



FEATURED:

RMA Releases Data Centre Resource for Members

To assist members in navigating the emerging data centre industry, RMA has developed a member resource that summarizes the policy and legislative landscape from December 2024 through March 2026 and supports members in making informed decisions about projects in their municipalities.

[Access the RMA Data Centre Primer...](#)

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.

Alberta Nuclear Energy Engagement and Advisory Panel Report Released

On April 22, 2026, the GoA released the Nuclear Energy Engagement and Advisory Panel's final report. The report reflects many of the considerations that the RMA raised during engagement.

[Learn more...](#)



RMA Assigns Status to One Fall 2025 Resolution

The RMA has assigned a status to one Fall 2025 resolution which has received an initial response from government: 6-25F - Increased Enforcement in Rural Alberta to Deter Rural Crime.

[Learn more...](#)

ARMA Grant Programs 2026-27

The Alberta Recycling Management Authority (ARMA) is accepting applications for grant programs to help advance recycling and sustainability in communities across Alberta. RMA encourages members to apply to these programs as needed.

[Learn more...](#)

Guidance from OIPC to Assist Rural Municipalities in Developing Privacy Management Programs

The Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC) of Alberta has announced the release of two new resources to help public bodies to establish and implement the privacy management programs (PMPs) required by Alberta's Protection of Privacy Act (POPA) and Protection of Privacy (Ministerial) Regulation.

[Learn more...](#)

AER Updates to Closure Nomination

The Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) has published changes that include updates to Closure Nomination (CN), including reduced timelines for closure activities, and introduces the Licensee Management Program and Inventory Reduction Program.

[Learn more...](#)

Municipal Campgrounds: Risk Management Best Practices

Moisture Situation Update
March 27, 2026

JOB POSTINGS

Tributary Public Risk & Canoe
Benefits

**Administrative Coordinator
(Calgary)**

Canoe Procurement Group of
Canada

**Member Outreach
Representative (AB & BC)**

Sturgeon County
Intergovernmental Analyst

Parkland County
**Senior Information
Technology Project Manager**

Beaver County
**Finance Assistant –
Corporate Services**

Strathcona County
Court Liaison Officer

Lac La Biche County
Executive Assistant to CAO

Yellowhead County
**Manager of Engineering
Services**

VIEW OUR JOB BOARD

**LOOKING FOR
INFORMATION FROM
A PREVIOUS ISSUE?**

View our **Contact newsletter
archive** or our **member
bulletin archive**.

Campground operations introduce a range of risks, including public safety concerns, liability exposure, environmental impacts, wildfire risk, and operational pressures. This bulletin highlights key risk management considerations and practical steps municipalities can take to reduce exposure.

[Learn more...](#)

Learn more about the key issues facing rural Alberta by reading our **position statements**.



RMA provides legislative updates while the Government of Alberta is in session. **VIEW THE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 20-24.**

[Forward to friend](#)

[Share on Twitter](#)

[Share on Facebook](#)

REMINDERS

RMA Releases In-Depth Bill 28 Analysis and Announces Member Webinar

RMA provides an in-depth review of Bill 28, including key concerns and opportunities for member engagement via a **webinar taking place April 29, 2026.**

[Access the full analysis and register for the webinar...](#)

Cemetery Risk Management: Best Practices

Municipal cemeteries are dynamic workplaces where maintaining grounds, managing burials, operating heavy equipment, and preventing unauthorized access require careful planning and deliberate procedures. The team at

RMA Insurance has laid out best practices in their latest bulletin.

Learn more...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2026 Stars of Alberta Volunteer Awards: Nominations Now Open!

- The Stars of Alberta Volunteer Awards celebrate the extraordinary contributions of individuals whose time, energy, and commitment to service is strengthening our communities and making a meaningful difference in the lives of others. This year's nomination period for the Stars of Alberta Volunteer Awards opened April 20, during National Volunteer Week and remain open until June 30th. **Learn more and nominate someone from your community.**

belairdirect Preferred Member Rates for Home Insurance

- RMA members have access to preferred rates on home insurance through belairdirect! Utilize RMA's group ID code for:
 - Preferred rates & interest free monthly payments
 - Exclusives for Rural Municipalities of Alberta members such as our Affinity Plus Endorsement, built in critical illness coverage, identify theft coverage, and much more
 - Use of the industry leading digital and mobile Insurance application
 - Access to the claims handling of the largest Property & Casualty organization in Canada.
- Get your quote today with our **group ID code RURAL** at **belairdirect.com/savings**. Or call 1-866-423-5247.

Elected Officials Education Program (EOEP) Upcoming Courses

- EOEP equips municipal leaders with the knowledge and skills required under the Municipal Government Act (MGA) to govern effectively, lead strategically, and serve their communities with confidence. **Learn more and register.**
- **Expand Your Knowledge on Public Engagement**
How much should you engage your residents for input and how should you do it? This course will offer tips, help you strengthen transparency and incorporate public input into council decision-making.
 - Date: May 6 | May 13 | May 20, 2026 (must attend all three sessions)
 - Time: 9:00 – 11:30 am
 - Location: Online
 - Cost: \$295

IN THE NEWS

- **Turning Alberta innovation into economic gold: Government of Alberta**
 - **New website for fall referendum: Government of Alberta**
 - **Alberta permanent daylight time: Province tables bill**
 - **After more than two decades, Alberta Water Council prepares to shut down, citing funding cuts**
 - **Hive hopes: Northern Alberta beekeepers optimistic after years of low honey yields**
 - **Study shows pressures grizzly bears face navigating human developments**
 - **Canadian farmers forced to gamble with high fuel, fertilizer costs amid Middle East war**
 - **Water shortage advisory remains in place on Battle River watersheds**
-



Our mailing address is:

2510 Sparrow Drive
Nisku, AB T9E 8N5

You are receiving this email because you are subscribed to the RMA Contact newsletter.

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

Source URL: rmalberta.com/news/rma-releases-data-centre-resource-for-members/

RMA Releases Data Centre Resource for Members

Posted on: April 24, 2026



Following the release of Alberta's **Artificial Intelligence Data Centre Strategy** (<https://www.alberta.ca/artificial-intelligence-data-centres-strategy>) in December 2024, there have been significant legislative and policy changes related to property assessment, taxation, electricity policy, and other areas that directly affect the data centre sector.

Given the scope and pace of the changes, many RMA members have questions and are seeking general guidance on data centre developments within their municipalities.

To assist members in navigating this emerging industry, RMA has developed a member resource that summarizes the policy and legislative landscape from December 2024 through March 2026 and supports members in making informed decisions about projects in their municipalities.

RMA's **Data Centre Primer** (<https://rmalberta.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/RMA-Data-Centre-Member-Resource.pdf>) provides an overview of the recent changes and decisions impacting the data centre landscape including legislative amendments, electricity availability, water usage considerations, municipal assessment implications, and the Data Centre Computing Equipment Levy.

Given that the legislative and policy landscape regarding data centres has been in near constant flux for the past 18 months and further changes are likely, RMA's Data Centre Primer will be periodically updated to reflect the current state of affairs and ensure members have access to timely, accurate information.

Access the RMA Data Centre Primer (<https://rmalberta.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/RMA-Data-Centre-Member-Resource.pdf>)

Joseph Kay

Policy Advisor

587.689.5484

joseph@rmalberta.com (mailto:joseph@rmalberta.com)

Warren Noga

Manager of Policy and Research

825.319.2285

warren@rmalberta.com (mailto:warren@rmalberta.com)

Source URL: rmalberta.com/news/alberta-nuclear-energy-engagement-and-advisory-panel-report-released/

Alberta Nuclear Energy Engagement and Advisory Panel Report released

Posted on: April 24, 2026



On April 22, 2026, the Government of Alberta released the **Nuclear Energy Engagement and Advisory Panel's final report** (<https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/f493e82f-2e8b-471f-87d8-4327b53bf5d8/resource/f0f53aec-cd37-4fca-a686-d00d264d0cc3/download/au-alberta-nuclear-energy-engagement-panel-report-2026-04.pdf>). The Panel was asked to advise Alberta's government about its potential role in advancing a nuclear energy industry in the province, including identifying opportunities, concerns that should be managed, and potential conditions that will increase public confidence and support for safe, cost-effective, and community-supported nuclear energy development. The final report included six recommendations centred around seven main themes:

- Public Awareness and Education
- Economic and Community Impacts
- Safety, Radiation and Emergency Response
- Nuclear Waste Management
- Environment and Water

- Participation and Influence in Decision-making
- Market Readiness and Financial Considerations

The report reflects many of the considerations that the RMA raised during engagement around enhancing public understanding of nuclear energy, role clarity in decision-making, strengthening emergency planning and response, and supporting meaningful participation by municipalities in project review processes.

RMA wants to ensure that rural municipalities have the funding, capability and resources needed to navigate the provincial and federal requirements associated with nuclear energy development from design through to decommissioning. While the Panel recommends that the Government of Alberta assess and clarify what resources are needed to build the capacity of municipalities to support participation in assessment and decision-making processes, it is not clear if and how this will be actioned. RMA will continue to monitor implementation of the Panel's recommendations and advocate for dedicated funding and technical support to build municipal capability and resources.

For more information visit: **Government of Alberta – Nuclear energy engagement** (<https://www.alberta.ca/nuclear-energy-engagement>)

Briana Yee

Policy Advisor

825.319.2417

briana@RMAAlberta.com (mailto:briana@RMAAlberta.com)

Warren Noga

Manager of Policy and Research

825.319.2285

[warren@RMAAlberta.com](mailto:warren@rmaalberta.com) (mailto:warren@rmaalberta.com)

Source URL: rmalberta.com/news/rma-assigns-statuses-to-one-fall-2025-resolutions/

RMA Assigns Status to One Fall 2025 Resolution

Posted on: April 24, 2026



The RMA has assigned a status to one Fall 2025 resolution which has received an initial response from government.

Immediately after resolutions are endorsed by RMA members, the RMA sends them to the relevant provincial or federal ministries or organizations for their initial response. Based on the response received, the RMA assigns the resolution a status and drafts an initial reaction.

RMA updates the **resolutions database** (<https://rmalberta.com/advocacy/resolutions/resolutions-database/>) and issues bulletins with updates as responses are received. RMA has recently received responses to one member resolution passed at the 2025 Fall Convention.

Given this response, RMA has drafted an initial reaction to the following resolution. The government responses, statuses, and the RMA reactions can be viewed for each resolution on the **RMA resolutions database** (<https://rmalberta.com/advocacy/resolutions/resolutions-database/>):

| | |
|---|---|
| 6-25F (https://rmalberta.com/resolutions/6-25f-increased-enforcement-in-rural-alberta-to-deter-rural-crime/) | Increased Enforcement in Rural Alberta to Deter Rural Crime |
|---|---|

Statuses and reactions to all other active resolutions including Fall 2025 resolutions will be included in the 2026 Resolution Status Update – Volume 1.

Bezawit Lemma

Policy and Research Analyst

825.319.2280

bezawit@RMAAlberta.com (mailto:bezawit@RMAAlberta.com)

Wyatt Skovron

General Manager of Policy and Advocacy

780.955.4096

wyatt@RMAAlberta.com (mailto:wyatt@RMAAlberta.com)

Source URL: rmalberta.com/news/arma-grant-programs-2026-27/

ARMA Grant Programs 2026-27

Posted on: April 24, 2026



The Alberta Recycling Management Authority (ARMA) is accepting applications for grant programs to help advance recycling and sustainability in communities across Alberta. RMA encourages members to apply to these programs as needed.

Tire Recycling Community Grant

The Tire Recycling Community Grant provides up to \$30,000 to help municipalities incorporate innovative, sustainable products made from Alberta recycled tires into public projects that benefit the community such as parks, pathways, community spaces and infrastructure. The application deadline for this grant is May 31, 2026.

Beyond-the-Bin Recycling Roundup Grant

The Beyond-the-Bin Recycling Roundup Grant provides funding for advertising and event-related expenses, helping municipalities organize Recycling Roundup Events where residents drop off old electronics, paint, tires, and used oil materials for recycling. The application deadline is March 31, 2027.

Used Oil Materials Support Grant

The Used Oil Materials Support Grant provides funding to improve how used oil, oil filters, and empty oil containers are managed at landfills, transfer stations, and recycling depots. Funding support is available for the development and delivery of used oil collection infrastructure on a 50/50 matching basis, up to \$15,000. The application deadline is March 31, 2027.

For more information and to apply visit: [albertarecycling.ca/initiatives/grant-programs](https://www.albertarecycling.ca/initiatives/grant-programs/) (<https://www.albertarecycling.ca/initiatives/grant-programs/>).

Briana Yee

Policy Advisor

825.319.2417

briana@RMAAlberta.com (mailto:briana@RMAAlberta.com)

Warren Noga

Manager of Policy and Research

825.319.2285

[warren@RMAAlberta.com](mailto:warren@rmaalberta.com) (mailto:warren@rmaalberta.com)

Source URL: rmalberta.com/news/guidance-from-oipc-to-assist-rural-municipalities-in-developing-privacy-management-programs/

Guidance from OIPC to Assist Rural Municipalities in Developing Privacy Management Programs

Posted on: April 24, 2026



The Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC) of Alberta has **announced (<https://oipc.ab.ca/office-of-the-alberta-information-and-privacy-commissioner-issues-guidance-to-assist-public-bodies-with-new-requirement-for-privacy-management-programs/>)** the release of two new resources to help public bodies to establish and implement the privacy management programs (PMPs) required by Alberta's *Protection of Privacy Act* (POPA) and Protection of Privacy (Ministerial) Regulation.

The legislation provided a one-year grace period for public bodies to establish and implement PMPs, which began when the legislation came into force in June 2025; this grace period is now coming to an end, and all public bodies must have fully developed PMPs in place by June 2026.

As all rural municipalities fall within the definition of public bodies under POPA, the OIPC's two resources are directly relevant to RMA members and are intended to help members understand how to develop a PMP and what the OIPC will be looking for when assessing public bodies' PMPs.

The first resource, **Guidance for Public Bodies in Developing Privacy Management Programs (<https://oipc.ab.ca/popa/pmp/guide/>)**, guides public bodies through the development of their PMPs and provides a useful checklist of PMP requirements,

including the enhanced requirements for public bodies that process sensitive or high volumes of personal information.

The second resource, **Guidance for Public Bodies when Contracting Service Providers (<https://oipc.ab.ca/popa/providers/guide/>)**, provides guidance for public bodies when contracting service providers, outlining how municipalities must account for both employee practices and the privacy obligations of any third-party vendors when developing their PMPs.

RMA encourages members to review the two resources to help ensure that their PMPs are effective and in compliance, as there are significant penalties established by POPA for public bodies who fail to comply with the legislation.

Joseph Kay

Policy Advisor

587.689.5484

joseph@rmalberta.com (mailto:joseph@rmalberta.com)

Warren Noga

Manager of Policy and Research

825.319.2285

warren@rmalberta.com (mailto:warren@rmalberta.com)

Source URL: [rmalberta.com/news/aer-updates-to-closure-nomination/](https://www.rmalberta.com/news/aer-updates-to-closure-nomination/)

AER Updates to Closure Nomination

Posted on: April 24, 2026



The Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) has published updates to **Directive 088: Licensee Life-Cycle Management** (<https://www.aer.ca/regulations-and-compliance-enforcement/rules-and-regulations/directives/directive-088>) and **Manual 023: Licensee Life-Cycle Management** (<https://static.aer.ca/prd/documents/manuals/Manual023.pdf>). These updates include changes to **Closure Nomination** (<https://www.aer.ca/regulations-and-compliance-enforcement/liability-management-programs/closure-nomination>) (CN), including reduced timelines for closure activities, and introduces the Licensee Management Program and Inventory Reduction Program.

Closure nomination is a component of the **Inventory Reduction Program** (<https://www.aer.ca/regulations-and-compliance-enforcement/liability-management-programs/inventory-reduction-program>). It enables eligible requestors to have a say in prioritizing sites for closure work. Municipalities are eligible to nominate wells or facilities situated on municipally owned land. Eligible requestors for municipalities are recognized representatives (e.g., chief elected official, councillor) who can be verified with documentation such as a letter.

RMA encourages members to review the reference documents below if there are sites they would like prioritized for closure work and which meet criteria under the *Oil and Gas Conservation Rules*.

- **Bulletin 2026-18** (<https://www.aer.ca/about-aer/media-centre/bulletins/bulletin-2026-18>)

- **Directive 088: Licensee Life-Cycle Management**
(<https://www.aer.ca/regulations-and-compliance-enforcement/rules-and-regulations/directives/directive-088>)
- **Manual 023: Licensee Life-Cycle Management**
(<https://static.aer.ca/prd/documents/manuals/Manual023.pdf>)
- **Closure Nomination** (<https://www.aer.ca/regulations-and-compliance-enforcement/liability-management-programs/closure-nomination/closure-nomination-dashboard>) webpage
- Closure Nomination **Eligibility Criteria** (<https://www.aer.ca/regulations-and-compliance-enforcement/liability-management-programs/closure-nomination/eligibility-criteria>)
- **Closure Nomination Form** (<https://www.aer.ca/regulations-and-compliance-enforcement/liability-management-programs/closure-nomination/submit-closure-nomination-form>)
- **Closure Nomination Dashboard** (<https://www.aer.ca/regulations-and-compliance-enforcement/liability-management-programs/closure-nomination/closure-nomination-dashboard>)
- Closure Nomination **information handout**
(https://static.aer.ca/prd/documents/liability/ClosureNomination_Handout.pdf)

If you have questions about Closure Nomination or any of the updates, please contact the AER at **closure.nomination@aer.ca** (**<mailto:closure.nomination@aer.ca>**).

Briana Yee

Policy Advisor

825.319.2417

briana@RMAAlberta.com (**<mailto:briana@RMAAlberta.com>**)

Warren Noga

Manager of Policy and Research

825.319.2285

[warren@RMAAlberta.com](mailto:warren@rmaalberta.com) (mailto:warren@rmaalberta.com)

Source URL: rmalberta.com/news/municipal-campgrounds-risk-management-best-practices/

Municipal Campgrounds: Risk Management Best Practices

Posted on: April 24, 2026



Municipal campgrounds provide vital recreational opportunities for residents and visitors while supporting local economies and community well-being. At the same time, campground operations introduce a range of risks, including public safety concerns, liability exposure, environmental impacts, wildfire risk, and operational pressures.

This bulletin highlights key risk management considerations and practical steps municipalities can take to reduce exposure, meet regulatory requirements, and support safe, sustainable campground operations.

Regulatory Compliance

A strong compliance framework is the foundation of effective risk management. Municipal campgrounds must meet applicable provincial requirements and ensure local bylaws align with those obligations. Non-compliance can result in fines, closures, or claims.

Key legislation commonly applies to campground operations, which includes:

- Public Health Act – covering potable water, sanitation, and food handling (if applicable),
- Safety Codes Act – covering building, plumbing, fire, and electrical codes),

- Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act – covering sewage, waste, and wetlands management,
- Occupational Health and Safety Act – covering staff training and first aid),
- Municipal Government Act – covering bylaws pertaining to safety, health, welfare, and public places.

Key Considerations for Local Bylaws:

- Enact or update park and campground bylaws covering:
 - Registration (such as a minimum age of 18 to rent, photo ID requirements)
 - Check-in and check-out times
 - Occupancy limits (for example: maximum 6-8 people per site, 1-2 vehicles or tents per unit)
 - Quiet hours (for example: 11 PM – 7AM)
 - Fire rules
 - Enforcement (primary renter liability).

Best Practices:

- Maintain a master site plan and ensure annual reviews of the plan.
- Obtain all required permits, such as fire permits and health inspections.
- Use the ACA Standards Manual as a voluntary benchmark for accredited-level operations, even if not a member camp.

Risk Tip: Conduct annual compliance audits with local health authorities, fire services, and Alberta Environment. Document everything from these audits for liability defence.

Safety & Emergency Preparedness

Protecting Lives and Reducing Liability

Campgrounds present higher exposure to slips and falls, fires, water hazards, wildlife encounters, and medical emergencies. Preparation and consistency are critical.

Emergency Planning

Municipalities should maintain a written emergency response plan covering wildfire, severe weather, medical incidents, lost persons, evacuations, and wildlife interactions. Plans should identify emergency contacts, communication procedures, muster points, and staff responsibilities, and be reviewed annually in coordination with emergency management partners such as the Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA).

Fire Prevention & Wildfire Mitigation

Fire prevention measures should comply with fire code requirements and local restrictions. This includes designated fire pits, approved fuel sources, burn permits where required, and compliance with provincial fire bans. Incorporating FireSmart principles such as vegetation thinning and defensible space can significantly reduce wildfire risk.

First Aid & Medical Preparedness

Campgrounds should be equipped with appropriate first aid supplies based on remoteness and occupancy. Staff should hold suitable first aid and CPR training, and incident documentation should be maintained in accordance with OHS requirements.

Signage & Site Controls

Clearly mark hazards, out-of-bounds areas (such as maintenance zones, cliffs, etc.), rules, and emergency exits. Clearly designate parking to prevent traffic conflicts.

Risk Tip: Complete pre-season inspections and regular site checks using standardized checklists. Ensure staff understand their duty of care, particularly when interacting with vulnerable users.

Health, Sanitation & Environmental Management

Poor sanitation or environmental practices increase the risk of illness, regulatory action, and reputational damage.

Water & Sanitation

Municipal campgrounds must provide safe drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities that meet provincial standards. Potable water systems should be regularly tested and maintained in accordance with applicable regulations, including

requirements for wells and distribution systems. Campgrounds should provide sufficient toilets, handwashing stations, and sewage disposal facilities based on site size and occupancy. All systems should comply with Public Health Act requirements and any approvals issued by Alberta Environment.

Waste Management

Implement effective garbage and recycling systems, as effective waste management reduces health risks, discourages wildlife encounters, and helps maintain clean, usable sites. Campers should be informed of proper disposal rules and encouraged to follow “Leave No Trace” principles.

Stormwater & Site Design

Poor drainage and site layout can lead to flooding, erosion, and unsafe site conditions. Campground design and maintenance should address stormwater management per municipal engineering guidelines.

Wildlife & Pest Control

Municipalities should educate campers on proper food storage and waste handling and enforce rules designed to reduce wildlife attraction. Signage and staff engagement can support compliance.

Risk Tip: Schedule regular facility cleaning and pest control. Where food services are offered, ensure required food handling permits are in place and staff hold appropriate certification.

Operational & Financial Best Practices

Strong operational practices help reduce risk, ensure revenue stability, control costs, and support positive user experiences.

Access & Booking:

Online reservation systems can help manage occupancy, track usage, support enforcement, and improve revenue predictability. Consider limit on stays (for example: 14–16 consecutive nights) to allow for maintenance and rotation.

Staffing & Training:

Campground staff should receive training in occupational health and safety, emergency response procedures, customer service, and risk awareness. Appropriate supervision levels should be maintained for all programs and activities.

Maintenance:

Establish tiered inspection and maintenance schedules (daily/weekly/monthly) for roads, campsites, utilities, and equipment. Ensure budgeting for seasonal preparation, snow removal and spring cleanup.

Accessibility & Sustainability:

Campground planning should include accessible sites and amenities that meet regulatory requirements. Incorporating low-impact design and sustainable practices can reduce long-term operational costs and environmental risk.

Risk Tip: Use camper feedback, incident reports, and enforcement trends to identify emerging risks and guide maintenance and operational improvements.

Quick-Start Checklist for Municipal Operators

- Complete an annual regulatory audit and site plan review
- Emergency plans are up-to-date and drills have been completed
- Fire and safety inspections are current
- Water quality has been tested and sanitation facilities are properly maintained
- Staff are trained and insured
- Clear signage and site controls are posted and bylaws are enforced
- Incident logs and maintenance records are up-to-date and complete

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

+

By applying these practices, municipalities can minimize risks, enhance user experiences, and protect public assets. For site-specific guidance, municipalities are encouraged to consult legal counsel or risk management professionals.

For more information please contact: **risk@rmainsurance.com**
(mailto:risk@rmainsurance.com)