



REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting: April 20, 2026
Item: 5.2

Bylaw No. 1424 Petition Report

PURPOSE:

To present the results of the legislative review of a petition submitted in relation to Borrowing Bylaw No. 1424 and to advise Council on whether the petition is sufficient under the Municipal Government Act.

BACKGROUND

Council gave first reading to Borrowing Bylaw No. 1424 on March 2, 2026. The bylaw was advertised in accordance with MGA requirements (e.g., s. 606 and s. 251 for borrowing bylaws).

Under MGA s. 231(3), electors may submit a petition within 15 days after the last date of advertising to require a vote of the electors. This was advertised in the Public Notice. A petition must have been received by 4pm on April 6, 2026. A petition was received by the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) at 2:30pm on April 6, 2026.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Petitions to Council are governed by MGA ss. 219–226, which establish rules, requirements, and validation procedures.

- s. 221 – Petition is sufficient if it meets statutory requirements
- s. 222 – Only electors may sign
- s. 223 – Minimum number of signatures (≥10% of population)
- s. 224 – Form and content requirements (statement, signatures, witness, etc.)
- s. 225 – Counting and verification of petitioners
- s. 226 – CAO must report to Council on sufficiency

REVIEW PROCESS

- Administration conducted a review of the petition in accordance with the MGA, including:
- Verification of submission deadline (MGA s. 231)
- Examination of petition format and required statements (MGA s. 224)
- Validation of elector eligibility (MGA s. 222)
- Verification of the number of signatures (MGA s. 223)

FINDINGS

Filing Deadline

√ Petition required within: 15 days of last advertisement (MGA s. 231(3))

√ Petition received: April 6, 2026

Result: Compliant

Form and Content

√ Identical purpose statement on each page

x Petition representative identified – this was not included in the package. MGA s.224 (4)

√ Required elector information provided

x Each page of the petition to include a statement on the protection of personal information (MGA s. 226.2(3)) – not included.

√ Witness affidavits included

Result: Deficient under MGA s. 224

NUMBER OF SIGNATURES

Required: 216 electors (≥10% of population per MGA s. 223)

On the [Municipal profiles | Alberta.ca](#) dashboard, it shows the population of Nanton is 2167. This matches with the spreadsheet at [2025-mapl-worksheets-for-internet-posting.xlsx](#).

Submitted: 249 signatures (within the petition those without dates, without address written or duplicates were excluded)

Valid signatures: Zero

This package does not meet the requirement of MGA s.224 (3) Each signature must be witnessed by an adult person who must (a) sign opposite the signature of the petitioner. As there is no specific witness signature signing opposite the signature of the petitioner, so (3)(a) is not met. As that requirement is not met, the petition is not sufficient pursuant to s 221.

Result: Insufficient

OVERALL SUFFICIENCY

Based on the review under MGA s. 221, the petition is:

Insufficient

CAO CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to MGA s. 226, I hereby certify that the petition has been reviewed and is:

Insufficient

Respectfully submitted,
Tara Vandervalk
Chief Administrative Officer

The petition was also circulated to Alberta Municipal Affairs Advisory Services as well as the Town's Municipal Lawyers for confirmation as to its sufficiency. The determination of Insufficiency was confirmed.



RECOMMENDATION

Council pass a motion to receive the CAO petition sufficiency report formally. This motion is a procedural step to officially record that council has considered the petition.

Draft motion:

Moved by Councillor _____ to receive the petition report from the CAO regarding Borrowing Bylaw No. 1424 for information.

FURTHER IMPLICATIONS FOR COUNCIL

If Petition was deemed Sufficient:

Under MGA s. 231, Council must:

- Repeal the borrowing bylaw; or
- Submit the bylaw to a vote of the electors (plebiscite)

As the Petition is Insufficient:

- Council may proceed with further readings and approval of the borrowing bylaw.

Attachments: N/A

Prepared By: Tara Vandervalk, CAO

Date: April 20, 2026

APPROVED BY: Tara Vandervalk, CAO



To: Mayor & Council

DECLARATION RE: INSUFFICIENCY OF PETITION

Section 226(1), *Municipal Government Act*

I, Tara Vandervalk, Chief Administrative Officer, of the Town of Nanton, in the Province of Alberta, do solemnly declare that the petition received April 6, 2026, pursuant to the provisions of Section 231(1) of the *Municipal Government Act*, petitioning the Council of the Town of Nanton to bring Bylaw #1424, a Borrowing Bylaw for the purpose of the renovation of the Tom Hornecker Recreation Centre to add new office space and an elevator, to a vote by the electorate, is **insufficient**.

Reconciliation of the review pursuant to Section 225 of the *Municipal Government Act* is attached as Schedule "A".

Dated this ___20th___ day of _____April_____, 2026.



Tara Vandervalk
Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Nanton