



FEATURED:

RMA Launches “Losing Bet” – A Charitable Gaming Campaign

RMA is concerned about the inequities faced by rural organizations through the current charitable gaming model. That is why we are launching “Losing Bet,” a campaign that will call on the Government of Alberta to make changes to the charitable gaming model to address the inequities that currently exist. “Losing Bet” will equip RMA members with the tools necessary to understand and advocate for changes to the charitable gaming model.

[Learn more...](#)

MEMBER BULLETINS

Member bulletins are posted to RMAAlberta.com regularly each week. Below is a list of all the member bulletins compiled from the past week.

Monthly Resolution Update – January 2025

The Monthly Resolution Update Bulletin is a way of routinely highlighting a selection of the over 70 currently active resolutions, offering members a more detailed insight into the work being carried out on their behalf. The January 2025 edition of the Monthly Resolution Update Bulletin is now available.

[Learn more...](#)



AGRICULTURE UPDATE

Moisture Situation Update -
January 15, 2025

REMINDERS

RMA Releases Police Funding Model Member Resource

The RMA has released a new resource to equip members with the tools necessary to begin understanding and advocating for changes to the Police Funding Model. The PFM Member Resource is intended to prepare RMA members for future PFM engagements.

[Learn more...](#)

Launch of Educational Campaign for Albertans Considering Running for Municipal Office

RMA and ABmunis are partnering to offer educational resources and other learning opportunities to those considering running for elected office in the upcoming municipal election. These resources provide prospective candidates and Albertans at-large with a comprehensive and authentic introduction to municipal service, highlighting everything from daily responsibilities and the role of municipal elected officials, to how to run for office.

[Learn more...](#)

Plan Ahead for EOEP's Munis 101 Course

The Elected Officials Education Program will be offering Munis 101 following the municipal election to fulfill the new elected official training requirements. Munis 101: Essential Training for Alberta's Elected Officials is designed to help municipal elected officials meet the updated legislative requirements and gain the essential knowledge needed to serve their communities effectively.

[Learn more...](#)

Electronic Monitoring Program Introduced

JOB POSTINGS

Big Lakes County
Fire Captain

County of Wetaskiwin
Development Planner

County of Forty Mile
Infrastructure Manager

City of Leduc
Safety Codes Officer

Strathcona County
Senior Internal Control Advisor

Special Areas Board
Equipment Operator II-III

Municipal District of Wainwright
Road Stabilization/Oiling Foreman

[VIEW OUR JOB BOARD](#)

LOOKING FOR INFORMATION FROM A PREVIOUS ISSUE?

View our [Contact newsletter archive](#) or our [member bulletin archive](#).

Learn more about the key issues facing rural Alberta by reading our [position statements](#).

On January 15, 2025, the Government of Alberta announced the start of a new provincial ankle bracelet monitoring program in response to issues with the current bail system. The program will allow courts to order individuals deemed 'high-risk repeat offenders' to be monitored with limitations placed on where they can and cannot go. Individuals with bail conditions have certain limitations placed on where they can and cannot go. This will increase surveillance to 24/7 electronic monitoring.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SMR Canada Summit – March 4-5, 2025

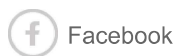
Strathcona County, Parkland County, and Alberta's Industrial Heartland, is proud to co-host the SMR Canada Summit on March 4-5, 2025, in Strathcona County. This premier event will bring together 500 delegates from municipalities, utilities, provincial governments, technology suppliers, NGOs, and academia to explore the opportunities and challenges of developing nuclear projects in Western Canada. For more information and to register, visit www.smrcanada.com.

MCCAC Updates

- **Coalhurst Advances Energy Efficiency with CEC Program:** The Town of Coalhurst is taking action on energy efficiency! Through the Community Energy Conservation (CEC) program, Coalhurst secured \$36,000 in grants to upgrade heating and lighting systems at the Coalhurst Community Centre and a Public Works facility. These improvements are expected to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, with a 58% reduction at the Public Works building and 31% at the Community Centre, demonstrating the power of smart energy investments. Find out more about Coalhurst's success and see how your municipality can benefit from the CEC program. **Learn more.**

IN THE NEWS

- **Refocusing continuing care for the future**
- **Expanding Connect Care access for paramedics**
- **Increasing access to affordable child care**
- **Mapping groundwater in southern Alberta**
- **Parks Canada to provide Jasper, Alta., with total of 320 interim housing units**
- **Alberta rolling out new child-care funding formula to make \$15 per day the flat rate**
- **Residents pick up province's property tax tab, municipalities say**
- **Alberta launches new fast-track permit process**



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Source URL: rmalberta.com/news/rma-launches-losing-bet-a-charitable-gaming-campaign/

RMA Launches “Losing Bet” – A Charitable Gaming Campaign

Posted on: January 30, 2025

“Losing Bet” will equip RMA members with the tools necessary to understand and advocate for changes to the charitable gaming model.

RMA is concerned about the inequities faced by rural organizations through the current charitable gaming model. Despite many years of advocacy from RMA and other rural stakeholders, the Government of Alberta has taken no action to ensure gaming funds are distributed equitably to charitable organizations across the province.

RMA is not backing down from this issue. That is why RMA is launching “**Losing Bet** (<https://rmalberta.com/advocacy/rmas-charitable-gaming-resources/>),” a campaign that will call on the Government of Alberta to make changes to the charitable gaming model to address the inequities that currently exist.

“Losing Bet” will feature information sheets, resources, and a final report that will equip members and rural organizations with an understanding of how the charitable system works and how to advocate for change.

This campaign is in response to **Resolution 12-23S** (<https://rmalberta.com/resolutions/12-23s-casino-opportunities-for-charitable-organizations/>): Casino Opportunities for Charitable Organizations, which calls for equity to all charitable organizations in Alberta, by addressing the disparity between the funding provided, and the frequency of casino opportunities available to

charitable organizations in major urban centers compared with those in rural communities. To follow along with this campaign, please visit the **RMA's Charitable Gaming Resources webpage** (<https://rmaalberta.com/advocacy/rmas-charitable-gaming-resources/>) and subscribe to the **RMA's Contact Newsletter** (<https://rmaalberta.com/advocacy/contact-newsletter/>) to stay up to date with the release of further information!

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Source URL: rmalberta.com/news/monthly-resolution-update-january-2025/

Monthly Resolution Update – January 2025

Posted on: January 30, 2025



To improve reporting on resolution advocacy, the RMA is releasing a monthly bulletin highlighting recent actions undertaken on select active resolutions.

The Monthly Resolution Update Bulletin is a way of routinely highlighting a selection of the over 70 currently active resolutions, offering members a more detailed insight into the work being carried out on their behalf. For the latest formal statuses and reactions to all resolutions, view the RMA's **Resolutions Database** (<https://rmalberta.com/advocacy/resolutions/resolutions-database/>).

The January 2025 edition of the Monthly Resolution Update Bulletin features the following resolutions:

Resolution 7-22F: Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF) Reform (<https://rmalberta.com/resolutions/7-22f-intermunicipal-collaboration-framework-reform/>)

Resolution 7-22F calls on the Government of Alberta to define “core municipal services” for the purposes of ICFs, as well as mandate that municipalities present verifiable costs to justify cost sharing for these core services. A related resolution, **Resolution ER1-23F: Limiting Third-party Services in ICF Agreements** (<https://rmalberta.com/resolutions/er1-23f-limiting-third-party-services-in-icf-agreements/>), calls on the Government of Alberta to exclude third-party services from ICFs and limit funding demands from urban municipalities’ independent decisions.

Municipal Affairs has indicated that amendments to the Municipal Government Act (MGA) pertaining to ICFs are expected to be introduced in the Spring 2025 session of the Legislature. These amendments are likely to impact municipalities that are either renegotiating their ICFs or will be required to do so in the near future due to specific renegotiation timelines agreed to within individual ICFs. In contemplation of future amendments to the MGA, Ministerial Order No. 024/23 extended the period for renegotiating ICFs from five years per s. 708.32(1) of the MGA to seven years from the date on which initial ICFs were finalized. For more information, please see RMA's **update regarding ICF renegotiation timelines** (<https://rmalberta.com/news/government-of-alberta-contemplates-legislative-changes-affecting-intermunicipal-collaboration-frameworks/>).

In January 2025, Municipal Affairs began consulting with both RMA and ABmunis regarding potential legislative amendments that will impact the renegotiations of ICFs. RMA is pleased that the Government of Alberta is consulting with Alberta's municipal associations on this important topic and will continue to advocate for the rural municipal perspective and the changes contemplated by both Resolution 7-22F and Resolution ER1-23F.

Resolution 2-22S: Negative Impact of Carbon Tax on Rural Albertans (<https://rmalberta.com/resolutions/2-22s-negative-impact-of-carbon-tax-on-rural-albertans/>) & **Resolution 16-22F: Exemption of Natural Gas and Propane for Agriculture Under the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act** (<https://rmalberta.com/resolutions/16-22f-exemption-of-natural-gas-and-propane-for-agriculture-under-the-greenhouse-gas-pollution-pricing-act/>)

Resolution 2-22S calls attention to the potential negative impacts of the Carbon Tax (Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act) to rural Alberta by charging the RMA with producing an economic impact analysis report and urging the Government of Canada to amend the Act. The impact analysis, **available to read here on RMA's website** (<https://rmalberta.com/reports-toolkits/rma-carbon-tax-report/>), examined impacts to municipalities, households and industry viability in rural Alberta. Although part of this resolution was fulfilled through the creation of this report, the federal government has not responded to either the resolution or the report. Resolution 2-22S was assigned a status of Accepted in Part and expires in April 2025.

A related resolution, 16-22F, calls for amendments to the *Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act* to allow fuel exemptions for agricultural producers. Bill C-234, an act to amend the *Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act*, passed third reading in the Senate

on December 12, 2023. Although it has yet to receive royal assent, the bill was passed by the Senate with amendments but is yet to be passed as amended by the House of Commons. The proposed amendments to the bill seek to remove clauses that would exempt carbon taxes from propane and natural gas used to heat or cool barns and livestock buildings and dry grain – extending the carbon tax exemptions available to farmers on gasoline and diesel. If this bill is passed with the proposed amendments, farmers and ranchers would no longer have such exemptions and would incur additional costs to maintain their livestock and/or crops. This resolution is assigned a status of Intent Not Met and expires in December 2025.

RMA will continue to look for updates on the status of Bill C-234 and will continue advocating on the issues presented in both resolutions.

Resolution 17-23F: Sustainable Community Hospice Funding Model
(<https://rmalberta.com/resolutions/17-23f-sustainable-community-hospice-funding-model/>)

Resolution 17-23F calls on the Government of Alberta to implement a sustainable operational funding model for hospice services provided by community hospice societies across the province. At the time of writing, end of life care is provided in a range of settings that include hospitals, long term care facilities, free standing hospices, and homes. Clinical end-of life care may be funded through agreements with Alberta Health Services, however, most of the services offered by community hospice societies are funded through donations and one-off grants. Community hospice societies across the province provide an array of end-of-life services that include clinical care and grief and bereavement programs that support individuals and their families.

RMA began work on this resolution with ABmunis, who has an identical resolution. RMA and ABmunis sent a list of jointly developed principles intended to guide the creation of a sustainable community hospice society to the Health Minister. RMA learned more about the work community hospice societies do in the province from the Alberta Hospice Palliative Care Association as they represent community hospice societies across the province. In December 2024, RMA released a report making a case to the provincial government for why a sustainable funding model is needed. The report provided recommendations on how to create this funding model and highlighted how end-of-life care is less resourced in rural Alberta. **Read the report here (<https://rmalberta.com/reports-toolkits/end-of-life-care-in-rural-alberta-the-case-for-a-sustainable-community-hospice-funding-model/>).**

RMA awaits the Government of Alberta's response to the report, which has generated **positive attention in the media**

(<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/alberta-rural-hospice-end-of-life-health-care-supports-1.7422832>). RMA will continue to advocate on this resolution.

Stay tuned for future editions of the Monthly Resolution Update Bulletin, where RMA will continue to feature updates on selected resolutions.

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