

## TOWN OF COCHRANE

101 RancheHouse Rd.  
Cochrane, AB T4C 2K8  
P: 403-851-2500 F: 403-932-6032  
[www.cochrane.ca](http://www.cochrane.ca)



### 2019 MID-SIZED CITIES MAYORS' AND CAOS' CAUCUS

Wednesday, January 30, 2019

Thursday, January 31, 2019

Unadopted Minutes

Municipality	Name
City of Airdrie	Mayor Peter Brown
City of Beaumont	Mayor John Stewart
City of Brooks	Mayor Barry Morishita (AUMA President)
City of Chestermere	Mayor Marshall Chalmers
Town of Cochrane	Mayor Jeff Genung
City of Grande Prairie	Mayor Bill Given
City of Lacombe	Mayor Grant Creasey
City of Leduc	Mayor Bob Young
City of Lethbridge	Mayor Chris Spearman
City of Lloydminster	Mayor Gerald Aalbers
City of Medicine Hat	Mayor Ted Clugston
Town of Okotoks	Deputy Mayor Tanya Thorn
City of St. Albert	Mayor Cathy Heron
City of Spruce Grove	Mayor Stuart Houston
Town of Stony Plain	Deputy Mayor Linda Matties
City of Wetaskiwin	Mayor Tyler Gandam
City of Cold Lake	Mayor Craig Copeland
City of Cold Lake	Deputy Mayor Jurgen Grau
Town of Canmore	Mayor John Borrowman
Town of Banff	Mayor Karen Sorensen
RM of Wood Buffalo	Acting Mayor Jeff Peddle
City of Red Deer	Mayor Tara Veer
City of Beaumont	Mike Schwirtz, CAO
City of Brooks	Alan Martens, CAO
City of Chestermere	Bernie Morton, CAO
Town of Cochrane	Dave Devana, CAO
City of Lacombe	Matthew Goudy, CAO
City of Lethbridge	Bramwell Strain, City Manager
City of Lloydminster	Dion Pollard, City Manager
City of Medicine Hat	Robert Nicolay, CAO
Town of Okotoks	Elaine Vincent, CAO
City of Red Deer	Craig Curtis, City Manager
City of St. Albert	Kevin Scoble, City Manager

City of Spruce Grove	Robert Cotterill, CAO
Town of Stony Plain	Thomas Goulden, Town Manager
City of Wetaskiwin	Sue Howard, Acting City Manager
City of Cold Lake	Kevin Nagoya, CAO
City of Grande Prairie	Shane Bourke, Acting CAO / Chief of Staff
City of Airdrie	Mark Locking, Director, Growth & Protective Services
City of Airdrie	Leona Esau, Liaison
City of Cold Lake	Andrew Serba, Manager, Strategic Initiatives
City of Leduc	Brandy Kelly, Government Relations Advisor
City of Leduc	Michelle Hays, Director, Intergovernmental Affairs & Corporate Planning
Strathcona County	Jackie Porayko, Strategist
Town of Cochrane	Stacey Loe, Senior Manager, Legislative & Protective Services
Town of Cochrane	Drew Hyndman, Senior Manager, Development Services

### **CALL TO ORDER – WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30**

Mayor Jeff Genung of Cochrane called day one of the 2019 Mid-Sized Cities Mayors' & CAOs' Caucus Meeting to order at 1:30 pm and welcomed participants.

Mayor Genung thanked Platinum Sponsors Trans Canada and Urban Systems, and Gold Sponsor Caron & Partners for their participation. Shuttle buses were donated by Southland Transportation.

### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

The January 30 and 31, 2019 Mid-Sized Cities Mayors' & CAOs' Meeting Agenda was consented to as presented.

### **ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

The October 18 and 19, 2018 Mid-Sized Cities Mayors' & CAOs' Meeting Minutes were consented to as presented.

### **PREPARATION FOR PRESS CONFERENCE & PARTY LEADER PRESENTATIONS**

Mayor Genung opened up the discussion.

Mid-Sized Cities Mayors discussed the following points:

- Each leader will have 45 minutes to deliver their platform and answer questions. Only the Premier's office limited the number of questions to four (4) and requested them ahead of time.
- Each municipality provided questions they wanted the leaders to be asked. A list was compiled, sent out for comments and then narrowed down to four regarding MSI,

economy, transportation and community safety. The questions were provided to each of the leaders in advance.

- Great opportunity to deliver our message to the leaders and to be taken seriously. This group is made up of 22 mayors from 35 municipalities and represents almost one million Albertans.
- Should media and other MLA's be present? Media has been invited to attend. A press conference will be held in a separate room after. Speaking to the media will help reinforce our message. We want to have honest dialogue with each party so no other parties should be present. Don't want the appearance of partisan politics, especially with an upcoming election. Mayor Genung to contact local MLA to advise he is welcome to attend his own party's presentation.
- Had hoped for a dialogue with each of the leaders instead of this body being a group to be presented to. Could we replace conference-style seating with "working group" seating like we have today? The seating plan has already been provided to the Premier's office so they will need to be contacted to approve the reconfiguration.
- Should questions be asked on behalf of each municipality or as a group? Different municipalities should ask each of the questions. Could be value in having the questions asked by someone that may have closer ties to each leader. Identify yourself and which municipality you represent so the leaders recognize that the province as a whole is covered. Questions can be found in the Agenda package.
- Mayor Genung to work on a preamble that will provide some context as to who we are and why we matter. After speaking, each leader will be invited to sit at the table to have a conversation with the group and answer the questions.
- If time permits what other topics could be discussed?

The MSI issue is the greatest issue we are all facing. This is funding that is crucial to our municipalities. We need all 4 leaders to commit to being willing to discuss this issue.

Infrastructure in our communities is important to keep the economy going. Frame questions to highlight how important municipalities are to the value of the province.

Break at 2:53pm. Reconvene at 3:13pm

- Need to create a relationship with each of the leaders. They need to know who we are, understand our message and see us as a valuable resource.
- Reviewed questions and who should ask on behalf of the group:  
With regard to the first question, a timeline commitment is needed from Premier Notley so the question should be phrased slightly different for her. Questions should be asked on behalf of the group, not your community.

*Stephen Mandel:* Q1. Cathy (St. Albert); Q2. Gerald (Lloydminster); Q3. Stuart (Spruce Grove); Q4. Peter (Airdrie)

*David Kahn:* Q1. Bill (Grande Prairie); Q2. John (Beaumont); Q3. Linda (Stony Plain); Q4. Jeff (RM of Wood Buffalo)

*Jason Kenney:* Q1. Craig (Cold Lake); Q2. Tyler (Wetaskiwin); Q3. Jeff (Cochrane); Q4. Tanya (Okotoks)

*Premier Notley:* Q1. Tara (Red Deer); Q2. Chris (Lethbridge); Q3. Stuart (Spruce Grove); Q4. Marshall (Chestermere)

- Other possible topics for discussion:

Solid waste – needs provincial legislation and is an issue facing municipalities.

Cannabis revenue sharing.

How do you see engaging municipalities in talking about reducing red tape?

Opioids aren't just a big city problem. What can we do together to address concerns?

Is there an opportunity for mid-sized cities to take advantage of CRL's ?

Mental health – funding for agencies, getting right resources.

Partnership and collaboration – how would a government under your leadership work with municipalities? This question should be asked of all leaders.

- First media scrum will be held after the first two speakers. Mayor Genung, as host, will speak on behalf of the group. We need a firm statement and a regimented plan to stick to. Let each leader answer the questions. We will answer questions in our own press conference.
- Press conference will be in Council Chambers. Media will be given a handout of the press release. We need a baseline statement about who we are. Also, the second last paragraph on the first page should remove reference to "Alberta party leaders" because it sounds like it is referring to a single party. All members need to attend the press conference. Group photo will be taken after.
- Mayor Bill Given of Grande Prairie offered to send out a survey to pull together some points about who we are to prepare for discussions at our next meeting. Should a sub-committee be created to pull this together? We need to be more focussed so the conversations aren't so general at the meetings. Previous focus was to keep group informal and bounce ideas off each other but this seems to be shifting in the last couple of years. Pick up on this tomorrow during break-out times.

#### END OF DAY REMARKS

Mayor Genung declared the meeting adjourned at 4:30pm.

#### COCHRANE SOIREE, JANUARY 30, 2019

- Local, independent restaurants provided dinner. Local craft beer and spirits were available.
- Cochrane is an emerging technology hub and showcased some of the local businesses.