

Administrative Backgrounder

Presentation Request

Title	2:30 p.m. Alberta Municipal Affairs – Town of Gibbons Viability Review Presentation
Summary	Municipal Affairs staff will provide Council with an update on the Town of Gibbons Viability Review, including what has been completed to date, what information is still being collected including through the viability workbooks, and the next steps leading to the Viability Report, public engagement, and vote.
Recommended Motion	That the Alberta Municipal Affairs Town of Gibbons Viability Review Presentation be accepted as information.
Previous Council / Committee Direction	<p><u>February 10, 2026 Regular Council Meeting</u> Motion 38/26: That the presentation from the Town of Gibbons regarding its financial situation and potential recovery pathways be accepted as information.</p> <p><u>February 10, 2026 Regular Council Meeting</u> Motion 39/26: That Council agree to take part in the provincial Viability Review of the Town of Gibbons and direct Administration to share any needed information and work with the reviewers during that process.</p> <p><u>February 10, 2026 Regular Council Meeting</u> Motion 40/26: That Administration, using existing budgets and re-prioritizing non-essential work where possible, prepare an analysis of known implications if the Town of Gibbons were to dissolve into Sturgeon County following the conclusion of the provincial Viability Review.</p>
Background Context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government of Alberta is currently conducting a Viability Review of the Town of Gibbons. • The Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MA) is the lead department responsible for viability reviews under the <i>Municipal Government Act</i>. MA designs and administers the review process, gathers and analyzes information, prepares a “Viability Report”, and conducts the required public engagement and vote following the Report’s completion.

- The intent of the March 10, 2026 presentation is to provide Council with a Ministry-led overview of the viability review process and current status and outline the remaining steps and expected sequencing toward the Viability Report and vote.
- MA has advised it will also be presenting to the Town of Gibbons Council the evening of March 10, following Sturgeon County Council’s meeting.

Discussions and Steps to Date

- MA informed Sturgeon County about an expedited Viability Review approach for the Town of Gibbons (February 5, 2026).
- Sturgeon County Council received a presentation from the Town of Gibbons and related service and financial support requests (February 10, 2026).
- MA’s process coordination has included early discussions with participating municipalities and partners, and separate meetings between the Minister of Municipal Affairs and the Town of Gibbons and Sturgeon County (February 20, 2026).

Process Considerations

- MA uses standardized viability workbooks to collect information. Workbooks must be completed by both the Town of Gibbons and Sturgeon County, and cover areas such as:
 - Governance and administration
 - Financial condition and sustainability
 - Infrastructure and capital needs
 - Service delivery and regional relationships
 - Community context and other local factors
- MA has advised the County that the deadline to submit all County workbooks is April 29, 2026. Workbook content is treated as confidential until Municipal Affairs publishes the Viability Report materials.

Attachment(s)	1. Attachment 1: Alberta Municipal Affairs’ Town of Gibbons Viability Review Presentation
Administrative Review:	<p>Michael Selig, Intergovernmental Advisor, Corporate Planning & Intergovernmental Services</p> <p>Jennifer Lavallee, Director, Communications and Strategic Services</p> <p>Andrew Hayes, General Manager, Financial Services and Chief Financial Officer</p>

Jesse Sopko, Manager, Legislative and Legal Services

Travis Peter, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)