



## River Valley Alliance

### **PURPOSE**

The River Valley Alliance (RVA) is an unincorporated advisory committee which may make recommendations to the Councils of Edmonton, Devon, Strathcona County, Parkland County, Sturgeon County, Leduc County and Fort Saskatchewan, and any other deemed appropriate stakeholder organizations, on priorities and funding of projects contained within their approved Master Plan. The vision of the River Valley Alliance is to protect, preserve, and enhance the Capital Region's river valley for year round accessibility and enjoyment of its citizens and visitors.

### **LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

Companies Act of Alberta.

### **REPORTS TO**

Independent body. The River Valley Alliance has no authority to commit public funds. All approvals and executions will be the responsibility of the respective Councils and their administrations.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

1 Council member and 1 Council alternate (optional) on RVA Board

Up to 3 Directors at Large on RVA Board

2 public Members-at-Large (with staggering terms) on RVA Advisory Committee

### **TERM OF OFFICE**

Council member appointed annually at organizational meeting for the following calendar year.

Directors at Large elected by RVA membership for either a 2 or 3 year term.

Public members appointed for three-year terms.

### **CHAIRMANSHIP**

Chairs elected as per the Board's procedural rules.

### **MEETINGS**

Once monthly. Member attendance at subcommittee meetings to be approved by Council.

### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Attached.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITY**

Parks, Recreation and Culture.

*Last Reviewed: December 18, 2012*

*Council Approved: July 19, 2000*

**I. VISION**

Protecting, preserving and enhancing the Capital Region's river valley for year round accessibility and enjoyment of its citizens and visitors.

**II. SCOPE**

The North Saskatchewan River Valley from Devon to Fort Saskatchewan.

**III. STRATEGY**

The vision will be achieved by:

1. Forging a committed alliance of municipalities, the private sector, community organizations, and other levels of government, to realize this shared vision.
2. Ensuring that community consultation is an integral part of a balanced planning process.
3. Consolidating and integrating the existing plans and initiatives of shareholding Municipalities.
4. Creatively enhancing and building upon the integrated plans to achieve an umbrella Master Plan for the Capital Region.
5. Creating a communication strategy.
6. Prioritizing projects and establishing time frames.
7. Ensuring a coordinated effort to complete approved plans.
8. Developing and implementing a fund raising strategy.

**IV. GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

- Protection and preservation of the natural environment.
- To ensure reasonable accessibility and use by all.
- Focus development around existing developed nodes or intense use areas.
- Participating municipalities will ensure a regional focus is maintained.
- Accommodation of all seasonal needs.

**V. OUTCOMES**

- A source of unparalleled pride throughout the Capital Region and the Province.
- An outstanding natural legacy for all Albertans.
- improved quality of life through increased educational, recreational, entertainment and cultural opportunities.
- Attract to the Capital Region business and residents who are seeking to locate in an area with a high quality of life.
- Enhance tourism throughout the Region.

**VI. ROLE AND AUTHORITY OF THE RIVER VALLEY ALLIANCE**

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## **VII. RIVER VALLEY ALLIANCE STRUCTURE**

### **A. THE BOARD**

The business and affairs of the Company shall be managed by a Board comprised of:

- a) Eight (8) Municipal Directors, being members of the municipal councils of the Members, and appointed by their respective municipal councils as follows:
  - 2 from the City of Edmonton,
  - 1 from the Town of Devon,
  - 1 from Parkland County,
  - 1 from Sturgeon County,
  - 1 from Leduc County,
  - 1 from Strathcona County and
  - 1 from the City of Fort Saskatchewan.
- b) Seven (7) Directors at Large appointed by the Members from nominations provided by the Governance Committee, provided that there will not be more than three (3) Directors at Large from any member municipality sitting on the Board of Directors. All Directors at Large must reside in a Member municipality.
- c) The Chair of the River Valley Alliance Advisory Committee is a voting member of the Board.

#### **Functions of the Board:**

1. To advise on the integrated Master Plan.
2. To assist in developing a coordinated approach to implement plans.
3. To provide input to the priorities identified in the Master Plan.
4. To assist in communicating the activities of the River Valley Alliance to the public and interested groups.
5. To establish appropriate subcommittees of the Board (such as a funding subcommittee) and act as a sounding board to the subcommittees.
6. To participate in project subcommittees.
7. To provide information and feedback to the Administrations.
8. The Board shall develop its own procedural rules (e .g. conducting meetings, election of chair, etc.).

### **B. ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The River Valley Alliance Advisory Committee will be comprised of 18 public members being 6 persons appointed by the City of Edmonton and 2 persons appointed by each of the other 6 municipalities.

#### **Functions of the Steering Committee:**

1. The members of the Committee shall nominate one member to be the Chair and shall recommend that nomination to the Board for approval.
2. Appointments to the Committee shall be for a term of 2 years.
3. The Committee and its members are responsible to:
  - i. Be RVA ambassadors to their respective communities and stakeholders, champion its plans and activities, and represent the RVA as directed by the Board.

- ii. Provide a volunteer resource to assist and support RVA involvement and participation in local or regional events, projects, public processes and other activities as approved or directed by the Board.
- iii. Facilitate bringing local volunteers, resources and partnerships to bear in support of Board and Municipal approved projects and activities, including community level fund raising where appropriate.
- iv. Assist the Board and its municipal members in generating increased public awareness, dialogue and support for the Capital Region River Valley Park.