

Highlights from the December 1, 2020 Regular Council meeting

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Acknowledgement of Indigenous Peoples

The Town of Rocky Mountain House wishes to acknowledge that the land on which we gather is Treaty 6 Territory and a traditional meeting ground and home for many Indigenous Peoples, including the Blackfoot, Cree, Saulteaux, Stoney and Métis.

Delegation: Grandmother Turtle Lodge

Council welcomed a delegation from Grandmother Turtle Lodge Group Collective, who shared its short- and long-term vision for a detox, treatment and recovery centre in the region. Council asked Administration to help the group find a suitable office space to rent during the initial planning stages of the lodge.

Related documents:

[Grandmother Turtle Lodge Collective presentation](#)

Masks

Council discussed the rising local COVID-19 case count and the merits of implementing a mandatory mask bylaw. Council chose not to consider a mask bylaw, but will continue to educate and encourage residents to comply with public health orders and guidelines.

Rocky Pass for Seniors

Council reviewed options for expanding recreation access for seniors in our community. Seniors over the age of 75 are now eligible for a free annual Rocky Pass, which includes access to the fitness centre, aquafit and fitness classes.

Related documents:

[Administrative Report](#)

Recreation opportunities during enhanced COVID-19 measures

Council is committed to offering safe recreational opportunities to residents as provincial health restrictions allow. While all group classes and team sports have been suspended by the provincial State of Public Health Emergency, the Town will increase public skating and swimming times. Users can pre-book their skate or swim time by calling Guest Services or the Credit Union Co-op Aquatic Centre, and household groups must stay socially distanced from each other while using Town facilities. The maximum occupancy of 25% will be strictly enforced, as per provincial indoor fitness restrictions.

Group swimming lessons have been cancelled, but registrants will have the opportunity to finish the lesson set by private lesson for no additional cost.

Administration is working with user groups and sport organization bodies to clearly understand the implications of the new restrictions and are presenting options for continued use of our facilities.

Related documents:

[Administrative report](#)

[Aquatic Centre schedule to Dec. 16](#)

[Aquatic Centre Christmas week](#)

2021 General Municipal Election

The next Municipal General Election will take place on October 18, 2021. The [Local Authority Elections Act](#) has been revised since the last general election, and Town staff are being trained through [Municipal Affairs](#) in advance of the 2021 election.

Council appointed [Returning and Substitute Returning Officers](#), set dates for [advanced voting](#), identified locations for [institutional votes](#) and discussed [special ballots](#). The nomination period for municipal candidates open on Jan. 4, 2021.

Centennial Campground

Council reviewed the final report from V3 Companies and accepted it for information. Council will consider any future investment in the park during its budget discussions.

Related documents:

[Administrative report](#)

[Centennial Campground Design Charrette Final Report](#)

MSI

Council reviewed the Town's Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) allocations, which identified \$1 million in grant funds carrying forward from previous years. Council approved funding the two snow dumps in the amount of \$709,000 and the 45 Street East Frontage Capital Project in the amount of \$1,150,400, to be funded through MSI capital grants and 2021 amounts.

Related documents:

[Administrative Report](#)

Council Recognition Trees

Following a request from the family of former Mayor Jim Bague, Council authorized the Town to plant a tree of recognition in his honour. Council also asked administration to revise the [Council and Members at Large Service Recognition Program](#) to allow for policy direction to plant recognition trees for all previous Mayors of Rocky Mountain House.

If you have any questions on these or any other items, please contact:



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