

**ADMINISTRATIVE CONSOLIDATION OF BYLAW 16-24
AS OF NOVEMBER 24, 2025**

BYLAW 16-24

**A BYLAW OF THE TOWN OF OKOTOKS
IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
TO ESTABLISH THE POSITION OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

(As amended by Bylaws 19-24, 04-25, 15-25, and 32-25)

WHEREAS pursuant to the provisions of the *Municipal Government Act*, RSA 2000, c. M-26 and amendments thereto, Council of the Town of Okotoks (Council) must pass a Bylaw for the purpose of establishing the Chief Administrative Officer position within the Town of Okotoks, and **(Bylaw 32-25)**

WHEREAS Council wishes to delegate certain powers and duties to the Chief Administrative Officer.

NOW THEREFORE Council enacts as follows: **(Bylaw 32-25)**

1. SHORT TITLE

1.1. This Bylaw may be known as the "Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Bylaw".

2. DEFINITIONS

In this Bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:

2.1 **Administration** means the general operations of the Town, including all personnel, financial and other related resources and matters as permitted by the *Municipal Government Act* and any successor legislation;

2.2 **Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)** means the person appointed to the position of chief administrative officer for the Town of Okotoks within the meaning of the *Municipal Government Act*;

2.3 **Council** means the Mayor and Councillors of the Town of Okotoks duly elected pursuant to the provisions of the *Local Authorities Election Act*, as amended, or any legislation in replacement or substitution thereof;

- 2.4 **Deputy Mayor** means the person acting in the absence of the Mayor for the Town of Okotoks, within the meaning of the *Municipal Government Act*;
- 2.5 **Mayor** means the person elected to the position of Chief Elected Official for the Town of Okotoks, within the meaning of the *Municipal Government Act*.
- 2.6 **Municipal Government Act (MGA)** means the *Municipal Government Act*, RSA 2000, c. M-26, any regulations thereunder, and any amendments or successor legislation thereto; **(Bylaw 32-25)**
- 2.7 **Policy** means policies that are approved by Council, provide strategic direction on programs and services delivered by the Town, primarily impact and address the residents of the Town, and provide an official position on plans to govern the Town.
- 2.8 **Town** means the corporation of the Town of Okotoks in the Province of Alberta, and where the context so requires, the area of land within the corporate boundaries thereof. **(Bylaw 32-25)**

3. OFFICE

- 3.1. The position of CAO is hereby created and the person appointed to that position shall have the title CAO:
- 3.2. Council will appoint an individual to the position of CAO.
- 3.3. Council will establish the terms and conditions of the appointment of the CAO including the salary, vacation entitlements, and fringe benefits to be paid or provided to the CAO and are to be reviewed annually. The CAO shall be entitled to participate in employee benefit plans, which all other employees are entitled to participate in at the same set rate.
- 3.4. Council as a whole must provide the CAO with an annual written performance evaluation of the results the CAO has achieved with respect to fulfilling the CAO's responsibilities.

4. ACCOUNTABILITY

- 4.1. The CAO is accountable to Council for the exercise of all powers, duties, and functions assigned to the CAO under the *MGA*, this Bylaw, any other enactment, or as delegated to the CAO by Council.
- 4.2. The CAO, as provided for in the *MGA*, is authorized to delegate (and to authorize further delegations of) any powers, duties, and functions assigned to the CAO by Council under the *MGA* and under this or any other bylaw to an employee of the Town.
- 4.3. The CAO is the principal administrative link between the Administration and Council. Under the *MGA*, the CAO:
 - 4.3.1. is the administrative head of the Town;
 - 4.3.2. ensures that the policies and programs of the Town are implemented;
 - 4.3.3. advises and informs Council on the operation and affairs of the Town;
 - 4.3.4. performs the duties and functions and exercises the powers assigned to a CAO under the *MGA* and other enactments or assigned or delegated by Council; and
 - 4.3.5. has all the powers, duties, and functions given to a designated officer under the *MGA* or any other statute or enactment. **(Bylaw 19-24)**
- 4.4. Members of the Administration are accountable to the CAO. The CAO shall be the contact between the Administration of the Town and Council and communication from the Administration to Council shall flow through the CAO.

5. GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES

- 5.1. The CAO is authorized to:
 - 5.1.1. appoint an Acting CAO to act during absences of up to four (4) weeks of the CAO;
 - 5.1.2. coordinate, direct, supervise and review the performance of the Administration;

- 5.1.3. establish the structure of the Administration;
- 5.1.4. attend all meetings of Council and meetings of such Boards, Authorities and other bodies as are required by Council;
- 5.1.5. conduct, audits, investigations and studies of the Administration, as the CAO deems necessary;
- 5.1.6. hire, appoint, transfer or promote any Town employee;
- 5.1.7. evaluate, discipline, suspend, demote, or remove any Town employee;
- 5.1.8. determine salaries, benefits, hours of work and other working conditions;
- 5.1.9. provide corporate leadership in ensuring that all Town policies and programs are efficiently coordinated, are delivered in a responsive and effective manner, and reflect the overall strategic priorities of the Town as defined by Council;
- 5.1.10. prepare and submit to Council such reports and recommendation as may be required by Council; and
- 5.1.11. respond to inquiries and requests for information on behalf of the Town, including stating the Town's position, subject to any Council approved policy, procedure, standard or guideline, or as otherwise directed by Council.

6. FINANCIAL POWERS AND FUNCTIONS

- 6.1. The CAO has the authority to:
 - 6.1.1. prepare and submit operating and capital budgets as directed by Council;
 - 6.1.2. pay any amounts which the Town is legally required to pay pursuant to an Order or Judgement of a Court, board or other tribunal or competent jurisdiction, relating to an action, claim or demand against the Town;
 - 6.1.3. monitor and control expenditures within the budgets approved by Council for the Administration and authorize budget adjustments or

adjustments for programs within a division as long as the amount budgeted for that division does not change, and in particular report on variances on any of these adjustments over \$25,000 (**Bylaw 04-25**) on a quarterly basis to Council;

- 6.1.4. designate the financial institution(s) to be used by the Town and shall open and close accounts that hold the Town's money;
- 6.1.5. invest funds on behalf of the Town in accordance with the provisions of the *MGA*;
- 6.1.6. to add amounts to the tax roll of a parcel of land under the *MGA*;
- 6.1.7. except as otherwise instructed by Council, and without limitation, instruct legal counsel to provide legal services to the Town and Council and retain, instruct and pay for the services of legal counsel;
- 6.1.8. to authorize the write-off of a bad debt owed by an individual or business under \$5,000 if uncollectible after two (2) years; and
- 6.1.9. to authorize the write-off of any fee or charge owed by an individual or business under \$1,000 if the fee or charge is determined to have been issued in error or does not align with intended billing policies, service standards, or applicable bylaws. (**Bylaw 32-25**)

7. CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS

- 7.1. The CAO is authorized to:
 - 7.1.1. approve and enter into all contracts and agreements, as directed and sanctioned by Council, involving:
 - 7.1.1.1. the sale of Town owned land at a sale price as approved and delegated by Council in closed session and protected under section 30(1) of the *Access to Information Act*; (**Bylaw 32-25**)
 - 7.1.1.2. the purchase of land, which has been allocated in the Town capital budget, and is for a purchase price as approved and delegated by Council in closed session and protected under section 30(1) of the *Access to Information Act*; (**Bylaw 32-25**)

- 7.1.1.3. the market commission of sponsorship assets as approved and delegated by Council in closed session and protected under section 30(1)(c) of the *Access to Information Act*; **(Bylaw 32-25)**
- 7.1.2. enter into all agreements and contracts incidental to the development and subdivision of land within the Town pursuant to the *MGA* and complete all documents required for or incidental to such development or subdivision;
- 7.1.3. extend the time for endorsement of subdivision plans and for the registration of the subdivision plans in accordance with the *MGA*;
- 7.1.4. negotiate and settle all actions, claims, or demands against or by the Town and complete all related documentation;
- 7.1.5. enter into all agreements or contracts for leases of land at fair market value;
- 7.1.6. enter into all provincial and federal grant funding agreements;
- 7.1.7. enter into all agreements and contracts and issue all documents incidental to the authority granted to a municipality under the *MGA*;
- 7.1.8. approve and enter into all documents, consents, approvals, acknowledgements and certificates required for or incidental to any agreement, contract, settlement, tender or investment;
- 7.1.9. sign:
 - 7.1.9.1. along with the person presiding at the meeting, all minutes of Council meetings,
 - 7.1.9.2. along with the Mayor, all bylaws, and
 - 7.1.9.3. along with the Mayor or Councillor, agreements and cheques and other negotiable instruments;
 - 7.1.9.4. along with the Mayor or Councillor, one payroll cheque to cover the payroll account
 - 7.1.9.5. acting alone all orders, contracts, agreements, documents and certificates that may be required pursuant to any agreement, contract, bylaw or enactment; and

- 7.2. The CAO's signature and the signatures of any other Town employees to whom Council or the CAO delegates signing authority may be printed, lithographed, or otherwise reproduced.

8. OTHER POWERS AND DUTIES

- 8.1. The CAO:

- 8.1.1. is appointed as Returning Officer for the purposes of the *Local Authorities Election Act*;
- 8.1.2. is the Head of the Town for the purposes of the *Access to Information Act (ATIA) and Protection of Privacy Act (POPA)* and shall act as *Access and Privacy Officer* for the overall management of access to information and protection of privacy functions and responsibilities; **(Bylaw 32-25)**
- 8.1.3. is the liaison between the Town and the Commanding Officer of the RCMP detachment serving the Town; and
- 8.1.4. is the Director of Emergency Management for the Town.

- 8.2. The CAO is authorized to:

- 8.2.1. accept services of all notices and other documents on behalf of the Town;
- 8.2.2. provide any and all certificates or statutory declarations on behalf of the Town;
- 8.2.3. temporarily close any road at any time;
- 8.2.4. prepare and issue distress warrants and seize and sell goods pursuant to distress warrants on behalf of the Town for the recovery of tax arrears;
- 8.2.5. carry out inspections, remedies, enforcement or other actions pursuant to the *MGA*, any other enactment, or any bylaw where the *MGA* or any other enactment or bylaw authorizes or requires anything to be inspected, remedied, enforced or done by the Town;
- 8.2.6. make determinations and issue orders pursuant to the *MGA* or any other statute, enactment or bylaw which the Town is authorized to enforce;

- 8.2.7. ensure administrative support is provided to all Town Council's Boards and Committees;
- 8.2.8. revise bylaws under the *MGA* including correction of clerical, grammatical and typographical errors and altering of the citation and title of a bylaw and the numbering and arrangement of its provisions, and to add, change or delete a note, heading, or title.
- 8.2.9. consolidate bylaws, including the preparation of administrative consolidations; and
- 8.2.10. ensure the sufficiency of any petition that may be submitted to the Town in accordance with the requirements of the *MGA*.

9. SEVERABILITY

It is the intention of Council that each separate provision of this Bylaw shall be deemed independent of all other provisions herein and it is the further intention of Council that if any provision of this Bylaw is declared invalid, all other provisions hereof shall remain valid and enforceable.

This Bylaw shall come into full force and effect upon third and final reading.

Bylaw 21-17, 06-01, 18-14, and 17-16 (**Bylaw 16-24**) and amendments thereto are hereby repealed upon this Bylaw coming into effect.

Bylaw 16-24 received third and final reading April 8, 2024.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
MAYOR AND CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Bylaw 19-24 received third and final reading June 10, 2024.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
MAYOR AND CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Bylaw 04-25 received third and final reading January 27, 2025.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
MAYOR AND CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Bylaw 15-25 received third and final reading April 14, 2025.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
MAYOR AND CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Bylaw 32-25 received third and final reading November 24, 2025.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
MAYOR AND CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER