ThecCOLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

BETWEEN



AND



ALBERTA UNION OF PROVINCIAL EMPLOYEES LOCAL 118, CHAPTER 009

January 1, 2024 2025 to December 31, 2024 2027

THIS INGOING PROPOSAL ISMADE ON A WITHOUT PREJUDICE BASIS AND CONTAINS ALL ARTICLES AND LETTERS OF UNDERSTANDING THE UNION SEEKS TO TABLE FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR AMENDMENT. THE POSITIONS IN THIS PROPOSAL ARE PRESENTED AS A PACKAGE AND THE UNION MAY AMEND ANY PART OF THE PACKAGE AND ANY AND ALL POSITIONS UPON NON-ACCEPTANCE. ALL ARTICLES.

THE UNION RESERVES THE RIGHT TO TABLE PROPOSALS AT ANY TIME DURING BARGAINING TO ADDRESS MATTERS NOT KNOWN TO THE UNION AT THE TIME OF EXCHANGING INITIAL PROPOSALS.

ERRORS AND OMISSIONS EXCLUDED

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THIS AGREEMENT is made this 22nd day of February 2024, A.D. pursuant to the Labour Relations Code of Alberta (2000) as amended.

This Agreement is entered into by and between the Strathcona County, municipal corporation covered by the Collective Agreement (hereinafter referred to as "the County" or "the Employer") and the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees Local 118/009 (hereinafter referred to as "the Union").

Whereas, the above parties are mutually desirous of entering into a Collective Agreement with the intent and purpose of:

- A. Promoting a harmonious relationship;
- B. Providing for conditions of employment, hours of work and rates of pay;
- C. Establishing the means for prompt and equitable settlement of disputes or grievances between the County and Employees represented by the Union, and;
- D. Encouraging efficiency in operation.

Now therefore, the parties hereto mutually agree as follows:

DISCUSSION REGARDING ADDING THE FOLLOWING DEFINITIONS: "YEARS OF SERVICE", "DESIGNATED WORKSITE", "JOB LOCATION", UPDATING THE DEPARTMENT NAMES.

HOUSEKEEPING: UPDATING "BRANCH" TO "DEPARTMENT" AND REPLACING EXISTING DEPARTMENT NAMES WITH THE CURRENT NAMES THROUGHOUT THE COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT.

ARTICLE 1 – DEFINITIONS

- 1.01 In this Agreement:
 - (a) A word used in the singular applies also in the plural.
 - (b) Employee: means a person employed by the Strathcona County in the Public Works Operations, Vehicle and Equipment Services, Transit Services, Materials Management, Water and Wastewater Operations, and as listed in Schedule A.
 - (i) Regular Employees: are Employees who occupy established positions and who have successfully completed the probationary period and work the fully scheduled hours.
 - (ii) Part-time Employees: are Employees who occupy established positions and have successfully completed the probationary period and work less than the fully scheduled hours of Regular Employees.
 - (iii) Temporary Employees: are Employees who are indefinite term Employees or Employees for specific projects, seasonal employment, replacements for Regular Employees who are on illness leave, General Illness, Long Term Disability, Workers' Compensation, Maternity Leave, Parental Leave and Adoption Leave, or other long term leaves of absence. Indefinite term Employees upon completion of more than **twelve (12)** fifteen (15) months of continuous service will be deemed to be Regular Employees, except if they are covering for an Employee on Long Term Disability, are moving from one Department to another Department for a temporary or seasonal position, or are covering off consecutive leaves, as referenced above.

Apprenticed Employees: are Employees who are registered as Apprentices under the Apprenticeship and Industry Training Act. Probationary Employee: means an Employee who during their initial period of employment occupies an established position during a probationary period.

- (c) Grade: means the step assigned to a class within the pay grid.
- (d) Union Steward: means a person who is selected by the members of the Union to act on behalf of those Employees as empowered by the Union.
- (e) Union Representative: means a person authorized by the Union to act on behalf of Employees and includes a Union Steward, elected or appointed officer of the Union, or staff representative **such as a Membership Services**

Officer (MSO).

- (f) Liaison Committee: is the joint Liaison Committee established by the two parties as stipulated within this Agreement.
- (g) Casual Illness: is any illness which may cause the Employee to be absent from work for a period of three (3) consecutive work days or less.
- (h) General Illness: is any illness which causes an Employee to be absent from work for a period of more than three (3) consecutive work days.
- (i) Layoff: includes a reduction in the work force as a result of shortage of work.
- (j) Branch **Department**: means
 - (i) Public Works Operations
 - (ii) Vehicle and Equipment Services
 - (iii) Transit Services
 - (iv) Water and Wastewater Services
 - (v) Materials Management
- (k) Classification: means each line in Schedule A.
- (l) Seniority: commences at date of hire, and shall include all continuous and accumulated service as a temporary Employee.
- (m) Day: shall mean calendar day.

NEW Calendar Week: means Monday at midnight and concludes the following Sunday at midnight.

- (n) Continuous Service: any period of employment that does not include a break in service of more than thirty (30) calendar days.
- (o) Accumulated Service: Total number of regular hours worked, with no break in service of more than **eighteen (18) months**.six (6) months.

HOUSEKEEPING - UPDATING THE DEPARTMENT NAMES

SIGN AS CURRENT

ARTICLE 2 - JURISDICTION

2.01

During its term, this Agreement shall be applicable to any person employed in the Public Works Operations, Vehicle and Equipment Services, Transit Services, Materials Management and Water and Wastewater Services of Strathcona County, who are described in Schedule A attached hereto, or to positions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Union.

DISCUSSION REGARDING APPLICATION OF 3.05.

ARTICLE 3 - TERMS OF AGREEMENT

- 3.01 This Agreement shall be binding and remain in effect from the date upon which both parties exchange notice of ratification by their principals from January 1, 2025 2024 until December 31, 2027 2024, and shall continue from year to year thereafter unless either party gives the other notice in writing in accordance with the Labour Relations Code in effect at the time.
- 3.02 Either party may give to the other not less than sixty (60) nor more than one hundred and twenty (120) calendar days prior to the termination of this agreement notice in writing of its intention to commence collective bargaining. Collective bargaining shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the *Labour Relations Code*.

Where notice is served by either party under the Labour Relations Code, provisions of this Collective Agreement shall continue until either:

- (a) a settlement is agreed upon and a new Collective Agreement signed; or
- (b) a settlement is not agreed upon and then this Collective Agreement shall remain in effect until a strike or lockout commences as provided in the Labour-Reations Relations Code.

Any notices shall be served in accordance with the *Labour Relations Code*.

- 3.03 Notwithstanding anything in this Article, any portion of this Agreement may be opened for negotiations between the County and the Union at any time provided that both parties agree.
- Notwithstanding the foregoing, the parties may mutually agree to amend the terms and/or condition of employment.

In such cases, the agreement must be in writing and executed by authorized representatives of the parties to the Agreement.

- 3.05 Within one (1) month of the ratification of this Agreement, the Department Head (Human Resources) shall convene a meeting of all supervisory personnel to review the contract in an attempt to achieve consistency and fairness. The Union will be invited to be represented at this meeting.
- 3.06 The Employer and the Union shall equally cost share the printing of this Agreement. Printing of this agreement shall be the responsibility of the Union.

SIGN AS CURRENT

ARTICLE 4 - APPLICATION

- 4.01 Regular Employees shall be granted all the terms and conditions of this Agreement.
- 4.02 Part-time Employees shall be granted all the terms and conditions of this Agreement except those conditions which require a particular length of service, such benefits shall be granted on a pro-rata basis in relation to hours of work of full-time employment.

SIGN AS CURRENT

ARTICLE 5 - MANAGEMENT RECOGNITION

The Union recognizes that it is the right of the Employer to exercise the regular and customary function of the Employer and to direct the working forces, subject to the terms of this Agreement.

DISCUSSION REGARDING APPLICATION OF 6.03, ADDITION OF A RESPECTFUL WORKPLACE ARTICLE.

ARTICLE 6 - UNION RECOGNITION

- 6.01 The County recognizes the Union as the sole bargaining agent of the Employees covered by this Agreement.
- No Union Employee shall be required or permitted to make any written or verbal agreement which may be in conflict with the terms of this Collective Agreement.

6.03 <u>New Employees</u>

The Employer shall supply all new Employees with a copy of the Collective Agreement.

The Employer recognizes the importance of new Union Employees receiving an orientation to the Union. To ensure this occurs, the Chapter Executive will be given a list of all newly hired Employees and a representative of the Union shall, within thirty (30) calendar days of the Employees' date of hire, make a presentation to the Employee(s) with respect to the structure of the union as well as the rights, responsibilities and benefits of membership in the Union.

The Employer will generally, provide the Chapter Executive the Union with one (1) weeks' advance notice of the Employee's scheduled orientation.

6.04 No Discrimination

The parties agree that there shall be no discrimination or coercion exercised or practiced with respect to any Employee for reason of function, membership or legitimate activity in the Union.

The Employer shall exercise its rights in a fair and reasonable manner, nor shall these rights be used in a manner which would deprive any Employee of their employment, except for just cause.

6.05 Bulletin Boards

The County recognizes the right and need of the Union to be able to post notices of meetings and other legitimate Union activities at various sites wherein members of the Union are assigned or employed.

NEW <u>Communication via Employer Email System</u>

The County shall allow the Chapter Executive the use of the internal email for communication with the membership. The County reserves the right to require material damaging to the Employer be removed. The Employer reserves the right to revoke the use of internal email. To assist in the facilitation of this provision, the County shall create and maintain an email list of all bargaining unit members for the Chapter Executive to utilize.

6.06 Seniority Lists

County shall maintain a list showing the date upon which each Employee's service commenced. The County shall forthwith provide the Union, upon request, with an up-to-date list and shall, in any event, post an up-to-date list on all bulletin boards where the Employees work on July 1st and January 1st in each year.

6.07 Union Stewards

The County recognizes the right of the Union to appoint "Employees" as Union Stewards who are to be recognized as official representatives of the Union.

6.08 <u>Union Membership</u>

Each person who becomes employed in positions covered by this Agreement shall automatically become a member of the Union as a condition of employment.

6.09 <u>Monthly Staffing Reports</u>

- (a) The Employer agrees to remit to the central office of the Union, the amounts equal to the dues that have been deducted from the pay of all Employees by the first working day after the fifteenth (15th) calendar day in the following month. Where an accounting adjustment is necessary to correct an over or under payment of dues, it shall be effected in the succeeding month.
- (b) The County recognizes the need of the Union to have required information concerning Employees eligible for membership in the Union and hereby agrees to submit on a monthly basis the following information: the name, address, phone numbers (including cell phone number), personal email (if known), status (regular or temporary), identification number, classification, starting date and position filled by any new Employees in the bargaining unit.
- NEW The County will provide the Chapter Executive with a list of all Union Employees on a monthly basis. The list will include employment status (ex: New Employee, On Leave, No Longer Employed)

ARTICLE 7 - TIME OFF FOR UNION BUSINESS

7.01 Time-off without loss of regular wages, will be granted for:

- Union Officers
- Stewards,
- Liaison and Safety Committee members when they are required to attend:
 - Contract negotiations,
 - Liaison Committee,
 - Safety Committee, or
 - Grievance Procedure meetings with County representatives.

For purposes of contract negotiations there will be a maximum of three (3) Union members paid by the Employer to attend contract negotiations. The Union may appoint up to **three (3)** two (2) additional Union members to attend contract negotiations. Any additional Union members shall be paid by the Employer and the Employer shall be reimbursed by the Union pursuant to Clause 7.02 b).

7.02

- (a) When Union Officers, Stewards, Liaison, Safety and Bargaining Committee members are required to be absent from their regular work place for any of the following:
 - to meet with their counsel, Labour Board representatives and/or other government agency representatives on official Union business
 - to conduct other Chapter business
 - to prepare for contract negotiations
 - to prepare for Liaison meetings

Time-off without loss of regular wages will be granted upon written application submitted to the Employer seven (7) days before the scheduled absence or such shorter period as may be mutually acceptable; and the County will recover such hourly wages from the Union. Time off for members to conduct other Chapter business or to prepare for Liaison meetings shall be subject to the approval of the Employer.

Time off for the Bargaining Committee to prepare for contract negotiations **shall not be unreasonably denied.** be provided to a maximum of fifteen (15) work days per round of bargaining, and no member shall take more than five (5) work days off.

(b) When members elected as delegates to attend the annual convention of the AUPE; members designated as delegates representing the Union at conventions of other Employee organizations; members elected as representatives of the Union to attend seminars and Chapter meetings; members of the provincial executive of the Union, to attend general meetings; members to attend AUPE conferences and education programs; members of the Union Executive Committee; members appointed to attend AUPE Standing Committees; members who have been appointed to the Local Authorities Pension Board, to attend Board meetings or Board authorized training, time off without loss of regular wages will be granted upon written application submitted to the Administration seven (7) days before the scheduled absence or such shorter period as may be mutually

- acceptable. The County will recover such hourly wages from the Union. Time off for members described in this Clause 7.02 b), shall be approved based on the Employer's operational requirements.
- (c) If any member of the local Executive is elected to the Provincial Union Executive for a term of one (1) year or more, or one (1) local Executive seconded for three (3) months or more by the Provincial Union, that member will be granted an unpaid leave of absence, subject to thirty (30) days written notice or such shorter period as may be mutually acceptable.

DISCUSSION REGARDING ADDITION OF JOB LADDER, ACCESSIBILITY OF JOB DESCRIPTIONS, PROVISION OF TRAINING ON SYSTEMS, PROCESS FOR RECLASSIFICATION – EXAMPLE NORTH YARDPERSON.

ARTICLE 8 – CLASSIFICATIONS & RECLASSIFICATIONS

8.01 The Employer shall make the Employee's job description available.

8.02 New or Amended Classifications

The County Administration shall give written notice to the Union Membership Services Officer (MSO) and Chapter Executive of the establishment of any new or amended job descriptions and/or salary classification levels (Schedule A). If it is established that a higher salary level is appropriate, the new salary shall be retroactive to the date the classification was created. Where Union and management representatives are unable to agree within thirty (30) days on either the correct classification of a revised job description or on the compensation level of a new job description, the matter may be advanced to arbitration for the establishment of the compensation for the individuals for which the job description has changed. If a wage change results, the effective date of change shall be determined by the Arbitrator. Both the Employer and the Union will share the cost of the Arbitrator equally. The Arbitrator will be guided by:

- (a) Evidence and submissions of the parties;
- (b) The salary levels in the Collective Agreement;
- (c) The complexity, working conditions and knowledge requirements of the other positions in the Collective Agreement at the time that the new position is established.

However, the Arbitrator shall not be restricted to the existing salary levels.

Classification Reviews

An Employee may at any time bring to management for review, changes that may have occurred to their existing job duties.

8.03 Reclassification

When it is necessary to re-classify Regular Employees, the County may re-classify the affected Employees on the basis of Branch seniority, qualifications and ability.

- (a) An Employee to be re-classified may displace any Employee in a lower classification within that Branch that has less Branch seniority providing that the Employee being reclassified is qualified to perform the duties of that position;
- (b) Employees with special qualifications may be exempt from reclassification.
- In those cases where re-classification according to Clause 8.04 have occurred and vacancies become available in the affected job classification, those Employees who were previously re-classified downward from that classification, shall be returned to that classification on the basis of their seniority so long as that Employee has maintained the ability and qualifications to be appointed to the position.

DISCUSSION REGARDING NUMBER AND POSTING TIME FRAMES FOR VACANCIES, VACANCIES DUE TO MEDICAL LEAVES, THE POINT SYSTEM USED BY THE EMPLOYER DURING COMPETITIONS, POSTING REQUIREMENT FOR COVER OFF (EX: DUE TO ILLNESS) OVER 90 DAYS.

ARTICLE 9 - POSTING OF POSITIONS, PROMOTIONS AND TRANSFERS

- 9.01 When a position of a Regular or Temporary nature is to be filled, notice of the vacancy shall be posted as soon as reasonably possible for a minimum of one (1) week. The position can be filled by appointment if it is to be filled for a period of less than ninety (90) calendar days.
- 9.02 If a position with the same job code becomes vacant within six (6) months of the original closing date, the Employer may consider candidates from the original recruitment process, without re-posting. This is not applicable if the original posting was for a temporary position and the vacancy is for a permanent position.
- 9.03 Such notice will contain the following information: date of the posting, nature of position, qualifications, required knowledge and education, skills, shift, hours of work, experience, wage rate or range, consistent with the job description.
- 9.04 Where there are qualified Union candidates for a posted position, their applications shall be considered first.
- 9.05 Where qualified applicants have applied and a suitable candidate has been selected, the Employer shall appoint a candidate to the position within thirty (30) days of the competition closure.
- 9.06 When filling positions or making promotions, qualifications, experience, skills, ability and seniority shall be the governing factors. When filling positions, employees of the County shall be given first preference.

9.07 Trial Period

An Employee who is transferred or promoted to another position within this Agreement shall be confirmed in that other position within three (3) months unless the Employee wishes otherwise or proves unsatisfactory in the new position, in which case the Employee will be returned to their former position. Any other Employee promoted or transferred because of the displacement of positions shall also be returned to their former position. In any event, Employees promoted or transferred shall be paid at the rate applicable to the new position from commencement of employment in the position until returned to the previous position.

9.08 The posting requirements in this Article may be waived by mutual agreement in cases of medical accommodation.

DISCUSSION REGARDING THE INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION OF 10.03, 10.04.

ARTICLE 10 - SENIORITY

10.01	In accordance with 1.01(l) seniority commences at date of hire, and shall include all continuous and accumulated service as a temporary Employee.
10.02	Employees who were employed by the County prior to January 1, 1979 and entered in any classification covered by this Agreement on that date shall have their seniority established as the date of continuous service with the County.
10.03	Seniority shall be retained and accumulated during absences resulting from illness or an accident where the Employee is entitled to compensation, suspension with or without pay less than sixty-one (61) days, approved leave without pay less than sixty-one (61) days.
10.04	Seniority shall be retained during absences resulting from; layoff (up to eighteen (18) months), suspension with or without pay greater than sixty (60) days, approved leave without pay greater than sixty (60) days, strike or lockout.
10.05	The Union shall be notified of all recalls.
10.06	An Employee who accepts an internal permanent position outside this Agreement shall retain the seniority accrued to that time for a period of six (6) months.
10.07	Accumulation of seniority shall recommence from the date the Employee returns to a classification covered by this Agreement and their seniority date shall be adjusted by the period of their absence.
10.08	An Employee shall lose their seniority and their name shall be removed from the seniority list for any of the following reasons: voluntary resignation, discharge for cause, layoff for more than eighteen (18) months, retirement, or when an Employee has been employed in a position outside this Agreement for a period of six (6) consecutive months or more.

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ARTICLE 11 - PERIOD OF PROBATION

- 11.01 The probationary period for new Employees covered by this agreement in both permanent and temporary positions shall be one thousand (1000) hours worked.
 - If the Employer identifies performance concerns, written feedback shall be provided to the Employee. Where circumstances warrant an extension, the probationary period may be extended up to an additional two hundred and fifty (250) hours upon mutual agreement of the Union and the Employer. An Employee who has previously been employed in a position covered by this agreement will have such previous employment considered part of the probationary period provided that a break in service is one (1) year or less and the Employee is returning to the same job.
- 11.02 At any time, an Employee, categorized as probationary, may be released by the County. Such notice of release will be formalized in writing and will give the reason for the Employee being released at the time of the notification of the release.
- During the probationary period the County may terminate the employee. The employee or the Union may grieve the termination, but the decision at Level 3 shall be final and binding and the matter shall not be referred to arbitration under the provisions of this Agreement.

SIGN AS CURRENT

ARTICLE 12 - NOTICE OF RESIGNATION

- 12.01 Employees shall provide at least ten (10) working days written notice of their intention to resign.
- 12.02 In the event that an Employee terminates their employment with the County without submitting the written notice in compliance with Clause 12.01, the Employee shall not be entitled to receive their regular cheque and/or final cheque until the next regular distribution of regular wage and salary cheques.

ARTICLE 13 - DISCIPLINE

13.01 Any member subject to any level of discipline may be represented by an attending Union representative. When circumstances permit, the Employer shall notify the Union and affected 13.02 Employee in writing forty-eight (48) hours in advance of any disciplinary meeting. 13.03 No Employee shall be disciplined without just cause. In the event that the County initiates formal disciplinary action against an Employee, that Employee and the Union shall be informed at the same time in writing as to the reason(s) for such action. A copy of the correspondence shall be sent to the designated Union representative within seven (7) calendar days of the discipline being initiated. The County will abide by the tenants of Progressive Discipline. 13.04 An Employee who has been wrongfully disciplined, demoted, suspended or discharged and who is later reinstated shall be compensated in full for any loss of wages or benefits which resulted thereby. 13.05 Past disciplinary infractions shall be deemed void and removed from the Employee's file after twenty-four (24) months from the date of the application of the discipline. 13.06 Notwithstanding the contents of the Article, including titles, Letters of Expectation are not disciplinary in nature and shall be removed from the personnel file after twenty-four (24) months. 13.07 An Employee who is absent from employment and who has not informed the Employer, may after five (5) consecutive days of such unauthorized absence, be considered to have abandoned their position and shall be deemed to have resigned.

CLARITY SURROUNDING "FORMAL GRIEVANCE" IN 14.02 AND THE PROCESS FOR POLICY GRIEVANCES 14.09

ARTICLE 14 - GRIEVANCES

14.01 Statement of Intent

The Employer and the Union recognize the desirability of resolving differences through joint consultation and respectful and open discussion. Both will attempt to resolve differences through exploring interests and options together informally where possible, prior to proceeding to formal process.

14.02 Definitions and Scope

- (a) A Personal grievance is a dispute regarding:
 - (i) Alleged unjust treatment or discrimination
 - (ii) Alleged unfair working conditions
 - (iii) Any disciplinary action
 - (iv) Any concern regarding the interpretation, application, operation or alleged violation of this Agreement, including any questions as to the arbitral nature of the matter.
- (b) Grievances which involve a dismissal or a suspension will commence at level II and shall be initiated in writing within fourteen (14) days of the date when the Employee first became aware of the disciplinary action.
- (c) A Policy Grievance is a dispute between the parties which due to its nature is not properly subject of a Personal Grievance and concerns the interpretation, application, operation or alleged violation of this Agreement, including any questions as to the arbitral nature of the matter.
- (d) Formal personal grievances shall be initiated within fourteen (14) calendar days from the date of the incident prompting the grievance. Policy grievances shall be initiated either by the Union or the County in writing, within thirty (30) calendar days from the day that the matter giving rise to the grievance came to the attention of the Designated Officer of the Union or Official of the Employer.
- (e) Formal grievances shall be in writing (email will suffice) and must state the general nature of the grievance, identify the specific clauses in the collective agreement that are being violated, and provide details with respect to the redress or remedy being sought.
- (f) "Days" means calendar days.
- (g) A Union member submitting a grievance has the right to be assisted by an attending Union Representative or Union Steward.

14.03 Grievance Process

A Personal Grievance shall be initiated by the Employee as follows:

Level I

The grievance shall be taken up with the Employee's manager or designate.

The Employee and/or the Union representative will discuss the subject of the proposed grievance with the Employee's manager or designate within fourteen (14) calendar days of the receipt of the grievance. The manager or designate first level classified supervisor will provide a response to the Employee and/or Union Representative within seven (7) calendar days from when the proposed grievance was discussed.

Level II

If the Employee continues to be dissatisfied, they should submit the grievance in writing within fourteen (14) days of receiving the response from Level I, to the Department Director. The Director, in consultation with Human Resources, will hear the matter and will respond in writing to the Grievor within seven (7) calendar days.

Level III

If the Union does not accept the decision of the Department Director, they may request in writing within seven (7) days of receiving the Department Directors decision that the Chief Commissioner review the grievance. The Chief Commissioner shall hear the matter within ten (10) days and will advise the Union of their decision in writing within fourteen (14) days of the hearing;

The Chief Commissioner may designate an Associate Commissioner to hear and decide on Level III grievances;

If the grievance is not settled as a result of the Chief Commissioner's decision, the Union or the Employer may refer the matter to arbitration pursuant to the Labour Relations Code.

14.04 <u>Arbitration Board</u>

In the event the matter being grieved is presented to an Arbitration Board, each Party shall bear the expense of its respective nominee and shall bear one-half (1/2) of the expenses of the Chairman Chairperson of the Arbitration Board.

- 14.05 The Parties may mutually agree to have the matter heard by a single Arbitrator.
- 14.06 The Arbitration Board by its decision shall not alter, amend or otherwise change the terms of this Collective Agreement.
- 14.07 All Union members submitting a grievance have the right to be assisted by an attending Union Representative.

14.08 Procedure and Time Limits

Extension of Time Limits: Time limitations set out in the above grievance procedure may be extended by mutual agreement between the parties, and must be in writing.

Time Limits: Time limits and procedures contained in this grievance procedure are mandatory. Failure to pursue a grievance within the prescribed time limits and in accordance with the prescribed procedures shall result in abandonment of the grievance and all rights and recourse to the grievor.

Failure to reply to a grievance in a timely fashion shall advance the grievance to the next level. Grievances so advanced shall be subject to time limits as if a reply had been made on the last allowable day of the preceding level in the procedure.

14.09 Policy Grievances may be initiated either by the Union or the County in the

following manner:

- (a) Policy Grievances shall be initiated either by the Union or the County in writing, within thirty (30) calendar days from the day that the matter giving rise to the grievance came to the attention of the Designated Officer of the Union or Official of the Employer. The written notice of the grievance shall be submitted to the President of the Union or the Director, Human Resources of Strathcona County and shall stipulate the general particulars of the grievance together with reference to the allegedly violated clause of the Agreement;
- (b) Grievances submitted in accordance with Clause 14.09 shall be referred to a Grievance Committee which shall endeavour to resolve the difference. This Committee will be composed of two representatives of the County and two members of the Union appointed by the Executive. This Committee shall meet within fifteen (15) calendar days of the submission of the written notice by either party;
- (c) After the parties have met in accordance with the preceding clause, each party will give any decision made in writing to the other party within fifteen (15) calendar days. In the event that the two parties reach a mutually acceptable agreement concerning the matter in question, a written and signed notice of mutual agreement will supersede the aforementioned notice of decision;
- (d) In the event that the parties do not reach a mutually acceptable agreement, or that either party does not accept the written notice of decision of the opposite party within thirty (30) calendar days of the Chief Commissioner's decision as per Clause 14.03 either party may notify the other party in writing of its intention to submit the grievance to arbitration pursuant to the provision of the Labour Relations Code.

DISCUSSION REGARDING TIMEFRAME FOR THE PROVISION OF RETURN NOTICE, CLARITY AND DEFINITION OF "BRANCH SENIORITY".

ARTICLE 15 - LAYOFFS AND RECALLS

- 15.01 Prior to any layoff affecting Regular Employees of the County, the parties will meet and endeavour to reduce the effect of such layoffs on Union members. Consultation shall occur prior to the issuance of any layoff notice to Union members. The Union shall be represented at such meetings by the following Chapter Officers; Chair (or Designate), Secretary, Chief—at least one Union Steward and the AUPE Staff Representative or such other persons as designated by the Union, but in any event there shall be no more than four (4) representatives from the Union. Union members attending such meetings shall not suffer any loss of pay.
- 15.02 If a layoff is to be effected within a Branch, Temporary Employees will be laid off before any Regular Employees. If the staff of any Branch is to be reduced, the County shall first determine the number of positions to be reduced within each classification within that Branch. Those Employees with the least amount of seniority within a Branch shall be the first Employees removed from those classifications that are to be reduced. Those Employees who are to be removed from a position may displace any Employee in a lower classification within that Branch that has less Branch seniority providing that the Employee notified of layoff is qualified to perform the duties of the lower position.
- 15.03 The County will notify, or pay in lieu of such notice, the Employees who are to be laid-off according to the Employment Standards Code. The Union shall be advised at the same time as the Employee is notified.
- 15.04 Regular Employee(s) shall be recalled in the order of their seniority (the most senior Employee laid off shall be the first to be recalled) providing they have the necessary qualifications and ability to do the work. The opportunity for reemployment shall exist for eighteen (18) months.
- Recall notice shall be by either text or email to the Employee's last contact information on record with the County. If the Employee fails to respond within forty-eight (48) hours, the Employer shall send the recall notice by registered mail to the Employee's last address on record with the County. It is the responsibility of each Employee to notify the County promptly in writing of any change of address or contact information. When recalled, an Employee who fails to report to work within fifteen (15) days of the date of recall notice shall forfeit their claim to re-employment.

DISCUSSION REGARDING THE APPLICATION AND INTERPRETATION OF 16.08 (C), EARLY REPORTING – 16.11. AUPE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO DISCUSS THE DATES FOR SAND SHIFT – 16.14. EXPLORE THE ADDITION OF 4/10 WORK SCHEDULE OR FLEX/MODIFIED WORK AGREEMENTS.

ARTICLE 16 - HOURS OF WORK AND OVERTIME

The prescribed regular hours of work for an Employee, other than those referred to in Clause 16.04 following, shall be eight (8) hours in any one (1) day or forty (40) hours in any one (1) calendar week or five (5) working day period. Hours worked in excess of the above shall be calculated as overtime hours and shall be paid accordingly. Notwithstanding the above, when an established schedule provides a pattern that is irregular, the forty (40) hours in one (1) calendar week or five (5) working day period shall mean average over a two (2) week period.

16.02 Overtime

The overtime pay rates shall be calculated at the rate of two (2.0) times the regular pay rate for all hours worked beyond eight (8) hours in a day.

- An Employee may bank overtime hours at the rate it is earned; up to the maximum of forty (40) eighty (80) regular hours within a calendar year. An Employee may request to be paid out for banked hours up to the time equivalent of eighty (80) forty (40) regular hours per calendar year. Banked hours may be taken as time off by Employees after receiving written authorization from the County designated official who shall consider the wishes and application of the Employee. Up to forty (40) banked regular hours may be carried forward into the next calendar year. Banked hours cannot exceed the time equivalent of eighty (80) one-hundred and twenty (120) regular hours at any one time.
- For those Employees who are engaged in road construction, road maintenance or the removal of snow from roads or any of those undertakings, for the purpose of calculating overtime, their regular day shall consist of a twenty-four (24) hour period beginning at midnight. The maximum number of hours of work at regular rates of pay shall not exceed:
 - (a)—Ninety (90) hours bi-weekly;
 - (b)—Eighty (80) hours bi-weekly during the period November 01 to April 30, inclusive;
- Only hours actually worked, paid vacation (including general holidays) and banked time used to supplement hours are used in accumulation of overtime. Sick leave or other paid or unpaid absences are not included.
- For those Employees specified in Clause 16.04 from May 1 to October 31, overtime rates shall be calculated at the rate of two (2.0) times the regular pay rate for all hours worked beyond nine (9) hours in a day. This article only comes into effect when actually scheduled to work nine (9) hours a day.

16.07 Shift Schedules

Barring unforeseen circumstances and emergency situations, full and complete shift schedules shall be posted no less than thirty (30) days before the expiry of the current schedule. Shift Schedules must include an expiry date.

16.08 <u>Shift Changes</u>

- (a) When an Employee is required to change from one shift to another shift, the Employer will provide at least **seventy-two** (72) twenty-four (24) hours written notice in advance of the start time of the originally scheduled shift and ten (10) hours off between shifts.
- (b) If the twenty-four (24) seventy-two (72) hours written notice and ten (10) hours off between shifts is not provided to the Employee, the Employee will be paid at the rate of two (2.0) times the regular rate of pay for the hours of the first shift worked.
- (c) If the Employee is on regular scheduled days off when the twenty-four (24) seventy-two (72) hours written notice is posted, the supervisor may shall contact the Employee directly to provide verbal twenty-four (24) seventy-two (72) hours notice change in shift.
- An Employee shall be paid for or expected to work for a minimum of three (3) hours if the regular shift is cancelled or rescheduled and the Employee was not notified of such cancellation or rescheduling twelve (12) hours prior to the cancelled or rescheduled shift.
- 16.10 When an Employee calls in ill for a work period affected by the preceding Clause 16.09, that Employee will be paid for either the half-day or full-day as appropriate to the circumstances and as provided in Clause 21.02 and 21.03.

16.11 <u>Early Reporting</u>

- (a) When an Employee is requested prior to the conclusion of a shift, to report two (2) or more hours earlier than their regularly scheduled shift, that Employee may (subject to operational requirements) be given a choice of leaving work prior to the end of their regularly scheduled shift or being paid the regular overtime rate for those hours worked prior to the time scheduled for the commencement of the regular shift. The total of the early reporting hours worked and regular shift hours worked will not be less than the number of regularly scheduled hours. Such early reporting arrangement may continue for two consecutive shifts.
 - If requested for a third consecutive shift, Clause 16.08 will apply.
- (b) When an Employee is requested prior to the conclusion of a shift to report up to two (2) hours earlier or up to two (2) hours later for the next regular shift, that Employee shall not receive the overtime rate for the earlier or later reporting period. The total of the earlier reporting hours worked and regular shift hours worked will not be less than the number of regularly scheduled hours. If requested to report earlier or later on the second shift the earlier or later reporting hours will be at the overtime rate. If requested for a third consecutive shift, Clause 16.08 will apply.

16.12 Attendance

When an Employee is unable to report to work, the Employee shall follow the established protocol for their department to report such absence, and at a minimum shall report the absence one (1) hour prior to the start of the shift. Failure to comply with this requirement shall result in loss of pay for the shift, and may result in discipline unless the Employee provides a reasonable explanation.

16.13 Work Break

All Employees shall be entitled to one fifteen (15) minute work break in each half day worked, or in any overtime work period in excess of two (2) hours. Such work break shall be taken at the work site and the time of such break shall be approved

by the immediate supervisor of each Employee. The work break shall be considered part of a work hour for the purposes of the preceding paragraphs.

16.14 <u>Sand Shift Workers and Sidewalk Crew</u>

Notwithstanding Clause 16.01, when the needs of the operations require it, Sand Shift Workers and Sidewalk Crew may be required to work a modified shift schedule of up to twelve (12) hours. Modified hours of work shall commence annually on the first full pay period commencing on or after October 15 and shall continue until the first full pay period before or after April 15 based on operational need.

- (a) Overtime will be paid to Sand Shift Workers and Sidewalk Crew who exceed 80 hours of work in a bi-weekly pay period.
- (b) Employees working modified hours of work will have all benefits and entitlements which are expressed in terms of daily or weekly entitlement converted to produce the equivalent hours of benefits and entitlements as they would have had if the hours of work had not been modified. This will result in no loss or gain in Employee benefits and entitlements.

ARTICLE 17 - SHIFT AND WEEKEND PREMIUMS

17.01

- (a) A shift premium of **five dollars (\$5.00)** one dollar and ninety cents (\$1.90) per hour shall be paid to all Union Employees for those hours worked between seventeen hundred (1700) hours and zero seven hundred (0700) hours Monday to Friday.
- MVD A weekend premium of five dollars (\$5.00) shall be paid for all hours worked on Saturday and Sunday and holidays.
- (b) At no time shall shift premium be included with the Employee's regular rate of pay for purposes of computing overtime payments, other premium payments, or any Employee benefits.
- NEW A Union Employees shall receive both a shift and weekend premium where applicable.

SIGN AS CURRENT

ARTICLE 18 - CALL OUT AND STANDBY

18.01 Call Out

Where an Employee is on call and is able to perform work without physically attending to the worksite (e.g. via telephone), the Employee will be provided a minimum of half an hour's pay or pay for the actual time worked, whichever is greater, at the appropriate overtime rates plus the appropriate shift differential.

Any subsequent work performed within the half an hour of the commencement of the initial work will be included in the calculation of actual time worked, but will not trigger an additional half an hour minimum.

When an Employee physically attends to the worksite on a call out, they shall be paid a minimum of three (3) hours pay at the appropriate overtime rates plus the appropriate shift differential from the time of departure from household, as directed by the appropriate designated County supervisor. For call outs of four (4) or more hours that run into the regular scheduled shift, the Employee shall work a minimum of twelve (12) consecutive hours unless otherwise mutually agreed. For call outs of less than four (4) hours that run into the regular scheduled shift, the regular shift hours will not be reduced unless otherwise mutually agreed.

18.03 Standby

- (a) When a Fleet Services Employee (within either the Vehicle and Equipment Branch or the Transit Branch) is scheduled to be immediately available and on-call to provide emergency service or other similar call-outs, the Employee shall be paid a minimum of one (1) hour's pay at the regular rate for each day they are so scheduled as compensation for being on standby.
- (b) When a Public Works Employee is scheduled to be immediately available and on on-call to provide emergency service or other similar call-outs, the Employee shall be paid a minimum of one (1) hour's pay at the Equipment Operator three (III) step three (3) rate for each day they are so scheduled as compensation for being on standby.
- (c) When a Utilities Employee is scheduled to be immediately available and on-call to provide emergency service or other similar call-outs, the Employee shall be paid a minimum of one (1) hour's pay at the Water and Waste Water Operator step six (6) rate for each day they are so scheduled as compensation for being on standby.
- 18.04 When an Employee is scheduled as in the preceding Clauses 18.03 on a Saturday, Sunday or general holiday as per Clause 23.01, that Employee shall be paid a minimum of two (2) hours pay at the rate specified in 18.03 (a), (b), (c) for each day so scheduled.

DISCUSSION REGARDING EXPANDING THE LIST IN 19.01 (C), REVISING THE MEAL ALLOWANCE PROVISIONS, REMOVING UNION WORKERS FROM THE COUNTY POLICY AND MOVING TO A FLAT RATE FOR ALL MEALS. CLARITY SURROUNDING 19.05.

ARTICLE 19 - EMPLOYEE ALLOWANCES

19.01 Safety Equipment Allowance

- Each Regular Employee who has completed the initial period of probation as required in Clause 11.01 of this Agreement shall be reimbursed by the County to a maximum of two five hundred dollars (\$500) (\$200) per calendar year as an allowance for the purchase of safety equipment or upgraded safety equipment not supplied by the County which must include, but is not limited to, C.S.A. approved safety footwear. A valid receipt(s) as evidence of the purchase of C.S.A. approved safety footwear and safety equipment must be presented. The Employee may carry over into the next calendar year any unused amount of their current years boot allowance. The maximum carry over in any one year cannot exceed five two hundred dollars (\$500) (\$200). The Department Head, if they feel it is necessary, may approve for reimbursement a second pair of boots in a calendar year up to the value of the annual boot / safety equipment allowance.
- (b) Each Temporary Employee, after the completion of the probationary period, shall be reimbursed by the County to a maximum of one hundred and fifty five hundred dollars (\$500) (\$150) per calendar year as an allowance for the purchase of safety equipment or upgraded safety equipment not supplied by the County which must include, but is not limited to, C.S.A. approved safety footwear. A valid receipt(s) as evidence of the purchase of C.S.A. approved safety footwear and safety equipment must be presented. The Temporary Employee may carry over into the next calendar year any unused amount of their current years boot allowance. The maximum carry over in any one year cannot exceed one hundred and fifty five hundred dollars (\$500) (\$150).
- (c) Upgraded safety equipment may include but is not limited to:
 - Winter Gear including goggles
 - Molded ear plugs
 - Prescription safety lenses/glasses
 - Upgraded gloves
 - Welding (individual) shields

Approval will not be unreasonably denied.

19.02 Meal Allowance

If an Employee is authorized to work overtime of more than two (2) consecutive hours **or more** immediately following their scheduled daily hours on a normal working day and purchases a meal for consumption during a break in the overtime period or immediately following completion of the overtime period, a dinner meal allowance may be claimed in accordance with the County policies.

19.03 If an Employee is authorized to work more than four (4) consecutive hours on a call out situation a meal allowance may be claimed in accordance with the County policies.

19.04 <u>Tool Allowance</u>

The Employer shall pay a **one thousand two-hundred** six hundred dollar **(\$1200)** (\$600) per year tool allowance to Certified Technicians, and Vehicle **Servicepersonsman or Apprentices**. The Employee may carry over into the next calendar year any unused amount of the current year's tool allowance. The maximum carry over in any one year cannot exceed six hundred dollars **one thousand two-hundred (\$1200)** (\$600). Reimbursement shall be made once proof of purchase is provided and approved.

19.05 <u>Mileage</u>

When an Employee reports to their first designated work place of the day and then is directed to use their personal vehicle to move from one job site to another during their work shift they shall be reimbursed for mileage as follows: between their first designated workplace to their last designated workplace of the day. Mileage reimbursement shall be claimed in accordance with the County policies.

DISCUSSION REGARDING THE DEFINITION OF "FIELD WORK", PREMIUM IN 20.07 AND THE APPROPRIATE RESPONSIBILITY WAGE GAP BETWEEN LEADHANDS, FOREPERSONS AND THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT UNION EMPLOYEES THAT THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR (20.02).

ARTICLE 20 - ACTING PAY

20.01	Any Employee who works in a classification (within the Bargaining Unit) with a higher rate of pay in any one (1) shift shall receive the higher rate of pay for each hour worked in the higher classification. If this time period exceeds ninety (90) days, effective the ninety-first (91st) day, the Employee will receive the higher rate of pay for all approved vacation, general holiday, illness, bereavement, and compassionate leave for the full time period in which they have worked while working in the higher classification.
20.02	An Employee appointed to Leadhand or Project Foreperson shall not receive an hourly rate of pay that less than the "County Department Union Employees" that they are responsible for. An Employee who is appointed as Acting Leadhand shall be paid at the appropriate Leadhand rate for all hours worked as a Leadhand for the full shift in which they are working.
20.03	Certified Technicians appointed to a seasonal Field Certified Technician assignment shall be paid a premium of four dollars (\$4.00) one dollar and ten cents (\$1.10) per hour for one (1) complete shift or longer or for all hours worked in the case of service calls and ad hoc field work.
20.04	Vehicle Serviceperson I & II appointed to a seasonal Field Vehicle Serviceperson II assignment shall be paid a premium of four dollars (\$4.00) one dollar and ten cents (\$1.10) per hour for one (1) complete shift or longer or for all hours worked in the case of service calls and ad hoc field work.
20.05	The qualification or eligibility of an Employee to relieve or be assigned to a higher classification will be the responsibility of management.
20.06	Any member of the Union may be appointed for one (1) or more days as a Classified role supervisor and such appointment will not cause the member to be disqualified from the Union.
20.07	If any Employee is appointed temporary Classified role Supervisor, they shall receive the applicable hourly rate of the classified role in which they are working a premium of two dollars and twenty-five cents (\$2.25) per hour in addition to their regular wage rate for one (1) complete shift or longer.

DISCUSSION REGARDING MOVING FROM HOURS TO WORKDAYS THROUGHOUT THIS ARTICLE, ILLNESS FOR TEMPS, INSERT THE CURRENT PROCESS FOR REQUESTING AND PROVIDING MEDICAL DOCUMENTATION (WHO FROM THE EMPLOYER IS ABLE TO REQUEST MEDICAL DOCUMENTATION).

ARTICLE 21 - PROVISION FOR ILLNESS AND NORMAL ABSENCE

- 21.01 Sick leave benefits as herein stated are sponsored by the County to protect the Employee in the event of an unavoidable illness or injury not covered by the Alberta Workers' Compensation Act.
- NEW All medical documentation requested by the county shall be reimbursed by the county on the Union Employees next applicable pay period.
- A Regular Employee, upon hire, shall be entitled to a maximum of eighty (80) hours per calendar year of leave with pay for any casual illness, which may cause the Employee to be absent from work for a period of three (3) consecutive work days or less. Up to sixteen (16) hours of unused casual illness leave per calendar year shall be carried over and may be used in the next calendar year. The maximum paid casual illness leave in a calendar year is ninety-six (96) hours including the carry over.
- A Temporary Employee after the completion of the standard probationary period shall be entitled to a maximum of thirty-two (32) hours per calendar year of leave with pay for any casual illness, which may cause the Employee to be absent from work for a period of three (3) consecutive work days or less. Temporary Employees with more than six (6) months of service in the current calendar year shall be entitled to an additional sixteen (16) hours in the current calendar year, of leave with pay for any casual illness.
- 21.04 Each day or portion of a day of absence due to casual illness used within a calendar year, shall be deducted from the remaining casual illness leave entitlement for that calendar year.
- 21.05 Where an employee terminates and is rehired in the same calendar year, the casual illness allotment will be the amount that they had in their available bank at the time of departure.
- In any case, an Employee may be required to provide satisfactory proof of illness upon return to work, where it can be shown that reasonable doubt exists in respect to the purpose of an absence claimed to be due to illness. The employee will be provided the reasons for the request. Such proof may take the form of a medical certificate signed by a qualified physician, dental practitioner or other professional as deemed appropriate by the Disability Management Supervisor/Human Resources.
- 21.07 Upon approval (which will not be unreasonable denied), time off of two (2) hours or less for doctor appointments will result in no loss of casual illness or regular time. The Employer may require the Employee to submit proof of attendance at a medical, dental or optical appointment when time off work is granted to attend such appointments.

General Illness

21.08 Each Regular Employee will be entitled to leave of absence with pay for General Illness in accord with the following scale. General Illness is defined as "any illness

which causes an Employee to be absent from work for a period of more than three (3) consecutive work days".

To obtain General Illness benefits resulting from the inability of the Employee to perform the duties of their position, a proper medical certificate(s) signed by a qualified physician, dental practitioner or other professional as deemed appropriate by the Disability Management Supervisor/Human Resources is required.

21.09—Family Illness Leave

A Regular Employee shall be entitled to a maximum of twenty-four (24) hours per calendar year with pay to attend to illness of immediate family members as defined in Clause 22.06. MVD TO NEW ARTICLE - SPECIAL LEAVE

- A Temporary Employee may use up to sixteen (16) hours of their casual illness allotment, as per Clause 21.03 to attend to illness of immediate family members.
- 21.11 Sick leave entitlement for illness longer than three (3) working days shall be as follows:
 - (a) After five hundred (500) hours of continuous employment the Employee shall receive one hundred sixty (160) hours at the base rate of pay;
 - (b) On the first day worked, in the next calendar year sick leave entitlement shall be increased to a maximum two hundred eighty (280) hours at the base rate of pay;
 - (c) On the first day worked, in subsequent consecutive calendar years sick leave entitlement shall be increased to a maximum of five hundred twenty (520) hours at the base rate of pay, plus any unused casual illness up to a maximum of six hundred (600) hours.
- 21.12 When a day designated as a Paid Holiday under Clause 23.01 falls within a period of General Illness, it will be considered as a paid holiday.
- 21.13 Transfers, promotions, demotions and/or reclassification shall not affect sick leave entitlement of any Employee.

21.14 Workers Compensation

- (a) An Employee is not eligible to receive sick leave benefits if the absence is due to an injury while in the employ of any other Employer that is covered by Workers' Compensation Benefits.
- (b) Employee's will be eligible to receive benefits in accordance with the County's policies
- 21.15 Sick leave entitlement will not be affected while the Employee is in receipt of Alberta Workers' Compensation benefits.
- 21.16 Regular Employees who are eligible to receive Workers' Compensation benefits shall receive full pay from the County for a period not to exceed six (6) months provided that all Workers' Compensation payments are assigned to the County for that period.
- 21.17 Expenses for medical certificates will be the responsibility of the employee, including medical certificates required to support eligibility for casual or general illness. Where the Employer has requested the employee to attend a medical examination and/or obtain additional medical documentation, the Employer shall reimburse the employee for the cost of the documentation (if any).
- 21.18 An Employee who has become incapacitated by injury or illness may be employed

- in other work which they can do. Such Employee may not displace an Employee with more seniority.
- 21.19 An Employee who refuses without good and satisfactory reason, to accept the alternate classification or position, may be suspended immediately. The supervisor issuing the suspension will report the suspension to the Department Head (Human Resources) as soon as possible who will notify the Union Executive.
- 21.20 Any Employee affected by the preceding Clauses 21.18 and 21.19 and not satisfied with the action recommended in accordance with Clause 21.19, may appeal the reclassification or suspension in keeping with Clause 14.03 of this Agreement.
- 21.21 Should an Employee be unable to perform their usual duties by reason of the loss or suspension of their motor vehicle operator's license or a similar happening, that Employee may be placed in some other suitable position until the disability ends or is removed. The wages paid during the period of such disability shall be wages appropriate to the position in which the Employee is placed.
- 21.22 Notwithstanding the above clause, within fourteen (14) days of the suspension of their operator's license, an Employee may be allowed to book unused holidays at the wage prevailing prior to suspension of their operator's license.

NOTE: 21.09 – Family Illness, 22.06 Bereavement leave, 20.07 and 20.09 have been moved and amended to this Article. Formatting would need to be aligned with the rest of the Agreement.

NEW Special Leave

- NEW A Union Employee shall be granted upon application, special leave at their basic rate of pay. The circumstances under which special leave is granted, subject to Clauses XX.02, and the corresponding maximum length of each are as follows:
 - (a) illness within the immediate family four (4) days,
 - (b) bereavement within the immediate family five (5) days,
 - (c) bereavement/pallbearer one (1) day
 - (d) travel time for illness or bereavement within the immediate family three (3) days,
 - (e) personal up to four (4) days.
- NEW For purposes of determining eligibility for special leave under Clause 22.01, the following provisions shall apply:
 - (a) illness within the immediate family leave of absence without loss of pay or benefits shall be granted if there is an illness within the employee's or spouse's immediate family. Immediate family shall mean: wife, husband, son, daughter, mother, father, or a person permanently residing in the Employee's household or with whom the Employee permanently resides. The leave of absence shall not include taking the person to a medical, dental, optical, or other such appointment, unless there is no other family member available to take the person to an appointment;
 - (b) bereavement within the immediate family leave of absence without loss of pay or benefits will be granted in the event of the death of any of the following relations of an Employee or spouse: spouse, parents, guardian, parent-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, son, daughter, brother, sister or the husband or wife of any of them, or a person permanently residing in the Employee's household or with whom the Employee permanently resides;
 - (c) bereavement/pallbearer leave of absence without loss of pay or benefits shall be granted at the time of the funeral or death of an aunt, uncle, niece or nephew or to attend as a pallbearer or mourner for a deceased Employee. Where the family of a deceased Employee requests pallbearers from the Union, the County may grant the necessary leave with pay for up to six (6) pallbearers.
 - (d) travel time for illness within the immediate family or for bereavement shall mean for travel where long distances of 300 km or more are involved;
 - (e) personal day shall apply to conditions that require an employee to be away from work for personal reasons.
- NEW The maximum length specified for each circumstance requiring use of special leave shall not be exceeded, however special leave may be granted more than once for the same circumstance within a calendar year. Requests for special leave more than once for the same circumstances within a calendar year shall not be unreasonably denied provided the total special leave granted does not exceed ten

ARTICLE 22 - LEAVES OF ABSENCE

- Other Leaves of Absence, without pay, may be granted at the sole discretion of the County, and in accordance with the Alberta Employment Standards Code, upon written application by the affected Employee at least seven (7) days prior to the beginning date of the applied for Leave of Absence. To be eligible for such leave, an Employee shall have been employed with the County for ninety (90) days of continuous employment, with the exception of reservist leave which is twenty-six (26) consecutive weeks, and must have their application endorsed or approved by the Department Head. The application shall include the reason for the request as well as the dates of the requested Leave of Absence. Such approval should shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- In unusual circumstances or by mutual agreement, the requirement stated in Clause 22.01 for application to be made seven (7) days prior to the commencement of the requested leave of absence may be waived. Application for such waiver is to be made directly to the Department Head.
- In the case of an Employee who takes a leave of absence under the provisions of Clause 22.01, the benefits and conditions to which that Employee is entitled as a result of length of service in the County shall not be adversely affected as a result of having been granted such leave of absence.
- An Employee on such approved leave may not engage in other employment for gain while on such leave without the express written consent of the County.

22.05 <u>Court and Jury Duty</u>

Leave of Absence shall be provided to an Employee who is required to serve as a juror, or is subpoenaed as a witness in a private capacity in any court proceeding. The Employee shall receive their regular rate of pay and shall remit to the Employer any allowance they may receive for such duty or service.

If the Employee is subpoenaed as a witness to appear in court in their official capacity to give evidence or to produce Strathcona County records, the Employee shall receive their regular rate of pay during regular working hours and is eligible to receive overtime pay to appear during non-work hours. The Employee shall remit to the Employer any allowance they may receive for such duty or service.

The Employee shall present proof of such duty or service and the amount of remuneration or allowance received in all cases.

Employees required to appear in court in a capacity other than subpoenaed as a witness or jurist will be granted leave without pay.

22.06—Bereavement Leave

An Employee shall be granted Bereavement Leave of Absence with pay for not more than five (5) consecutive days because of the death of spouse (includes common-law), child (includes step, foster child or ward), parent (includes step or foster parent), brother, sister, parent of spouse, guardian, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, grandchild or any other relative who is a member of the Employee's household, or the spouse of any of the foregoing. In addition to the above, the Employer may grant up to one (1) day travel to attend the funeral if the travel is five hundred (500) kilometers or more away.

22.07 Leave of absence for one (1) full day, with pay, shall be granted at the time of the funeral or death of a grand-parent, grandparent-in-law, aunt, uncle, niece or nephew, if the funeral is on a work day.

- 22.08 Upon written application, additional Compassionate or Bereavement Leave of Absence with pay, due to exceptional circumstances, may be granted an Employee at the discretion of the Chief Commissioner. MOVED TO 22.10
- 22.09 One (1) day of leave may be granted without loss of pay or benefits to attend as a pallbearer or mourner for a deceased Employee. Where the family of a deceased Employee requests pallbearers from the Union, the County may grant the necessary leave with pay for up to six (6) pallbearers.

22.10 Compassionate Leave

An Employee shall be granted Compassionate Leave of Absence with pay for not more than five (5) consecutive days because of the critical illness of a member of their immediate family as defined in Clause 22.06. The Employee shall provide the County with a letter from the attending physician concerning the fact of the critical illness.

Upon written application, additional Compassionate Leave of Absence with pay, due to exceptional circumstances, may be granted to an Employee at the discretion of the Chief Commissioner or Designate.

Any additional Compassionate Care Leave shall be provided in accordance with *Alberta Employment Standards Code*.

22.11 <u>Maternity Leave</u>

Maternity Leave will be granted to Employees in accordance with the Alberta Employment Standards Code.

- (a) Employees must have been employed with Strathcona County for ninety (90) days of continuous employment.
- (b) The maternity leave is not more than sixteen (16) weeks starting at any time during the thirteen (13) weeks immediately before the estimated date of delivery.
- (c) The Employee must give six (6) weeks' written notice of the date they intend to begin leave and four (4) weeks' notice of the date they intend to return to work.
- (d) If an Employee's pregnancy results in a miscarriage or stillbirth within sixteen (16) weeks of their due date, they are entitled to sixteen (16) weeks of maternity leave.

22.12 <u>Health Related Portion of the Maternity Leave</u>

During the one-week Employment Insurance waiting period, Strathcona County will top-up salary to ninety-five percent (95%) of the Employee's regular earnings. Verification that Employees are in receipt of employment insurance benefits is necessary to provide the top-up benefit. A medical certificate must be provided to Human Resources, confirming the date the child was born and the duration of the leave that the physician indicates is health related. During the health-related portion of the maternity leave Strathcona County will top-up salary to ninety-five percent (95%) of the Employees regular earnings. The benefit coverage that the Employee has at the time of their leave will continue during the health related portion of the absence. At the end of this period, parental leave will commence, and benefit coverage will continue if the Employee pays both Employer and Employee portions of the cost of the premiums.

When a pregnancy interferes with the performance of duties or the Employer has a concern for the Employee's health, the Employer may reassign the Employee's duties at no loss of pay, or by notice in writing to the Employee, require them to

commence sick leave under Clause 21.08.

22.14 Parental Leave

Employees who have been employed with Strathcona County for ninety (90) days of continuous employment are entitled to parental leave without pay for a maximum of sixty-two (62) weeks. The Employee must give at least six (6) weeks written notice of the date they intend to begin parental leave and four (4) weeks' notice of the date they intend to return to work. During that time they may receive benefit coverage by paying the Employee and Employer portions of the cost of the premiums.

Employees wishing to return to work prior to the agreed return date may do so with two (2) weeks' notice.

22.16 <u>Adoption Leave</u>

One (1) day leave with pay will be allowed for an Employee to be present at the birth or adoption proceeding of an Employee's child, providing such occurrence is on a scheduled workday

The Employer will grant adoption leave to Employees who are adopting a child. The Employee must have been employed with Strathcona County for ninety (90) days of continuous employment. Written notice of leave must be provided to the Employer at least two (2) weeks before Employees can reasonably expect to obtain custody of the child.

- 22.17 If Employees cannot provide at least two (2) weeks written notice, they must notify the Employer immediately after receiving notice of the adoption.
- Adoption leave consists of not more than sixty-two (62) consecutive weeks of leave without pay within seventy-eight (78) weeks after the child is placed with the adoptive parents. During that time they may receive benefit coverage by paying the Employee and Employer portions of the cost of the premiums.

22.19 Shared Leave

If both parents are Employees of Strathcona County parental or adoption leave may be taken wholly by one of the Employees or be shared by both. Only one (1) parent will be granted parental or adoption leave at a time.

22.20 <u>Anniversary Date</u>

Employees who have been on maternity, parental or adoption leave will have their anniversary date adjusted for evaluation and increment purposes only. They will not earn vacation leave during this period, the exception being for maternity health related reasons.

22.21 Additional Leave

Leave of absence without pay beyond the approved maternity, parental or adoption leave may be granted upon written application up to a combined maximum of twelve (12) months at the discretion of the Employer.

22.22 Domestic Violence Leave

Domestic violence leave shall be granted in accordance with the *Alberta Employment Standards Code*.

22.23 <u>Military Leave</u>

Military leave shall be granted in accordance with the *Alberta Employment Standards Code*.

22.24 <u>Citizenship Ceremony Leave</u>

Citizenship Ceremony Leave shall be granted in accordance with the *Alberta Employment Standards Code*.

HOUSEKEEPING – MOVE TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION DAY BEFORE THANKSGIVING DAY

SIGN AS CURRENT

ARTICLE 23 - HOLIDAYS

Employees shall be entitled to one (1) day's paid leave for each of the following specified or general holidays:

New Year's Day

Family Day

Good Friday

Easter Monday

Victoria Day

Labour Day

Thanksgiving Day

Remembrance Day

Christmas Day

Christmas Floater

Canada Day Boxing Day

1st Monday in August Truth and Reconciliation Day

And any other day designated as a General Holiday by the Lieutenant Governor in Council under the Employment Standards Code.

- Employees shall receive the recognized specified or general holidays for which they are eligible, with pay; or other days with pay in lieu of such holidays, or pay in lieu as approved by the County, providing they are available for work immediately preceding and following the days or an otherwise approved leave of absence, or they provide a medical certificate attesting to their illness on the day prior or following the general holiday.
- 23.03 The provisions for pay in lieu of such specified or general holidays referred to in Clauses 23.01 and 23.02 shall be based on the number of regular hours which would have been worked had that day been a regular working day.
- In the event a specified or general holiday falls on an Employee's regular day off, an additional day with pay shall be granted in lieu of that day.
- 23.05 If any of the above specified or general holidays should occur during an Employee's vacation, such vacation shall be extended by one day or an additional day with pay shall be granted in lieu of that day.
- Temporary Employees, upon hire, shall be eligible for specified or general holidays as per Clause 23.02.
- 23.07 With the exception of Sand Shift workers and Sidewalk Crew and those workers that are scheduled to work on Christmas Day, the Christmas Floater holiday shall be observed to give five (5) consecutive days off including the weekend as follows:
 - (a) On December 24 when Christmas Day falls on a Tuesday, a Thursday, a Friday or Saturday;
 - (b) On December 27 when Christmas Day falls on a Monday or a Wednesday;
 - (c) On December 28 when Christmas Day falls on a Sunday.

For Sand Shift workers and Sidewalk Crew and those workers that are scheduled to work on Christmas day, the Christmas Floater Holiday shall be observed on December 24th.

DISCUSSION REGARDING VACATION ACCRUAL AND USE DURING SAND SHIFT, TEMP VACATION, ADDING CLARITY SURROUNDING VACATION ENTITLEMENT AND YEARS OF SERVICE

ARTICLE 24 - VACATION LEAVE

24.01 Annual vacation entitlement with pay shall be as follows:

- (a) An Employee who has completed less than **four** (4) six (6) years of service shall earn vacation leave at the rate of four point sixty-two (4.62) hours per bi-weekly period of continuous service [fifteen (15) days per year] or five point two (5.20) hours per bi-weekly period of continuous service if based on the forty-five (45) hour work week;
- (b) An Employee who has completed **four (4)**six (6) years but less than fourteen (14) **nine (9)** years of service shall earn vacation leave at the rate of six point fifteen (6.15) hours per bi-weekly period of continuous service [twenty (20) days per year] or six point ninety-two (6.92) hours per bi-weekly period of continuous service if based on the forty-five (45) hour work week;
- (c) An Employee who has completed **nine (9)** fourteen (14) years of service but less than **fourteen (14)** twenty two (22) years shall earn vacation leave at the rate of seven point seven (7.70) hours per bi-weekly period of continuous service [twenty-five (25) days per year] or eight point sixty-seven (8.67) hours per bi-weekly period of continuous service if based on the forty-five (45) hour work week;
- (d) An Employee who has completed **fourteen (14)** twenty two (22) or more years of service shall earn vacation leave at the rate of nine point twenty-three (9.23) hours per bi-weekly period of continuous service [thirty (30) days per year] or ten point thirty-nine (10.39) hours per bi-weekly period of continuous service if based on the forty-five (45) hour work week.

New During an Employees 20th year of service, an Employee will earn a one-time, five (5) working days vacation leave. This one-time five (5) working days vacation leave will occur on every subsequent five (5) year anniversary date. For clarity, Employees would receive this one-time vacation allocation on the 25 year, 30 year, 35 year anniversary date.

- 24.02 If Employees become ill on an annual vacation leave for more than three (3) consecutive paid vacation days, the applicable days will be deemed general illness, and they will have the applicable number of vacation days reinstated upon application.
- 24.03 The number of days of vacation leave which may be accumulated by an Employee is limited to the number they can earn in eighteen (18) months of continuous service.

The County will automatically pay out any excess vacation leave over the maximum accumulation at the beginning of each December.

When vacation pay is paid out rather than being taken as vacation, the payout shall be based on the Employee's rate of pay at the time of payout.

- 24.04 Vacation leave may be taken in the calendar year it is earned. However, vacation leave may not be taken until it has been earned. The vacation leave may be granted as follows:
 - (a) In one continuous period;
 - (b) As single days off or some other combination;
 - (c) If an Employee earns vacation at a rate of four point sixty-two (4.62) hours per bi-weekly period of continuous service, one (1) week vacation leave may be taken as single days off or some other combination provided the total does not exceed five work days in any calendar year, **unless otherwise agreed to by the Employer**;
 - (d) If an Employee earns vacation at a rate of six point fifteen (6.15) hours per bi-weekly period of continuous service or seven point seven (7.70) hours per bi-weekly period of continuous service, two (2) weeks' vacation leave may be taken as single days off or some other combination provided the total does not exceed ten (10) work days in any calendar year, **unless otherwise agreed to by the Employer**;
 - (e) If an Employee earns vacation at a rate of nine point twenty-three (9.23) hours per bi-weekly period of continuous service, three (3) weeks' vacation leave may be taken as single days off or some other combination provided the total does not exceed fifteen (15) work days in any calendar year, **unless otherwise agreed to by the Employer**.
- In addition to the automatic payout of excess vacation referred to in 24.03, an Employee may be permitted to receive a cash payment in lieu of vacation leave, provided any and all obligations have been met in accordance with Employment Standards legislation and the Employee has received written approval from the Department Head.

Temporary Employees shall have vacation pay added to their bi-weekly pay cheques and shall be entitled to unpaid vacation leave in accordance with the Employment Standards Code.

- 24.06 An Employee who does not complete one (1) full year of service shall be entitled to vacation pay in accordance with the Employment Standards Code and regulations thereunder.
 - (a) Temporary Employees will receive vacation pay at four percent (4%) of their gross regular earnings during their first four thousand (4000) regular standard hours.
 - (b) Temporary Employees will receive vacation pay at six percent (6%) of their gross regular earnings after completion of four thousand (4000) regular standard hours.
 - (c) If a Temporary Employee has a break in service greater than eighteen (18) months then vacation pay shall be paid at four percent (4%) of their gross regular earnings as per Clause 24.06 a) above.
- 24.07 Regular vacation leave shall be taken by Employees after receiving written authorization from the County or its designated official who shall consider the wishes and application of the Employee. Seniority with the County shall be the determining factor in resolving any dispute or conflict regarding preference for the time at which vacations are to be taken. Changes in vacation scheduling shall be authorized in writing.
- Vacation hours will be paid out at the Employee's base rate in place at the time the

vacation is taken.

24.09 <u>Summer Vacation Schedules</u>

Employees must submit summer vacation applications to the Director or designate by March 15th of each year. The Employer will post schedules, as approved by the Director, by May 1st of each year.

DISCUSSION REGARDING EXPANDING BENEFIT COVERAGE FOR DENTAL AND INCORPORATING AND INCREASING THE FLEX SPENDING ACCOUNT FOR BENEFIT ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES.

ARTICLE 25 - BENEFIT AND PENSION PLANS

25.01 Benefit Plans

The County shall contribute on behalf of all participating Employees in group insurance and benefit plans, which provide minimum benefit levels agreed upon by the County and the Union at rates outlined in the following clauses:

- (a) The County shall pay seventy five percent (75%) of the total premium for each Union member participating in the Strathcona County Benefit Plan Life, Accidental Death and Dismemberment and Long-Term Disability Insurance. All members of the Union hired after July 1, 1978, shall be members of the said plan as a condition of employment;
- (b) The County shall pay seventy five percent (75%) of the total premium for each Union member participating in the Extended Health Care option of the Strathcona County Employee Benefit Plan;
- (c) The County shall pay seventy five percent (75%) of the total premium for each Union member participating in the Dental option of the Strathcona County Employee Benefit Plan;
- (d) The County shall pay seventy five percent (75%) of the total premium for each eligible Union member enrolled in the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan through the Strathcona County.

The County's liability shall be limited to the payment of premiums, where required, for the various plans and the County shall be relieved of any further liability with respect to the plans.

In the event that the County should undertake to transfer group insurance and benefit plans from one carrier to another, it is agreed that the Union will be consulted prior to the negotiation of such coverage. If such a transfer of group insurance were to occur, it will not result in a change to the current benefit plan coverage.

25.03 <u>Benefits for Temporary Employees</u>

To be eligible to participate in the Strathcona County Employee Benefit plans, Temporary Employees must meet the following conditions:

- (a) All Temporary Employees who have been employed for twelve (12) consecutive months or more shall receive the same benefits as Regular Employees;
- (b) An exception to the above shall be made for Temporary Employees replacing Regular Employees on long term disability. A Temporary Employee in this situation will be eligible for benefits after six (6) consecutive months of employment.

25.04 Pension Plan

The County participates in the Local Authorities Pension Plan. Participation in this

plan is compulsory for "Regular Employees" after they have completed one (1) year of service or immediately if transferring from another Local Authority Board Employer.

25.05 The County shall make payroll deductions as follows:

- (a) The County shall deduct legislated Revenue Canada deductions and Local Authorities Pension Plan contributions as required from each bi-weekly pay cheque;
- (b) The Employee contribution to the Strathcona County Employee Benefit Plan will be deducted from the pay cheque.

ARTICLE 26 - LIAISON COMMITTEE

- 26.01 The parties agree that there shall be a Liaison Committee established for the purpose of discussing and dealing with matters of mutual concern. The Committee shall consist of not less than two (2) representatives of both the County and the Union. The Union representatives shall be properly appointed by the Union and attendance of the Union representatives shall not be denied by the County. 26.02 On the part of the County, one of the members will be the Department Head (Human Resources) or designate; and, on the part of the Union, one of the members will be the assigned Membership Services Officer or designate. 26.03 Where the Liaison Committee determines, or accepts a recommendation from the Safety Committee, that coveralls or other such items should be provided for the protection of the Employee's personal garments, such items should be provided, and replaced, upon approval of the designated official. 26.04 The Liaison Committee shall meet not less than once each month, but such meetings may be waived by mutual consent. 26.05 The rules of procedure for the Liaison Committee meetings shall be developed and
- agreed upon by the Committee itself and the recorded minutes of each meeting will be signed by a representative of each group. **Meeting minutes of The Liaison Committee shall be approved and distributed within 14 days of every meeting.**The Chairmanship of the Committee will alternate between the Union Co-Chair and
- 26.06 The Chairmanship of the Committee will alternate between the Union Co-Chair and the Employer Co-Chair in presiding over the meetings between the officials referred to in Clause 26.02.
- The Liaison Committee shall not have jurisdiction over wages or any matter of collective bargaining including the amending or administering of this Agreement. The Committee shall also not supersede the lawful activities of any other committee of the County or the Union and shall not have the power or authority to bind either Party to any decisions reached in their discussions. The Committee shall have only the power to make recommendations to the County or to the Union with respect to its decisions.

DISCUSSION REGARDING COMPOSTION, ROLES AND FUNCTION OF THE JOINT OHS COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 27 - OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 27.01 All Employees must comply with the approved departmental and OH&S dress code as a condition of employment.
- 27.02 Each Employee and each supervisor shall take reasonable care for the protection of public and Employee health and safety in the operation of equipment and the storage or handling of materials and substances.
- 27.03 The Employer and the Union recognize the importance of a safe and healthy workplace. The Employer and the Union will cooperate in the promotion of occupational health and safety and the prevention of incidents. The Employer and Employees will take reasonable steps to eliminate, reduce or minimize workplace hazards.

The Employee shall immediately notify their supervisor in the event that an incident either results in a "near miss" or a workplace accident resulting in a loss or injury.

- Where the Employer requires an Employee to undergo compulsory medical examination(s), the cost of such examination(s) shall be paid for by the Employer.
- 27.05 Personal protective clothing and safety equipment shall be provided by the Employer, and worn by the Employee, as required by the Occupational Health and Safety Act and Regulations thereto at no cost to the Employee. All protective clothing and safety equipment supplied by the Employer shall be maintained by the Employer and remain the property of the Employer.
- 27.06 The Employer shall provide on an as needed basis to Employees the following: coveralls, winter gear (which includes coveralls or winter jacket/pants), rain coat and rain pants. Temporary Employees shall return all clothing to the Employer at the termination of their temporary employment. The clothing as outlined in this clause will be provided, repaired or replaced at the discretion of the Employer.

27.07 Joint OHS Committee

The Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee shall be composed of representatives of the Employer and Employees, one of whom is appointed by the Union as a representative of the local Chapter. The Committee shall meet regularly to discuss, communicate and make recommendations on the implementation of the health and safety program.

An Employee who attends a Joint OHS Committee meeting that is scheduled outside of their regular shift, shall be paid at their base hourly rate of pay for a minimum of two (2) hours, or the length of the meeting whichever is greater. There shall be no minimum guaranteed compensation if the meeting is contiguous with a normal working period.

CLARITY SURROUNDING THE INTERPRETATION OF 28.06 – AS THIS ARTICLE HAS NOT BEEN OPENED IN BARGAINING, THE LANGUAGE IS OUTDATED. THE UPDATING OF THIS LANGUAGE WOULD BE "STEP 2 OF THE APPROPRIATE TRADES GRID".

DISCUSSION SURROUNDING THE TRANSITION FROM APPRENTICE TO JOURNEYPERSON CONTEMPLATED IN 28.07 AND 28.08.

ARTICLE 28 - APPRENTICESHIPS

- 28.01 Apprenticed Employees as defined within Apprenticeship and Industry Training Act shall be granted all the terms and conditions of this Agreement.
- An Employee commencing employment with the County under a contract of Apprenticeship shall be paid the product of the appropriate percentage established in regulations issued pursuant to the Apprenticeship and Industry Training Act and the appropriate tradesman classification or pay grade.
- 28.03 Notwithstanding the provisions of the previous clause establishing Apprenticeship rate of pay, the County may increase the established percentage for any Apprentice under contract by either five percent (5%) or ten percent (10%). In the event such an increase is awarded, the County will advise the Union in writing within thirty (30) calendar days of taking such action,
- Apprenticed Employees when absent from their regular duties in order to receive additional required training related to their Apprenticeship, shall continue to receive their regular wages as determined by the Agreement; but, any allowances or grants received from any other agency for attending such training shall be refunded or assigned to the County.
- Apprenticed Employees shall be trained to the standards applicable to that particular trade and shall be entitled to make such application for Journeyman status, or to take such training as may be required to achieve such status, with every cooperation of the County and with all reasonable dispatch.
- An apprentice who begins and completes their apprenticeship with the Employer shall be placed on level 2 of the appropriate trades rate upon confirmation of certification.
- 28.07 When an Apprentice has successfully completed the Apprenticeship Program and there is no vacancy for a Journeyman in that trade the Employer may give the Apprentice the option of remaining on staff as an Apprentice at the maximum rate for an Apprentice or the Apprentice can resign their employment.
- 28.08 An Employee opting to remain as an Apprentice will be required to compete for Journeyman vacancies. If the Apprentice refuses an offer to be promoted to an available Journeyman vacancy, this may be grounds for dismissal.
- Apprenticed Employees shall have access to the application of any grievance procedure except for termination of employment as a result of:
 - (a) Unsatisfactory probationary performance in accordance with Article 11.01, or:
 - (b) Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the *Apprenticeship and Industry Training Act* and/or regulations.

DISCUSSION REGARDING THE INTERPRETATION OF 29.02 and "QUALIFICATIONS" IN 29.03.

ARTICLE 29 - TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES

- A Temporary Employee shall be considered probationary as per Article 11.01 and shall not serve probation for subsequent years of employment unless a break of service of greater than **eighteen (18) months** one (1) year has occurred or the Employee is returning to a different position. Temporary Employees shall have access to the application of the grievance procedure except in connection with termination of employment as a result of either:
 - (a) Unsatisfactory performance, or;
 - (b) The abolishment of the position occupied by the Temporary Employee.
- 29.02 For the purpose of determination of Pay Grade and Step a Temporary Employee returning for subsequent employment within **eighteen (18) months** one (1) year may be required to undertake the appropriate probationary period unless they are returning to a position in which they had previously fulfilled the probationary requirements.
- 29.03 When Temporary Employees are recalled, it shall be based on:
 - (a) A satisfactory performance evaluation from the previous year of employment;
 - (b) The Employee having qualifications **and experience** to do the job for which they are recalled;
 - (c) The Employee's accumulated service.

The opportunity for recall shall exist for six (6) **eighteen (18)** months within the Branch.

This clause will not apply to Employees participating in the NAIT or other post-secondary Water and Wastewater Training Program.

AUPE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO INTRODUCE PROPOSALS IN THIS ARTICLE DURING COLLECTIVE BARGAINING.

DISCUSSION SURROUNDING APPROPRIATE RESPONSIBILITY WAGE GAP BETWEEN LEADHANDS, FOREPERSONS AND THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT UNION EMPLOYEES THAT THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR.

ARTICLE 30 - GENERAL WAGE ADMINISTRATION

The rates of pay for all Employee members of the Union excluding Apprentices, covered by the Agreement shall be as specified in the attached Schedule A.

Temporary Employees returning for subsequent employment within **eighteen (18) months** one (1) year shall have their prior service recognized for the purposes of determining Pay Grade and Step.

30.02 An Employee is entitled to the rates indicated in Schedule A in the following way:

- (a) To Step One (1) upon hiring;
- (b) To Step Two (2) upon completion of the five hundred (500) hours of work in the classification and recommendation of the appropriate supervisor;
- (c) To Step Three (3) upon completion of an additional fifteen hundred (1500) hours of work in the classification and the recommendation of the appropriate supervisor;
- (d) Water and Wastewater Operators step progression shall be:
 - (i) To Step One (1) upon hiring;
 - (ii) To Step Two (2) upon completion of five hundred (500) hours of work in the classification, additional qualifications (in accordance with the job description), and recommendation of the appropriate supervisor;
 - (iii) To Step Three (3) upon completion of an additional one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four (1,864) hours of work in the classification, additional qualifications (in accordance with the job description), and the recommendation of the appropriate supervisor;
 - (iv) To Step Four (4) upon completion of an additional one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four (1,864) hours of work in the classification, additional qualifications (in accordance with the job description), and the recommendation of the appropriate supervisor;
 - (v) To Step Five (5) upon completion of an additional one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four (1,864) hours of work in the classification, additional qualifications (in accordance with the job description), and the recommendation of the appropriate supervisor;
 - (vi) To Step Six (6) upon completion of an additional one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four (1,864) hours of work in the classification, additional qualifications (in accordance with the job description), and the recommendation of the appropriate supervisor;
- (e) Construction Operator step progression shall be:
 - (i) To Step One (1) upon hiring;

- (ii) To Step Two (2) upon completion of two thousand (2,000) hours of work in the classification, additional qualifications (in accordance with the job description), and the recommendation of the appropriate supervisor;
- (iii) To Step Three (3) upon completion of an additional two thousand (2,000) hours of work in the classification, additional qualifications (in accordance with the job description), and the recommendation of the appropriate supervisor;
- (iv) To Step Four (4) upon completion of an additional two thousand (2,000) hours of work in the classification, additional qualifications (in accordance with the description), and the recommendation of the appropriate supervisor.
- (f) Water and Wastewater Leadhand step progression:

Water & Wastewater Operator	Water & Wastewater Leadhand
Steps 1 to 4	Step 1
Water & Wastewater Operator	Water & Wastewater Leadhand
Step 5	Step 2
Water & Wastewater Operator	Water & Wastewater Leadhand
Step 6	Step 3

(g) Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Repair Technician step progression:

Water & Wastewater Operator Steps 1 to 4	W&WW Technician Step 1	Infrastructure	Repair
Water & Wastewater Operator Step 5	W&WW Technician Step 2	Infrastructure	Repair
Water & Wastewater Operator Step 6	W&WW Technician Step 3	Infrastructure	Repair

30.03 Should an Employee not be recommended by the appropriate supervisor for advancement as per Clause 30.02 b), c), d) or e), the Administration shall advise that Employee of the reasons in writing, and in addition:

- (a)—What action must be taken in order for the wage to be advanced;
- (b) In the event that the wage will not be advanced, what alternate action the administration intends to take.

30.04 An Employee affected by Article 30.03 may file a grievance for a failure to be recommended for an increase.

30.05 Pay Periods

The rate of pay established in Schedule A shall apply during the term of this Agreement. Employees shall be paid bi-weekly. On each pay day, each Employee shall be provided with an itemized statement of wages, overtime and other

earnings and deductions.

DISCUSSION REGARDING WHY THIS ONLY APPLIES TO UTILITIES AND HOW PARTIES CAN INSERT LANGUAGE TO ADD CLARITY FOR THE SAME.

ARTICLE 31 – DIRECT RESPONSIBLE PAY (DRP)

In accordance with certification requirements prescribed by Alberta's Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act, Waste Water Operators II and III require direct responsible charge (DRC) hours to obtain their next level of certification.

When a Water and Wastewater Operator or Water and Wastewater Leadhand is assigned to the Utilities On-Call Schedule as On-Call #1, On-Call #2 or Transmission Operator (for emergent calls) and deemed to be in direct responsible charge (DRC), the Employee shall be paid an additional, two dollars and twenty-five cents (\$2.25) five dollars (\$5.00) per hour on the base rate of pay, for all hours worked between sixteen hundred and thirty (1630) hours and zero eight hundred (0800) hours Monday to Friday and for all hours worked on Saturday and Sunday and Holidays.

- (a) At no time shall Operators called out to assist the On-Call #1, On-Call #2 or Transmission Operator with emergency service or other similar callouts receive DRP.
- Where applicable, an Employee shall be eligible to receive DRP in addition to overtime, shift and weekend premiums.
- 31.03 At no time shall DRP be included with the Employee's regular rate of pay for the purpose of calculating overtime payments, other premium payments, or any Employee benefits.

ARTICLE 32 – OVERPAYMENT AND UNDERPAYMENT

- In the event of an overpayment, the County shall notify the employee that an overpayment has been made within six (6) months of the date of the last overpayment. The County is authorized to recover any overpayment from an Employee and will discuss options with the Employee regarding how that overpayment is repaid.
- In the event that the parties cannot agree on a repayment plan, the Employer shall recover the overpayment by deducting up to ten percent (10%) of the Employee's gross earnings, per pay period, until the overpayment has been fully repaid.
- 32.03 If the Employee is terminated for just cause or resigns before full repayment is made, the remainder of the repayment shall be recovered from the Employee's final pay.
- NEW Should the County issue an Employee an underpayment of wages and/or entitlements, then the County will make the necessary monetary or entitlement adjustments and take such internal administrative action as is necessary to correct such errors. Repayment of any underpayment shall be made within three (3) business days of the County being made aware of the underpayment by the Employee.

RENEW

Letter of Understanding

Between

Strathcona County

and

The Alberta Union of Provincial Employees, Local 118, Chapter 009

Subject: Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP)

The Registered Apprenticeship Program is an apprenticeship program for high school students, providing students with the opportunity to start learning and practicing their future trade while in high school. The Employer and the Union jointly support the RAP program with the understanding that no current Employee will be laid off as a direct result of participation in the program. The parties agree that employees employed under the RAP program are included in the bargaining unit.

- 1. Employment under the RAP program will be on a casual basis for the duration of the student's participation in the program. Hours of work will be as agreed to between the Employer, student, and educational institution as outlined in the RAP program contract.
- 2. Hours worked while participating in the RAP program are not considered continuous employment toward permanent status.
- 3. The rate of pay while participating in the program, and all other specific terms and conditions of employment, will be determined by the employer and the educational institution. The following terms will continue to apply as outlined in the Collective Agreement:
 - Union Recognition Article 6
 - Occupational Health and Safety Article 13
 - Grievances Article 7
 - Application of the grievance procedure shall apply, except for termination of employment as a result of unsatisfactory probationary employment, or failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the RAP program contract.
- 4. RAP students will be laid off upon completion of participation in the RAP program.

AUPE AUPE	Sharry Sowiak, Human Resources Director Strathcona County
Date	Date

UPDATE AND RENEW

Letter of Understanding

Between

Strathcona County

and

The Alberta Union of Provincial Employees, Local 118, Chapter 009

Subject: End of Year (EOY) Closure Days

- 1. Regular and temporary active employees are eligible for EOY days. in 2024. If a new collective agreement is not ratified by October 1, 2025, this LOU will be extended for 2025 and if eligible, employees will be entitled to EOY days. It is agreed however, that following the provision of the 2024 EOY days, the County will, in consultation with the Union, review and may make changes to the administration of the EOY days for 2025.
- 2. For the purpose of this LOU, active employees are employees who are scheduled to work, on regularly scheduled days off or on vacation, including those who are on short term daily leaves such as casual illness and family illness at the time the EOY dates fall. Employees on general illness, compassionate leave, long term disability and other unpaid leaves at the time EOY dates fall are not eligible for EOY days.
- 3. EOY days are non-statutory days off designated by the County. Designated EOY days are as follows:
 - December 27, 28 and 31 if Christmas Day falls on Tuesday
 - December 29, 30 and 31 if Christmas Day falls on Thursday, Friday or Saturday
 - December 28 and 29 if Christmas Day falls on Monday
 - December 30 and 31 if Christmas Day falls on Wednesday
 - December 29 and 30 if Christmas Day falls on Sunday
- 4. EOY days will be applied as follows:
 - If an employee is scheduled on an EOY day but not required to work, the employee will have the day off with pay.
 - If an employee is scheduled to work on an EOY day and is required to work, a day will be banked to take at a later date.
 - If an EOY day falls on an employees' regular day off, a day will be banked to take at a later date.
- 5. EOY days are treated as a regular day when worked. No overtime is to be incurred for work on EOY days unless otherwise applicable as per Article 16.
- 6. When an EOY day is taken, it replaces regular hours/day of work at the regular rate of pay. EOY days taken are not used in the accumulation of overtime.
- 7. Banked EOY days are to be scheduled and taken as time off by March 31st of the following year. If not taken, the day(s) will be forfeited. No payouts will occur.

Guy Smith, President AUPE	Sharry Sowiak, Human Resources Director Strathcona County
Date	Date

NEW

Letter of Understanding

Between

Strathcona County

and

The Alberta Union of Provincial Employees, Local 118, Chapter 009

Subject: Contracting Out

- 1. Where the operational needs are assessed by the County and require that persons or firms outside the Bargaining Unit take part in Employer activities, the County agrees that no member of the Bargaining Unit shall have their job security threatened, shall lose regular daily pay or regular hourly pay.
- 2. There shall be no contracting out of work performed by the Employees of the County except that the Employer retains the right to hire individuals or firms on a fee-for-service basis for tasks requiring a particular profession or requiring a particular expertise not possessed by existing Employees.
- 3. Where tasks requiring a particular profession or requiring a particular expertise not possessed by existing Employees extends beyond one (1) year the County will assess the need to bring that work into the bargaining unit.
- 4. The County will engage in meaningful consultation with the Union and shall advise the Union in writing of the name of the person and the nature of the activity that will be performed and where reasonably possible a minimum of thirty (30) days prior to invoking this LOU.

Guy Smith, President AUPE	Sharry Sowiak, Human Resources Director Strathcona County
Date	Date

Letter of Understanding

Between

Strathcona County

and

The Alberta Union of Provincial Employees, Local 118, Chapter 009

Subject: Psychological Health and Safety Committee

Whereas both Parties are committed to protecting and promoting mental health in the workplace. The Parties commit to establishing a Joint Psychological Health and Safety Committee within 60 days of the ratification of this Collective Agreement.

The Joint Psychological Health and Safety Committee shall be comprised of 3 members appointed by the County and 3 Member of AUPE Local 118 Chapter 009.

The Joint Psychological Health and Safety Committee shall meet bi-weekly for the first year, and at least monthly thereafter.

Minutes of each meeting will be kept. The minutes shall be subject to approval by both parties and upon approval by both parties, the approved minutes shall be posted on the Local bulletin boards.

Guy Smith, President AUPE	Sharry Sowiak, Human Resources Director Strathcona County
Date	Date

NEW

Letter of Understanding

Between

Strathcona County

and

The Alberta Union of Provincial Employees, Local 118, Chapter 009

Subject: Health and Fitness Incentive

Whereas both Parties are committed to protecting health and fitness in the workplace:

1. The County shall provide an annual Active Pass+ to every Union Employee.

Guy Smith, President AUPE	Sharry Sowiak, Human Resources Director Strathcona County				
Date	Date				

General Wage Increase

Effective January 1, 2025 Salary Rates in all of the Subsidiary Agreements shall be increased by ten percent (10%).

Effective January 1, 2026, Salary Schedules/Grids in all of the Subsidiary Agreements shall be increased by eight percent (8%).

Effective January 1, 2027, Salary Schedules/Grids in all of the Subsidiary Agreements shall be increased by eight percent (8%).

Retro: Retro will be paid to all current employees as of the date of ratification and will be paid out within ninety (90) days of ratification. Implementation of other changes will occur immediately upon ratification, unless otherwise stated.

Retro payment may be provided to former Employees who have voluntarily terminated or retired their employment between the date of January 1, 2025 and the date of ratification. Former Employee will be eligible when they contact the Employer in writing 30 days after the date of ratification.

Retro pay will be issued as a separate line item and taxed independently on the Employees' pay cheque.

Cost of Living Adjustment

Definitions

"General Wage Increase" or "GWI" means the overall general wage increase expressed as a percentage.

"Cost-of-Living Adjustment" or "COLA" means an upward, percentage-based GWI applied to and folded into all wage rates and is calculated using the Annualized Average of AB CPI over twelve months.

The "Annualized Average of AB CPI over twelve months" (AAAB CPI) means the 12-month average index % change reported by Statistics Canada (Table 18-10-0004-01) for Alberta during the twelve months preceding the date the GWI is to take effect.

For reference purposes only, the AAAB CPI over twelve months from September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2023 was 4.5%.

Position Name Change:

AUPE is proposing a name change from Parts Person I and II to Parts Technician I and Parts Technician II.

Schedule A

2024 - 2.5% Increase

Code	Position	Hourly Ra	tes				
10069	PW Labourer	\$22.55	\$25.78	\$28.68			
3005	Pickup/Courier Driver	\$26.50	\$27.09				
3006	Survey Aide I	\$26.15	\$26.91				
3007	Survey Aide II	\$28.19	\$28.85	\$29.58			
3008	PW Tech I	\$33.81	\$34.61	\$35.44			
3009	PW Tech II	\$39.03	\$39.54	\$39.95			
3032	Gravel Checker	\$31.04	\$31.74	\$32.24			
3010	Concrete Worker I	\$32.57	\$33.27	\$34.04			
3011	Concrete Worker II	\$34.17	\$35.14	\$36.10			
3014	Truck Driver - Class 1	\$34.46	\$35.16	\$36.01			
3015	Equipment Operator I	\$29.81	\$31.50	\$32.00			
3016	Equipment Operator II	\$33.57	\$34.34	\$35.01			
3017	Equipment Operator III	\$35.75	\$36.65	\$37.59			
3031	Sign Person	\$35.47	\$36.39	\$37.33			
3018	Yardperson	\$35.47	\$36.39	\$37.33			
3068	North Yardperson	\$39.20	\$40.15				
3036	PW Leadhand	\$39.20	\$40.15				
3035	PW Project Foreperson	\$40.87	\$41.98				
3019	Operations Foreperson	\$44.24	\$45.18	\$46.19			
3034	W&WW Labourer	\$22.16	\$25.78	\$28.68			
3037	Wastewater Infrastructure Operator	\$32.28	\$35.01	\$37.59			
3020	W&WW Operator (Collection & Distribution)	\$32.28	\$34.94	\$36.53	\$39.16	\$41.01	\$43.62
3049	W&WW Operator (Transmission)	\$32.28	\$34.94	\$36.53	\$39.16	\$41.01	\$43.62
3038	W&WW Leadhand	\$40.81	\$42.66	\$45.28			
3066	W&WW Infrastructure Repair Technician	\$42.30	\$44.12	\$46.78			
3021	W&WW Foreperson	\$45.24	\$47.01	\$48.65			
3022	W&WW Electrician	\$47.04	\$48.82	\$50.43			
3033	Utilities Facilities Maintenance Technician	\$55.95	\$57.84	\$59.81			
3023	Vehicle Serviceperson I	\$35.26	\$35.75	\$36.22			
3024	Vehicle Serviceperson II	\$38.58	\$39.37	\$40.11			
3067	Shipper-Receiver, Materials Management	\$22.16	\$25.78	\$28.68			
3025	Parts Person I	\$33.90	\$34.78	\$35.45			
3026	Parts Person II	\$36.41	\$37.41	\$38.34			
3027	Welder	\$44.83	\$46.48	\$48.23			
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Code	Position	Hourly Ra	tes		
3028	Small Engine Mechanic	\$32.79	\$33.69	\$34.59	
3040	V&E Leadhand	\$50.14	\$51.64		
3030	V&E Chargehand	\$48.96	\$49.43	\$51.64	
3042	Transit Leadhand	\$50.14	\$51.64		
3062	Fleet Services Technician	\$44.83	\$46.48	\$48.23	
10070	Construction Operator	\$31.08	\$34.34	\$38.10	\$40.32
3046	Utility Leadhand	\$39.60	\$41.86	\$44.18	
3047	Infrastructure Foreperson	\$44.47	\$46.20	\$47.88	
3048	Utility Labourer	\$22.16	\$25.78	\$28.68	
3050	Traffic Support Aid			\$35.01	
3051	Utilities Instrument Technician/Electrician Dual	\$49.38	\$51.24	\$52.96	
3052	Utilities Electrician	\$47.04	\$48.82	\$50.43	
3053	Utilities Instrument Technician	\$47.04	\$48.82	\$50.43	
3063	Control System Technician	\$47.04	\$48.82	\$50.43	
3101	Apprentice Auto Mechanic, 1st year (55%)	\$26.53			
3102	Apprentice Auto Mechanic, 2nd year (70%)	\$33.76			
3103	Apprentice Auto Mechanic, 3rd year (80%)	\$38.58			
3104	Apprentice Auto Mechanic, 4th year (90%)	\$43.41			
3111	Apprentice Heavy Duty Mechanic, 1st year (60%)	\$28.94			
3112	Apprentice Heavy Duty Mechanic 2nd year (70%)	\$33.76			
3113	Apprentice Heavy Duty Mechanic, 3rd year (80%)	\$38.58			
3114	Apprentice Heavy Duty Mechanic, 4th year (90%)	\$43.41			
3129	Certified Technician (HD)	\$44.83	\$46.48	\$48.23	
3131	Apprentice Transit Mechanic, 1st year (60%)	\$28.94			

Code Position Hourly Rates

3132	Apprentice Transit Mechanic,	\$33.76	
	2nd year (70%)		
3133	Apprentice Transit Mechanic,	\$38.58	
	3rd year (80%)		
3134	Apprentice Transit Mechanic,	\$43.41	
	4th year (90%)		

Hourly rates for apprentice technicians are a percentage of step 3 of Fleet Services Technician.

SCHEDULE B

EQUIPMENT

MINIMUM OF CLASSIFICATION RATE PAID

Non Finishing Packers (Rubber Roller, Pad Foot Operator and combination for non-finishing work)

Equipment Operator I – Step 1

Finishing Packer (Smooth Drum Rollers and combination for finishing work)

Equipment Operator I

Skid Steer/Sidewalk Machine **Equipment Operator I Equipment Operator I** Single Axle Truck **Equipment Operator I** Sign Truck (Single Axle with Manlift) **Equipment Operator II** Wheel Loader Tandem Axle Truck **Equipment Operator II** Street Sweepers **Equipment Operator II** Truck Plow **Equipment Operator II Equipment Operator II** Sander **Equipment Operator II** RPM Snow Blower **Equipment Operator II** Road Reclaimer **Equipment Operator II** Patch Truck **Equipment Operator II** Rubber Tire Backhoe Graders **Equipment Operator III**

Track Hoe Equipment Operator III + \$0.20/hour

Paver Equipment Operator III
Tractor-Trailer Truck Driver Class 1

IN WITNESS WE hereto the signatu	IEREOF, the Parties have exected res of their proper officers in the second second results.	cuted this Collective Agreement by affixing hat behalf.
Signed this	day of	202X.
ALBERTA UNIO EMPLOYEES LO	N OF PROVINCIAL DCAL 118/009	STRATHCONA COUNTY
Guy Smith, Presid AUPE	dent	
XX XX, AUPE N Negotiating Com AUPE	egotiator mittee	
Matt Darbyshir AUPE Local 118, AUPE		