



# Rural Multi-Jurisdictional Intermunicipal Development Plan Engagement Phase 2 - What We Heard Report

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## Project Overview

The project undertakes a collaborative approach to developing Intermunicipal Development Plans (IDPs) for the County of St. Paul, Lac La Biche County, Smoky Lake County, Municipal District (M.D.) of Bonnyville, County of Vermilion River, and County of Two Hills.

Together, these six municipalities share nine separate boundaries:

- County of St. Paul and M.D. of Bonnyville
- County of St. Paul and Lac La Biche County
- County of St. Paul and Smoky Lake County
- County of St. Paul and County of Two Hills
- County of St. Paul and County of Vermilion River
- Lac La Biche County and M.D. of Bonnyville
- Smoky Lake County and County of Two Hills
- County of Two Hills and County of Vermilion River
- Lac La Biche County and Smoky Lake County

Each IDP will include a main component and a supplementary component. The main component will include those sections common to all municipalities including governance and dispute resolution. The supplementary components of the IDP include those topic areas specific to the two municipalities in question. When finished, the project will satisfy recent changes to the Municipal Government Act that will require all municipalities with a shared border adopt an IDP.

## Engagement Overview

The project takes a multi-phase engagement approach as the team works through the process of developing the IDPs. The second phase of public engagement took place in April 2018 and worked to achieve the following objectives:

- Inform the community and affected stakeholders about what was heard through the first phase of engagement; and
- Collect feedback on the preliminary policy direction from the public.

The IAP2 Spectrum level for this phase of engagement was 'Consult' which obtains feedback on analysis, issues alternatives and decisions. It promises to listen to and acknowledge participant concerns. Input collected during this phase will help the project team develop the policy for the draft IDP.



The engagement strategy was designed to be inclusive to all parties that wanted to participate by providing multiple touch points for input. Opportunities to engage were offered both in-person and online. A project email and information for municipal contacts were also provided in the targeted stakeholder invitations and on each municipal website.

### **Public Open House**

A joint public open house was held at the County of St. Paul offices in St. Paul, Alberta on April 26, 2018 from 6 pm – 8 pm. Invitations were sent directly to targeted stakeholders within a half mile of the boundaries, all adjacent First Nations and Metis Settlements, and other identified stakeholder groups including recreation and industry representatives.

At the open house, information was distributed about the project and representatives from the municipalities were present to answer questions about what was heard in the first round of engagement and the IDP planning process. Open house panels (included as Appendix Four) presented information about what was heard in the first round of engagement and the preliminary policy direction developed out of round one engagement and background analysis. The panels asked participants if they agreed or disagreed with the policy direction and participants were directed to record their feedback about why they agreed or disagreed with the policy direction. Verbatim input collected at the open house is documented in Appendix One of this report.

An exit survey was provided to all open house participants. In general, participants felt very satisfied with the meetings, and that their voice was heard. The summarized results of this survey are included as Appendix Two.

12 members of the public attended the open house along with representatives from five of the municipalities.

### **Online Engagement**

An online questionnaire was open for stakeholder input from April 26 to May 9, 2018. The questionnaire was advertised in the open house invitations that were mailed and emailed to targeted stakeholders within a half mile of the boundaries, all adjacent First Nations and Metis Settlements, and other identified stakeholder groups including recreation and industry representatives. It was also advertised on each of the six municipal websites.

Questionnaire content mirrored the content and questions presented at the open house. It provided information about what was heard in the first round of engagement and the preliminary policy direction, asking participants if they agreed with the policy direction developed out of round one engagement and background analysis. If participants did not agree with the policy direction, they were asked why and what could be changed.

A total of 16 questionnaires were completed. The results of the questionnaire are documented in Appendix Three of this report.



## Communications Overview

An Engagement and Communications Plan was developed to strategically consult the community through the life of the project. The primary strategy in the second phase of project engagement was to communicate the opportunity for input to the general public, and to target specific stakeholders, primarily landowners whose property is within a half mile of the shared municipal boundary and would likely be directly affected by the development of an IDP. The invitation was also sent to all adjacent First Nations Band, Metis Settlements and other identified stakeholder groups such as recreation groups, and contacts from oil and gas industries.

## IDP Areas

The IDP areas are primarily rural consisting of agricultural, grazing, parks and protected lands. Some borders also contain waterbodies including lakes and rivers stretching over two separate watersheds. Some small residential settlements in places like Heinsburg, Lac Sante and Garner Lake also exist along or nearby the border areas.

## What We Asked

Both the in-person and online questionnaire targeted feedback on the following themes:

- Land use and referral area;
- Waterbodies and watershed management;
- Transportation and roads; and
- Recreation and tourism.

Each theme recapped what was heard through the first phase of engagement, provided the preliminary policy direction, and asked participants if they agreed or disagreed with the policy direction. If participants disagreed, they were asked why.

## What We Heard

Due to the nature of an IDP being a high level long-term plan, there was a relatively low level of interest in participating in the IDP stakeholder sessions and online survey. However, a range of input was heard across both platforms.

Generally, participants confirmed what was heard through round one engagement and provided support from the preliminary policy direction. Some of the main themes that we heard through participant comments were:

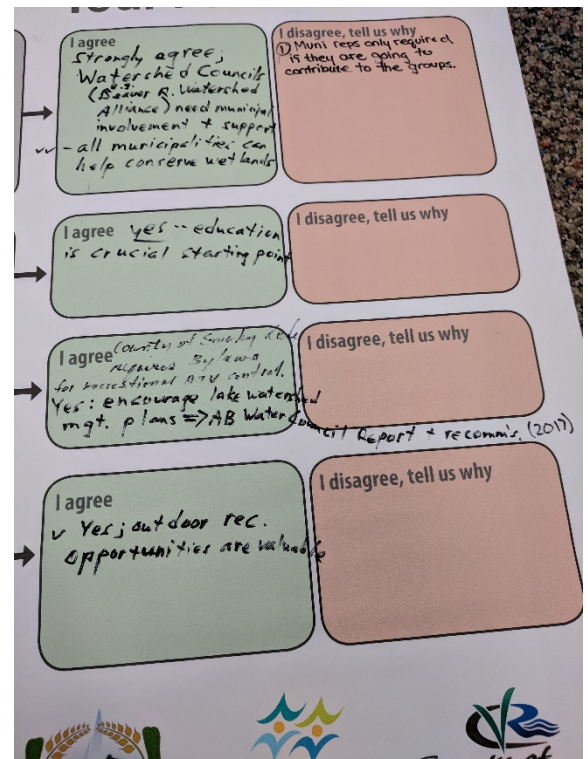


Figure 1: Open House Feedback on Waterbodies & Watershed Management



- Agreement that land uses within the IDP area are anticipated to remain the same and are generally rural in nature with an emphasis on preserving of agriculture and rural character.
- Agreement that municipalities should support watershed groups and collaborate on the topic of waterbodies and watershed management.
- Agreement that recreation assets like the Iron Horse Trail are an asset to the region and support for intermunicipal collaboration on the topic of recreation and tourism.
- Concern about the impacts of recreational vehicle use on the lakeshore and water quality at Garner Lake (within the Smoky Lake County and the County of St. Paul IDP area).
- Support for the distribution of education materials around the use of off road recreational vehicles, trails, and public lands.

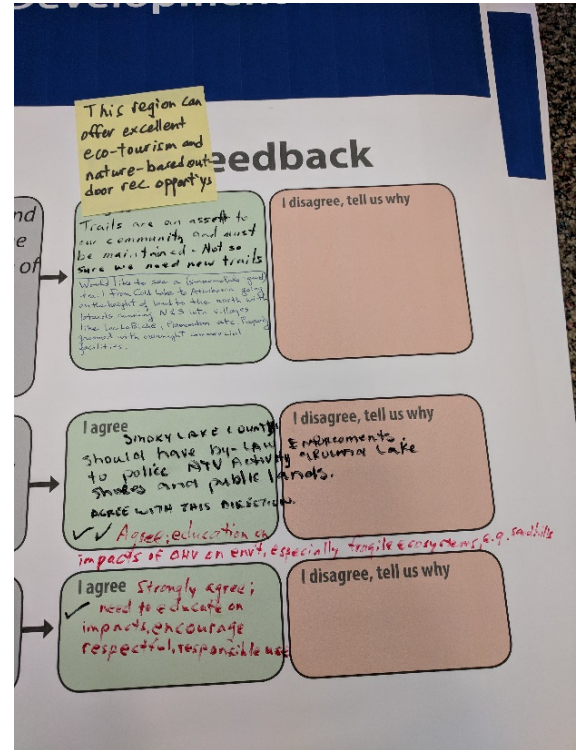


Figure 1: Open House Feedback on Recreation and Tourism



## Appendix One – Open House Feedback

### LAND USE & REFERRAL AREA

Information Provided		Participant Input	
What we heard	Policy Direction	Agree	Disagree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Future land use within the IDP boundary areas is not anticipated to change</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Policies will clearly state the importance of agricultural lands and promote the preservation of agricultural lands</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None</li></ul>

Information Provided		Participant Input	
What we heard	Policy Direction	Agree	Disagree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The boundary areas are rural in nature and are mostly used for agriculture</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Incorporate policies relating to the protection of agricultural land and preserving the rural character in the IDP boundary area</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None</li></ul>



## WATERBODIES & WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

Information Provided		Participant Input	
What we heard	Policy Direction	Agree	Disagree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concerns about water quality and the overall long-term health of waterbodies and local watersheds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support existing watershed groups in the region</li> <li>Continue to support watershed groups with appointed representative from each municipality</li> <li>Support existing local stewardship initiatives</li> <li>Explore participation with the County of Vermilion River as a Wetlands Mitigation Agency</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>

Information Provided		Participant Input	
What we heard	Policy Direction	Agree	Disagree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concerns about water quality and the overall long-term health of waterbodies and local watersheds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support existing watershed groups in the region</li> <li>Continue to support watershed groups with appointed representative from each municipality</li> <li>Support existing local stewardship initiatives</li> <li>Explore participation with the County of Vermilion River as a Wetlands Mitigation Agency</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strongly agree; watershed councils (e.g. Beaver R. Watershed Alliance) need municipal involvement and support.</li> <li>All municipalities can help conserve wetlands.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Municipal reps only required if they are going to contribute to the groups.</li> </ul>



Information Provided		Participant Input	
What we heard	Policy Direction	Agree	Disagree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concerns about development pressures and impacts to water quality of lake communities at Lac Sante and Garner Lake</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore the creation and distribution of consistent educational materials for users around waterbodies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes... education is a crucial starting point.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>

Information Provided		Participant Input	
What we heard	Policy Direction	Agree	Disagree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Motorized recreational use of lakes and along lakeshores has impacted water quality for some waterbodies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that statutory and non-statutory plans for lake areas are kept updated regarding best practices for lake management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>County of Smoky Lake requires bylaws for recreation ATV control.</li> <li>Yes: encourage lake watershed management plans <input type="checkbox"/> AB Water Council Report and recommendations (2017)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>

Information Provided		Participant Input	
What we heard	Policy Direction	Agree	Disagree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public access to the North Saskatchewan River is lacking and has limited access for both emergency services and recreational users</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore the creation of emergency access points to the North Saskatchewan River</li> <li>Explore the creation of public recreational access points where environmentally responsible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes; outdoor recreation opportunities are valued.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>



## TRANSPORTATION

Information Provided		Participant Input	
What we heard	Policy Direction	Agree	Disagree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Road ban restrictions for industrial vehicles on light duty roads vary between municipalities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage information sharing regarding transportation infrastructure best practices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>

Information Provided		Participant Input	
What we heard	Policy Direction	Agree	Disagree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Road upgrades and ongoing road maintenance is desirable across the region, especially on provincial roads</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote an efficient and cost effective regional transportation network</li> <li>Identify potential intermunicipal transportation projects to improve effectiveness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>

Information Provided		Participant Input	
What we heard	Policy Direction	Agree	Disagree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Road standards vary across the region</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore the opportunity for a joint committee with members of administration from each of the six municipalities to encourage discussion, information sharing and to discuss specific transportation projects that may impact adjacent municipalities</li> <li>Support one another in grant applications to the Province to encourage the creation of a uniform regional transportation network</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>





## RECREATION & TOURISM

Information Provided		Participant Input	
What we heard	Policy Direction	Agree	Disagree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recreational trails like the Iron Horse Trail are well loved and are considered a principle tourism attraction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support economic development opportunities and trail opportunities within the region, including the building of new trails, and ongoing maintenance of existing regional trails</li> <li>Explore potential collaborations with existing recreation and tourism groups to efficiently promote recreational tourism in the region</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This region can offer excellent eco-tourism and nature – based outdoor recreation opportunities.</li> <li>Trails are an asset to our community and must be maintained – not so sure we need new trails.</li> <li>Would like to see a (snowmobile-quad) trail from Cold Lake to Athabasca going on the height of land to the north with laterals running north and south into villages like Lac La Biche, Plamendon etc. Properly groomed with overnight commercial facilities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>

Information Provided		Participant Input	
What we heard	Policy Direction	Agree	Disagree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rules for and enforcement of off-highway vehicles (OHV's) varies between municipalities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to find efficiencies in bylaw enforcement through public education on recreational use near lakes and the exploration of shared bylaw services where appropriate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Smoky Lake County should have bylaw enforcements to police ATV activity around lake shores and public lands.</li> <li>Agree with this direction.</li> <li>Agree on education on impacts of OHV on environment, especially fragile ecosystems (e.g. sandhills).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>



Information Provided		Participant Input	
What we heard	Policy Direction	Agree	Disagree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Confusion around permissible activities on public lands across the region</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Encourage the production and distribution of educational materials on trail use, waterbody health, OHV regulations, and property ownership</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Strongly agree; need to educate on impacts, encourage respectful, responsible use.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None</li></ul>

Information Provided		Participant Input	
What we heard	Policy Direction	Agree	Disagree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Identifying heritage resources is important to protect these resources, and to promote regional tourism and cultural education</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Recognize and promote awareness of significant historic and cultural sites in the region</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Limited access to White Fish Lake.</li><li>This area is rich in heritage.</li><li>✓</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None</li></ul>

Information Provided		Participant Input	
What we heard	Policy Direction	Agree	Disagree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provincial restrictions on Walleye fishing has impacted tourism in the region</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Jointly advocating to the province on issues related to fishing to support tourism in the region</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None</li></ul>



## Appendix Two – Open House Exit Survey Summary

### 1. How satisfied were you with today’s session?

	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	N/A
Clarity of information provided	4			
Project team’s response to my questions	3			
Opportunity to provide input	2			
Opportunity to hear others	2		1	
Session location	2	3		
Session time	3	1		

### 2. Was the information presented today easy to understand?

Yes - 4

No - 0

### 3. How did you hear about this session? Please check all that apply.

Stakeholder invitation in the mail - 3

Municipal website - 1

My Councillor or Reeve - 0

Word of Mouth - 2

Other – 0

### 4. What worked for you about the session format and activities today? Is there anything we could do to make it better?

- Only one big problem – no representative from County of Smoky Lake. Ensure that county representation is compulsory.
- I appreciate the format of agreeing/disagreeing with previous feedback/input.
- Representation from my County.
- Having a Smoky Lake rep would have been nice.



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**5. Do you have any additional comments about the IDP or the project that you would like to share?**

- I feel that more information about ATV's on lake land should have been more of a priority.
- Limited access to Whitefish Lake. Shared road off highway 36 requires repair.



## Appendix Three - Online Questionnaire Summary

### LAND USE & REFERRAL AREA

Information Provided		Participant Input	
What we heard	Policy Direction	Agree	Disagree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Future land use within the IDP boundary areas is not anticipated to change</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Policies will clearly state the importance of agricultural lands and promote the preservation of agricultural lands</li></ul>	14	0

Information Provided		Participant Input	
What we heard	Policy Direction	Agree	Disagree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The boundary areas are rural in nature and are mostly used for agriculture</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Incorporate policies relating to the protection of agricultural land and preserving the rural character in the IDP boundary area</li></ul>	14	0



## WATERBODIES & WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

Information Provided		Participant Input	
What we heard	Policy Direction	Agree	Disagree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concerns about water quality and the overall long-term health of waterbodies and local watersheds</li> <li>Concerns about development pressures and impacts to water quality of lake communities at Lac Sante and Garner Lake Motorized recreational use of lakes and along lake shores has impacted water quality for some waterbodies</li> <li>Public access to the North Saskatchewan River is lacking and has limited access for both emergency services and recreational users</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incorporate policies relating to the protection of agricultural land and preserving the rural character in the IDP boundary area</li> <li>Support existing watershed groups in the region Continue to support watershed groups with appointed representative from each municipality</li> <li>Support existing local stewardship initiatives</li> <li>Explore participation with the County of Vermilion River as a Wetlands Mitigation Agency Explore the creation and distribution of consistent educational materials for users around waterbodies</li> <li>Leverage existing provincial educational materials</li> <li>Explore the creation of emergency access points to the North Saskatchewan River</li> <li>Explore the creation of public recreational access points where environmentally responsible</li> </ul>	13	1
			<p><b>Why:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I would like to see what they are doing about the water shed issues and the water pressures on these lakes. It doesn't look like anyone is doing anything.</li> </ul>

### Do you have any feedback on the policy direction on waterbodies and watershed management that you would like to share?

- I believe that Garner lake is presently populated to its maximum capacity, as the water level seems to be dropping every year with no explanation other than evaporation .... I think exploration of how to tap into an existing spring to bring the water table back up would be worth more than adding new living development.
- Show me what is currently being discussed has at this time I haven't seen any changes in the last 20 years other than seeing more housing in these areas. Which is making it worst.
- Lakeshore around Garner Lake (Birchland Resort) is a mess because of ATV use. Complaints were heard and disregarded at the Land Use Bylaw meeting at Spedden Hall. We understand people using



ATV's to take items down to the shore from cottages, but it has become a "road" instead of a protected site.

- I don't think recreational vehicles are impacting as much as people are concerned with the issue.
- No.



## TRANSPORTATION

Information Provided		Participant Input	
What we heard	Policy Direction	Agree	Disagree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Road ban restrictions for industrial vehicles on light duty roads are inconsistent between municipalities</li> <li>Roads standards vary across the region</li> <li>Road upgrades and ongoing road maintenance is desirable across the region, especially on provincial roads</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage information sharing regarding transportation infrastructure best practices</li> <li>Explore the opportunity for a joint committee with members of administration from each of the six municipalities to encourage discussion, information sharing and to discuss specific transportation projects that may impact adjacent municipalities</li> <li>Municipalities to support one another in grant applications to the Province to encourage the creation of a uniform regional transportation network</li> <li>Promote an efficient and cost-effective regional transportation network</li> <li>Identify potential intermunicipal transportation projects to improve effectiveness</li> </ul>	13	1

**Why:**

- Difference in municipal tax base and road usages would make it very difficult deal with roads on a Regional level.

### Do you have any feedback on the policy direction on transportation that you would like to share?

- Don't be removing atv or other motor vehicles within private owned neighbourhoods, everyone should be able to go to a neighbours place numerous times without being hassled that they're only to go there and back once... That's a childish bylaw that St.Paul has at Garner.
- Need to work on our roads, the gravel roads in smoky lake are very bad.





## RECREATION & TOURISM

Information Provided		Participant Input	
What we heard	Policy Direction	Agree	Disagree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recreational trails like the Iron Horse Trail are well loved and are considered a principle tourism attraction</li> <li>Rules for and enforcement of off-highway vehicles (OHV's) varies between municipalities</li> <li>Confusion around permissible activities on public lands across the region</li> <li>Identifying heritage resources is important to both protect these resources, and to promote regional tourism and cultural education</li> <li>Provincial restrictions on Walleye fishing has impacted tourism in the region</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support economic development opportunities and trail opportunities within the region, including the building of new trails, and ongoing maintenance of existing regional trails</li> <li>Explore potential collaborations with existing recreation and tourism groups to efficiently promote recreational tourism in the region</li> <li>Continue to find efficiencies in bylaw enforcement through public education on recreational use near lakes and the exploration of shared bylaw services where appropriate</li> <li>Encourage the production and distribution of educational materials on trail use, waterbody health, OHV regulations, and property ownership</li> <li>Recognize and promote awareness of significant historic and cultural sites in the region</li> <li>Jointly advocating to the province on issues related to fishing to support tourism in the region</li> </ul>	12	1
			<p><b>Why:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overfishing at Garner Lake has made fishing tourism non-existing. ATV users are on private property and do not stay on existing trails</li> </ul>

### Do you have any feedback on the policy direction on recreation and tourism that you would like to share?

- Having access trail from Birchland to the iron horse trail would be welcomed
- One issue with the iron horse trail, is going onto private land. this needs to be addressed.
- Would like to see a balance between people using recreational vehicles and those who want to protect the environment. So far, this does not exist.



## ABOUT THE PARTICIPANT

### 1. Which Intermunicipal Development Plan Area applies to you?

- County of St. Paul and M.D. of Bonnyville - 1
- County of St. Paul and County of Lac La Biche - 0
- County of St. Paul and Smoky Lake County - 5
- County of St. Paul and County of Two Hills - 4
- County of St. Paul and County of Vermilion River - 1
- County of Lac La Biche and MD of Bonnyville - 1
- Smoky Lake County and County of Two Hills - 1
- County of Two Hills and County of Vermilion River – 0
- Smoky Lake County and Lac La Biche County - 3

### 2. What is your relationship to the IDP Area?

#### County of St. Paul and M.D. of Bonnyville

Relationship	County of St. Paul	M.D. of Bonnyville
I live in...	1	
I work in...	1	
I own land in...	1	1
I own a business in...		

#### Smoky Lake County and County of Two Hills

Relationship	Smoky Lake County	County of Two Hills
I live in...		
I work in...		
I own land in...	1	
I own a business in...		



### County of Lac La Biche and M.D. of Bonnyville

Relationship	Lac La Biche	M.D. of Bonnyville
I live in...		
I work in...		1
I own land in...		
I own a business in...		

### County of St. Paul and Smoky Lake County

Relationship	Smoky Lake County	County of St. Paul
I live in...		
I work in...		
I own land in...	4	
I own a business in...		

**Other:** I own a cabin at Garner Lake

### Smoky Lake County and Lac La Biche County

Relationship	Smoky Lake County	Lac La Biche County
I live in...		
I work in...		
I own land in...	2	
I own a business in...		



### County of St. Paul and County of Two Hills

Relationship	County St. Paul	County of Two Hills
I live in...	1	2
I work in...	1	
I own land in...	1	2
I own a business in...		

**Other:** Other organization not specified

### 3. Do you live in the IDP study area? The IDP study area is the red hatched area on the context map above.

Yes - 6

No - 6

### 4. What age range best describes you?

Under 18	0
18 – 25	1
26 – 35	1
36 – 45	1
46 – 60	8
61 and up	3

### 5. Do you have any additional thoughts or comments to share about the IDP area or project?

- Waste collection could be explored along the boundaries. We have a County of St. Paul truck that comes and picks up residential waste, and an MD truck that picks up public bins.
- Water quality of Garner Lake is a real concern.
- We are glad that problem areas are being addressed in this study.



# Appendix Four – Open House Panels

## Open House Boards

**Rural Multi-Jurisdictional Intermunicipal Development Plans**  
**Public Open House**

**Welcome!**  
 Thanks for joining us.  
 Please sign-in and fill out an exit survey on your way out.

**Rural Multi-Jurisdictional Intermunicipal Development Plans**  
**Project Timeline**

Phase 1:	Phase 2:	Phase 3:	Phase 4:	Phase 5:	Phase 6:	Completion
November - December 2017	January 2018	January - February 2018	February - April 2018	April - May 2018	May - September 2018	October - December 2018
» Develop Project Framework	» Background Research	» Vision & Draft » Stakeholder meetings » Online survey	» Develop Focus Topics » Internal Technical Workshop	» Public Open Houses » Policy Development	» Draft IDP's	» Public Hearing » Approvals



# Rural Multi-Jurisdictional Intermunicipal Development Plans Project Information

## What is an Intermunicipal Development Plan (IDP)?

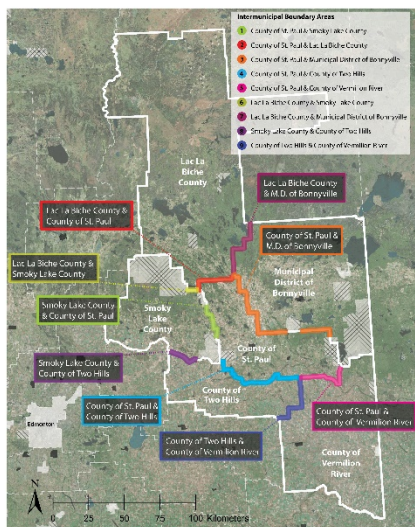
- » An IDP is a high-level policy plan required for municipalities that share boundaries.
- » It fosters cooperation near shared boundaries to avoid unnecessary costs and negative impacts for either municipality.
- » The principles and objectives established in the IDP guide future development and growth, if appropriate.
- » An IDP also provides a framework for dispute resolution, if there is a disagreement between municipalities.

## What an IDP doesn't do.

- » An IDP is **not** an annexation.
- » An IDP does **not** change any municipal boundaries.
- » An IDP is **not** a rezoning of land.



# Rural Multi-Jurisdictional Intermunicipal Development Plans Project Context



## Background Information

- » The Municipal Government Act has recently been updated with a strong focus on intermunicipal planning.
- » IDP's are now required for all municipalities that share a boundary.
- » This project will create IDP's for each shared boundary with the six municipal partners for a total of nine IDP's.
- » This project will explore what services could be shared now or in the future and will establish shared policies for those topics.





## Rural Multi-Jurisdictional Intermunicipal Development Plans Public Engagement

### What We've Heard So Far

- » The project team has collected input through an online survey, stakeholder meetings and a technical workshop.
- » **Key themes** we heard through engagement:
  - Land uses aren't expected to change in the IDP boundary areas
  - Trails and recreation are important for both local users and to attract tourism to the region
  - Waterbodies and watershed management should be a priority
  - Road maintenance and standards vary between the municipalities

### Your Feedback Today

- » Please use sticky dots to indicate whether you agree or disagree with the policy direction that is based on the input we've heard through engagement
- » Where you disagree, please use a sticky note to indicate why you disagree and comment on how the policy could be changed to address your thoughts



## Rural Multi-Jurisdictional Intermunicipal Development Plans Land Use

### What We Heard

Future land use within the nine IDP boundary areas is not anticipated to change

The boundary areas are rural in nature and are mostly used for agriculture

### Policy Direction

• Land uses are to remain the same  
• Existing water and wastewater systems are not proposed to change at this time

• Policies will clearly state the importance of agricultural lands and promote the preservation of agricultural lands

### Your Feedback

I agree	I disagree, tell us why
I agree	I disagree, tell us why





## Rural Multi-Jurisdictional Intermunicipal Development Plans Waterbodies & Watershed Management

### What We Heard

Concerns about water quality and the overall long-term health of waterbodies and local watersheds

Concerns about development pressures and impacts to water quality of lake communities at Lac Sante and Garner Lake

Motorized recreational use of lakes and along lakeshores has impacted water quality for some waterbodies

Public access to the North Saskatchewan River is lacking and has limited access for both emergency services and recreational users

### Policy Direction

- Support existing watershed groups in the region
- Continue to support watershed groups with appointed representative from each municipality
- Support existing local stewardship initiatives
- Explore participation with the County of Vermilion River as a Wetlands Mitigation Agency

- Explore the creation and distribution of consistent educational materials for users around waterbodies
- Leverage existing provincial educational materials

- Ensure that statutory and non-statutory plans for lake areas are kept updated regarding best practices for lake management

- Explore the creation of emergency access points to the North Saskatchewan River
- Explore the creation of public recreational access points where environmentally responsible

### Your Feedback

I agree

I disagree, tell us why

I agree

I disagree, tell us why

I agree

I disagree, tell us why

I agree

I disagree, tell us why



## Rural Multi-Jurisdictional Intermunicipal Development Plans Transportation

### What We Heard

Road ban restrictions for industrial vehicles on light duty roads vary between municipalities

Road upgrades and ongoing road maintenance is desirable across the region, especially on provincial roads

Road standards vary across the region

### Policy Direction

- Encourage information sharing regarding transportation infrastructure best practices

- Promote an efficient and cost effective regional transportation network
- Identify potential intermunicipal transportation projects to improve effectiveness

- Explore the opportunity for a joint committee with members of administration from each of the six municipalities to encourage discussion, information sharing and to discuss specific transportation projects that may impact adjacent municipalities
- Support one another in grant applications to the Province to encourage the creation of a uniform regional transportation network

### Your Feedback

I agree

I disagree, tell us why

I agree

I disagree, tell us why

I agree

I disagree, tell us why







## Rural Multi-Jurisdictional Intermunicipal Development Plans Recreation & Tourism (1/2)

### What We Heard

Recreational trails like the Iron Horse Trail are well loved and are considered a principle tourism attraction

Rules for and enforcement of off-highway vehicles (OHV's) varies between municipalities

Confusion around permissible activities on public lands across the region

### Policy Direction

• Support economic development opportunities and trail opportunities within the region, including the building of new trails, and ongoing maintenance of existing regional trails

• Explore potential collaborations with existing recreation and tourism groups to efficiently promote recreational tourism in the region

• Continue to find efficiencies in bylaw enforcement through public education on recreational use near lakes and the exploration of shared bylaw services where appropriate

• Encourage the production and distribution of educational materials on trail use, waterbody health, OHV regulations, and property ownership

### Your Feedback

I agree

I disagree, tell us why

I agree

I disagree, tell us why

I agree

I disagree, tell us why



## Rural Multi-Jurisdictional Intermunicipal Development Plans Recreation & Tourism (2/2)

### What We Heard

Identifying heritage resources is important to protect these resources, and to promote regional tourism and cultural education

Provincial restrictions on Walleye fishing has impacted tourism in the region

### Policy Direction

• Recognize and promote awareness of significant historic and cultural sites in the region

• Jointly advocating to the province on issues related to fishing to support tourism in the region

### Your Feedback

I agree

I disagree, tell us why

I agree

I disagree, tell us why

