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**RM of Pleasantdale No. 398  
Public Consultation Meeting  
April 9, 2026  
Green Room of Municipal Office  
208 1<sup>st</sup> Ave, Naicam Sk**

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**Council Members Present:**

Division 1	Ernest Pederson	Division 2	Lorne Fletcher
Division 3	Milton Dawe	Division 5	Margaret Leigh
Division 6	Robert Hutchison		

**Staff Present:**

Administrator Alysson Slater

**Public Present:**

Bev Dinnell     Rob Parry     Ryan Pederson     Sanford Brickett

**Declare Public Meeting Open**

Councilor Leigh opened the Public Consultation Meeting to order at 11:35 am for the purpose of discussing two council proposals

- (a) Proposal 1 – To reduce number of divisions within the RM of Pleasantdale No. 398
- (b) Proposal 2 – To reduce number of Councilors for the RM of Pleasantdale No. 398

**Presentations**

Councilor Leigh gave a brief description of the process that the public meeting would follow

Councilor Leigh continued with explaining the process that the RM has been following regarding the RM of Pleasantdale Division Boundaries review.

Councilor Leigh and Councilor Hutchison explained the reasoning for looking to make the changes as proposed:

- (a) It is difficult to find Council members that can make the time commitment to fulfill a full term.  
Thus, There have been several resignations, and turnover on council
  - o When new council members join, they need to commit to training to understand and undertake their role, duties and responsibilities. With constant turnover there may not be the consistency and knowledge to properly govern. The expectation is with fewer councilors that are elected have the time to commit to council responsibilities
- (b) Division boundaries would change with the reduction of the number of councilors.
  - o in 2020 the legislation in the municipalities act changed and provided for Municipalities to adopt a policy for division boundary review.
    - Council adopted the *Division Review Policy 270/2021*
    - This policy was provided to the attendees present.
  - o One of the criteria to look at when reviewing division boundaries is to try to equalize the number of voters in each division.  
This is an attempt to equalize the voice of the ratepayers.
    - Maps of proposed boundary changes were provided at the meeting as well as previously on municipal website, facebook pages and for public inspection in the municipal office.
    - Currently the division with the most voters is Division 3 with approx. 199 and the lowest number of voters is in Division 4 with approx. 58.
    - The change would provide for more equalized voters represented in the 4 proposed divisions.

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### Reasoning for the proposed division boundary changes:

- Voter representation is so varied from one division to another
  - Representation options compared to current 6 divisions

Current	Approx # Voters	Option #1 Divisions	Approx # Voters	Option #2 Divisions	Approx # Voters
Div 1	92	Div 1	150	Div 1	144
Div 2	105	Div 2	156	Div 2	167
Div 3	199	Div 3	167	Div 3	106
Div 4	58	Div 4	161	Div 4	161
Div 5	93				
Div 6	131				
<b>Option #3</b>		Elections at large – no division boundaries reduce # councillors to 4 member and reeve – election of whole council every 4 years (potential for complete turn over)			

- Due to the varied voter representation of the current divisions – council is trying to establish fair representation by voting members of public as per *Section 8 of the Division Review Policy 270/2021*
- With attempt to even voter representation boundaries have to change which results in elimination of 2 divisions and 2 councillors.

### **Public Discussion**

Council heard comments from all public attendees:

In general, the comments made or the questions asked regarded these two proposals

- How much time does a councillor put in outside of their own business/farming operations?
- How the elections would look if this was passed
- What is the reason behind the proposed changes
- General overall statement of not in favor of the proposals as they stand now.


The Administrator stated that it is encouraged that anyone wishes to make a written submission of their thoughts on the proposed changes can do so by end of business day, April 22, 2026.

### **Written Submissions received to date**

- (a) Debra Fredin – Not in favor of either proposal as the RM is in a tough state with 6 councillors and would be afraid it would be worse with less.
- (b) Terry Wolsey – Feels it is needed to have a full council of 7 people.
  - a. It provides for more input from different views for consideration when discussing a topic.
  - b. Having a dedicated councillor in the current smaller divisions provides for better management of the area and knowledge of the troubled areas. Each division councillor has different views of the divisions that have trouble areas.
  - c. There are a lot of committees that council members are appointed to represent or the RM. Currently their list is divided by the 7 members of council, with 5 their time commitment would increase.
  - d. Time commitment throughout the year would increase regarding checking and dealing with road conditions and ratepayer concerns.

### **Declare Public Consultation Closed**

With no other comments or questions Council thanked all for coming and recessed the meeting at 12:31 pm and stated that the public consultation will be continued at the Annual Ratepayer Meeting to be held April 15, 2026, in the Municipal Office in the Green Room.

  
Deputy Reeve – Ernest Pederson

  
COA – Alysson Slater

Presented to Council May 21, 2026