



AMALGAMATION NEGOTIATIONS March 2021 Update



Over February and March, the engagement plan was developed and communications launched. The first public and stakeholder engagement event will be held in two timeslots to provide options for participants - March 30 6:30-7:30 PM and April 1 10:30-11:30 AM. Stakeholder letters were sent in March requesting feedback by April 15, 2021.

The Joint Friendship Agreement Committee (JFAC) met on:

- February 10th for a general update and overview of the engagement strategy.
- March 10th to get project updates, and to hear recommendations from the Procedure Subcommittee.

On March 10th, JFAC made the following decisions:

1. **Bylaws and Resolutions of Existing Municipalities:**

- JFAC agreed to support deferring the updates of bylaws and resolutions to post-amalgamation.
- JFAC agreed to direct administration to inventory bylaws and resolutions to determine priorities for alignment in the pre-amalgamation timeframe. The timeline for this task will be dependent on administration capacity but is expected to be complete by September 2021.

2. **First Election**

- JFAC agreed to support the potential amalgamation application recommending that the first election for the amalgamated municipality would occur in Q4 of 2022.

3. **Interim Council**

- JFAC agreed to support that should an amalgamation application proceed with the first election in Q4 2022, no interim council will be required.

4. **Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF) Extension**

- JFAC agreed to support including in the potential amalgamation application a confirmation that the ICF deadline has been previously extended until April 1, 2022, and if the amalgamation application is submitted, the Towns will request an adjusted deadline for an ICF between the new municipality and Foothills County.

If you have a question or wish to provide feedback about the amalgamation, please email either:

amalgamation@town.blackdiamond.ab.ca or amalgamation@turnervalley.ca.

The municipalities will provide responses to questions raised by members of the community.