

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE
INVESTMENT AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE

June 24, 2025, 9:00 A.M.
Council Chambers, City Hall

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|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| MEMBERS PRESENT | D. Bressey | Committee Chair |
| | M. O'Connor | Councillor |
| | G. Blackmore | Councillor |
| | J. Clayton | Mayor |
| ALSO PRESENT | G. Berg | Councillor |
| | K. O'Toole | Councillor |
| | S. Bourke | City Manager |
| | P. Bailey | Chief Strategy Officer |
| | D. Whiteway | Chief Financial Officer |
| | B. Glavin | Chief Operating Officer |
| | S. Cajolais | Chief Public & Protective Services Officer, Acting |
| | A. Van Beekveld | Council Committee Coordinator |
| | K. Biberdorf | Director of Community Connections |
| | R. Tarant | Director of Invest Grande Prairie, Interim |

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Councillor O'Connor was absent for this item.

MOVED by G. Blackmore

Committee adopt the agenda, as amended to move Item 5.3 - Fibre Optics: Broadband Analysis Update before Item 5.2 - Richmond Industrial Area Revitalization Strategy Wrap-Up.

CARRIED (3 to 0)

4. DELEGATIONS

4.1 Centre for Creative Arts

Candace Hook, representative of the Centre for Creative Arts, presented Committee with an update on their successes and challenges over the past year.

4.2 Grande Prairie Regional Tourism Association

Jasmin Greavett, representative of the Grande Prairie Regional Tourism Association, was present to request funding for development of an International Business Events Attraction Strategy.

MOVED by J. Clayton

Committee move In Camera to discuss matters protected under Section 29 of the Access to Information Act.

CARRIED (4 to 0)

MOVED by J. Clayton

Committee meeting resume.

CARRIED (4 to 0)

MOVED by J. Clayton

Committee recommend Council support the request from the Grande Prairie Regional Tourism Association and allocate \$20,000 from Council's Strategic Initiatives Fund for this project.

CARRIED (4 to 0)

5. REPORTS

5.1 Service Area Update

P. Bailey, Chief Strategy Officer, presented Committee with an update on the current and projected activities planned throughout the service area:

- Community Connections - The Special Olympics Alberta Summer Games will take place in 17 days; there is still a need for 45 volunteers. Athlete ambassadors have been busy visiting local businesses, participating in budget engagement, and sharing their journeys. They will also participate in Canada Day events. A kick off meeting will take place next week for the 2026 Youth National Wrestling Championships, which will be held at Design Works Centre in April 2026. The online budget prioritization tool remains open until July 4, with 376 responses to date. In-person budget engagement so far has seen approximately 300 people engage; more engagement will also be available during Canada Day. The City supported the Grande Prairie Traditional Pow Wow at Evergreen Park, joining in the celebration of National Indigenous Peoples Day.
- Invest Grande Prairie - The City's presence at the Global Energy Show continues to position Grande Prairie as an essential part of Alberta and Canada's energy story, elevating our region's visibility and reinforcing the commitment to attracting investment, talent, and innovation to Grande Prairie. Administration met with various businesses within the City. The biannual Healthcare Roundtable was held with health care leaders from various health care institutions in the City; robust insights were provided to inform and continue the work on the City health care strategy.
- Legislative & Executive Services - The first of the City's two Candidate Information Sessions will take place tonight and share information on key election dates, structure and responsibilities of municipal government, and role and time commitment for Mayor and Councillors.

5.2 Fibre Optics: Broadband Analysis Update

R. Tarant, Interim Director of Invest Grande Prairie, presented Committee with the 2025 Broadband Analysis Report.

Rob McCann, representative of Clearcable, was present virtually to provide additional information and answer questions.

MOVED by M. O'Connor

Committee receive the 2025 Broadband Analysis report for information.

CARRIED (4 to 0)

MOVED by G. Blackmore

Committee recommend Council direct Administration to implement the identified priorities, including:

- Adopting a minimum service level objective of 100 Mbps download and 20 Mbps upload;
- Continuing the Fibre Optics Fee Rebate Program;
- Finalizing the Municipal Access Agreement template with improved clarity and transparency;
- Establishing clear points of contact for service provider communication; and
- Reviewing municipal policies to support future broadband and wireless infrastructure development.

CARRIED (4 to 0)

MOVED by G. Blackmore

Committee recommend Council allocate the remaining \$47,000 from the Richmond Industrial Strategy capital project to support the assessment and potential advancement of fibre infrastructure improvements within the area.

CARRIED (4 to 0)

MOVED by G. Blackmore

Committee refer the subject of the future of broadband in Grande Prairie to the strategic planning session in January.

For: (1): G. Blackmore

Opposed: (3): D. Bressey, M. O'Connor, and J. Clayton

DEFEATED (1 to 3)

5.3 Richmond Industrial Area Revitalization Strategy Wrap-Up

R. Tarant, Interim Director of Invest Grande Prairie, presented Committee with an update on Richmond Industrial Area Revitalization Strategy.

MOVED by M. O'Connor

Committee receive this report for information.

CARRIED (4 to 0)

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

7. **OTHER BUSINESS**

8. BYLAW & POLICY REVIEW

9. OUTSTANDING ITEMS LIST

The Committee reviewed the Investment & Strategy Committee Outstanding Items List for June 24, 2025.

MOVED by M. O'Connor

Committee receive the June 24 Outstanding Items List, as amended, for information.

CARRIED (4 to 0)

10. ADJOURN

The meeting ended at 10:40 a.m.

Chair

Council Committee Coordinator