



TOWN OF CLARESHOLM
PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 25, 2013
AGENDA

Time: 7:00 P.M.
Place: Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

AGENDA: ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MINUTES: REGULAR MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 12, 2013

FINANCES: SEPTEMBER 2013 BANK STATEMENT

ACTION ITEMS:

1. BYLAW #1590: Designated Officers
RE: All Readings
2. DELEGATION RESPONSE: Committee for East Route Conservation
3. CORRES: Claresholm Public Library
RE: Representative to Chinook Arch Regional Library System Board
4. MAYOR ROB STEEL: Community Survey
5. STAFF REPORT: 2014 Capital Budget
6. DECEMBER 2013 MEETING DATE
7. ADOPTION OF INFORMATION ITEMS
8. IN CAMERA: PERSONNEL

INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. Claresholm & District Chamber of Commerce Regular Meeting Minutes – October 15, 2013
2. Claresholm & District Chamber of Commerce Regular Meeting Minutes – November 19, 2013
3. Tigers Swim Club, High River – Thank you
4. Mayors & Reeves of SouthWest Alberta Meeting Minutes – November 1, 2013
5. Rural Ambulance Service in Crisis – Pat Stier, MLA, Livingstone-Macleod
6. Oldman Watershed Council Newsletter – November 2013
7. Doug & Sandy Wheeler – Thank you

ADJOURNMENT



**TOWN OF CLARESHOLM
PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 12, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Mayor Rob Steel.

PRESENT: Mayor Rob Steel; Councillors: Jamie Cutler, Chris Dixon, Betty Fieguth, Shelley Ford, Mike McAlonan and Lyal O'Neill; Chief Administrative Officer: Kris Holbeck; Secretary-Treasurer: Karine Wilhauk; Manager of Regulatory and Property Services: Jeffery Gibeau

ABSENT: None

AGENDA: Moved by Councillor MacAlonan that the Agenda be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

MINUTES: **REGULAR MEETING – OCTOBER 28, 2013**

Moved by Councillor Cutler that the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 28, 2013 be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS: **COMMITTEE FOR EAST ROUTE CONSERVATION**

A group of concerned citizens appeared before Town Council once again to discuss the placement of the planned power transmission line. They were a delegation prior to the last election. Mr. Don Brunner spoke on behalf of the group and would like the Town of Claresholm to ensure that public consultation is not overlooked as the process continues. The Alberta Utilities Commission is still looking at where the line should be placed on the east side or the west side of town. The cost to move the line to the east of Claresholm is significant and this will cost consumers in the end. Mr. Brunner pointed out that moving the line to the east affects many people, and would like Council to have an open meeting and re-look at the situation. Mr. Brunner feels that Council did not have all the facts in the past.

ACTION ITEMS:

**1. CORRES: Alberta Transportation
RE: Municipal Grant Payment**

Received for information.

2. ALTALINK: South Foothills Transmission Project

Received for information.

**3. CORRES: Claresholm & District Museum
RE: Welcome to New Council**

Received for information.

4. STAFF REPORT: Wood Burning Appliances & Nuisance Smoke

Received for information.

5. MAYOR ROB STEEL: Community Survey

Referred to administration.

6. BOARD & COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: Members at Large

Moved by Councillor MacAlonan to appoint Sharon Duncan, Donald Glimsdale and Jane Marsh to the Claresholm Museum Board.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Ford to appoint James Schovaneck, Lisa Anderson, Trisha Carleton, Arden Dubnewick, and Marika Thyssen to the Claresholm Public Library Board.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Cutler to appoint Lita Richards, Sharon Duncan, Diana Ross and Judy Van Amerongen to the Claresholm & District FCSS Board.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Ford to appoint Judy Van Amerongen to the Porcupine Hills Lodge Board.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor O'Neill to appoint Jules Boucher (Butch), Shirley Isaacson, Judy Van Amerongen and Lisa Chilton to the Claresholm Housing Authority Board.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor MacAlonan to appoint Grant Jordan and Sharon

Duncan to the Municipal Planning Commission.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Dixon to appoint Doug Kemery and Robert Milton to the Local and Composite Assessment Review Board.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Fieguth to appoint Peter Duerholt to the Facility & Infrastructure Planning Committee.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Cutler to appoint Peter Duerholt and Gerry McGuire to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board.

CARRIED

7. STAFF REPORT: Offer to Purchase – Land Sale

Moved by Councillor O’Neill to accept the Offer to Purchase 871 square feet located on 51 Avenue East as presented, ensuring all conditions of the agreement are adhered to.

CARRIED

8. ADOPTION OF INFORMATION ITEMS

Moved by Councillor Fieguth to accept the information items as presented.

CARRIED

9. IN CAMERA: PERSONNEL

Moved by Councillor Cutler that this meeting go In Camera.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Fieguth that this meeting come out of In Camera.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Councillor Ford that this meeting adjourn at 9:25pm.

CARRIED

Mayor – Rob Steel

Chief Administrative Officer – Kris Holbeck

**TOWN OF CLARESHOLM
SEPTEMBER 2013 BANK STATEMENT**

| | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| RECONCILED BALANCE AUGUST 31, 2013 | | | \$430,033.56 |
| DEPOSITS TO BANK | DEBITS | CREDITS | BALANCE |
| RECEIPTS FOR MONTH | \$553,174.29 | | |
| REVOLVING LOAN RECEIVED | 0.00 | | |
| CURRENT ACCOUNT INTEREST | 197.63 | | |
| GIC REDEEMED | 250,000.00 | | |
| INTEREST ON GICS | 265.41 | | |
| TRANSFERS FROM T-BILLS | 259,609.85 | | |
| SUBTOTAL | \$1,063,247.18 | | |
| CHARGES TO ACCOUNT | | | |
| ACCOUNTS PAYABLE | | \$690,940.71 | |
| PAYROLL CHARGES | | 114,228.15 | |
| INTEREST ON REVOLVING LOAN | | 0.00 | |
| REVOLVING LOAN PAID | | 0.00 | |
| LOAN PAYMENTS | | 86,301.93 | |
| MASTERCARD PAYMENT | | 1,434.76 | |
| TRANSFERS TO T-BILLS / GIC PURCHASE | | 0.00 | |
| NSF CHEQUES | | 2,151.95 | |
| SERVICE CHARGES | | 408.76 | |
| SCHOOL FOUNDATION PAYMENT | | 301,340.37 | |
| SUBTOTAL | | \$1,196,806.63 | |
| NET BALANCE AT END OF MONTH | | | \$296,474.11 |
| BANK RECONCILIATION | | | |
| BALANCE PER BANK | 295,602.35 | | |
| PLUS OUTSTANDING DEPOSITS | 7,791.99 | | |
| LESS OUTSTANDING CHEQUES | | -6,920.23 | |
| RECONCILED BALANCE SEPTEMBER 30, 2013 | | | \$296,474.11 |
| OTHER BALANCES: | | | |
| EXTERNALLY RESTRICTED T-BILLS | \$1,170,824.78 | | |
| EXTERNALLY RESTRICTED GIC'S (FCSS) | \$10,000.00 | | |
| NON-RESTRICTED GIC'S | \$2,400,000.00 | | |
| PARKING RESERVE | \$3,601.84 | | |
| WALKING PATHS RESERVE | \$1,971.04 | | |
| OFFSITE LEVY RESERVE | \$62,220.18 | | |
| SUBDIVISION RESERVE | \$35,979.48 | | |
| REVOLVING LOAN BALANCE | | \$0.00 | |

SUBMITTED TO TOWN COUNCIL THIS 25th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2013

Karine Wilhauk

Submitted: Karine Wilhauk
Secretary Treasurer

Kris Holbeck

Reviewed: Kris Holbeck, CA
Chief Administrative Officer

ACTION ITEMS

Staff Report

To: Town Council
From: CAO
Date: November 21, 2013
Re: Designated Officers Bylaw Amendment

Attached is the Designated Officers Bylaw which formalizes the designated officers under the *Municipal Government Act* and which sections their designation applies to.

In order to streamline efficiency in the Town Office by reducing the administrative burden on Town Council, management staff is recommending an amendment to have a designated officer and one of the following individuals sign agreements, cheques and other negotiable instruments per MGA 213(4):

- Mayor,
- Deputy Mayor,
- Councillor, or
- Designated Officer.

This allows Administration to sign agreements and cheques without the need to bring a Council member in for these day-to-day routine processes. This will reduce the time and cost to have Council members come in to sign routine administrative paperwork.

Kris Holbeck, CA CAO Town of Claresholm

relating to the designated officer has not been assigned to any designated officer by council.

1994 cM-26.1 s210

Revocation

211(1) A municipality may revoke with or without cause the appointment of a person to the position of a designated officer.

(2) A designated officer whose appointment is revoked without cause is, subject to any written agreement between the municipality and the officer, entitled to reasonable notice or to compensation instead of reasonable notice.

(3) A designated officer whose appointment is revoked with cause is, subject to any written agreement between the municipality and the officer, not entitled to reasonable notice or to compensation instead of reasonable notice.

1994 cM-26.1 s211;1995 c24 s25

Delegation by designated officer

212 A designated officer may delegate any of the officer's powers, duties or functions under this or any other enactment or bylaw to an employee of the municipality.

1994 cM-26.1 s212

Fidelity bond

212.1(1) Starting with the 1998 financial year, the council of each municipality must annually obtain a fidelity bond, or equivalent insurance, in an amount the council considers appropriate.

(2) The fidelity bond or equivalent insurance must cover

- (a) the chief administrative officer of the municipality,
- (b) the designated officers of the municipality, and
- (c) other employees of the municipality

while carrying out duties relating to any money or security belonging to or held by the municipality.

1997 c19 s3

Signing or authorization of municipal documents

213(1) Minutes of council meetings must be signed by

- (a) the person presiding at the meeting, and
- (b) a designated officer.

(2) When council has delegated a power, duty or function to a council committee, the minutes of a council committee meeting that deal with the power, duty or function must be signed by

- (a) the person presiding at the meeting, and
- (b) a designated officer.

(3) Bylaws must be signed by

- (a) the chief elected official, and
- (b) a designated officer.

(4) Agreements and cheques and other negotiable instruments must be signed or authorized

- (a) by the chief elected official or by another person authorized by council to sign them, and
- (b) by a designated officer,

or by a designated officer acting alone if so authorized by council.

(5) A signature may be printed, lithographed or otherwise reproduced if so authorized by council.

1994 cM-26.1 s213

Destruction of records

214(1) A council may authorize the destruction of the original bylaws and minutes of council meetings if the originals have been recorded on microfiche or on another system that will enable copies of the originals to be made.

(2) A council may pass a bylaw respecting the destruction of other records and documents of the municipality.

(3) A bylaw under subsection (2) must provide that if an individual's personal information will be used by the municipality to make a decision that directly affects the individual, the municipality must retain the personal information for at least one year after using it so that the individual has a reasonable opportunity to obtain access to it.

1994 cM-26.1 s214

Prohibition of certain agreements with employees

215(1) An agreement made on or after January 1, 1995 between a municipality and an employee of a municipality in which the municipality is to provide a service or commodity to the employee is void.



**TOWN OF CLARESHOLM
PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
BYLAW #1590**

A Bylaw of the Town of Claresholm to establish the positions of designated officers.

WHEREAS Section 145 of the *Municipal Government Act*, RSA 2000, Chapter M-26 permits the Council to establish one or more positions to carry out the powers, duties and functions of a designated officer;

AND WHEREAS Council wishes to exercise its authority pursuant to the Municipal Government Act by establishing designated officer positions;

NOW THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CLARESHOLM, IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, DULY ASSEMBLED, ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1 TITLE

1.1 This Bylaw may be cited as the **“DESIGNATED OFFICER BYLAW.”**

SECTION 2 DEFINITIONS

2.1 In this Bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:

- a) **“Act”** is the Municipal Government Act, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter M-26, as amended, or any legislation in replacement or substitution thereof.
- b) **“Bylaw”** is a bylaw of the Town of Claresholm.
- c) **“Committee”** is any board, committee, or commission or other body to which Council may appoint, but excluding Committee of the Whole.
- d) **“Committee of the Whole”** is Members of Council present at a meeting of Council sitting in committee.
- e) **“Council”** is the municipal Council of the Town of Claresholm.

SECTION 3 AUTHORIZING OF MUNICIPAL DOCUMENTS

3.1 All agreements and cheques and other negotiable instruments shall be signed by a designated officer and by one of the following: Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Councillor or another designated officer.

SECTION 4 DESIGNATION

- 4.1 The following positions are designated officers of the Town:
- a) Chief Administrative Officer;
 - b) Secretary-Treasurer;
 - c) Bylaw Enforcement Officer;
 - d) Development Officer;
 - e) Superintendent / Utilities Operator;
 - f) Municipal Assessor

SECTION 5 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER (CAO)

5.1 The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) is the designated officer for purposes of the following sections of the Act:

- Section 213(1)(b) – Signing minutes of Council meetings.
- Section 213(2)(b) – Signing minutes of Council committee meetings.
- Section 213(3)(b) – Signing bylaws.
- Section 213(4)(b) – Signing agreements, cheques and other negotiable instruments.
- Section 270 – Opening and closing all the accounts of the Town that hold money.
- Section 309(1)(d) – Contents of assessment notices.
- Section 334(1)(e) – Contents of tax notices.
- Section 336(1) – Certifying date of sending tax notices.
- Section 343(2) – Application of tax payments.
- Section 350 – Issuing tax notices.
- Section 420(2) – Obtaining possession of lands.
- Section 439(2) – Preparing and issuing distress warrants and seizing goods.

- Section 455(1) – Clerk of Assessment Review Board
- Section 461(1) & (2) – Address to which complaint is sent.
- Section 462(1) – Notice of Assessment Review Board hearings.
- Section 469(1) – Notice of decision of Assessment Review Board.
- Section 483 – Decision admissible on appeal.
- Section 612 – Certifying copies of bylaws and records.

SECTION 6 SECRETARY-TREASURER

- 6.1 The Secretary-Treasurer is the designated officer for the purposes of the following sections of the Act:
 - Section 69 – Consolidating bylaws.
 - Section 213(1)(b) – Signing minutes of Council meetings.
 - Section 213(2)(b) – Signing minutes of Council committee meetings.
 - Section 213(4)(b) – Signing agreements, cheques and other negotiable instruments.
 - Section 270 – Opening and closing all the accounts of the Town that hold money.
 - Section 606(7) – Requirements for proof of advertising.

SECTION 7 BYLAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

- 7.1 The Bylaw Enforcement Officer is the designated officer for the purposes of the following sections of the Act:
 - Section 542 – Municipal Inspections and Enforcement

SECTION 8 DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

- 8.1 The Development Officer is the designated officer for purposes of the following sections of the Act:
 - Section 542 – Municipal Inspections and Enforcement
 - Section 624(2) – Development Authority

SECTION 9 SUPERINTENDENT / UTILITIES OPERATOR

- 9.1 These positions are the designated officers for purposes of the following sections of the Act:
 - Section 544(1) – Inspecting Meters

SECTION 10 MUNICIPAL ASSESSOR

- 10.1 The Municipal Assessor is the designated officer for purposes of carrying out the duties and responsibilities of an “assessor” under the Act, and any other relevant statute, regulations or bylaw.
- 10.2 The Municipal Assessor is the designated officer for purposes of the following sections of the Act:
 - Section 482(1) & (2) – Admissible evidence at hearings – assessment rolls and assessment notices.
 - Section 525 – Certifying copies of assessment roles and assessment notices.

SECTION 11 PASSAGE OF BYLAW

- 11.1 This Bylaw shall come into effect upon passage of Third Reading.
- 11.2 Bylaw #1533 is hereby rescinded.

Read a first time in Council this day of 2013 A.D.

Read a second time in Council this day of 2013 A.D.

Read a third time in Council and finally passed in Council this day of
2013 A.D.

Rob Steel, Mayor

Kris Holbeck, CAO

21.



**TOWN OF CLARESHOLM
PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
BYLAW #1533**

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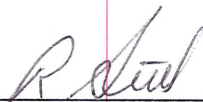
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Read a first time in Council this **28th** day of **September** 2009 A.D.

Read a second time in Council this **28th** day of **September** 2009 A.D.

Read a third time in Council and finally passed in Council this **28th** day of **September** 2009 A.D.



Rob Steel, Mayor



Kris Holbeck, CAO

Committee for East Route Conservation
(CERC)
Claresholm, Alberta TOL OTO
October 11th, 2013

Claresholm Town Council
221 - 45 Avenue West
P.O. Box 1000
Claresholm, AB TOL OTO

Dear Town Council,

Members of the Committee for East Route Conservation (CERC) request to appear as a delegation at the next Town Council meeting on October 15th, 2013.

BACKGROUND:

On October 7th, 2013, the Alberta Utilities Commission rendered Decision 2013-369 regarding the alignment of the upgrade to the 911 L transmission line which currently sits parallel and adjacent to 8th Street West. The Commission approved the Preferred Route. However, the Commission did not finalize the line location for the area around Claresholm.

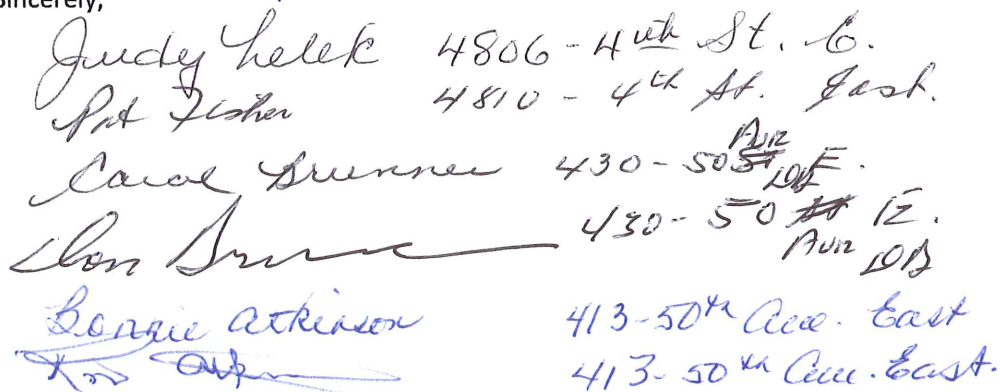
The Commission requires Altalink to examine the route west of Town (known as the CERC route) according to Rule 007. A part of Rule 007 involves Public Consultation.

Our Committee has concerns about the lack of Town communication and open discussion within the community, **before** the Town Council advocated to have the line relocated to the east side of Town. We feel that once it was known that the airport was not constraint, the Town should have made more effort to inform Town residents of this, and to specifically solicit input from east side residents who are severely impacted by the route change. Now that this issue is being brought back to our community we would like to discuss with Council how we can ensure these important steps in public consultation are not overlooked at this time, before Council updates Altalink with its position on this issue.

For your convenience a small part of the Alberta Utility Commission Decision 2013-369 is attached to this letter. You will find the entire document on the AUC web site. Should you also wish to read the Hearing Transcripts or view the hearing exhibits you can find them under the Submissions Tab on the AUC website under Proceeding 2001, or AUC Application 1608861.

Thank you for providing this opportunity to meet with Town Council.

Sincerely,



 Judy Helek 4806 - 4th St. E.
 Pat Fisher 4810 - 4th St. East.
 Carol Brunner 430 - 50th St. E.
 Don Brunner 430 - 50th St. E.
 Bonnie Atkinson 413 - 50th Ave. East
 Ron [unclear] 413 - 50th Ave. East.

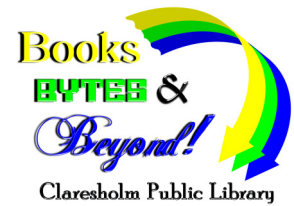
Staff Memo

To: Town Council
From: CAO
Date: November 22, 2013
Re: CERC Delegation

Jeff Gibeau, Manager of Regulatory and Property Services, will be attending to discuss the background of this item and answer any questions of Council.

Kris Holbeck, CA CAO Town of Claresholm

Clareholm Public Library
Box 548, Claresholm, AB. T0L 0T0
Phone (403) 625-4168 Fax (403) 625-2939
email: help@clareholmlibrary.ca



November 21, 2013

Mayor and Council
Town of Claresholm
Box 1000
Claresholm, AB.
T0L 0T0

Re: Recommendation for Representative to Chinook Arch Regional Library System Board

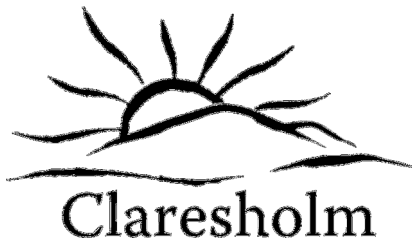
Dear Mayor Steel and Council;

The Claresholm Public Library Board is recommending the following to be the Representatives for the Chinook Arch Regional Library System Board: Kathy Davies as the first Representative with Michael McAlonan as the Alternate Representative.

Thank you for all your support.

Yours truly,

Kathy Davies
Library Manager



Dear Claresholm Resident:

Your Town Council is planning to engage in a visioning session early in the New Year. The purpose of this endeavour is to help us establish the goals and priorities for our community over the next four years of this council term.

To help us facilitate this process, we would like your input. We want to know what you like best about Claresholm and what you think are our main concerns. We welcome feedback to include your support and/or concern about any community facility, program, service, rate or issue that is important to you.

Essentially, we are asking for your top two “likes”, and your top two “dislikes” with our Town. Point form answers would be appreciated, and responses can be anonymous.

What I like most about Claresholm:

1.

2.

What I don't like, or am most concerned about in Claresholm:

1.

2.

Thank you for your feedback. We on Town Council believe that the Town Agenda should reflect the will of the people, and your participation is greatly valued.

Completed surveys can be dropped off at the Town Administration Office or the Public Library.

If you would rather complete the survey online, please visit the Town of Claresholm's website at <http://www.townofclaresholm.com/> under “What's New.



Claresholm

*Now you're living...
Now you're home*

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Staff Report

To: Council
From: CAO
Date: November 21, 2013
Re: 2014 Capital Budget

TOWN OF CLARESHOLM'S CAPITAL BUDGETING PROCESS

Staff develops and constantly updates the Town's capital infrastructure needs listing which is compiled through discussions between staff and our facility users. The projects are broken down between:

- equipment (includes machinery and equipment and vehicles)
- infrastructure (includes aboveground (roads and alleys) and underground infrastructure (water, sewer, storm sewer))
- facilities (includes buildings, parks, walking paths etc)

Staff prioritizes projects which they believe should be scheduled to be done in the next year and those which are a lower priority and can be deferred until future capital budgets. This 10 year plan is developed to demonstrate to the Province our infrastructure deficit and the need for ongoing capital funding in the Town of Claresholm and is sent in annually to the MSI Capital grant program.

In the fall, staff (including the CAO, Manager RPS and Town Superintendent) presents this 10 year capital project listing to the Facility and Infrastructure Planning Committee (FIPC) comprised of Council and public. Staff makes recommendations as to which projects should be done in the next year and how they are to be funded (via grants, reserves, operations or debt) and which are less urgent and can be done in a later capital budget cycle.

The FIPC will discuss the projects and the funding and have the ability to discuss the prioritization of the projects and if they wish projects to be moved up or down in the order or deferred or removed. The committee would then recommend the revised capital budget to Council who would debate it at a public meeting and pass it via resolution or send it back to the FIPC requesting changes or clarification.

Staff has prepared the 2014 version of the infrastructure projects and prioritized them for the first review and would like the FIPC to meet to begin to go over this comprehensive list.

Kris Holbeck, CAO

Town of Claresholm

INFORMATION ITEMS

**Minutes of the Claresholm and District Chamber of Commerce
held at noon on the 15th day of October, 2013
at Putters Restaurant**

Present

Linda Petryshen, Damon Larkin, Sue Gour, Wilf Gour, Curt Hanselmann, Shelley Ford, Russ Anderson, Mike McAlonan, Doug MacPherson, Russell Sawatzky; Tony Walker, Anita Wahl, Iqbal Nurmohamed, Betty Fieguth, Rod Dryholm, Rob Vogt, Dune Diment; Sharon Duncan, Debbie Land, Chloe Kilkenny

Meeting was called to order at 12:05pm.

An addition to the Agenda of Election Forum was made and a motion by Linda Petryshen, seconded by Wilf Gour, and carried, the agenda with the change was approved.

On a motion by Linda Petryshen, seconded by Wilf Gour, and carried, the Minutes of the September 17, 2013 meeting were approved.

Chamber President, Iqbal Nurmohamed, introduced our guest speaker, Mr. Jeff Gibeau from the Town of Claresholm. Mr. Gibeau provided a handout with respect to the obtaining of business licenses and advised that he has been with the Town for the past six or seven years. His responsibility with respect to businesses includes investigating any complaints that are received and dealing with the obtaining of business licenses. Mr. Gibeau then outlined how the business license and development permit process co-exist.

He advised that the first step is to obtain a Development Permit and that the process is different between commercial and residential use. With respect to the commercial, a permit is required to ensure that the building is adequate for the purpose and the building may have been used for different purposes in the past. There are various steps that are required and that are mandated by the Land Use Bylaw, including circulation of notice. A decision, if the permit is rejected, can then be appealed to the Appeal Board. With respect to home based businesses, the procedure is somewhat similar to commercial developments, it must be ensured that the use is allowed under the discretionary use and it would be scrutinized carefully. The development process can take a considerable period of time and after it has been successfully obtained, a business license can be applied for, which generally takes one to two days. Jeff advised of the importance of making sure that Business Licenses are renewed because if you don't renew then you may have to go through the development process again. Jeff also advised that they receive some 15 to 18 applications for home occupancies per year. Change of use of a building applications range between 8 to 15 per year. He also advised that since 2011, the processing time for Development Permits have been cut by some 77%. Jeff indicated that the job can be demanding as he tries to streamline the regulatory process, but it can cause issues when he has to advise someone they cannot do what they would like to do.

The Chamber President, Iqbal Nurmohamed, then thanked Mr. Gibeau for attending.

Financial Report

Sue Gour indicated that as at October 15, 2013, the Chamber had \$20,547.00 cash, and we are in a good position.

Town Report

Betty Fieguth had indicated that she has not completed the letter to Alberta Health Services with respect to the ambulance, and the reason is Alberta Health Services has indicated they will provide a full-time ambulance and paramedic, and one full-time EMT ambulance to the Town. She also advised that there was an Open House held with respect to the Water Study and that new council will address that, and that the last council meeting was that evening, October 15, 2013.

MD Report

No one was in attendance.

EDA Report

Russell Sawatzky advised that no meeting has been held and there has not been a meeting for months.

Trade Fair 2014

Chloe Kilkenny has agreed to take over the Trade Fair Committee, which trade fair is scheduled for February of 2014.

New Business

Election Forum was held and Iqbal extended his thanks to the Local Press for co-presenting and advised that there was a good turnout of local citizens and extended his congratulations to all of the candidates.

Water Rate Study – Councilman MacPherson had presented a letter to the Chamber President, which was also going to be published in the local paper. Kris Holdbeck has advised that she would be prepared to come and speak to the Chamber. The highlights of the Water Rate Study were the proposed high increases. Doug MacPherson indicated that the government has been cutting back on grants, which again could change, and that the study brought to light various expenses that should have been previously allocated to water use. Doug MacPherson indicated that the Water Rate Study would be a long process, and that council was going to discuss it that evening at its meeting and would set up an ADHOC Committee, and that there would be public meetings.

President Nurmohamed indicated that all positions for Directors would be available and anyone who wanted to put their name in as a Director would be more than welcome. Directors would be

elected at the AGM, which is scheduled for the third Tuesday in January, and anyone wishing to put their name forward as a director can contact either the Secretary or President of the Chamber.

Next meeting will be held on November 19, 2013 at Putter's Restaurant.

On motion by Linda Petryshen, seconded by Damon Larkin, the meeting was adjourned at 1:15 pm.

**Minutes of the Claresholm and District Chamber of Commerce
held at noon on the 19th day of November, 2013
at Putters Restaurant**

Present

Linda Petryshen, Damon Larkin, Sue Gour, Wilf Gour, Mike McAlonan, Anita Wahl, Iqbal Nurmohamed, Betty Fieguth, Rod Dyrholm, Rob Vogt, June Dumont; Chloe Kilkenny, Tara Bishoff, Marilyn Curry, Penny Penner, Andrea Fletcher, Christina Giles, Lyal O'Neill, Steven Caswell, Alan Russell, Hayley Whelpton, Len Burchill, Roxanne Thompson

Meeting was called to order at 12:05pm by President, Iqbal Nurmohamed.

Additions/Changes to Agenda: The President added "Small Business Christmas Party" under New Business at item 10.

On motion by Chloe Kilkenny and seconded by Damon Larkin, and carried, the Minutes of the October 15, 2013 meeting were approved.

Wilf Gour introduced our guest speakers this afternoon, being Mayor Bill Robertson from the Town of Okotoks. Mr. Robertson is in his second term as Mayor and has had seven (7) terms on Council, and Mr. Shane Olson, who is the Economic Development Officer for the Town of Okotoks for the past eight (8) years. Mayor Robertson advised that the Town of Okotoks has been greatly affected by the City of Calgary's prosperity. Okotoks was the fastest growing community with a population between 10,000 to 100,000. Because of its growth it has been playing catch up with amenities and advises that to pay for the growth requires businesses in the community. They have been strongly promoting sports tourism and advise that sports facilities help to get people into the community.

Mr. Olson, spoke about the relationship and partnership between the Town of Okotoks and the Okotoks Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber used to run a lot of events in the community, and in the last six years the Town has begun to take over those activities, allowing the Chamber to network, advocate for businesses and help to educate businesses. The Chamber is in a position where it now locally funds itself through memberships and Mr. Olson advised that the Business Licenses in the community are re-invested into the community to help fund facilities. He also advised that there is a full time special events coordinator on staff with the Town. Mr. Olson provided a listing of five (5) recommendations for the community of Claresholm to try and encourage growth and also referenced the research and information services provided by Biz Pal, which is a government program free of charge. Both Mr. Olson and Mayor Robertson spoke about the Economic Development Conference which is held in Kananaskis in early April, and suggested it might be worthwhile for the Chamber to have representation there. We thanked them for their presentation.

Financial Report

Presented by Sue Gour and accepted.

Town Report

Presented by Mike McAlonan, who advised that Town Council is preparing a survey to send out with the next Utilities Statement, questioning the citizens of Claresholm as to what they like and don't like. It is anticipated that the results will be tabulated in the early New Year.

MD Report

Glen Alm was not present.

EDA Report

Russell Sawatzky was not present.

New Business

Directors – Anyone interested in putting their name forward to act as a Director, or to sit on the Executive should contact President, Iqbal Nurmohamed and advise, and all are welcome to apply.

Next Meeting – Instead of our regular general meeting, we have decided that we will have an Open House networking evening to be held December 17, 2013 with the venue and time to be announced.

Small Business Party – Putters is hosting a Small Business Party at their facility on November 30, 2013, starting at 6:00 pm, and the cost is \$20 per person.

Trade Fair

Chloe Kilkenny spoke about the Trade Fair and indicated that she has reached out to a number of individuals who have responded to assist her in organizing and running the Trade Fair. Headway is being made and it is anticipated that registration forms will be available on the website this week, and the Trade Fair, of course, runs February 7 and 8, 2014.

Mike Petrovic then thanked the Council members for showing up at the Chamber meeting.

On motion by Damon Larkin, seconded by Anita Wahl, and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 1:03 pm.



We would like to extend a huge “thank-you” to the Claresholm pool, and their welcoming staff. Thanks to your hospitality our Tigers swimmers were able to get in another six weeks of swimming that they otherwise would have missed out on this year, due to the flood, and the inaccessibility of our pool in High River. We truly appreciate your neighbourly gesture.

The Tigers Swim Club

general email

From: Bev Bellamy <mayorsandreeves@shaw.ca>
Sent: November-14-13 6:22 PM
To: mayorsandreeves@shaw.ca
Subject: M & R Minutes - November 1 meeting
Attachments: M & R Minutes November 1, 2013.pdf

Hello Mayors, Reeves and Invited Guests,

Attached are the minutes from the November 1 Mayors and Reeves meeting.

Three things you need to know:

Parking passes: If you are new and did not receive a parking pass at the November meeting, please park in the back of Lethbridge City Hall(entrance on Stafford Drive South)in the customer parking for the December meeting and you will not get a ticket. The parking passes for 2014 have been ordered and Karen from the Mayor's office will get them to us as soon as they are available.

January Meeting will be held on the first Friday of the month - January 3.

On Friday, February 7 the meeting will start at 1:30 pm as the room has been booked in the morning by another group.

As discussed at our meeting, please send your input regarding the future direction of the M & R association to Mayor Bohne (bohne@raymond.ca) for discussion at the December meeting.

Mayors and Reeves, if you have items you want included in the December agenda, please email them to me by November 28. (mayorsandreeves@shaw.ca)

Thanks!

Bev Bellamy, Recording Secretary
Mayors and Reeves of SouthWest Alberta
Phone: 403-320-8620
Cell: 403-380-8260



PRESENT:

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Mayor Tom Butler, Acting Chair | Village of Coutts | Reeve Brian Hammond | MD of Pincher Creek |
| Mayor Maggie Kronen | Town of Cardston | Reeve Brian Brewin | MD of Taber |
| Mayor Kim Craig | Town of Coaldale | Reeve Neil Wilson | MD of Willow Creek |
| Mayor Dennis Cassie | Town of Coalhurst | Dep. Mayor Ed Weistra | Village of Barons |
| Mayor Blair Painter | Crowsnest Pass. Mun. | Mayor Jordan Koch | Village of Glenwood |
| Mayor Rene Gendre | Town of Fort Macleod | Mayor Don McDowell | Village of Nobleford |
| Mayor David Hawco | Town of Milk River | Deputy Mayor Tyler Lindsay | Village of Warner |
| Mayor Wendy Jones | Town of Picture Butte | Reeve Fred Lacey | Cardston County |
| Mayor Don Anderberg | Town of Pincher Creek | Reeve Ross Ford | County of Warner |
| Mayor George Bohne | Town of Raymond | Mayor Chris Spearman | City of Lethbridge |
| Mayor Henk De Vlieger | Town of Taber | | |
| Mayor Thomas Grant | Town of Vulcan | Bev Bellamy | Recording Secretary |

Guests:

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Greg Weadick, MLA | Lethbridge West | Gary Bikman, MLA | Cardston-Taber-Warner |
| Ian Donovan, MLA | Little Bow | Bridget Pastoor, MLA | Lethbridge East |
| Bob Jones, Zone Rep | AAMD&C | Shannon Frank | Oldman Watershed Council |

1.0 ADDITIONS TO /APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Acting Chairman Mayor Tom Butler called the meeting to order at 1 pm, welcomed everyone and each person introduced themselves.

Moved by Mayor Kim Craig to adopt the agenda. **Carried.**

2.0 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

Moved by Mayor George Bohne to adopt the October 4, 2013 minutes. **Carried.**

3.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES - none

4.0 PRESENTATION

Shannon Frank, Executive Director, Oldman Watershed Council (OWC)

- Shannon gave an overview of the OWC and explained that any land area that drains into the Oldman River is in the Oldman River basin. This area goes up to High River, east to Grassy Lake, west to the British Columbia border and south to the United States.
- The OWC is set up under the Alberta Government Water for Life Strategy and is one of the 12 Watershed Planning Advisory Councils (WPACs) in Alberta.
- They are active in environmental education, for example the Yellow Fish Road program and encourage best management practices at home and on the farm. The four OWC Teams, made up of volunteer members, organize educational programs, tours and workshops.
- The Headwaters Action Plan is currently being developed to be used in the mountains and headwaters in our basin. This plan is focused on native fish and water quality, linear features density and aquatic invasive species with targets set for each. Communities will receive an invitation to attend the public meeting sessions.
- This work is linked with the South Saskatchewan Regional Plan meetings to be held in November and the OWC works closely with the provincial government, who provides core funding, while they rely on municipalities and irrigation districts to provide funding for on the ground programs.

- The OWC has requested two representatives for the Board of Directors from the Mayors and Reeves of Southwest Alberta – one representing the Towns and Villages and one representing the MD's and Counties. The City of Lethbridge OWC board rep is Doug Kaupp, Manager – Water, Wastewater and Stormwater.
- The OWC board is well represented by a variety of sectors, and these two additional board members will help them to hear the voice of community and stakeholders.

5.0 Elections for Chairman and Vice Chairman

Mayor Dennis Cassie nominated Mayor George Bohne for Chairman; seconded by Dave Hawco. **Carried.**

Reeve Brian Brewin nominated Mayor Tom Butler for Vice-Chairman; seconded by Mayor Don McDowell. **Carried.**

6.0 Reports

6.1 MP Reports – no report

6.2 MLA Reports

Gary Bikman, MLA Cardston-Taber-Warner

- Visited many communities throughout the summer and attended special events.
- Worked with MLA's in a meeting with Premier Redford and Minister Griffiths to help them realize the need for consultation with municipal leaders regarding Bill 28 and potential consequences if this bill went through. This legislation would have given the province more powers over regional board planning and the government has decided to put it on hold.
- It is important that the government consult with municipal leaders, especially in small rural communities. They need to have an equal say in their future and MLA's need to be able to represent the people who elected them.

Ian Donovan, MLA Little Bow

- Distributed copies of Bill 28.
- Municipal Government Act is supposed to be redone; it's good that AUMA and AAMD&C will review it and point out changes that need to be made.
- A task force of AUMA and AAMD&C has been organized to meet this Friday.
- Encouraged all to attend the AAMD&C and AUMA conventions.

Greg Weadick, MLA Lethbridge West

- Flooding has consumed his energy and time; there were over 10,000 applications in the program, each with significant claims. The process has worked well dealing with the individual claims and unique issues. Municipal councilors have done an amazing job in these circumstances.
- If individuals decide to keep their homes in a flood plain, they will need to have it flood-proofed; otherwise they will not be eligible for claims in the future.
- Bill 28 was brought in mainly for the Capital Region Board and if this bill had only been for this region, it would not have been a problem.
- Question was asked on bridge funding and if it will be reinstated; Greg is unsure, everyone will find out when the budgets are presented.
- Discussion on flooding and early warning systems, notification processes in floods and if protocol is being followed. Legislation on development in flood plains cannot be retroactive; it will need to be from this point forward.
- Greg completed the 911 calling report and it is on the Minister's desk.

- Alberta Health Services is moving ahead with their centralized ambulance dispatch plan and Greg has told the Minister's office that he does not support these changes, but he has been told this is a decision that is not within his area of responsibility.

Bridget Pastoor, MLA Lethbridge East

- Congratulations to all the elected officials; she is looking forward to working with you all.
- Bill 207 regarding organ and tissue registry was introduced as a Private Member's Bill by MLA Len Webber and was passed in the Legislature. This Act will see the creation of a provincial organ and tissue registry as well as a new agency to manage donations.
- CBC did an interview with Mayor Don Iveson, City of Edmonton regarding big city charters and provincial government partnerships.
- The Minister of Agriculture will speak on Country-of-Origin Labelling on Meat (MCOOL) in Banff.
- Encouraged all to attend the SSRP sessions. The public consultation dates have been advertised for these sessions.

6.3 Alberta Southwest Regional Economic Development Alliance Report – no report

6.4 SouthGrow – Mayor Maggie Kronen

- SouthGrow is visible at AUMA; a kit was available with information on renewable energy.
- Hired Meyers Norris Penny marketing to do a study to attract investment in this area.

6.5 AUMA – Mayor Kim Craig

- AUMA Convention to be held November 20 – 22 in Calgary. Many good sessions to attend. Halt of Bill 28 might have some effect on the resolutions presented at this convention. Chris Hatfield will be the keynote speaker on November 20.
- Mayors' Symposium will be held January 15-17 for new and returning Mayors and municipal government education sessions will be offered the end of January.

6.6 AAMD&C – Bob Jones

- Involved in the Municipal Government Act review; had meetings throughout the province on it.
- Did an aggregate review re sand and gravel. There is a lot less of it and the province wants to claim more of it. The further you have to haul it, the greater the cost.
- Met with opposition leaders to educate them about rural Alberta.
- At the AAMD&C convention there will be sessions on Councillor orientation.
- Be sure to attend the SSRP sessions; last chance to provide input.
- Attended flood symposium in Calgary; interesting discussions. Time to stop discussion and start work.
- 41% change in elected officials in Municipal Districts and Towns; this is a large change.

6.7 Associate Dean's Advisory Council – Mayor Tom Butler

- Fall meeting will happen in a few weeks.

6.8 Oldman Watershed Council

- Two appointments were made for the OWC board from the Mayors and Reeves. Reeve Brian Brewin, Municipal District of Taber will represent Counties and Municipal Districts; Mayor Blair Painter, Municipality of the Crowsnest Pass will represent Towns and Villages.

- 6.9 Southern Alberta Energy from Waste Alliance – Mayor Kim Craig**
- AGM will be held on November 29 at Nanton Community Centre; a meeting notice to be distributed on November 8 will include information on voting, election of directors and bylaw changes.
 - 2014 will be a pivotal year as development plans move forward.

- 6.10 Canadian Badlands Organization – Mayor George Bohne**
- CBO is moving ahead; there will be significant changes in the future. Working towards being more projects oriented with changes in the CBO structure. Need to move away from dependence on government grants.
 - Looking at moving into marketing the area rather than a “look and see what we’re doing” approach. Minister Starkey has bought into this change in focus.
 - Received a \$182,000 cheque to help tide things over.
 - Presently there are 65 municipalities that are part of this organization; need to keep them happy and continue working with them.
 - Conference is being planned for March or April 2014.

7.0 BUSINESS

Community Reports – received as verbal reports

Mayors and Reeves Future Action

- Chairman George Bohne asked the Mayors and Reeves to give thought and send input directly to him on how they would like to see this group move forward. He sees a need for the M & R to be more creative in what they do, become louder and more vocal on issues that affect our communities and be prepared to talk about what to do. This organization has strength and we need to determine our direction moving forward. Send your input via email to bohne@raymond.ca, to be discussed at the December meeting.

6.0 NEXT MEETING: Friday, December 6, 1 pm, Culver City Room, Lethbridge City Hall

- Bev will look into parking passes for new officials and advise.

7.0 ADJOURNMENT: 2:30 pm – Mayor Chris Spearman

Legislature Office
725 Legislature Annex
9718 – 107 Street
Edmonton, Alta
T5K 1E4
Tel: (780) 427-1707



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
ALBERTA

Livingstone Macleod Constituency
Pat Stier, MLA

Constituency Office
Suite A, 2109 – 20 Ave
Nanton, Alberta
T0L 1R0

Tel: 1-800-565-0962

Rural Ambulance System In Crisis

It's been nearly five years since the Alberta government began centralizing ambulance services away from municipalities and the front lines and it has been a disaster in rural communities ever since. Patients in communities across Alberta are certainly feeling the impact, where local ambulances are called out of the region, leaving entire communities underserved and vulnerable to risk. In Pincher Creek, response times for patients in need of urgent care spiked to almost 30 minutes at the end of 2012. In Airdrie, response times dived 33 per cent after the city's integrated service was dissolved in 2010.

In the spring, the Health Quality Council of Alberta released a report saying that changes in EMS services resulted in a loss of local community knowledge, a culture of mistrust and a perceived lack of resources to meet the needs of Albertans. Further, the Association of Municipal Districts and Counties (AAMD&C) in a report to members in March 2013, cited several areas of concern that remained to be addressed by AHS as listed by the Health Quality Council.

So far, the Health Minister's only solution to this ongoing crisis is to continue consolidation of dispatch services across the province.

Many municipalities disagree; – Desperately seeking a solution, several municipalities have banded together and have formed a Partnership for Rural Emergency Direction and have produced a report – “Red doc4”, February 2013. (www.ruralcommunityfirstresponders.com) That document provides a very thorough review of the current situation now provided by AHS (Alberta Health Service) and strongly advocates for changes in the current system, particularly in the “Centralized Dispatch” and “Inter Facility Transfer” subject areas.

Locally in another report ([Suburban Rural EMS Deployment Review](#)) by front line EMS Southern Alberta member George Porter, 14 issues of concern were noted with the current system. This report clearly points out that under the new rules it is not unusual for a patient in an emergency situation to be waiting for an ambulance that is tied up as a taxi for someone in another community for less than urgent reasons. It is clear that emergency rooms in our province are often clogged; – barely half of patients will be admitted into the ER within the province's own eight-hour benchmark, plus our EMS workers are left totally frustrated and immobile as

they wait for patients to be admitted. The report also includes 21 clear recommendations for improvement.

With these critical services at risk in communities across the province, it's time to act!

It's time to give our front line workers the resources they need to crack down on wait times in our ERs. It's time to ensure we stop the practice, where possible, of using ambulances as taxis. And it's time to give municipalities the freedom to contract and choose the best ambulance service for their local needs, instead of being dictated to from the Province.

As an MLA in Southern Alberta, these are the ideas that I will continue to bring to the government, and I can assure you, we will fight tirelessly to put Albertans first and fix these critical services we all rely on.



Pat Stier, MLA
Livingstone Macleod

Livingstone Macleod MLA Takes On Broken Ambulance Delivery System At The Legislature

EDMONTON, AB (November 1, 2013): This past week, Livingstone-Macleod MLA Pat Stier challenged the Alberta government on their failure to provide timely and effective EMS services for Albertans.

In the spring, the Health Quality Council of Alberta released a report saying that changes in EMS services resulted in a loss of local community knowledge, a culture of mistrust and a perceived lack of resources to meet the needs of Albertans.

“Ambulance wait times in many regions are hitting up to 45 minutes or longer,” Stier said. “Albertans deserve better. For a farmer who collapses in his field or a gardener experiencing sudden chest pain, a half hour truly means the difference between life and death.”

The Official Opposition cares about ambulance wait times and believes in decentralization, ensuring funding is flowing to front line services and stopping the practice of using ambulances as taxis for non-medically urgent interfacility transfers that are causing unnecessary use of EMS personnel.

VIDEO of MLA Stier's question in the Alberta Legislature:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wOtVI3Xc7ek&feature=youtu.be>



Photo by Rochelle Coffey - "Cow Moose in Snow Storm"

[OWC News at a Glance](#)

[On the Fundraising Front](#)

[Events & Activities in the Basin](#)

[Your Input is Needed!](#)

[2013 Conferences & Courses](#)

[Job Postings](#)

[In the News](#)

**OWC Headwaters Action Plan
feedback needed
- for more information
see below**

OWC News at a Glance

You're Invited



We need your feedback on the draft Headwaters Action Plan!

Over the past year and a half we have been working on a Headwaters Action Plan, as part of a larger integrated Watershed Management Plan, to address key issues along the Eastern Slopes of the Rockies in the Oldman watershed, the source of 90% of our water. To develop the plan we looked at the best available science through the Headwaters Indicators Project, worked with a Partner Advisory Network of willing stakeholders and held 17 Source to Tap community meetings with Water Matters.

The draft plan focuses on 3 indicators of headwaters health - native fish (a surrogate for water quality), linear features density and aquatic invasive species - and lays out targets the community wants to achieve in relation to those 3 indicators, actions needed to achieve the targets and recommendations to the Government of Alberta that will help achieve the targets.

Please review the [Executive Summary](#) or [Full Report](#) and provide your feedback at a meeting or through this [feedback form](#)

Please join us at one of the following locations:

Tonight! - Nanton Memorial Community Centre -
November 19

Cowley Community Hall - November 20

Lethbridge - Country Kitchen Catering - November 21

Agenda for all meetings:

5:30 - 6:30 pm Free Supper

6:30 - 6:45 pm Introductions

6:45 - 7:15 pm Presentation on the draft Headwaters Action Plan

7:15 - 8:30 pm Facilitated discussion and feedback

Please let us know if you're coming so we have enough food for everyone.

Email shannon@oldmanbasin.org or call 403-382-4239.

For directions and more information please visit www.oldmanbasin.org

OWC is seeking endorsements of the Headwaters Action Plan. If your organization is willing to endorse the plan please contact Shannon at 403-382-4239.

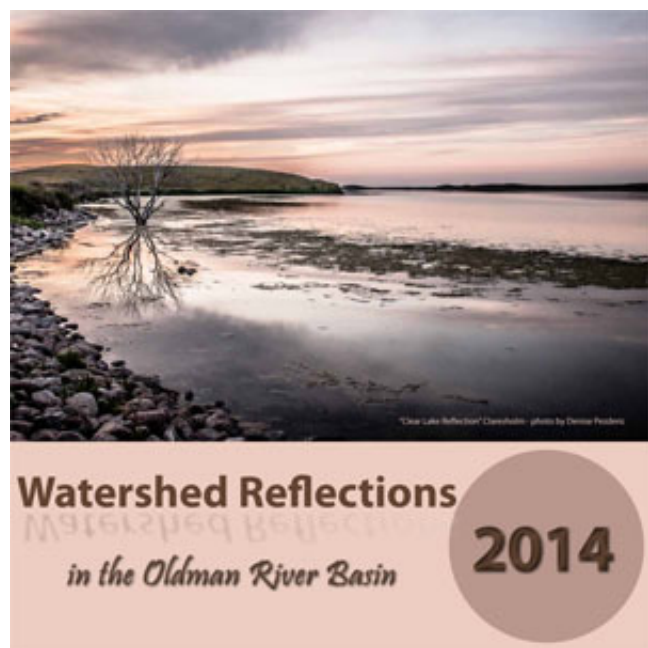
OWC Photo Calendar is now available to pre-order!

This calendar will be available the first week of December; please pre-order your copies by sending an email to bev@oldmanbasin.org.

Cost: \$15 each;
2 or more \$10 each.

To view a pdf of the photo calendar, [click here](#)

Thanks for your support!



A Sad Goodbye

Our friend and colleague Bob Phillips passed away unexpectedly and we will miss his optimism. Bob was always smiling and encouraging.

For the past five years he was the Executive Director of the South Eastern Alberta Watershed Alliance - SEAWA. He was a true watershed steward with a passion for conservation.

To send condolences or donate in his memory visit:

http://www.seawa.ca/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=313



Working together to improve habitat for the Westslope Cutthroat Trout

Last Friday OWC gals, Andrea Vaxvick and Leta Pezderic, spent the day with members from Cows and Fish, Lethbridge College, Trout Unlimited, MD of Crowsnest Pass, Agroforestry & Woodlot Extension Society, ESRD along with some passionate volunteers from the public, harvesting and planting Willow, Red Osier Dogwood and Balsam Poplar in an effort to restore a degraded section of creek bank along Allison Creek. This is prime habitat for the threatened Westslope Cutthroat Trout.



It was a terrific day – many thanks to all who came out – only trouble is we have to wait until the snow melts to see the results!

For more information on this bioengineering and Riparian Habitat Restoration project and others like it visit <http://www.cowsandfish.org> or contact Norine Ambrose nambrose@cowsandfish.org

On the Friendraising Front

Did you know?



It was National Philanthropy Day on Friday, November 15th!?

We at the OWC haven't missed it, we're just extending the celebration into this week! National Philanthropy Day is the chosen day to celebrate and recognize the people that volunteer their time and donate to making a difference to the environment and in people's and communities' lives.

And so, the Oldman Watershed Council would like to sincerely thank all of our volunteers and donors that make a positive difference for watershed health in the Oldman basin. Together we are making a difference and we could not be more thankful for your contributions!

We need your votes: Protect the Oldman's Rivers, Streams & Creeks!

We've got great news! We've been accepted into the Shell Fuelling Change grant competition to win \$50,000 for the Watershed Legacy Program. The money would be available for the program in the April 2014 - March 2015 fiscal year - but it's NOW until April, 2014 that we need your votes!

How do I vote?

Read and click the links below for more information on the Watershed Legacy Program and to donate directly to the OWC.

Support the Watershed Legacy Program (WLP) to protect your Oldman!

When farmers, ranchers and community groups are protecting water quality, they are protecting your Oldman watershed and you.

In the Oldman watershed, we all rely on the same waters that are protected through funds and technical assistance provided to watershed stewards by the OWC's Watershed Legacy Program (WLP).



"Taking care of riparian areas just makes sense to me"
Brian Hamilton, Watershed Legacy Program recipient



Off-stream watering

many different types of projects, including fencing and off-stream watering systems to protect riparian areas, weed pulls, bioengineering projects (using plants and other natural materials to stabilize riverbanks) to prevent erosion, educational tours to share beneficial management practices being used to protect water quality, and more. [Learn more.](#)

We can help the WLP help people protect the Oldman watershed by making a financial donation. Every bit counts. The OWC relies on donations from people like you - people who care about the health of the Oldman! [Learn more.](#)

[Make a Donation](#)

Events and Activities in the Basin

Water, Land Use & Climate Seminars by Sustainability Resources Ltd.
Climate Change, Water Balance, Modelling a RIVER and Transforming Municipal Flood Management

November 20th MacDougal Center Calgary 1 - 4:30pm

Alberta's Regional Land Use Plan Integrating Water and Land Use

November 27, Calgary 10 am - 3 pm

Sustainable Building & Urban Development Courses

November/December

For more information on the above courses, [click here.](#)

Climate Change, Hydrology, Risk, and Flood Mitigation for Municipalities Seminar

November 20, 1:00 - 4:30 pm, at McDougall Centre, Calgary

This seminar will include a review of the High River Flood Mapping initiative, hydrology modeling in the Sheep and Highwood River Systems, and provide insight into the role of Climate Change on our municipal land use bylaws. For details and to register, visit [this link.](#)



2013 Farming Smarter Conference - Lethbridge
December 3 - 4

Lethbridge Lodge, 320 Scenic Drive South

Price: \$225 Full conference pass (includes social)

Register: online or by calling Jamie at 403-381-5118

For more information or to register visit www.farmingsmarter.com



parkscanada.gc.ca parkscanada.gc.ca



Annual Waterton Christmas Bird Count

Saturday, December 14th, 2013



Sign up, choose an area and pick up your winter bird checklist at the [Waterton Firehall](#) Friday evening or Saturday morning.

Everyone Welcome!

Enjoy an hour or two of bird watching in your favorite area of the park! Help monitor the local bird population and add to Lethbridge Naturalists' Winter Bird count.

Share your sightings and your checklist at 2:30PM @ Waterton Lakes Lodge or Email your results within 7 days to dolman@uleth.ca

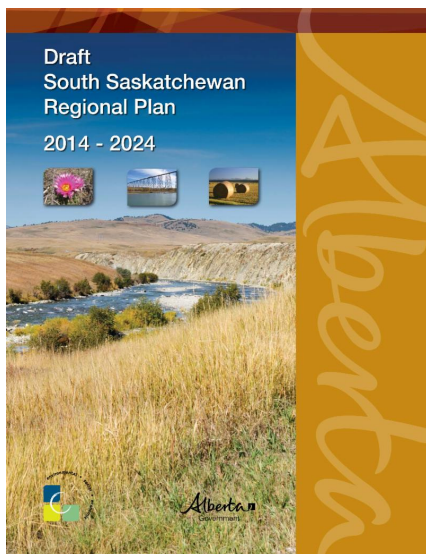
For more information, please contact Becky at Parks Canada



403-859-5107 or Becky.Mitchell-Skinner@pc.gc.ca



Your Input is Needed!



[Draft South Saskatchewan Regional Plan](#)

Draft South Saskatchewan Regional Plan has been released

The Government of Alberta is looking for your feedback on the (2013) for southern Alberta. From November 5 through November 28, public information sessions and stakeholder workshops will be hosted in 18 locations in southern Alberta and in Edmonton, Red Deer and Drumheller.

Provide your comments through an [online workbook](#) or print and complete the [Discussion Guide - Draft South Saskatchewan Regional Plan Workbook](#) (2013). All the information is at

<https://landuse.alberta.ca/Newsroom/Pages/PublicConsultations.aspx>.

Alberta's Irrigation - A Strategy for the Future

Irrigation has an important role in Alberta's agriculture sector and supports nearly 20 per cent of Alberta's agricultural gross domestic product. Alberta Irrigation - A Strategy for the Future will help

Agriculture and Rural Development ensure long-term needs of the irrigation industry are met. This strategy will continue to support the industry's ability to pursue economic opportunities and contribute to vibrant rural communities.

The Irrigation Strategy was developed to align with the water management and environment stewardship outcomes outlined in the South Saskatchewan Regional Plan, and the Irrigation Strategy will continue to evolve along with the South Saskatchewan Regional Plan. View the full Irrigation Strategy and submit your feedback at www.agriculture.alberta.ca/irrigation

CABREE's Oil Sands Market Frictions Survey

You are being asked to be in this survey because of your involvement and knowledge in Alberta's Oil Sands. The results of this survey form part of wider studies on Market Frictions in the Oil Sands. The survey results will be gathered, analyzed and then shared with the wider studies in a workshop hosted in 2014.

[Click here](#) to complete the survey.

2013 Conferences

The Power of Water - November 25-27



Alberta Irrigation Projects Association 2013 Conference Lethbridge Lodge Hotel

[Click here](#) to see the session headings and speaker list.

Crown Managers Partnership Forum

"Climate Change Adaptation in the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem"

March 17-19, 2014, Missoula, Montana (University of Missoula)

CWRA Alberta Branch Annual Conference

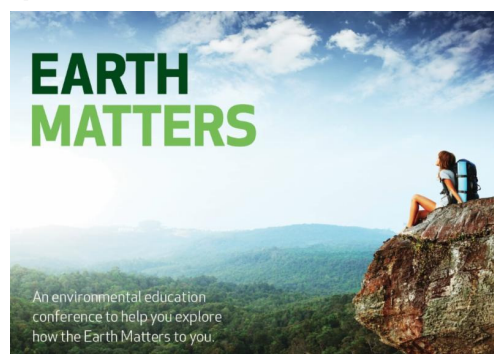
2013 Alberta Floods: The Rains, Response, Recovery & Resiliency

March 23-25, 2014, Calgary, AB

All conference proceeds after expenses will be donated to a flood relief charity. The determination of the charitable organization to receive the proceeds is underway, with the intent is to find an organization in the community providing continued relief at the time of the conference. We are striving to raise in excess of \$30,000.

Earth Matters Environmental Education Conference

April 24 - 26, 2014, Canmore



A conference to help you develop your community of practice - and explore how the Earth Matters to you. Featuring keynote speakers Ziya Tong, Daily Planet co-host and Gordon Stenhouse, Grizzly bear expert

Join us this Spring in the Rocky Mountains! We'll provide inspirational speakers, relevant workshops, and help you develop your community of practice as you explore how the Earth Matters to you.

The first 100 registrants pay just \$225 - which includes the meal package!

Register: <http://abcee.org/conference>

Questions? Email conference@abcee.org or phone 403-831-8638

Land Use 2014

May 7 and 8, 2014 in Edmonton

Job Postings and Grant Opportunities

The **Alberta Water Council** is currently seeking applications for the position of Senior Manager. A summary of the position is available [here](#). Qualified candidates, please send your confidential cover letter including CV by November 25 to careers@awchome.ca.

The **Canadian Water Network** is adding two members to their team! The network is looking for a Senior Manager (visit [this link](#) for details) and a Communications Coordinator (details at [this link](#)). Applications for the Senior Manager position are being accepted until December 2. Applications for the Communications Coordinator position are being accepted until December 6.

The **Red Deer River Watershed Alliance Society** is seeking a qualified professional to serve as its Executive Director. Resumes are being accepted prior to November 18. For details, visit <http://www.rdrwa.ca/node/1>.

The **Alberta Conservation Association's** grant programs annually support a variety of small and large projects that benefit Alberta's wildlife and fish populations, as well as the habitat they depend on. For details on their 2014-15 programs, please visit [this site](#).

In the News

Furniture Giant IKEA buys Alberta wind farm

Calgary Herald, November 14

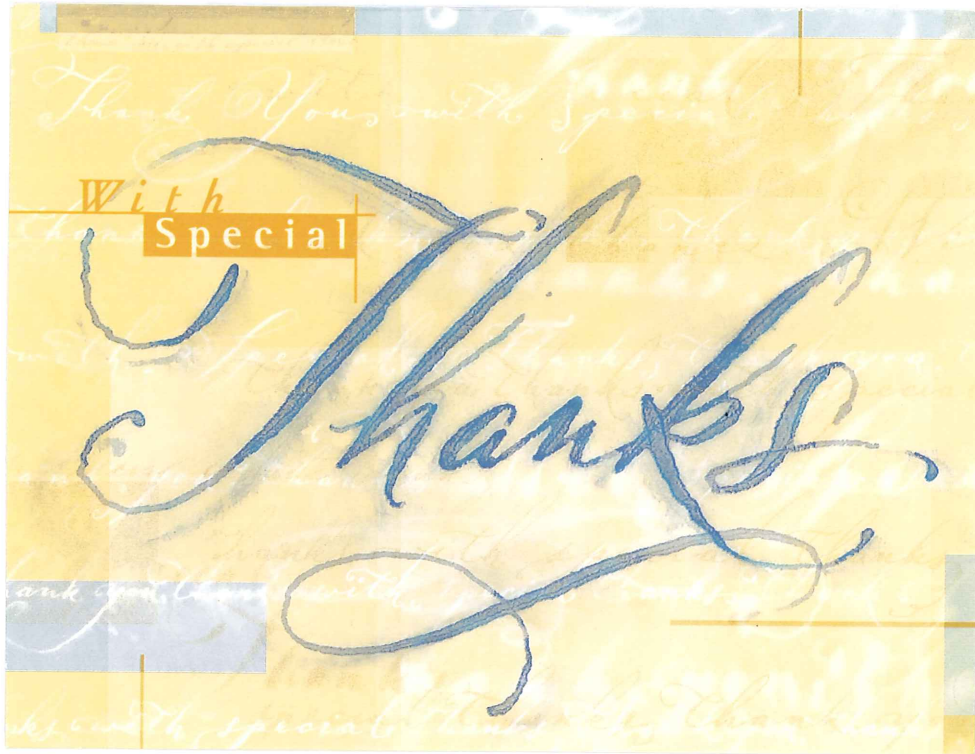
Furniture giant IKEA Canada announced today it has purchased a 46 MW wind farm near Pincher Creek, Alberta in an effort to reduce its environmental footprint - [read more](#)

Operation Grassland Community's new film just released!

The [Conservation Caravan film](#) highlights the "real life" on the prairie as it pertains to stewardship in ranching. Not often do urban consumers think about how grazers can be used as a tool to enhance biodiversity, maintain landscape health, care for wildlife, and help support a functioning prairie ecosystem. However, this stewardship isn't "free" to implement and therefore needs our support.

The **Government of Alberta** recently announced more than **\$37 million in funding for bank stabilization of rivers and creeks**, repairs to property or infrastructure damaged by floods or erosion, and mitigation works such as dikes and berms. Approved projects include Calgary (five projects on the Bow River) at \$12.6 million and High River (2 projects on the Highwood River) at \$2.2 million. To view this news release, visit [this link](#).

The **Alberta Water Council** has published a series of fact sheets to showcase key learnings from recently completed projects: [Water Conservation, Efficiency and Productivity](#), [Non-Point Source Pollution](#), [WFL Partnerships](#), and [WFL Implementation Review](#).



Town of Clareholm 2013 Nov 10

Boy overdue: Thank you, and Thanks
to Joy at Centennial Park, for helping us
and letting us stay at your campground for
the month after the flood here. We have
lived in Clareholm before - your gesture
proves the truth of our memories of Clareholm
as a great little town!! Thank you!!

Way + Gorky
Wheeler

209 - 11 Ave SW, High River AB
T1V 1A6