



## FEATURED:

### RMA Releases Priorities and Expectations for Government Action on PTAS

RMA outlines clear expectations for how the province should advance implementation of the Property Tax Accountability Strategy. A copy of the brief attached to this bulletin has been provided to Minister Jean and Minister Williams.

[Learn more and access the priorities brief...](#)

---

## MEMBER BULLETINS

Member bulletins are posted to [RMAAlberta.com](http://RMAAlberta.com) regularly each week. Below is a list of all the member bulletins compiled from the past week.

### Municipal Agricultural Disasters

RMA would like to remind members of our Guide for Declaring Municipal Agricultural Disasters in Alberta. RMA's guide provides municipalities with information on what a municipal agricultural disaster declaration is and factors to consider when making a declaration.

[Learn more...](#)

Monthly Resolution Update – April 2026



To highlight reporting on resolution advocacy, the RMA releases a monthly bulletin highlighting recent actions undertaken on select active resolutions.

[Access the April 2026 update...](#)

## Call for Member Nominations for Building Sub-Council

The RMA is seeking member representation on the Safety Codes Council's Building Sub-Council. The RMA is seeking up to two nominees for the sub-council to be forwarded for consideration by the Safety Codes Council.

[Learn more...](#)

## RMA Webinar on Regional Advisory Councils

RMA is hosting a webinar on **May 26, 2026 from 12:30pm to 2:00pm** with Alberta Primary and Preventative Health Services to understand the role of Regional Advisory Councils.

[Learn more and register...](#)

## Rural Mental Health Network Webinar

The Rural Mental Health Network (RMHN) is hosting a webinar for rural municipalities to showcase their services and identify opportunities for collaboration. This webinar will occur **June 3, 2026, from 9:30am – 10:30am**.

[Learn more and register...](#)



## Moisture Situation Update April 24, 2026

### JOB POSTINGS

Leduc County

**Municipal Engineer**

Strathcona County

**Community Outreach  
Navigator**

County of St. Paul

**Regional Director, Planning  
& Development**

M.D. of Ranchland

**Municipal Treasurer**

Special Areas Board

**Admin Support III**

Parkland County

**Manager, Engineering  
Projects**

Beaver Emergency Services  
Commission

**Regional Emergency  
Manager**

Foothills County

**Senior Accountant**

[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

RMA provides legislative updates while the Government of Alberta is in session. **The week of April 27, 2026 was a constituency week.**

Alberta by reading  
our **position  
statements.**



**WIN 1 OF 12  
CASH PRIZES  
OF \$2,500\***



Simply scan the QR code and enter for your chance to win!

[belairdirect.com/2500giveaway](https://belairdirect.com/2500giveaway)

***belairdirect** is giving you a chance to win 1 of 12 cash prizes of \$2,500. Can't scan the QR code? It's still so easy to enter, simply visit:  
**[belairdirect.com/2500giveaway](https://belairdirect.com/2500giveaway)**.*

Forward to friend

Share on Twitter

Share on  
Facebook

---

## REMINDERS

### 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...](#)**

### 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

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...](#)

---

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Housing 101: Understanding Alberta's Community and Seniors Housing Systems

- Join the **Alberta Seniors and Community Housing Association (ASCHA)** for an upcoming Housing 101 webinar on June 15 at 2:00 PM. This session provides a clear, practical overview of Alberta's community and seniors housing systems, including roles across government, housing providers, and municipalities.

Participants will gain insight into how housing is delivered and funded across the continuum, including community housing, rent assistance, and seniors housing programs such as Seniors Lodges, Seniors Self-Contained (SSC) and continuing care. The session will also highlight the important role municipalities play in governance, funding, and local housing and support solutions.

This webinar is well-suited for elected officials, municipal staff, and anyone looking to strengthen their understanding of Alberta's housing landscape. No prior housing experience is required. **Register today.**

### 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

- **Building stronger local economies: Northern and Regional Economic Development program**
- **Government of Canada creates platform for Canada-wide flood risk awareness: Canada's Flood Risk Finder**
- **Alberta Energy Regulator orders MAGA Energy to suspend operations over 'failure to meet its commitments'**
- **Challenge filed about biased content on Alberta government's referendum website**
- **RDP expands Health Care Aide program to Camrose**
- **Alberta government to add four fast tracks to teacher certification**
- **Agriculture groups optimistic about proposed federal food and pesticide reform**
- **Alberta's Smith lauds new major Canada-U.S. oil pipeline permit, citing advocacy**



**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-priorities-and-expectations-for-government-action-on-ptas/](https://rmalberta.com/news/rma-releases-priorities-and-expectations-for-government-action-on-ptas/)

# RMA Releases Priorities and Expectations for Government Action on PTAS

Posted on: May 1, 2026



*RMA outlines clear expectations for how the province should advance implementation of the Property Tax Accountability Strategy*

RMA has released **Property Tax Accountability Strategy: RMA's Priorities and Expectations for Government Action (<https://rmalberta.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/04-27-26-PTAS-Implementation-Brief.pdf>)**, which outlines RMA's expectations for how the Government of Alberta should advance the implementation of the PTAS Final Report and its recommendations.

## Background

The PTAS process brought together the Government of Alberta, the Alberta Energy Regulator, and municipal and industry representatives to develop a coordinated approach to addressing unpaid oil and gas property taxes. With the PTAS Final Report complete, the next phase requires clear provincial leadership to move the Strategy into implementation. However, the issue of unpaid oil and gas property taxes continues to grow, and the government has not provided any updates or direction to RMA, municipalities, or the public since the PTAS Final Report was released in March, underscoring the need for timely provincial action.

Included in the document are several priority areas for government action, including:

- Establishing a coordinated implementation strategy
- Developing a monitoring and reporting framework
- Outlining how and when key stakeholders will be engaged
- Advancing early administrative improvements that do not require legislative or regulatory change

The document emphasizes the need for timely, transparent action to support municipal sustainability and reinforce accountability within Alberta's property tax system.

## Next Steps

RMA has provided a copy of **Property Tax Accountability Strategy: RMA's Priorities and Expectations for Government Action (<https://rmaalberta.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/04-27-26-PTAS-Implementation-Brief.pdf>)** to Minister Jean and Minister Williams. RMA expects a formal response from the Government of Alberta outlining how it intends to advance the implementation of the PTAS Final Report.

RMA will update members as soon as a government response is received and will continue to advocate for timely, coordinated action on this file.

### **Jared Shaigec**

*Policy Advisor*

825.319.2312

**[jared@RMAAlberta.com](mailto:jared@RMAAlberta.com) (mailto:jared@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-agricultural-disasters-2/](https://rmalberta.com/news/municipal-agricultural-disasters-2/)

# Municipal Agricultural Disasters

Posted on: May 1, 2026



*The RMA is once again tracking agricultural disasters declared by rural municipalities in 2026*

As we move into another busy season, RMA would like to remind members of our **Guide for Declaring Municipal Agricultural Disasters in Alberta** (<https://rmalberta.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/RMA-Guide-for-Declaring-Municipal-Agriculture-Disasters-Version-2.0.pdf>). RMA's guide provides municipalities with information on what a municipal agricultural disaster declaration is and factors to consider when making a declaration.

The Agricultural Financial Services Corporation AFSC is a provincial Crown corporation that provides farmers, agribusinesses, and other small businesses with loans, crop insurance, and farm income disaster assistance. AFSC provides information for municipalities considering an agricultural disaster declaration, which can be accessed on the **AFSC website** (<https://afsc.ca/>). More information can also be found on Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation's **website** (<https://www.alberta.ca/agriculture-and-irrigation.aspx>).

If your municipality makes a declaration, please forward a copy of the declaration to **briana@rmalberta.com** (<mailto:briana@rmalberta.com>) to allow RMA to track the number and location of declarations for advocacy purposes.

**Briana Yee**

*Policy Advisor*

825.319.2417

**Briana@rmalberta.com** (<mailto:Briana@rmalberta.com>)

**Warren Noga**

*Manager of Policy and Research*

825.319.2285

**[warren@rmalberta.com](mailto:warren@rmalberta.com) (mailto:warren@rmalberta.com)**

Source URL: [rmalberta.com/news/monthly-resolution-update-april-2026/](https://rmalberta.com/news/monthly-resolution-update-april-2026/)

# Monthly Resolution Update – April 2026

Posted on: May 1, 2026



*To highlight reporting on resolution advocacy, the RMA releases 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 April 2026 edition of the Monthly Resolution Update Bulletin features the following resolutions:

## Increased Centralization in Provincial Cabinet 2-23F and 5-24S

RMA members have historically – and with increasing pace – called upon the Government of Alberta (GOA) to work cooperatively with municipal governments. This is reflected in Resolutions **2-23F: Amendments to the Municipal Government Act** (<https://rmalberta.com/resolutions/2-23f-amendments-to-the-municipal-government-act-section-619/>) and **5-24S: Legislation Consultation with Municipalities** (<https://rmalberta.com/resolutions/5-24s-legislation-consultation-with-municipalities/>), among others. These resolutions highlight long-standing concerns about provincial regulators overriding municipal planning frameworks, inadequate consultation on legislation affecting municipal finances and responsibilities, and the need for the province to recognize the economic and administrative capacity of rural communities. Despite these

efforts, there is an ongoing trend for the GOA to continue to centralize decision-making authority and impose decisions on municipalities rather than meaningfully incorporate municipal input.

Bill 28 is emblematic of this trend. The Bill will likely increase administrative burdens while reducing municipal discretion over local developments. Amendments that expand provincial primacy over aggregate development, ministerial authority to override statutory plans, and new reporting and procedural requirements, will significantly limit municipalities' ability to tailor decisions to local conditions. Collectively, these developments prioritize uniformity and centralized authority over local expertise, community context, and long-term planning considerations.

RMA does not support provisions that increase provincial overreach and reduce local autonomy. Rural municipalities should retain the ability to make effective, locally informed decisions on development, governance, and service delivery without excessive provincial interference.

## **Resolution 5-23F: Municipal Involvement in Quasi-Judicial Agencies (<https://rmalberta.com/resolutions/5-23f-municipal-involvement-in-quasi-judicial-agencies/>)**

**Resolution 5-23F (<https://rmalberta.com/resolutions/5-23f-municipal-involvement-in-quasi-judicial-agencies/>)** follows several years of rural municipalities raising concerns about the engagement and approval processes of quasi-judicial agencies such as the AER, the NRCB and the AUC. The resolution calls for increased accountability, involvement and transparency for municipalities involved in project approval and hearing process across all provincial quasi-judicial agencies. These requests emerged from cases where local needs, public interest, and municipal development plans were not adequately considered by the AUC as part of the agency's approval process. Rural municipalities need to be meaningfully involved in engagement and approval processes as early as possible to help support municipal decision-making and informed land use planning.

Rural municipalities should also be involved in consultation processes seeking to change existing regulatory practices administered by quasi-judicial agencies. To that end, the AUC conducted an extensive consultation process through their review

of Rule 007. RMA is pleased to see that many of the outcomes of this consultation have resulted in regulatory changes that will benefit municipalities.

In February 2024, as part of the Rule 007 review, the minister of Affordability and Utilities requested that standardized setbacks for renewable energy infrastructure be implemented across the province. RMA previously **provided input** (<https://rmalberta.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/RMA-Submission-on-AUC-Rule-007-Blackline.pdf>) that setbacks are established locally, which should remain at the discretion of municipalities. The AUC recently conducted a **consultation** (<https://media.auc.ab.ca/prd-wp-uploads/News/2026/2026-04-07-Announcement.pdf>) on the proposed standardized setback distances. RMA's submission reiterated the position that setback distances should remain at a local authority's discretion and that the implementation of standardized setbacks minimize municipal autonomy. AUC approvals and changes to AUC processes should meaningfully account for local contexts so that developments and decisions remain within the public interest.

## **Resolution 2-24F: Increased Funding Support for Rural Family and Community Support Services Programs (<https://rmalberta.com/resolutions/2-24f-increased-funding-support-for-rural-family-and-community-support-services-programs/>)**

RMA members are seeking fair and reasonable FCSS funding that promotes and supports the availability of preventative social services for rural municipal residents. **Resolution 2-24F** (<https://rmalberta.com/resolutions/2-24f-increased-funding-support-for-rural-family-and-community-support-services-programs/>) calls on the GOA to increase funding to FCSS to keep up with population growth and inflation and reduce the requirement for municipal over-investment. RMA **released a report** (<https://rmalberta.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/RMA-Report-on-Family-and-Community-Support-Services-FINAL.pdf>) on the challenges that FCSS programs in rural Alberta are facing. RMA found that many rural municipalities contribute more than the required 20% and that since the closure of some GOA rural service offices, many rural residents have turned to FCSS as one of the few locally available support programs, further increasing the demand on FCSS programs. RMA continues to leverage findings and recommendations from this 2023 report, completed jointly with the University of Alberta's Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities.

RMA shared resolution 2-24F with Alberta Seniors, Community and Social Services, Alberta Health Services, and Alberta Children and Family Services. To date, including in Budget 2026-27, the GOA has not increased funding to support FCSS programming. In Budget 2026-27, \$105 million is allocated through FCSS to municipalities and Métis Settlements to develop and deliver preventive social services programming. In addition to joint advocacy ABMunis and the Family, Community, and Social Services Association of Alberta, RMA undertook additional research on transportation and navigation to learn more about preventative social programs that members may be funding in addition to FCSS. RMA will continue to advocate for increased funding for core FCSS operations.

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

**Warren Noga**

*Manager of Policy and Research*

825.319.2285

**[warren@rmalberta.com](mailto:warren@rmalberta.com) (mailto:warren@rmalberta.com)**

Source URL: [rmalberta.com/news/call-for-member-nominations-for-building-sub-council/?utm\\_source=Contact+Newsletter&utm\\_campaign=cb41469678-Contact\\_2025\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_ad7c2a0493-cb41469678-522955468](https://rmalberta.com/news/call-for-member-nominations-for-building-sub-council/?utm_source=Contact+Newsletter&utm_campaign=cb41469678-Contact_2025_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_ad7c2a0493-cb41469678-522955468)

# Call for Member Nominations for Building Sub-Council

Posted on: May 1, 2026



The RMA is seeking member representation on the Safety Codes Council's **Building Sub-Council** (<https://www.safetycodes.ab.ca/council-information/sub-council-information/building-sub-council/>). The RMA is seeking up to two nominees for the sub-council to be forwarded for consideration by the Safety Codes Council. Members who would like to be nominated for the sub-council should be experts in the discipline and actively engaged in the safety codes system. Sub-councils time commitments are 4-8 days' worth of time per year.

Please note, the positions can go to either elected or non-elected members of a municipality.

Within their disciplines, the technical sub-councils are responsible for the following:

- reviewing codes and standards for the built environment and providing
- recommendations to the President and CEO for consideration by the Board of Directors;
- providing technical advice related to certificates of competency and qualifications for

- master electricians and safety codes officers to the President and CEO for consideration
- by the Board of Directors;
- providing technical advice regarding standards for accreditation to the President and
- CEO for consideration by the Board of Directors;
- participating on working groups under the sub-council which may include researching
- and engaging with others; and
- other activities directed by the Board of Directors

As these are volunteer positions, members are not paid but the Safety Codes Council will reimburse its members for all expenses incurred. Per diems are paid by the nominating municipality. More details on the role are available in the position descriptions for the **Building Sub- Council. (<https://rmalberta.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/Sub-Council-Member-Position-Description.pdf>)**

The Council is an equal opportunity organization and values diversity of all kinds. For more information about the Safety Codes Council, please visit **[www.safetycodes.ab.ca](http://www.safetycodes.ab.ca) (<http://www.safetycodes.ab.ca/>)**.

Please forward your nominations to RMA Admin Coordinator Tammy Reil at **[tammyr@RMAAlberta.com](mailto:tammyr@RMAAlberta.com) (<mailto:tammyreil@RMAAlberta.com>)** by **May 27, 2026**.

**Tammy Reil**

*Admin Coordinator of Policy and Advocacy*

825-955-3639

**[tammyr@rmalberta.com](mailto:tammyr@rmalberta.com) (<mailto:tammyr@rmalberta.com>)**

Source URL: [rmalberta.com/news/rma-webinar-on-regional-advisory-councils/](https://rmalberta.com/news/rma-webinar-on-regional-advisory-councils/)

# RMA Webinar on Regional Advisory Councils

Posted on: May 1, 2026



*RMA is hosting a webinar with Alberta Primary and Preventative Health Services to understand the role of Regional Advisory Councils.*

**Regional Advisory Councils (<https://www.alberta.ca/regional-advisory-councils-health>) (RACs)** are intended to represent communities across the province to identify health care issues in their regions and explore potential solutions. There are 14 RACs across the province with representation from a wide range of backgrounds and diverse experiences. As the RACs mandate is to represent their communities' health care perspectives and unique needs, RMA sees immense value in creating meaningful connections between RACs and RMA members.

RMA is hosting a webinar on **May 26, 2026 from 12:30pm to 2:00pm** for members to learn more about RACs and how they can interact with rural communities. This webinar will be facilitated by **Chris Bourdeau**, Executive Director & Advisory Councils Secretariat with Alberta Primary and Preventative Health Services.

To register for this webinar, please **click here** (<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/d1cee7f3-60b6-4e4d-a7a8-37698db561ee@82b40ccb-1811-431a-969b-6fbde1867d74>).

**Kallie Wischoff**

*Policy Advisor*

825.319.2245

**[kallie@rmalberta.com](mailto:kallie@rmalberta.com) (mailto:kallie@rmalberta.com)**

**Warren Noga**

*Manager of Policy & Research*

825.391.2285

**[warren@rmalberta.com](mailto:warren@rmalberta.com) (mailto:warren@rmalberta.com)**

Source URL: [rimalberta.com/news/rural-mental-health-network-webinar/](https://rimalberta.com/news/rural-mental-health-network-webinar/)

# Rural Mental Health Network Webinar

Posted on: May 1, 2026



*The Rural Mental Health Network (RMHN) is hosting a webinar for rural municipalities to showcase their services and identify opportunities for collaboration.*

The Rural Mental Health Network (RMHN) is a province-wide initiative focused on strengthening mental health and well-being in rural Alberta through connection, collaboration, and community-led action. RMHN is not a direct service provider. Instead, it works alongside municipalities, nonprofit partners, and community leaders to amplify existing efforts, strengthen local capacity, and make it easier for rural communities to support mental health in ways that reflect their unique context.

The RMHN is hosting a webinar on **June 3, 2026, from 9:30am – 10:30am** to provide an overview of the network, examples of how rural communities are engaging, and dedicated time for discussion, questions, and shared learning. This webinar is designed for rural municipal elected officials, staff, and community partners who are interested in:

- Supporting community well-being and resilience
- Strengthening partnerships with local organizations and service providers
- Identifying practical ways municipalities can play a role in mental health

To register for this webinar, please **click here**

**([https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/HXDa9v\\_SRIS7Br2nlyPnyQ#/registration](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/HXDa9v_SRIS7Br2nlyPnyQ#/registration)).**

RMA members are acutely aware of the need for greater access to mental health support in their communities, as evident by **Resolution 6-23S** (<https://rmaalberta.com/resolutions/6-23s-rural-access-to-supports-for-addictions-homelessness-and-mental-health/>): Rural Access to Supports for Addictions, Homelessness, and Mental Health. RMA encourages members to engage with this webinar to learn about potential support for mental health initiatives in their municipality.

**Kallie Wischoff**

*Policy Advisor*

825.319.2245

**[kallie@rmaalberta.com](mailto:kallie@rmaalberta.com) (mailto:kallie@rmaalberta.com)**

**Warren Noga**

*Manager of Policy & Research*

825.391.2285

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