

Municipal District of Bonnyville No. 87

Request for Decision (RFD)

Meeting: Regular Meeting of Council
Meeting Date: April 8, 2025
Originated By: Stephanie Severin, Manager of Legislative and Information Services
Title: Alberta Bilingual Municipalities Association – Annual Membership

PROPOSAL & BACKGROUND

The Alberta Bilingual Municipalities Association (ABMA) recently reached out to the M.D. of Bonnyville with a proposal to implement annual membership fees and have requested feedback from participating municipalities.

The M.D. has been a member of the ABMA since 2020 and has 1 representative position on the Board, with the current appointment being Deputy Reeve Skarsen and Reeve Kalinski (*alternate*) for a 4-year term expiring October 2025.

DISCUSSION ON BENEFITS, DISADVANTAGES & OPTIONS

The Alberta Bilingual Municipalities Association (ABMA) decided at their February 15, 2025 Association meeting, to present a proposal of introducing annual membership fees, believing that this will reflect a strong commitment from its members and act as a significant measure of involvement in the grant application process. These fees will expand ABMA initiatives, providing more resources for members.

The ABMA network brings together municipalities where Francophones contribute significantly to sustainable economic development. The Association aims to encourage strategic projects and initiatives of an economic nature that are beneficial to all represented regions and advocate for economically vibrant, sustainable, bilingual communities through a collaborative network of municipalities.

The annual membership fees proposed by the ABMA are included in the letter attached as Appendix A. The annual fee that would be applicable to the M.D. is the 'Municipal Districts/Counties' fee which is \$1,100.

Attached for Council's reference:

- Appendix A: ABMA membership fee request.pdf

REFERENCE TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Building a viable and diversified regional economy.

REFERENCE TO PROVINCIAL/FEDERAL LEGISLATION

N/A

COSTS & SOURCE OF FUNDING

No costs at this time.

COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

Administration will respond to the ABMA with Council's feedback on the proposed implementation of annual fees.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDED ACTION

THAT Council directs Administration to respond to the Alberta Bilingual Municipalities Association's proposal for implementing annual membership fees as in [favor/opposition] of the proposal providing the following reason(s): _____.

COUNCIL OPTIONS

1. THAT Council directs Administration to respond to the Alberta Bilingual Municipalities Association's proposal for implementing annual membership fees as in [favor/opposition] of the proposal providing the following reason(s): _____.
2. THAT Council refers the proposal by the Alberta Bilingual Municipalities Association for implementing annual membership fees back to Administration for additional information regarding _____ and to bring it back to a future meeting of Council.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Alberta Bilingual Municipalities Association - ABMA Membership.docx
Attachments:	- Appendix A - ABMA membership fee request.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Mar 31, 2025

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Stephanie Severin