

**Municipal Planning in Alberta is composed of policy plans which set out future goals, and development control measures which provide municipalities with the tools to achieve those goals.**



This fact sheet has no legal status and cannot be used as an official interpretation of the various regulations currently in effect. Users are advised to contact the Planning and Development department for more information. Yellowhead County accepts no responsibility for persons relying solely on this information.



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## Planning in Alberta

**DEVELOPMENT GUIDE**



## What is the Municipal Government Act (MGA)?

The authority for Yellowhead County's land use planning is set out in the Municipal Government Act (MGA).

The MGA regulates the preparation and adoption of plans, subdivision and development approval, and the tools through which municipalities can achieve objectives.

The MGA establishes plans beginning at the intermunicipal level, proceeds through a plan for the municipality as a whole (Municipal Development Plan) and plans at the community level (Area Structure Plan).

To view any of Yellowhead County's plans, please visit [www.yhcounty.ca/planning-guides](http://www.yhcounty.ca/planning-guides)

## Intermunicipal Development Plans (IDP)

These plans regulate how Yellowhead County will collaboratively develop the land bordering Edson, Hinton, and Parkland County.

## Municipal Development Plans (MDP)

Yellowhead County's MDP coordinates land uses, future growth areas, transportation systems, and services within the County.

## Area Structure Plans (ASP)

Where the MDP covers all the lands of Yellowhead County, ASP's exist to provide more detailed planning in smaller areas. These describe the sequence of future development, proposed uses of land (commercial, residential, industrial, ins), proposed population and the location of transportation routes and utilities.

Creating plans requires extensive demographic research, site analysis and public feedback. IDPs, MDPs, and ASPs become official when adopted by Yellowhead County Council and changing them requires Council to pass an amendment bylaw.

## What is a Land Use Bylaw?

All municipalities in Alberta are required to prepare and adopt a Land Use Bylaw.

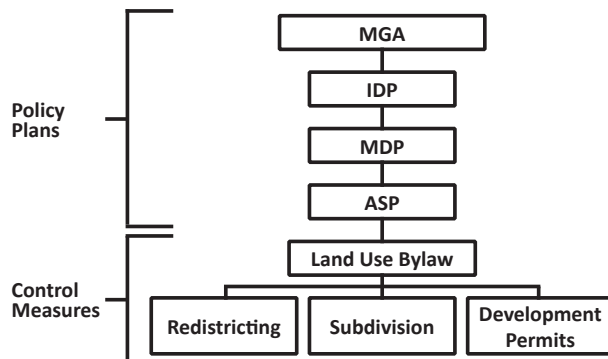
The Land Use Bylaw designates parcels of land in Yellowhead County with specific Land Use Districts. This is also known as districting. Each district has its own list of permitted and discretionary uses.

Permitted uses are those where if the complete application meets all the provisions of the Land Use Bylaw, a development permit must be issued.

Applications for discretionary uses may be approved or refused. and are subject to a 21-day appeal period.

To view the Yellowhead County Land Use Bylaw, please visit [www.yhcounty.ca/planning-guides](http://www.yhcounty.ca/planning-guides)

## Hierarchy of Plans in Alberta



Policy plans guide future development by creating goals. The Land Use Bylaw is the main tool municipalities use to achieve those goals.

