

Municipality of Jasper
Committee of the Whole Meeting Agenda
July 15, 2025 | 9:30 am
Jasper Library & Cultural Centre – Quorum Room

Notice: Council members and a limited number of staff are in Council chambers for meetings. Members of the public can attend meetings in person; view meetings through the Zoom livestream; or view archived Council meetings on YouTube at any time. To live-stream this meeting starting at 9:30 am, use the following Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87657457538>

1. Call to order Deputy Mayor Hall to chair meeting

2. Additions to agenda

3. Approval of agenda

3.1 July 15, 2025 Committee of the Whole agenda attachment

4. June 24, 2025 Committee of the Whole minutes attachment

4.1 Business arising from minutes

5. Delegations

6. Correspondence

7. New business

7.1 Jasper Recovery Framework & Year 1 Progress Report attachment

7.2 Indigenous Relations Framework attachment

7.3 Land Acknowledgement Policy attachment

7.4 Public Participation Policy attachment

7.5 Joint Use Partnership Agreement attachment

7.6 Transit Service Update attachment

7.7 Passenger Rail Master Plan attachment

7.8 2025 Community Conversations Interim Report attachment

7.9 2025 Community Social Assessment Results attachment

8. Motion Action List attachment

9. Councillor upcoming meetings

[9.1 Council appointments to boards and committees](#)

10. Upcoming events

One-Year Later: Coming Together as a Community – July 19-28, [Event Schedule](#)

[Mount Alberta Centennial](#) – July 25, Jasper-Yellowhead Historical Society & Jasper Museum

Council Summer Break – No Meetings July 22, July 29

[Stories of Resilience: Voices from Jasper Exhibition Opening](#) – 6:30-8:30pm, July 25, Jasper Art Gallery

Regular Council Meeting & Public Hearing for Advertising Bylaw 2025 – 1:30pm, August 5

11. Adjournment

All regular and committee meetings of Council are video-recorded and archived on YouTube.

Municipality of Jasper
Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 24, 2025 | 9:30am
Jasper Library and Cultural Centre, Quorum Room

Virtual viewing and participation	Council attendance is in Council chambers at the Jasper Library and Cultural Centre. This meeting was also conducted virtually and available for public livestreaming through Zoom. Public viewing is through Zoom livestreaming or in person attendance and participation during Council meetings is through in person attendance.		
Present	Mayor Richard Ireland, Deputy Mayor Wendy Hall, Councillors Kathleen Waxer, Helen Kelleher-Empey, Ralph Melnyk, and Scott Wilson		
Absent	Councillor Rico Damota		
Also present	Bill Given, Chief Administrative Officer Beth Sanders, Director of Urban Design & Standards Courtney Donaldson, Director of Operations & Utilities Michael Fark, Director of Recovery Doug Olthaf, Housing & Social Recovery Manager Mona El Dabee, Energy & Environment Manager Emma Acorn, Legislative Services Coordinator Peter Shokeir, The Fitzhugh Jacqui Sundquist, CBC Edmonton Bob Covey, The Jasper Local 4 observers		
Call to Order	Deputy Mayor Wilson called the June 24, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 9:30am.		
Additions/ Deletions to agenda #303/25	MOTION by Councillor Melnyk that Committee amend the agenda for the June 24, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting by adding the following item: <ul style="list-style-type: none">11.1 In-Camera item – Land & Legal Matter		
	FOR 6 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors	CARRIED
Approval of agenda #304/25	MOTION by Councillor Kelleher-Empey that Committee approve the agenda for the June 24, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting as amended: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Add 11.1 In-Camera – Land & Legal		
	FOR 6 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors	CARRIED
Business arising from June 10, 2025 minutes	none		
Delegations	none		

Correspondence	none						
Advertising Bylaw 2025	Committee received a draft advertising bylaw from Administration for consideration. Due to there currently being no print newspaper in Jasper, there is a need for a bylaw to outline the methods used by the Municipality of Jasper to give notice to the public as per the Alberta Municipal Government Act.						
#305/25	<p>MOTION by Councillor Waxer that Committee recommend Council give first reading the to the Advertising Bylaw 2025; and</p> <p>That Committee recommend Council select August 5, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. in the Quorum room as the date, time and location for the public hearing.</p> <table><tr><td>FOR</td><td>AGAINST</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>6 Councillors</td><td>0 Councillors</td><td>CARRIED</td></tr></table>	FOR	AGAINST		6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED
FOR	AGAINST						
6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED					
#306/25	<p>MOTION by Mayor Ireland that Committee direct Administration to return to the August 5th Public Hearing with proposed amendments based on an email distribution list to be subscribed by local residents or groups</p> <p>Deputy Mayor Wilson recused the Chair to Alternate Deputy Mayor Ralph Melnyk for personal reasons at 10:21am.</p> <table><tr><td>FOR</td><td>AGAINST</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>6 Councillors</td><td>0 Councillors</td><td>CARRIED</td></tr></table>	FOR	AGAINST		6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED
FOR	AGAINST						
6 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED					
Recess	Alternate Deputy Mayor Ralph Melnyk called a recess from 10:21am to 10:28am.						
Health & Safety Policy	Committee received a draft updated Health & Safety Policy from the Health & Safety Committee and Senior Leadership Team. The current policy was approved in 2012 and an update is needed to meet legislative requirements. CAO Bill Given and Director of Operations & Utilities Courtney Donaldson reviewed the draft and answered Council questions.						
#307/25	<p>MOTION by Councillor Waxer that Committee direct Administration to revise Policy E-109 and return to a future Committee meeting.</p> <table><tr><td>FOR</td><td>AGAINST</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>5 Councillors</td><td>0 Councillors</td><td>CARRIED</td></tr></table> <p>Alternate Deputy Mayor Melnyk returned the Chair to Deputy Mayor Wilson who returned to the meeting at 10:49am.</p>	FOR	AGAINST		5 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED
FOR	AGAINST						
5 Councillors	0 Councillors	CARRIED					
Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan	Director of Urban Design & Standards Beth Sanders and Energy & Environment Manager Mona El Dabee presented the Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan to Committee for consideration.						

#308/25	MOTION by Councillor Melnyk that Committee recommend Council approve Jasper's Climate Adaptation Action Plan as presented.			
	FOR 6 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors		CARRIED
Alberta Municipalities Award #309/25	<p>Committee received a request from Administration regarding award nominations for the work undertaken during the 2024 Jasper Wildfire Complex.</p> <p>MOTION by Councillor Waxer that Committee authorize Administration, by resolution, to submit an Alberta Municipalities award nomination recognizing leadership during the 2024 Jasper Complex Wildfire for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedicated Senior Team Award for the Municipality of Jasper Senior Leadership Team. 			
	FOR 6 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors		CARRIED
	Mayor Ireland left the meeting at 11:34am.			
#310/25	<p>MOTION by Councillor Waxer that Committee authorize Administration, by resolution, to submit an Alberta Municipalities award nomination recognizing leadership during the 2024 Jasper Complex Wildfire for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Award of Excellence for Mayor Richard Ireland. 			
	FOR 5 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors		CARRIED
Recess	<p>Deputy Mayor Wilson called a recess from 11:35am to 11:42am.</p> <p>Mayor Ireland returned to the meeting at 11:42am.</p>			
Jasper Wildfire Recovery Needs Assessment Report	Director of Recovery Michael Fark and Housing & Social Recovery Manager Doug Olthaf presented the Jasper Wildfire Recovery Needs Assessment Report to Committee. Mr. Olthaf reviewed how the results were gathered and the plan for an ongoing assessment of needs.			
#311/25	MOTION by Councillor Hall that Committee recommend Council receive the report for information and direct Administration to incorporate the Wildfire Recovery Needs Assessment Report findings in future work planning.			
	FOR 6 Councillors	AGAINST 0 Councillors		CARRIED
2025 Extended Producer Responsibility Discount	Committee received a request for decision from Administration with Ms. Donaldson reviewing the report and answering questions about the program and future considerations.			

#312/25	<p>MOTION by Councillor Melnyk that Committee recommend Council implement a discount for all residential recycling customers for the period of July 1, 2025, through to October 1, 2026, in recognition of the Extended Producer Responsibility program and contract.</p> <p>FOR 6 Councillors</p> <p>AGAINST 0 Councillors</p> <p>CARRIED</p>
<p>Utilities Emergency Capital Funding Request #313/25</p>	<p>Committee received an urgent request from the Operations & Utilities Department with Ms. Donaldson sharing the background and relevant timelines and costs.</p> <p>MOTION by Councillor Melnyk that Committee recommend Council approve the allocation of \$305,000 from the Utility Capital Reserve for repairs to Water Production Pump 2 and the Water Treatment Plant Entrance Slab Failure.</p> <p>FOR 6 Councillors</p> <p>AGAINST 0 Councillors</p> <p>CARRIED</p>
Motion Action List	Administration reviewed the Motion Action List.
#314/25	<p>MOTION by Councillor Hall that Committee approve the updated Motion Action List with the removal of the following item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change Adaptation Plan • Utility Rate Model • Wildfire Recovery Strategic Priorities • Correspondence – Congestion at Fuel Stations <p>And date changes for the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grande Yellowhead Public School Division Joint Agreement <p>FOR 6 Councillors</p> <p>AGAINST 0 Councillors</p> <p>CARRIED</p>
Councillor upcoming meetings	<p>Mayor Ireland will be speaking at the Diploma Ceremony for École Desrochers Graduates this afternoon and will also be visiting the Interim Housing BBQ gatherings this evening.</p> <p>Councillor Melnyk will be attending a sub-committee meeting for the Jasper-Yellowhead Historical Society to assist in planning the 100th anniversary celebration of the summing of Mount Alberta.</p> <p>Councillor Waxer was in attendance, along with Mayor Ireland, at the National Indigenous Peoples Day celebrations which took place at the Jasper Activity Centre this past Friday.</p> <p>Councillor Hall will be attending a Recovery Advisory Committee this Thursday. She was also present last week for the grand opening of the Municipality's Transit Facility in the Operations Compound.</p>
Upcoming Events	Council reviewed a list of upcoming events.

Move In-camera
#315/25

MOTION by Councillor Waxer to move in-camera at 12:39pm to discuss agenda item:

- 11.1 In-Camera – Land & Legal Matter

FOR

6 Councillors

AGAINST

0 Councillors

CARRIED

Mr. Given, Mr. Fark, and Ms. Donaldson also attended the in-camera session.

Move out of
camera
#316/25

MOTION by Councillor Kelleher-Empey to move out of camera at 12:57pm.

FOR

6 Councillors

AGAINST

0 Councillors

CARRIED

Adjournment
#317/25

MOTION by Mayor Ireland that, there being no further business, the Committee of the Whole meeting of June 24, 2025 be adjourned at 12:57pm.

FOR

6 Councillors

AGAINST

0 Councillors

CARRIED

AGENDA ITEM 7.1

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Subject: Jasper Recovery Framework & Year 1 Progress Report
From: Bill Given, Chief Administrative Officer
Prepared by: Doug Olthof, Manager of Housing and Social Recovery
Date: July 15, 2025



Recommendation:

- That Committee recommend Council receive the *JRCC Year 1 Progress Report* for information and;
- That Committee recommend Council approve the *Jasper Recovery Framework* as presented.

Alternatives:

- That Committee direct Administration to make amendments to the draft *Jasper Recovery Framework* and return to a future meeting.

Background:

On August 13, 2024, Council passed a motion to direct administration to develop draft governance and organizational structures for a Recovery Office and terms of reference for a Recovery Committee and to establish a Director of Recovery position reporting to the CAO. The Jasper Recovery Coordination Centre (JRCC) was established on August 22, 2024, as a partnership between Parks Canada and the Municipality of Jasper to guide the recovery process.

On September 3, 2024, Council passed a motion approving the establishment of 8 two-year term positions in support of social, economic and housing recovery. On September 24, 2024, that motion was amended to increase the number of two-year term recovery positions to 9.

On September 10, 2024, Council passed a motion to approve the Terms of Reference for the Jasper Recovery Advisory Committee (RAC).

On February 4, 2025, Council passed two motions to approve the Pop-Up Village initiative and the In-Town Contractor Camp, Interim Residences, and Laydowns and the two core components of the Commerce Continuity Initiative.

Discussion:

The *Jasper Recovery Framework* has been developed by the JRCC with support from the Municipality of Jasper and Parks Canada, and input from the Recovery Advisory Committee. Its purpose is to share recovery progress and to look ahead to recovery priorities in the Municipality of Jasper and Jasper National Park.

Recovery efforts focused on stabilization through spring 2025, with the completion of the first phase of interim housing marking a significant milestone. At that time, the JRCC had sufficient clarity for funding and resource availability to establish a recovery framework.

As we reach the one-year anniversary of the 2025 wildfire event, there is an opportunity to reflect on the work

completed to date and ongoing areas of focus and look ahead to what's next for recovery. The *Year 1 Progress Report* was drafted by the JRCC for this purpose.

The *Jasper Recovery Framework* describes the organizational structure of the Jasper Recovery Coordination Centre, which forms the coordinating hub of a recovery operation involving a diversity of recovery partners including multiple orders of government, non-governmental and community organizations, Indigenous partners, business organizations and others. It explains the unique context of Jasper's recovery, and the interconnected roles and responsibilities of the federal, provincial, and municipal orders of government. The *Framework* identifies the core principles guiding recovery and goes on to describe six key priorities: debris management, interim housing, rebuilding homes and businesses, social recovery, economic recovery, and park recovery. A brief description of each priority is followed by a related set of discreet objectives, which collectively map out a path to recovery.

Following the discussion of recovery priorities, the *Jasper Recovery Framework* describes four phases of recovery, showing how one phase transitions into the next over what is estimated to be a 10-year recovery timeline. This timeline refers to Jasper's "current recovery trajectory", which the *Framework* contrasts with a hypothetical "unsupported recovery trajectory" on one hand, and an "enhanced recovery trajectory" on the other. The current recovery trajectory reflects current resourcing and progress to date. The alternate trajectory's help contextualize this expected course of recovery, provide justification for ongoing support, and point to opportunities for improved outcomes.

A summary of current recovery funding from both the Government of Canada and the Government of Alberta is provided. Other recovery funding sources and donations are acknowledged for the important role those resources play in providing alternative supports for needs that cannot be directly met with government resources alone.

The final sections of the *Framework* describe the process of transitioning out of recovery and the plans for ongoing reporting on recovery progress.

The Jasper Recovery Framework focuses on priorities and objectives that are directly coordinated by the JRCC. This document is not intended to include all recovery priorities and objectives of Council; some of which are expected to be actioned by other departments or are currently unfunded.

The *Year 1 Progress Report* is a supplementary document that is structured around the priorities and objectives set out in the *Jasper Recovery Framework*. Under each priority, it contains a summary of actions completed against each objective over the first year of the recovery period. Each of those actions is then identified as being "complete", "ongoing" or an "area of future focus." In that way, the report presents a summary of accomplishments to date, a present-day snapshot of ongoing recovery activities, and a projection of recovery activities in the months and years ahead. This report serves as a supplementary document to the *Jasper Recovery Framework* and establishes a template for future recovery progress reporting.

A draft copy of the *Jasper Recovery Framework* was presented to the Recovery Advisory Committee for their review and feedback, which was integrated into the version here presented. Additional feedback was received from the Government of Alberta and Parks Canada and has also been integrated in the present draft.

Pending approval, the *Jasper Recovery Framework* and *Year 1 Progress Report* will be communicated to the community, recovery partners, and the broader public through a coordinated communications plan involving the Municipality of Jasper and Parks Canada, coordinated by the JRCC.

Strategic Relevance

- Take proactive steps to reduce the risk of people becoming vulnerable and respond when they are vulnerable.
- Recognize the fundamental importance of our tourism economy.
- Build our internal capacity of advance our housing priorities.
- Invest in infrastructure to support housing.
- Facilitate others in developing diverse housing options.
- Communicate and engage with residents.
- Collaborate with other municipalities, orders of government, Indigenous partners and advocacy organizations.
- Welcome the expertise, innovation, creativity and commitment of community members, groups, associations and businesses.
- Continue along the path to reconciliation.
- Focus on prevention, mitigation, and preparation for natural disasters.
- Strengthen our voice by partnering with those who share our interests.
- Increase awareness and understanding of our unique conditions with other orders of government and funders.
- All Wildfire Recovery Strategic Priorities

Inclusion Considerations:

The development of the *Jasper Recovery Framework* and the priorities and objectives contained therein is grounded in an inclusive conception of Jasper's community and Jasper residents. It sets out a path toward deepening relationship with Indigenous partners and continuing along the path to reconciliation.

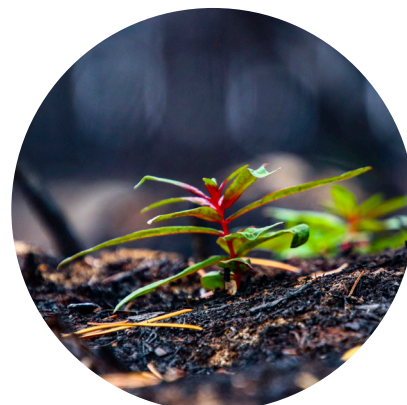
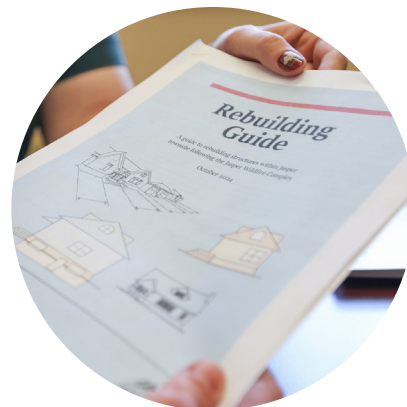
Relevant Legislation:

- [Jasper Strategic Priorities 2022-2026](#)

Financial:

All Municipality of Jasper work outlined in the Jasper Recovery Framework is carried out by dedicated municipal recovery staff in the JRCC funded 90% through the DRP program, by municipal staff of other departments as part of their regular duties, as well as through external resources funded 90% through the DRP program. All staffing and recovery expenditures of municipal administration are subject to Council approvals.

Jasper Recovery Coordination Centre



Year One Progress Report

July 2025



Parks Canada
Parcs Canada



The Jasper Recovery Coordination Centre (JRCC) presents this *Year One Progress Report* to share progress towards recovery in the community of Jasper and Jasper National Park following the 2024 Jasper Wildfire.

The *Year One Progress Report* follows the priorities and objectives established in the *Jasper Recovery Framework*. Each priority includes a summary of actions completed during the first year of recovery that support each objective. Areas of future focus are identified to look ahead to where further work is needed.

Community re-entry

Incident response and community re-entry were led by Unified Command, a partnership between Parks Canada and the Municipality of Jasper, with support from many government and supporting partner agencies, including the Government of Alberta, through the Alberta Emergency Management Agency, and Alberta Wildfire, RCMP, ATCO Electric, ATCO Gas, telecommunications and the Canadian Red Cross.

Unified Command coordinated the following steps to prepare for re-entry of Jasper residents to the community on August 16, 2024:

- Hazards within the townsite secured or mitigated
- Basic levels of emergency services restored
- Critical services restored to provide a basic level of service:
 - ▶ healthcare
 - ▶ municipal public works
 - ▶ utilities (electricity, gas and water)
 - ▶ telecommunications
 - ▶ critical retail (grocery, gas, banking, pharmacy)

Over 40 plans were developed and implemented to support re-entry on themes including hazard tree removal, fencing damaged areas, managing abandoned and destroyed vehicles, air-quality monitoring and reporting, and hazardous structure debris removal.

Park re-opening

Parks Canada re-opened Jasper National Park as soon as critical park services of emergency response, law enforcement, visitor safety, garbage collection, washroom cleaning and human-wildlife coexistence were able to safely operate. Many frontcountry areas and visitor experiences outside the burn area, such as Miette Hot Springs and the Columbia Icefields, opened in August 2024, soon after critical park services were reinstated.

The major transport corridors of Highway 16 (Yellowhead Highway) and 93N (Icefields Parkway) were opened for traffic as a priority, once the roads were no longer at risk of fire activity, and burned areas had been addressed for hazards. Secondary roads within the wildfire perimeter, including Maligne Lake Road and Highway 93A, were assessed for hazards before safe access was restored.

Establishment of the JRCC

Parks Canada and the Municipality of Jasper established the Jasper Recovery Coordination Centre (JRCC) on August 22, 2024, as a transition from Unified Command, which had led incident response and community re-entry. The JRCC established a working-group structure which is reflected in the 6 priorities of the *Jasper Recovery Framework*. The JRCC operates out of the Government of Alberta Provincial Building in the town of Jasper.

Priorities

Our recovery is focused on achieving 6 key priorities. All priorities are essential and are interrelated. Each priority includes objectives which outline key areas of work to achieve the priority.



Priority 1: Debris management

Coordinate the safe and timely removal of wildfire debris to enable rebuilding and protect public health, safety and the environment.



Priority 4: Social recovery

Foster individual and community well-being through inclusive supports that help people heal and connect.



Priority 2: Interim housing

Provide safe and appropriate interim housing for displaced residents and workers, to support stability and continuity during recovery.



Priority 5: Economic recovery

Stabilize and strengthen Jasper's economy by supporting affected businesses, welcoming visitors and enabling workforce recovery.



Priority 3: Rebuilding homes and businesses

Support the safe, efficient reconstruction of damaged and destroyed homes and businesses, while creating opportunities to address long-term housing needs and increasing resilience to future events.



Priority 6: Park recovery

Rehabilitate park assets and natural areas to support ecological integrity and provide safe and quality visitor experiences.



Priority 1: Debris management

Protect human health and the environment

	Status
Air quality monitoring stations and processes established with Alberta Health Services.	Complete
Requirements for demolition and completion permits established, including dust control, air-quality monitoring, addressing asbestos and enforcing compliance with input from Alberta Occupational Health and Safety.	Complete
Fencing managed under contract for destroyed properties to protect public and wildlife.	Ongoing
Mitigations put in place around drains to prevent wildfire debris run-off.	Ongoing
Debris removal process undertaken safely with complaints addressed quickly.	Ongoing
Site-specific sampling plans developed to ensure contaminants in air and soil are at safe levels to ensure the long-term health and safety of the community and environment.	Ongoing
Mitigations explored to reduce dust from cleared properties in the townsite.	Future focus
Long-term monitoring to assess if any residual contamination is present, and to understand how different contaminants may move through soil and water into the broader environment.	Future focus

Coordinate efficient debris management

Prime contractor agreements established for demolition contractors.	Complete
Coordinated removal of fridges and freezers through Insurance Bureau of Canada and contractor (Ellis Don) following community re-entry.	Complete
Facilitated sifting debris for personal items at destroyed properties with Team Rubicon.	Complete
Supported coordinated debris removal and site preparation organized by Insurance Bureau of Canada and contractor (Ellis Don).	Complete
Process for on-site signage to inform neighbours of upcoming work developed.	Complete
Permitted debris removal work on Sundays.	Complete
Facilitated Marmot Pit as a disposal location for clean fill close to the townsite.	Complete
100% of demolition permits issued (as of April 2025)	Complete
99% of properties have debris removed (current to July 9, 2025).	Ongoing
32% of certificates of completion issued (current to July 9, 2025).	Ongoing
Online permit map created and updated regularly.	Ongoing
Coordinated debris removal and contamination remediation for national park assets.	Ongoing
Case-management of complex situations.	Ongoing
Requirements communicated for risk management at certain locations.	Ongoing



Priority 2: Interim housing

Provide scalable and adaptable interim housing

	Status
Transitional housing in place at hotels for essential workers (August 2024 to February 2025).	Complete
Conducted needs analysis, based on responses from 621 households self-identifying as requiring interim housing.	Complete
Interim housing locations analyzed and selected.	Complete
Funding secured for interim housing units.	Complete
Site preparation and utility connections (power, water, sewer, gas) completed at 4 in town locations (HK -715 Connaught Drive, HF -101 Arnica Ave, HH- 72 Connaught Drive, GA- 901 Connaught Drive), and out of town at Marmot Meadows.	Complete
300+ interim housing units procured and installed: 162 trailers (single, double and triple), 120-room dorm-style complex, 24 prefabricated houses.	Complete
Property management services established with Canadian Red Cross for leases and maintenance.	Complete
Additional interim housing sites and units secured; utilities connected at additional in-town locations.	Ongoing
Livability of interim housing maintained and enhanced through partnerships with donors and funding agencies.	Ongoing
Secure additional funding for interim housing beyond existing 3-year term.	Future focus
Secure winter occupancy secured to balance known summer seasonal staff needs.	Future focus

Fair and transparent housing allocation

Housing allocation matrix created and applied with Canadian Red Cross to ensure fair and transparent allocation in assigning available supply.	Complete
Collaboration with Canadian Red Cross to allocate units and sign leases with residents. 510 residents (260 households) living in interim housing (current to July 1, 2025).	Ongoing

Expanded seasonal and temporary options

<i>Interim Temporary Use Policy</i> created for RVs and temporary work camps.	Complete
70 campsites available for residents at Whistlers Campground and campsites for seasonal staff at Sleepy Hollow Road.	Ongoing
140 unserviced sites available for contractors at Wabasso Campground.	Ongoing

Regional transit access

Funding allocated and contract confirmed for daily commuter bus service, Hinton to Jasper through support with the Government of Alberta.	Complete
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Demobilization and site restoration

Planning to establish scope and funding for demobilization and site restoration.	Ongoing
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Priority 3: Rebuilding homes and businesses

Policy amendments and planning

	Status
Bill C-76 passed by Parliament to allow transfer of some development authorities from Parks Canada to the Municipality of Jasper.	Complete
<i>Rebuilding Guide</i> published.	Complete
Updates to <i>Town of Jasper Land Use Policy</i> and <i>Architectural Motif Guidelines for the Town of Jasper</i> to make rebuilding easier, increase resilience to wildfire, and increase housing options.	Complete
Eliminated the requirement for foundation elevation checks.	Complete
Relaxed compliance deposit requirements to reduce costs for lessees.	Complete
Completed updates to policy parameters for construction in the R4 district to facilitate rebuilding and permit the replacement of existing manufactured homes.	Complete
Simplified variance process to fast-track minor variances and variance applications for like-for-like rebuilds.	Complete
Conducted community engagement on town values, residential density and parking.	Complete
Reviewed and streamlined development review processes.	Ongoing
Clarified specifications for building materials that support fire resilience.	Ongoing
Adjustments to <i>Town of Jasper Land Use Policy</i> via quarterly updates.	Ongoing
Create new off-site levy bylaw.	Future focus
Develop and consult on community residential parking strategy.	Future focus
Complete the memorandum of agreement to transfer some land use planning and development authority from Parks Canada to the Municipality of Jasper.	Future focus

Responsive permitting

20 new team members added to support planning and development review (current to July 1, 2025).	Complete
Online web map created and updated regularly with approved development permits, building permits and occupancy permits.	Ongoing
185 development permits issued including rebuilds of 40 fire-impacted homes, 3 multi-plex homes, 1 condo complex, 1 apartment building, 3 outlying hotels, 6 commercial properties and 1 cabin at Lake Edith (current to June 30, 2025).	Ongoing
56 building permits issued, including rebuilds for 4 in-town commercial properties, 1 outlying hotel, 7 residential properties, 1 apartment building and 1 condo complex (current to June 30, 2025).	Ongoing
400+ pre-application meetings (drop-in and pre-booked) carried out.	Ongoing
2400+ emails and phone calls with lessees and contractors.	Ongoing
Reporting process established for permit turnaround times.	Ongoing
Capacity and processes at the Municipality of Jasper developed in preparation for the transfer of some land-use authorities.	Ongoing
Complex rebuild scenarios identified and supported.	Ongoing
Electronic permitting system developed and implemented.	Future focus

Reinstate site services

Survey pins re-established.	Ongoing
Utility rebuilds coordinated and supported.	Ongoing

Safe and coordinated construction

Interim Temporary Use Policy established allow for storage of construction materials and temporary accommodations for tradespeople.	Complete
<i>Jasper Builders Guide</i> published for builders, designers and contractors.	Complete
Coordinated with building industry including 3 builder workshops.	Ongoing
Laydown area planning, including site preparation at “Old Woodlot” and at Stan Wright Drive and establishment of application process.	Ongoing
Impacts of community-wide construction activities managed, including street use, construction haul routes, sound impacts, traffic impacts and repairs to infrastructure.	Future Focus
Road and sidewalk improvements as part of rebuilding damaged infrastructure.	Future Focus

Support for affordable housing

Secured Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation <i>Housing Accelerator Fund</i> grant of \$9.4 million.	Complete
Completed Housing Action Plan.	Complete
Secured funding to build a 40-unit long-term rental housing building to deliver rental units at below market rates. Land transferred from Parks Canada to the Municipality of Jasper for \$1.	Complete
<i>Housing Accelerator Fund</i> initiatives advanced, including the Accessory Dwelling Unit Incentive Program and a land acquisition strategy for community housing.	Ongoing
Analyse vacant lands available for housing development as per <i>Jasper Community Sustainability Plan (2011)</i> .	Future Focus





Priority 4: Social recovery

DRAFT

JRCC Year One Progress Report

8

Access to recovery supports

	Status
630+ wildfire recovery case files opened with the recovery outreach team.	Ongoing
550+ visits to Recovery Alberta (current as of June 1 2025).	Ongoing
Residents informed of recovery supports through accessible, multi-channel, trauma-informed communications.	Ongoing

Community connection

Community dinners serve 450 Jasperites per week for 12 weeks in winter 2024–25 in collaboration with the Canadian Red Cross.	Complete
Community events including organised with support and funding of many donor agencies help promote connection and foster physical, mental and spiritual well-being	Ongoing
Healing Through Fire interpretive program co-hosted with Indigenous partners from 3 communities offers guided hike, discussing fire ecology and ecosystem recovery, to connect residents and visitors with nature and Indigenous Knowledge.	Ongoing
Supported Emergency Preparedness Week 2025.	Complete
First year anniversary commemorative events coordinated.	Complete
Community wellness program developed with engagement of spiritual leaders.	Ongoing

Participation in recovery

38 community volunteer "Pathfinders" trained in mental health and peer support (current to July 1, 2025).	Ongoing
126,000+ people visit the Municipality of Jasper's recovery and support web pages.	Ongoing
Indigenous pipe ceremonies held in August 2024 and July 2025.	Complete
Indigenous partner visit to Cultural Use Area, Buffalo Prairie and Palisades Centre.	Complete
In-person Indigenous engagement sessions conducted in October and November 2024, and online engagement conducted in June 2025, to discuss Indigenous participation in recovery.	Complete
Relationships strengthened with Indigenous partners as part of recovery efforts.	Future focus

Addressing unmet recovery needs

Survey established to measure baseline needs, with 890 responses from Jasperites.	Complete
Regular coordination forum established for external funders.	Complete
Needs assessment strategy and survey developed and implemented.	Ongoing
Jasper Food Bank established at temporary location with funding support from Canadian Red Cross.	Complete
Grants provided by non-governmental community organisations including Canadian Red Cross, Jasper Community Team Society and Banff Community fund to help community groups and individuals.	Ongoing
Outreach and targeted psychosocial supports for displaced Jasperites.	Future focus



Priority 5: Economic recovery

Business stability and workforce retention	Status
Business Recovery Lunch and Learn series hosted, with 95% of participants agreeing that the sessions enhanced their ability to navigate recovery, adapt to changes in the economy, and/or strengthen their business operations. Funded by Government of Alberta (GoA) with support from Community Futures West Yellowhead (CFWY), Jasper Park Chamber of Commerce (JPCC) and Jasper Employment and Education Centre (JEEC).	Complete
800+ temporary foreign workers assisted in securing or extending work permits and workers surveyed on wildfire impacts by the JEEC.	Complete
\$2.17 million provided in non-repayable contributions to 236 businesses, low-interest loans up to \$15,000 offered and a Jasper Recovery Coordinator established with funding from PrairiesCan and delivered by CFWY.	Ongoing
\$2 million in emergency assistance provided to eligible small businesses and not-for-profits through a Support to Small Business and Not-for-Profits program provided by Canadian Red Cross (CRC) and GoA.	Ongoing
Business recovery support person established to provide business assistance with support from CFWY, JPCC and CRC.	Ongoing
Weekly newsletter to business community sharing business recovery information by JPCC.	Ongoing
Economic recovery and resiliency engagement and recommendations report by Economic Developers Alberta.	Ongoing
Mental health supports for business owners and employees.	Future focus
Business retention strategy developed.	Future focus

Interim commercial spaces and support

Pop-up business village established with temporary structures allowing businesses that lost their retail locations to the fire to resume operations with funding provided by PrairiesCan (7 businesses and 1 artisan space in place current to July 1, 2025).	Ongoing
Planning for interim industrial park to support businesses, with funding provided by PrairiesCan.	Ongoing
Policies and procedures for licensing businesses in the community of Jasper and Jasper National Park are adapted where possible to consider and support individual recovery circumstances.	Ongoing

Welcoming visitors

Coordinated “Jasper is open for business” messaging to support the return of visitors.	Complete
“What’s open” online list of local businesses launched and regularly updated.	Complete
Marmot Basin, Parks Canada and ATCO Electric work to restore power, ensure safe road access and start operations to enable the Marmot Basin Ski Resort to open in November 2024, supporting the economic well-being of the community in winter.	Complete
New winter offers such as Rockaboo Mountain Adventures’ Jasper Ice Wall set up in the community of Jasper. Funding support for certain winter experiences provided by Travel Alberta.	Complete
‘Jasper You Know’ regional campaign by Travel Alberta and international campaign by Destination Canada to promote visitation.	Ongoing
National tourism conference planning for September 2025 ongoing with Government of Canada, Tourism Jasper and Travel Alberta.	Ongoing
Government of Canada ‘Canada Strong Pass’ provides free entry and discounted camping, incentivizing visitation to Jasper National Park for summer 2025.	Ongoing
Training sessions and wildfire communication messaging provided to front-line and tourist-facing staff by Parks Canada and JEEC.	Ongoing

Indigenous participation in economic recovery

Directory of Indigenous businesses established and updated online.	Complete
Contractor with strong Indigenous benefits package and Indigenous staff on crew selected for debris removal contract for Parks Canada properties.	Complete
Work to expand Indigenous partners’ participation in economic recovery through contracting, procurement, guided-business licensing and other business opportunities.	Future focus

Monitoring economic recovery progress

Re-entry survey to track open, closed and destroyed businesses following the wildfire sent by CFWY.	Complete
Parks Canada estimates visitation as 1,134,410 visitors to Jasper National Park in the 2024 calendar year.	Ongoing
Indicators established to track economic recovery.	Ongoing





Priority 6: Park recovery

Safe reopening of park facilities

	Status
Areas outside the fire perimeter, including Columbia Icefields and Miette Hot Springs, reopened as soon as critical park services reinstated to support regional economy.	Complete
Hazard assessments for danger trees and slope stability completed prior to reopening areas for visitor access.	Complete
Facilities cleaned before reopening.	Complete
Autumn 2024 visitor offer included opening of Pyramid Bench trails, Old Fort Point, Lake Annette and Lake Edith, Athabasca Falls, Overlander, Medicine and Maligne lakes, and most backcountry areas.	Complete
Winter 2024 recreation opportunities open, including cross-country ski trails at Pyramid Fire Road, Pipeline, Whirlpool Winter Hub; backcountry skiing at Fryatt Valley Trail and Signal Fire Road; and opening of alternative winter canyon opportunities for guided businesses.	Complete
Spring and summer 2025 visitor offer included frontcountry campgrounds (75% of pre-fire inventory) and backcountry campgrounds (100% of backcountry sites open), opening roads such as Whistlers Road and day-use areas which had not yet opened, such as Horseshoe Lake.	Complete
Multi-media communications to inform visitors about how to visit safely.	Ongoing
Danger-tree clearing on trails, roadways and visitor-use areas.	Ongoing
"What's open in Jasper National Park" web page created to post real-time updates on open sites and facilities.	Ongoing

Resilient rebuilding of park infrastructure

Caribou Conservation Breeding Centre repaired following wildfire damage.	Complete
Damaged and destroyed signage replaced throughout the park.	Ongoing
Pit privies replaced at fire-impacted day-use areas.	Ongoing
Asset replacement planning for fire-impacted frontcountry campgrounds (Wapiti, Wabasso, Whirlpool) and South Entry Gate.	Ongoing
Rebuilding of staff housing within and outside townsites.	Ongoing
Work to address hazards to enable safe reopening of Maligne Canyon, Valley of the Five Lakes and the road to Edith Cavell.	Future focus
Planning for cultural areas including Indigenous Cultural Use Area and Palisades Centre.	Future focus

Environmental protection during recovery activities

Supported utility providers to restore power to outlying park areas (i.e. Marmot Basin).	Complete
Environmental surveillance conducted on wildfire debris removal inside and out of townsites.	Ongoing
Impact assessments to ensure projects use environmental best practices to protect the park environment.	Ongoing

Supporting natural regeneration

Select trails and areas closed to allow the landscape to heal before opening to human use.	Ongoing
Communication and interpretive programs offered to help visitors learn about natural regeneration processes.	Ongoing
5000+ Douglas-fir seedlings planted, as well as wolf willow, native grasses and forbs to supplement natural forest regrowth in areas at risk of erosion or vulnerable to the spread of invasive species.	Complete
2,200 plants planted at the Caribou Conservation Breeding Centre.	Complete
15,000 Douglas-fir seeds collected in the park and propagated in a nursery for planting.	Ongoing
Measures identified and implemented to prevent invasive species.	Ongoing
20,000 whitebark pine seeds collected in the park and propagated in a nursery for planting in burned endangered whitebark pine forest.	Ongoing
Enhanced ecological integrity monitoring to better understand wildfire impacts to habitats and wildlife.	Future focus

Monitoring wildlife and managing human-wildlife coexistence

Long-term monitoring of key wildlife populations pre- and post-wildfire (elk, deer, grizzly bears) in conjunction with ecological monitoring of large mammal occupancy to monitor population changes and potential for predator population response.	Ongoing
Continued species-at-risk monitoring that includes bats, black swifts and whitebark pine.	Ongoing

Ecological fire management

5-year wildfire risk reduction strategy established to prioritize high-risk areas.	Complete
99 hectares of vegetation cleared adjacent to the previously treated 360 hectares in the Pyramid Bench and Community Fireguard areas, and over 15 hectares cleared near outlying commercial facilities in support of wildfire risk reduction strategy.	Complete
Jasper Wildfire Preparedness Information Session, April 23, 2025.	Complete
Ongoing implementation of wildfire risk reduction strategy.	Ongoing

Protecting cultural heritage

Indigenous partners, including Elders, Knowledge Holders and youth, participated as cultural monitors in archaeological investigations to support recovery from the wildfire and at areas slated for construction.	Complete
Discussion with Indigenous partners about respectful debris removal and planning for rebuilding at the Palisades Centre, a place of historic and contemporary importance for Indigenous partners.	Ongoing

Jasper Recovery Coordination Centre



Jasper Recovery Framework



Parks
Canada

Parcs
Canada



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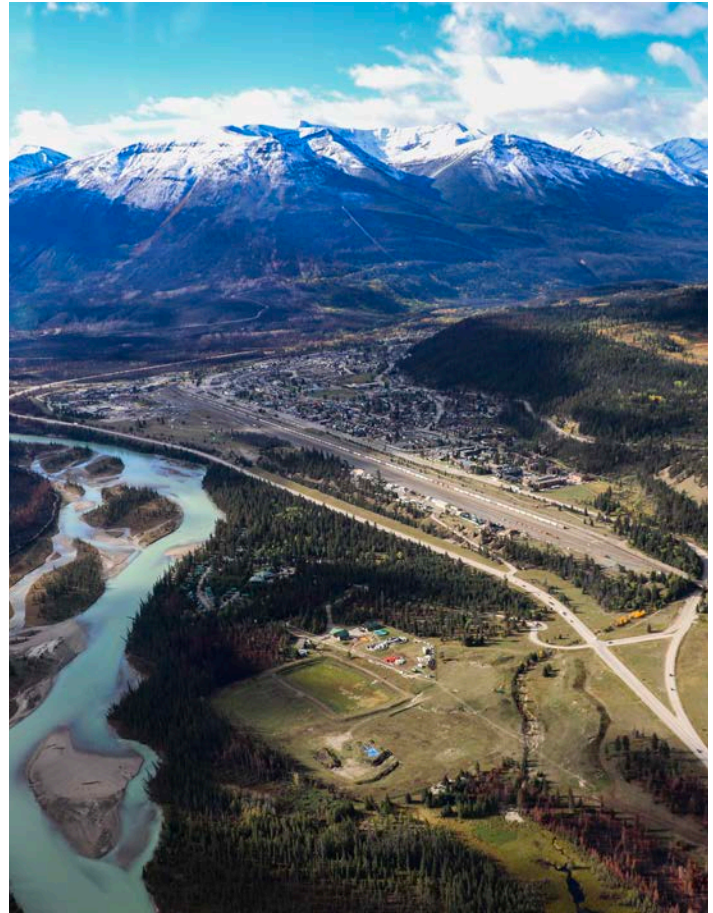
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Introduction

The *Jasper Recovery Framework* has been developed by the Jasper Recovery Coordination Centre (JRCC) to share recovery progress from the impacts of the 2024 Jasper Wildfire, and to look ahead to recovery priorities in the Municipality of Jasper and Jasper National Park.

The *Jasper Recovery Framework* presents principles and establishes objectives for priority areas. The framework charts a course to build back better and create a more resilient, connected community ready to thrive for years to come.

The framework will guide the work of the JRCC and provide direction to partners supporting recovery. The framework will be reported on annually to share progress on completed actions and identify areas of future focus.



Recovery is defined as the coordinated emergency management process by which Albertans, municipalities and [government agencies] construct physical infrastructure and re-establish the social, emotional, economic and physical well-being of individuals and communities following a disaster. As outlined in the 2017 *An Emergency Management Framework for Canada*, recovery efforts should be conducted with a view towards disaster risk reduction, mitigation and sustainability. Recovery therefore includes adaptation to new norms and, where possible, the adoption of mitigation strategies that minimize future disaster impacts.

– *Government of Alberta Provincial Recovery Framework (2020)*



We are forever grateful to the first responders who battled the Jasper Wildfire. Facing immense challenges, you stood resilient, embodying the spirit of service and community. We honour the sacrifice of Morgan Kitchen, an Alberta Wildfire crew member based out of Rocky Mountain House who tragically died while battling the fire on August 3, 2024. This loss is felt deeply by Morgan's family, friends, colleagues and the firefighting community. He will always be remembered.

The 2024 Jasper Wildfire

On the evening of Monday, July 22, 2024, multiple lightning strikes caused wildfires to the south of the town of Jasper, Alberta. An additional fire ignited to the northeast of the community at approximately the same time. Extreme conditions, including intense winds and the driest conditions recorded in over 60 years, caused the wildfires to spread rapidly, joining to become 1 fire complex. Community residents and visitors, in total more than 20,000 people, safely evacuated to neighbouring communities across the region.

The aggressive fire sent burning embers kilometres ahead of the fire front and reached town on July 24. Through the courageous work of firefighters from the Municipality of Jasper, Parks Canada, Alberta Wildfire, partner agencies, and from the hundreds of structural and wildland firefighters who came to support from across the region, 70% of structures in the town of Jasper were saved. Essential infrastructure, including the water treatment plant, hospital, schools, grocery stores, RCMP station and Activity Centre, as well as many homes and businesses, survived the wildfire and are in place as the foundation of recovery.

At the peak of the firefighting efforts, approximately 850 personnel from agencies and fire departments across Canada and internationally were involved. Helicopters, air tankers and specialized equipment supported ground crews. This large-scale mobilization was critical in slowing the wildfire's progression and safeguarding most of Jasper's structures. Wildfire control efforts outside the townsite were critical in preventing losses on the Pyramid Bench, securing most properties at Lake Edith, and protecting park infrastructure, providing a strong foundation for park recovery. The fire perimeter was contained at 32,700 hectares and classified as under control on September 7, 2024.

The Jasper Wildfire destroyed 30% of the structures in town. The 358 destroyed structures included homes, apartment buildings, a senior's residence, businesses, hotels and churches. It is estimated that 806 units of residential housing were lost in the community of Jasper.¹ The Insurance Bureau of Canada ranks the Jasper Wildfire as the second costliest fire in Canadian history; as of early 2025, insured losses were estimated at \$1.23 billion.

Two hundred and fifty-five Parks Canada infrastructure assets, representing 20% of total assets in the park, were destroyed or damaged during the wildfire. Destroyed structures include frontcountry campgrounds, staff housing, an entry gate, trails and day-use areas.

Unified Command, along with the Government of Alberta, Canada Taskforce II, RCMP and many partners from the building industry and utility providers began initial recovery efforts. Community re-entry for residents began on August 16, 2024, once the townsite was deemed safe, with basic levels of service, such as health care, groceries, power, water, sewer and gas available, and immediate hazards removed.

Parks Canada reopened Jasper National Park to visitors as soon as the critical park services of emergency response, law enforcement, visitor safety, garbage collection, washroom cleaning and human-wildlife coexistence were able to operate safely. The major transport corridors of Highway 16 (Yellowhead Highway) and 93N (Icefields Parkway) were opened for traffic once the roads were no longer at risk of fire activity and hazards were addressed.

The Government of Alberta, through the Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) and Alberta Wildfire, was closely involved throughout the incident as a key partner.

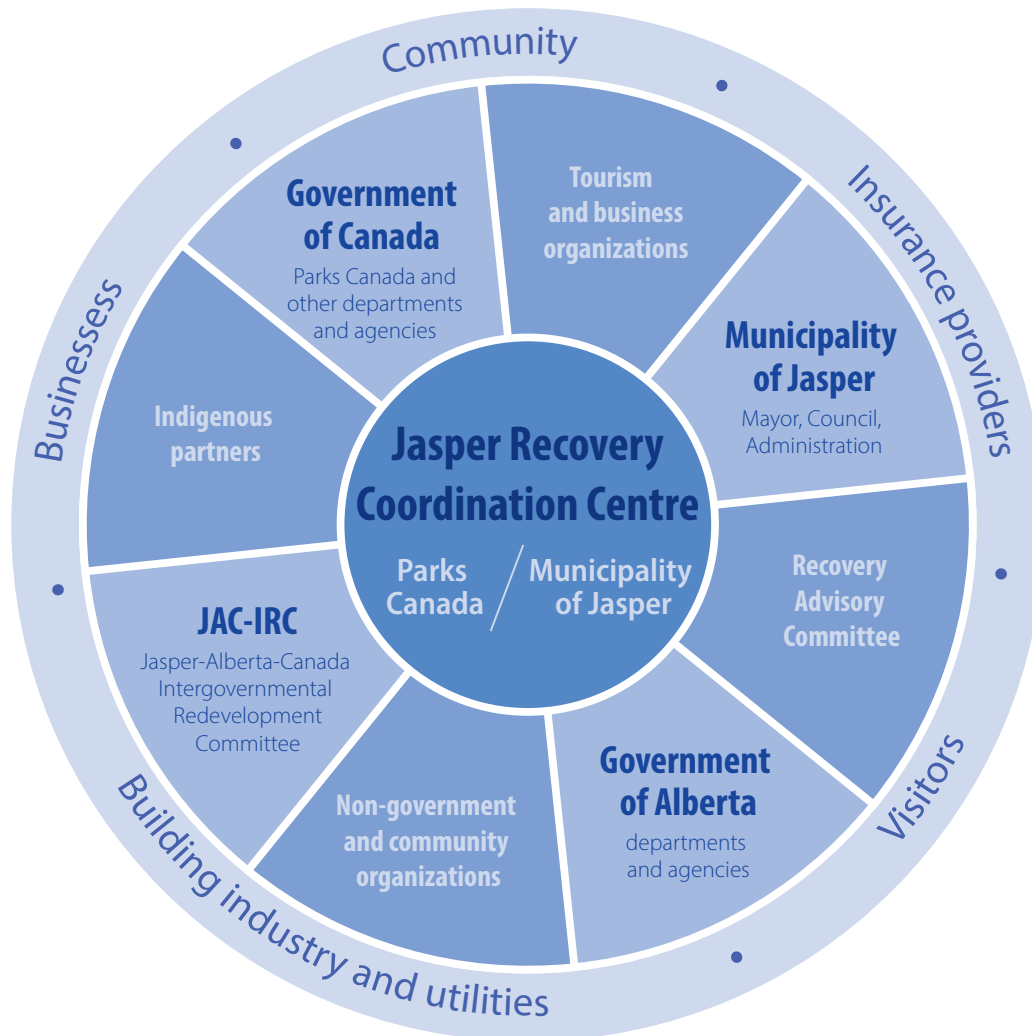
¹ Municipality of Jasper Housing Action Plan (2025)

Recovery coordination

Parks Canada and the Municipality of Jasper established the Jasper Recovery Coordination Centre (JRCC) on August 22, 2024, as a transition from Unified Command which had led incident response and community re-entry. The JRCC guides the recovery process and delivers resources and support.

The JRCC has a working-group structure typical of other recovery coordination centres, and a common governance arrangement in the post-disaster recovery field. Working groups are made up of government agencies, industry, and non-governmental representatives, and ensure that recovery actions are centred on the needs of the community, delivered effectively and efficiently, and aligned with the outcomes and objectives of this plan.

The JRCC works within the specific context unique to the Municipality of Jasper, located in the Province of Alberta and inside Jasper National Park. Three levels of government come together through the Jasper-Alberta-Canada Intergovernmental Redevelopment Committee (JAC-IRC), a connection point between the Municipality of Jasper, the Government of Alberta, and the Government of Canada represented by Parks Canada. The JAC-IRC provides oversight, coordination and advice to elected officials on short- and long-term recovery needs.



► Jasper Recovery Coordination Centre structure

Figure 1: JRCC is a partnership between Parks Canada and the Municipality of Jasper. Through a working group structure, the JRCC coordinates internal and external resources, and directly involves departments and agencies from all levels of government, community organizations, industry partners, Indigenous partners, and the Recovery Advisory Committee in the recovery. Residents and businesses, visitors, builders, insurance providers, and many others are all vital to recovery through their own actions and are engaged by the JRCC throughout recovery.

Partners in recovery

The JRCC working groups involve many external partners, each helping to advance specific recovery priorities. Working groups meet regularly to bring together diverse partners to collaboratively advance recovery efforts.

Residents

Jasper residents are partners in Jasper's recovery process, both as they navigate their own personal recovery journeys, and as they contribute to the recovery of the community. The term "resident" includes residents currently living in Jasper, those who continue to be displaced following the wildfire, and new residents and seasonal workers who are vital to the functioning of the town and national park.

Indigenous partners

Jasper National Park and the community of Jasper are located in Treaty 6 and 8 as well as the traditional lands of the Anishinabe, Aseniwuche Winewak, Dene-zaa, Nêhiyawak, Secwépemc, Stoney Nakoda, Mountain Métis, and Métis. We acknowledge the past, present and future generations of these nations who continue to steward the land. Through recovery, we respectfully acknowledge the relationship Indigenous peoples have with this land and we remember our responsibility and obligations to this place and to Indigenous peoples.

Businesses

Businesses are essential partners in recovery. Businesses provide a livelihood for Jasper residents, essential services for residents and businesses, and deliver many of the services which are crucial to each recovery priority.

Insurance providers

The insurance industry plays a vital role in recovery and is often the primary financial support for residents or business owners. The Insurance Bureau of Canada (IBC) coordinates between various insurers and provides guidance to residents and information to all levels of government.

Building industry and utilities

The Building Industry and Land Development Association Alberta (BILD Alberta) coordinates between various insurers and provides guidance to residents and information to all levels of government. Industry partners such as ATCO Electric, ATCO Gas and Telus have been instrumental in getting utilities restored to the community of Jasper and in Jasper National Park. Contractors in the transport, construction, remediation, environmental testing, and provision of interim housing industries are essential to recovery priorities, including removing and testing debris, servicing interim housing, and rebuilding lost structures.

Tourism and business organizations

Tourism Jasper and the Jasper Park Chamber of Commerce, along with businesses and tourism operators, collaborate to support the delivery of visitor facilities and services, promote the park as a destination and distribute information to visitors and residents.

Non-governmental and community organizations

Non-governmental and community organizations provide essential support services and funding distribution during recovery. The generosity of Canadians following the Jasper Wildfire provided donations to support impacted residents immediately following evacuation, and to support long-term recovery.

The Canadian Red Cross, Team Rubicon, Jasper Community Team Society, Banff Community Foundation, Salvation Army, Rotary Club, Samaritan's Purse and Community Futures West Yellowhead are a few of the many non-governmental organizations from across Alberta and Canada who stepped up to help Jasper by collecting and distributing donations and organizing events and specialized supports.

Visitors

Visitors are an important part of Jasper's recovery. Every dollar spent by visitors helps Jasper move towards economic recovery.

Principles and priorities for recovery

Principles

Principles are considered across all recovery priorities. They are informed by recovery best-practices and by resources including the *Government of Alberta Provincial Recovery Framework (2020)*. Jasper Municipal Council's strategic recovery priorities, as informed by the Municipal Council Recovery Advisory Committee, also shape guiding principles.

Community-centred

Recovery will be shaped by the needs and aspirations of Jasperites. Local input will guide planning and implementation, recognizing that community trust and engagement are essential to long-term success.

Coordinated and collaborative

Effective recovery requires alignment across jurisdictions. Jasper's approach will be based on strong coordination between municipal, provincial and federal government partners, with clarity of roles, shared priorities and open communication. Partnerships will be strengthened between community groups, businesses and industry organisations to work together towards a successful recovery.

Indigenous connection

Indigenous connection to the landscape is honoured through respectful relationships and opportunities for Indigenous partners to participate in recovery efforts. Recovery actions honour truth and reconciliation in the community of Jasper and Jasper National Park.

Transparent and accountable

Recovery efforts will be guided by clear goals, public reporting and regular evaluation. Transparency and accountability will help maintain public confidence, support informed decision-making, and ensure resources are used effectively. Accurate, clear and responsive communications are essential to maintaining public trust.

Capacity-building

Recovery efforts will strengthen local systems and skills. Initiatives will support training, workforce development and tools that help the community increase capacity and be prepared for future challenges.

Increasing resilience

Recovery is an opportunity to address known vulnerabilities. Infrastructure and housing will be rebuilt to stronger standards, with an emphasis on reducing risk and improving long-term resilience.

Priorities

Our recovery is focused on achieving 6 key priorities. All priorities are essential and interrelated. Each priority includes objectives which outline key areas of work to achieve the priority.



Priority 1: **Debris management**

Coordinate the safe and timely removal of wildfire debris to enable rebuilding and protect public health, safety and the environment.



Priority 4: **Social recovery**

Foster individual and community well-being through inclusive supports that help people heal and connect.



Priority 2: **Interim housing**

Provide safe and appropriate interim housing for displaced residents and workers, to support stability and continuity during recovery.



Priority 5: **Economic recovery**

Stabilize and strengthen Jasper's economy by supporting affected businesses, welcoming visitors and enabling workforce recovery.



Priority 3: **Rebuilding homes and businesses**

Support the safe, efficient reconstruction of damaged and destroyed homes and businesses, while creating opportunities to address long-term housing needs and increasing resilience to future events.



Priority 6: **Park recovery**

Rehabilitate park assets and natural areas to support ecological integrity and provide safe and quality visitor experiences.



Context for recovery planning

Jasper National Park

Jasper National Park is administered by Parks Canada on behalf of all Canadians. Annually, 2.4 million visitors visit Jasper National Park to experience the Canadian Rocky Mountains. In the summer pre-wildfire, the park hosted an average of 15,000 daily visitors and provided camping capacity for approximately 5,400 people. In summer 2024, Canadians represented 45% of all visitors, of which 27% were Albertans. Americans accounted for 24% of visitors and international visitors made up 31%.²

The *Canada National Parks Act* and supporting regulations provide the parameters for managing activities in Jasper National Park, and outline important provisions for the community, including a legislated townsite boundary and limits on commercial floor area and development. These growth limits have been affirmed for decades through multiple local and national consultative processes. The *Jasper National Park of Canada Management Plan (2022)* was developed through public consultation and provides further direction for decision-making in the park.

Parks Canada is responsible for land-use planning, development and environmental matters. Land in

the community of Jasper is federal Crown land and is leased to individual lessees who own the structures on their leasehold. Residents must meet eligible residency requirements under the *National Parks of Canada Lease and Licence of Occupation Regulations*.

The *Canada National Parks Act* was amended by Parliament in fall 2024 to enable the transfer of some planning and development authority within the townsite boundaries from Parks Canada to the Municipality of Jasper. To ensure a smooth transition, and as agreed to by both parties, authorities have not been transferred during the early phases of recovery. Parks Canada and the Municipality of Jasper are focused on ensuring an efficient and successful recovery. Policy changes are being made under existing Parks Canada authorities in order to add flexibility and streamline processes in support of immediate rebuilding and recovery needs. Both the Municipality of Jasper and Parks Canada have agreed that the transfer of some land use planning authorities will take place at a later stage with foundational work for this transfer underway alongside ongoing recovery efforts.

² Parks Canada, *Visitor Information Program Report*, Jasper National Park, 2024

Municipality of Jasper

The community of Jasper is the park's main visitor hub and home to 4,740 year-round residents³ with an estimated additional 4,000 seasonal staff residents in summer.⁴ Hotels, lodges and hostels within and outside the townsites offered accommodations for approximately 6,000 visitors a night before the fire. The town serves as the centre of services for an average of 13,000 visitors daily during the summer months.

The Municipality of Jasper, located in northern Alberta, and more than four hours to the nearest city, poses challenges including labour availability and transport of materials. Jasper's subalpine climate, with long winters limits the construction season.

The Municipality of Jasper was formed by the Province of Alberta on July 20, 2001, and is led by a locally elected mayor and 6-member council who provide leadership, governance and oversight of the operations of the Municipality. The *Municipality of Jasper Strategic Priorities 2022–2026* outlines a commitment to community health, housing, relationships, organizational excellence, advocacy and the environment.

The Municipality of Jasper provides services including the municipal fire department, road clearing and maintenance, water treatment and supply, solid waste management, recreation and culture, social supports and childcare.

Jasper has had a housing rental vacancy rate of 0% for many years.² In 2021, the housing shortage was estimated at approximately 150 additional units required to house the year-round population and an additional 609 units to house the seasonal populations.⁵ This shortfall impacts housing availability and affordability and constrains workforce retention and economic stability and has been further exacerbated by the fire.

Direction for the community of Jasper is outlined in the *Community Sustainability Plan (2011)*. The Municipality of Jasper will undertake planning and consultation as part

of work on a revised community plan to explore issues beyond recovery to shape the direction for the community of Jasper in the years ahead.

The local recovery context is informed by recommendations of recent reports, including:

- *Municipality of Jasper Housing Action Plan (2025)*
- *Municipality of Jasper Climate Risk Assessment Report (2024)*
- *Jasper Employment and Education Centre, Jasper Labour Market Study (2023)*
- *Tourism Jasper Jasper Destination Stewardship Plan 2033 (2023)*
- *Jasper Community Housing Corporation Governance Review Housing Gap Analysis (2022)*

Government of Alberta

The Government of Alberta plays a central role in Jasper's recovery through legislation, regulatory oversight, funding support and the provision of provincial services including health care, education and services for seniors. Applicable Government of Alberta legislation includes the *Emergency Management Act*, the *Municipal Government Act* and the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*. Alberta manages Disaster Recovery Program funding which supports costs for rebuilding public infrastructure, housing and emergency response efforts. A portion of funding is reimbursed from the Public Safety Canada Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements program for eligible costs.

Jasper plays an important role in Alberta's tourism economy and is a source of pride and a place of deep connection for many Albertans. The Government of Alberta has a goal of growing the province's visitor economy to \$25 billion by 2035⁶, and has advocated for Jasper to contribute to achieving an appropriate contribution to that target.

² Parks Canada, *Visitor Information Program Report*, Jasper National Park, 2024

³ Statistics Canada, 2021 Census of Population, Jasper, Alberta

⁴ Estimate from data provided by Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre based on "My Alberta Emergency Registration System" eligible applicants

⁵ *Jasper Community Housing Corporation Governance Review Housing Gap Analysis*, prepared by Colliers Project Leaders for Jasper Community Housing Corporation (2022)

⁶ Government of Alberta, *Higher Ground: A tourism sector strategy* (2024)



Priority 1



Debris management

100% of wildfire debris is removed from destroyed properties in support of rebuilding, demonstrating compliance with health, safety and environmental regulations.

The Jasper Wildfire impacted structures within the townsite and surrounding Lake Edith, as well as commercial facilities outside the town boundary. The loss of these structures released contaminants from building materials, home and garage contents, and industrial and commercial businesses. Removing hazardous debris and ensuring that air, soil and water support the long-term health and safety of the community is necessary before rebuilding work can begin.

The JRCC looked to best practices from wildfires in urban interface areas, including Slave Lake and Fort McMurray, Alberta, and California to learn about contaminants of concern and appropriate testing standards to protect human health.

Objectives

Protect human health and the environment

Safety of public, workers and the environment is prioritized through environmental monitoring and compliance with federal and provincial legislation and standards. Contaminants in air and soil are remediated to safe levels to ensure the long-term health and safety of the community.

Coordinate efficient debris management

A coordinated approach between the Municipality of Jasper, Parks Canada, utility providers, contractors, IBC, recovery specialists and lessees ensures a more efficient and cost-effective debris management process.

Priority 2



Interim housing

Interim housing accommodates residents and workers, to the extent possible, with available resources, in line with fair and transparent allocation in assigning available supply.



The return of displaced residents is foundational to the town's social and economic recovery. In September 2024, six hundred and twenty-one households self-identified as requiring housing in response to the JRCC's housing needs assessment survey. Interim housing is a lifeline for residents who need a place to live until permanent housing is rebuilt. The JRCC continues to explore additional options to support the return of as many residents as possible.

Objectives

Provide scalable and adaptable interim housing

Interim housing is provided and is scalable and adaptable to evolving demands as rebuilding efforts progress.

Fair and transparent housing allocation

A fair and transparent housing allocation system assigns interim housing units to workers critical to the operation of the community of Jasper or Jasper National Park, residents displaced by the fire with employment in Jasper, the workforce required to restore Jasper's tourist economy, and displaced eligible residents.

Expanded seasonal and temporary options

Additional interim seasonal housing solutions are facilitated, including use of Parks Canada campgrounds for displaced residents, seasonal workforce and rebuild contractors, and permitting temporary use of trailers on private properties.

Regional transit access

A regional transit solution supports residents and workers housed in interim housing sites as well as those residing in the town of Hinton.

Demobilization and site restoration

Interim housing is demobilized and sites are restored to align with future intended land use, as permanent accommodations become available.

Priority 3



Rebuilding homes and businesses

The rebuilding of homes and businesses is safe, efficient, neighbourly, and maintains the character of the national park landscape while increasing resilience to climate hazards and address the long-term housing shortage.

Rebuilding aims to support the reconstruction of lost structures while creating opportunities to build back in a way that addresses the long-term housing shortage in the town of Jasper. Rebuilding also provides an opportunity to ensure our community is more resilient to climate hazards, such as with fire-resilient design, and address social inequities by providing more affordable and diverse housing.



Objectives

Policy amendments and planning

Planning and policy documents are amended to streamline development, make rebuilding easier, support increased housing supply and increase resilience to wildfire and other climate hazards.

Responsive permitting

Development review and permitting processes are simplified. Staffing is augmented to respond to higher permitting volumes, with applicants receiving clear guidance throughout the process.

Reinstating site services

Site service connections comprising water, power, sewage and gas are reinstated where destroyed. Survey pins are reinstalled where lost to enable correct locations of property boundaries.

Safe and coordinated construction

Construction standards are clearly communicated and enforced to ensure safety and reduce impacts on the community and environment. Rebuilding is coordinated in a neighbourly way to ensure efficient delivery and effective use of laydown areas, and to minimize disruptions to the community.

Support for affordable housing

Recovery efforts enable new affordable housing units to support long-term availability of housing over and above the pre-fire baseline.

Priority 4



Social recovery

In the community: Jasperites at all stages of life are thriving and feel a stable connection to place and community in supportive relationship with each other and the landscape.

In the park: The park landscape is a place of healing, connection and enjoyment for residents, visitors and Indigenous partners.

Social recovery is the process through which individuals, families and communities affected by disaster re-establish a state of social, cultural, emotional, spiritual, physical and psychological health and well-being. Programs and supports foster Jasperites' resilience and ability to move forward with their lives, while honouring and healing from the trauma and grief of the wildfire.

The term "Jasperite" includes current Jasper residents as well as residents who have been displaced by the 2024 Jasper Wildfire and are living elsewhere.



Objectives

Access to recovery supports

Jasperites are aware of and able to access health, social and cultural supports. Partners work collaboratively to ensure that recovery programs and actions are grounded in and responsive to assessed recovery needs.

Community connection

Community events and programs promote connection and foster physical, mental and spiritual well-being while recognising and addressing underlying social vulnerabilities during recovery.

Participation in recovery

Jasperites are active participants in social recovery with opportunities to access information and share perspectives across all recovery priorities. Indigenous partners are engaged and included in recovery efforts in the community of Jasper and Jasper National Park.

Addressing unmet recovery needs

Unmet recovery needs for individuals and families are recognized and addressed where possible.



Fireweed art by local artist Celina Frisson.

Priority 5



Economic recovery

In the community: Support a stable and resilient economy that is driven by businesses that contribute to the community's unique character, and by offerings for both residents and visitors, and that play a vital role in Alberta's and Canada's visitor economy.

In the park: Offer and promote exceptional experiences in all seasons for visitors to explore the changing landscape and meaningfully connect with the cultural and natural heritage of Jasper National Park.

Economic recovery refers to the process of stabilizing and revitalizing a local economy following disruption. Economic recovery involves a combination of rapid response measures and long-term planning, support for business continuity and adaptation, collaborative stakeholder engagement, and efforts to strengthen the community's overall capacity to recover and build resilience against future challenges.

Economic recovery recognises that all people and businesses are impacted by the Jasper Wildfire, as ripple effects of reduced visitation, reduced workforce availability and reduced housing impact the entire community. The business community has a vital role in driving community recovery. Exploring innovative solutions will strengthen economic resilience for all businesses and sectors now and into the future.

Objectives

Business stability and workforce retention

In collaboration with partners, Jasper's businesses are supported through targeted tools and programs to stabilize, adapt and achieve long-term viability through recovery. Policies and procedures are adapted where possible to consider individual recovery circumstances.

Interim commercial spaces and support

Businesses displaced by the fire have access to interim spaces and supports to restart operations and re-establish a viable presence in Jasper's economy.

Welcoming visitors

Communications, events and product development from municipal, provincial, federal and industry partners supports sustainable tourism recovery by welcoming visitors to experience Jasper's awe-inspiring landscape in all seasons.

Indigenous participation in economic recovery

Indigenous partners participate in economic recovery through contracting, procurement, guided-business licensing and other business opportunities.

Monitoring economic recovery progress

Economic recovery indicators and success stories are tracked and shared to monitor and inform future recovery efforts.

Priority 6



Park recovery



Park assets, infrastructure and natural areas are reopened and rehabilitated in ways that uphold ecological integrity and provide safe and quality visitor experiences, now and into the future.

Parks Canada reopens areas of the park by addressing hazards such as danger trees and slope stability on trails, day-use areas, and campgrounds impacted by the Jasper Wildfire. Parks Canada plans for the replacement of destroyed assets, taking into account available resources, asset priorities and increasing resilience to extreme weather events

Parks Canada supports ecosystem renewal after a fire to maintain and restore ecosystem structure and function. Parks Canada supports natural processes and minimizes negative impacts to the landscape by promoting responsible visitor use and park management. Opportunities for Indigenous connection are throughout the objectives in this section.

Objectives

Safe reopening of park facilities

Trails, campgrounds, day-use areas, roadways, visitor information centres, entry gates and operational areas are reopened when safe to do so, with communications to support safe and quality visitor experiences.

Resilient rebuilding of park infrastructure

Park infrastructure destroyed by the wildfire is rebuilt and adapted to support visitor experiences and operational needs, incorporating Indigenous perspectives and increasing resilience to future risks

Environmental protection during recovery activities

Environmental protection measures, including impact assessments and identified mitigations, are applied throughout recovery and rebuilding to maintain and restore ecological integrity and cultural heritage.

Supporting natural regeneration

Natural regeneration processes are supported by protecting sensitive areas, sharing stewardship messages with visitors and residents, and monitoring and adaptively managing fire-impacted areas.

Monitoring wildlife and managing human-wildlife coexistence

Wildlife distribution, abundance and behaviour are monitored in fire-impacted areas as natural processes of regeneration occur. Measures are taken to manage human-wildlife coexistence in fire-impacted areas, especially in areas of high human use.

Ecological fire management

Wildfire risk is managed for the Jasper townsite and other valued assets within the park, while acknowledging the role of fire as an important ecological process on the park landscape.

Protecting cultural heritage

In collaboration with Indigenous partners, cultural heritage and cultural resources are protected in ways that respect their diverse origins and their past and present significance.

Engagement on recovery

Engagement with residents, businesses, Indigenous partners and stakeholder groups ensures that recovery meets the principles of “community-centred” and “Indigenous connection.” Local input is essential to guide planning and implementation and builds trust for a successful recovery.

Community and Indigenous engagement will be ongoing throughout recovery. The JRCC is committed to listening, learning and adjusting the approach to ensure support remains timely, relevant and effective at every stage of the recovery process.

Engagement on the Jasper Recovery Framework

The *Jasper Recovery Framework* was informed by sessions with Indigenous partners, business and tourism stakeholders, community and non-profit groups, and insurance providers to discuss long-term recovery planning.

The JRCC hosted in-person and online open houses in December 2024, reaching 280 people, and in January 2025, reaching 390 people, to inform and engage residents and businesses. In March 2025, the JRCC participated in the Jasper National Park Annual Public Forum, which reached 160 participants across online and in-person sessions.

The JRCC is working with experts to guide various aspects of recovery planning. For example, in May 2025, Economic Developers Alberta conducted in-depth engagement with business and economic stakeholders in Jasper as part of a regional project to identify economic recovery and resiliency needs.

Parks Canada engages with Indigenous partners through the Jasper Indigenous Forum. Indigenous partners were engaged on recovery through sessions in fall 2024 and spring 2025. Going forward, Parks Canada will continue to engage with Indigenous partners on recovery priorities of interest.

Guided by local and national consultation

Public participation is integral to administering protected places on behalf of all Canadians. Formal consultation conducted with Indigenous partners, stakeholder groups, park residents, Canadians and visitors during completion of the *Jasper National Park of Canada Management Plan (2022)* continues to shape long-term strategic direction for decision-making in Jasper National Park.

Additional Parks Canada consultation, including Land Use Planning and Development in the Town of Jasper (2023), and consultation to guide interim changes to the *Town of Jasper Land Use Policy* to increase more affordable housing options such as secondary suites (2020), provides insight into community perspectives on townsite issues.

Additional local consultation and engagement opportunities on recent reports through the Municipality of Jasper, the Jasper Employment and Education Centre, the Jasper Community Housing Corporation and Tourism Jasper have also informed recovery work.

Phases of recovery

How long will recovery take? The time it will take to recover from the impacts of the Jasper Wildfire depends on factors that can be influenced by government, businesses and the community, as well as factors that are outside our control, including regional economic trends such as labour market availability. Recovery timelines will also differ based on individual circumstances for each resident, business and park infrastructure asset.

The expected phases of recovery are described below, along with timeframe estimates that are based on progress to-date resourcing, and are informed by community recovery in other jurisdictions. The phases of recovery are illustrated to help provide an estimate of the time recovery may take and to help identify places that timeframes could be positively influenced through additional effort.

Phase 1: Incident response and re-entry (0-3 months post-incident)

- Initial damage assessments, utility restoration where possible (water, power, sewage, gas) and removal of hazardous debris.
- Immediate efforts to support safe return of residents.
- Creation of the JRCC and working groups.
- Resumption of business activity where owners are able and willing.
- Jasper townsite and Jasper National Park reopen for visitation with restrictions.

Phase 2: Stabilization (up to 9 months post-incident)

- Community life stabilizes (schools, daycare, library reopen).
- Remaining utilities restored outside the townsite.
- Site servicing, delivery of units and initial occupancy of interim housing.
- Majority of debris removed ahead of rebuilding.
- Development of rebuilding guides and process reviews.
- Implementation of social and economic recovery supports.
- Business resumption continues.
- Winter recreation opportunities in town and park support economic recovery.
- Majority of day-use areas, trails and campgrounds open to support summer visitors.
- Risk reduction work continues and community resilience priorities are identified to prepare for next wildfire season and future climate-related risks.

Phase 3: Transitional recovery (through approx. 3 years post-incident)

- Reinstate site services and survey pins ahead of rebuilding.
- Ramp up rebuilding activity for homes, businesses and infrastructure.
- Additional interim housing operations.
- Fire-affected businesses provided with space and support to resume operations.
- Ongoing engagement for residents and Indigenous partners.
- Risk reduction work continues to strengthen resilience to climate risks identified.
- Phased demobilization of interim housing (some demobilization may extend into long-term recovery).

Phase 4: Long-term recovery and resilience (through full rebuild and beyond)

- Rebuild of homes, businesses and park infrastructure is complete.
- Permanent housing supply, including affordable and workforce housing, is stabilized.
- Long-term social and health supports are embedded in local service delivery.
- Business and tourism activity returns to pre-fire levels and continues to grow.
- Risk reduction measures and climate adaptation are integrated into policies and planning.
- Recovery governance transitions to steady-state operations with continued intergovernmental collaboration.
- Continued collaboration with Indigenous partners on cultural, ecological and community priorities.

Phases of recovery

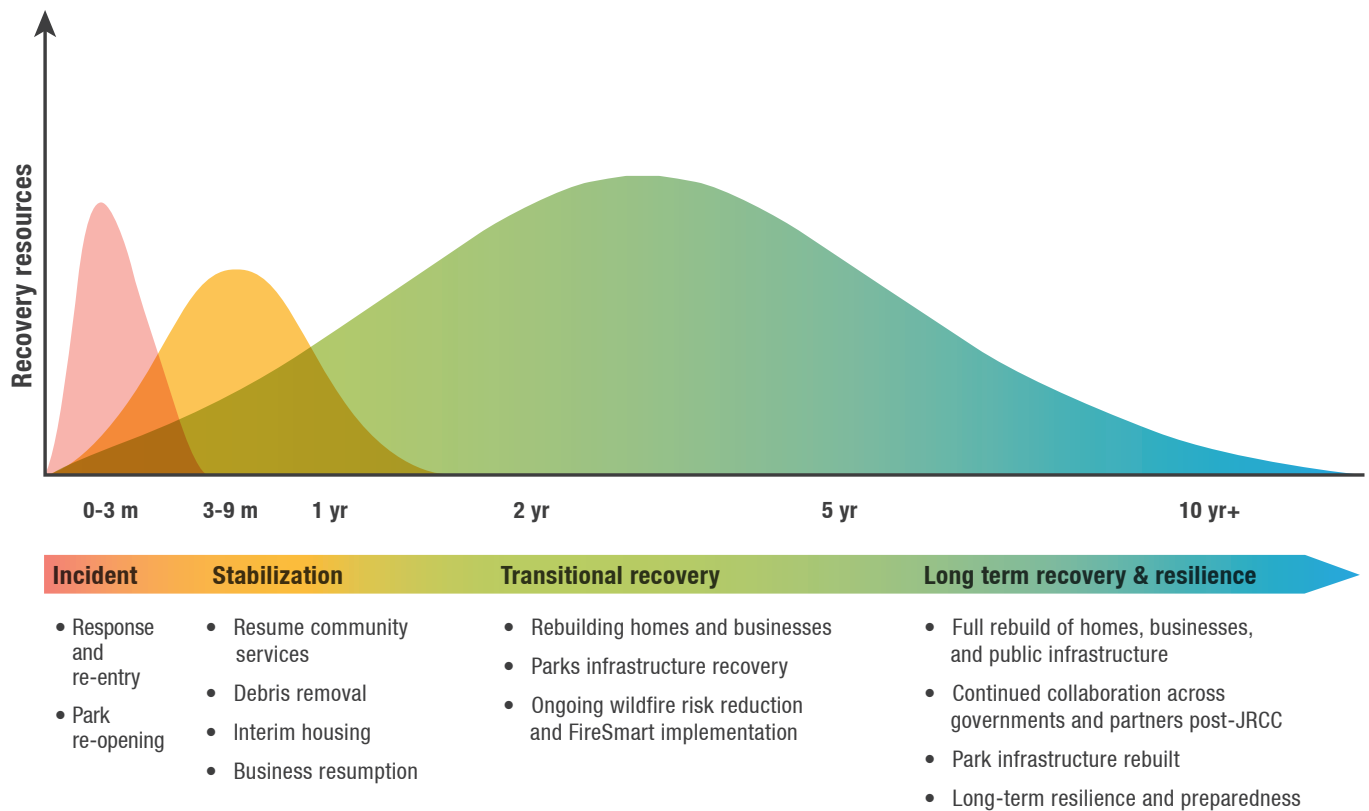


Figure 2: Phases of recovery and potential timelines associated with Jasper's recovery.

Recovery scenarios

Recovery from the 2024 Jasper Wildfire requires sustained coordination, funding and flexibility. Recovery is shaped by the resources, partnerships and actions already in motion. Based on experiences from other disasters and the scope of needs and resources available, fulsome community recovery can take up to a decade.

Full recovery is defined as the point at which the community and park have returned not only to their pre-wildfire conditions, but to the level they would have reached had the fire not occurred. Full recovery accounts for expected growth, development and progress over time. It reflects a recovery trajectory that restores housing, infrastructure, services and economic activity, while keeping pace with the community's original path forward.

We can gain insights from Fort McMurray's recovery trajectory following the Horse River Wildfire in May 2016. Three years after the wildfire, 37% of structures were rebuilt;⁷ 4 years after the fire, 74% of structures were rebuilt;⁸ 5 years after the fire, 80% of structures were rebuilt;⁹ and 6 years after the fire, 86% of structures were rebuilt.¹⁰

Table 1 outlines 3 recovery scenarios to help us understand what possible recovery trajectories would look like for Jasper.

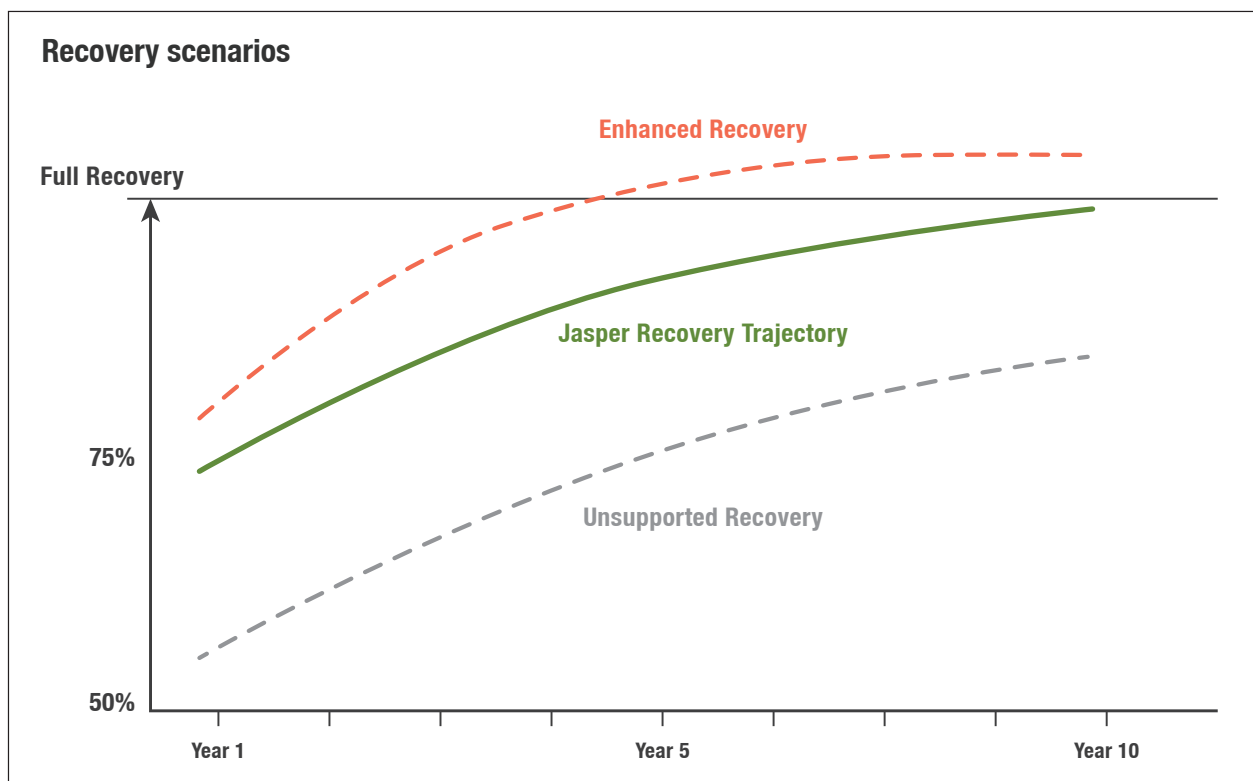


Figure 3: Recovery scenarios show the current recovery trajectory for the community of Jasper and Jasper National Park. Additional scenarios are illustrated to show what an “unsupported recovery” may look like if additional partners and resources were not available to support recovery, as well as what an “enhanced recovery” may look like if additional partners and resources were available to accelerate recovery and help Jasper achieve a state beyond the pre-fire baseline.

7 Fort McMurray Today, *Nearly 37% of homes rebuilt as wildfire anniversary approaches*, Laura Beamish, accessed at: <https://www.fortmcmurraytoday.com/news/local-news/nearly-37-per-cent-of-homes-rebuilt-as-wildfire-anniversary-approaches>

8 Fort McMurray Today, *Four Years later, 74% of homes destroyed in 2016 wildfire rebuilt*, Vincent McDermott, accessed at <https://www.fortmcmurraytoday.com/news/local-news/four-years-later-74-per-cent-of-homes-destroyed-in-2016-wildfire-rebuilt>

9 Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, “Wildfire Recovery” web page, available at: <https://www.rmwb.ca/en/fire-and-emergency-services/wildfire-recovery.aspx>

10 Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, “Wildfire Recovery” web page, available at: <https://www.rmwb.ca/en/fire-and-emergency-services/wildfire-recovery.aspx>

Table 1: Recovery trajectory scenarios**Scenario: Current Recovery Trajectory**

This scenario represents Jasper's current recovery trajectory. In this scenario, it is expected that the majority of pre-fire housing and businesses will be rebuilt within 5 years and see a near return to pre-fire economic and social trends during that timeframe. In this scenario, work includes restoration of visitor infrastructure, provision of social supports, and some actions are taken to strengthen resilience and increase housing availability.

Rebuild and housing supply: Changes are being made to policy and planning documents to increase density and increase available housing supply. Additional resources are available to support development review and changes are made to streamline rebuilding. Interim housing is provided to support the return of many displaced residents. Construction coordination minimizes impacts on the community and supports efficiencies.

Social recovery: On our current trajectory, many different government and non-government organizations collaborate to support individual and community recovery. These efforts include investment in psychosocial supports, programming that fosters networks of social support, and grants to facilitate the active involvement of community groups, businesses and residents in the resumption of community life.

Economic recovery: Additional resources have been made available from provincial and federal government supports to promote the visitor economy. Grants, supports and initiatives, such as interim spaces, are provided to support business continuity. Regional transit is provided to support remote work and visitation.

Park recovery: The Government of Canada is providing significant resources to support the safe reopening of park facilities and rebuild of campgrounds, trails and day-use areas. In the current trajectory, the rebuild of facilities will likely take more than 5 years. Decisions will be required to prioritize the rebuilding of certain assets over others based on risk profile, benefits and park objectives.

Scenario: Enhanced Recovery Trajectory

The enhanced recovery trajectory illustrates what may be possible if additional resources and opportunities are available to not only provide a full recovery but to materially address challenges and aspirations of the community pre-fire. This scenario offers a lens to guide planning, partnership development and innovation. These initiatives are not necessarily new commitments to supports and funding, but they reflect potential areas where ongoing work may close the gap between Jasper's current recovery trajectory and its long-term aspirations to address pre-existing challenges.

Rebuild and housing supply: Interim housing is available for all displaced residents, addressing long-standing housing shortages through further recovery initiatives and new developments.

Social recovery: In the enhanced scenario, social recovery includes sustained and widely accessible supports to help Jasperites, including those who remain displaced, to successfully overcome personal challenges related to the impacts of the wildfire. It also includes enhancements to community resilience through the broad-based development of peer-support capacity, the intentional elimination of barriers to inclusion, and improved cultural safety for Indigenous people.

Economic recovery: Pursuing additional supports for the *Jasper Destination Stewardship Plan 2033* to fund and implement initiatives in support of year-round tourism and supporting local businesses. Exploring expanded tools, innovative solutions, workforce development and labour market improvements could help improve economic resilience.

Park recovery: Additional funding may accelerate the rebuild of damaged infrastructure, including severely impacted campgrounds, trails, day-use areas and other park assets to more quickly restore overnight visitor capacity and to enable safe reopening of impacted areas.

Increasing resilience: Embedding FireSmart design and climate adaptation into rebuilding efforts can strengthen long-term community resilience. Additional resiliency measures may be pursued to mitigate the risk and impacts of future climate impacts for all infrastructure.

Table 1: Recovery trajectory scenarios *continued*

Scenario: Unsupported trajectory

This scenario is referenced for illustrative purposes only in graphing, to help anchor the benefits of coordinated recovery efforts to date. This scenario would eventuate if there were no external resources or partnerships to support the Municipality of Jasper and Jasper National Park to recover. In this scenario, recovery takes much longer and does not reach a state of full recovery in the next decade.

Rebuild and housing supply: In this scenario, no interim housing is provided, no additional development review staff are hired, and no changes are made to planning and policy to increase available long-term supply.

Social recovery: In this scenario, no additional social supports are provided and non-governmental organizations are not available to help address unmet needs, invest in community connection or support individuals in navigating personal impacts from the wildfire.

Economic recovery: In this scenario, no additional resources would be available for marketing and promotion for the community of Jasper and Jasper National Park as a tourism destination. In this scenario, no additional resources are available to support local businesses.

Park recovery: In this scenario, the Government of Canada would not provide additional resources to support the rebuild of park infrastructure.

Increasing resilience: In this scenario, no changes are made to townscape planning documents to build on lessons learned from the wildfire.

Recovery funding

Government of Canada

Multiple federal departments and agencies are supporting recovery, including:

- Parks Canada
- Public Safety Canada
- Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
- Employment and Social Development Canada
- Prairies Economic Development Canada (PrairiesCan)

Government of Canada disaster financial assistance is available to provincial and territorial governments.

Table 2: Government of Canada funding announcements on response and recovery

Description	Total
<p>Parks Canada funding announced October 10, 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rent relief for Parks Canada-administered rents and licence fees in Jasper National Park enacted through the <i>Jasper National Park of Canada Rent and Fee Remission Order</i>. Provides financial relief to business owners, tenants and residents impacted by the wildfire. 	\$15.2 million
<p>Economic Development Canada funding announced October 18, 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding to help Jasper and the region's tourism industry recover, rebuild and retake its place on the world stage. Investing in Destination Canada-led seasonal marketing campaigns in collaboration with Travel Alberta. Hosting Canada's largest global tourism media event in Jasper in September 2025, which will be organized in collaboration with Travel Alberta and Tourism Jasper, and will serve as a platform to foster relationships between over 80 top-tier travel media outlets from around the world and Canadian tourism industry representatives. 	\$3 million
<p>PrairiesCan funding announced November 14, 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$3.35 million for a Jasper Business Recovery Program to assist 325 small businesses with grants between \$5,000 and \$10,000, administered by Community Futures West Yellowhead. \$500,000 for Tourism Jasper to deliver and market programming to attract visitors to Jasper. 	\$3.9 million
<p>Parks Canada, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Public Safety Canada and Employment and Social Development Canada funding announced February 6, 2025, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to \$45.2 million for incident response. Up to \$80.1 million re-entry and recovery. This includes \$30 million for 320 interim housing units (funding over two years) \$9.4 million contribution through the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation <i>Housing Accelerator Fund</i> to the Municipality of Jasper to eliminate barriers to building housing. \$19.6 million reimbursement from Public Safety Canada Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements program to Government of Alberta for eligible costs for fighting the Jasper Wildfire Employment Insurance (EI) pilot project led by Employment and Social Development Canada, to offer a one-time credit of 300 hours of insurable employment to EI claimants in Jasper. <p>Note: Support from the Canadian Armed Forces and the RCMP throughout incident response and re-entry are not included in these figures.</p>	\$154.3 million
<p>Parks Canada land provisions announced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.25 hectares of land is made available within the town of Jasper for interim housing. 4 hectares is made available outside the townsite at Marmot Meadows for interim housing. Lease for \$1 to Jasper Municipal Housing Corporation to develop a 40-unit affordable rental housing complex on Connaught Drive. 	Land provisions
<p>Government of Canada announced January 29, 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matching funds to the Canadian Red Cross. 	\$12.6 million
<p>PrairiesCan funding announced March 6, 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$1.82 million to the Municipality of Jasper to establish a pop-up business village and an interim industrial park for equipment storage and construction workspaces. \$250,000 to Tourism Jasper to enhance capacity to deliver travel packages and marketing efforts that encourage travel to and investment in Jasper businesses. 	\$2 million
<p>Government of Canada funding announced March 20, 2025, to Parks Canada:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$187 million to repair and rebuild critical infrastructure in Jasper National Park. This funding, over 2 years, will support the reconstruction of roads, campgrounds, trails and permanent staff housing and help provide interim housing options for staff and residents during rebuilding. 	\$187 million

Note: Funding announcements current to July 1, 2025

Province of Alberta

Provincial departments and agencies supporting response and recovery include:

- Alberta Wildfire
- Alberta Emergency Management Agency
- Alberta Municipal Affairs
- Alberta Health Services
- Recovery Alberta
- Alberta Education and Childcare
- Alberta Jobs, Economy, Trade and Immigration
- Travel Alberta
- Public Safety and Emergency Services

The Province of Alberta's total assistance package to residents, businesses and the Municipality of Jasper to date amounts to \$181 million. From that allocation, \$102 million in past and planned expenditures have been approved to date.

Table 3: Province of Alberta funding package

Ministry	Description	Total
Public Safety and Emergency Services – Alberta Emergency Management Agency	Disaster Recovery Program funding to assist the Municipality of Jasper with costs related to wildfire response and recovery efforts. This funding requires the municipality to contribute to its own recovery, through cost-sharing at a 90% – 10% ratio with the Government of Alberta for response and recovery costs.	\$149 million in allocation \$73.14 million in approved expenditures
Municipal Affairs	Tax relief is available for leaseholders of destroyed residential and business properties.	\$3.02 million
Municipal Affairs	Revenue stabilization funding is provided to the Municipality of Jasper to compensate for lower municipal revenues and to reduce the burden on municipal tax payers.	\$6.5 million
Municipal Affairs	Support for regional transit to provide a temporary transit option for workers and displaced residents housed in Hinton while Jasper rebuilds.	\$2 million
Tourism and Sport	Funding to support Jasper's tourism industry.	\$2.5 million
Government of Alberta	Government of Alberta provided more than \$12 million in matching funding with the Canadian Red Cross (CRC) through the CRC 2024 Alberta Wildfires Appeal.	\$12.9 million
Government of Alberta	Emergency evacuation payments to more than 6,500 Jasperites.	\$7.5 million

Note: Funding announcements current to July 1, 2025

Transitioning out of recovery

The JRCC was established as a temporary, multi-jurisdictional governance structure to coordinate urgent and complex recovery needs. The decision to conclude JRCC operations will be guided by:

- completion of objectives in each recovery priority area
- the operational readiness of Parks Canada and the Municipality of Jasper to assume responsibility for remaining recovery activities
- a joint review led by the JRCC co-directors, in consultation with their respective organizations, and with input from Jasper Municipal Council, the JAC-IRC, supporting partners, and the Recovery Advisory Committee

Transition planning will guide the orderly wind-down of centralized recovery coordination, transfer of knowledge and closure or handoff of remaining projects.

Once the JRCC is decommissioned, recovery will shift to a distributed model, where Parks Canada and the Municipality of Jasper will assume long-term responsibility for recovery activities within their respective mandates. To fulfil these responsibilities, additional staff and capital project delivery capacity at each organization may need to be maintained. Integration of recovery into park planning, municipal budgeting, operations and strategic planning will be essential to maintaining momentum beyond the JRCC.

After the JRCC concludes, Parks Canada and the Municipality of Jasper will continue to collaborate on cross-cutting recovery needs such as public communication, lessons learned and progress reporting. The spirit of intergovernmental coordination that defined the JRCC will remain critical to seeing recovery through to its conclusion.

Ongoing reporting

To maintain transparency and alignment, annual recovery reporting will continue through both the JRCC and, later, through Parks Canada and the Municipality of Jasper. This reporting process is intended to inform local decision-making, maintain accountability to the community, and support dialogue between all levels of government and partners. It will also provide continuity between the centralized coordination under the JRCC and the distributed responsibilities that follow.

Annual recovery reports will:

- document accomplishments from the prior year
- identify key focus areas for the year ahead
- highlight areas where additional coordination, capacity or investment may be beneficial to sustain recovery momentum

Conclusion

This *Jasper Recovery Framework* is not only about restoring what was lost, but also about guiding Jasper through a long-term journey of healing, rebuilding, renewal and resilience. This recovery framework brings together residents, Indigenous partners, community organizations, all levels of governments and other partners in recovery to address immediate needs while laying the foundation for a stronger, more resilient future. By setting shared priorities and objectives, coordinating efforts and fostering collaboration, we are charting a path toward recovery that will take time, but will be grounded in purpose, care and connection to this special place.



The Pheonix Rising mural was created as part of the 2025 UpLift Jasper Mural Festival by artist Fio Silva.

AGENDA ITEM 7.2

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Subject: Indigenous Relations Framework
From: Bill Given, Chief Administrative Officer
Prepared by: Bree-Anna Gaboury, Community Development Project Coordinator
Lisa Riddell, Acting Assistant Director of Community Services
Reviewed by: Jenna McGrath, Social Recovery Coordinator
Date: July 15, 2025



Recommendation:

- That Committee recommend Council adopt the Indigenous Relations Framework for Jasper, and;
- That Committee direct Administration to engage Indigenous Partners and Indigenous residents to develop a strategy based on the framework – and return to a future meeting.

Alternatives:

That Committee direct Administration to bring forward additional information to a future Committee meeting.

Background:

[The Truth and Reconciliation Commission \(TRC\) Call to Action](#) #43: “We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to fully adopt and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) as the framework for reconciliation.” – [UNDRIP is linked here](#) and included as an attachment to this report for reference.

On July 6, 2021 Council adopted [Policy E-115 Equity, Diversity and Inclusion](#).

On October 12, 2021 Council adopted the [2022-2026 Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan](#) which sets out how the policy will be actioned by administration over the five-year period (2022-2026).

In the 2023 budget, Council approved the establishment of the Project Coordinator Position within the Community Development Department. 20% of this position focuses on supporting the municipality’s progress along the path of reconciliation

On May 28, 2024 Committee received a report for information on progress made in Indigenous Relations work and directed administration to schedule a Council workshop to inform the development of an Indigenous Relations Strategy and Action Plan. Although delayed by the disaster response and recovery from the July 2024 wildfire, that Council workshop took place on June 17, 2025.

Discussion

Throughout 2023, 2024 and 2025, the Community Development team has made significant progress building relationships with Indigenous Partners and with Parks Canada’s Indigenous Relations team.

Focus area 7 of the 2022-2026 Equity Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan is to Advance Truth and Reconciliation Efforts. The table below show the associated activities and the status of each.

	Activity	Status
A	Develop a land acknowledgement for use at Council and in writing/website.	Complete – Policy A-106
B	Municipal elected officials, managers, directors and staff to read the Land Acknowledgement Policy.	Complete (and ongoing with new staff)
C	Ensure the topic of reconciliation appears on strategic planning and business planning agendas.	Complete (and ongoing)
D	Distribute educational material on the 94 Calls to Action to all members of the Inclusion Committee, Senior Leadership Team and Council.	Complete (and ongoing).
E	Create a section of the municipal website outlining the actions the organization will take to further Truth and Reconciliation.	Complete (and evolving/ongoing)
F	With input from Indigenous partners, Inclusion Committee to discuss how to formally recognize September 30 th the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.	Complete
G	Develop training on the Indigenous connection to this area as well as cultural safety for members of the Senior Leadership Team and Council.	Complete (and ongoing).
H	With input from Indigenous partners, develop a list of alternative Indigenous names for municipal spaces for consideration and renaming.	Started
I	With input from Inclusion Committee, Indigenous community members and Indigenous partners, identify areas the municipality can prioritize when it comes to reconciliation efforts.	In Progress
J	Liaise with Parks Canada to participate in conversations of mutual interest with the 20+ Indigenous groups who identify a historical and ongoing connection to this place by participating in the Indigenous forum.	Complete and ongoing.

The draft framework and this report to Council is an output of activity 7I.

Informed by the TRC's Calls to Action, UNDRIP and discussions over the past three years, the Community Development team has prepared a draft Indigenous Relations Framework that reflects Indigenous engagement to date paired with Council's perspectives on supporting reconciliation and Indigenous relations in Jasper.

The draft Indigenous Relations Framework is divided into five key focus areas:

Relationships, Cultural Belonging, Visibility, Collaboration and Accountability.

These five areas serve as the scaffolding for a more detailed strategy that will grow, change and reflect the voices of Indigenous partners, residents and Jasperites over time.

The adoption of an Indigenous Relations Framework is a signal of our commitment to advance relations and

reconciliation, increase Indigenous visibility in the Town of Jasper, honour the traditional territory of Indigenous groups and create a welcoming space for Indigenous residents and visitors.

The adoption of the Indigenous Relations Framework marks an important foundational step in the Municipality of Jasper's long-term commitment to reconciliation. By endorsing this framework, Council will enable administration to move forward with the development of a detailed Indigenous Relations Strategy rooted in the framework's five focus areas. Council's support signals that reconciliation is a municipal priority, embedded in operations and future planning. This proactive approach creates the conditions for ongoing collaboration with Indigenous partners and residents, ensuring future initiatives are informed, meaningful, and responsive to evolving needs and opportunities.

Strategic Relevance:

- Continue along the path of reconciliation.
- Welcome the expertise, innovation, creativity and commitment of community members, groups, associations and businesses.
- Embrace our growing diversity.
- Leverage and create opportunities for greater inclusion.
- Promote and enhance recreational and cultural opportunities and spaces.

Inclusion Considerations:

The proposed framework will act as a foundation on which input from Indigenous partners and Indigenous residents can fit. The framework was informed by diverse input from Indigenous partners and residents to-date.

Relevant Legislation:

- [Policy E-115 Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy](#)
- [Policy A-106 Land Acknowledgment Policy](#)
- [Policy A-004 Public Engagement](#)

Financial:

Adopting the framework is within the 2025 Operating budget, work associated with actions arising from a strategy would be part of the municipality's regular business planning and budget approval process in future years.

Attachments:

The draft Indigenous Relations Framework is attached

Indigenous Relations Framework

Prepared by: Bree Gaboury, Jenna McGrath and Lisa Riddell

The Indigenous Relations Framework for Jasper sets the foundation for meaningful, ongoing engagement of Indigenous Partners and residents over time. The framework sets out key priority areas for action that have been informed by engagement completed to date.

- **Relationships:** We listen, honour lived experiences, and commit to inclusive, relational approaches.
- **Cultural Belonging:** Our work is guided by a commitment to cultural integrity and mutual respect.
- **Visibility:** Indigenous Peoples, cultures, and perspectives are not only welcomed - but seen, valued, and reflected in the spaces we share.
- **Collaboration:** We approach collaboration as a shared process rooted in respect and reciprocity.
- **Accountability:** We hold ourselves accountable not only to formal commitments, but to the relationships we are entrusted with. This requires transparency, humility, and the courage to hear hard truths.

Relationships	Cultural Belonging	Visibility	Collaboration	Accountability
Nurture existing relationships with Indigenous Groups.	Provide cultural competency and inter-cultural communication training to staff and council.	Elevate the profile and enhance the visibility of Indigenous events and initiatives in Jasper.	Work with Indigenous groups, external agencies, businesses and organizations to advance truth and reconciliation.	Identify actions, outcomes and desired impact. Measure and report on progress.
Build new relationships with Indigenous Peoples with a connection to Jasper.	Embed reconciliation into capital projects, community programs and initiatives.	Indigenize community spaces using Indigenous art and language.	Work towards meeting the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action.	Take opportunities to update and improve the framework and strategy over time.
Communicate and engage with Indigenous residents in Jasper.	Promote and support cultural opportunities.	Create opportunities for authentic Indigenous art and products to be for sale or display in Jasper.	Allocate funding to increase our capacity to activate the framework.	Through ongoing engagement, ensure our work remains reflective of the changing insights from Indigenous groups, residents and peoples.

Next steps:

- **Develop** an Indigenous Relations Strategy in collaboration with Indigenous Partners and Indigenous residents of Jasper. Meaningful collaboration is essential for ensuring the strategy reflects Indigenous perspectives which contributes to reconciliation and fosters strong relationships.
- **Centralize** information that deepens understanding of Jasper's colonial history and context, reinforcing the commitment to accountability. This would include historical treaty information (including copies of Treaty 6 and 8) and information of the Indigenous Partners whose traditional territory is in Jasper (including traditional territory maps).
- **Build upon** and align with existing Municipal policies including Policy A-106 (Land Acknowledgement) E-015 (Equity, Diversity and Inclusion) and Policy A-004 (Public Engagement), affirming the Municipality's responsibility to foster a welcoming, respectful and inclusive community.
- **Advance** relationships and build a network with local Indigenous residents of Jasper.

Foundational documents that will help inform the Indigenous Relations Strategy include the *United Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (UNDRIP) and the *Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: 94 Calls to Action*. These documents are essential in grounding the Indigenous Relations Strategy in a way that upholds reconciliation and Indigenous rights.

TRC Calls to Action related to this framework include but are not limited to:

3. Fully implement Jordan's Principle to ensure First Nations children are not denied or delayed in accessing essential public services. Municipalities can review all municipal services to children to ensure access is equitable and without discrimination. Where possible, municipalities can also support local healthcare, social, and educational professionals to remedy systemic and institutional practices so that Indigenous youth can access the services and supports they need, when they need them.

7. Enable residential school survivors and their families to reclaim names changed by the residential school system by waiving any administrative costs. Municipalities that charge a fee for any name changes are encouraged to waive this fee if it is for the purpose of reclaiming a family name.

40. In collaboration with Indigenous people, create Indigenous-specific victim programs and services with appropriate evaluation mechanisms. There are opportunities for municipal governments to advocate, create, and expand victim services programs in partnership with the Government of Alberta and local organizations.

43. We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to fully adopt and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as the framework for reconciliation.

44. We call upon the Government of Canada to develop a national action plan, strategies, and other concrete measures to achieve the goals of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. – Can possibly include this in the IRS.

45.iii Renew or establish Treaty relationships based on principles of mutual recognition, mutual respect, and shared responsibility for maintaining those relationships into the future. Municipal government leaders can build relationships with local and regional Indigenous organizations and leaders to open space for conversation on issues of mutual interest.

57. We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to provide education to public servants on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal–Crown relations. This will require skills[1]based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.

66. Establish funding for community-based youth organizations to deliver programs on reconciliation. While this call to action is directed to the federal government, municipalities can also partner with local organizations to raise awareness and encourage conversations with youth about reconciliation

69.iii Encourage libraries to commit more resources to public education on residential schools. Municipalities can partner with libraries to host speaker events and sharing circles and promote literature that will increase awareness about the history and legacy of residential schools.

93. We call upon the federal government, in collaboration with the national Aboriginal organizations, to revise the information kit for newcomers to Canada and its citizenship test to reflect a more inclusive history of the diverse Aboriginal peoples of Canada, including Calls to Action| 11 information about the Treaties and the history of residential schools.

UNDRIP:

Recognizing that respect for indigenous knowledge, cultures and traditional practices contributes to sustainable and equitable development and proper management of the environment,

Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinctive spiritual relationship with their traditionally owned or otherwise occupied and used lands, territories, waters and coastal seas and other resources and to uphold their responsibilities to future generations in this regard.

Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for the development or use of their lands or territories and other resources. – Highlights the importance of collaboration.

AGENDA ITEM 7.3

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Subject: Land Acknowledgement Policy
From: Bill Given, Chief Administrative Officer
Prepared by: Lisa Riddell, Acting Assistant Director of Community Services
Reviewed by: Emma Acorn, Legislative Services Coordinator
Date: July 15, 2025



Recommendation:

- That Committee recommend Council adopt the updated Land Acknowledgement Policy – A-106.

Alternatives:

- That Committee provide other amendments to Policy A-106 and recommend the policy to Council for approval.
- That Committee receive this report for information and retain the existing policy.

Background:

On December 5, 2023, Council adopted [Policy A-106 – Land Acknowledgement Policy](#). Since then, a land acknowledgement has been utilized in various municipal events, settings and initiatives.

Discussion:

Administration has been in ongoing communication with Indigenous partners with connection to this land. Through that dialogue, we continue to identify opportunities to fine tune and update our land acknowledgement. The current policy includes a copy of the Land Acknowledgement wording itself.

The existing policy formalizes the exact text of the land acknowledgement which makes it difficult to update as the municipality's relations with indigenous communities evolved. The proposed policy approach allows the wording to be updated, as needed, with CAO approval in the Administrative Procedure.

Changes in wording would be communicated to staff and Council through internal channels as needed

Strategic Relevance:

- Continue along the path of Reconciliation
- Leverage and create opportunities for greater inclusion.
- Communicate and engage with residents.
- Welcome the expertise, innovation, creativity and commitment of community members, groups, and associations.

Inclusion Considerations: The policy includes significant background information that can be utilized as a learning opportunity for staff and elected officials alike. Having the wording in an administrative procedure allows us to be more immediately responsive to the Indigenous groups we hear from.

Relevant Legislation:

- [Policy E-115 – Equity, Diversity and Inclusion](#)

Financial: The costs to update the policy are within the approved 2025 operating budget.

Attachments: The draft Policy A-106 – Land Acknowledgement Policy is attached for review.

1. POLICY STATEMENT

The Municipality of Jasper respects and acknowledges that the present-day Municipality of Jasper sits on the ancestral and Traditional Territories of Indigenous Peoples. Through the use of a territorial acknowledgement, the Municipality of Jasper:

- honours the relationship between this land and the Indigenous Peoples that were present and thrived in this area since time immemorial;
- acknowledges the past and ongoing impacts of the colonization of Indigenous Peoples and lands;
- recognizes the present-day relationship Indigenous Peoples have with this area; and
- commits to ongoing reconciliation efforts in partnership with those whose Traditional Territory the Municipality of Jasper occupies.

2. PURPOSE

“Land Acknowledgements recognize the present-day and historical relationships to land and help build relationships towards a more positive future.” – *The Good Relations Toolkit, Indigenous Tourism Alberta*

The purpose of this policy is to outline an approved approach to the utilization of a Land Acknowledgement within the organization by providing Municipality of Jasper elected officials, staff, volunteers and committee members with:

- a guide for understanding the background, meaning and usage of the statement; and
- a guide for putting the statement into practice within the bigger picture of reconciliation.

3. OBJECTIVES

All employees and representatives of the Municipality of Jasper are expected to be familiar with the Land Acknowledgement Policy and Administrative Procedures and to incorporate the territorial acknowledgement into practice, where appropriate, so as to:

- pay respect to ancestral, traditional and continuing connections to the Territories on which the Municipality of Jasper operates;
- acknowledge the ongoing impacts of colonialization on Indigenous Peoples;
- recognize our role in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s 94 calls to action;
- remain mindful of our collective role as caretakers of this land;
- promote understanding of Indigenous history in this area; and
- build awareness of present-day Indigenous relationships with this area as well as Indigenous culture within the community.

Policy Title: LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT POLICY

Policy #: A-106

Date adopted by Council: December 5, 2023



4. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

For a territorial acknowledgment to be meaningful, it is important that it is delivered within a bigger picture commitment to reconciliation, with a sense of purpose, meaning and authenticity. It is important to understand that we are all Treaty people and that the signatories to Treaty 6 and Treaty 8 were both Indigenous and non-Indigenous.

Specific wording for the territorial acknowledgment shall be maintained within the administrative procedure associated with this policy and may be updated from time to time as required.

Updates to the territorial acknowledgment shall be communicated to Council and staff via email.

5. SCOPE AND USE

A territorial acknowledgment does not need to be done at every meeting and gathering at the Municipality of Jasper. But it should be done when it is meaningful and appropriate.

The acknowledgment is recommended for use at the start of public meetings of Council and at Municipal celebrations and other official events that are either hosted and/or supported by the Municipality. The acknowledgment may appear in email signatures, be printed, spoken, projected, or posted on the Municipality of Jasper website.

A host or emcee of a Municipal event, program or meeting is the person who would do the Land Acknowledgement. A guest may also be asked to do a Land Acknowledgement. It is not expected that any other speaker or presenter would also do one. However, a speaker may choose to, if they wish.

Policy Title: LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT POLICY

Policy #: A-106

Date adopted by Council: December 5, 2023



6. IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

Indigenous Worldviews: this document, in its written form, does not speak to the largely oral worldview of many Indigenous Peoples. It is important to remember that in the building of collaborative relationships, regular, ongoing spoken interactions will carry much more meaning.

Terms: The Municipality of Jasper recognizes that various terms may be preferred over others, and that preferred terms can change over time. The Municipality's practice will be to honour Indigenous Peoples utilizing the terms they wish to be identified with.

Continuous Improvement: The Municipality of Jasper is learning about the rich and complex histories of Indigenous Peoples in this area and is continuously working to refine how the organization can best acknowledge these histories and present-day realities in a truthful and authentic way. It is understood that this is a living document that will continue to evolve over time as the Municipality is engaged in ongoing learning and education about reconciliation.

7. DEFINITIONS

Colonization: The action or process of settling among and establishing control over the Indigenous people of an area. Settler colonialism in Canada is this process and the consequences of the colonization of the lands of the Indigenous people already present at first contact. As colonization progressed in Canada, the Indigenous peoples went through forced displacement, genocide as well as assimilation.

Indigenous Peoples: Indigenous Peoples are defined in international or national legislation as having a specific set of rights based on their historical ties to a particular territory, and their cultural or historical distinctiveness from other populations that are often politically and culturally dominant. Across the lands that are now occupied by the nation we call Canada, Indigenous Peoples are defined to include First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples.

Public Meeting: means a meeting of Council or committee of the whole at which members of the public may attend and may be invited to make submissions to Council, but which is not a public hearing.

Reconciliation: Reconciliation is about addressing past and present wrongs committed against Indigenous Peoples, making amends, and improving relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people to create a better future for all.

Territorial Acknowledgement: Acknowledging territory means presenting a verbal or written statement that communicates recognition and respect for Indigenous Peoples, their histories and their distinct and unique connections to the land. It is recognition of their presence both in the past and in the present. It may reflect a Treaty or may be expressed as "unceded" where no Treaty exists.

Traditional Territory: the geographic area identified by Indigenous Peoples as the area of land to which they currently have a connection and/or to which their ancestors traditionally cared for, travelled through, utilized, protected and/or valued. A Traditional Territory is often illustrated on a map but can also be described orally through story or language.

Treaties: Treaties are agreements made between the Government of Canada or the Crown, Indigenous groups and often provinces and territories that define ongoing rights and obligations on all sides.

These agreements set out continuing treaty rights and benefits for each group. Treaty rights and Aboriginal rights (commonly referred to as Indigenous rights) are recognized and affirmed in Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 and are also a key part of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples which the Government of Canada has committed to adopt (Government of Canada, 2020). Treaties can include both historic and modern treaties and comprehensive land claim agreements with Indigenous groups.

8. RESPONSIBILITIES

All Staff

- Read and understand the Land Acknowledgement Policy and administrative procedures.

Directors and Managers

- Ensure that all staff read and are oriented to the Land Acknowledgement Policy and Administrative Procedures.
- Make a shared commitment to role-model purposeful and authentic reconciliation efforts for the rest of the organization.
- Support and promote opportunities for staff to engage in training on reconciliation.

CAO

- Ensure that the Senior Leadership Team read, sign off on and are oriented to and utilizing the Land Acknowledgement Policy and Administrative Procedures.
- Support and promote opportunities for the Senior Leadership Team to engage in training on reconciliation.

Council

- Include the Land Acknowledgement policy and administrative procedures in elected official orientations and training.
- Ensure that Municipality of Jasper senior leadership team are utilizing the Land Acknowledgement policy and procedures in organizational functions and objectives.
- Support and promote opportunities for the CAO and Senior Leadership Team to engage in training on reconciliation.
- Review the policy and approve changes as required.

Policy Title: LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT POLICY

Policy #: A-106

Date adopted by Council: December 5, 2023



10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This policy has been developed in consultation with community and Indigenous partners including: Parks Canada – Indigenous Relations, Indigenous Tourism Alberta, members of the Indigenous Peoples' Circle of Jasper, local Indigenous entrepreneurs and those who identify a historical and ongoing connection to this area. The Municipality of Jasper is thankful for their willingness to share their knowledge.



1. SCOPE

This procedure applies to Council Policy A-106

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to outline a collaboratively developed and approved statement of territorial acknowledgement.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES

The CAO and Senior Leadership Team are responsible for ensuring that all employees and representatives of the Municipality of Jasper are familiar with the Land Acknowledgement Policy and Administrative Procedures so that they can incorporate the territorial acknowledgement into practice.

4. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Version A:

"I would like to begin by acknowledging that the Municipality of Jasper is on Treaty 6 and 8 Territories as well as The Jasper House Métis District. This land is the Traditional Territory, meeting ground, gathering place, travelling route and home for the Dane-zaa, Aseniwuche Winewak, As'in'î'wa'chî Ni'yaw, Nêhiyawak, Anishinaabe, Secwépemc, Stoney Nakoda, Mountain Métis and Métis. The Municipality of Jasper acknowledges the land:

- to honour the relationship Indigenous Peoples have with this land;
- to remind us of our responsibility and obligations to this place and to Indigenous peoples; and
- to affirm our accountability to address the ongoing impacts of colonization that continue to affect Indigenous Peoples."

Version B:

The Municipality of Jasper respectfully acknowledges that the Municipality of Jasper is on Treaty 6 and 8 Territories as well as The Jasper House Métis District. This land is the Traditional Territory, meeting ground, gathering place, travelling route and home for the Dane-zaa, Aseniwuche Winewak As'in'î'wa'chî Ni'yaw, Nêhiyawak, Anishinaabe, Secwépemc , Stoney Nakoda, Mountain Métis and Métis.

5. STYLE GUIDE AND PRONUNCIATION

When in written form, capitalize Indigenous Peoples, Traditional Territory(ies) and Treaty. Indigenous Peoples is plural to reflect an understanding of the diversity of Indigenous Peoples.

Indigenous name	Pronunciation	English name
Dane-zaa	<u>dane</u> -zah	Beaver
As'in'it'wa'chî Ni'yaw	ah-se-neh-wa-chee nee-yaw	Rocky Mountain Cree
Aseniwuche Winewak	ah-se-neh-wu-chee win-eh-walk	Rocky Mountain People
Nêhiyawak	nee- <u>hay</u> -ah-wuk	Cree
Anishinaabe	ah-nish- <u>nah</u> -bay	Ojibway
Secwépemc	Say- <u>kwep</u> -emk	Shuswap
Stoney Nakoda	stow-nee-na- <u>koh</u> - da	Stoney Nakoda
Mountain Métis	Mountain may-tee	Mountain Métis
Métis	may- <u>tee</u>	Métis

Pronunciation: Empower yourself to ask questions for clarity on how to pronounce local nation names. When you ask questions, you create space for dialogue and relationship building. <https://www.firstvoices.com/> is an online space for Indigenous communities to share and promote language, oral culture and linguistic history.

6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The wording for this Land Acknowledgement has been developed in consultation with community and Indigenous partners including: Parks Canada – Indigenous Relations, Indigenous Tourism Alberta, members of the Indigenous Peoples' Circle of Jasper, local Indigenous entrepreneurs and those who identify a historical and ongoing connection to this area. The Municipality of Jasper is thankful for their willingness to share their knowledge.

AGENDA ITEM 7.4

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Subject: Public Participation Policy
From: Bill Given, Chief Administrative Officer
Prepared by: Lisa Riddell, Acting Assistant Director of Community Services
Reviewed by: Emma Acorn, Legislative Services Coordinator
Date: July 15, 2025



Recommendation:

That Committee recommend Council adopt the Public Participation Policy – A-104 as presented.

Alternatives:

- That Committee amend the policy and recommend that Council adopt the Public Participation Policy A-104.
- That Committee direct Administration to revise the policy and return to a future meeting.
- That Committee receive this report for information and take no further action.

Background:

The Municipal Governance Act requires every municipality to establish a public participation policy. (Section 216.1)

The Public Participation Policy Regulation (Alta. Reg. 193/2017) defines what must be included in the policy. Specifically, the policy must describe the types of methods the municipality will use to engage people and the situations in which it will seek public input. The policy must be publicly available and be reviewed at least every four years.

The existing municipal policy in this area, [Policy A-004 – Public Engagement](#) was approved by council on August of 2013.

Discussion:

While required under provincial legislation, review of the municipality's approach to public engagement or public participation, is also a priority in line with [Policy E-115 – Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy](#) and the [2022 – 2026 Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan](#).

The proposed Public Participation Policy (A-104) includes several material improvements over the existing Public Engagement Policy (A-004):

- It uses plain language throughout to improve accessibility and understanding for a wider range of residents.
- It expands and clarifies the scope by identifying specific situations where public input will be sought, such as budgets, capital projects, and policy development.
- It introduces clear criteria for when engagement may not be appropriate, such as routine matters or

emergency decisions.

- It explicitly incorporates principles from the Municipality's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy to ensure participation opportunities are inclusive and accessible.
- It strengthens application of the IAP2 Spectrum by requiring engagement levels to be matched to the impact and scale of each decision.
- It streamlines roles and responsibilities, reducing prescriptive direction and aligning with current administrative practice.
- It integrates with other municipal policies, such as Community Conversations (A-105), to support a consistent and coordinated approach to engagement.

In addition to completing a policy review, the Project Coordinator and Community Development Manager also completed their IAP2 Certificates. The Certification is a professional designation that covers the knowledge and skills required to perform the role of public participation (P2) professional.

The alternatives are not recommended, as the draft policy meets legislative requirements, reflects current engagement best practices informed by IAP2-certified staff, and aligns with the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy. Amending or deferring adoption could delay compliance and implementation. Receiving the report for information would leave an outdated policy in place.

Strategic Relevance:

- Leverage and create opportunities for greater inclusion.
- Communicate and engage with residents.
- Welcome the expertise, innovation, creativity and commitment of community members, groups, and associations.

Inclusion Considerations: The policy was written in plain language and emphasizes our commitment to hearing from diverse residents, with specific efforts towards reaching groups at risk of exclusion.

Relevant Legislation:

- [Policy E-115 – Equity, Diversity and Inclusion](#)
- [Policy A-004 – Public Engagement](#)

Financial: The costs to update the policy are within the approved 2025 operating budget. Implementation of the policy will inform business planning for future budget years and will be subject to Council's regular budget review processes.

Attachments: DRAFT Policy A-104 – Public Participation

Policy Title: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Policy # A-104

Effective Date:

Date adopted by Council:



POLICY STATEMENT

The Municipality of Jasper values the ideas, knowledge, and commitment of community members, groups, and organizations. We recognize that public input is an essential part of local decision-making and helps us better serve our diverse community.

We will:

- Create inclusive and meaningful ways for the public to participate in decisions that affect them.
- Promote these opportunities in multiple ways to reach a broad range of residents, especially those directly affected.
- Provide clear background information so residents can give informed feedback.
- Use public input to better understand the diverse experiences of the people we serve.

PURPOSE

This policy provides a clear and consistent approach to public participation. It is meant to support Council, municipal staff, and residents by making it easier to gather a wide range of community input to inform decisions.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all public participation activities carried out by the Municipality of Jasper. We will invite residents to give share their input on a number of topics, including when we:

- Create municipal budgets
- Start new programs, services, or capital projects
- Develop or change municipal policies and bylaws
- Prepare or update strategic or operational plans
- Review existing programs, services, or service levels

This policy applies to both one-time and ongoing public participation activities. It includes public input collected by municipal staff, consultants, contractors, or citizen boards working on the Municipality's behalf.

There are some situations where the Municipality may decide not to ask for public input.

These include:

- When the decision is routine or about day-to-day operations
- When the law says we must do something in a certain way, and we can't change it
- When there is an emergency and we need to act quickly
- When expert advice is needed and public input wouldn't change the outcome

Even if we're not asking for input, we may still share information to help people understand what's happening and why.

Policy Title: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Policy # A-104

Effective Date:

Date adopted by Council:



STANDARDS

Methods

We will use a variety of public participation methods suited to each project or decision. These may include:

- Surveys
- Workshops
- Open houses
- Interviews
- Online tools
- Advisory committees or citizen panels
- Community Conversations

Design

All public participation opportunities will be designed based on the topic and the impact of the decision.

Public participation efforts will be:

- Inclusive and welcoming
- Proportionate to the scale of the decision
- Responsive to community needs

All public participation activities will:

- Follow Legislation: We will meet all relevant provincial laws (like the *Municipal Government Act*, *Access to Information Act*, and *Protection of Privacy Act*) and local bylaws and policies (including Policy A-105 on Community Conversations).
- Follow the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) Spectrum to choose the right level of engagement.
- Be inclusive and accessible: We will make sure public participation opportunities are available to groups at risk of exclusion.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Council:** Approve this policy and any updates.
- **Chief Administrative Officer (CAO):** Approve procedures to support this policy and ensure policy review every 4 years.
- **Directors and Managers:** Ensure this policy is followed.

DEFINITIONS

Community Conversations: A public engagement approach led by the Municipality (Policy A-105) that supports respectful, inclusive dialogue on local issues.

International Association for Public Participation (IAP2): A professional group that promotes good public participation practices around decisions that affect communities.

International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) Spectrum: A scale that shows how much influence the public has in a decision, from simply being informed to having final decision-making power.

Municipal Decision-Making: The process by which Council and administration make choices about services, budgets, policies, bylaws, and direction for the community.

Public Participation: Getting input and feedback from residents to help shape decisions that affect their lives.

AGENDA ITEM 7.5

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Subject: Joint Use Partnership Agreement
From: Bill Given, Chief Administrative Officer
Prepared by: Lisa Daniel, Executive Advisor
Reviewed by: Emma Acorn, Legislative Services Coordinator
Date: July 15, 2025



Committee Recommendation:

- That Committee recommend Council approve the Joint Use Partnership Agreement as presented.

Alternatives:

- That Committee recommend changes to the proposed Joint Use Partnership Agreement.

Background:

The *Municipal Government Act* and the *Education Act* require that every municipality enter into and maintain a joint use and planning agreement with all school boards operating within its boundaries. These agreements are intended to guide how municipal and school authorities work together in relation to land use, facility planning, and shared use of public spaces.

In support of this requirement, Council passed the following motion at the March 18, 2025 regular meeting: *"BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct Administration to bring an update to a future meeting on a joint agreement with the Grande Yellowhead Public School Division."*

Discussion:

The Municipality of Jasper's previous Joint Use and Planning Agreement (JUPA) with the Grande Yellowhead Public School Division (GYPSD) and Conseil Scolaire Centre-Nord expired in 2018. Since then, there has been no formal agreement in place, although cooperative use of facilities has continued.

The purpose of the updated JUPA is to formalize the shared use of educational and recreational facilities and sites. This agreement aims to promote the efficient use of limited capital and operating resources. It supports the provision of educational, recreational, and cultural opportunities by leveraging existing assets collaboratively.

The draft agreement, reviewed and approved by GYPSD, includes the following:

- Municipal and school board facilities available for joint use,
- Joint use times and operating guidelines,
- A structured framework that defines operational procedures and governance process

Requesting additional information is not recommended at this time as the language and terms of the proposed agreement have already been approved by the Grande Yellowhead Public School Division Board. Administration believes the material provided is sufficient to support an informed decision by Council and that further requests would delay implementation without adding substantive value. The draft agreement as presented formalizes the relationship between the municipality and both school boards and is consistent with the format and form

approved in other Yellowhead municipalities.

Strategic Relevance:

- Promote and enhance recreational and cultural opportunities and spaces.
- Welcome the expertise, innovation, creativity and commitment of community members, groups, associations and businesses.
- Take proactive steps to reduce the risk of people becoming vulnerable and respond when they are vulnerable.

Inclusion:

The agreement provides a framework that supports equitable access to facilities for all community members by promoting shared use of public infrastructure. It enables inclusive recreational, cultural, and educational opportunities and supports community cohesion by integrating services and reducing barriers to participation across demographic groups.

Relevant Legislation:

- Municipal Government Act
- Alberta *Education Act*

Financial:

There are no new financial impacts associated with approving the JUPA. The costs related to ongoing facility operations and joint use coordination are within existing municipal budgets.

Attachment:

- Joint Use Partnership Agreement

JOINT USE AND PLANNING AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT made this _____ day of _____, 2023

BETWEEN:

MUNICIPALITY OF JASPER

AND

GRANDE YELLOWHEAD PUBLIC SCHOOL DIVISION

AND

CONSEIL SCOLAIRE CENTRE NORD

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WHEREAS:

The *Municipal Government Act* and the *Education Act* require a municipality and any school board operating within the boundaries of the municipality to enter into and maintain a joint use and planning agreement; and

It is the responsibility of the municipality to plan, develop, operate, and maintain park and recreational land and facilities within the boundaries of the municipality for recreational purposes and to organize and administer public recreational programs; and

It is the responsibility of each of the school boards to develop and deliver educational programs and to provide the necessary facilities and sites for these programs; and

The joint use of municipal facilities and school board facilities is an important tool in providing educational, cultural, and recreational opportunities for residents in a manner that reduces or eliminates the need to duplicate facilities thereby making the most effective use of the limited economic resources of the municipality and school boards; and

The *Municipal Government Act* and the *Education Act* require that a joint use and planning agreement address matters relating to the acquisition, servicing, development, use, transfer and disposal of municipal reserve, school reserve and municipal and school reserve lands.

NOW THEREFORE IN CONSIDERATION of their mutual commitment to the joint use of facilities and planning of municipal reserve, school reserve and municipal and school reserve lands the parties agree as follows:

1) DEFINITIONS

In this Agreement, the following terms shall be interpreted as having the following meanings:

- a) "Agreement" means this Agreement, as amended from time to time, and any Schedules which are attached hereto, and which also may be amended from time to time.
- b) "Arbitration Act" means the *Arbitration Act*, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter A-43, and any regulations made thereunder, as amended from time to time.
- c) "Area Structure Plan" means an area structure plan adopted pursuant to the *Municipal Government Act* and providing direction for land uses for a defined area within the Municipality.
- d) "Boards" means the Francophone Board and Public Board collectively.
- e) "Calendar Day" means any one of the seven (7) days in a week.
- f) "CAO" means the Chief Administrative Officer of the Municipality.
- g) "Community Use" means use by members of the general public and not a User Group.
- h) "Council" means the municipal council of the Municipality of Jasper.
- i) "Education Act" means the *Education Act*, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2012, Chapter E-0.3, and any regulations made thereunder, as amended from time to time.
- j) "Effective Date" means the date both parties have signed the Agreement.
- k) "Facility Plans" means the capital plan and facility plan prepared by each of the Boards for approval by the Alberta Government.
- l) "Facility Scheduling Coordinator" means for the Municipality the individual or individuals responsible for coordinating the booking of Joint Use Space provided by the Municipality and for the Boards the individual or individuals responsible for coordinating the booking of Joint Use Space provided by the respective Board.
- m) "Francophone Board" means Conseil Scolaire Centre Nord and any successor board or authority.

- n) "Governing Committee" means the committee which includes elected officials as established under this Agreement.
- o) "Hazardous Substance(s)" means the same as hazardous substance defined in the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act*, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter E-12, and any regulations thereunder, as amended.
- p) "Joint Use Space" means those portions of a Municipal Facility or School identified in Schedules "A", "B", and "C" as being available for booking by the Parties or User Groups or for Community Use.
- q) "Municipality" means the municipal corporation of Jasper, its predecessor, or, where the context so requires, the area contained within the boundaries of the Municipality.
- r) "Municipal Facility" means a park, playground, playing field, building or part of a building owned, maintained, and operated by the Municipality and includes those facilities identified in Schedule "A".
- s) "Municipal Government Act" means the *Municipal Government Act*, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter M-26, and any regulations made thereunder, as amended from time to time.
- t) "Operating Committee" means the committee which is comprised of the CAO and Superintendents as established under this Agreement.
- u) "Parties" means the entities signing this Agreement collectively and Party shall mean one (1) of the signatories.
- v) "Public Board" means Grande Yellowhead Public School Division and any successor board or authority.
- w) "Reserve Land" means municipal reserve, school reserve, or municipal and school reserve, as defined in the *Municipal Government Act*.
- x) "School" means a building which is designed to accommodate students for instructional or educational purposes that is owned or controlled by a Board and includes those facilities identified in Schedules "B" and "C".
- y) "School Portion" means the portion of Reserve Land identified for transfer to a Board that includes the school building footprint, any parking, loading or drop off facilities, any landscaped

yards around the building, land for a playground equipment site, and land needed for future expansion of the school building based on the ultimate design capacity of the school.

- z) "Superintendent" means the chief executive officer of one (1) of the Boards.
- aa) "User Group" means any School or community group that fits within the eligibility criteria set out in the Operating Guidelines and books the use of Joint Use Space during Joint Use Hours.

2) SCHEDULES

The following is the list of Schedules to this Agreement:

Schedule "A" – Municipal Facilities available for Joint Use

Schedule "B" – Grande Yellowhead Public School Division Facilities available for Joint Use

Schedule "C" – Conseil Scolaire Centre Nord Facilities available for Joint Use

Schedule "D" – Joint Use Times

Schedule "E" – Operating Guidelines

Schedule "F" – Dispute Resolution Process

3) TERM, REVIEW AND AMENDMENT OF AGREEMENT

- a) This Agreement shall be in force and effect as of the Effective Date and shall continue to be in effect until such time as it is terminated by the Parties.
- b) The terms and conditions of this agreement shall be reviewed every five (5) years with the first such review scheduled in 2028. The review shall be undertaken by the Operating and Governance Committees. Following the review, the Governance Committee shall recommend how the agreement should be amended.
- c) Except as provided otherwise herein, this Agreement shall not be modified, varied, or amended except by the written agreement of all of the Parties.

4) WITHDRAWAL AND TERMINATION

- a) No party to this Agreement shall unilaterally withdraw or terminate this Agreement.

- b) Where one or more Parties view this Agreement as no longer meeting their interests, they shall give all Parties written notice of their request to review and/or amend all or parts of this Agreement.
- c) If written notice requesting a review is received, all Parties shall commence a review of this Agreement within 30 calendar days of the date the last Party received the written notice and shall seek consensus on the updates and amendments.
- d) Until such time as an amended agreement or replacement agreement has been created and agreed upon by all Parties, the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall remain in effect.

5) PRINCIPLES

The Parties agree that in entering into this Agreement they are committing to the following Principles with respect to the joint use of municipal and school board facilities:

Respect for Autonomy - Each of the Parties is an independent, autonomous entity and has the right to determine which of their facilities shall be made available as Joint Use Space based on what the Boards and Municipal Council believe to be in the best interests of the people they serve.

Cooperation and Partnership - The Parties shall work together as partners, recognizing that the needs of the public for educational, cultural, and recreational opportunities can best be achieved through a combination of their respective resources and by the Parties working in conjunction with each other.

Efficiency and Effectiveness - The joint use of Municipal Facilities and Schools is an important tool in providing a high standard of educational, cultural, and recreational opportunities for residents in a manner that reduces or eliminates the need to duplicate facilities thereby saving costs and making the most effective use of the limited economic resources of the Parties.

Fairness and Equity - The costs of providing joint use space are to be borne fairly and equitably by the Parties with the intent of keeping costs charged to the other Parties or public users of Joint Use Space to a minimum.

Transparency and Openness - The Parties shall make available to each other such information as is necessary to make this agreement successful.

6) CONSULTATION WITH OTHER MUNICIPALITIES

- a) The Parties acknowledge that the Schools that are available as Joint Use Space may be accessed by community groups, residents and user groups that are located or reside outside the Municipality in accordance with a Joint Use and Planning Agreement with other municipalities.
- b) The Parties further acknowledge that the Schools that are currently located within the Municipality have been designed, built, and funded for and by ratepayers within the Municipality's boundaries and ratepayers beyond the Municipality's boundaries.
- c) In lieu of a single agreement involving participation by all of the municipalities in which the Boards operate, the Parties agree to consult and involve other municipalities that are served by the same Board or Boards on an issue-by-issue basis as needed to share access to the Schools and to plan for and acquire future School sites. One or more separate agreements between the Parties and these other municipalities may be created as needed.
- d) When consultation with one or more municipalities that are not Party to this agreement is required, the consultations shall begin with a meeting, held in person or by electronic means, of the members of the Operating Committee and the equivalent or similar committee established between the Board(s) and the other municipalities.

7) MEETING OF COUNCIL AND BOARDS

- a) Council of the Municipality and the members of the Boards shall meet at least every two (2) years to discuss issues of mutual interest.
- b) Each meeting shall be chaired by the Mayor or the Chairperson of one of the Boards on a rotational basis. Secretarial support shall be arranged for the meeting by the Party that is chairing that meeting.
- c) Any Party can submit an item to be included on the agenda for the meeting provided it is given to the Party chairing the meeting at least 5 calendar days prior to the date of the meeting.
- d) Minutes shall be kept for all meetings of Council and the Boards. Copies of the minutes of a meeting shall be provided to all Parties within 14 calendar days of the date of the meeting.

8) GOVERNING COMMITTEE

- a) The Governing Committee shall consist of two (2) Council members and the CAO or their designate and two (2) Board members and the Superintendent or their designate from each Board. The Governing Committee shall meet on an “as needed” basis.
- b) The role of the Governing Committee shall be to provide recommendations to the Council and Boards regarding:
 - i) Reviews of this Agreement and proposed amendments to this Agreement from time to time; and
 - ii) Resolution of any issues or matters of disagreement that arise.
- c) Quorum of the Governing Committee shall consist of at least two representatives from each Party attending each agreed upon meeting. The Governing Committee may adopt such rules of procedure as may be agreed upon by its members.
- d) The CAO and each Superintendent may be accompanied by administration, staff and/or resource personnel as deemed necessary by the CAO or the respective Superintendent.
- e) Meetings of the Governing Committee shall be considered in-camera to encourage and facilitate frank and open discussion. All decisions of the Governance Committee shall require consensus of its members.

9) OPERATING COMMITTEE

- a) The Operating Committee shall consist of the CAO (or designate) of the Municipality and the Superintendents (or their designate) of each of the Boards.
- b) The Operating Committee shall oversee the operation of this Agreement.
- c) The role of the Operating Committee shall be to:
 - i) formulate policy recommendations related to joint use of Municipal and School Facilities for consideration by Council and the Boards;
 - ii) provide a forum to discuss issues of mutual interest related to joint use and formulate recommendations regarding amendments to this Agreement, including the Operating Guidelines, for consideration by Council and the Boards;

- iii) formulate and approve Operating Directives, based on the Operating Guidelines, for specific facilities and types of use as needed;
 - iv) review any approved Operating Directives on an annual basis;
 - v) provide a forum for the operational concerns of the Parties to be discussed;
 - vi) consult with and provide a forum through which the public can express concerns or opinions with respect to the operation or use of Joint Use Space, the Operating Guidelines and Operating Directives;
 - vii) where possible, resolve or recommend solutions to resolve day to day operational concerns or difficulties related to the use of Joint Use Space by the Parties or the public;
 - viii) review the Facility Plans of each of the Boards annually;
 - ix) develop a draft agenda for any meeting of the Council and the Boards or the Governing Committee; and
 - x) undertake a formal review of this Agreement as and when required and communicate their findings of the review to the Governing Committee.
- d) The Operating Committee shall meet at least once a year and may meet more frequently if required. Meetings of the Operating Committee may be in person or conducted by telephone or video conferencing.
 - e) The meetings shall be chaired by the CAO or their designate. Secretarial support for each meeting shall be arranged by the CAO.
 - f) The Operating Committee shall adopt such rules of procedure as may be agreed upon by its members.
 - g) All decisions of the Operating Committee shall require the consensus of its members. In the event that the Operating Committee cannot reach a consensus on the issue, the matter shall be referred to the Governance Committee for resolution or direction as to how the matter should be resolved.
 - h) Minutes shall be kept for all meetings of the Operating Committee. Copies of the minutes of the meetings shall be provided to all Parties.

- i) Members of the Operating Committee may bring to the meetings of the Operating Committee additional staff from the Municipality and/or the Boards or resource personnel, as necessary, to provide assistance to the members of the Operating Committee in the carrying out of their responsibilities under this Agreement.
- j) The Operating Committee may delegate any of its responsibilities to a subcommittee or subcommittees.

10) JOINT USE SPACE

- a) The Municipality shall make available, to the Boards, those Municipal Facilities identified as Joint Use Space in Schedule "A". The Municipality shall not charge fees for the use of Joint Use Space except as allowed by the Operating Guidelines and any applicable Operating Directive(s).
- b) The Division shall make available, to the Municipality and community groups, those portions of Schools identified as Joint Use Space in Schedules "B" and "C" respectively. The Boards shall not charge fees for the use of Joint Use Space except as allowed by the Operating Guidelines and any applicable Operating Directive(s).
- c) The Parties shall not allow Joint Use Space to be used by groups or individuals during the Joint Use Hours identified in Schedule "D" unless such use respects the Operating Guidelines, and any applicable Operating Directive(s), in effect from time to time.
- d) The CAO may, upon six (6) months written notice to each of the Boards, amend Schedule "A" to either add to or remove from the list of Joint Use Space provided by the Municipality, all or any portion of a Municipal Facility.
- e) The Superintendent of each Board may, upon six (6) months written notice to the Municipality and the other Board, add to or remove from the list of Joint Use Space provided by their Board, all or any portion of one or more of their Schools.
- f) Notice of the removal of all or any portion of a Joint Use Space from the list of Joint Use Space available shall include a written explanation as to why the specific Joint Use Space will no longer be available for use. The Parties agree that the written explanation shall be shared with the public.
- g) Notwithstanding any other provision in this Agreement or its Schedules, the Principal of a School or the respective manager of a Municipal Facility, shall be able to determine if a particular use will be allowed to occur in their School or Facility.

- h) Appeals from a refusal by a Principal or manager of a Municipal Facility to allow a particular use within their School or Municipal Facility shall be made:
 - i) in the case of a School, first to the Principal's Superintendent and thereafter to the appropriate Board; and
 - ii) in the case of a Municipal Facility, first to the CAO and thereafter to Council.
- i) Notwithstanding any other provision in this Agreement, the Municipality and/or any of the Boards may remove from the list of Joint Use Space any facility or portion of a facility, either on a permanent or temporary basis, if the facility or portion of a facility is needed by the Party to meet its responsibilities or to provide services or programs to its constituents.

11) OPERATING GUIDELINES FOR JOINT USE SPACE

The Parties hereby agree to be bound by and comply with the Operating Guidelines which are attached to this Agreement as Schedule "E".

12) DISPOSAL OF UNNEEDED SCHOOL SITES

- a) If a Board concludes that it no longer requires Reserve Land that was previously transferred to it by the Municipality, the Parties shall meet, and the other Board(s) shall determine if they require that Reserve Land.
- b) If the Reserve Land is required by one of the other Board(s), the Reserve Land shall be transferred to that other Board. Any dispute between the Boards shall be resolved through the Dispute Resolution Process described in Schedule "G".
- c) In the event that the Reserve Land is not needed by any Board, the Board in possession of the Reserve Land shall first offer to transfer the Reserve Land back to the Municipality unless the Board is prohibited from so doing by the Education Act or other legislation.
- d) The Municipality shall have one hundred and eighty (180) calendar days from the Board notifying the Municipality in writing of its intention to cease use of the Reserve Land to confirm whether it agrees to take back the Reserve Lands. The School Board shall provide to the Municipality all available information regarding the Reserve Land and facilities on the Reserve Land, including any potential presence and nature of any Hazardous Substances, at the time that the offer to the Municipality is made. The Municipality shall have the right to enter the Reserve Land and any facilities on the Reserve Land for the purposes of carrying out any required assessments, tests and studies.

- e) If the Municipality opts to acquire the Reserve Land, the Municipality shall take the Reserve Land as is, where is, including all buildings and improvements on the Reserve Land. The Reserve Land shall be transferred to the Municipality at no cost to the Municipality except for the cost of registering the transfer of land document.
- f) In the event that the Municipality elects not to assume ownership or the Board is prohibited from transferring the Reserve Land by the Education Act or other legislation, the Parties agree to meet and discuss alternative means of disposing of the site. This may include:
 - i) Redevelopment of the entire site for a different use that is compatible with existing and future uses on lands near the site, including any environmental remediation that may be required, or
 - ii) Subdividing the play fields or open space portion of the site from the School Portion to enable the Municipality to acquire the non-School Portion and sale of the School Portion.

13) DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- a) Operational issues shall be addressed initially by administrative staff of the respective facilities. In the event that the administrative staff is unable to resolve an operational issue then such issue shall be brought forward to the Operating Committee in a timely manner. The decision of the Operating Committee regarding operational issues shall be final and binding.
- b) The Parties agree to follow the Dispute Resolution Process outlined in Schedule “G” for non-operational disputes.

14) APPLICABLE LAWS

This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the Province of Alberta.

15) INTERPRETATION

- a) Words expressed in the singular shall, where the context requires, be construed in the plural, and vice versa.
- b) The insertion of headings and sub-headings is for convenience of reference only and shall not be construed so as to affect the interpretation or construction of this Agreement.

16) TIME OF THE ESSENCE

Time is to be considered of the essence of this Agreement and therefore, whenever in this Agreement either the Municipality or the Boards is required to do something by a particular date, the time for the doing of the particular thing shall only be amended by written agreement of the Municipality and the Boards.

17) NON-WAIVER

The waiver of any covenants, condition or provision hereof must be in writing. The failure of any Party, at any time, to require strict performance by the other Party of any covenant, condition or provision hereof shall in no way affect such Party's right thereafter to enforce such covenant, condition or provision, nor shall the waiver by any Party of any breach of any covenant, condition or provision hereof be taken or held to be a waiver of any subsequent breach of the same or any covenant, condition or provision.

18) NON-STATUTORY WAIVER

The Municipality in entering into this Agreement is doing so in its capacity as a municipal corporation and not in its capacity as a regulatory, statutory or approving body pursuant to any law of the Province of Alberta and nothing in this Agreement shall constitute the granting by the Municipality of any approval or permit as may be required pursuant to the *Municipal Government Act* and any other Act in force in the Province of Alberta. The Municipality, as far as it can legally do so, shall only be bound to comply with and carry out the terms and conditions stated in this Agreement, and nothing in this Agreement restricts the Municipality, its Council, its officers, servants or agents in the full exercise of any and all powers and duties vested in them in their respective capacities as a municipal government, as a municipal council and as the officers, servants and agents of a municipal government.

Each Board in entering into this Agreement is doing so in its capacity as a school board and not in its capacity as a regulatory, statutory or approving body pursuant to any law of the Province of Alberta and nothing in this Agreement shall constitute the granting by the Board of any approval or permit as may be required pursuant to the *Education Act* and any other Act in force in the Province of Alberta. The Board, as far as it can legally do so, shall only be bound to comply with and carry out the terms and conditions stated in this Agreement, and nothing in this Agreement restricts the Board, its Board of Trustees, its officers, servants or agents in the full exercise of any and all powers and duties vested in them in their respective capacities as a school board and as the officers, servants and agents of a school board.

19) SEVERABILITY

If any of the terms and conditions as contained in this Agreement are at any time during the continuance of this Agreement held by any Court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable in the manner contemplated herein, then such terms and conditions shall be severed from the rest of the said terms and conditions, and such severance shall not affect the enforceability of the remaining terms and conditions in accordance with the intent of these presents.

20) FORCE MAJEURE

- a) Force majeure shall mean any event causing a *bona fide* delay in the performance of any obligations under this Agreement (other than as a result of financial incapacity) and not caused by an act, or omission, of either party, or a person not at arm's length with such party, resulting from:
 - i) an inability to obtain materials, goods, equipment, services, utilities or labour;
 - ii) any statute, law, bylaw, regulation, order in Council, or order of any competent authority other than one of the parties;
 - iii) an inability to procure any license, permit, permission, or authority necessary for the performance of such obligations, after every reasonable effort has been made to do so;
 - iv) a strike, lockout, slowdown, or other combined action of works;
 - v) an act of God.
- b) No Party shall be liable to the other Parties for any failure to comply with the terms of this Agreement if such failure arises due to force majeure.

21) INSURANCE

In addition to any other form of insurance, as the Parties may reasonably require against risks, which a prudent owner under similar circumstances and risk would insure, the Parties shall at all times carry and continue to carry comprehensive general liability insurance in the amount of not less than FIVE MILLION (\$5,000,000) DOLLARS per occurrence in respect to bodily injury, personal injury or death, and when applicable, course of construction insurance in an amount to be determined based on the value of the anticipated construction project, as would be placed by a prudent contractor. The comprehensive general liability insurance shall have an endorsement for occurrence property damage, contingent employer's liability and broad form property damage. The insurance to be

maintained by each Party herein shall list each of the other Parties as an additional named insured. The amount and type of insurance to be carried by the Parties pursuant to clause may be varied from time to time by written agreement of the Parties. The insurance carried by the Parties pursuant to this clause shall contain, where appropriate, a severability of interests' clause or a cross liability clause.

22) INDEMNIFICATION

Each Party (the "Indemnifying Party") to this Agreement shall indemnify and hold harmless the other Parties (the "Non-Indemnifying Parties"), their employees, servants, volunteers, and agents from any and all claims, actions and costs whatsoever that may arise directly or indirectly out of any act of omission of the Indemnifying Party, its employees, servants, volunteers or agents in the performance and implementation of this Agreement, except for claims arising out of the sole negligence of one or more of the Non-Indemnifying Parties, its employees, servants, volunteers or agents.

23) NON-ASSIGNMENT OR TRANSFER

No Party may assign, pledge, mortgage or otherwise encumber its interest under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other Parties hereto, which consent may be arbitrarily withheld. Any assignment, pledge or encumbrance contrary to the provisions hereof is void.

24) SUCCESSORS

The terms and conditions contained in this Agreement shall extend to and be binding upon the respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns of the Municipality and the Boards.

25) NOTICES

All and any required written notices in the performance and implementation of this Agreement shall be directed to the CAO and the Superintendents using the mailing address for their respective offices as shown below:

Municipality of Jasper
PO Box 520
Jasper, AB T0E 1E0

Grande Yellowhead Public School Division
3656 - 1st Avenue
Edson, AB, Canada T7E 1S8

Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord
8627, rue Marie-Anne-Gaboury (91 St.), bureau 322
Edmonton, AB T6C 3N1

Email notification to the CAO or each Superintendent may also be used to provide written notices required or described in this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Parties execute this Agreement by the hands of their respective, duly authorized signatories:

Chief Administrative Officer

Municipality of Jasper

Superintendent

Grande Yellowhead Public School Division

Superintendant

Conseil Scolaire Centre Nord Facilities

Schedule “A” – Municipal Facilities Available for Joint Use

Name of Facility	Legal Description of Parcel(s) Containing Facility	Description of Facility and Amenities
Jasper Activity Centre	Block PCL CW, Plan 7820953	Multi-purpose hall, Stage, Racquetball/Squash Court, Tennis Courts, Curling Rink (May-Oct)
Jasper Arena	Block PCL CW, Plan 7820953	Arena
Jasper Fitness and Aquatic Centre	Block R10, Plan 8820963	Fitness Centre, Bouldering Wall, Aquatic Centre, Sand Volleyball Court
Centennial Park	Block R5, Plan 8021555	Ball Diamonds, Soccer Pitch, Tent
Commemoration Park	Lots 1-29, Block 19, Plan 4061E0	Sport Field, Stage

Schedule “B” - Grande Yellowhead Public School Division Facilities Available for Joint Use

Name of School	Legal Description of Parcel(s) Containing School	Description of Facility and Amenities
École Jasper Elementary School	Lots 1-29, Block 19, Plan 4061E0	School field, 2 classrooms, gymnasium, washrooms
Jasper Junior/Senior High School	Block R11, Plan 8820963	2 Classrooms, gymnasium, washrooms and showers

* Additional room use may be requested by the Municipality and will be considered based on availability.

Schedule “C” – Conseil Scolaire Centre Nord Facilities Available for Joint Use

Name of School	Legal Description of Parcel(s) Containing School	Description of Facility and Amenities
École Desrochers	Block R11, Plan 8820963	2 Classrooms, washrooms, atrium

* Additional room use may be requested by the Municipality and will be considered based on availability.

Schedule “D” – Joint Use Times

Facility Type	Available Times School Year
École Jasper Elementary School	Monday through Friday between 16:00 and 20:00 and Saturdays between 08:00 and 17:00
Jasper Junior/Senior High School	Monday through Friday between 18:00 and 22:00 and Saturdays between 08:00 and 17:00
Municipal Facilities	Available during normal business hours, must be pre-booked with facility coordinator.
	Available Times Summer Months
École Jasper Elementary School	Monday to Sunday for Summer Camps Monday to Friday for Summer Fun program
Jasper Junior/Senior High School	Monday to Sunday for Summer Camps
École Desrochers	Monday to Friday for Summer Fun program

Community use of School Facilities on Sundays and outside of Joint Use Hours may be considered through special request.

School use of Municipal Facilities during July and August for Summer School Sessions shall be considered based upon the availability of the facility.

From time to time it is understood the schools and/or Municipal Facilities will be unavailable due to them becoming polling stations for provincial or federal elections.

Schedule “E” – Operating Guidelines for Joint Use Space

User Group Eligibility

To be eligible to use a Joint Use Space in a School, a user group must:

- Engage in activities that are recreational, cultural or educational in nature
- If it is a political group, be a locally based affiliate of a registered provincial or federal party or be for the purpose of local government
- Be non-profit
- Undertake, in writing, to have their members and/or participants uphold the rules and regulations of these Operating Guidelines

To be eligible to use a Municipal Facility that is a Joint Use Space, a User Group must be affiliated with a school or a program or event offered by a school that is located within the geographic boundary of the Municipality and their Board must be party to this agreement.

A User Group may be barred from using Joint Use Space if:

- The group has failed to pay fees related to the group’s prior use of any Joint Use Space
- The group has failed to provide the required insurance
- The group has failed to pay for damages which occurred as a result of the group’s prior use of any Joint Use Space
- The past conduct of the group, or members of the group or invited participants, during the use of Joint Use Space was, in the opinion of the Principal, Facility Manager, or Facility Scheduling Coordinator inappropriate, or not in keeping with the rules and regulations of the Joint Use Space that was booked, or, if repeated, would be likely to cause damage to the Joint Use Space

In the case of a School, any user group that is barred from the use of Joint Use Space may appeal the decision first to the Principal’s Superintendent and thereafter to the appropriate Board. In the case of a Municipal Facility, a barred User Group may appeal first to the CAO and thereafter to Council.

Insurance Coverage

In addition to any other form of insurance a User Group may reasonably require for risks against which a prudent user under similar circumstances and risk would insure, a User Group shall be required to carry General Liability Insurance naming the Municipality and the Board in whose building or on whose land they are conducting their activities as additional insureds.

The minimum insurance requirement shall be \$5 Million.

Booking Joint Use Space

Booking the use of Joint Use Space within Schools by User Groups shall be made through the Municipality's Facility Scheduling Coordinator.

Booking School use of Municipal Facilities identified as Joint Use Space shall be made through the Municipality's Facility Scheduling Coordinator.

Cancellation of Bookings

A booking for use of Joint Use Space within a School may be cancelled at any time by the School principal. The principal shall provide as much notice as reasonably possible to the Facility Scheduling Coordinator of the cancellation. The Facility Scheduling Coordinator shall notify the scheduled User Group.

A User Group may cancel their booking for the use of Joint Use Space within a School at any time with notice to the Facility Scheduling Coordinator of the respective Board.

A booking for use of Joint Use Space within Municipal Facilities may be cancelled at any time by the Facility Scheduling Coordinator. The Facility Scheduling Coordinator shall provide as much notice as reasonably possible to the scheduled User Group.

A User Group may cancel their booking for the use of Joint Use Space within Municipal Facilities at any time with notice to the Facility Scheduling Coordinator.

If the scheduled use required specially trained or technical staff to be available, the User Group may still be charged for such services if the cancellation is made by the User Group less than seventy-two (72) hours before the scheduled booking.

Fees for Joint Use Space

Fees charged to any Party to this Agreement or to any User Group for the use of Joint Use Space within Joint Use Hours shall be limited to:

- The use of specialized equipment
- The provision of specially trained or technical staff (e.g. swimming lesson instructors, lifeguards, theatre technicians, computer lab technicians) necessary for the use of the Joint Use Space
- Any additional janitorial or custodial services related to the use of the Joint Use Space
- The provision of supervisory staff or hosts related to the use of the Joint Use Space

Equipment

The right to use Joint Use Space includes the right to, within a gymnasium space, make use of badminton and volleyball posts and basketball hoops. Any and all equipment required by a User Group must be requested at the time of booking.

Custodial Responsibility and Building/Facility Maintenance Responsibility

The respective School Board shall be responsible for custodial and janitorial services and building/facility maintenance for any Joint Use Space owned by that Board.

The Municipality shall be responsible for custodial and janitorial services and building/facility maintenance for any Joint Use Space owned by the Municipality.

Damages to Joint Use Space

For Joint Use Space in a School, the Municipality shall be responsible for the recovery of costs to repair damage that occurred in Joint Use Space during the use of that space by a User Group that is not affiliated with the respective Board that owns the facility that was damaged.

For Joint Use Space in a Municipal Facility, each Board shall be responsible for damage occurring in Joint Use Space during the use of that space by their respective Schools.

Playing Fields and Playgrounds

For the purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:

“Playfield or Playing Field” means a designated outdoor playing area designed for various sports and includes rectangular turf fields and ball diamonds.

“Playfield Maintenance” means the regular mowing, fertilizing and lining of playfields.

“Playground” means an area designed for outdoor play or recreation, especially by children, and often containing recreational equipment such as slides and swings.

“Refurbishment” means to aerate, top dress and over seed taking the playfield off line for a 12-month period.

“Re-development” means the stripping and grading of the playfield to reshape the grade and/or the complete replacement of the top soil, finished surface (seed/sod/shale) and the replacing of goal posts or back fields. Redevelopment would anticipate the closure of the playfield for up to two years.

Maintenance of playing fields on Municipal lands shall be the responsibility of the Municipality and maintenance of playing fields on School lands shall be the responsibility of the respective Board.

The Parties agree to ensure that field markings are in place at the commencement of the spring/summer season.

Each Party shall perform regular assessments on playfield conditions to determine short term and long-term maintenance, or as appropriate, refurbishment required for each playfield. The Parties shall advise each other of any major refurbishment or redevelopment of playfields.

Each Party shall be responsible for the development of playing fields, including the construction of soccer pitches and softball or baseball diamonds, located on their respective lands.

Upgrades to playing fields located on Municipal lands that are desired or required by a Board shall be the responsibility of the Board. All costs of such upgrades shall be paid by the Board requiring the upgrade. If a playing field has been upgraded by a Board, the responsibility for maintaining that playing field shall pass to the Board and all costs of maintaining the upgraded playing field shall be paid by the Board.

Maintenance of playgrounds shall be the responsibility of the Party upon whose lands the playground is located. Maintenance of playgrounds does not include or guarantee replacement of the playground.

Despite the identity of the Party that funded or installed a playground, the Party upon whose land it is located shall at all times have the right to remove the playground if ongoing maintenance of the playground is unwarranted due to safety concerns, or because of costs associated with ongoing maintenance. The replacement of the playground is at the sole discretion of the Party upon whose land it is located.

Schedule “F” – Dispute Resolution Process

Step 1: Notice of Dispute

1. When any Party believes there is a dispute under this Agreement and wishes to engage in dispute resolution, the Party alleging the dispute must give written notice of the matter(s) under dispute to the other Parties.
2. During a dispute, the Parties must continue to perform their obligations under this Agreement.

Step 2: Negotiation

3. Within 14 calendar days after the notice of dispute is given, each Party must appoint representatives to the Governing Committee to participate in one or more meetings, in person or by electronic means, to attempt to negotiate a resolution of the dispute.
4. Each Party shall identify the appropriate representatives who are knowledgeable about the issue(s) under dispute and the representatives shall work to find a mutually acceptable solution through negotiation. In preparing for negotiations, the Parties shall also clarify their expectations related to the process and schedule of meetings, addressing media inquiries, and the need to obtain Council and Board ratification of any resolution that is proposed.
5. Representatives shall negotiate in good faith and shall work together, combining their resources, originality and expertise to find solutions. Representatives shall attempt to craft a solution to the identified issue(s) by seeking to advance the interests of all Parties. Representatives shall fully explore the issue with a view to seeking an outcome that accommodates, rather than compromises, the interests of all concerned.

Step 3: Mediation

6. In the event that negotiation does not successfully resolve the dispute, the Parties agree to attempt mediation. The representatives must appoint a mutually acceptable mediator to attempt to resolve the dispute by mediation, within 14 calendar days of one Party’s indication that negotiation has not resolved matters, nor be likely to. The Party giving such notice shall include the names of three mediators. The recipient Party(ies) shall select one name from the short list and advise the other Party(ies) of their selection within 10 calendar days of receipt of the list. The Parties shall thereafter co-operate in engaging the selected mediator in a timely manner.

7. The Party that initiated the dispute resolution process, must provide the mediator with an outline of the dispute and any agreed statement of facts within 14 calendar days of the mediator's engagement. The Parties must give the mediator access to all records, documents and information that the mediator may reasonably request.
8. The mediator shall be responsible for the governance of the mediation process. The Parties must meet with the mediator at such reasonable times as may be required and must, through the intervention of the mediator, negotiate in good faith to resolve their dispute. Time shall remain of the essence in pursuing mediation, and mediation shall not exceed ninety (90) calendar days from the date the mediator is engaged, without further written agreement of the parties.
9. All proceedings involving a mediator are without prejudice, and, unless the Parties agree otherwise, the cost of the mediator must be shared equally between the Parties.
10. If a resolution is reached through mediation, the mediator shall provide a report documenting the nature and terms of the agreement and solutions that have been reached. The mediator report will be provided to each Party.
11. If after ninety (90) calendar days from engagement of the mediator, or longer as agreed in writing by the Parties, resolution has not been reached, the mediator shall provide a report to the Parties detailing the nature of apparent impasse and/or consensus.

Step 4: Arbitration

12. In the event that Mediation does not successfully resolve the dispute, the Parties agree to move to Arbitration within 30 calendar days of receipt of the mediator's report, including appointing an arbitrator within that time. If the representatives can agree upon a mutually acceptable arbitrator, arbitration shall proceed using that arbitrator. If the representatives cannot agree on a mutually acceptable arbitrator, each Party shall produce a list of three candidate arbitrators. In the event there is agreement on an arbitrator evident from the candidate lists, arbitration shall proceed using that arbitrator.
13. If the representatives cannot agree on an arbitrator, the Party that initiated the dispute resolution process must forward a request to the Minister of Education to appoint an arbitrator within 30 calendar days of the expiry of the time period in clause 12. Should the Minister of Education agree to appoint an arbitrator, the Parties agree to proceed using that arbitrator. Should the Minister of Education decline to appoint an arbitrator, then a request to appoint an arbitrator shall be made to the Court of King's Bench.

14. Where arbitration is used to resolve a dispute, the arbitration and arbitrator's powers, duties, functions, practices and procedures shall be the same as those in the *Arbitration Act*.
15. Subject to an order of the arbitrator or an agreement by the Parties, the costs of the arbitrator and arbitration process must be shared equally between the Parties.

AGENDA ITEM 7.6

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Subject: Transit Service Update
From: Bill Given, Chief Administrative Officer
Reviewed by: Jasper Transit Manager
Date: July 15, 2025



Recommendation:

That Committee receive the Transit Service Update (March 1 to June 30, 2025) for information.

Alternatives:

- That Committee direct Administration to return with further information.

Background:

In early 2023 Council received the [Transportation Strategy & Action Plan](#) (the Transit Strategy) and; directed administration to begin the next steps to establish a fixed-route bus service beginning September 5, 2023.

On May 7, 2024 Council approved policy [F-114 Transit Service Standards](#) which requires the presentation of quarterly transit reporting.

Discussion:

The attached Transit Service Update report provides an overview of the transit system's operation from March 1 to June 30, 2025. Items of note include:

- June 2025 was the busiest month yet, with 6,607 riders in total. From March 1 to June 30, there were 17,891 boardings over 1,177 hours of service. This is a quarterly average of just over 15 boardings per service hour. For Q2 of 2025 the Transportation Strategy & Action Plan anticipated 9.4 boardings per service hour.
- The Pyramid Loop is seeing significantly more boardings since the summer schedule launch in May (from an average of 8 boardings per day on the Recovery Transit schedule to 35 boardings per day with the Summer 2025 Transit schedule). The summer 2025 schedule includes 7 daily trips on the Pyramid Loop, compared to 6 daily trips in summer 2024. This is in response to feedback requesting later evening service to Pyramid Lake.
- Administration has been working directly with Fairmont and Pursuit to fulfil requests for bulk purchase of single-use transit tickets to supply for their guests (Fairmont) and staff (Pursuit – Pyramid Lake Lodge).
- Administration continues to monitor schedule adherence. All months in this period exceed the minimum standard of 85% On-Time Performance in Policy F-114. There have been some issues with accessing the

Wapiti Campground stop in June 2025, which have caused delays. Administration is coordinating with Parks Canada on this, as required.

- The Grande Yellowhead Public School Division (GYPSD) has informed Administration and affected families of new school bussing catchment rules which will be in effect in September 2025, with transition funding available to maintain existing service levels until September 2026. Families must register for school bussing prior to end of September to obtain transition funding for the 2025 / 2026 school year. The school bussing catchment will change for K – 6 children from 1.0 km currently to 1.6 km in September 2025 (effective 2026).
- Regional Recovery Transit Service connecting Hinton, Folding Mountain, Jasper Transit Hub and Marmot Meadows launches July 14. Administration will be monitoring this service through Summer 2025 and anticipates adjusting in response to customer feedback and ridership patterns at the time of the typical Jasper Transit service changes in mid-October 2025.
- Fares for Regional Recovery Transit Service will be free for displaced Jasper residents who may register for a Regional Recovery pass card. For the general public, a Single Use one-way ticket is \$15. Adults may purchase 10 passes for \$130 and a monthly pass for \$150. Youth and Seniors may purchase 10 passes for \$80 and a monthly pass for \$100. Fares can be purchased via the HotSpot App, the Parking and Transit pass kiosk at the Jasper Transit Hub, in-person at the Activity Centre desk, or with cash on board the bus.

Strategic Relevance:

- Recognize the fundamental importance of our tourism economy.
- Take proactive steps to reduce the risk of people becoming vulnerable and respond when they are vulnerable.
- Communicate and engage with residents.
- Increase opportunities for active transportation and transportation alternatives.

Inclusion Considerations:

The provision of transit within the community supports equitable access to transportation and supports mobility for residents who may not own a private automobile. This mobility enables more individual autonomy and increase access to work and social events.

Relevant Legislation:

- Alberta Traffic Safety Act and Commercial Vehicle Regulations
- [Policy F-114 Transit Service Standards](#)

Financial:

From March 1 – June 30, 2025:

- Corporate Bulk Purchase Program revenue was \$20,321.68
- General Ticket Sales revenue was \$11,307.00

Attachments:

Appendix 1 - Transit Service Update (March 1 – June 30, 2025)



TRANIST OPERATIONAL UPDATE

Transit Manager

March 1, 2025 to June 30, 2025

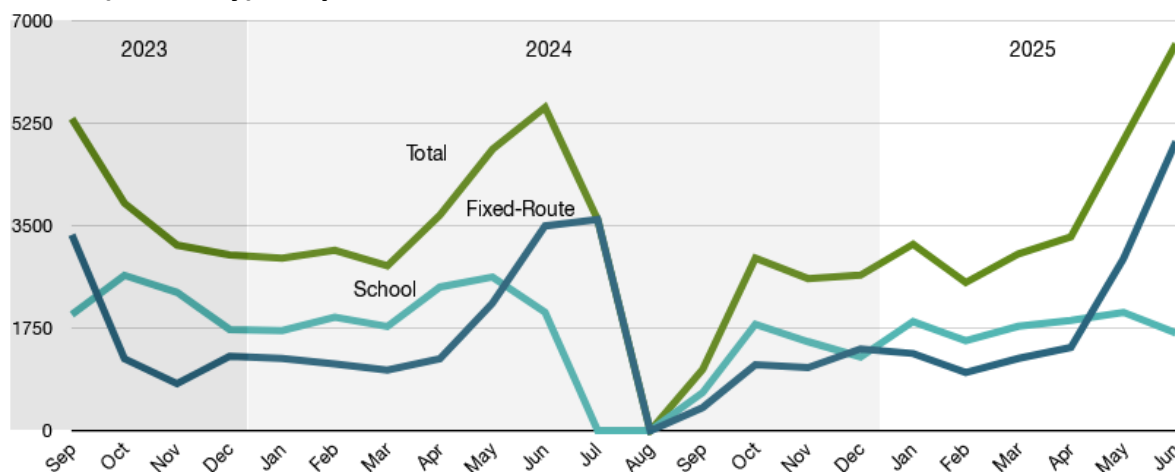
Major Projects

- Updated School Special service launched March 3, 2025 to provide school bus service to interim housing parcel GA. Interim housing parcels HH and HF continue to be served through Stops #14 and Cavell. The last day of school was June 25.
- Regular Summer Transit service launched in two waves this year, due to the delayed opening of Wapiti Campground. There were regular service changes on May 14 and June 4, 2025.
- Regional Recovery Transit service planning and implementation work occurred this quarter, with launch of service on July 14, 2025. There will be opportunities for customer feedback to inform a Regional Recovery service update in alignment with our regular service change in October 2025.
- The Bus Barn construction was completed ahead of schedule and on budget. The Jasper Transit contractor will move the Jasper Transit fleet and staff into the Bus Barn by July 15, 2025.
- A 1-yr extension of the Rural Transit Solutions Fund has been provided to allow flexibility for procurement of Electric Bus Fleet and remaining capital project components. Administration continues to coordinate with the CUTZEB Joint Procurement initiative to explore potential for electric bus procurement jointly with other Canadian agencies.

Service Statistics (March 1 to June 30, 2025)

- Total Hours of Service: 1,176.63
- Total Days of Service: 122
- On-Time Performance: Mar: 95% Apr: 94% May: 91% Jun: 90%
- Total Riders: 17,891
- Total Riders by Type: Student – 7,357 General – 10,534
- Total Riders by Month: Mar: 3,017 Apr: 3,309 May: 4,958 Jun: 6,607
- Total Fare Revenue: Passes (Bulk Program) - \$20,321.68 Tickets (General) - \$11,307.00

Transit Riders (Monthly): September 5, 2023 – June 30, 2025



Communications & Engagement

- Updates were shared with community ahead of May and June 2025 service changes.
- Communication with community and key stakeholders is ongoing for Regional Recovery Transit Service launch.
- Preparation is underway for a summer Jasper Transit rider survey to inform regular October service changes.

AGENDA ITEM 7.7

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Subject: Passenger Rail Master Plan
From: Bill Given, Chief Administrative Officer
Prepared by: Isla Tanaka, Town Planner
Reviewed by: Beth Sanders, Director of Urban Design & Standards
Date: July 15, 2025



Recommendation:

That Committee recommend Council advocate for the inclusion of an Edmonton to Jasper regional service in the Government of Alberta's 30-Year Network of the Passenger Rail Master Plan.

Alternative:

That Committee receive the report for information and take no further action.

Background:

In April 2024, the Alberta government announced the development of a Passenger Rail Master Plan as part of an integrated provincial transportation system. The plan criteria included exploring a regional rail line between Edmonton and Jasper National Park.

Since fall 2024, the project team has engaged with approximately 20,000 Albertans and communicated with many more. There is broad support for passenger rail from across Alberta, and Albertans want passenger rail as soon as possible.

On June 13, 2025, Municipality of Jasper, Tourism Jasper, Chamber of Commerce and Parks Canada staff met with members of the provincial Passenger Rail Master Plan team. The Municipality of Jasper was represented by Bill Given, Chief Administrative Officer, and Isla Tanaka, Town Planner. A summary of the meeting is provided in Attachment 1.

Discussion:

The Municipality of Jasper has an opportunity to influence the Passenger Rail Master Plan. Public engagement will be completed in June 2025, and the plan itself will be finalized in summer 2025. The Passenger Rail Master Plan is slated for decision in the fall sitting of the provincial government.

Reliable, frequent public rail transit along the Edmonton-Jasper corridor would provide social, environmental and economic benefits to Jasper, Jasper National Park, and other communities along the line. A rail connection between Edmonton and Jasper would benefit both visitors and residents, even if the line terminated in west Edmonton and Hinton. This shorter option would also see significant cost savings to the project.

Advocating to reclassify the Edmonton to Jasper regional service from the list of 60-Year Possibilities to the 30-Year Network of the Passenger Rail Master Plan would significantly increase the chances of this regional passenger rail line being included in early funding and planning.

Strategic Relevance:

- Recognize the fundamental importance of our tourism economy.
- Collaborate with other municipalities, orders of government, Indigenous partners and advocacy associations.
- Value the unique opportunities and responsibilities arising from our location inside a National Park and World Heritage Site.
- Increase opportunities for active transportation and transportation alternatives.
- Contribute our voice to support community, industry, and partners in their advocacy efforts.
- Take active and strategic steps to advance Jasper's interests, including the acquisition of land-use planning and development authority and attaining Resort Municipality Status.

Inclusion Considerations:

Rail transportation is a significant transportation option for Jasper residents and visitors who do not, or choose not to, drive vehicles to other communities.

Relevant Legislation:

- Canada National Parks Act
- Agreement for the Establishment of Local Government in the Town of Jasper
- Alberta Municipal Government Act
- Jasper Community Sustainability Plan

Financial:

The recommendation can be carried out within the existing approved budget, and no additional resources are needed.

Attachments:

1. Summary of the June 13th, 2025, Meeting with the Passenger Rail Master Plan Planning Team

Summary of Meeting with the Passenger Rail Master Plan Planning Team

June 13, 2025

In April 2024, the Alberta government announced the development of a Passenger Rail Master Plan as part of an integrated provincial transportation system. The plan criteria included exploring a regional rail line between Edmonton and Jasper National Park.

On June 13, 2025, Municipality of Jasper, Tourism Jasper, Chamber of Commerce and Parks Canada staff met with members of the provincial Passenger Rail Master Plan team. The Municipality of Jasper was represented by Bill Given, Chief Administrative Officer, and Isla Tanaka, Town Planner.

Presentation Summary

Since fall 2024, the Passenger Rail Master Plan project team has engaged with approximately 20,000 Albertans and communicated with many more. There is broad support for passenger rail from across Alberta, and Albertans want passenger rail as soon as possible.

Potential passenger rail network connections were selected based on project metrics including popular tourist destinations, airport hubs, areas with medium-high population (over 10,000 in 2021), travel time compared to automobile, potential ridership, and potential capital costs.

The identified potential rail connections were evaluated for strategic, financial, economic, and deliverability and operations criteria, and were sorted into three categories:

- 60-Year Possibilities – a comprehensive network of what Alberta’s passenger rail network could look like in 60 years
- 30-Year Network – a partial network that could be delivered over the next 30 years
- 15-Year Delivery Plan – a list of actions the Government of Alberta could take over the next 15 years to begin implementing the passenger rail services in the 30-Year Network

The Edmonton to Jasper regional service was included in the 60-Year Possibilities list, not the 30-Year Network. In order for 60-Year Possibilities to become part of the emerging 30-Year Network, some or all of the following would need to be achieved:

- Higher population and/or employment growth and densities.
- Significant cost reductions or significant funding increase.
- Major infrastructure upgrades.

Jasper Partners’ Questions, Concerns and Comments

Concerns were raised by Jasper stakeholders about the data used to determine potential ridership numbers and current traffic flows along the Edmonton-Jasper corridor. Technical constraints for gathering traffic data along the highway were discussed, which put into question the validity of the data being used.

Jasper partners expressed that the continued growth pattern in Hinton should be considered, especially for visitor accommodations. Tourism data suggest that when accommodations in Jasper are full, visitors stay in Hinton.

The following constraints were also discussed:

- In discussion with the Government of Alberta, CN cited concerns about adding increased passenger rail to the Hinton-Jasper track due to high freight volume.
- Additionally, CN noted the lack of room to lay a second track along some stretches of the Hinton-Jasper corridor.
- In Edmonton, there is neither room along existing rail corridors nor surplus land for sale to lay a track into downtown Edmonton.

Suggestions from the Jasper partners to realize significant cost reductions of the regional rail line included:

- Terminate the west leg of the rail service in Hinton and run a connecting bus service between Hinton and Jasper.
- Terminate the east leg of the rail service at Edmonton's west end Lewis Estates Transit Centre. This would connect passengers to Edmonton's LRT network for downtown and southside connections as well as bus routes for other destinations.

Next Steps

The last round of public engagement was planned for June 2025. The Passenger Rail Master Plan project team is still open to taking feedback from stakeholders, but the plan will be finalized in summer 2025.

AGENDA ITEM 7.8

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Subject: 2025 Community Conversations Interim Report
From: Bill Given, Chief Administrative Officer
Prepared by: Lisa Riddell, Community Development Manager
Reviewed by: Emma Acorn, Legislative Services Manager
Date: July 15, 2025



Recommendation:

That Committee receive the Community Conversations Interim Report for January to June 2025 for information.

Alternatives:

That Committee direct Administration to bring forward additional information on any items of interest in the Community Conversations report to a future Committee meeting.

Background:

On September 21, 2021 Council approved the [Community Conversations Policy \(A-105\)](#) which outlines Council's commitment to meaningful resident engagement to ensure that municipal services and programs remain responsive to changing community needs. In February 2023, a revised Policy A-105 was adopted by Council, directing Administration to narrow the scope of conversations to focus on the life-stage focused conversations.

From January to June 2025, 17 life-stage focused Community Conversations took place
Here is a breakdown of attendance in 2025 compared to 2024 numbers.

	Year	Breakdown by quarter and type of participant								
		Jan. to March 2025			April to June 2025			Oct. to Dec. 2024		
		MOJ	Non MOJ	Total	MOJ	Non MOJ	Total	MOJ	Non MOJ	Total
Adults	2024	12	16	28	8	11	19	9	19	28
	2025	10	19	29	8	15	23			
Seniors	2024	10	20	30	11	14	25	10	24	34
	2025	6	22	28	10	17	27			
Early Childhood & School Age	2024	15	13	28	12	12	24	13	26	39
	2025	11	15	26	10	11	21			

Discussion:

At the time of this report, there are 35 groups, agencies, organizations represented at Community Conversations with 67 unique participants in total (many agencies have more than one representative). Participants at community conversations discussed many items impacting the community – when grouped into thematic areas, the below priority areas emerge:

1. Housing
2. Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing

3. Community Belonging & Rebuilding Connections
4. Food Insecurity
5. Employment, Income Support and Economic Recovery
6. Youth Mental Health & School Engagement
7. Seniors' Needs
8. Transportation and Accessibility
9. Disaster Preparedness
10. Displaced Residents

Strategic Relevance:

- Take proactive steps to reduce the risk of people becoming vulnerable and respond when they are vulnerable.
- Promote and enhance recreational and cultural opportunities and spaces
- Enable and facilitate events that provide opportunities to increase community connections.
- Embrace our growing diversity
- Leverage and create opportunities for greater inclusion.
- Communicate and engage with residents
- Welcome the expertise, innovation, creativity and commitment of community members, groups, and associations
- Entrust our staff to develop healthy relationships with the people they serve.

Inclusion Considerations: Community Conversations is a forum to discuss the changing needs of Jasperites with particular focus on groups who may be at risk of exclusion. Many participants at Community Conversations are organization and agency leaders who serve, in part, groups at risk of exclusion. To complement this insight, the annual Social Assessment provides the grassroots perspective that serve as a check-in with community members themselves.

Relevant Legislation:

- [Policy – A-105 – Community Conversations Policy](#)

Financial: The costs to carry out the Community Conversations are within the 2025 operating budget.

Attachments: The Community Conversations Interim Report is attached.

Community Conversations Interim Report

January to June 2025

Prepared and submitted by: Lisa Riddell

Introduction

The first six months of Community Conversations in 2025 continue to play a key role in ensuring collaboration across sectors in the aftermath of the wildfire that impacted the community in July 2024. Just as we saw in the post-pandemic years, Community Conversations is a place for agency and organization leaders to discuss the dynamic needs of the people they serve. Creative programs, services and initiatives are co-created at Community Conversations. The regular, ongoing dialogue ensures that these services are coordinated, leveraging and expanding upon the strengths of our community. Jasper is a rural, remote community with unique challenges and unique advantages. Using a community-focused and person-centered approach ensures that collaborative initiatives are fine-tuned to the residents they are intended to be for.

Since the 1990s, Community Conversation participants from the public, private and non-profit sectors have worked together to create the conditions in Jasper where residents of all backgrounds, abilities and orientations can thrive and achieve wellbeing and resilience across the lifespan.

Membership:

Here is a revised member list as of April 2025. There are 35 member organizations/agencies and 67 individual participants:

- Alberta Health Services - Homecare
- Alpine Summit Seniors' Lodge
- Brain Care Centre
- Community Futures West Yellowhead
- Crisis Team Society Jasper
- Ecole Jasper Elementary School
- Ecole Desrochers
- Friends of Jasper National Park
- Grande Yellowhead Public School Division
- Government of Alberta - Alberta Supports
- Hinton Wellness Program
- Jasper Community Habitat for The Arts
- Jasper Community Team Society
- Jasper Employment Centre
- Jasper Minor Sports
- Jasper Municipal Library
- Jasper Museum
- Jasper Recovery Coordination Centre
- Service Canada
- Jasper Seniors' Society
- L'Association Canadienne Française de l'Alberta, Régionale de Jasper
- Mettra Pharmacy
- Municipality of Jasper – CAO office
- Municipal Council
- Municipality of Jasper – Community Development
- Municipality of Jasper – Fitness and Aquatic Centre
- Municipality of Jasper – Outreach Services
- Municipality of Jasper – Settlement Services
- Parks Canada – Engagement Officer
- Parks Canada - Indigenous Relations
- Pursuit Jasper Banff Collection
- Recovery Alberta – Addictions & Mental Health
- Red Cross
- Western Alberta Regional Victim Serving Society
- Yellowhead Emergency Shelter for Women
- Individual Jasperites x 4

At Community Conversations, participants identify the changing needs of residents as well as opportunities to take action in response to those needs. A review of all trends and opportunities identified in Conversations thus far in 2025 reveals the below thematic areas:

1. Housing

- Interim housing is in high demand. Waitlists are long, especially among seniors and vulnerable populations. Many displaced residents—especially those with lower incomes—remain in precarious or temporary arrangements.
- There's a desire for clarity around the “right to reside” and how displaced renters will be accommodated in the rebuild.
- There are continued concerns about housing availability and affordability, exacerbated by the impact of the Wildfire. The permitting process for rebuilding homes has been longer and there remain unknowns with the soil testing for some home owners. Residents have expressed frustration over the lengthy debris removal process.
- Calls for creative housing solutions, including tiny homes, secondary suites, and co-living models are being discussed.
- Opportunities to build back better are being raised, particularly to meet the needs of groups at risk of exclusion such low income or those with diverse physical or cognitive abilities.

2. Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing

- Many residents are accessing services for the first time post-fire. Strengthening welcoming systems, and fire specific outreach visibility is playing a key role in fostering wellbeing.
- Consistent reports of anxiety, burnout, and stress, especially six months post-wildfire - a known tipping point in disaster recovery.
- Mental health remains a priority. There are continued efforts to provide mental health services, as well as offering programs aimed at reducing anxiety.
- Noticing that there is a persistent stigma around mental health services.
- Youth, seniors, and newcomers are especially vulnerable.
- Programs like the Community Development's *Recovery Outreach Services*, the Jasper Recovery Coordination Centre's *Pathfinders*, Recovery Alberta's *Adult Wellness Course*, and the Red Cross's *friendly calls* are well-received.
- There is the continued need for low-barrier, culturally appropriate, trauma-informed supports.

3. Community Belonging & Rebuilding Connections

- Low-cost community events such as plant sales and Coffee Connections are very popular, indicating a desire for informal social interaction and routine gatherings.
- Community dinners, cooking circles, wellness fairs, and volunteer programs are rebuilding social ties.
- Newcomers, youth, and seniors have specific programming needs.
- People value intergenerational programming and space for creativity, healing, and cultural exchange.

4. Food Insecurity

- The food bank is seeing persistently high usage (e.g., 65+ households/week).
- Concerns over cost of living, inflation, and the inadequacy of grocery vouchers or gift cards.
- Ongoing need to separate food recovery from food bank.

5. Employment, Income Support and Economic Recovery

- The job market is active but many roles are tied to housing availability and hours fluctuate significantly with tourism levels. Staffing challenges are prevalent, particularly due to burnout, unfilled positions, and high turnover rates.
- Folks of all ages are looking for job opportunities linked to secure housing. The Jasper Employment and Education Centre has re-launched their seniors' employment initiative.
- Private sector participants reported economic instability, including lower-than-expected profits during peak tourism periods (specifically the May long weekend), and uneven staffing in local businesses.

6. Youth Mental Health & School Engagement

- Programs like SWAT (Student Wellness Action Team) and Wellness Navigator's Dungeons & Dragons are supporting social skill building.
- Summer and school-based programming focused on hope, coping, creativity, and play are in high demand.

7. Seniors' Needs

- There is strong demand for senior housing, social support, and physical wellness programs (e.g., aquafit, seated yoga).
- Seniors returning to the community after displacement need help rebuilding social and caregiving networks.
- Programs with intergenerational contact are especially meaningful.
- The Men's Shed new location is taking shape at a critical time to foster men's mental health and wellbeing.

8. Transportation and Accessibility:

- Transportation continues to be a challenge, especially for shift workers, and families in interim housing. School transportation policies are also creating challenges for families around the community, highlighting a need for more flexible options.
- Additionally, there is a focus on safety and accessibility, particularly for seniors and folks with physical disabilities. Challenges related to curb height and wheelchair accessibility could be better understood.

9. Disaster Preparedness:

- Programs around wildfire preparedness and recovery continue to be a priority, with emphasis on educating the public on fire ecology, trail safety in fire-affected areas, and post-disaster recovery.
- Additionally, there has been discussion around the approaching 1-year mark since the fire. Efforts to mark the 1-year across the community are being tracked by the Jasper Recovery Coordination Centre.

10. Displaced Residents

- The Jasper Recovery Coordination Centre gathered data on the number of Jasperites displaced outside of the community by the fire and who still wish to stay in touch.
- Some displaced seniors, particularly those who were renters, are expressing concern about how their *Right to Reside* may be affected when they wish to return to community in a few years. Currently, the development team from Parks Canada can speak with individuals on a case-by-case basis to address their concerns. That said, there is an opportunity to provide clear communication about eligibility for interim and rebuilt housing, especially for displaced senior renters.

AGENDA ITEM 7.9

REQUEST FOR DECISION

Subject: 2025 Community Social Assessment Results
From: Bill Given, Chief Administrative Officer
Prepared by: Lisa Riddell, Community Development Manager
Reviewed by: Emma Acorn, Legislative Services Manager
Date: July 15, 2025



Recommendation:

That Committee receive the Community Social Assessment Report for information.

Alternatives:

That Committee direct Administration to bring forward additional information on any items of interest in the Community Social Assessment report to a future Committee meeting.

Background:

The [Community Conversations Policy \(A-105\)](#) outlines Council's commitment to meaningful resident engagement to ensure that municipal services and programs remain responsive to changing community needs. Participants at Community Conversations are typically organization and agency leaders who work with residents of varying ages. To complement their insight – and to inform planning, the annual Social Assessment provides a window of insight into the lived-experience perspective of Jasperites.

The results of the 2025 Social Assessment are shared with Community Conversation participants and with Council each year with the Community Conversations Interim Report.

The 2025 Social Assessment was conducted using a survey that was completed by 310 respondents (both adult and youth) between March 8, 2025 and April 23, 2025. The results highlight respondents' views on community strengths, challenges, and areas for improvement.

Discussion:

210 adults and 100 local youth completed the social assessment in 2025.
Here is a summary of responses:

Adult Responses	Child and Youth Responses
What do you love about Jasper?	
Sense of Community & Small-Town Feel (45%) Natural Environment & Outdoor Recreation (30%) Safety & Family Friendly Environment (15%) Recreation & Lifestyle (10%) Programs & Services (13%)	Nature and Outdoor Activities (35%): Sense of Community and Safety (30%): Recreational Facilities and Sports (15%): Local Businesses and Community Engagement (15%):

What challenges do you face in Jasper?	
Housing Challenges (30%) High Cost of Living (25%) Access to Services & Amenities (15%) Wildfire Aftermath & Rebuilding (10%) Job Opportunities & Wages (10%) Transportation & Infrastructure (5%) Social Isolation & Community Fragmentation (5%)	Limited Entertainment and Activities (30%) Housing Issues (25%) Wildfire Aftermath (20%) Roads and Infrastructure (10%) Tourism and Lack of Privacy (5%) Price and Cost of Living (5%) Limited Opportunities for Youth (5%)
What would make Jasper better?	
Affordable Housing & Rent Control (30%) Improved Community Services and Amenities (20%) Infrastructure Improvements (15%) Sustainability & Environmental Concerns (10%) Job Opportunities & Economic Stability (10%) Community Engagement and Inclusivity (5%) Affordable Groceries & Cost of Living (5%) Local Governance & Accountability (5%)	Entertainment and Recreational Facilities (30%) Retail and Commercial Development (25%) Youth Spaces and Social Opportunities (20%) Youth-Oriented Programs and Clubs (15%) Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (5%) Environment and Outdoor Spaces (5%)

*More detail on each area can be found in the attached report.

Strategic Relevance:

- Take proactive steps to reduce the risk of people becoming vulnerable and respond when they are vulnerable.
- Embrace our growing diversity
- Leverage and create opportunities for greater inclusion.
- Communicate and engage with residents
- Welcome the expertise, innovation, creativity and commitment of community members, groups, and associations

Inclusion Considerations: Particular effort is made to learn from groups at risk of exclusion. The questions are short, easy to understand and the format to relay feedback is flexible. Folks can fill in a survey or take part in a supported workshop or focus group. Teachers engage children and youth in an age-specific format that works for them. Feedback can be shared verbally or in writing.

Communications: Results of the Community Social Assessment are shared with Community Conversation participants and with Council along with the Community Conversations Interim Report.

Relevant Legislation:

- [Policy – A-105 – Community Conversations Policy](#)

Financial: The costs to carry out the Community Social Assessment are within the 2025 operating budget.

Attachment: The Community Social Assessment report is attached.

Community Social Assessment Report 2025

Prepared and submitted by: Lisa Riddell

2025 Social Assessment

The results of the 2025 Community Social Assessment can be utilized as a window of insight. Input is shared with Community Conversation participants as well as Council together with the Community Conversations interim report.

This year's Social Assessment focuses heavily on recovery from the July 2024 wildfire.

Summary of the 2025 Jasper Social Assessment Report

The Community Social Assessment survey was completed by 310 respondents (both adult and youth) between March 8, 2025 and April 23, 2025. The results highlight respondents' views on community strengths, challenges, and areas for improvement.

Adult Responses: 210

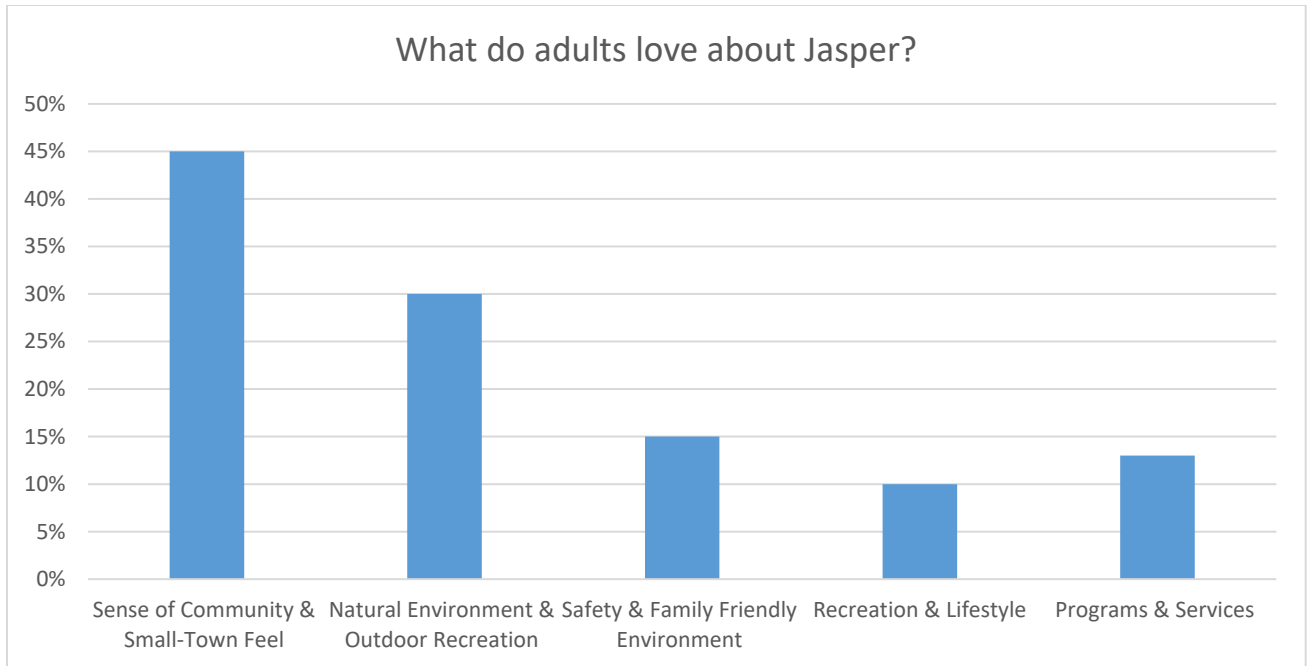
When: March 8, 2025 – April 23, 2025

Methods Used:

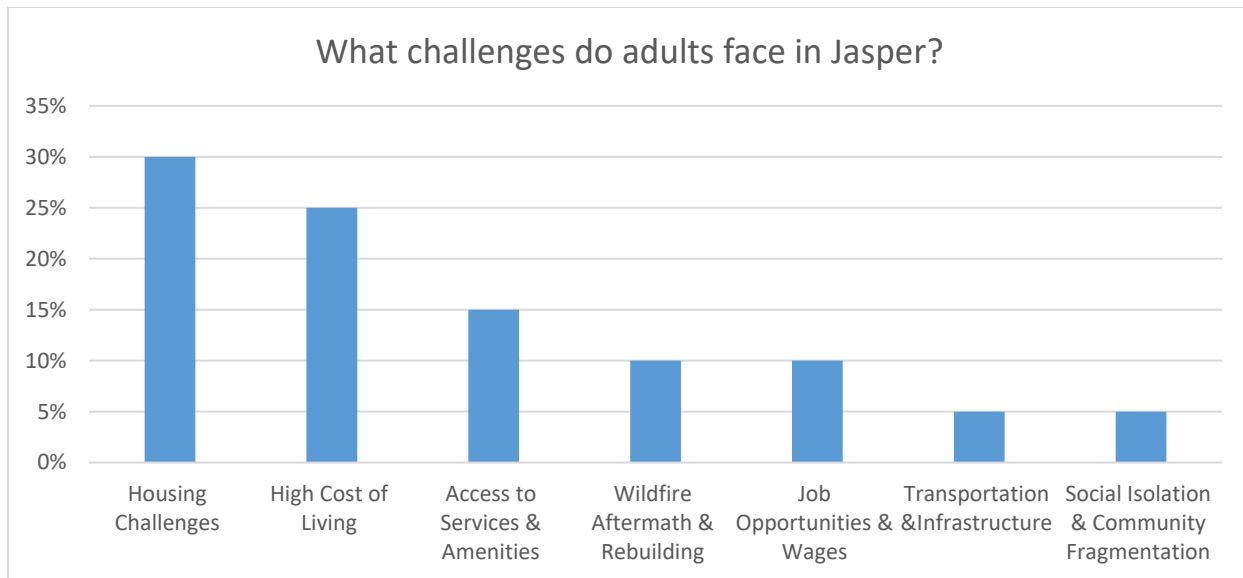
- Online on Engage Jasper
- Paper surveys & collection envelopes were available at most facilities
- Paper surveys delivered to Seniors' residence
- In person public engagement at Community Dinners

Promotion:

- Posters around town
- Hand bills around town
- Promotion on social media, such as Facebook
- Promotion at Community Dinners

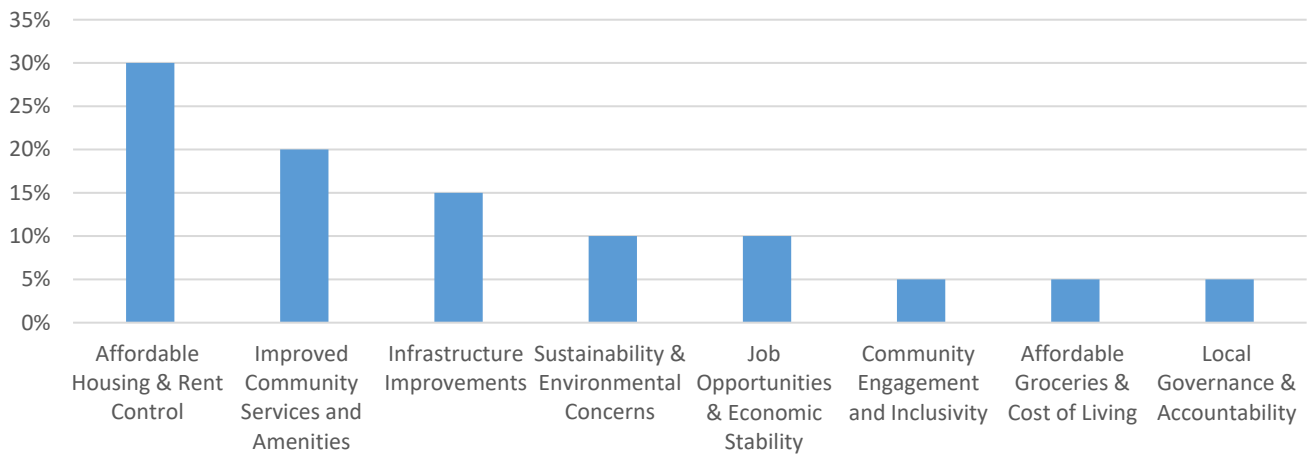


- **Sense of Community & Small-Town Feel (45%):** Strong appreciation for the strong, supportive and close-knit community.
- **Natural Environment & Outdoor Recreation (30%):** Residents value and admire the scenic environment and activities such as hiking, skiing and biking.
- **Safety & Family Friendly Environment (15%):** Praised for walkability and described as a safe place to raise children.
- **Recreation & Lifestyle (10%):** Residents highly value the recreational opportunities available in Jasper, particularly outdoor activities such as hiking, skiing, biking and general access to nature. Residents also value the recreational facilities in town.
- **Programs & Services (13%):** Many residents value the services and programs available, such as family services and community events.



- **Housing Challenges (30%):** High rental costs, a shortage of affordable housing, and difficulties finding stable, long-term housing.
- **High Cost of Living (25%):** High cost of living for housing, groceries, gas and general essentials, is a major concern.
- **Access to Services & Amenities (15%):** Challenges of limited service in Jasper, particularly regarding healthcare, shopping options, specialized medical care, and essential services.
- **Wildfire Aftermath & Rebuilding (10%):** Challenges related to rebuilding efforts, loss of homes, and the slow recovery process.
- **Job Opportunities & Wages (10%):** Frustration over lack of job opportunities and low wages. Challenges related to employment options that match the high cost of living.
- **Transportation & Infrastructure (5%):** Poor Road conditions (potholes, construction), the lack of adequate public transport and the town's remote location was raised as challenging.
- **Social Isolation & Community Fragmentation (5%):** Social isolation, especially for newcomers, and a feeling of being disconnected from the community, particularly post-wildfire. Concerns about cliques and exclusion.

What would make Jasper better? - adult responses



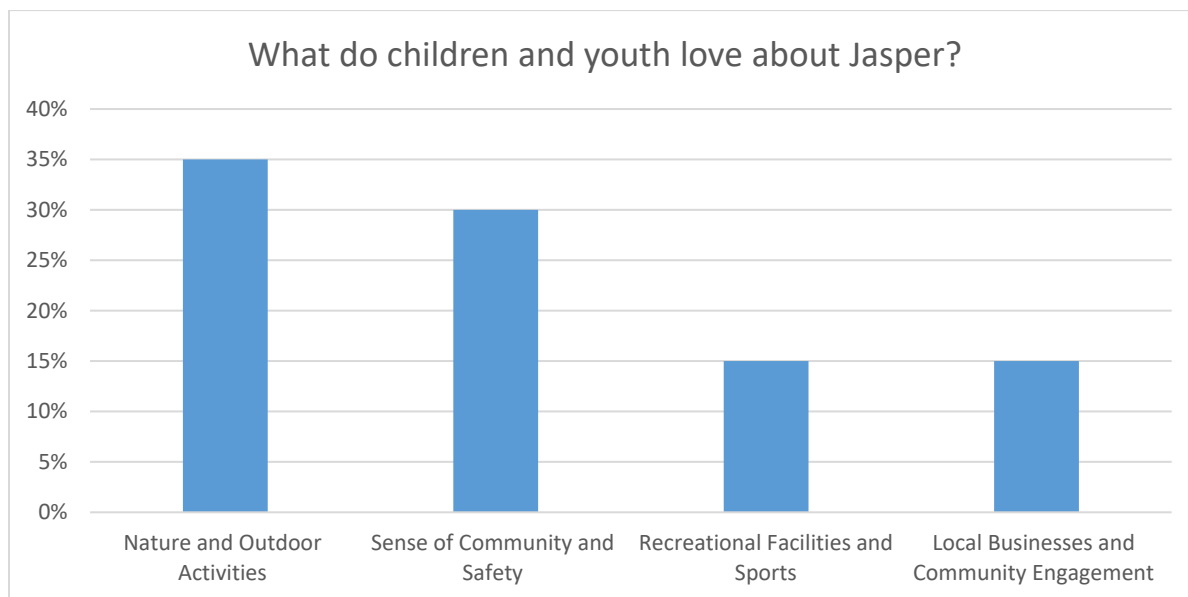
- **Affordable Housing & Rent Control (30%):** More affordable housing options, rent caps, and policies that protect tenants from price increases.
- **Improved Community Services and Amenities (20%):** Expand and improve community amenities, including better healthcare, recreational facilities (such as a movie theatre and sports complexes) and social services.
- **Infrastructure Improvements (15%):** Improve quality of roads, increase public transportation options, and undertake more urban planning, including more pedestrian-friendly streets.
- **Sustainability & Environmental Concerns (10%):** Make Jasper more environmentally sustainable, including more green spaces, tree planting, and efforts to reduce waste and preserve nature.
- **Job Opportunities & Economic Stability (10%):** Promote more stable job opportunities, better wages, and support for small locally-owned businesses to strengthen the local economy.
- **Community Engagement and Inclusivity (5%):** Improve diversity, inclusivity, and community engagement.
- **Affordable Groceries & Cost of Living (5%):** Increase affordable options for essential goods.
- **Local Governance & Accountability (5%):** Improve transparency and accountability from local government in planning, decision-making, and prioritizing residents' needs over external influences.

Youth Responses: 100

When: March 8, 2025 – April 23, 2025

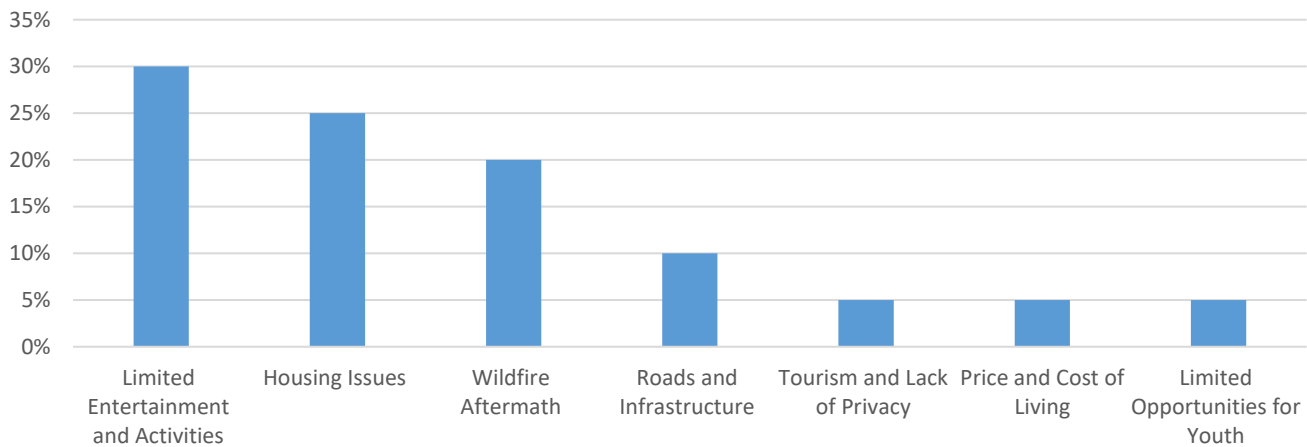
Methods Used:

- Google document at the Jasper Jr/Sr High School
- Engaged Ecole Jasper Elementary School through teachers



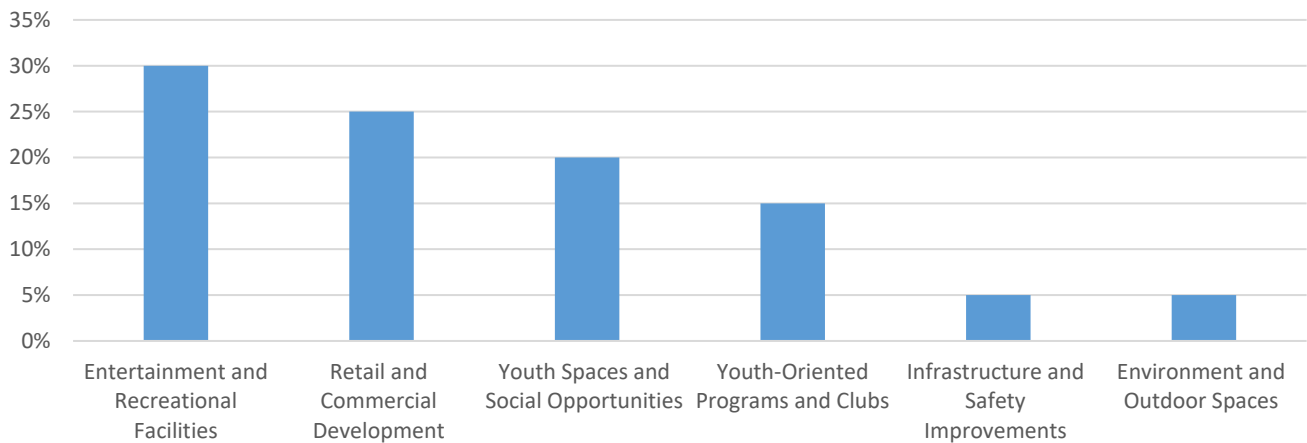
- **Nature and Outdoor Activities (35%):** Deep appreciation for the natural environment and outdoor activities such as hiking, skiing, biking, and swimming in lakes.
- **Sense of Community and Safety (30%):** The small-town feel fosters a strong sense of community. Youth feel safe walking around town, feel looked after, and appreciate the familiarity of seeing friends and neighbours regularly.
- **Recreational Facilities and Sports (15%):** Access to various recreational facilities and sports such as hockey, soccer and skiing, is highly valued.
- **Local Businesses and Community Engagement (15%):** Appreciation for local businesses, family-owned stores, and community-centered activities. Events such as community dinners and the availability of local services provide a supportive and vibrant environment.

What challenges to children and youth face in Jasper?



- **Limited Entertainment and Activities (30%):** Lack of entertainment and places to go, especially during the evenings and in the winter season is a challenge.
- **Housing Issues (25%):** Housing affordability and availability are significant concerns for youth.
- **Wildfire Aftermath (20%):** Emotional and environmental impact of the wildfires are a concern.
- **Roads and Infrastructure (10%):** The condition of roads (e.g., potholes, construction) and the lack of proper infrastructure, including limited sports facilities.
- **Tourism and Lack of Privacy (5%):** Large number of tourists creates congestion, with some youth feeling that tourists disrupt daily life and contribute to safety concerns. Some youth also expressed lack of privacy in town.
- **Price and Cost of Living (5%):** High prices for goods and services are often noted as a challenge for youth.
- **Limited Opportunities for Youth (5%):** Frustration about the lack of opportunities for personal development, jobs, and extracurricular activities.

What would make Jasper better? (children and youth responses)



- **Entertainment and Recreational Facilities (30%):** Create more places to hang out and more activities (such as a movie theatre, bowling alley and more sports facilities) and outdoor recreational spaces.
- **Retail and Commercial Development (25%):** Support more retail stores, including a mall or shopping centre.
- **Youth Spaces and Social Opportunities (20%):** Create spaces dedicated to youth activities, such as hangout spots, indoor recreation areas, and places to relax or socialize.
- **Youth-Oriented Programs and Clubs (15%):** Offer more structured programs or clubs that focus on youth engagement.
- **Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (5%):** Improve infrastructure, such as bike lanes and fixing the roads.
- **Environment and Outdoor Spaces (5%):** Youth would like to see more green spaces, including parks, shaded areas, and natural outdoor recreational spots.

MOTION ACTION LIST

SHORT TITLE	REQUESTED (DATE)	RESPONSIBLE (WHO)	COUNCIL MOTION (DESCRIPTION)	TARGET (DATE)	STATUS
Jasper Skatepark Committee	March 19, 2024	CAO and Director of Finance & Administration	That Council authorize, in principle, interim financing to the Jasper Skatepark Committee, not to exceed \$150,000, with loan details to be presented to Council following completion of the Skatepark construction.	August 2025	
Parcel CH Access Road & Spruce Avenue Development Tender Award	September 17, 2024	CAO	That Council direct Administration to initiate a Local Improvement Bylaw process to recover the servicing costs the Parcel CH Access Road from benefitting adjacent parcels.	July 2025	Recommended to be deferred to September 2025
Transit Bus RFP	November 19, 2024	CAO	That Council direct Administration to reissue an RFP in spring of 2025 for the procurement of electric buses and/or any other viable zero emission options.	December 2025	
Recovery Advisory Committee Recommendations	March 11, 2025	Director of Recovery	That Committee direct Administration gather input on the triparty Jasper Recovery Plan from the Recovery Advisory Committee and return to a future meeting.	July 2025	Recommended to be removed
Grande Yellowhead Public School Division Joint Agreement	March 18, 2025	Director of Community Development	That Council direct Administration to bring an update to a future meeting on a joint agreement with the Grande Yellowhead Public School Division.	July 2025	Recommended to be removed
Jasper Artists Guild Lease	April 22, 2025	CAO	That Committee refer the correspondence from the Jasper Artists Guild to Administration for a report back at a future Committee of the Whole meeting.	November 2025	
2026 Budget	May 20, 2025	CAO and Director of Finance & Administration	That Council direct Administration to incorporate increased non-property tax revenue into the development of the 2026 budget.	November 2025	

Taxation Workshop	May 20, 2025	CAO and Director of Finance & Administration	That Council direct Administration to set up a workshop to look at the residential/business taxation split.	August 2025	
Correspondence – Congestion at Fuel Stations	June 17, 2025	CAO	That Council direct Administration to gather direction from a traffic engineering firm for dealing with the congestion issues at the open fuel stations in town.	July 2025	Recommended to be removed
Health & Safety Policy E-109	June 24, 2025	CAO	That Committee direct Administration to revise Policy E-109 and return to a future Committee meeting.	August 2025	
Advertising Bylaw 2025	June 24, 2025	CAO and Director of Protective & Legislative Services	That Committee direct Administration to return to the August 5th Public Hearing with proposed amendments based on an email distribution list to be subscribed by local residents or groups.	August 2025	