

Land Use Planning

Learn the foundations of how land use decisions shape your community's growth, livability, and long-term sustainability.

About the course

Participants will explore the frameworks, processes, and responsibilities that shape how Alberta communities grow and develop. This course helps elected officials build confidence in evaluating planning proposals and understanding how plans, policies, and bylaws work together.

Quality Content

All EOEP courses are developed using subject matter experts from the municipal sector and reviewed by Alberta Municipalities and Rural Municipalities of Alberta.

Experienced and Independent Instructors

Take advantage of having councillors learn from independent instructors who are experienced in the municipal sector and reinforce concepts without any perception of bias. EOEP instructors represent a mix of individuals from consulting firms, law firms, and current and retired municipal staff and elected officials.

Cost Per Person

Online: \$295 + GST

In-Person: \$395 + GST

What you receive

Each participant will receive a course workbook, presentation materials, and the ability to ask questions during the course.

Other Benefits

A key benefit of this course is the opportunity to connect with fellow municipal leaders across Alberta. You'll engage in networking and collaborative discussions, share experiences and build relationships that support you throughout your council term.

Can administrators take EOEP courses?

Yes! CAOs and senior administrators can benefit from taking the course to understand the concepts being taught to your council so you can be on the same page.

Request to Host a Course in Your Region

If you are looking for greater flexibility in scheduling, our [Hometown EOEP](#) program gives you the option to bring expert training directly to your council at a time and location of your convenience. Choose from online or in-person delivery and you can invite neighbouring municipalities to share the experience and cost.

Questions and to Register for Land Use Planning & Approvals

Visit eoep.ca or email Registrar@eoep.ca.

What is covered in the Land Use course?

Introduction to Municipal Planning

- Understand what planning is and why it matters
- Recognize the provincial-municipal relationship in planning
- Learn the statutory planning tools available to municipalities
- Explore how planning supports growth, protection and quality of life

Roles & Responsibilities

- Understand the difference between council and administrative roles
- Explore how council sets the vision, approves plans and balances the public interest
- Learn how decisions influence the long-term use of land and infrastructure

Planning Framework

- Review Alberta's hierarchy of plans: MDP's ASP's ARP's and the Land Use Bylaw
- Learn how plans work together to guide development
- Understand how planning connects to budgeting, service delivery and risk management

Land Use Processes

- Understand how land moves from raw property to developed space
- Learn how decisions fit within the administrative and regulatory process
- Explore how to evaluate applications using expert input, reports and community feedback

Appeals & Disputes

- Explore how appeals are handled through the Subdivision Development Appeal Board (SDAB)
- Understand what decisions can be appealed and who has the right to appeal
- Recognize how council can support a fair and transparent appeal process

Making Good Planning Decisions

- Learning Questions to ask when evaluating planning proposals
- Review best practices for transparency, consistency, and public trust
- Understand how council decisions shape the community for future generations

The Elected Officials Education Program is a non-profit proudly operated through a partnership of [Alberta Municipalities](#) and the [Rural Municipalities of Alberta](#) to support Alberta's municipal elected officials to serve their community effectively.