



## AMALGAMATION NEGOTIATIONS October 2020 Update



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October 14, 2020

The Towns of Black Diamond and Turner Valley are moving forward with the amalgamation negotiations. With the official letter of intent to amalgamate recently submitted to the Minister of Municipal Affairs, the Joint Friendship Agreement Committee met with the facilitation team, Maven Strategy on October 14, 2020, to start the negotiation process.

### **Negotiation Progress:**

- Project Start-Up:
  - The Joint Friendship Agreement Committee reviewed and confirmed the status of amalgamation discussions to-date. An inventory of topics to be negotiated (mandated, transitional, other) was discussed.
  - Initial decisions were made about the process that the negotiations will follow; how each member of the committee will contribute; protocols such as communication and meeting frequency
  - The Joint Friendship Agreement Committee confirmed the existing amalgamation guiding principles and shared objectives as the guiding intent of the amalgamation
- There was agreement that the November meeting will determine negotiation subcommittees, selection of subcommittee members, and terms of reference. The Joint Friendship Agreement Committee agreed that subcommittees are necessary for Public Consultation, Emergency Services, and Finance.
- The Joint Friendship Agreement Committee confirmed that a request for an extension to the ICF deadline has been submitted with an answer expected from Municipal Affairs in November.
- Next steps will include a communications plan to be developed with a progress report template.

The next amalgamation meeting is scheduled for November 19, 2020.