

Statement from Council - Village of Empress

Village Council is aware that several allegations regarding the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Jerry Gautreau and municipal operations have recently been circulated publicly and submitted to **Alberta Municipal Affairs**.

Council takes concerns regarding municipal governance and the use of municipal resources seriously and reviews such matters in accordance with its responsibilities under the **Municipal Government Act**.

Council also wishes to clarify that a statement previously posted regarding these matters was issued by a **single councillor** and **does not reflect a decision or position of Council as a whole**. Council is issuing this statement to provide accurate information and clarify the official position of the Village.

Due to the amount of speculation and conflicting information currently circulating, Council would like to clarify one specific matter that has been repeatedly referenced.

Claims have been made that the CAO owes approximately \$9,000 to the Village related to a trailer located at the municipal campground. Council has reviewed this allegation and confirms that this characterization is inaccurate.

The arrangement regarding the trailer and campsite was approved by Council through a formal motion, which allowed the trailer to remain at the site during the CAO's period of employment with the Village. As a result, there is no outstanding debt owed to the Village related to this matter.

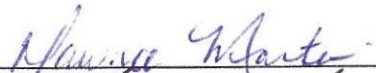
Council also wishes to note that many other claims currently being discussed publicly involve personnel matters or administrative actions that cannot be publicly addressed due to privacy and employment obligations.

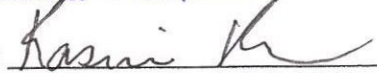
Council remains responsible for the oversight of municipal administration and will continue to review concerns and ensure that municipal operations follow Village bylaws, policies, and provincial legislation, including the **Municipal Government Act**.

Residents who have concerns regarding municipal operations are encouraged to bring them forward through the appropriate municipal processes so they can be reviewed and addressed properly.

Village Council remains committed to responsible governance and respectful community dialogue.

Village of Empress Council

Mayor Martin: 

Deputy Mayor Robson: 

Councillor Kennedy: _____