



To: Mayor and Members of Red Deer City Council

February 24, 2026

RE: Zoning Bylaw Amendment 3357/N-2026 and 3357/O-2026 (for 7740 40 Ave. rezoning)

The Red Deer River Naturalist Society is the oldest natural history organization in Alberta. Founded in 1898, we have been an advocate and strong voice for nature conservation and education in Central Alberta and beyond. Our organization worked diligently with City of Red Deer planners to develop Waskasoo Park, a well-loved and well-used, world-class urban park system.

We wish to add our voice to those opposed to the above re-zoning proposal (from Heavy Industrial to a Direct Control Zone) in order to proceed with the Nexus project.

While we whole-heartedly agree that facilities to assist our vulnerable and addicted citizens are needed, it is not advisable to place it at the proposed location. Based on what is happening elsewhere in the city, homeless and addicted citizens will infiltrate the surrounding park and natural areas, resulting in additional homeless encampments, garbage, needles, fires, vandalism and crime, thus resulting in both increased public safety hazards as well as serious ecological degradation.

We respectfully request that the City of Red Deer decline this proposal and instead allocate sufficient time to identify a location that appropriately meets the needs of vulnerable individuals without jeopardizing the integrity of our valued park system and natural areas.

Yours truly,

Myrna Pearman
President