

AR117204

January 6, 2025

His Worship Kaylan White Mayor Village of Edgerton Box 57 Edgerton AB T0B 1K0

Dear Mayor White and Council:

I am writing regarding the petition submitted to me on November 6, 2024, by the electors of the Village of Edgerton requesting an inspection into the affairs of the municipality. The person appointed to carry out the duties of reviewing the petition has determined the petition to be insufficient.

Section 571(1)(c) of the *Municipal Government Act* (*MGA*) states a petition requesting an inspection must be signed by a number of electors of the village equal to at least 20 per cent of the population to be sufficient. The *MGA* also requires petitioners to be excluded if they do not meet specific criteria.

At the time the petition was received, the population of the village was 385; therefore, 77 signatures were required for the petition to be sufficient. The petition received contained 86 signatures. Eighty-two signatures were excluded based on one or more of the following criteria:

- The petition did not contain an identical statement of the purpose of the petition on each page.
- The street address provided was incorrect.
- The petition was restricted to certain persons and the signer was not one of those persons.
- The petition was signed more than 60 days before the date on which the petition was filed
- Each page of the petition did not contain a statement that personal information will not be disclosed to anyone except the chief administrative officer and chief administrative officer's delegates and will not be used for any purpose other than validation of the petition.

As a result of these findings, I will not be proceeding with intervention into the affairs of the village at this time. This does not preclude residents from submitting a new petition that meets the requirements of the legislation.

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The conduct of any provincial intervention, such as a municipal inspection, is an extraordinary measure, and the decision to do so is not undertaken lightly. The requirements of the *MGA* are clear regarding the criteria required to demonstrate a significant and broad community concern.

I trust council will acknowledge the community concern demonstrated by the petition. I encourage council to be responsive and engage with residents to provide the effective leadership your citizens deserve and expect.

Sincerely,

Ric McIver Minister

cc: Garth Rowswell

Ric M Jven

MLA, Vermilion-Lloydminster-Wainwright

Classification: Public

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