

**Bylaw 17-2018: Emergency Management (EM) Bylaw (Repeals Bylaw 42-2013)****Report Purpose**

To give first, second and third reading to the Emergency Management (EM) Bylaw in order to reflect current practices and improvements to the County's EM program and repeal bylaw 42-2013.

**Recommendations**

1. THAT Bylaw 17-2018, the Emergency Management Bylaw, be given first reading.
2. THAT Bylaw 17-2018 be given second reading.
3. THAT Bylaw 17-2018 be considered for third reading.
4. THAT Bylaw 17-2018 be given third reading.

**Strategic Plan Priority Areas**

**Economy:** Increased economic activity in the oil/gas industry presents a higher risk of human-caused/industrial disasters. An updated EM Bylaw governs Strathcona County's response to that increased risk through effective management of emergencies. Effective and efficient municipal infrastructure is protected and restored in a timely manner under the EM organization outlined in the EM Bylaw.

**Governance:** Cooperative partnerships with supporting organizations, government departments, or neighbouring municipalities with the promoting of Incident Command System (ICS) principles, such as Unified Command.

**Social:** N/A

**Culture:** N/A

**Environment:** Inclusion of the ICS as our governing model for the EM function in the Bylaw promotes three main priorities, including the protection of life, stabilization of the incident, and protection of property and the environment.

**Other Impacts**

**Policy:** The EM Bylaw provides the framework for subsequent policies, such as the Emergency Operations Center/Incident Management Team Human Resources guidelines and the Finance direction on expenditure management, both currently under development.

**Legislative/Legal:** The *Emergency Management Act*, RSA 2000, c E-6.8, provides that municipalities are responsible for the direction and control of municipal emergency responses, and the preparation and approval of emergency plans and programs. Section 11 of the Act provides that a municipality must appoint an emergency advisory committee consisting of a member or members of Council to advise on the development of emergency plans and programs. Section 145 of the *Municipal Government Act*, RSA 2000, c M-26, provides that a municipality may pass bylaws in relation to the establishment and functions of, and procedures to be followed by, council committees established.

**Interdepartmental:** Emergency Services worked with Legislative and Legal Services to prepare the bylaw.

**Summary**

The previous EM Bylaw 42-2013 reflected the best practices of the EM function within the County at that time. Program improvements from local and provincial disasters have caused the EM function to mature since that time. An updated EM Bylaw reflects the best practices in place and allows for further growth and development of the EM function.

A summary of Bylaw 17-2018 is provided below:

### **Part I – Citation, Purpose, Interpretation, and Definitions**

Citation, Purpose, and Interpretation – Terminology drawn directly from the *Provincial Emergency Management Act* (EMA) and the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA).

Definitions – Addition of definition for Emergent Event and ICS.

- Emergency Event allows for actions taken before a State of Local Emergency (SOLE) is declared, such as the evacuation information and reception centre.
- ICS enshrines the provincially-mandated incident management system within the bylaw to promote its use and ensure compliance with provincial direction.

### **Part II – Emergency Advisory Committee (EAC)**

No changes; drawn directly from the Provincial EMA and MGA.

### **Part III – Emergency Management Agency (EM Agency)**

Significant changes in this section, including:

- Clarification around the membership and participation of the EM Agency, including removal of Executive Team, addition of all County departments/personnel, and usage of ICS/Unified Command with supporting/coordinating external agencies.
- Executive Team removed from Bylaw 42-2013 as roles remain unchanged during an emergency; providing advice, guidance, and direction to both the EAC and the EM Agency.
- Functions and duties of Deputy Director of Emergency Management (DEM) included under overarching description of EM Agency, indicating the whole-of-government approach rather than efforts of one position.
- Simplification of DEM role, including clearer delegations.

### **Part IV – Financial**

No changes; drawn from Provincial EMA and MGA.

### **Part V – State of Local Emergency**

State of Local Emergency drawn directly from EMA. Clarified role of EAC to declare; however, EM Agency communicates the SOLE or its termination.

### **Part VI - Repeal**

Repeal of Bylaw 42-2013.

### **Communication Plan**

The updated bylaw will be made available on the County's public website.

### **Enclosures**

- 1 Bylaw 17-2018 Emergency Management (EM) Bylaw
- 2 Bylaw 17-2018 Presentation