



September 2, 2021
Immediate Release

BLACK DIAMOND AND TURNER VALLEY COUNCILS VOTED TO PROCEED WITH AMALGAMATION

Black Diamond and Turner Valley Councils have moved forward in the amalgamation process by approving a number of motions at meetings held on Sept. 1.

Both Councils voted on identical motions which include the formal submission of the [Report on Negotiations \(Amalgamation Report\)](#) to the Minister of Municipal Affairs to proceed with the amalgamation between the Towns.

The approved motions are:

Motion 1: that Council agrees that the Report on Negotiations accurately reflects the results of the negotiations;

Motion 2: that Council agrees to approve the Report on Negotiations, as presented, and as recommended by the Joint Friendship Agreement Committee;

Motion 3: that Council agrees to request that the Chief Administrative Officers from Black Diamond and Turner Valley collaborate to compile the Report on Negotiations, including the certificates of resolutions, and a cover letter signed by both Mayors for submission to the Minister of Municipal Affairs prior to September 15, 2021.

Background: On September 11, 2020, notification from the Black Diamond and Turner Valley was sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs, advising of the intent to amalgamate under the [Municipal Government Act \(MGA, section 104\)](#). The amalgamation process requires that the municipalities discuss the proposals included in the [Notice to Amalgamate](#) sent to the Minister and negotiate the proposals in good faith. Upon conclusion of the negotiations, the amalgamating municipalities are required to prepare and submit a report to the Minister in accordance with MGA section 105, outlining the process and results .

Public engagement and input was a critical part of the research and consultation process. The questions and feedback received from residents, stakeholders and subject matter experts were key to developing the amalgamation report.

Mayor Goodwin stated: "The support we received as we navigated through the process to complete the application is appreciated and the comments provided by our residents helped form the responses and recommendations in the application to the Minister."

Town of Black Diamond Mayor Ruth Goodwin commented "The application to amalgamate and a report of recommendations to the Minister of Municipal Affairs has been deemed complete and ready for submission by both individual Councils and JFAC. The efforts by all Council members, staff, our public and stakeholders, the consultants and Municipal Affairs staff members who contributed and actively participated in the process are appreciated - thank you.

We recognize and will support the work that needs to take place in the future to prepare for this transition. A successful transition will require the proactive support and years of experience of our staff. The continuation of the service levels and commitment to community is paramount."

Turner Valley Mayor Barry Crane commented, 'This is a historical moment that will launch the next and final steps toward full amalgamation of the communities. It is Council's sincere belief Diamond Valley will prosper, together, as friends, neighbours and as one municipality.'

The report will be submitted to the Minister for consideration in September 2021.

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