

MUNICIPAL CLERK'S OFFICE

TO: Council

DATE: October 27, 2020 **DIVISION:** All

FILE: N/A

SUBJECT: *Electoral Boundaries and Council Composition Bylaw C-8077-2020*

DIRECTION:

The *Municipal Government Act* states that Council may pass bylaws to specify the number of councillors comprising Rocky View County Council, divide Rocky View County into divisions, establish the boundaries of each division, and provide for the number of councillors to be nominated and elected in each division, as well as directing another title appropriate for the Chief Elected Officials (currently referred to as the Reeve and Deputy Reeve).

On January 28, 2020, Council approved a Terms of Reference for an Electoral Boundary and Governance Review to review the County's governance structure to consider a mayor-at large model and the number and shape of the County's divisions in accordance with Electoral Boundary Review Policy C-702.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to propose Electoral Boundaries and Council Composition Bylaw C-8077-2020 which:

- 1) Divides the County into seven electoral divisions;
- 2) Requires that one councillor represent each of the seven electoral divisions;
- 3) Requires that candidates for the office of councillor be nominated and elected for each division; and
- 4) Requires that one councillor be appointed by Council to the office of Chief Elected Official and one councillor be appointed by Council to the office of Deputy Chief Elected Official from amongst the councillors; and
- 5) Changes the title of the Chief Elected Official from "Reeve" to "Mayor" and Deputy Chief Elected Official from "Deputy Reeve" to "Deputy Mayor."

In accordance with the *Municipal Government Act*, bylaws to change the number of councillors or to amend the electoral boundaries must be advertised and allow for a 60 day petition period after the last date of which the proposed bylaw is advertised. Based on these criteria, the Chief Administrative Officer has not received a petition regarding the proposed bylaw.

Based on the timelines and the petition period requirements outlined in the *Municipal Government Act*, a decision on Electoral Boundaries and Council Composition Bylaw C-8077-2020 must be made by Council at the October 27, 2020 meeting in order for the changes to be in effect for the next general election on October 18, 2021 (which has a nomination process starting on January 1, 2021).

Administration Resources

Charlotte Satink, Municipal Clerk's Office

If Electoral Boundaries and Council Composition Bylaw C-8077-2020 is defeated, this will mean the next general election will default to the current electoral boundaries and the opportunity to change the electoral boundaries will not come into effect until the 2025 general election. An additional effect of not passing the Bylaw may cause further delay on a decision of the County's Specialized Municipality status application currently with the Province.

Approving Electoral Boundaries and Council Composition Bylaw C-8077-2020 means the number of Council representatives will decrease from nine division to seven divisions and significant changes to the current electoral boundaries. Additionally, approval of Electoral Boundaries and Council Composition Bylaw C-8077-2020 establishes the Chief Elected Officials as the Mayor and a deputy as Deputy Mayor; both with an appointment term of one year as per the Procedure Bylaw. Any changes to the appointment term of the Mayor or Deputy Mayor positions will require additional separate amendments to the Procedure Bylaw.

Should Council request to have a title of the Chief Elected Officials be changed to Mayor and Deputy within this Council's term, Council may change the title through a motion arising.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

Administration recommends approval in accordance with Option #1.

HISTORY:

July 9, 2019	Council approved Electoral Boundary Review Policy C-702 to establish how and when the County determines its electoral boundaries.
September 10, 2019	Council directed Administration to retain an independent consultant to conduct a comprehensive electoral boundaries and governance review based on a public participation engagement strategy to inform and listen/learn from the public that includes an online questionnaire and a Council workshop.
November 26, 2019	Council approved a budget adjustment of \$100,000 to retain an independent consultant to conduct the review.
January 28, 2020	Council approved the Terms of Reference for an Electoral Boundaries and Governance Review to be conducted by an independent consultant (Attachment 'C'). Administration retained ISL Engineering and Land Services Ltd. (ISL) along with subconsultants Transitional Solutions Inc. (TSI) and Metro Economics to conduct an independent and objective review of the County's electoral boundaries and governance structure.
April 8 – 29, 2020	Public participation online survey collection period.
May 19, 2020	Council Workshop conducted by consultants.
June 18, 2020	Council Workshop conducted by consultants.
June – August 2020	Based on research and analysis, workshop feedback and online survey results, consultants work on a recommendation to be presented to Council on October 27, 2020.

August 11 and 18, 2020

As per the *Municipal Government Act*, the proposed bylaw was advertised for two consecutive weeks after which a legislated 60-day petition period occurred.

BACKGROUND:

Rocky View County's last major electoral boundary review was conducted in 2000 by the Alberta Treasury Board. Since 2000, the County's total estimated population increased by 48 percent (28,441 to 42,291).

In 2010, a minor electoral boundary adjustment was made to divisions 7 and 8 in accordance with the Bearspaw Area Structure Plan. Since 2010, the County has gone through four annexations (Crossfield 2010, Airdrie 2011, MD Bighorn 2012, and Tsuut'ina 2015) that have affected the County's electoral boundaries, but none of these are reflected in the current electoral boundaries bylaw.

Based on Electoral Boundary Review Policy C-702, the optimum population per division should be the primary factor in determining electoral boundaries. The optimum population of each division should be within ± 25 percent of the population average, which is determined by dividing the County's total population by the number of divisions. Under the current electoral boundaries, using the 2018 municipal census data, divisions 1, 3, 4, and 6 do not meet the optimum population requirement to be within ± 25 percent of the population average of 4,523 residents.

DISCUSSION:

The work undertaken by the consultant as directed in the approved Terms of Reference included a best practices review of comparable Alberta municipalities, a population analysis to determine the current demographic context in the County, a population projection to determine anticipated demographic change in the County, spatial analysis, Council workshops and the development and implementation of a public participation survey.

The public participation survey was conducted online for 21 days from April 8 through April 29, 2020. A total of 379 respondents completed the survey, representing one percent of eligible voters.

Based on the research, analysis and general feedback gathered by the consultant, the scope of the review narrowed to consider a recommendation of a governance structure consisting of one councillor elected for each division, an appointed Chief Elected Official (currently referred to as the Reeve) and for Council to change the Chief Elected Official's title from Reeve to Mayor, as the title "Mayor" is a more familiar term publically for advocacy reasons.

With this scope, the consultant provided the most robust recommendation that accommodates future population growth while balancing that growth with effective representation of residents (Attachment B).

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

The annual estimated cost to support one councillor position annually is an estimated \$108,000 (\$432,000 over four years) which includes salary and benefits, travel and subsistence, conference / training fees, community outreach, a phone and a tablet. Over a four-year electoral term, decreasing from nine councillor positions to seven councillor positions equates to an estimated cost savings of \$864,000 for the County.



OPTIONS:

- Option #1: Motion 1: THAT Bylaw C-8077-2020 be given first reading.
 Motion 2: THAT Bylaw C-8077-2020 be given second reading.
 Motion 3: THAT Bylaw C-8077-2020 be considered for third reading.
 Motion 4: THAT Bylaw C-8077-2020 be given third and final reading.
- Option #2: THAT alternative direction be provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Concurrence,

“Kent Robinson”

“Al Hoggan”

Executive Director

Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment ‘A’ – Electoral Boundaries and Council Composition Bylaw C-8077-2020

Attachment ‘B’ – ISL Recommendations Report

Attachment ‘C’ – Electoral Boundary and Governance Review Terms of Reference



BYLAW C-8077-2020

A bylaw of Rocky View County to establish the composition of Rocky View County Council; divide Rocky View County into divisions and establish the boundaries of each division; and determine the title of the positions of Rocky View County's Chief Elected Official and Councillors.

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 143 and 144 of the *Municipal Government Act*, Council may by bylaw specify the number of councillors comprising Rocky View County Council;

AND WHEREAS, pursuant to section 148 and 149 of the *Municipal Government Act*, Council may by bylaw divide Rocky View County into divisions, establish the boundaries of each division, and provide for the number of councillors to be nominated and elected in each division;

AND WHEREAS, pursuant to section 150 of the *Municipal Government Act*, the Chief Elected Official is to be appointed by Council from among the councillors;

AND WHEREAS, pursuant to section 152 of the *Municipal Government Act*, the Deputy Chief Elected Official must be appointed by Council from amongst the councillors;

AND WHEREAS pursuant to section 155 of the *Municipal Government Act*, Council may direct another title appropriate for the office of Councillor and Chief Elected Official;

AND WHEREAS, pursuant to section 149 of the *Municipal Government Act*, a bylaw passed under section 148 of the *Municipal Government Act* must be passed by December 31 of the year before the general election at which it is to take effect.

NOW THEREFORE the Council of Rocky View County enacts as follows:

Title, Purpose, and Definitions

- 1 This bylaw may be cited as the *Electoral Boundaries and Council Composition Bylaw*.
- 2 The purpose of this bylaw is to:
 - (1) establish the composition of Rocky View County Council;
 - (2) divide Rocky View County into divisions and establish the boundaries of each division; and
 - (3) determine the title of the positions of Rocky View County's Chief Elected Official and Councillors.
- 3 Words in this Bylaw have the same meaning as set out in the *Municipal Government Act* except for the definitions provided in Schedule 'A' of this Bylaw.



Electoral Boundaries

- 4 Rocky View County is divided into seven divisions with the boundaries established in Schedule 'B' of this bylaw.

Council Composition

- 5 Rocky View County Council is comprised of seven councillors, each representing one of the divisions established by this bylaw.
- 6 Candidates for the office of councillor must be nominated for a specific division and one councillor must be elected for each division.
- 7 The office of councillor has the title "Councillor."

Chief Elected Official and Deputy Chief Elected Official

- 8 One councillor must be appointed to the office of Chief Elected Official by Council from amongst the councillors.
- 9 One councillor must be appointed to the office of Deputy Chief Elected Official by Council from amongst the councillors.
- 10 The office of Chief Elected Official has the title "Mayor."
- 11 The office of Deputy Elected Official has the title "Deputy Mayor."

Severability

- 12 Each provision of this bylaw is independent of all other provisions. If any provision of this bylaw is declared invalid for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, all other provisions of this bylaw remain valid and enforceable.

Transitional

- 13 Bylaw C-5298-2000, and any amendments thereto, are repealed upon this bylaw passing and coming into full force and effect.
- 14 Bylaw C-8077-2020, being the *Electoral Boundaries and Council Composition Bylaw*, is passed when it receives third reading and is signed in accordance with the Municipal Government Act.
- 15 Bylaw C-8077-2020, being the *Electoral Boundaries and Council Composition Bylaw*, comes into full force and effect on October 18, 2021.



ROCKY VIEW COUNTY

READ A FIRST TIME IN COUNCIL this _____ day of _____, 2020

READ A SECOND TIME IN COUNCIL this _____ day of _____, 2020

UNANIMOUS PERMISSION FOR THIRD READING this _____ day of _____, 2020

READ A THIRD TIME IN COUNCIL this _____ day of _____, 2020

Reeve

Chief Administrative Officer or Designate

Date Bylaw Signed



Bylaw C-8077-2020

Schedule 'A' – Definitions

- 1 **"Council"** means the duly elected Council of Rocky View County and includes the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and all Councillors.
- 2 **"Councillor"** means a duly elected member of Council and includes the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and all Councillors.
- 3 **"Deputy Mayor"** means the Deputy Chief Elected Official as defined and contemplated in the *Municipal Government Act*.
- 4 **"Division"** means ward as defined and contemplated in the *Municipal Government Act*.
- 5 **"General Election"** means an election as defined and contemplated in the *Local Authorities Election Act* but does not include a by-election or a vote on a bylaw or question also as defined in the contemplated in the *Local Authorities Election Act*.
- 6 **"Local Authorities Election Act"** means the *Local Authorities Election Act*, RSA 2000, c E-21, as amended or replaced from time to time, and does not include a by-election or a vote on a bylaw or question.
- 7 **"Mayor"** means the Chief Elected Official as defined and contemplated in the *Municipal Government Act*.
- 8 **"Municipal Government Act"** means the *Municipal Government Act*, RSA 2000, c M-26, as amended or replaced from time to time.
- 9 **"Rocky View County"** means Rocky View County as a municipal corporation and the geographical area within its *jurisdictional* boundaries, as the context requires.



Bylaw C-8077-2020

Schedule 'B' – Electoral Boundaries

Division 1

All those lands within the corporate limits of Rocky View County, excluding those lands within Tsuu T'ina Nation 145, that are within

Sections 1 through 4, Sections 8 through 17, Section 19, Sections 22 through 27, Sections 29 through 32, Section 34 through Section 35, Township 23, Range 5, West of the 5th Meridian excepting thereout the north half of Section 35

Sections 5 through 8, Township 24, Range 2, West of the 5th Meridian,

Sections 17 through 18, Township 24, Range 2, West of the 5th Meridian that are south of the south right-of-way boundary of Lower Springbank Road,

Sections 1 through 22, Township 24, Range 3, West of the 5th Meridian,

Sections 1 through 24 and Sections 27 through 34, Township 24, Range 4, West of the 5th Meridian that are south of the south right-of-way boundary of Provincial Highway No. 1,

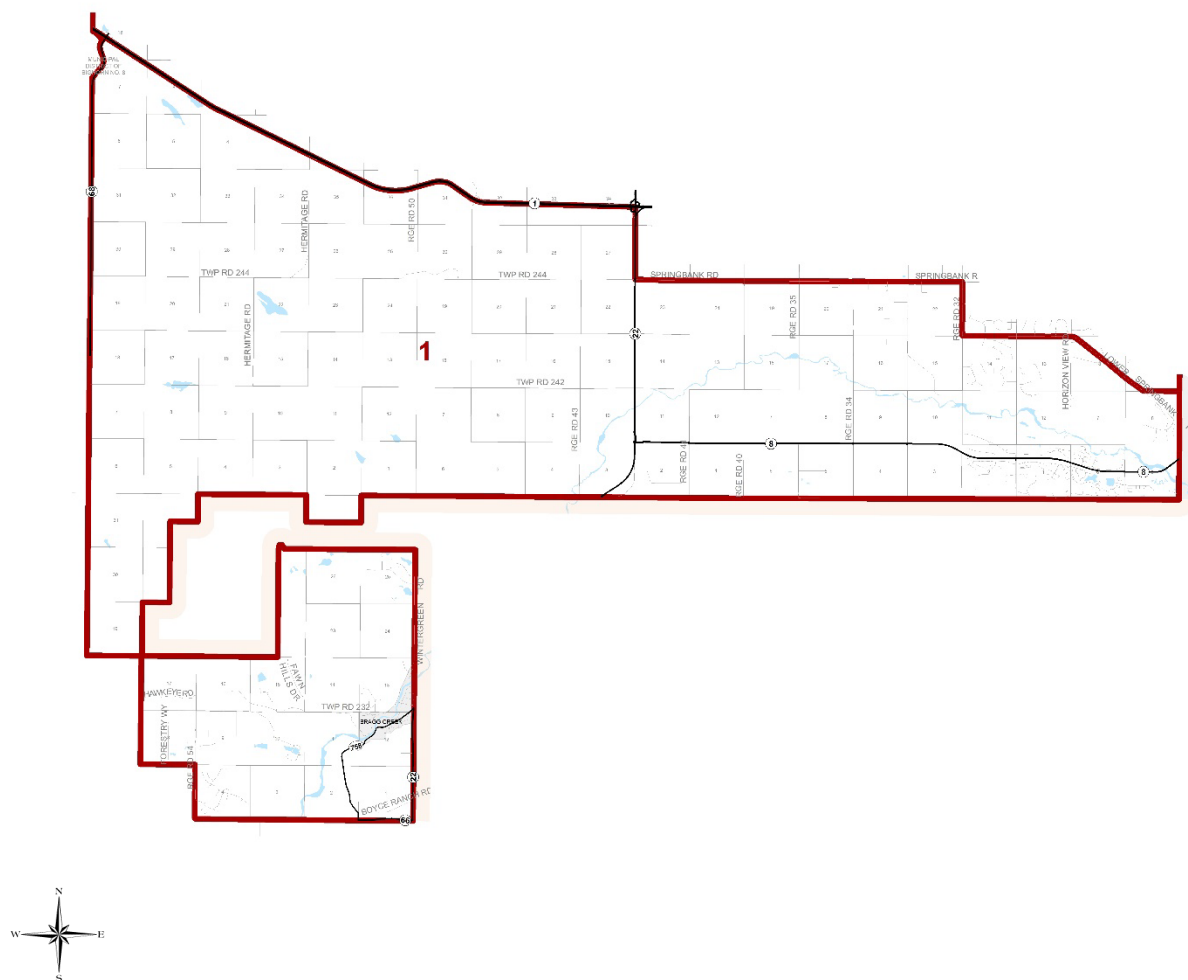
Sections 1 through 36, Township 24, Range 5, West of the 5th Meridian that are south of the south right-of-way boundary of Provincial Highway No. 1, and

Sections 2 through 9 and Section 18, Township 25, Range 5, West of the 5th Meridian that are south of the south right-of-way boundary of Provincial Highway No. 1

as presented in Map 1 and in Schedule 'C' of this bylaw.



Map 1 – Division 1





Division 2

All those lands within the corporate limits of Rocky View County, excluding those lands within Stoney 142-143-144, the City of Calgary, and Town of Cochrane, that are within

Sections 17 through 20 and Sections 29 through 30, Township 24, Range 2, West of the 5th Meridian that are north of the south right-of-way boundary of Lower Springbank Road,

Sections 23 through 36, Township 24, Range 3, West of the 5th Meridian,

Sections 25 through 26 and Sections 35 through 36, Township 24, Range 4, West of the 5th Meridian,

Sections 31 through 34, Township 24, Range 4, West of the 5th Meridian that are north of the south right-of-way boundary of Provincial Highway No. 1,

Sections 35 through 36, Township 24, Range 5, West of the 5th Meridian that are north of the south right-of-way boundary of Provincial Highway No. 1,

Section 1 through 12, Sections 14 through 23, and Sections 27 through 30, Township 25, Range 3, West of the 5th Meridian that are south of the right (south) bank of the Bow River,

that portion of Section 13, Township 25, Range 3, West of the 5th Meridian that are south of the left (north) bank of the Bow River,

Sections 1 through 25 and Sections 28 through 33, Township 25, Range 4, West of the 5th Meridian that are south of the right (south) bank of the Bow River,

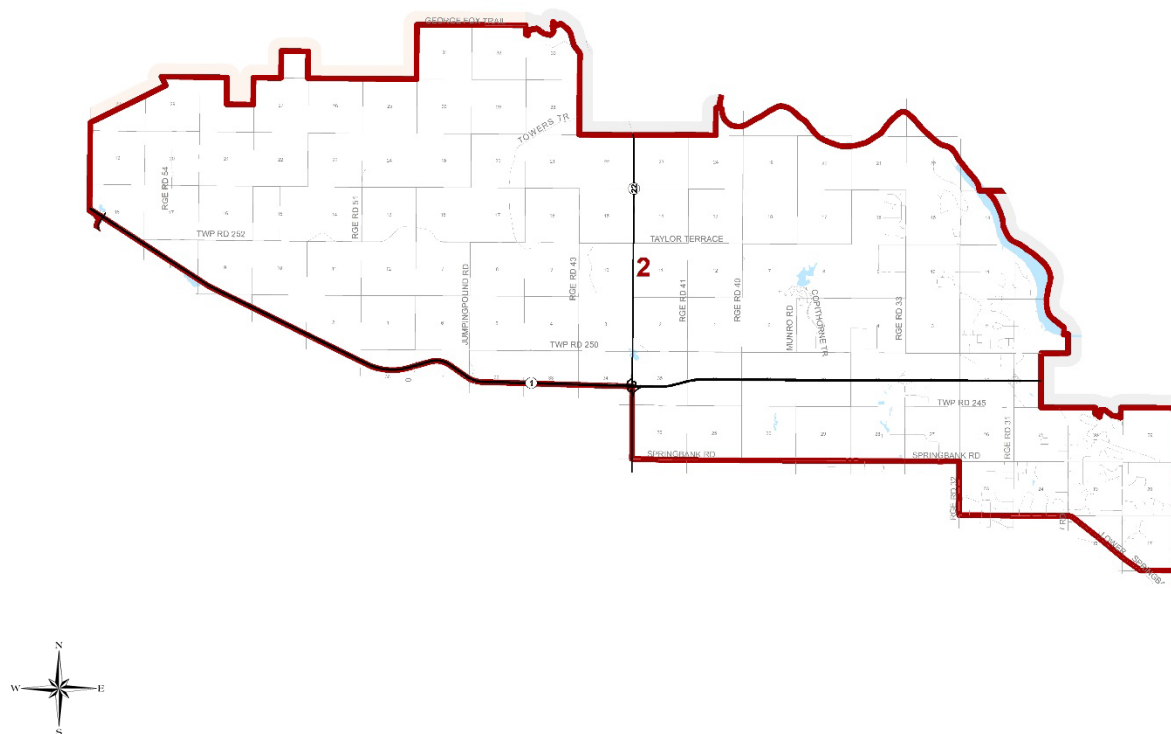
Sections 1 through 4, Sections 7 through 30, and Section 34, Township 25, Range 5, West of the 5th Meridian that are north of the south right-of-way boundary of Provincial Highway No. 1, and

that portion of Section 4, Township 26, Range 4, West of the 5th Meridian that is south of the Town of Cochrane

as presented in Map 2 and in Schedule 'C' of this bylaw.



Map 2 – Division 2





ROCKY VIEW COUNTY

Division 3

All those lands within the corporate limits of Rocky View County, excluding those lands within Stoney 142-143-144, the City of Calgary, and Town of Cochrane, that are within

Section 7, Sections 18 through 19, and Section 30, Township 25, Range 2, West of the 5th Meridian that are south of the south right-of-way boundary of Provincial Highway No. 1A,

Section 13, Township 25, Range 3, West of the 5th Meridian excluding that portion that is south the left (north) bank of the Bow River,

Sections 20 through 35, Township 25, Range 3, West of the 5th Meridian that are north of the right (south) bank of the Bow River and that are south of the south right-of-way boundary of Provincial Highway No. 1A,

the balance of Sections 33 through 34, Township 25, Range 3, West of the 5th Meridian that are north of the south right-of-way boundary of Provincial Highway No. 1A,

Section 25 and Section 36, Township 25, Range 4, West of the 5th Meridian that are north/east of the right (south/west) bank of the Bow River,

Section 3 through 10, Sections 15 through 22, and Sections 27 through 34, Township 26, Range 3, West of the 5th Meridian,

Sections 1 through 2, Section 5, Sections 7 through 8, and Sections 11 through 36, Township 26, Range 4, West of the 5th Meridian,

Section 8 and Sections 13 through 36, Township 26, Range 5, West of the 5th Meridian,

Section 13, Sections 24 through 25, and Section 36, Township 26, Range 6, West of the 5th Meridian,

Sections 2 through 10, Sections 15 through 22, and Sections 27 through 34, Township 27, Range 4, West of the 5th Meridian that are west of the west right-of-way boundary of Provincial Highway No. 22,

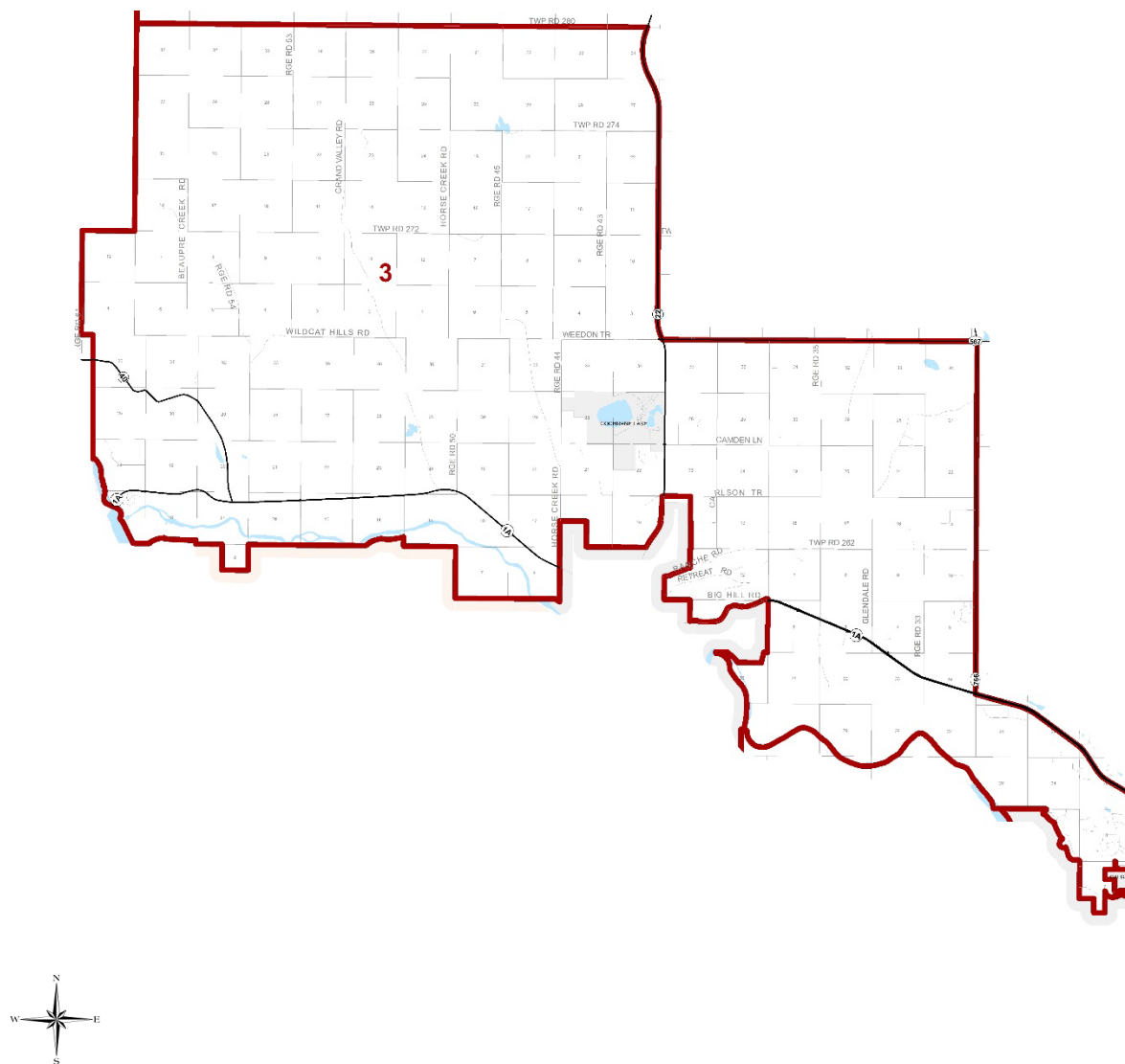
Township 27, Range 5, West of the 5th Meridian, and

Section 1 and Section 12, Township 27, Range 6, West of the 5th Meridian,

as presented in Map 3 and in Schedule 'C' of this bylaw.



Map 3 – Division 3





Division 4

All those lands within the corporate limits of Rocky View County, excluding those lands within the City of Calgary, that are within

Section 19 and Sections 29 through 32, Township 25, Range 2, West of the 5th Meridian that are north of the south right-of-way boundary of Provincial Highway No. 1A,

Sections 25 through 26 and Sections 35 through 36, Township 25, Range 3, West of the 5th Meridian that are north of the south right-of-way boundary of Provincial Highway No. 1A,

Section 2, Sections 4 through 11, Sections 14 through 23, and Sections 26 through 35, Township 26, Range 2, West of the 5th Meridian that are west of the west right-of-way boundary of Provincial Highway No. 772,

Sections 1 through 2, Sections 11 through 14, Sections 23 through 26, and Sections 35 through 36, Township 26, Range 3, West of the 5th Meridian,

Sections 2 through 11, Sections 14 through 23, and Sections 26 through 35, Township 27, Range 2, West of the 5th Meridian,

Township 27, Range 3, West of the 5th Meridian,

Sections 1 through 2, Sections 11 through 14, Sections 23 through 27, and Sections 34 through 36, Township 27, Range 4, West of the 5th Meridian that are east of the west right-of-way boundary of Provincial Highway No. 22,

Sections 2 through 11, Sections 14 through 23, Sections 26 through 35, Township 28, Range 2, West of the 5th Meridian,

Township 28, Range 3, West of the 5th Meridian,

Township 28, Range 4, West of the 5th Meridian,

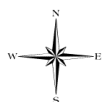
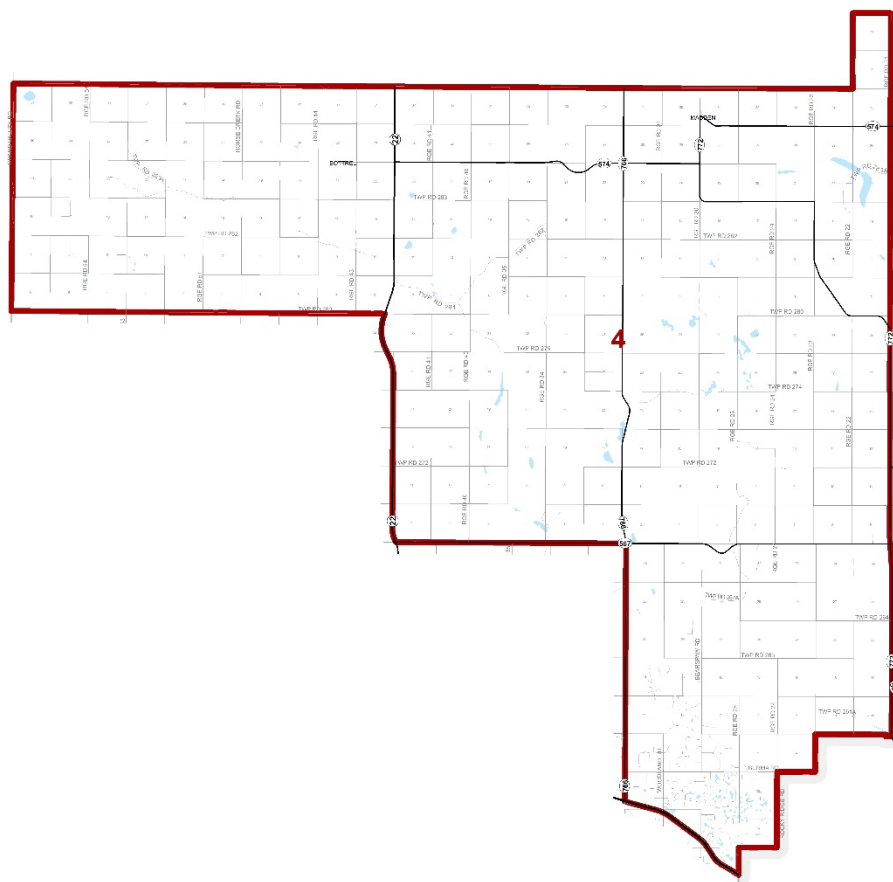
Township 28, Range 5, West of the 5th Meridian, and

Section 2 and Section 11, Township 29, Range 2, West of the 5th Meridian,

as presented in Map 4 and in Schedule 'C' of this bylaw.



Map 4 – Division 4





Division 5

All those lands within the corporate limits of Rocky View County, excluding those lands within the City of Airdrie, the City of Calgary, the Town of Crossfield, the Town of Irricana, and the Village of Beiseker, that are within

Sections 18 through 19 and Sections 29 through 32, Township 25, Range 26, West of the 4th Meridian,

Sections 13 through 36, Township 25, Range 27, West of the 4th Meridian,

Sections 13 through 36, Township 25, Range 28, West of the 4th Meridian,

Sections 26 through 35, Township 26, Range 25, West of the 4th Meridian,

Township 26, Range 26, West of the 4th Meridian,

Township 26, Range 27, West of the 4th Meridian,

Township 26, Range 28, West of the 4th Meridian,

Sections 1 through 4, Sections 9 through 16, Sections 21 through 28, and Section 36, Township 26, Range 29, West of the 4th Meridian,

Section 1, Section 7, Sections 12 through 24, and Sections 28 through 33, Township 26, Range 1, West of the 5th Meridian,

Section 1, Sections 12 through 13, Sections 24 through 25, and Sections 35 through 36, Township 26, Range 2, West of the 5th Meridian that are east of the west right-of-way boundary of Provincial Highway No. 772,

Township 27, Range 25, West of the 4th Meridian,

Sections 1 through 20 and Sections 22 through 36, Township 27, Range 26, West of the 4th Meridian,

Township 27, Range 27, West of the 4th Meridian,

Township 27, Range 28, West of the 4th Meridian,

Section 13, Sections 24 through 27, and Sections 34 through 36, Township 27, Range 29, West of the 4th Meridian,

Sections 4 through 9, Sections 16 through 21, and Sections 25 through 36, Township 27, Range 1, West of the 5th Meridian,

Section 1, Sections 12 through 13, Sections 24 through 25, and Section 36, Township 27, Range 2, West of the 5th Meridian,

Township 28, Range 25, West of the 4th Meridian,



ROCKY VIEW COUNTY

Township 28, Range 26, West of the 4th Meridian,

Township 28, Range 27, West of the 4th Meridian,

Township 28, Range 28, West of the 4th Meridian,

Sections 1 through 3, Sections 10 through 15, Sections 22 through 27, and Sections 34 through 36, Township 28, Range 29, West of the 4th Meridian,

Sections 1 through 25, Sections 27 through 36, Township 28, Range 1, West of the 5th Meridian,

Sections 1, Sections 12 through 13, Sections 24 through 25, and Section 36, Township 28, Range 2, West of the 5th Meridian,

Sections 1 through 8 and Sections 17 through 18, Township 29, Range 28, West of the 4th Meridian,

Sections 1 through 3 and Sections 10 through 15, Township 29, Range 29, West of the 4th Meridian,

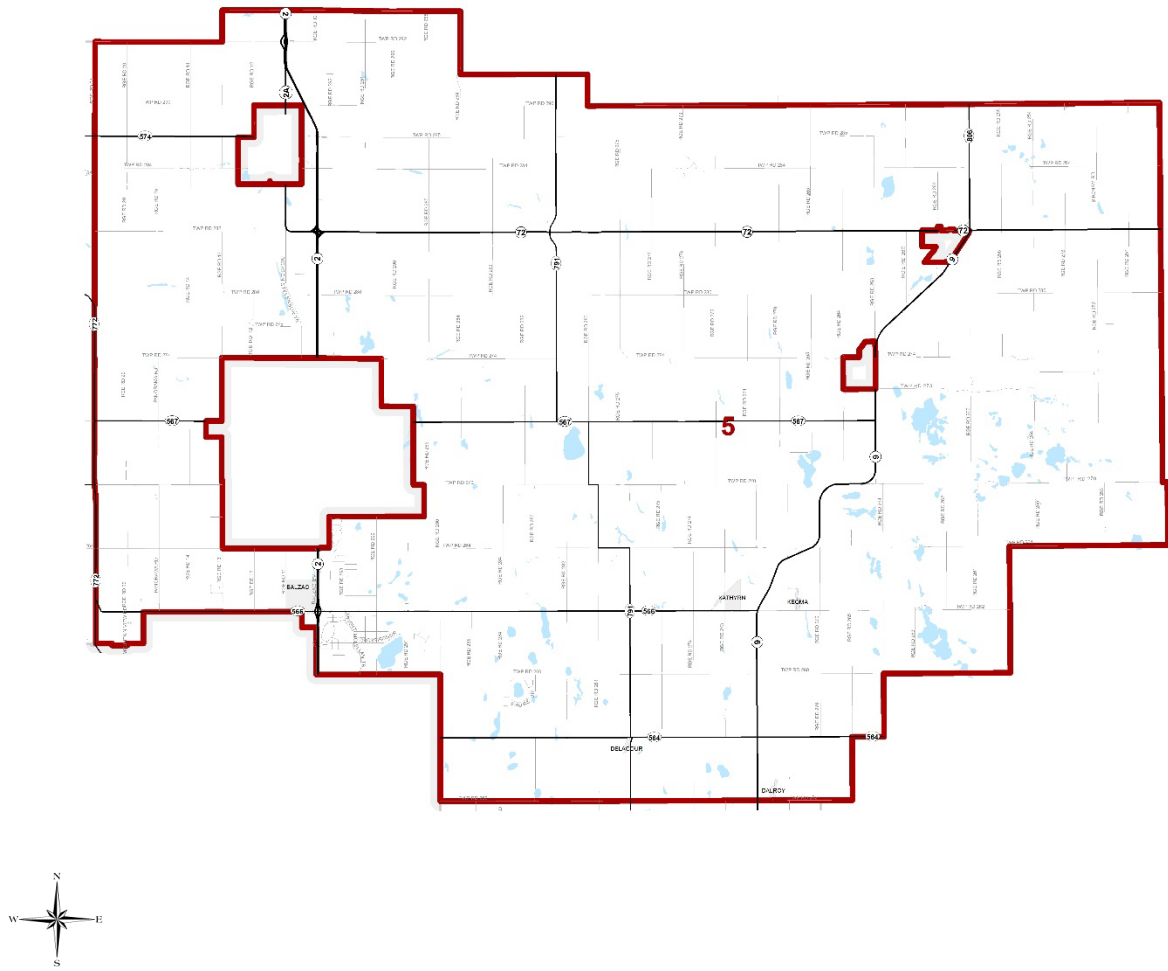
Sections 1 through 15, Township 29, Range 1, West of the 5th Meridian, and

Section 1 and Section 12, Township 29, Range 2, West of the 5th Meridian

as presented in Map 5 and in Schedule 'C' of this bylaw.



Map 5 – Division 5





Division 6

All those lands within the corporate limits of Rocky View County, excluding those lands within the City of Chestermere and the City of Calgary, that are within

Sections 20 through 36, Township 21, Range 27, West of the 4th Meridian,

Sections 25 through 26 and Sections 34 through 36, Township 21, Range 28, West of the 4th Meridian,

Township 22, Range 27, West of the 4th Meridian,

Sections 1 through 5, Sections 8 through 17, Sections 20 through 29, and Sections 32 through 36, Township 22, Range 28, West of the 4th Meridian,

Sections 1 through 13, the west half of Section 15, Sections 16 through 21, the east half of Section 24, and Sections 25 through 36, Township 23, Range 27, West of the 4th Meridian,

the west half of Section 22, Township 23, Range 27, West of the 4th Meridian that is south of the south boundary of Plan RY 11 (former Canadian Pacific Railway right-of-way),

the west half of Section 24, Township 23, Range 27, West of the 4th Meridian that is south of the south boundary of Plan RY 11 (former Canadian Pacific Railway right-of-way),

Sections 1 through 5, Sections 8 through 16, Section 19, Sections 21 through 34, and Section 36, Township 23, Range 28, West of the 4th Meridian,

Township 24, Range 27, West of the 4th Meridian,

Section 1, Sections 5 through 6, Section 12, Sections 19 through 20, and Sections 23 through 36, Township 24, Range 28, West of the 4th Meridian,

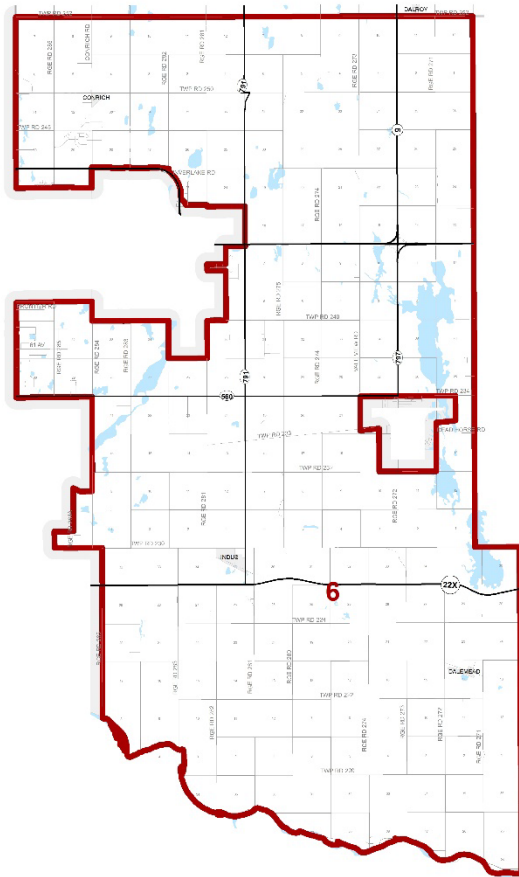
Sections 1 through 12, Township 25, Range 27, West of the 4th Meridian, and

Sections 1 through 12, Township 25, Range 28, West of the 4th Meridian

as presented in Map 6 and in Schedule 'C' of this bylaw.



Map 6 – Division 6





ROCKY VIEW COUNTY

Division 7

All those lands within the corporate limits of Rocky View County, that are within

Section 14, the east half of Section 15, the east half of Section 22, and Section 23,
Township 23, Range 27, West of the 4th Meridian,

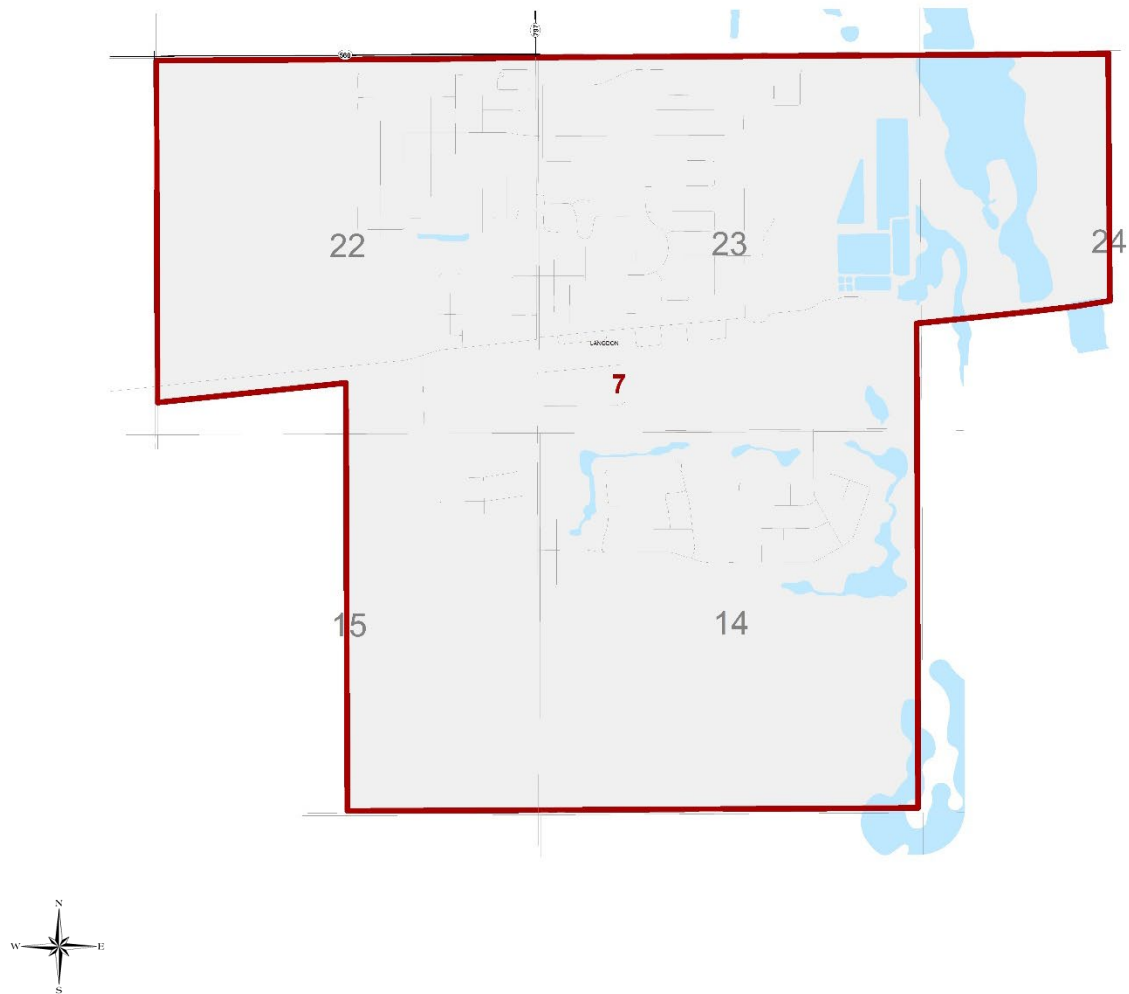
the west half of Section 22, Township 23, Range 27, West of the 4th Meridian that is north of
the south boundary of Plan RY 11 (former Canadian Pacific Railway right-of-way), and

the west half of Section 24, Township 23, Range 27, West of the 4th Meridian that is north of
the south boundary of Plan RY 11 (former Canadian Pacific Railway right-of-way)

as presented in Map 7 and in Schedule 'C' of this bylaw.



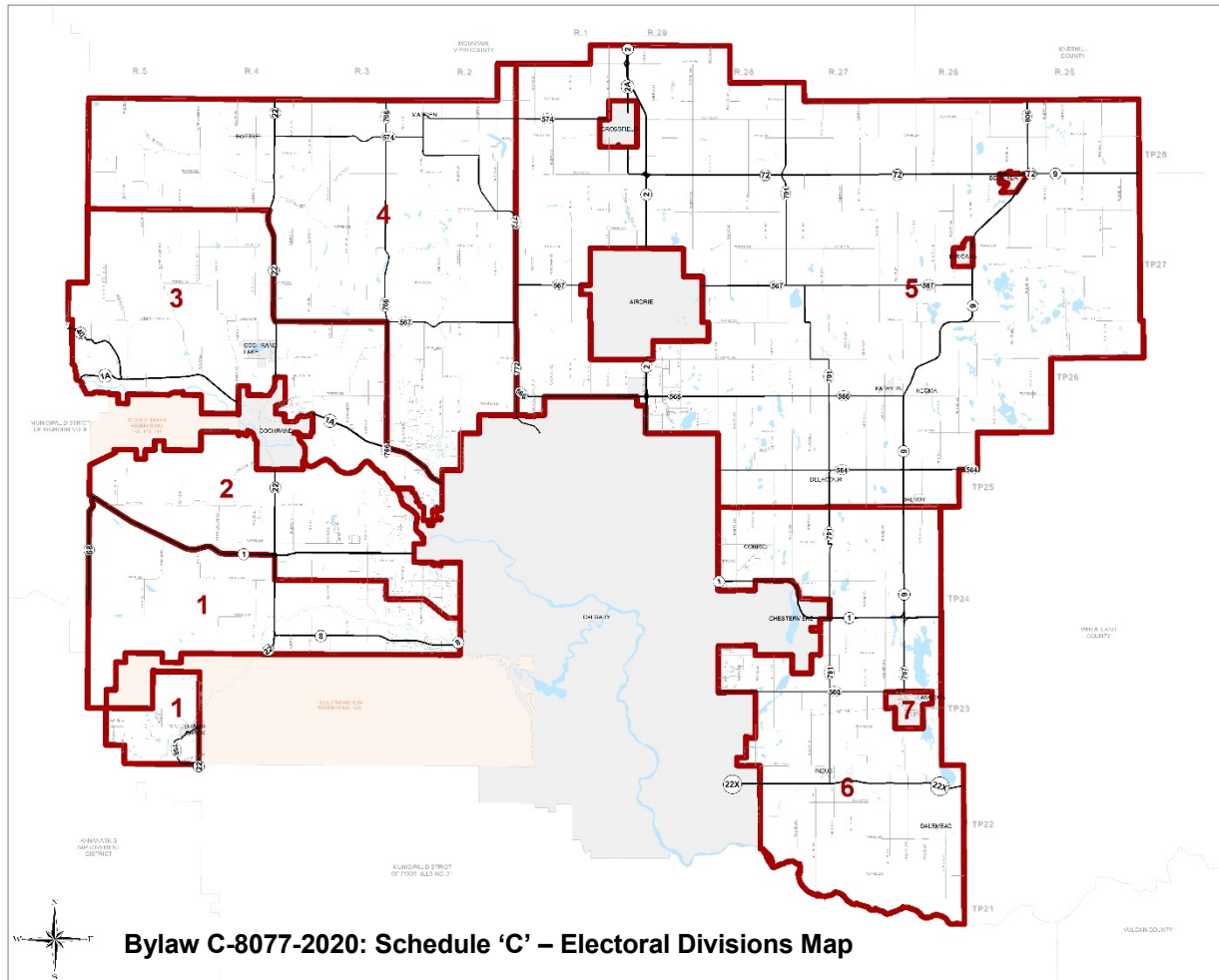
Map 7 – Division 7





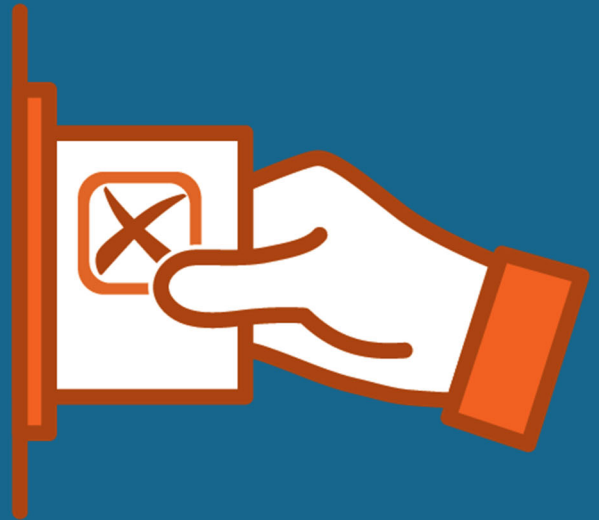
Bylaw C-8077-2020

Schedule 'C' – Electoral Divisions Map





Electoral Boundary & Governance Review



Electoral Boundary and Governance Review Recommendation Report

Rocky View County

August 2020



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Appendix A	Recommended Redistribution Map
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1.0 Executive Summary

In November, 2019, Rocky View County Administration retained consultants from ISL Engineering and Land Services Ltd. (ISL) along with subconsultants Transitional Solutions Inc. (TSI) and Metro Economics to conduct an independent and objective review of Rocky View County's electoral boundaries and elected official governance structure in order to deliver a solution that considers electoral division and governance models elsewhere in Alberta while recognizing and layering in the County's own unique municipal context.

Over the past eight months ISL has led research, technical analysis, public engagement and workshops with Council in order to address the two main goals of the Electoral Boundary and Governance (EBG) Review:

1. Creating consensus amongst Council on the selection of the Chief Elected Official, and
2. Determining the optimal number and shape of the County's electoral divisions in accordance with Electoral Boundary Review Policy C-702.

Based on Council's guidance from the workshops, this Recommendation Report contains only the recommended redistribution of the County's Electoral Divisions.



2.0 Project Approach

The project team was designed to ensure objectivity, with team members separated into two groups: a Calgary-based Engagement Group who were the primary interface with Council and the public, and an Analysis Group based out of Edmonton and Toronto who were involved in the contextual reviews, technical Geographical Information System (GIS) analysis and governance options research. This approach allowed the Engagement Group to bring their familiarity with the County to the forefront when engaging Council and residents which also maximized the independence and objectivity of the Analysis Group to avoid any local bias.

2.1 Chief Elected Official, Selection and Title

Subsequent to a Best Practices Review of governance models in Alberta and public input from an online survey conducted in April 2020, Council determined that the selection of the Chief Elected Official would continue to be Appointed-From-Within, as is current practice. Council also determined that the title of Mayor should be adopted by the County, retiring the title of Reeve – a change that is increasingly common in rural municipalities adjacent to large urban centres.

2.2 Population and Spatial Analysis

The project team conducted a spatial analysis of current and past electoral division boundaries, hamlet and approved plan (Area Structure Plan (ASP) and Conceptual Scheme) boundaries, and municipal census points to determine potential boundary adjustments. The following six criteria informed the parameters of this analysis:



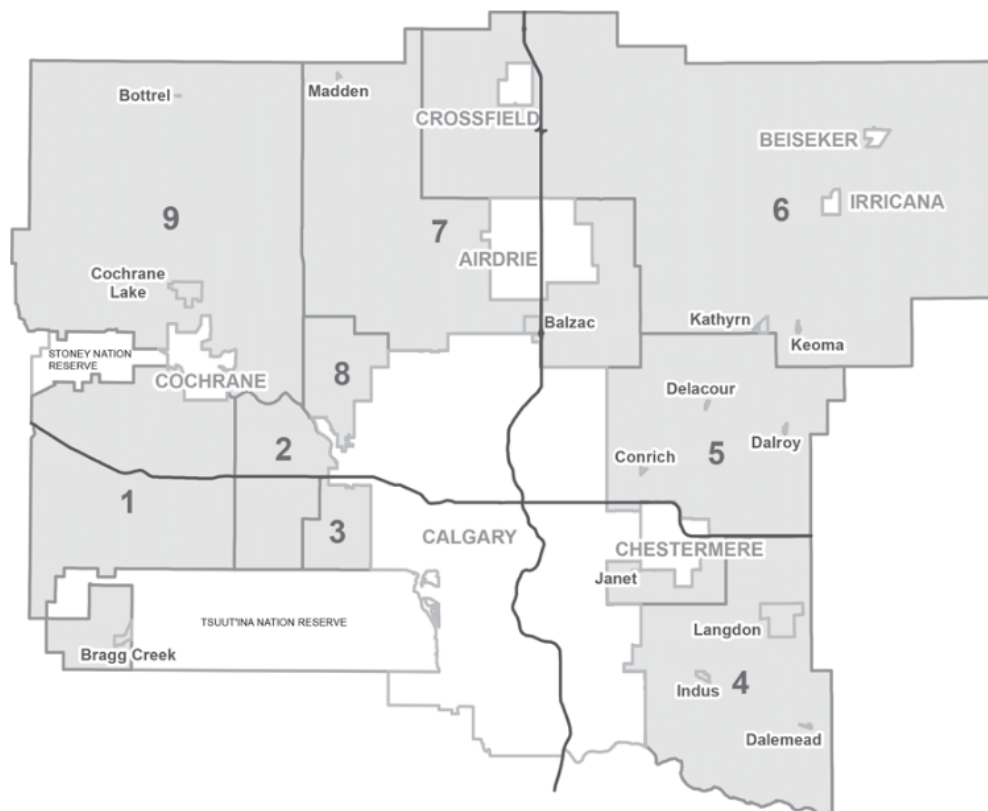
An assessment of the population growth trends within the current boundaries of the County's electoral divisions was undertaken using spatial analysis. [Table 1](#) presents the total population by electoral division and RVC from the 2006, 2013 and 2018 municipal censuses, as adjusted to reflect annexations that have occurred between 2006 and 2019. It also presents the average population per electoral division and the percentage extent to which each electoral division deviates from the average.



Table 1, Historical Population by Electoral Division, 2006–2018

Electoral Division	Municipal Census Results					
	2006 Population Count	Deviation from Average	2013 Population Count	Deviation from Average	2018 Population Count	Deviation From Average
1	2,653	-27.3%	2,543	-39.9%	2,526	-44.2%
2	2,919	-20.0%	3,115	-26.3%	3,479	-23.1%
3	5,420	48.5%	5,778	36.7%	5,957	31.7%
4	4,167	14.1%	6,579	55.6%	7,010	55.0%
5	3,906	7.0%	4,342	2.7%	5,051	11.7%
6	2,454	-32.8%	2,808	-33.6%	2,768	-38.8%
7	3,367	-7.8%	3,467	-18.0%	3,462	-23.4%
8	4,237	16.1%	4,826	14.1%	5,576	23.3%
9	3,733	2.3%	4,592	8.6%	4,872	7.7%
Total	32,856	—	38,050	—	40,700	—
Average	3,651	—	4,228	—	4,522	—

Current Electoral Division Map





Concurrent to the spatial analysis, population projections were prepared using Metro Economics' projection modelling system which develops population, employment and Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by industry projections for each of Canada's approximately 290 census divisions and for each of its more than 5,400 census subdivisions – resulting in a National Base Case (prepared prior to the COVID-19 pandemic) that includes base data for Rocky View County.

The base year population of 40,700 was derived from RVC's 2018 municipal census extrapolated population count of 40,705 (less five residents lost to the Town of Cochrane in a recent annexation approval). **Table 2** presents the results of the Base Case population projection from the 2018 base year to the 2031 horizon year with intervals in 2021, 2025 and 2029, which represent scheduled municipal election years in accordance with the *Local Authorities Election Act*.

Table 2, Population Projection to 2031

Municipality	2018 Census	Population Projections				2018-31 Change
		2021*	2025*	2029*	2031	
Rocky View County	40,700	43,083	46,252	49,421	51,005	+10,305

* Municipal Election Year

To better understand the historical changes in the geographic distribution of RVC's population between 2006 and 2018 at a finer level, ISL divided the nine electoral divisions into 43 electoral division sub-areas (EDSAs).

The EDSAs were based on known and/or planned future growth, easily identifiable boundaries (such as rivers, highways/roads, etc.) and communities of interest, which included:

- Hamlets planned to grow in existing boundaries (e.g. Harmony, Langdon, and Cochrane Lake),
- Planned boundaries from area structure plans or conceptual schemes (e.g. Indus, Conrich, Dalroy, Delacour, Kathyryn, Balzac and the future Hamlet of Glenbow), and
- Proposed boundary expansions (e.g. Bragg Creek).

As the hamlets of Dalemead, Janet, Keoma, Madden and Bottrel are not planned to accommodate future growth at this time, EDSAs were not delineated specifically for them.

Using the EDSAs an analysis was undertaken of planned future growth, imminent future growth through the subdivision process, and potential new additional growth through proposed amendments to ASPs and conceptual schemes. The remaining planned dwelling capacities by EDSA provided a ceiling for future residential growth.

This work supported the disaggregation of projected population growth by EDSA, creating building blocks that could be reconstructed for recommending new electoral divisions.



3.0 Recommended Redistribution

ISL's recommendation to Council is a seven-division redistribution of the County's electoral boundaries as shown in the attached map ([Appendix A](#)). This recommendation is based on a series of linear divisions radiating out from the City of Calgary, resulting in divisions that blend dense growth areas with more rural low growth areas, balancing the composition of each division while providing each division with a share of growth and stagnation. At the same time, it was determined that Langdon should be made a standalone division, given the rate of growth within the Hamlet. As shown on [Table 3](#), all of the proposed divisions fall within the ± 25 percent tolerance up to the 2029 election year.

This recommended redistribution is a marked improvement on the current electoral divisions, bringing all populations within ± 25 percent (4,360 to 7,267) of the 2018 average population per division of 5,814 residents.

The proposed seven-division redistribution of the County's electoral boundaries would result in the most robust option to accommodate future growth and balance that growth with effective representation of residents. Projecting forward to the 2039 election year, the average population per division increases to 7,060 residents with a ± 25 percent tolerance of 5,295 to 8,825.

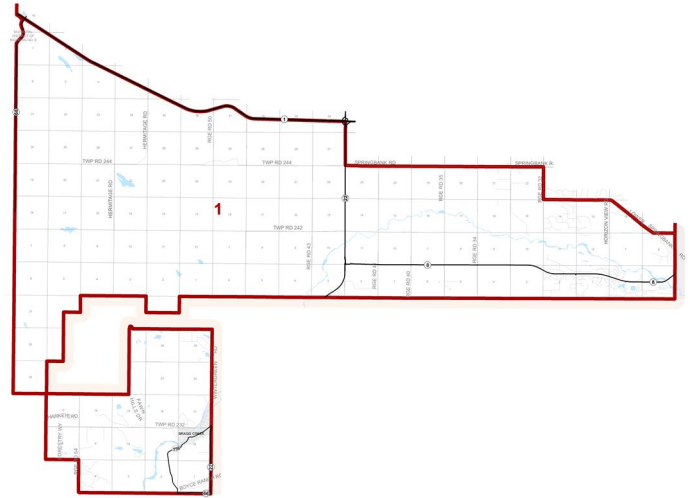
Table 3, Recommended Redistribution

Proposed Division	2018 Population	2018 Deviation from Average	2029 Projected Population	2029 Deviation from Average
1	6,783	16.7%	7,461	5.7%
2	5,179	-10.9%	7,436	5.3%
3	5,442	-6.4%	7,105	0.6%
4	6,157	5.9%	6,576	-6.9%
5	6,302	8.4%	6,896	2.3%
6	5,473	-5.9%	6,905	2.2%
7	5,364	-7.7%	7,042	-0.3%
Total	40,700		49,421	
Average population per Division	5,814		7,060	



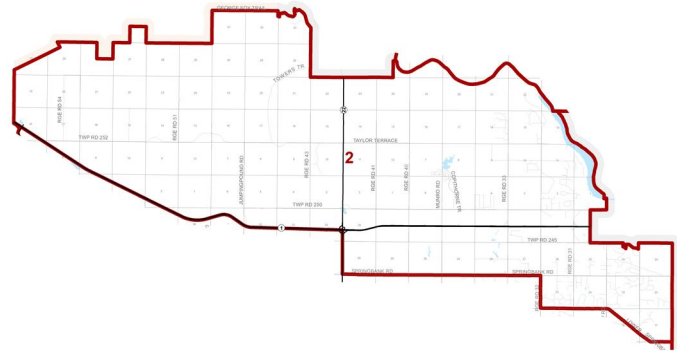
3.1 Division 1

- Contains the Hamlet of Bragg Creek
- Contains all development south of the Elbow River
- Contains a portion of the Springbank ASP south of Springbank Road/Lower Springbank Road
- Traditional low growth nature in this area will be supplemented by the high population growth along Highway 8
- Calgary is the only adjacent urban municipality



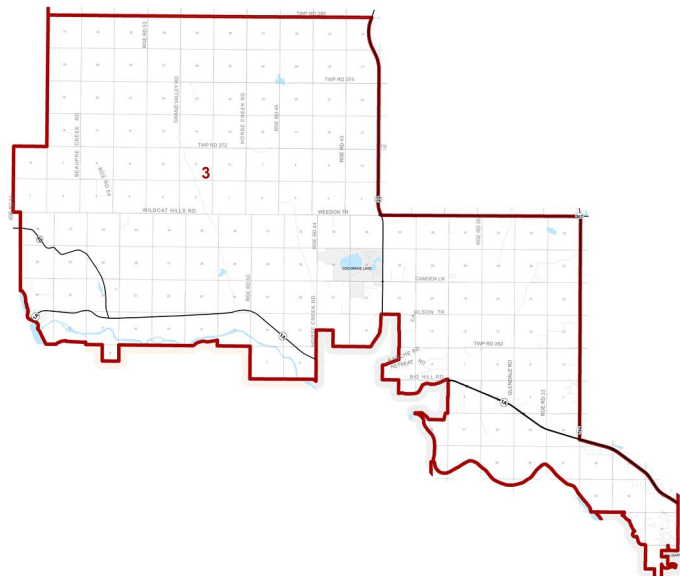
3.2 Division 2

- Contains Harmony ASP
- Contains portion of Springbank ASP north of Springbank Road/Lower Springbank Road
- Harmony is a fast-growing community that will drive growth in this division
- The northern boundary follows current boundary lines
- Adjacent urban municipalities include Calgary and Cochrane



3.3 Division 3

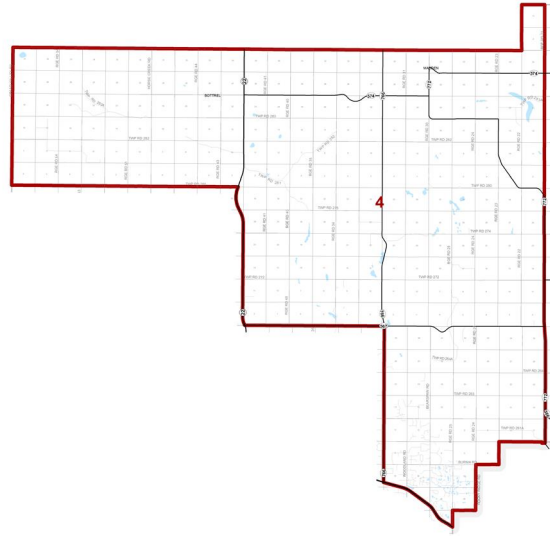
- Contains the Hamlet of Cochrane Lake and Cochrane North ASP
- Contains Glenbow Ranch ASP and a portion of Bearspaw ASP south of Hwy 1A
- Contains a portion of Bearspaw ASP west of Lochend Road (Hwy 766), following the current division boundary
- The Glenbow Ranch ASP is anticipated to be a big driver of growth in this division over the next decade
- Adjacent urban municipalities include Calgary and Cochrane





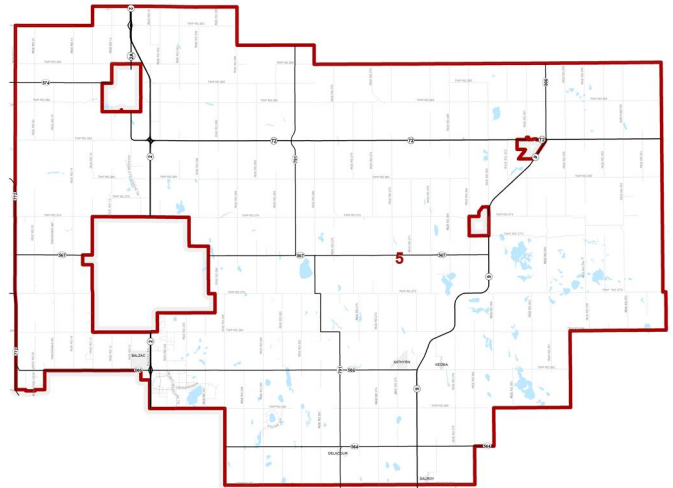
3.4 Division 4

- Contains the Hamlets of Bottrel and Madden
- Contains a portion of Bearspaw ASP east of Lochend Road (Hwy 766), following a current division boundary line
- The eastern boundary is Symons Valley Road (Hwy 722) carrying in a straight line north across the Writing Creek coulee along Range Road 21, following a current division boundary line
- Calgary is the only adjacent urban municipality



3.5 Division 5

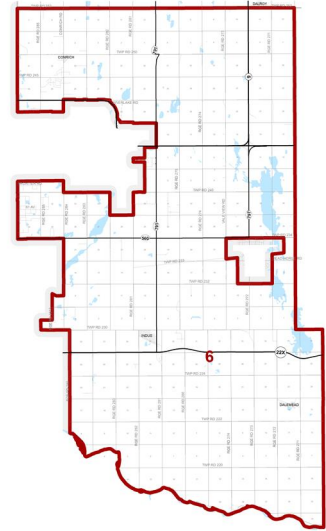
- Contains the Hamlets of Balzac, Kathryn, Keoma, Delacour and Dalroy
- Contains Balzac West and East, Omni and North Central Industrial ASPs
- The western boundary is Symons Valley Road (Hwy 722) carrying in a straight line north across the Writing Creek coulee along Range Road 21, following a current division boundary line
- Apart from commercial and industrial development, this division is primarily agricultural
- Adjacent urban municipalities include Calgary, Crossfield, Airdrie, Beiseker and Irricana





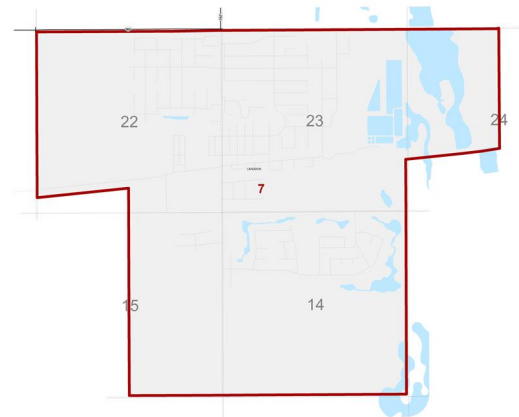
3.6 Division 6

- Contains the Hamlets of Conrich, Indus and Dalemead
- Contains Conrich ASP (except for northeastern-most quarter section) and Janet ASP
- Residential growth is growth is concentrated in the areas adjacent to Conrich and Langdon
- Adjacent urban municipalities include Calgary and Chestermere



3.7 Division 7

- The Hamlet of Langdon is retained as a standalone electoral division
- There are no adjacent urban municipalities



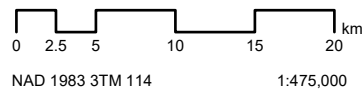
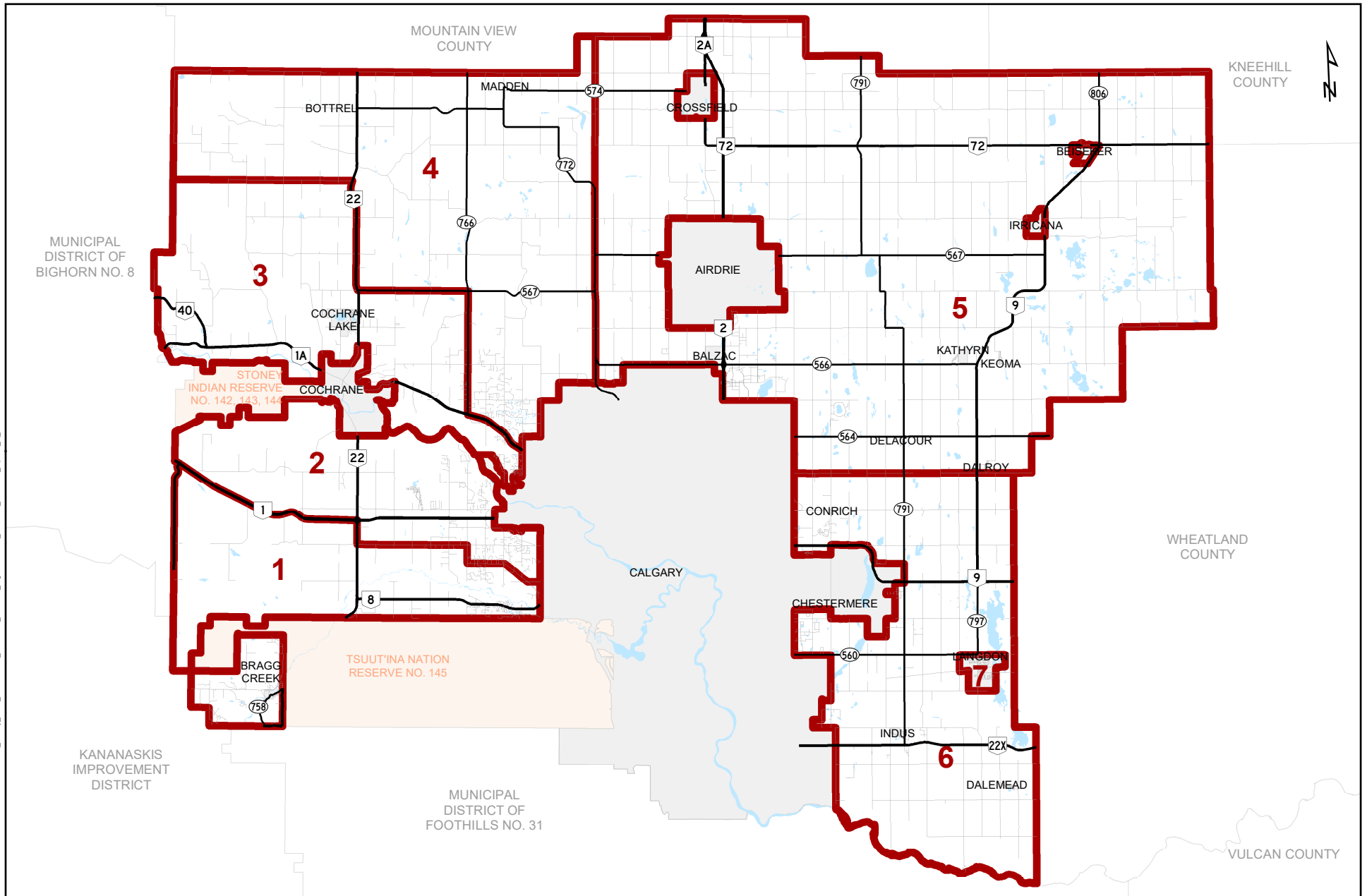


APPENDIX
Recommended Redistribution Map

A

Attachment 'B' - ISL Recommendations Report

Date: 2020-06-04 Document: M27529_Rocky_View_Electoral02_CADD05_615251_Figures27529_Electoral_Divisions_Option_D_201804.mxd



Electoral Division Boundary



Other Road



Primary Highway



Secondary Highway

Integrated Expertise. Locally Delivered.



ROCKY VIEW
COUNTY

ELECTORAL BOUNDARY
AND GOVERNANCE
REVIEW

RECOMMENDED
REDISTRIBUTION



Electoral Boundary & Governance Review

Terms of Reference

Purpose

- 1 Rocky View County's (the County) Electoral Boundary & Governance Review (EBG Review) is a review of:
 - (1) the County's governance structure to consider a mayor-at-large model; and
 - (2) the number and shape of the County's divisions in accordance with Electoral Boundary Review Policy C-702.



Scope

- 2 The EBG Review shall be completed by July 31, 2020 and shall include:
 - (1) a best practices review of electoral boundary and governance models in place in Alberta's municipal districts and specialized municipalities;
 - (2) a population analysis to determine the current demographic context in the County;
 - (3) a population projection to determine anticipated demographic change in the County;
 - (4) a spatial analysis of current and past electoral division boundaries, hamlet and approved plan (area structure plan and conceptual scheme) boundaries, and municipal census points to determine potential boundary adjustments;
 - (5) public engagement with County residents in alignment with a listen and learn approach;
 - (6) a workshop with Council to determine a preferred governance model based on research findings (e.g. retain an appointed Reeve or adopt mayor-at-large);
 - (7) GIS-based modelling of three electoral division scenarios that provide alternative approaches to balancing urban nodes and rural areas; and
 - (8) a recommendations report that outlines the EBG Review process and provides recommended options for Council consideration.





Electoral Boundary & Governance Review

Terms of Reference

Consultant Team

- 3 The County has retained ISL Engineering and Land Services Ltd., together with sub-consultants Transitional Solutions Ltd. and metro economics, to conduct the EBG Review.



Administrative Support

- 4 Administration supports the EBG Review through coordination of the consultant team, consultant workshops with Council, and internal administrative review of the recommendations report.



Presentations

- 5 The EBG Review presentations with Council shall be held in following order:
 - (1) present at a public Council meeting the terms of reference, work plan, and public participation strategy;
 - (2) present at a workshop to:
 - (a) review the findings of the best practices review, population analysis, and spatial analysis;
 - (b) review public feedback on the above items;
 - (c) discuss preferences on the number of Councillors in the County, and
 - (d) determine a preferred governance model;
 - (3) present at a public Council meeting three electoral division scenarios; and
 - (4) present at a public Council meeting the recommendations report.



Definitions

- 6 In this terms of reference:
 - (1) “administration” means the operations and staff of Rocky View County under the direction of the Chief Administrative Officer;



Electoral Boundary & Governance Review

Terms of Reference

- (2) “consultant team” means ISL Engineering and Land Services Ltd., Transitional Solutions Ltd., and metro economics, who have been retained to conduct the EBG Review;
- (3) “Council” means the duly elected Council of Rocky View County;
- (4) “Councillor” means a duly elected member of Rocky View County Council;
- (5) “County” means Rocky View County;
- (6) “EBG Review” means Electoral Boundary & Governance Review; and
- (7) “Rocky View County” means Rocky View County as a municipal corporation and the geographical area within its jurisdictional boundaries, as the context requires.