

## Mayor Alanna Hnatiw Sturgeon County

Sturgeon County Centre 9613-100 Street Morinville, AB, Canada T8R 1L9 T: 780-939-8327 E: ahnatiw@sturgeoncounty.ca

March 2, 2020

Dear Alberta Municipalities:

Alberta is currently in a time of crisis. We are facing ongoing challenges in our Province's energy and agriculture sectors; tensions are rising, and western alienation continues to grow. Alberta is a place of innovation and opportunity—our Province has so much to offer to Canada and the world. Now is the time to make that clear.

Our municipality believes there is an opportunity at the upcoming Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Convention to promote Alberta to a national audience while contributing to improve inter-provincial relationships and enhanced prosperity.

We want to propose setting the stage to tell a truly Albertan story. Each municipality in our great province is unique and brings strengths to the collective table. This June, at the FCM Convention, let us showcase to the rest of Canada, the high level of competitiveness and diversity that flourishes in Alberta. We know Alberta as a destination for unique tourism, agriculture, and machine learning. Our Alberta is home to world-class post-secondary institutions and advanced manufacturing. We are a place of aviation, renewable energy, a highly skilled workforce, and solutions-based thinking. We are proud to say Alberta is also home to the most ethically-sourced traditional energy extraction projects in the world that help fuel our modern times. Let's tell our story.

We are reaching out to our fellow municipalities to gauge interest in being involved in an Alberta-focused reception at FCM. The purpose of the reception is to reframe the perspective others throughout our Country may have about Alberta.

This event will be held on **June 6**, **2020 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.** where brief educational presentations and entertainment would be available. Currently working towards having a keynote speaker who will entertain and potentially moderate a panel. We envision having notable Albertans attend the reception to share, from their perspectives, what makes this Province the most desirable place to be. Each participating municipality may also have the opportunity to showcase their community in a one-two minute video loop.

Sturgeon County, MD of Greenview and the Municipality of Wood Buffalo's Councils recently passed motions to fund portions of this event, up to \$10,000. *The Imperial Room at the Fairmont, Toronto* has been secured. We understand that these are tough economic times and that monetary contributions to this initiative will vary from municipality-to-municipality. We are of the firm belief, however, that this opportunity can be a success if we all band together.

With June quickly approaching, we are actively looking for partners. Sturgeon County respectfully requests that your municipality reply to this call-to-action, with details on how you may be able to participate in the planning and/or funding of the event. In addition to support from other municipalities, we are also turning to industry and the Government of Alberta to help progress this important initiative.

When indicating interest please reply to: **Deputy Mayor Neal Comeau**, Sturgeon County:

Email: ncomeau@sturgeoncounty.ca or

Cell: 587 986 5035

A small shift in one person's perspective can lead to significant change. Under one unified action, we can achieve our goal.

Sincerely,

Alanna Hnatiw,

Mayor, Sturgeon County

Cc: Dane Lloyd, MP Sturgeon River-Parkland

Honourable Dale Nally, Associate Minister of Natural Gas

Shane Getson, MLA, Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland

Council, Sturgeon County

Reegan McCullough, CAO Sturgeon County