Officer, Legislative Services

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
Strong Local Governance and Regional Leadership			
We promote consistent and accountable leadership through collaborative and transparent processes (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)			×
<ul> <li>Consistent with neighborhood role (see MDP), master plans, policies</li> </ul>		X	
Considers fiscal stability and sustainability		$\boxtimes$	
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		×	
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)		×	
Promotes and/or enhances residents' identification with Sturgeon County		$\boxtimes$	
Enhances service provision through community partnerships		$\boxtimes$	
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)		×	
<ul> <li>Does the proposal align with the Integrated Regional Growth Strategy (map/policies) pg. 26 MDP</li> </ul>		×	
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			$\boxtimes$
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		$\boxtimes$	
Streamlines operational processes and policies		$\boxtimes$	
Promotes engagement and professional interaction with stakeholders			$\boxtimes$
Considers a cost-structure which allows Sturgeon County to remain competitive within a regional, national and global context		$\boxtimes$	

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