

# BILL

No. 23 of 1917.

The Municipal Hospitals Act.

(Assented to \_\_\_\_\_, 1917.)

**HIS MAJESTY**, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Alberta, enacts as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as "*The Municipal Hospitals Act.*"

2. In this Act unless the context otherwise requires—

1. "Municipality" means and indicates a local improvement district, rural municipality, village, town, or city with a population of less than five thousand according to the latest Dominion census;

2. "Minister" means the Minister of Municipal Affairs for Alberta;

3. "Board" means a hospital board created under the provisions of this Act.

3. The Minister shall divide the province into hospital districts convenient for the organization of hospital boards under the provisions of this Act; provided, however, that the Minister may at any time subdivide or re-arrange such districts as may be necessary; provided also that the following provisions of this Act shall not apply except to hospital districts entirely included within the boundaries of one or more municipalities.

4. The Minister shall—

(a) Prepare, or cause to be prepared, maps, plans, specifications and estimates, and advise on all questions affecting the architecture and construction of any hospital buildings or equipment and appliances required in connection therewith;

(b) Advise on all matters of expenditure and the fees proposed to be charged and generally on all questions affecting the cost, maintenance and management of hospitals or upon the exercise of any of the powers vested in a board by virtue of this Act.

5. The Minister may upon petition of the council of a municipality or of twenty-five electors of such municipality, or in case there shall be more than one municipality within a hospital district, then upon petition of the council of each municipality within such district, or of twenty-five electors of each of such municipalities, authorize the appointment of a hospital board for the purposes of this Act, and shall thereupon give notice of such authorization to the council of each and every municipality concerned.

6. The council shall, at its first regular meeting after the receipt of such notice, if there be only one municipality within the hospital district, appoint a hospital board for the purposes of this Act, which shall consist of a committee of three members of the council and an equal number of electors not being members of the council, and if there be more than one municipality within such district then the council of each such municipality shall appoint two representatives, one being a member of the council and the other an elector not a member of the council, and the representatives of such municipalities so appointed shall constitute a hospital board for the purposes of this Act.

7. As soon as such appointments have been made, they shall be reported to the Minister, who shall name one of the members of the hospital board as temporary chairman and instruct him as to when and where the first meeting shall be held, and the said chairman shall thereupon within one month of his appointment call the first meeting of the board for the purpose of organization.

8. At the first meeting, and afterwards at the first meeting in each year, the members of a board shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman from among their number and they shall remain in office until the end of the current year, or until their successors are appointed; provided that they shall be eligible for re-election.

(2) The board may employ a secretary-treasurer and such other officers as may be required and shall define their duties and fix their remuneration.

(3) The secretary-treasurer shall keep correct minutes of the proceedings of the board, preserve the records, carry on the correspondence, have charge of the accounts and make such returns and perform such other duties as shall be required by the regulations.

(4) The board shall hold at least twelve meetings during the year and at such other times and at such places as may be fixed from time to time by the resolution of the board; a majority of the members shall form a quorum for the transaction of business and they shall have power to make and adopt rules regulating the transaction of business, and may provide therein for the appointment of committees to whom they may delegate authority or power for the work committed to them.

(5) The board may pay its members an allowance of ten cents per mile from their homes to the place of meeting and return for each meeting.

9. The board shall be a body corporate under the name of "The.....Union Hospital."

(2) The board shall at its first meeting choose a name by resolution passed by a vote of a majority of all its members.

(3) In case a name is not chosen as hereinbefore provided for, the Minister may give the board a name, in which case notice thereof shall be published in The Alberta Gazette.

(4) The Minister may from time to time on petition of the board and upon such notice to the co-operating municipalities as he may deem sufficient, change the name of the board, in which case notice of the alteration shall be published in The Alberta Gazette.

(5) The seal used by the union hospital board before its change of name shall continue to be its seal until another is adopted.

(6) No change in the name of a board shall affect any obligation, liability, right or right of action existing at the time of the change.

**10.** The hospital board may at any time, with the consent of the council or councils of the municipality or municipalities within the hospital district, alter the number of the members of the board; provided that such number shall not be less than six and that each municipality shall be represented by at least two members.

(2) The members of the hospital board shall remain in office until the end of the current year, or until their successors are appointed.

(3) The councils of the municipalities constituting the hospital district shall, at their first meeting in each year, elect their representatives to the said board.

**11.** The hospital board shall forthwith upon organization prepare a scheme which may provide for—

(a) The location and purchase of a suitable hospital site;

(b) The purchase, acquisition or erection of suitable buildings and the furnishing and equipment of the same as a hospital, including an operating room with necessary appliances;

(c) The engagement of duly qualified medical practitioners and registered nurses;

(d) An estimate of the capital expenditure required;

(e) The repayment of the capital expenditure by way of instalments or of a sinking fund;

(f) An estimate of the annual expenditure and probable revenue;

(g) A schedule of fees proposed to be charged and the method of their collection;

(h) An agreement such as referred to in the following section of this Act;

(i) The proportions and manner in which it is proposed that any expenditure shall be borne by the different municipalities concerned if a hospital board shall represent more than one municipality;

(j) Such other estimates or matters as may be necessary for the purposes of this Act, or which the Minister may require.

**12.** The hospital board may, subject to the provisions of this Act, enter into an agreement with any other hospital board or with any person or corporation operating a hospital for the purpose of providing, exercising or performing any benefit, power or duty conferred or imposed by this Act.

**13.** All moneys required for capital expenditure shall be raised in the manner provided for by the various Acts governing the co-operating municipalities, but the sums to be raised annually for payment of instalments of principal and interest, or for payment of interest and sinking fund, as the case may be, together with the annual operating expenses, shall in no event be such as to require the levy of a higher rate than two mills in the dollar in municipalities where taxes are levied on a valuation basis, or two cents per acre in municipalities where taxes are levied on an acreage basis, on all the rateable property within the municipality, according to the last revised assessment roll; provided that if the tax levied for hospital purposes on any lot in any subdivision or plan, or on any fraction of a quarter section, is less than ten cents, the amount payable shall be ten cents.

**14.** The scheme referred to in section 11 hereof and any alteration or modification of the same, shall remain inoperative until approved of by the Minister, but no approval of the same shall be given by the Minister except subject to the provisions of section 17 of this Act.

**15.** The hospital board shall as soon as a scheme has been approved of by the Minister, report to the council or councils of the municipality or municipalities interested, and such council or councils shall at the first regular meeting after the receipt of such report pass a by-law incorporating such scheme and a provision for the raising of the money required for capital expenditure, if any.

(2) Such by-law shall be submitted in the same manner as a money by-law to the electors of the municipality entitled to vote on money by-laws, within three months from the date of receipt of the report from the hospital board, and in no case shall it be finally passed by the council of any municipality unless it has received such approval as is required for money by-laws.

(3) The secretary-treasurer of each municipality shall report to the Minister the result of the vote taken under clause (2) hereof within one week of the date of such vote.

**16.** Subject to the provisions of this Act the board shall do all things that may be necessary for carrying out any hospital scheme and may make such rules and regulations for the maintenance and management of the hospital as it may deem fit.

**17.** Nothing herein contained shall deprive any hospital of any of the benefits of *The Hospitals Ordinance*, and this Act shall be subject to the provisions of *The Hospitals Ordinance*, *The Public Health Act* and *The Public Utilities Act*.

**18.** The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations not inconsistent with this Act covering the construction, equipment, maintenance, inspection, supervision, control and management thereof and the auditing and investigation of accounts and affairs of such hospitals, and such other matter or matters as may arise out of the operation of this Act.

No. 23.

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FIFTH SESSION  
THIRD LEGISLATURE  
7 GEORGE V  
1917

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**BILL**

The Municipal Hospitals Act.

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Received and read the

First time.....

Second time.....

Third time.....

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HON. MR. GARIEPY.

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