
REPORT NAME

Considerations related to the announcement by the Minister of Municipal Affairs regarding membership of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board

RECOMMENDATION

That Leduc County informs the Minister of Municipal Affairs that it is opting not to participate as a voluntary member of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board.

Options (if available):

None

IMPLICATIONS

Reason: The Government of Alberta has cut all funding to the EMRB beginning in 2025 and informed growth boards that membership will be now voluntary rather than mandatory.

Authority: (MGA section/bylaw/policy number): *Municipal Government Act, Part 17.1 – Growth Management Boards*

Amount of funding required: No request at this time, but there may be a requirement for new Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks (ICF) and Intermunicipal Development Plans (IDP) to be created.

Funding source: Grants may be available for ICF and IDP projects.

BACKGROUND

On November 22, 2024 the EMRB was informed by Minister of Municipal Affairs Ric McIver that the Government of Alberta will cut all funding to the EMRB beginning in Budget 2025. The Board was also informed that membership will be now voluntary rather than mandatory.

The EMRB has increased professional fees given anticipated legal and other potential costs to support Board discussions and workshops on next steps and/or securing specialized services as needed.

During the December 12, 2024 EMRB meeting, members went in camera to discuss four options. Reynolds Mirth Richards and Farmer (RMRF) provided a legal opinion of each of the options.

The EMRB has scheduled its next meeting for January 23, 2025 and Board Chair Gamble has encouraged member municipalities to hold their council discussions prior to that meeting.

Leduc County administration recommends that Council support this motion and advocates to the Minister for an option to repeal the regulation and dissolve the EMRB.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft letter to the Minister