

Councillor Request Inquiry

#04-2020

2020

Please provide a list of provincial land that the Government of Alberta has eliminated from Provincial Parks and natural areas and please identify any impacts to the County and region.

In response to Councillor Lawrence's information request that came out of the March 10, 2020 Priorities Committee meeting, here is the list of park areas that the Province is considering closing or have identified for potential partnership opportunities, at this time.

The areas that fall within the County are:

- North Bruderheim (Off Highway Vehicle Association linkage)
- Sherwood Park Natural Area – currently in the process of renewing the License Agreement
- Strathcona Science Park

RPC and PDS will be assessing each site to determine impacts etc. This will not be complete until the Province releases more information, which is expected in May 2020. This will likely be delayed given the current situation. Some things that we have identified and need to be considered:

Sherwood Park Natural Area

- Status of current volunteers
- Improvements and improvement costs
- Weed control and hazard trees
- County ownership – is this an option?

Strathcona Science Park

- Environmental issues – contamination
- Ski hill operation
- Biathlon operation
- Operational dollars are required for maintenance
- Capital dollars would be required if park enhancements are needed
- Second largest park in the County

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