

News Release For Immediate Release

Friday, March 8, 2024

## **Town Council Approves Change in Approach to Fire Services**

**Onoway, AB** – On Thursday, February 22, 2024, Onoway Town Council voted in favour of changing the Town's approach to Fire Services.

Until this point, the Town of Onoway has offered Fire Services through a private contractor, rather than through the more typical structure of a public Emergency Services Department. With this change, Council has approved a one-year transition period, maintaining the current service delivery model while working on a new agreement for public service delivery.

The Town will also transition out of providing services to nine municipalities that currently have an agreement with the Town for Fire Service provision.

"We're excited to move forward in this process of modernizing the delivery of Fire Services for our community," said Onoway Mayor Len Kwasny. "This change will help ensure a high level of service throughout the entire region, while eliminating potential jurisdictional confusion amongst departments."

This model of service is quite typical across the province, and is considered best practice amongst municipalities and regions comparable to the Town of Onoway across Alberta.

"We appreciate the efforts of the current contractors serving Onoway and our regional partners, who work diligently to keep our community safe," Mayor Kwasny said. "This change is not a reflection of that dedication, but rather to align our efforts with best practice and sustainability of service."

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