

# **Petition for a 'Municipal Inspection' for Coaldale**

## **What is a municipal inspection and why are they requested?**

- A municipal inspection is initiated by town residents when there is dissatisfaction by residents with either the governance and or management by their elected town councils and or town administration.

## **How will a municipal inspection help Coaldale?**

- document public/taxpayer concerns
- examines how council/administration conduct business, interact with residents
- provide an independent evaluation with recommendations for improvements,
- in summary, a roadmap to go forward

## **How is a municipal inspection triggered?**

- either Coaldale Town Council voluntarily agrees to the inspection, or
- a petition to Alberta Municipal Affairs is signed by at least 20% of Coaldale's population
- even if the petition is signed by 20% of Coaldale residents, the actual inspection still has to be approved by the Alberta Minister for Municipal Affairs

## **Have Other Alberta Communities Had Municipal Inspections?**

- YES! Since 2013, municipal inspections in Southern Alberta have taken place in communities such as Crowsnest Pass, Fort Mcleod, Pincher Creek, Granum, Warner and Longview.
- For more information on municipal inspections just Google 'Alberta Municipal Inspections'.

## **Haven't residents gone to Coaldale Town Council directly with their concerns?**

- Yes, on many occasions, residents have made presentations at Council meetings, written letters as well as personally contacting and meeting councilors individually.

## **What were the results?**

- After expressing concerns for approximately 3 years, numerous residents feel ignored, manipulated, and misled by Coaldale Town Council and administration.

## **What are the main concerns about Coaldale Town Council and administration?**

- The recurring concern is lack of public engagement and consultation, particularly with major projects.

## **Aren't mayor and council elected to make these decisions for us?**

- Yes but, public input and engagement should have still a significant role guiding decisions made by town councilors, especially for major projects.
- Many residents feel open public engagement has not taken place, with decisions at Council already being decided before meetings take place.
- In the last three years, there has not been a single, open town hall meeting for residents to ask questions in an open public setting. Multi-million dollar projects have been poorly publicized.
- Residents feel there is a sense of secrecy and information supplied is vague, biased and misleading.
- The Town has a Public Participation Policy that infers, the larger the project the greater the degree of public engagement and consultation. Many residents feel this has not taken place.
- The town is undertaking the biggest capital projects in Coaldale's 100 year history. Unfortunately, the town is choosing to only 'inform' residents about major decisions already made, instead of asking for public input for their thoughts on capital spending priorities.