

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF OPPORTUNITY NO. 17
DELEGATION COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
AUGUST 24, 2026**

The delegation meeting of Council of the Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17 was held at the Community Complex in Calling Lake on Monday, August 24, 2026, commencing at 10:00 a.m.

- COUNCIL PRESENT:**
- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Marshall D. Auger (Reeve) | Brendan Powell (D/Reeve) |
| Leo Alook | Robin Guild |
| Marcel C. Auger | Darlene Jackson |
| Kevin Bigstone | Gerald Johnson |
| Cecil Gladue | Roy Yellowknee |
- COUNCIL ABSENT:**
- Louis A. Cardinal (*Authorized Leave of Absence*)
- STAFF PRESENT:**
- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| Chad Tullis | Chief Administrative Officer |
| Angela Lightning | Director of Recreation & Culture |
| Trina Mineault | Chief Financial Officer |
| Ryan Musch (virtual) | Director of Finance |
| Rolanna Auger | Director of Corporate & Regulatory Services |
| Kimball Newberry | Director of Public Works |
- RECORDING SECRETARY:**
- | | |
|------------|---------------------------------------|
| Lynda Gray | Executive Assistant to Administration |
|------------|---------------------------------------|
- MEMBERS OF PUBLIC:**
- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Armaan Khanna | Lakeside Leader |
|---------------|-----------------|
- Call to Order:**
- Reeve Marshall D. Auger called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
- Acceptance of Agenda:**
- 0381-2026-17MDC**
Moved by Brendan Powell that the agenda for the August 24, 2026 delegation council meeting be accepted as amended with the following additions:
- 11b. Additional Municipal Scholarship Grants
14b. Grass Maintenance
- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
- Approval of Minutes
(August 10, 2026):**
- 0382-2026-17MDC**
Moved by Brendan Powell that the minutes of the regular meeting of council held on August 10, 2026 be approved as presented.
- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
- Bylaw 2026-08 - Wards:**
- Being a Bylaw of the Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17 to divide the Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17 into wards, establish ward boundaries and identify the number of councillors to serve on Council.
- Third Reading:**
- 0383-2026-17MDC**
Moved by Brendan Powell that Bylaw 2026-08, being the Wards Bylaw, be given third reading.
- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
- Canadian Natural Resources Ltd.
– Request to Advertise Notice
of Application on MD Website:**
- 0384-2026-17MDC**
Moved by Darlene Jackson that the request from Canadian Natural Resources Limited to advertise the Notice of Application to renew the Woodenhouse Class II Industrial Landfill on the Municipal District of Opportunity website be refused and accepted as information.
- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
- Council Declaration:**
- Councillor Kevin Bigstone declared conflict on the next item and left at 10:18 a.m.

Initials: Reeve mf CAO g

**Grant Committee
Recommendations:**

0385-2026-17MDC

Moved by Gerald Johnson that the recommendations from the Grants Committee be approved:

- 1) Municipal Scholarship funding request from Julianna Gambler be approved in the amount of \$5,000, funded from GL 2-00-00-31-770-17;
- 2) Funding request from Kito Sakahikan Oskapewis Society be approved in the amount of \$2,500 for the Indigenous Youth Land Based Learning Initiative, funded from GL 2-00-00-31-770-17;
- 3) Request from Susan Gullion be approved in the amount of \$1,500 for a 90th birthday celebration, funded from GL 2-00-00-31-770-17;
- 4) Municipal Scholarship funding request from Dahetlea Antoine be approved in the amount of \$5,000, funded from GL 2-00-00-31-770-17;
- 5) Municipal Scholarship funding request from Akeira Clearwater be approved in the amount of \$5,000, funded from GL 2-00-00-31-770-17;
- 6) Municipal Scholarship funding request from Kristian Bigstone be approved in the amount of \$5,000, funded from GL 2-00-00-31-770-17;
- 7) Funding request from Neepinise Family Healing Centre be approved in the amount of \$3,600 to enter 6 teams for their Golf Fundraiser on September 12, 2026, funded from GL 2-00-00-31-770-17;
- 8) Municipal Scholarship funding request from Meah Nakehk'o be approved in the amount of \$5,000, funded from GL 2-00-00-31-770-17;
- 9) Municipal Scholarship funding request from Anna Jardine be approved in the amount of \$5,000, funded from GL 2-00-00-31-770-17;
- 10) Municipal Scholarship funding request from Sadee Lamothe be approved in the amount of \$5,000, funded from GL 2-00-00-31-770-17;
- 11) Funding request from Bigstone Health Commission be approved in the amount of \$200,000 for the Wabasca Community Shelter, funded from GL 2-00-00-31-770-17;
- 12) Funding request from Bigstone Health Commission for \$50,000 for the Calling Lake Community Shelter be accepted as information and will be considered for 2027;
- 13) Municipal Scholarship funding request from Halle Alook be approved in the amount of \$5,000, funded from GL 2-00-00-31-770-17;
- 14) Municipal Scholarship funding request from Kaia Lamothe be approved in the amount of \$5,000 pending grant application, funded from GL 2-00-00-31-770-17;
- 15) Municipal Scholarship funding request from Stephanie Blakeney be approved in the amount of \$5,000, funded from GL 2-00-00-31-770-17;
- 16) Municipal Scholarship funding request from Chyna Steele be approved in the amount of \$5,000, funded from GL 2-00-00-31-770-17;
- 17) Funding request from Lions Club Campground be approved for \$20,000 for campground operations, funded from GL 2-00-00-31-770-16.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Return:

Councillor Kevin Bigstone returned to the meeting at 10:38 a.m.

**Bylaw 2026-16 – Senior Citizen
Municipal Property Tax**

Rebate:

Being a Bylaw to establish the Senior Citizen Municipal Property Tax Rebate of the Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17.

First Reading:

0386-2026-17MDC

Moved by Brendan Powell that Bylaw 2026-16, being the Senior Citizen Municipal Property Tax Rebate Bylaw, be given first reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Second Reading:

0387-2026-17MDC

Moved by Gerald Johnson that Bylaw 2026-16, being the Senior Citizen Municipal Property Tax Rebate Bylaw, be given second reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Unanimous Consent:**0388-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Robin Guild that Bylaw 2026-16, being the Senior Citizen Municipal Property Tax Rebate Bylaw, be given unanimous consent to proceed to third reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Third Reading:**0389-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that Bylaw 2026-16, being the Senior Citizen Municipal Property Tax Rebate Bylaw, be given third reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Bylaw 2026-17 – Non-Residential Small Business Sub-Class:

Being a Bylaw of the Municipal District of Opportunity No.17 in the province of Alberta to establish non-residential sub-classes and to establish the qualification procedure for the Non-Residential Small Business Sub-class.

First Reading:**0390-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that Bylaw 2026-17, being the Non-Residential Small Business Sub-Class Bylaw, be given first reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Second Reading:**0391-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Gerald Johnson that Bylaw 2026-17, being the Non-Residential Small Business Sub-Class Bylaw, be given second reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Unanimous Consent:**0392-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Robin Guild that Bylaw 2026-17, being the Non-Residential Small Business Sub-Class Bylaw, be given unanimous consent to proceed to third reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Third Reading:**0393-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Marcel C. Auger that Bylaw 2026-17, being the Non-Residential Small Business Sub-Class Bylaw, be given third reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Recess/Reconvene:

The meeting recessed at 10:44 a.m. and reconvened at 10:59 a.m.

Delegation (11:00 a.m.)

STARS – Glenda Farnden
Round table introductions were held.

Glenda Farnden attended the meeting on behalf of STARS to present the STARS five-year mission report. She advised that STARS has been in operation for 41 years and is celebrating its partnerships this year. She noted that STARS provides essential services, supports rural partnerships, and contributes to a strong health and safety network. She further advised that the Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17 received 26 missions within the municipality from 2021 to 2026.

She provided an overview of the Alberta financials and direct operating costs for the 2025–2026 fiscal year and described the tools and equipment available aboard the STARS aircraft.

She advised that the Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17's annual pledge to STARS expires in 2026 and requested consideration of a further five-year pledge. She outlined the benefits of STARS, including physical and virtual emergency response, enhanced rural health care, 24/7 access to STARS across Western Canada, and no cost to the patient.

Council thanked the delegate for her attendance and presentation. Delegate left at 11:35 a.m.

Closed Session:**0394-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that Council move into closed session at 11:39 a.m. with the Chief Administrative Office, Chief Financial Officer, Director of Finance, Brownlee LLP Rebecca Kos and Recording Secretary in attendance to discuss the following item: a) Subdivision Local Improvement Tax and b) Request of Severance for Elected Official, as per Division 2, Exceptions to Disclosure, of the Access to Information Act.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Brownlee LLP Rebecca Kos, Councillor Leo Alook and Recording Secretary left at 12:06 p.m.

0395-2026-17MDC

Moved by Darlene Jackson that council return to open meeting at 12:15 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Leo Alook and Recording Secretary returned to the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

Recess/Reconvene:

The meeting recessed at 12:15 p.m. and reconvened at 12:40 p.m.

STARS Pledge:**0396-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Robin Guild that the Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17 renew its five-year pledge to STARS Foundation for the years 2027 to 2031, in the annual amount of \$20,000, funded from GL 2-00-00-31-770-16.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Subdivision Local Improvement
Tax:****0397-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that the legal opinion regarding the Sweetgrass Street Subdivision Local Improvement Tax be accepted as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Declaration:

Councillor Leo Alook declared conflict on the next item and left at 12:43 p.m.

0398-2026-17MDC

Moved by Robin Guild that the request regarding severance for an elected official be accepted as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Return:

Councillor Leo Alook returned at 12:44 p.m.

**Assessment Review Board
Options:****0399-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that Council appoint Tahirih Wiebe, Ernie Grach, and Robin Guild as members of the Assessment Review Board for 2026, with Brendan Powell appointed as an alternate member, and that these appointments remain in effect until the Municipality is accepted as a member of the Capital Region Assessment Services Commission (CRASC) for 2027.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Small Business Sub-Class:**0400-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Robin Guild that council does not approve the late small business sub-class applications for processing.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**FCSS Sponsorship Request for
the NDT Empowerment Gala:**

0401-2026-17MDC

Moved by Darlene Jackson that the request from Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) for sponsorship of two tables at the NDT Empowerment Gala, to be held on August 27, 2026, in the amount of \$1,800, be approved, with funding to be allocated from GL 2-11-37-00-228-00.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Alberta Utilities Commission –
Municipal Engagement Form
for Armada Nowlit Hoole Gas
Power Generation Facility:**

0402-2026-17MDC

Moved by Brendan Powell that administration is directed to fill out and sign the municipal engagement form, then return it to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Chipewyan Lake Utility
Accounts:**

0403-2026-17MDC

Moved by Darlene Jackson that council approve administration to reinstate utility accounts in Chipewyan Lake, effective October 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Wabasca FFP-24-64 / FFP-25-18

Fire Smart Tender Award:

0404-2026-17MDC

Moved by Marcel C. Auger that administration be authorized to award the Wabasca FFP-24-64 / FFP-25-18 Vegetation Management project to B.O.S.S. for a price of \$192,000 plus GST.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Red Earth Creek FFP-24-65

Fire Smart Tender Award:

0405-2026-17MDC

Moved by Darlene Jackson that administration be authorized to award the Red Earth Creek FFP-24-65 Vegetation Management project to Waymor Construction for a price of \$94,160 plus GST.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2026 FireSmart EOI

Submissions:

0406-2026-17MDC

Moved by Darlene Jackson that Council acknowledges awareness of and supports the projects listed for the September 4, 2026 Expression of Interest/Request for Proposal (EOI/RFP) (Non-Vegetation Management) for submission to the Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA).

- Calling Lake: 16.4 hectares vegetation management project in block CAL 4-10;
- Red Earth Creek: 24.1 hectares vegetation management project in blocks RE 35 (13.8 ha) and RE 36 (10.3 ha);
- Wabasca: 15.2 hectares vegetation management project in block WA 2;
- Sandy Lake: Up to 25 hectares vegetation maintenance project; and
- Home Assessments and Community Education.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Grassy Way Culvert Contract
Award:**

0407-2026-17MDC

Moved by Brendan Powell that administration be authorized to award the Grassy Way Culvert Project to Orbit Construction for a price of \$210,000 (GST Included).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Grass Maintenance:

Grass maintenance was brought up. It was noted that there are still areas requiring cutting, and that weed whacking should be completed around the culverts.

Council Round Table:

0408-2026-17MDC

Moved by Marcel C. Auger to accept the Councillor reports for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SCARS Gala:

0409-2026-17MDC

Moved by Kevin Bigstone that council be authorized to attend the 22nd Annual Critters & Cocktails Gala fundraiser hosted by Second Chance Animal Rescue Society (SCARS) in Edmonton on November 7, 2026 and that two tables be purchased for the event, with funding to be allocated from GL 2-11-37-00-214-01.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Information/Correspondence: **0410-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that the information/correspondence items be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Calendars:

0411-2026-17MDC

Moved by Gerald Johnson that the calendars be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting Dates:

Regular Council Meeting
September 14, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.
Wabasca Council Chambers

Delegation Council Meeting
September 28, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.
Red Earth Creek Community Hall

Adjournment:

0412-2026-17MDC

Moved by Leo Alook that the meeting be adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



Marshall D. Auger, Reeve



Chad Tullis, Chief Administrative Officer