

CAO's REPORT

July 14, 2020

1. Following discussion from Council's June 16 COVID-19 Economic Workshop Recovery, Communications Department developed various messaging strategies to promote new business development and support existing businesses within the County. Communications plans include:
 - Finalizing production of three animated videos that promote Clearwater County and its economic development strategy.
 - Interviewing local business owners/entrepreneurs on their success stories and reasons for, and benefits of, operating a business in the County.
 - Including economic development educational pieces and business support links in the *Clearwater County Highlights* newsletter.
 - Redesigning the County website to expand capabilities for business registration and information sharing with the Economic Development Officer.

Council will be notified as plans are completed.

2. West Central Justice Alberta Committee is pleased to inform Council that the Committee signed a space user agreement with Mountain Rose Women's Shelter Association. The Committee also thanks Council for the opportunity to inform them of the Committee's work and submitted the attached brochure for additional information.

3. The Government of Alberta [is currently seeking input from stakeholders and the public](#) to inform the development of the *Alberta Infrastructure Act*, as well as a 20-year strategic capital plan for provincial infrastructure. The act is expected to be introduced in the fall 2020 legislative session, and the capital plan is expected to be released in early 2021.

The act will provide an outline of how government will prioritize capital spending, while the plan will anticipate future infrastructure needs. Infrastructure addressed in the process will include:

- Schools, universities, and colleges
- Healthcare facilities
- Roads and bridges
- Rural broadband and irrigation projects
- Infrastructure that supports natural resource development

Input into the act and capital plan can be provided through the completion of an [online survey](#) or through a written submission to infras.engagement@gov.ab.ca. The deadline to complete the survey or provide a written submission is **August 10, 2020**.

4. As Council is aware, development of a Clearwater Regional Fire Rescue Services Fire Services Master Plan kicked off on July 8. The master plan will provide an

overarching/future roadmap for the regional fire service to address community needs and will cover the following key areas:

Emergency Fire Rescue Response – review of response requests and response times in comparison to the requirements as outlined by industry standards, service levels and manpower.

Facilities – provide a geographical plan related to fire station locations to support the community for response, including firefighter training.

Committees Plan – provide a review and recommendations to minimize redundancy and support efficiencies with existing internal committees (Apparatus & Equipment, Life Safety, Apparel, Member Engagement Committee).

Apparatus Plan – provide an apparatus plan for replacement and asset management for key apparatus for the service, considering recommendations outlined by the NFPA, industry standards and FUS reports.

Mutual Aid Review – review of existing mutual aid agreements, fire service protection agreement and provide a plan for updating such agreements.

Fire Prevention Public Education Plan – provide a review of public fire and life safety activities to ensure region meets or exceeds legislation and industry standards.

Administrative Review – a review of administrative workflow to support CRFRS and identify improvement opportunities.

Insurance Underwriters Review – a review of current FUS and the development of a cost-benefit analysis of the fire service and impact on insurance underwriters' ratings.

Clearwater County contracted BEHR Integrated Solutions to complete the Master Plan and during the plan's development, consultants will be information gathering and conducting stakeholder interviews. The master plan is expected to be finalized by mid-October.

For governance level stakeholders, BEHR has requested one-on-one (virtual) interviews with Reeve/Mayors, as well as one Councillor from each of the municipalities in the regional partnership. Administration requests that Council appoint Reeve Hoven and one member of Council to participate on their behalf in the upcoming Fire Service Master Plan stakeholder interviews.