

City Council Update

Meeting Date: April 14, 2026

Submitted By: Deputy Mayor Jenn Schmidt-Rempel



Covering the period of March 13 – April 3, 2026

MEETINGS & PARTNER ENGAGEMENT

18/3/2026 – Economic Development Lethbridge (EDL) Annual General Meeting

- EDL responded to 44 investment inquiries and successfully landed 2 new projects, bringing \$5.3M in new capital and creating 12 new jobs – a 5% conversion rate on inquiries.
- EDL participated in Foreign Direct Investment delegations to France, the UK, and Switzerland. The efforts generated nearly 20 leads, laying the groundwork for future investment relationships overseas.
- Completed the Commercial Industrial Study: <https://choosethbridge.ca/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Lethbridge-CIDS-2025-Final-Report.pdf>
- Completed the Trade Area Analysis: <https://choosethbridge.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/April-8-2025-Trade-Area-Final-Report.pdf>
- Completed the Lethbridge Region Goods Movement Study: <https://choosethbridge.ca/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Lethbridge-Goods-Movement-Study.pdf>
- The full 2025 Year in Review Report is available at: <https://choosethbridge.ca/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/EDL-2025-Year-in-Review.pdf>

30 & 31/3/26 – Council Strategic Planning Sessions

HIGHLIGHTS & DISCUSSION NOTES

- Council worked together to develop its 2026 – 2029 Strategic Plan
- Plan will come forward at a future CIC for community engagement and then to a regular meeting of Council for approval

2/4/26 – Lethbridge Police Commission (LPC) meeting with Police Review Commission (PRC)

HIGHLIGHTS & DISCUSSION NOTES

- LPC met with PRC to discuss how things have gone over the first 4 months of PRC activation
- The PRC is an independent civilian-led body that investigates complaints about the conduct of police officers, funded by the provincial government: <https://albertaprc.ca/>
- Reviewed timelines, communications and visibility, new and evolving processes, data reporting, and how we will work together in the future

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & CONFERENCES

Session / Event	Date	Key Takeaways	Application to Council Work
Elected Officials Education Program: Strategic Planning	25/3/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clarified council's roles and responsibilities in strat planning - Understand how strat planning supports long-term direction, priority setting, and decision making - Explored how councils and admin work together through the strat planning process - Examined key components of a municipal strat plan and how they fit together - Learned how strat plans are used to guide budgets, policies, and council decisions over time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Applying what I learned to strat planning when it comes to our council's strat planning process - A better understanding of how this core governance responsibility shapes ongoing decisions, priorities, and accountability over the whole council term - Council's accountability to the strat plan
Alberta Municipalities (ABMunis) Spring Municipal Leaders Caucus	26 – 27/3/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ABMunis updates on advocacy and financial issues that municipalities throughout Alberta are seeing - Updates and audience conversations with the Premier and Ministers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understanding how the cumulative impact of government decisions and market factors have caused property taxes to double over the past 15 years, and how there needs to be a conversation

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recent changes to privacy legislation and clarifying councillor roles, responsibilities, and potential liabilities - Learning how AI and technology work in policing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> on the future of property taxes and how municipal infrastructure and services should be funded into the future – what steps we should take - Heard up-to-date information from the Premier and Ministers - Gaining some legal insight into governance issues facing councils today - A better understanding of what Lethbridge Police Service is facing in the space of AI and technological advancements and expectations - Connected with officials from other communities throughout Alberta and shared information on issues and complexities we have in common
<p>Council Media Training</p>	<p>1/4/26</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A refresher on engaging with the media, how to answer and prepare for media interviews, and general 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Helps me communicate my message effectively when being interviewed by the media and

		engagement with the public in person and on social media platforms	communicating with the public
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COMMUNITY MEETINGS & EVENTS

Meetings with local business representatives, community organizations, and residents. General discussions re.:

- AI
- AISH/ADAP
- Tariffs
- Downtown parking
- 13th St. N. Public Art Project
- Recent PiT count
- Professional development opportunities
- Business retention work/opportunities in Lethbridge
- Concerns about provincial changes to integrated Fire/EMS services
- How possible provincial changes to integrated Fire/EMS services will affect the joint Tactical Emergency Medical Support team
- Concerns about Bill 28 and what it means for libraries

13/3/26 – Lethbridge Home and Garden Show hosted by BILD Lethbridge

14/3/26 – Lethbridge Public Library Mini Bee and Spelling Bee hosted by Lethbridge Public Library

- presented the trophies to the 2 winners

21/3/26 – Youth One Gala + Games Experience