

November 25, 2024

Mayor Alanna Hnatiw
Sturgeon County Council
9613 100 Street
Morinville, AB T8R 1L9

Email: jsopko@sturgeoncounty.ca

Dear Mayor and Council,

In our role as an advisory committee to Council, the Sand and Gravel Committee has asked me to write to you about the idea of reclaiming some of the sand and gravel properties to recreation land.

We believe we have a unique but timely opportunity to enhance the health and well being of the communities near sand and gravel operations. We recommend that the council direct administration to seriously explore the concept of reclaiming some of the pit lands to recreation.

Industry has expressed an interest in providing the land with the county only needing to approve the change in reclamation and then taking over the maintenance of the property.

This is a timely issue, as a plan has to be in place before industry starts to do reclamation work.

It is our understanding that industry is required to reclaim land in accordance with provincial regulations and with the approval of the Municipality.

With the approval of County Council, they can change the reclamation from farmland or industrial to recreation.

A man-made lake with walking/ bicycle paths, for example, is an inexpensive way for industry and the county to showcase its commitment to community health and wellness.

Thank you for considering these recommendations.

Please feel free to contact me at 780-915-0962 or raysoetaert@gmail.com if you require any further information.

Sincerely,

Ray Soetaert
Sand and Gravel Advisory Committee Chair

Cc: Travis Peter, Interim Chief Administrative Officer
Milad Asdaghi, Acting General Manager, Development Services
Christine Wells, Director, Community Services
Tim Osborne, Manager, Family and Community Support Services
Martyn Bell, Acting Manager, Planning & Development
Joy Thimer, Assistant, Integrated Development and Land Services