



REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting: March 23, 2026

ICF Recreation Agreement Renewal

DESCRIPTION:

The Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF) committee met on March 11th and discussed the renewal of the 5-year ICF recreation agreement, which expires on April 30th.

The agreement establishes yearly MD funding contributions to urbans (Nanton, Stavely, Claresholm, Ft. Macleod) for several recreation and cultural related municipal services:

- \$1,000 for Celebration Event (Fair Days)
- \$3,000 for cemeteries
- \$62,000 for fixed costs of Curling, Arena, Pool
- \$12,300 capital reserve for Curling, Arena, Pool

Of note in this agreement is the requirement to conduct inflationary reviews and possible adjustments to the fixed cost (insurance, utilities and telecommunications) funding for years four and five, with an inflationary cap increase of 1.58%. The MD proactively waived this provision following the second year of the agreement when utilities and operating costs increased significantly for our facilities, by 15-18%. The MD began inflationary increases earlier than they were required, and significantly increased their contribution beyond what was required. The MD contributed \$82k towards fixed costs in 2025, whereas the agreement only required a contribution of \$65,000 at most.

DISCUSSION/OPTIONS:

Currently, each urban forwards the MD their yearly fixed costs for the curling, arena and pools, and the MD calculates the funding based on 50% of the average fixed costs.

For the renewal of the agreement, the MD has proposed three changes to Section 5:

- update funding calculations to 2025 fixed costs as a baseline \$82,000/year (the old agreement uses 2019 fixed costs of \$62,000/year)
- updated aggregate averaging costs each year (the old agreement purposes updates in years 4 and 5)
- base the inflationary cap on Statistics Canada's annual average CPI (the old agreement established an inflationary cap of 1.58%).

The agreement contains renewal terms. If nothing is done, the agreement automatically renews for an additional 5-year term under the same conditions and terms. If changes are desired, all municipalities must agree to the changes, or the agreement reverts to the original terms. Administration is recommending that Council approve the agreement for an additional 5-year term in accordance with the recommended changes as proposed by the MD of Willow Creek.

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS:

Moved by Councillor _____ to amend Section 5 of the ICF Recreation agreement as proposed by the MD of Willow Creek, and to approve the amended agreement for another 5-year term.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1.) ICF Recreation Agreement
- 2.) MD Correspondence: ICF Recreation Funding Agreement Renewal

PREPARED BY: Abe Tinney – CAO

DATE: March 19, 2026
