



Christopher Northcott,
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COUNCILLOR REPORT

Councillor activities and updates for December 2024.

- The December edition of “Notes from Council” is on my website:
<https://christophernorthcott.com/category/notes-from-council/>
- Attended Regular Meetings of Council on December 4th and 18th.
- Attended the regular board meeting for the Oldman River Regional Services Commission on December 5th. The Mayor of Pincher Creek, Don Anderberg, and I presented the budget to the board on behalf of the Executive Committee, explaining the changes and the rationale informing the budgetary changes. Some members wanted us to rip the band-aid off in one year, becoming less reliant on variable revenues by covering our fixed expenses with out fixed revenues. After ten years as Chair, Gordon Wolstenhome from Town of Fort Mcleod has stepped back as Chair and agreed to continue on the Executive Committee for one more year, or until his term as a council member for the town is completed. I was elected as the Chair of ORRSC for 2025. It will be a challenging year as our long-time CAO is retiring and the Executive will be undertaking the recruitment of a new one, as well as implementing a new financial operating plan with our new finance person, Stephanie Sayers. The Executive is also commencing working on updating the service agreements with all members to ensure that it is relevant to current operations and standardized across the members.
- Attended a preparation meeting on December 16th over Microsoft Teams with ORRSC CAO, Lenze Kuiper, and administrative staff. This meeting was to review correspondence and prepare for forthcoming meeting with Lethbridge County.
- Attended meeting at ORRSC with Lethbridge County on December 17th. They are very happy with the service they get from ORRSC but wanted to discuss the need for an updated service agreement.
- Attended Southern Alberta Energy from Waste board meeting over Zoom on December 27th. Reviewed draft Memorandum of Understanding with selected vendor and discussed potential changes. This documentation has now been circulated to the membership.



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Constituent Matters:

- Attended the District 20 Champion Fire Association meeting on December 10th. They discussed potential building project and the information that would be required for grant applications. The fire association is wondering about tying into the fire hall for the utilities for natural gas and electricity to service a new equipment storage facility on the same lot (to be built with fire association funds). Even if these services are metered off the fire hall and billed to the association, it is thought that this will save money over the long term.
- Received correspondence from the board of the Lake McGregor Country Estates Community Association on items they would be interested in discussing with me in the New Year. Facilitated communication with Administration on how it works for a society to invest their own money at a better interest rate with the county, as well as how it works for a not-for-profit association to borrow money from the county. Any items that go forward will be brought to Council for review and decision.