

# WORKING TOGETHER FOR WATER: A REGIONAL OPPORTUNITY

**Proposed Municipally Controlled Corporation (MCC)  
County of Wetaskiwin & Town of Thorsby**

**Public Hearing Date: July 29, 2025**



# WHAT IS AN MCC?

A Municipal Controlled Corporation (MCC) is:

- A legal partnership between municipalities
- Provides a framework for service delivery and governance
- Governed under the MGA and requires public input
- Material changes require additional public hearings
- Designed to provide shared services (like utilities)





# OVERVIEW

- Provide an overview of the proposed MCC
- Outline the benefits of a formal partnership
- Highlight water access, growth and security goals
- Explain current status and next steps

# WHY DO WE NEED AN MCC?

The MCC provides a formal way for the County and Town to secure long-term water access for residents, businesses, and future development



Thorsby has a state-of-the-art water treatment plant that is under utilized

The County has a customer base

The MCC can access Provincial grant funding

Currently, there are no private service providers operating in the County & Town

# THE GOAL

To improve water **accessibility, quality,** and **reliability.**

**We're proposing to create a formal partnership to:**

**Plan for future water needs**

**Explore shared distribution systems**

**Unlock funding opportunities**

**Support growth in both communities**

# WHY FORM AN MCC NOW?

Grant funding of \$100,000 secured through the Water for Life Grant

Funding will support feasibility studies and a business case

Enables reliable costs and identifies future growth opportunities

Early planning positions us for future infrastructure funding

**The MCC is a first step – not a final decision on building infrastructure.**



# MUNICIPAL OVERSIGHT & GOVERNANCE

## Creating an MCC under the Municipal Government Act (MGA) requires:

- Identifying a valid municipal purpose
- Defining benefits to residents
- Careful research and business planning
- Holding a public hearing

The MCC will be equally owned by the County and the Town.



# WHAT THE MCC WILL DO



The initial MCC will be a basic structure only with no assets or funds required. No water lines or services are being built or transferred right now.



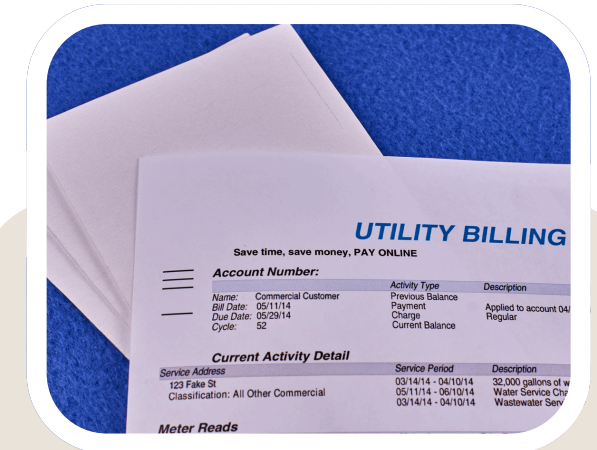
Formalize the partnership between County of Wetaskiwin and Town of Thorsby



Conduct technical studies and business planning



Explore water distribution options for both communities



Ensure that utility rates are competitive and affordable. Estimated to be \$6.00/m<sup>3</sup>



# WATER FOR LIFE GRANT ALIGNMENT

## **MCC will apply for Water for Life funding to:**

- Conduct engineering studies
- Identify infrastructure needs and costs
- Explore future growth areas and capacity
- Ensure informed planning based on evidence



# BENEFITS TO THE REGION

- 1) Improves water quality for Pigeon Lake area residents and businesses, while protecting the aquifer and the lake
- 2) Supports future residential, commercial, and agricultural growth by ensuring long-term water access





# BENEFITS TO THE REGION

- 4) Provides additional resources for fire protection and emergency readiness
- 5) Enhances regional economic competitiveness through shared infrastructure and planning
- 6) Maintains a secure, reliable, and sustainable water treatment facility



# KEY CERTAINTIES

- **No assets or financial transfers at this stage**
- **Any future changes (e.g. service provision, asset transfers) will require:**
  - Lots of public consultation, including Public Hearings
  - Formal Council decisions



# WHERE WE ARE IN THE PROCESS

**We are currently in the public hearing phase, required under the MGA.**

**Public input is required before any decision**

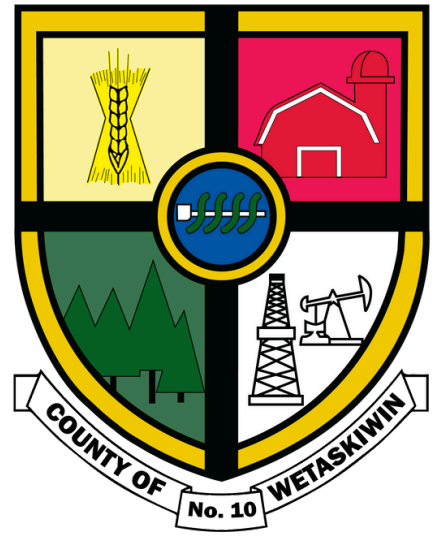
**Each Council will consider a formal resolution**

**Final MCC setup to follow only if approved**



## **IF APPROVED, WE WILL...**

- Finalize MCC incorporation documentation
- Begin feasibility study and cost analysis utilizing the \$100,000 Water for Life Grant.
- Submit grant application under Water for Life for Capital Construction.
- Maintain transparency and provide updates to the public



# THANK YOU

For more information, see  
[www.county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca/828/  
Regional-Water](http://www.county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca/828/Regional-Water)

