

Request for Decision

Title	Appointment of 2019 Fire Guardians
Proposed Motion	That Council approve the following staff members as Fire Guardians for 2019:
	*Pat Mahoney, Brad Reid, Glenn Innis, Kurt Richter, Paul Richards, Nico Lozinski, Christine Bassett-Daviau, Jevin Van der Leek, Dave MacSween, Ken Lauinger, Bill Willocks, Matt Roblin, Madero Kendall, Malaine Wark, Kevin Kulbisky, Jeannette Bilodeau, Linda Walker, Joanne Wynder, Sandy Vansevenandt, Dolores Rivard, Lianne Long, Shannon Gagnon, Shelley Hudec, Kandis Boddez and Luba Sudak.
Administrative Recommendation	Administration recommends that Council approve the listed staff as Fire Guardians for 2019.
Previous Council Direction	Appointment of Fire Guardians has been endorsed by Council on an annual basis for several years.
Report	Background Information
	Each year Council is required to appoint a sufficient number of fire guardians for the fire season. Members of Council, the County Commissioner (CAO) and his designates are fire guardians by virtue of their office.
	To promote good fire safety practices with respect to open fires, a fire permit is required year around.
	It should be noted most fire permits issued over the last few years have been processed online via the County website. However, the requirement to appoint fire guardians to accommodate walk-in requests is still necessary.
	Guardians are informed when a questionable or out-of-the-ordinary permit request is made. These permit requests are forwarded to Protective Services. Permit requests for large brush piles and/or windrow piles will continue to be forwarded to Protective Services staff for review.
	Depending on the individual situation, Protective Services may conduct a

	External Communication		
	 In conjunction with the Communications Department, Protective Services carries out a series of advertisements/notifications annually with varying messages, including safe burning practices and the requirement for year-round fire permits. 		
	Relevant Policy/Legislation/Practices:		
	 Sturgeon County Burning Bylaw 1375/16. The Alberta Forest and Prairie Protection Act. 		
Implication of	Strategic Alignment:		
Administrative Recommendation	By approving these appointments, Council will be consistent with its approach to Strong Local Governance as well as Maintaining and Enhancing Strong Communities. These appointments will allow control and consistency regarding the issuance of fire permits.		
	Organizational:		
	As these are annual appointments, organizationally, the impact should be minimal. However, there will be some additional workload in processing of the permits.		
	<u>Financial:</u>		
	The impact regarding this decision will be minimal; all costs will be covered with current budgets.		
Alternatives Considered	Council could limit the appointment of additional fire guardians		
Implications of	Strategic Alignment:		
Alternatives	Issuing of fire permits may be delayed due to backlog of requests.		
	Organizational:		
	Only Council and the CAO would be able to issue permits. Issuance of fire permits would be delayed due to influx of requests. Protective Services staff would not be in a position to inspect extraordinary requests.		
	Failing to issue permits in a timely manner may result in increased cases of improper burning, resulting in additional demand, responses and cost to fire departments.		
	<u>Financial:</u>		
	There may be increased costs to respond and mitigate unpermitted burning incidents.		

Follow up Action	1.	Notify staff of their fire guardian appointments.
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2. If Council endorses the proposed Request for Decision, an information session will be scheduled by Protective Services for Administration, Council and the appointed fire guardians.

Attachment(s) 1. None.

Report Reviewed

by:

Fire Chief/Manager of Protective Services

Scotting

General Manager, Municipal Services

Reegan McCullough, 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
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 and MDP pg. 36)		\boxtimes	
 Supports a strong thriving business environment to strengthen our economic foundation 		\boxtimes	
• Plans for responsible growth through the MDP and regional growth plan.		\boxtimes	
 Manages growth for current and future developments through: transparent bylaws, policies and processes to enable responsible land development 		X	
 targeting growth around existing and identified future growth areas 		⊠	
Maintain and Enhance Strong Communities			
We are committed to a safe and viable community, where our residents are provided with access to opportunities and quality of life.		\boxtimes	
(Strategic Plan and pg. 27 MDP)			
 Provides access to programs and services that have a positive impact on residents' quality of life 		\boxtimes	
Provides access to safe and reliable infrastructure assets		\boxtimes	
Supports the safety of people and property			\boxtimes
Strong Local and Regional Governance			
We promote consistent and accountable leadership through collaborative and transparent processes (Strategic Plan and pg. 27 MDP)			
• Provides effective leadership and management consistent with Strategic Plan, MDP, master plans, bylaws, policies, community engagement			
Considers fiscal stability and sustainability		\boxtimes	
Fosters collaborative intergovernmental partnerships		X	
Community Identity & Spirit			
We will build upon our strengths, where together we will create an inclusive, caring community (Strategic Plan and MDP pg. 27)		M	
Promotes and/or enhances residents' identification with Sturgeon County		\boxtimes	
• Support and/or collaborate with voluntary organizations in the region		X	
Environmental Stewardship			
We foster a healthy environment and minimize our impact on ecosystems. (Strategic Plan and MDP pg. 27)			\boxtimes
Plans and partnerships that minimize environmental impact on natural areas			
Provides awareness of environmental issues impacting the County			