

County of Wetaskiwin No. 10 BYLAW # 2024/65

A Bylaw of the County of Wetaskiwin No. 10 in the Province of Alberta, for the purpose of authorizing the adoption of an Area Structure Plan for the purpose of providing framework for the future subdivision and development of recreational development within the land described as SW 8-46-2-W5M.

WHEREAS per Requirements of Area Structure Plan Policy, an Area Structure Plan has been prepared for SW 8-46-2-W5M.

AND WHEREAS the proposed Area Structure Plan has been widely circulated and discussed inaccordance with notification and procedural requirements outlined in Section 606 (1) and 633(1) of the Municipal Government Act.

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the County of Wetaskiwin No. 10, in the Province of Alberta, duly assembled, hereby enacts as follows:

PART 1 - TITLE

- The document attached to this Bylaw as "Schedule A", together with accompanying maps, is hereby adopted as the "Bear Creek Cabins Area Structure Plan - SW 8-46-2-W5M":
 - a. To develop recreational cabins within the existing 158 acre parcel of land described as SW 8-46-2-W5M.

PART 2 - EFFECTIVE DATE

2. This Bylaw shall come into force and take effect upon the date of Third and Final Reading.

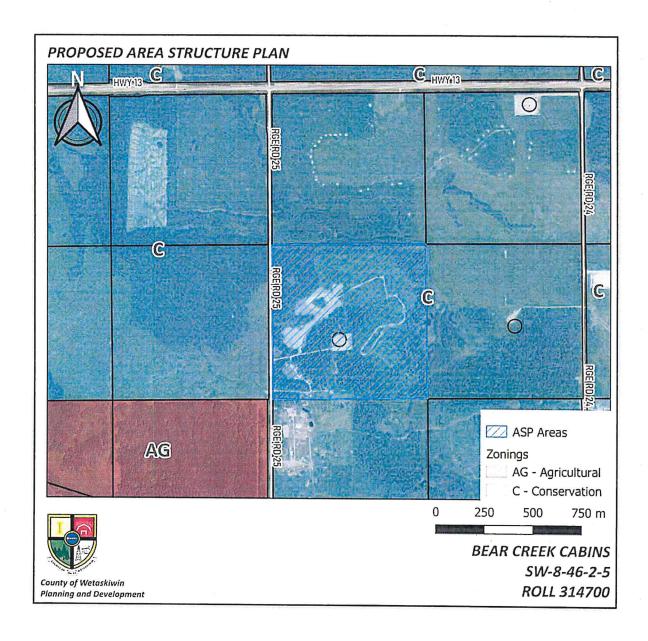
READ for the FIRST TIME this	28	day of	January	, A.D.,	2025
READ for the SECOND TIME this	28	day of	January	, A.D.,	2025
READ for a THIRD and FINAL time this	28	day of	January	, A.D.,	2025

COUNTY REEVE Josh Bishop

CAO Scott MacDougall

County of Wetaskiwin No. 10 BYLAW # 2024/65

SCHEDULE "A"



LOCAL AREA STRUCTURE PLAN

Bear Creek Cabins

SW 8-46-2 W5

County of Wetaskiwin





Prepared for:

Allan Groeneveld and Asa Yngvesson

By:

McLeod Consulting Ltd



#<u>47846 January</u> 10, 2025

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

The land owners Allan Groeneveld and Asa Yngvesson are proposing to build and operate 12 short term rental cabins for year round use.

They currently operate a commercial cow-calf operation on 3 quarters of land just south of highway 13 in the Battle lake area between Winfield and Pigeon Lake. They have lived here (on the NW 5-46-2 W5) since 1999 and are also in the beginnings of starting a guest ranch; Bear Creek Cabins, and would like to offer short term rental cabins and low impact activities like trail rides, hiking and something as simple as having a camp fire. The rental cabins are rustic with modern features. People of all ages come out to unwind and especially the children love the farm animals. The guests can also enjoy a private, rustic western collection of old items and buildings. There is a jail, an old school, a ranch house and an old church on site.

1.2 Location

The cabins are located ¾ mile south on the east side of range road #25 also called Bear Creek Trail in the rural County of Wetaskiwin

See Appendix #1

1.3 Landownership – The SW 8–46-2 W5 is owned by the applicants; Allan Groeneveld and Asa Yngvesson

2 Existing conditions

- **2.1 Existing land use** The SW 8-46-2 W5 is zoned watershed protection and is in an area with grey wooded soil and all the neighbouring land is of agricultural use and there is not any existing dwellings on any of the neighbouring quarters of land. The closest dwelling is a mile away to the west. The SW 8-46-2 W5 is hilly and covered with a mixture of trees and poor native pasture.
- **2.2 Adjacent Land Use** Six of the adjacent quarters are in bushy pasture, one is being hayed and the applicants themselves live on the quarter just north of the SW 8-46-2 W5 and use this quarter as the base for their cow-calf operation.
- **2.3 Site Features** There are trees and natural vegetation and a beautiful pond surrounding the cabin areas making it a perfect location for recreational activities.

- **2.4 Topography** The topography is hilly
- 2.5 Soil The soil on this quarter consist of grey wooded soil
- **2.6 Natural Areas** This land is zoned watershed protection and is therefore perfect for the intended low intensity recreational activities.
- **2.7 Historical Resources** This area is close to the Battle lake and the Battle River. Traditional and local knowledge is that the river formed the boundary between the territories of the Blackfoot and the Cree peoples and that many battles occurred along its length.

An e-mail from Rebecca Traquair, the
Regulatory Approvals Coordinator at the
Historic Resources Management Branch in Edmonton confirms that she
didn't see any justification to require that a Historic Resources Application is not required before
the construction of the cabins or for the approval of the ASP. Her e-mail is attached as Appendix
#9

2.8 Oil and gas and pipelines

Keyera Energy Ltd, i3 Energy and Journey Energy Inc all have pipelines crossing this quarter. i3 Energy also have a compressor station on this parcel of land.

With our previous development permit we contacted the three Energy Companies and received permission to have our first 8 cabins at disclosed distances from their pipelines. They asked that we contact them again once the new permits have been approved.

See Appendix #2 for a Keyera document

3 Legislative Framework

- **3.1 Municipal Government Act** The *Municipal Government Act* under Section 638.2 requires that municipalities must list their planning documents and how they relate to each other on their website.
- **3.2 Municipal Development Plan -** In the County of Wetaskiwin Municipal Development Plan from April 11, 2023, the following paragraphs support our development:

- **9.1.2** "Support Agritourism developments that celebrate the County's rich agricultural heritage".
- **9.1.4** "Encourage land intensive commercial recreational development primarily in the west Agricultural Policy Area where the characteristics of the land are more conducive to recreation developments"
- **9.1.5** "Consider supporting commercial recreation subdivision and developments, including multi-lot recreational uses, in locations that exhibit the following characteristics:
- a. Landscape features such as scenic views, treed areas, waterbodies or watercourses;
- **b**. Proximity to public recreational amenities;
- c. Access to developed County roads;
- d. Situated on poor agricultural land; and
- e. Sufficient availability of water and wastewater services"
- **11.3.2** "Support recreation, tourism, and residential developments in appropriate locations"
- **11.5.1** "Encourage the expansion of agricultural production and processing operations, small scale agriculture and agri-tourism in the Agricultural Policy Areas"
- **7.1.3** "Support expanding and diversifying employment opportunities through a balance of tourism, recreation, agriculture, residential, commercial and industrial uses."
- **7.1.4** "Encourage opportunities for small business and value-added agricultural developments including businesses that provide boutique agricultural services, experiences and products."
- **7.1.5** "Allow commercial and industrial uses within the Agricultural Policy Areas on lower capability agricultural lands where the transportation network can efficiently and effectively support the proposed development."

3.3 Other Applicable Plans – N/A

3.4 Land Use Bylaw - The land is located in the Watershed Protection District and the purpose of this zoning is to reduce flooding, improve water quality, and maintain wildlife habitat by encouraging the maintenance of natural vegetation adjacent to watercourses and in important watershed areas. Recreational, extensive use is encouraged and the purpose of this new development is to maintain the natural vegetation but to invite guests to enjoy the land quietly and without damaging it.

3.5 County Planning and Development Policies - There are two existing development permits for our property and the corresponding permit numbers are D23/193 and D23/020.

4 Public Engagement

We have sent out letters via e-mail to all owners of neighbouring properties to get their input on our growing business. When we did this for our first 8 cabins, all neighbours were positive to our business development.

See appendix #6 Letter of support from the Lakedell Ag Society, The Leduc and District food bank, The Longshot distillery and Brent Otterman – one neighbouring land owner.

5 Development Concept

5.1 Vision - The vision for Bear Creek Cabins is to be able to provide a tourism experience that showcases Alberta's rich ranching heritage. Customers will stay in rustic cabins with modern amenities like flush toilets, showers and wi-fi, while at the same time being surrounded by natures beauty with wildlife in abundance. The guest ranch is hoping to provide extensive recreational activities like trail rides, ranch tours, bird watching, star gazing, hiking and cross country skiing. We collaborate and recommend other local attractions like Twin Lakes, Pigeon Lake, the local golf courses, Blackmore shooting sports, Longshot distillery etc.

5.2 Land Use Plan

There are no plans to re-zone or subdivide this quarter section of land.

Bear Creek Cabins will be a recreational business providing agri-tourism experiences. We have provided several maps of the quarter showing the pipelines, the existing cabins and the area we are hoping to add

At the moment there are 8 existing cabins. 2 are for our hired help and 6 are for short term rentals. There are also 4 other existing structures that we call our "western town". These are non–serviced buildings on blocks constructed by rough lumber, only to create the ambiance of an old western town for tourists to walk through or have a camp fire in.

We are planning to move in 4 more short term rental cabins on skids – they will be built off site by Vitaly Visko in the County of Ponoka and then moved to our new area by the pond.

See appendix #9 for a list of the cabins.

5.3 Environment

Bear Creek Cabins and it's owners are looking to continue ranching and to help preserve the nature reserve and will continue to be good stewards of the land but are looking forward to sharing the ranch experience with guests from all over the world.

6 Transportation

- **6.1 Traffic Impact** With 10 cabins to rent we estimate that the road traffic might increase with 8-12 vehicles per week compared to before we were renting our cabins out. We own the second and third quarter on our road counting from Highway 13 south and the first quarter is pasture only, which means that the increased traffic should have very little impact on the neighbouring properties.
- **6.2External roadways** The existing county road #25 is sufficient for our purposes and should not be impacted much by the 8-12 more vehicles per week that this business venture might incur. There are no neighbours that would be impacted by the increased traffic. We are hoping to continue the use of both approaches to this quarter section.
- **6.3Internal roadways** We will build and maintain the roadways within our developments and cover them with appropriate material (gravel).

7 Servicing

- **7.1 Water Supply** We have one well already on this quarter of land and are planning on drilling a second one closer to the location of the 4 new cabins. We have attached the well drillers report for well #1 (see attachment #3)
- **7.2 Sewer Disposal** We have 4 septic tanks installed already for the existing cabins. We are planning on installing 2 more septic tanks for the 4 new cabins. The septic tanks are to be pumped out by truck by local providers. (Jim Kuefler)
- **7.3 Stormwater Management** Our location and topography is such that these cabins can't flood and they are built on skids and sitting on screwpiles or blocks so this is not going to be a problem.
- **7.4 Power** We have power installed for the existing cabins and are planning on having Fortis bringing in another power pole for the 4 new cabins

8 Subdivision / Development

There are NO plans to subdivide this quarter, but rather keeping it as natural as possible but inviting people to enjoy nature on a real ranch. A Real Property Report, completed by an Alberta Licensed

Surveyor, will be provided to the County as part of the development permit application for the cabins/accessory buildings.

9 Implementation

- **9.1 Commencement** This project has commenced as there is two existing development permits for the first 8 cabins, but this Area Structure plan completes this project and the plan is to start building on the last 4 cabins around July 1, 2024
- 9.2 ASP Expiry The expiry date for completion on this project can be set to June 15, 2027

10 Related documents

11 Maps / Site context

Map 1	Appendix #1	A regional map showing SW 8-46-2 W5
Map 2	Appendix #4	A Plan Area map
Map 3	Appendix #5	Existing conditions map - an aerial map
	Appendix #8	List of existing and new cabins

- **12 Master Sign Plan** Bear Creek Cabins have a wonderful locally crafted wooden Welcome sign located on the land close to range road #25. We are hoping to add a traditional blue "local attraction" sign on highway 13 as the business grows.
- **13 Parking Plan** Every cabin will have an appropriate parking spot near the front entrance. It will be covered with an appropriate material (gravel)

14 Technical Reports

Appendix #1	A regional map showing SW 8-46-2 W5
Appendix #2	Keyera letter in regards to existing and future development
Appendix #3	Well drillers report
Appendix #4	A Plan Area map showing details of development

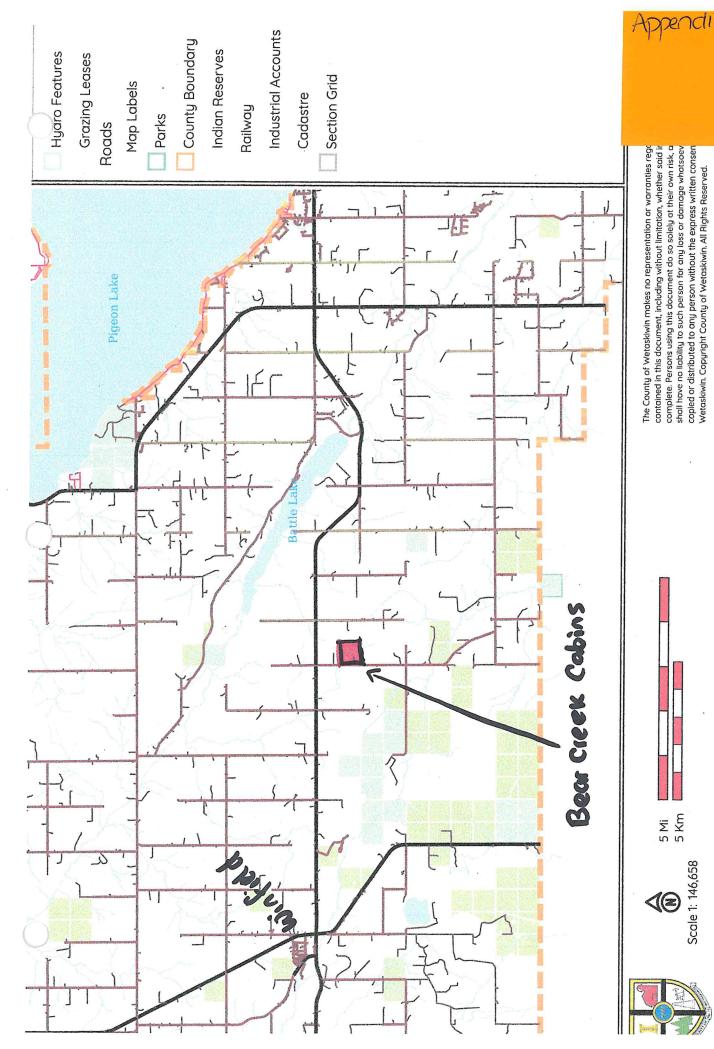
Appendix #5 Existing conditions map - an aerial map

Appendix #6 Letters of support

Appendix #7 Vitali Visko construction sheet for 4 new Pond cabins

Appendix #8 List of existing and new cabins

Appendix#9 Historical clearance e-mail



County of Wetaskiwin

June 30, 2022

Allan Groeneveld & Asa Yngvesson S.17 Personal Privacy

Dear Sir/Madam:

Re:

Existing and Future Development in SW 8-46-2 W5M

Keyera File: F03927 & P03946

Further to your letter dated June 23, 2022, Keyera Energy Ltd. ("Keyera") has reviewed your development plan request and site plan for the SW 8-46-2 W5M and can provide the following comments:

- Keyera is the current Grantee to a 15 meter Right of Way Agreement dated February 28,1989 and the Lessee to an Alberta Surface Lease Agreement dated November 14, 1989.
- Keyera holds Pipeline license 60191-1 which is licensed as a sour gas pipeline with 1.8% H2S and is a Level 1 pipeline. As per Directive 056, the setback (minimum distance) for Level 1 pipelines is the pipeline ROW.

Keyera can confirm that the existing developments within the SW 8-46-2 W5M are outside of the Right of Way boundary which complies with the AERs Directive 056. In addition, the proposed future developments are outside of the Right of Way boundary which would not hinder Keyera's current operations on the lands.

We trust you will find the foregoing to be in order; however, should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 403-205-8376.

Yours truly,

KEYERA ENERGY LTD.

S.17 Personal Privac

Per: Cindy Gerl Manager, Land

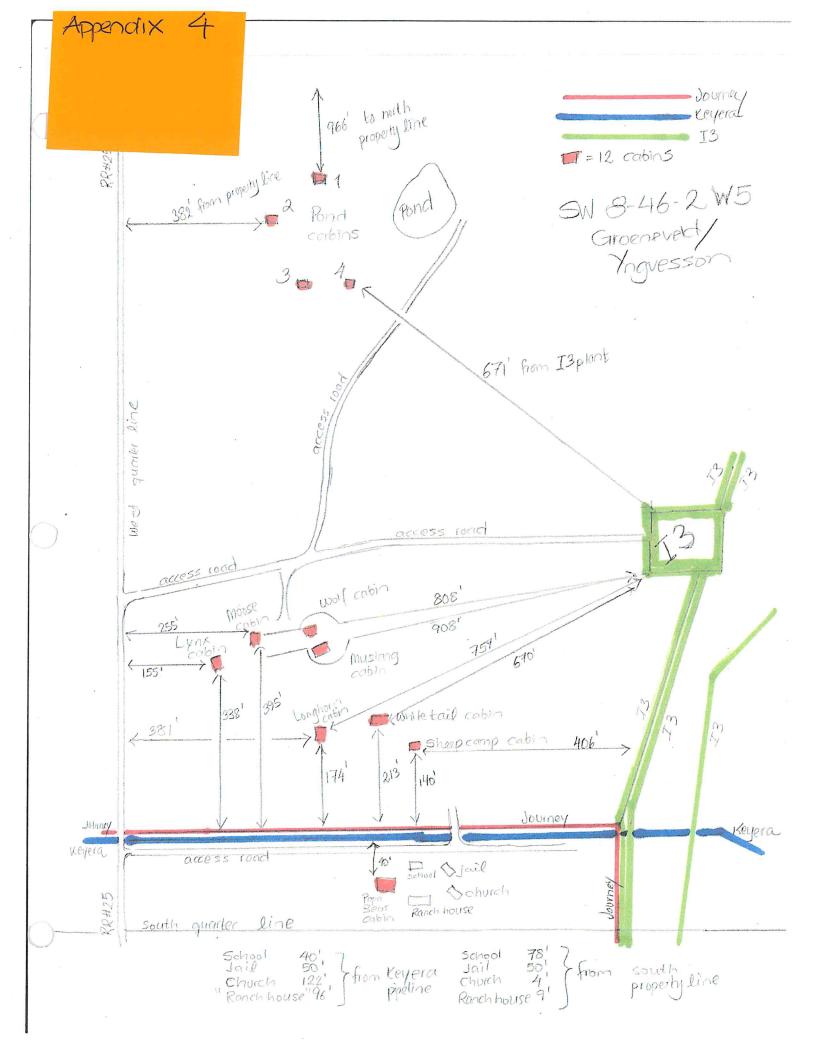
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County of Wetaskiwin







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Scale 1: 7,333





March 21, 2024

Travel Alberta
Tourism Investment Program
5.17 Personal Privacy

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Lakedell Agricultural Society Board of Directors to express our enthusiastic support for the Bear Creek Cabins and their application.

Bear Creek Cabins, owned and operated by Allan and Asa, have become a cherished asset to our community. Their commitment to providing exceptional accommodations and service is evident in every interaction we have had with them. Not only do they offer beautiful cabins, but they also go above and beyond to support local non-profit organizations, including our Agricultural Society.

One notable example of their dedication to our community is their generous support of our Ag Society events. Allan, Asa, and leir staff have consistently demonstrated their support by generously donating stays in their cabins to judges for our Horse Show Series and Country Fair Bench Show. Their contributions have significantly helped us manage costs, allowing us to allocate more resources towards enhancing the quality of our events.

Furthermore, Asa's longstanding role as the Farmers Market Manager for over 20 years has been invaluable to our community. Her dedication to supporting local vendors and providing a warm welcome to guests has made a significant impact on the success of our Farmers Market and the overall vibrancy of our community.

The commitment of Allan and Asa to community involvement extends beyond their business ventures. They have both been actively involved in 4-H for the past 25 years, serving as leaders and volunteers. Their ongoing support of the Beef 4-H Club through donations for the year-end buckle demonstrates their dedication to nurturing the growth and development of our youth.

In conclusion, Bear Creek Cabins exemplifies the spirit of community engagement and support. We wholeheartedly endorse their application for the Travel Alberta Grant and believe that their continued success will not only benefit their business but also contribute to the overall prosperity and vitality of our community.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information or clarification regarding our support for Bear Creek Cabins.

Sincerely,

Lim Hughes
Treasurer
Lakedell Agricultural Society Board of Directors



Leduc & District Food Bank

S.17 Personal Privacy

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24

Bear Creek Cabins S.17 Personal Privacy

Please accept this letter of appreciation and thanks for your very generous donation of a night cabin stay at your Ranch.

This was a great addition to the camping package we were able to offer at our Blackjack's "Back to the Eighties" fundraiser on Feb 24th 2024 as part of the live auction.

Approximately \$3,200.00. was raised

These are greatly needed funds to continue our operation of servicing 7 municipalities within the Leduc County Region with an approx. population of over 85,000. The demand on our services continue to grow daily.

We hope that this event was able to help promote Bear Creek Cabins and some of the other opportunities your operation offers to residents and tourist alike.

We like to make sure we are able to help promote donations such as yours that are sometimes best kept secrets in Alberta.

Once again thank you for taking our phone call and for helping support our fundraiser.

Sincerely

S.17 Personal Privacy

Gert Reynar Ex Director



March 21, 2024

Bear Creek Cabins

S.17 Personal Privacy

Dear Allan and Asa Groeneveld,

RE: Letter of Support – Travel Alberta Grant Application

Longshot Distilling Company is a distillery and restaurant just East of Winfield, Alberta. We are about 10 minutes West of Bear Creek Cabins on Highway 13.

We are a firm believer that Bear Creek Cabins have done great things for the community. They have built a beautiful space for people to come to and enjoy. They collaborate with us and other local businesses in activities and promotion.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any further questions.

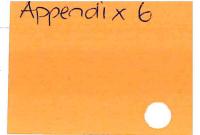
Thanks,

S.17 Personal Privacy



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Hello and regarding dditional cabins.

S.17 Personal Privacy n 2024-03-21 07:04

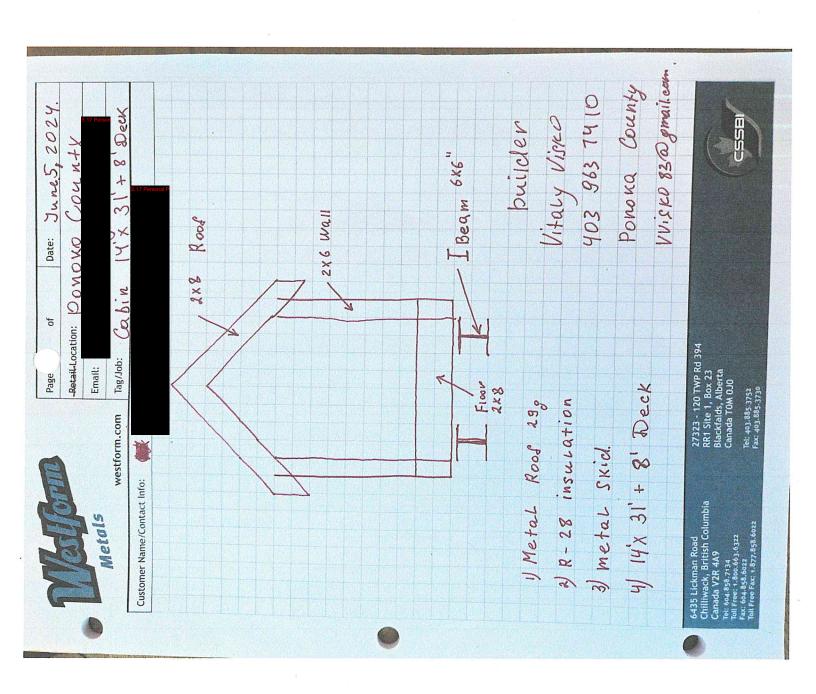
Howdy Al & Asa,

Thanks for the update and reaching out on the possibility of additional cabins. For the record feel free to use this email with the county to confirm that I have no issue with the proposed additional development of your Cabin and Hospitality business. The development and landscaping looks very good and there has been no noticeable increase in traffic or noise. Your business is very well run and adds some uniqueness and fun to the area. No issues with this neighbour!

Cheers,

Brent J Otterman,

Sec 07 Twp 046 Rge 02 Mer W5



Appendix #8 – List of cabins



They are all studio style, rustic one room cabins with a small kitchenette and a small washroom with a toilet and a stand up shower.

All cabins have been inspected by the health inspector and the water is tested monthly.

All the rental cabins come equipped with pots and pans, towels, bedding and reliable wi-fi.

Size 448 sq ft 323 sq ft (17'*19') 239 sq ft (14.5'*16.5')	Use staff staff short rental	Construction A-frame on steel beams on blocks on blocks	Beds 2 queen beds 1 double bed, 1 hide-a-bed, 1 double bed
239 sq ft (14.5′*16.5′)	short rental	on blocks	1 double bed
285 sq ft (15'*19')	short rental	on blocks	1 double bed, 1 hide-a-bed
285 sq ft (15'*19')	short rental	on blocks	1 double bed, 1 futon
392 sq ft (14'*28')	short rental	on steel beams	1 queen bed, 1 loft
392 sq ft (14'*28')	short rental	on steel beams	1 queen bed, 1 loft
392 sq ft (14'*28')	short rental	on steel beams	1 queen bed, 1 loft
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434 sq ft 14'*31')	short rental	on steel beams	1 queen bed, 1 loft
434 sq ft 14'*31')	short rental	on steel beams	1 queen bed, 1 loft
434 sq ft 14'*31')	short rental	on steel beams	1 queen bed, 1 loft
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RE: Historical clearance SW 8-46-2 W5 County of Wetaskiwin

From Rebecca Traquair S.17 Personal Privacy

To S.17 Personal P

Date 2024-06-05 15:44

Standard Requirements under the Historical Resources Act - Reporting the Discovery of Historic Reso

Hello Asa,

I've had a look at the location you provided and I don't see any justification to require you to submit a Historic Resources Application for the ASP or construction of cabins. I'm attaching a standard document that describes what to do if historic resources are encountered during any kind of land development activity, which would have accompanied our reply if you applied formally. If the municipality has any questions, you may refer them to me. Thank you so much for getting in touch,

Rebecca Traquair (she/her)

Regulatory Approvals Coordinator

Archaeological Information & Regulatory Approvals

Archaeological Survey

Historic Resources Management Branch

Alberta Arts, Culture, and Status of Women

Old St. Stephen's College

0-112 Street

Edmonton, AB T6G 2P8

Phone: (780) 431-2373

Email: S.17 Personal Privacy

www.culture.alberta.ca/hrm

Classification: Protected A

From:S.17 Personal Privacy

Sent: Wednesday, June 05, 2024 12:10 PM

To: Rebecca Traquair S.17 Personal Privacy

Subject: Historical clearance SW 8-46-2 W5 County of Wetaskiwin

CAUTION: This email has been sent from an external source. Treat hyperlinks and attachments in this email with care.

Good afternoon Rebecca!

I just talked to you on the phone.

