

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1989: <u>Headwaters of the North Saskatchewan (48km within Banff National Park)</u> <u>Headwaters of the Athabasca (~168km within Jasper National Park)</u> ▪ 2003: Clearwater River (~326km from Fort McMurray, into the Province of Saskatchewan) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The objectives of the Canadian Heritage Rivers program are to give national recognition to Canada's outstanding rivers as part of a comprehensive and representative system and to encourage long-term management that will conserve their natural, cultural and recreational values for the benefit and enjoyment of Canadians, now and in the future. • The Canadian Heritage Rivers System is a model of stewardship, cooperation and participation; one that engages society in valuing the natural and cultural heritage of rivers and river communities as essential to the identity, health and quality of life of Canadians. • Alberta's representation to the CHRS is presently administered through Alberta Environment and Parks. <p>Designation under the CHRS does NOT impact or increase development restrictions along the River. No new rules or restrictions are created as a result of Designation.</p> <p>ATTACHMENTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Letter dated October 23, 2020 from Minister for Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP), the Hon. Jason Nixon. - Draft Letter of Support
CORRELATION TO BUSINESS (STRATEGIC) PLAN	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote Economic Development, Tourism 	
LEGISLATIVE, BYLAW and/or POLICY IMPLICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Parks Canada Guiding Principles and Operational Policies, Part II - Activity Policies: Canadian Heritage Rivers Policy</u>
BENEFITS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional, National, and International exposure for the area • Opportunities for unlocking of grants, etc. • Natural, land, and river-based tourism development opportunities.
REQUEST	
<p>Further to the Letter dated October 23, 2020 from Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks Jason Nixon, that Strathcona County Council provide a Letter of Support to Smoky Lake County regarding the possible Designation of the North Saskatchewan River to the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).</p>	



ALBERTA
ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS

107863

OCT 23 2020

*Office of the Minister
Government House Leader
MLA, Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre*

Reeve Craig Lukinuk
Smoky Lake County
PO Box 310
4612 McDougall Driver
Smoky Lake AB T0A 3C0
craiglukinuk@smokylakecounty.ab.ca

Dear Reeve Lukinuk:

Thank you for your letter regarding the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River under the Canadian Heritage Rivers System.

Alberta Environment and Parks supports your group's effort to nominate this river and, as the jurisdictional representative, we will make the formal nomination on your behalf. A heritage river designation would reflect the care and stewardship that local governments and stakeholders have undertaken along the river corridor, and help local municipalities and businesses promote the natural beauty, rich cultural history, and myriad recreation and tourism opportunities in your region.

Once the nomination is endorsed by the Canadian Heritage Rivers System Board of Directors, the next step is for Smoky Lake County to prepare a nomination document with relevant information and background studies. The Canadian Heritage Rivers System is a grassroots, locally driven program in Alberta. Alberta Environment and Parks will support your efforts where possible, and share available data about natural, cultural and recreation/tourism values pertinent to the river.

I applaud your efforts in pursuing this nomination, and for assembling substantial local and regional support in this regard.

Sincerely,

Jason Nixon
Minister

cc: Tracy Draper, Alberta Environment and Parks
Brian Joubert, Alberta Environment and Parks

Smoky Lake County Council
4612 McDougall Drive, PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

Sent by: Regular Mail

DATE

RE: **Letter of Support for Nomination of the North Saskatchewan River,
Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS)**

To Whom it May Concern,

Further to the letter dated October 23, 2020 from Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks Jason Nixon, and on behalf of Lamont County, it is a pleasure to provide this letter supporting nomination of the North Saskatchewan River for the Canadian Heritage River System (CHRS).

“The Canadian Heritage River System is a cooperative venture ...designed to offer international, national, provincial and regional recognition to outstanding rivers in Canada that demonstrate exceptional examples of Canadian cultural, natural, and recreation values. The main objective is to ensure the long-term management of these rivers in order that their unique values are conserved for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of Canadians and visitors to Canada.” - from the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA) Heritage River Background Study (2005).

The CHRS is a voluntary, community-driven program. **Importantly, Designation under the CHRS does not add to or increase existing development restrictions along the River corridor, and no new rules or restrictions are created because of participation.**

The CHRS serves to celebrate and safeguard the future of our environment for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of future generations. As such, we support the nomination of a portion of the North Saskatchewan River for inclusion as a nationally recognized watercourse within the Canadian Heritage River System.

Best Regards,

NAME

Mayor, Strathcona County

e: @ / p: (780) XXX-XXXX

cc: Kyle Schole, Planning, Development, & Heritage Assistant , <kschole@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>