

VILLAGE OF WASKATENAU

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August 27, 2025

Smoky Lake County Box 310 Smoky Lake, Alberta T0A 3C0

Attention: Kevin Lucas

# Re: Updated Notice of Intent to Annex Lands in Smoky Lake County

On July 18, 2024, the Council of the Village of Waskatenau directed Administration to proceed with a formal notice of intent to annex lands in Smoky Lake County adjacent to the Village. In Summer 2025, Village Council (following negotiations with Smoky Lake County) decided to revise the proposed annexation area to include additional lands.

This updated notice of intent is intended to fulfill the requirements of Section116 of the Municipal Government Act (the Act) which requires the initiating municipality to provide initial notice to:

- · the municipality from which the land is to be annexed;
- the Minister of Municipal Affairs;
- · the Land and Property Rights Tribunal; and
- all local authorities having jurisdiction to operate or provide services in the initiating municipal authority or in any of the municipal authorities from which the land is to be annexed.

## **Initial Proposed Annexation Area**

The lands proposed to be annexed as per the Village's initial Notice of Intent included:

Privately Owned Land	Road Rights-of-Way
OT 5225CL	Part of Range Road 193B/52 Street
Lot 21, Block16, Plan 8122847	Part of Range Road 193A/50Street)
Lot 20, Block16, Plan 8122847	
Lot 1, Block1, Plan 0923870	Crown Land
Lot 2 ,Block1,1923509	Waskatenau Creek
Lot 1, Block17, Plan 8022152	
Parts and Remainder of SW-16-59-19-W4 (four parcels in total)	
Lot17, Plan 6353ET	

#### **Updated Proposed Annexation Area**

The lands proposed to be annexed by the Village include those identified in the initial Notice of Intent, as well as the following additional lands:

Privately Owned Land	Provincially Owned Land
NW 16-59-19-W4	SW 16-59-19-W4 (north of Highway 28)

In Summer 2025, the Village discussed the Village's proposed annexation application with the owners of NW 16-59-19-W4; at the request of these landowners, the Village is proposing to revise the proposed annexation area to include this property (as well as a small parcel of land owned by Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors within the Highway 28 and 831 intersection, located between the initial annexation area and NW 16-59-19-W4).

As part of the discussions with the owners of NW 16-59-19-W4, the Village has obtained a signed letter of consent from the landowners of NW 16-59-19-W4 endorsing the proposed annexation of their lands into the Village of Waskatenau.



## Purpose

The purpose for this proposed annexation is to facilitate future commercial and residential growth and development that benefits the Village's long term sustainability as a municipality. The Village currently does not have any jurisdictional control over lands adjacent to the Highway 28 corridor near the entrance to the Village, which is a major economic corridor in the Smoky Lake County Region.

The Village is of the opinion that extending the Village's boundaries north and west to access the Highway 28 corridor is a logical extension of the Village boundaries and would enable the Village to capitalize on future growth and development along this important economic corridor, and to control future development patterns, servicing, and transportation connections adjacent to the Village's built footprint.

The Smoky Lake County & Village of Waskatenau IDP was adopted by both municipalities in 2022. The majority of the updated proposed annexation area is within the 'Future Annexation Area Overlay' on Map 5.1 – Future Land Use Areas; the proposed additional lands are within the Serviced and Unserviced Commercial and Industrial area. The proposed annexation is consistent with the plan's goals, which aim to achieve the following benefits for both municipalities:

- Increase overall community and economic development capacity building essential to both short term and longer term community viability, sustainability, and quality of life.
- Increased business/investment attraction "presence" throughout the Smoky Lake Region.
- Improved regional fiscal and financial sustainability.

### **Engagement Strategy**

As outlined in the Act, the Village recognizes that engagement must include:

- · Residents of the Village of Waskatenau;
- · Landowners within the proposed annexation area;
- Smoky Lake County; and
- Local authorities, agencies, and service providers operating in the Village and the proposed annexation area.

Following the distribution of the initial notice, the Village worked with Smoky Lake County to identify the current landowners in the proposed annexation area (and adjacent landowners) and provide them with a letter notifying them of the proposed annexation, identifying opportunities for future engagement and feedback, and to keep them apprised of the proposed annexation's progress.

As part of the proposed annexation engagement plan, the Village is committed to:

- Mail notifying current landowners of the proposed annexation (completed as part of the initial annexation notification);
- Hosting a meeting with current landowners to discuss the annexation process and gather their feedback;
- Hosting a public meeting (that may be attended by Village residents, current landowners in the proposed annexation area, adjacent landowners in the County, and local authorities, agencies, and service providers);
   and
- Publishing regular annexation information on the Village's website and in the Village's newsletter.

The Village will document all public engagement materials and collect all feedback received for inclusion in the annexation report that will be submitted to the Land and Property Rights Tribunal.

#### **Concluding Comments**

The Village of Waskatenau looks forward to continuing its respectful discussions with Smoky Lake County on the future sustainability of both municipalities' economies and hopes to progress towards an uncontested annexation. The Village looks forward to the County's acknowledgement of this updated Notice of Intent at their earliest convenience.

Thank you

Bernice Macyk,

Chief Administrative Officer

Village of Waskatenau

Attachment: Schedule A- Updated Proposed Annexation Area

Cc:

Village of Waskatenau Council
Land and Property Rights Tribunal
Atco Electric
Just Energy
Apex Utilities
Smoky Lake County Natural Gas
Highway28/63 Regional Water Services
Commission
Canada Post

Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors

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