

# Briefing – to Members of Council

**Council Meeting Date: September 3, 2019**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>2019 Municipal Census Results</b>
<b>Confidential</b>	No
<b>Attachment(s)</b>	1. 2019 Census Results ( <i>Pending approval from Municipal Affairs</i> )
<b>Issue</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The 2019 Municipal Census for Lac La Biche County is now complete. The purpose of this briefing is to provide Council with an update of the results submitted to Municipal Affairs on Friday, August 30, 2019; results are due to the Province by or on September 1, 2019.</li> <li>▪ The County's total recorded population was 9,636, of this total 8,654 were permanent residents, while 982 belonged to the shadow population (<i>individuals residing in the County for the purpose of work but who have a permanent residence elsewhere</i>).</li> </ul>
<b>Background</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Lac La Biche County Census was conducted between April 17, 2019 and June 30, 2019. The time frame for conducting a municipal census is established by the Province of Alberta, through the Department of Municipal Affairs.</li> <li>▪ April 17, 2019 was the Municipal Census date, meaning this is the date to which the census questions refer to, and is the date that provides a snapshot of the County's population.</li> <li>▪ The purpose of the census was to obtain an accurate count of the County's population, as this information ensures the County receives its equitable share of grants and funding from the provincial and federal governments. The census information also enables the County to better plan and implement the services it provides to the public.</li> <li>▪ The County used an "online census methodology", as opposed to a paper based or hybrid method. Residents could complete the census in three ways: online, over the phone, or in person via door to door enumerations.</li> <li>▪ Property owners were mailed letters containing a PIN number, a website address, and their address. Residents could access the website address, enter their PIN number, confirm their address and</li> </ul>

complete the survey. The mailed letter also contained a telephone number to allow over the phone completion.

- Residents had until May 1, 2019 to complete the survey either online or over the phone before the door to door enumeration commenced. Those who did not receive a letter, or did not respond, were visited by an enumerator.
- Online participation was at 21.14%. The majority of responses were collected via door-to-door completion, which was recorded at 70.2%. The remaining responses were completed over the phone or with the assistance of the Census Coordinators.
- Between July 1, 2019 through to August 30, 2019, the Quality Assurance portion of the census was completed.
- The last time the County conducted a Municipal Census was in 2016. The County counted 8,544 permanent residents, and 987 shadow population residents.
- The permanent population increased by 1.29%, while the shadow population decreased by .51%.
- Overall, the County experience nominal growth, growing 1.1% over a 3-year period.
- At this time, the census results are considered preliminary and are pending approval from Municipal Affairs. It normally takes several months for Municipal Affairs to approve the census results.
- Once approved, the 2019 census numbers will be used by the Province in calculating grant funding for some grants, the most notable being the Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) funding.
- All- The results of the Municipal Census impact all 5 Strategic Goals: Economic Development, Recreation and Culture, Social Wellness, Tourism, and Environment.

#### **Strategic Alignment**

#### **Follow-up**

- To accept the 2019 Municipal Census Results Briefing as information.

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