



**BYLAW NO.007-2023
OF THE TOWN OF SMOKY LAKE
IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA**

A BYLAW OF THE TOWN OF SMOKY LAKE IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING A PHYSICIANS AND HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE FOR ATTRACTION AND RETENTION OF PHYSICIANS, VETERINARIANS, NURSES, DENTISTS, PHARMACISTS, PHYSIOTHERAPISTS AND OTHER HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS IN THE REGION.

WHEREAS under the authority of the Municipal Government Act RSA 2000, Chapter M-26, as amended from time to time, authorizes the Council to pass, repeal, or amend any bylaw;

AND WHEREAS, under the provisions of the Municipal Government Act RSA 2000, Chapter M-26, and any amendments thereto, Section 7 general jurisdiction to pass bylaws for municipal purposes respecting the following matters (a) safety, health and welfare of people and the protection of people and property;

AND WHEREAS, under the provisions of the Municipal Government Act RSA 2000, Chapter M-26, and any amendments thereto, Section 145a Council may pass bylaws in relation to (a) the establishment and functions of Council committees and (b) the procedure and conduct of Council committees and the conduct of members of Council committees established by the Council;

AND WHEREAS under the provisions of the Municipal Government Act RSA 2000, Chapter M-26, and any amendments thereto, Section 146a Council committee may consist (b) of a combination of Councillors and other persons;

AND WHEREAS it is deemed desirable to have health care options available in the Smoky Lake Region;

AND WHEREAS Council deemed it in the best interest of the municipality to form a committee to promote the retention and attraction of the Physicians and Health Care Professionals;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Town of Smoky Lake deems it advisable to jointly collaborate with the Smoky Lake County, Village of Waskatenau, and Village of Vilna for the establishment and implementation of a Joint Physician and Health Care Professional Committee;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Town of Smoky Lake, in the Province of Alberta, duly assembled, enacts as follows:

1. TITLE

1.1 This Bylaw may be cited as the "Physicians and Health Care Professionals Committee" Bylaw.

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1 "Act" means the *Municipal Government Act*, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter M-26, and any amendments thereto;

2.2 “Administration” means the administrative and operational arm of the Municipality, comprised of the various departments and business units and including all employees who operate under the leadership and supervision of the CAO;

2.4 “CAO” means the Chief Administrative Officer of the Municipality, or their delegate;

2.6 “Closed Session” means in-camera private meeting. It involves a confidential meeting, or a portion of a meeting, taking place with only Councillors, the CAO, or any other person invited by Council, present;

2.7 “Council” means the Municipal Council of the four partner municipalities;

2.7 “Committee Member” means a non-elected person appointed by Council to a Council Board, Commission or Committee of Council;

2.8 “Councillor” is any member of Council duly elected pursuant to the Local Authorities Election Act, RSA 2000, Chapter L-21 and any amendments thereto;

2.9 “FOIP” means the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, R.S.A. 2000, c. F-25, any associated regulations, and any amendments or successor legislation;

2.10 “*Health Care Professional*” includes those providing professional health services, including, but not limited to, Physicians Veterinarians, Nurses, Dentists, Pharmacists, Physiotherapists, etc.;

2.11 “Member” means a Member of Council duly elected who continues to hold office, pursuant to the provisions of the Local Authorities Act, or a Member of a Committee duly appointed by Council, under the Municipal Government Act, to that Committee;

2.12 “*Physician*” means person who is legally qualified to practice medicine; doctor of medicine;

3. MANDATE:

3.1 To act plan and implement an integrated approach to retain and attract Physicians, Veterinarians, Nurses, Dentists, Pharmacists, Physiotherapists and other Health Care Professionals to the Smoky Lake Region.

3.2 To act as an Advisory Committee to work with health care professionals to address physician retention and attraction, as well as other health professional services needs in the Smoky Lake Region.

3.3 To liaise with Health Care Professionals for strategic advice and expertise among the community stakeholders related to matters of retention and Attraction of Physicians, Veterinarians, Nurses, Dentists, Pharmacists, Physiotherapists and other Health Care Professionals to ensure ongoing health care services for the community.

3.4 To advocate the Provincial Government and Regional Health Authority to take more responsibility for the retention and attraction of Physicians, Veterinarians, Nurses, Dentists, Pharmacists, Physiotherapists and other Health Care Professionals in small rural areas.

4. MEMBERSHIP:

4.1 Mayors/Reeves or designates from the following (Voting) municipalities:

- Town of Smoky Lake
- Smoky Lake County
- Village of Waskatenau
- Village of Vilna

4.2 Designates appointed by a municipality in lieu of the Mayor/Reeve shall be appointed annually by the municipality.

4.3 Administration: Town of Smoky Lake will be the Managing Partner municipality of the Committee. (Non-Voting)

5. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

5.1 Make recommendations to Council on various issues related to health services.

5.2 Initiate and/or receive submissions or delegations and/or make submissions or delegations regarding health services and advise Councils.

5.3 Consult with the public, Minister of Health and other professionals regarding attraction and retention activities and related matters.

5.4 Educate the public with regards to the mandate of the committee.

5.5 Participate with local health professionals in planning, program development and implementation of initiatives as deemed appropriate by the Committee.

6. BUDGET:

6.1 The Committee shall approve, on an annual basis, an operational budget, upon resolution of the Council of the participating municipalities.

6.2 The Town of Smoky Lake shall maintain the Physicians and Health Care Professional's Committee bank accounts on behalf of the Committee.

6.3 Each respective municipality, as members of the Physicians and Health Care Professional Committee, will jointly contribute, on an annual basis, towards the cost and funding in pursuit of retaining and recruiting additional health care professionals in the area, when necessary.

7. RESOURCES:

- i. Physicians and Health Care Professionals (Non-voting)
- ii. Lakeland Community Health Advisory Council (Non-voting)
- iii. Smoky Lake Foundation: Chairperson (Non-voting)
- iv. Lakeland Primary Care Network (PCN) CEO or designate (Non-voting)
- v. Alberta Health Services (AHS) Representative (Non-voting)
- vi. Rural Health Professions Action Plan (RhPAP) representative. (Non-voting)
- vii. Municipal CAOs or designate from each municipality (Non-voting)
- viii. Other Resources, as needed.

8. EXECUTIVE:

8.1 Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson to be appointed by the membership, through consensus, on an annual basis.

9. MEETINGS:

9.1 A minimum of four (4) times a year, at the call of the Chairperson.

9.2 An agenda will be distributed 72 hours prior to each meeting.

9.3 Meetings of the committee will generally be held in public, unless FOIP Legislation dictates otherwise.

9.4 A simple majority of regular members of the Committee will constitute quorum.

9.5 Minutes of each Committee Meeting will be circulated within two weeks following the meeting and will be made public following adoption at a subsequent meeting.

10. COMMUNICATION:

10.1 The chair will act as spokesperson for the committee.

11. EFFECTIVE DATE

11.1 This Bylaw shall come into force and effect on third and final reading.

READ a FIRST time this 28th Day of August, 2023.

READ a SECOND time this 28th Day of August, 2023.

READ a THIRD and FINAL time this 28th Day of August, 2023.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Amy Cherniwchan
Mayor

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Dawn Phillips
Chief Administrative Officer