



# Mayoral Selection Process – Public Meeting

September 11, 2024 – 6:30PM



# Introductions



# Recent History in Three Hills / Background Information

- Bylaw 1463-20 – Number of Councillors
  - Changed from 7 Councillors to 5 Councillors
- April 8, 2024 – Regular Council meeting
  - Council reviewed the information presented to the previous Council on the number of Councillors and method to elect the Mayor.
- April 22, 2024 – Regular Council meeting
  - Council reviewed additional information and directed Administration to bring the options for public participation to Council for further review.
- May 27, 2024 – Regular Council meeting
  - Council reviewed the various options available for public engagement and directed Administration to develop a Public Participation Plan for a Public Meeting to be held in September.
- August 12, 2024 – Regular Council meeting
  - Council approved the public participation plan, which provides for community involvement in the process to be used for electing the Mayor.



# Legislative Implications and Requirements

There are 2 pieces of provincial legislation that apply to the method utilized for the election/selection of the Mayor in all municipalities in the Province: (1) *Municipal Government Act (MGA)* and (2) *Local Authorities Election Act (LAEA)*.



Province of Alberta

## MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT ACT

Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000  
Chapter M-26

Current as of April 1, 2024

Office Consolidation

© Published by Alberta King's Printer

Alberta King's Printer  
Suite 700, Park Plaza  
10611 - 98 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2P7  
Phone: 780-427-4952

E-mail: [kings-printer@gov.ab.ca](mailto:kings-printer@gov.ab.ca)  
Shop on-line at [kings-printer.alberta.ca](http://kings-printer.alberta.ca)



Province of Alberta

## LOCAL AUTHORITIES ELECTION ACT

Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000  
Chapter L-21

Current as of December 15, 2022

Office Consolidation

© Published by Alberta King's Printer

Alberta King's Printer  
Suite 700, Park Plaza  
10611 - 98 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2P7  
Phone: 780-427-4952

E-mail: [kings-printer@gov.ab.ca](mailto:kings-printer@gov.ab.ca)  
Shop on-line at [kings-printer.alberta.ca](http://kings-printer.alberta.ca)



# Mayoral Election - Options Available

## *Municipal Government Act*

### *Section 150(1):*

The chief elected official of a city or town is to be elected by a vote of the electors of the municipality unless the Council passes a bylaw

- (a) requiring council to appoint the chief elected official from among the councillors,
- (b) specifying when the appointment is to start, and
- (c) Specifying the term of the appointment

### *Section 150(2):*

The chief elected official of a village, summer village, or municipal district is to be appointed by council from among the councillors unless the council passes a bylaw providing that the official is to be elected by a vote of the electors of the municipality.

As shown in Section 150(1) (2), there are 2 options available to determine who is elected as the Mayor of the Town of Three Hills.



# Mayoral Election - Options Available

## 1) Elected By Separate Ballot (At Large)

- Candidates are nominated directly for the office of Mayor
- During the election, the community directly votes for the Mayor via a separate ballot and the person with the most votes, is elected as Mayor for the 4-year term on Council
- If a nominated Candidate is not elected for the office of Mayor, that Candidate will not be eligible for Council
- Current approach that is utilized

## 2) Council Appoints the Mayor from Among the Councillors

- All candidates are nominated for the office of Councillor
- During the election, the community votes directly for all five (5) members of Council with the 5 who get the most votes being elected to Council.
- During the Organizational meeting of Council, Council appoints the Mayor from within the Council
- Unless a Bylaw is drafted defining the term of the Mayor, the Mayor would be appointed each year of the Council 4-year term.



# What's Next?

A public survey is available through various avenues (deadline for submission of September 16, 2024):

- 1) Paper form at the front desk of the Town office
- 2) Available online for residents to print off, complete and submit to the Town office
- 3) Complete an online survey – <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JFK3RVF>

After the public meeting and deadline for the public survey, Administration will compile the data, analyze the findings and present a report to Council at the Regular Council meeting on September 23, 2024.

The findings of the public input session will be publicly posted with the Council Agenda package for the September 23, 2024, Council meeting and publicly on the Town's website.

Once Council reviews the results of the public input, they will decide on the next steps. Their options are:

- 1) Maintain the current process of electing the Mayor at large
- 2) Change the process utilized for electing the Mayor





# What's Next?

If Council chooses to maintain the current method (electing the Mayor at large), nothing will happen aside from informing the community of the decision of Council and the results of the public input.

If Council chooses to change the method utilized to determine who is the Mayor, the MGA requires Council to pass a new Bylaw outlining the changes. Legislative requirements with the new Bylaw:

1. All 3 readings of the Bylaw must be formally approved prior to December 31, 2024, to be in effect for the 2025 General Municipal Election
2. The Bylaw must be publicly advertised for a minimum of 60 days between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of the Bylaw





# Thank you

Thank you for taking the time out of your evening to discuss the election process for Mayor in Three Hills.

Comments?  
Questions?

Ryan Leuzinger, CAO  
cao@threehills.ca

