Agricultural Service Board Meeting
AGENDA

Wednesday, March 13, 2019
9:00 AM
Council Chambers
County Administration Building

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. MINUTES APPROVAL

3.1 Agricultural Service Board Meeting Minutes, Friday, December 14, 2018

4. REPORTS

4.1 Director of Agricultural Services Report from December 14, 2018 to March 13, 2019 - Report
Stephen Majek

4.2 Sustainable Agriculture Report for December 14, 2018 to March 13, 2019 Meeting - Report
Kim Barkwell

5. DELEGATION - 10:00 A.M. - Doug Macaulay, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry

5.1 Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Presentation & Discussion with Agricultural Service Board - Report

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.1 Agricultural Service Board Program Review - Report
Josh Bishop

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Weed Notice Process - Report
Stephen Majek

7.2 2019 Farm Family Awards - Report
Stephen Majek

7.3 Class 1 Driver Requirements for Farmers – Letter from Brazeau County - Report
Stephen Majek

7.4 Farm Safety Centre – Funding for 2019 - Report
Stephen Majek
8. INFORMATION ITEMS

8.1 Recycling Pilot Tackles Agricultural Waste - Report

8.2 Agricultural Bursary Thank You Correspondence - Report

8.3 ALUS Information Item - Report

Stephen Majek

Stephen Majek

Kim Barkwell

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

10. ADJOURN
Call to Order

The Agricultural Service Board meeting for the County of Wetaskiwin No. 10 was called to order by Chairperson J. Bishop in the Council Chambers, of the County of Wetaskiwin Administration Office, commencing at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, December 14, 2018.

Attendance

Present were:

Assistant County Administrator
- Jeff Chipley

Board Member
- Garth Parker
- Mike Schmidt
- Stephan Dewald
- Bill Krahn
- Josh Bishop
- Lyle Seely
- Ken Adair

Director of Agricultural Services
- Stephen Majek

Recording Secretary
- Carmen Reimer

Staff
- Naomi Finseth, Municipal Intern
- Kim Barkwell, Sustainable Agriculture Coordinator

Approval of Agenda

Resolution #AS20181214.1001
MOVED: by Board Member K. Adair that the Agenda be accepted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

Minutes Approval

Resolution #AS20181214.1002
MOVED: by Board Member G. Parker to approve the minutes for the Agricultural Service Board Organizational Meeting, Friday, November 2, 2018 meeting as presented.

Carried Unanimously

Resolution #AS20181214.1003
MOVED: by Board Member L. Seely to approve the minutes for the Agricultural Service Board Meeting, Friday, November 2, 2018 meeting as presented.

Carried Unanimously

Director of Agricultural Services Report

Mr. Stephen Majek, Director of Agricultural Services, provided the following report:

"There is only one Seasonal ASB Staff that has not returned to school or left employment with the County of Wetaskiwin and they will be employed until the end of December.

Administration has booked rooms and registered the Delegates for the 2019 Agricultural Service Board Conference in Calgary.

Strychnine sales were slow again this year. Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) posted a ninety (90) day review period for the public to comment on strychnine. This review period has ended."
PMRA has not provided an official position on the review and its future plans for strychnine.

Beaver Control has been fairly active so far this year with over one hundred and eighty (180) beaver and twenty-six (26) dams being breached from problem locations throughout the County.

The Roadside Mowing Program was completed on October 22nd.

Four (4) Weed Inspectors were hired to inspect properties for Noxious and Prohibited Noxious Weeds throughout the County.

Rental equipment had been used by several producers, especially skunk traps.

The Roadside Spraying Program was completed on August with spray crews spraying broadleaved herbicides for Noxious Weeds, Prohibited Noxious Weeds, Brush, and Sweet Clover.

Administration has completed the changes and updates to the Agricultural Service Board Strategic Business Plan and is prepared to present it to Council.

Through the Strategic Planning process, Administration was to investigate the cost of additional staff for enforcement of the Weed Control Act. This has been completed.

Administration has been completing Building Maintenance projects and helping Utilities, PW and Parks complete various projects within their respective Departments.

Administration recommended that the Agricultural Service Board approve the Director of Agricultural Services Report as presented.

Resolution #AS20181214.1004
MOVED: by Board Member G. Parker that the Agricultural Service Board approve the Director of Agricultural Services Report as presented.

Carried Unanimously

The Horticulturist Report was as follows:

Activities

- **November 2, 2018** Growing From Here Conference, Nisku Inn, Nisku
  - Disruption In Farming Panel
  - Art Sinclair - International Trade Policies & Export
  - Dr. Stanford Blade, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, Life, and Environmental Sciences: The Future of Farming
  - Ryan Jespersen, 630 CHED, Political Climate Commentary
  - Prof. David Hughes, International Expert: Dr. Food

- **November 5, 2018** - Anti-Microbial Legislation, Glen Park Hall (assisted Sustainable Agricultural Coordinator, Kim Barkwell)
  - Dr. Keith Lehman, Chief Provincial Veterinarian reported on the new legislation regarding access to medications and client/veterinarian relationships.
  - Deborah Wilson, Senior VP of BIX Systems updated on Sustainable Beef and the Canadian Beef Sustainability Acceleration Pilot.

- **November 21, 2018** - Conference call with Alberta Farm Fresh Producers Association and Alberta Market Garden Association
working group for Regional Farm To Market Conference in February. Planning underway for a two (2) day conference at the Nisku Inn.

- **November 23, 2018 - JEDI Ag. Forum Wayside Inn, Wetaskiwin**
  - Ross Foulston, Veterinarian, gave a presentation on the new Anti Microbial Legislation that is effective immediately.
  - Dan Orchard, Agronomy Specialist, Canola Council of Canada (Central Alberta North) reported on clubroot statistics, clubroot resistant varieties of canola, and the importance of cleaning equipment.
  - Reg Shandro, Farmacist, stressed the need for estate planning for the functioning family and the next generation.
  - Bernie Grumpelt, Nutritionist, Wetaskiwin Co-op, spoke on new feeds available at their facility.
  - Harry Brook, Crop Specialist, Alberta Agriculture, reported on the growth of herbicide resistance in weeds & integrated weed management.
  - Shannon Argent, Technology Manager, Olds College, data measurement plan to measure your beef operation’s performance.
  - Mike Hittinger, Stewardship Extension Specialist, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, highlighted what is available through the Canadian Agriculture Partnership (CAP) and the Farm Energy & Agri-Processing (FEAP) Programs.
  - Barry Yaremco, Beef / Forage Specialist, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, discussed winter feeding options.
  - Don MacDonald, Vice President of Operation, G3 Canada Ltd., gave a presentation on their new grain handling facility that is under construction south of Wetaskiwin.

- **November 27, 2018 - Working Well Workshop, Telford Hall.**
  Thirty-two (32) individuals were in attendance.

### Mountain Pine Beetle Update

Five (5) sites have been confirmed for mountain pine beetle so far. Two (2) more have been reported in the Alder Flats area and Administration is waiting for pictures in order to identify, flag trees, and make a field assessment. The Tree Canada ReLeaf Program closed on October 31, 2018 and therefore, Administration called to explain to Tree Canada the serious spread of the insect movement and inquired if the program would be extended or renewed. Tree Canada responded the next day to offer $12,000.00 ($6,000.00 for Leduc County and $6,000.00 for County of Wetaskiwin). It was suggested that $1,000.00 be offered to the first six (6) applicants and Administration will submit the names and the funds will be held by the Program Manager until the growing season with a deadline of June 28, 2019. The applicants must purchase at least one (1) two inch (2”) caliper tree and the remainder can be spent on other trees or shrubs, labour to remove, chipping, tree bags, mulch, or other expenses.

Administration recommended that the Agricultural Service Board approve the Horticulturist Report as presented.

**Resolution #AS20181214.1005**

MOVED: by Board Member S. Dewald that the Agricultural Service Board approve the Horticulturist Report as presented.

**Carried Unanimously**

The Sustainable Agriculture Report was as follows:

**Sustainable Agriculture Report**

(Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) and EFP Operations Committee)

- In person EFP workshops November 19 and November 26, 2018. A total of five (5) farms and one (1) 2018 Nuffield scholar from
Canterbury, New Zealand participated.

**Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) – Partnership Advisory Committee (PAC)**

- November 14, 2018 - Central Region Agricultural Service Board Conference - “ALUS in Our Region” presentation with Christine Campbell in Wetaskiwin.
- November 15, 2018 - ALUS PAC Meeting. Two (2) members did not wish to serve another term. Therefore, the ALUS PAC will require two (2) new producer members in January 2019, one (1) from Leduc County and one (1) from the County of Wetaskiwin.
- November 27, 2018 - 2019 Target Acre Projections.

**Activities**

- November 1, 2018 - ‘Farm to Market to Table Conference’, which was a conference call.
- November 5, 2018 - Antimicrobial Regulations for Livestock Workshop at Glen Park Hall was held in the evening with forty-seven (47) attendees.
- November 8, 2018 - Cold Climate Resiliency Workshop in New Norway.
- November 14, 2018 - ASB Regional Conference in Wetaskiwin.
- November 15, 2018 - ALUS PAC Meeting in Wetaskiwin.
- November 19, 2018 - EFP Workshop held in Leduc County where one (1) farm attended.
- November 20, 2018 - Land Evaluation and Site Assessment (LESA) workshop held in Leduc County.
- November 21, 2018 - ‘Farm to Market to Table Conference’, which was a conference call.
- November 22, 2018 - Water and Agriculture Conference in Crossfield.
- November 23, 2018 - JEDI Agricultural Forum in Wetaskiwin.
- November 26, 2018 - EFP Workshop held in the County of Wetaskiwin where four (4) farms attended.
- November 27, 2018 - Assisted Horticulturist with the Working Well Workshop held at Telford Hall where forty (40) individuals attended.
- November 30 – December 10, 2018 - Vacation.

Administration recommended that the Agricultural Service Board approve the Sustainable Agriculture Report as presented.

**Resolution #AS20181214.1006**

MOVED: by Board Member L. Seely that the Agricultural Service Board approve the Sustainable Agriculture Report as presented.

**Carried Unanimously**

The 2018 Municipal Budget was completed and approved at the April 17, 2018 Budget meeting.

(Ref. Resolution #CG20180417.0004)

According to the Strategic Plan for Business Unit 6200, Agriculture Services, Actions 1.6.1.1 through 1.6.1.5 state “Effectively manage the finances and resources of Agriculture Services Administration, Pest Management, Water Management, Vegetation Management, and Producer Awareness”. Therefore, the following Project Costing Report is presented for review by the Agricultural Service Board.

Major highlights of the Project Costing Report were as follows:

Currently, the overall budget is $120,000.00 below budget. However, the overall budget will be close to projections as the December
expenses, which will mainly be salaries, have not been expensed.

AG00120 (Program Planning)

Currently under budget by $3,000.00 and will remain under budget at year-end, as no producer weed identification workshop was hosted.

AG00130 (Horticulture)

Currently under budget by $47,000.00 but the invoice from Leduc County has not been received. This project will be at budget by year-end.

AG00131 (Demonstration Rain Garden)

Currently over budget by $7,500.00. The County is expecting a Grant to pay for most of the costs with the costs of the County being just for labour.

AG00202 (Training Sessions)

Currently over budget by $3,200.00 due to additional training for staff.

AG00220 (Roadside Spraying)

Currently under budget by $35,000.00 and will remain under budget due to salaries, benefits, and equipment charges.

AG00230 (Weed Control Inspections)

Currently under budget by $24,000.00 and will remain under budget due to equipment and salaries.

AG00250 (Brush Control)

Currently is over budget by $17,000.00 due to salaries and benefits, supplies, and equipment. Historically, equipment, salaries, and benefits have been coded to Roadside Spraying.

AG00301 (Roadside Mowing)

Currently is over budget by $46,000.00 due to equipment, supplies, salaries, and benefits.

AG00401 (Beaver Control)

Currently is over budget by $11,000.00 due to equipment charges and salaries.

AG00701 (Administrative Expenses)

Currently under budget by $96,000.00 due to salaries, benefits, and equipment costs.

A copy of the full Project Costing Report was provided for review by the Agricultural Service Board.

Administration recommended that the Agricultural Service Board
approve the Agricultural Services Project Costing Report as presented.

**Resolution #AS20181214.1007**

MOVED: by Board Member L. Seely that the Agricultural Service Board approve the Agricultural Services Project Costing Report as presented.  
Carried Unanimously

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**ASB Strategic Planning Actions**

(New Business)

(File #: 1002-00-00)

On November 2, 2018, the Agricultural Service Board members attended a Strategic Planning Session. During the Strategic Planning Session, the board reviewed the core services, core outcomes, and actions. The board noted a few changes, which are as follows:

- **Action 4.2.2.5 change to:**
  - Up to 5 bursaries in the amount of $1,000, to be given out yearly; applicants may only receive bursary once.

- **Action 4.2.2.8 remove:**
  - Review options for Agricultural Service Board to increase producer engagement.

- **New Action:**
  - Investigate options and cost to rent Agricultural equipment in the western portion of the County.

- **Action 4.2.1.1 remove:**
  - Develop a spray program for private land on a cost recovery basis and present to Council.

- **Action 4.2.1.3 change to:**
  - Hire additional staff to increased Enforcement for Weed Control, including follow-up.

These changes are proposed to be implemented moving forward as the Agricultural Service Board believed they were of importance regarding the level of service provided by the County of Wetaskiwin.

Administration is looking to confirm the actions of the Agricultural Service Board Strategic Planning Session in order for the actions to be presented by the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Board at the December 18, 2018 Council General meeting.

Options for Consideration by the Agricultural Service Board are:

1. That the Agricultural Service Board accept the 2018 Strategic Planning Session actions as presented and that the actions be presented by the Agricultural Service Board Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson at the December 18, 2018 Council General meeting.

2. That the Agricultural Service Board accept the 2018 Strategic Planning Session actions as information and advise County of Wetaskiwin Council that the Strategic Plan for the Agricultural Service Board remains status quo.

3. That the Agricultural Service Board provide amendments to the 2018 Strategic Planning Session actions and that the actions be presented by the Agricultural Service Board Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson at the December 18, 2018 Council General meeting.

Administration recommended that the Agricultural Service Board accept the 2018 Strategic Planning Session actions as presented and that the actions be presented by the Agricultural Service Board Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson at the December 18, 2018 Council General meeting.

**Resolution #AS20181214.1008**

MOVED: by Board Member M. Schmidt that the Agricultural Service Board accept the 2018 Strategic Planning Session actions and present the actions at the December 18, 2018 Council General meeting.
The Agricultural Bursaries Policy #62.1.1 (6221) was reviewed and amended to make the Policy current in content and formatting.

This Policy was created in 2000 by Resolution Ref. Page 2000/4C. There were a few changes made to this Policy, the most significant being as follows:

- amended: "three (3) $750.00 to "up to five (5) $1,000.00 agricultural bursaries"
- addition of wording: "Applicants may only receive a bursary once from the County of Wetaskiwin."
- amended: "ASB Committee" to "Agriculture Service Board"

The Policy Statement will now read: Annually, up to five (5) $1,000.00 agricultural bursaries will be made available by the County of Wetaskiwin to any qualifying applicant who wishes to attend a postsecondary institution in a faculty relating to agriculture. Applicants may only receive a bursary once from the County of Wetaskiwin.

A copy of the Policy with changes marked, as well as a final clean copy of the proposed amended Policy was provided for review by the Agricultural Service Board.

Administration recommended that the Agricultural Service Board approve the proposed amendments to Agricultural Bursaries Policy #62.1.1 (6221) as presented and forward to County of Wetaskiwin Council for review and final approval.

**Resolution #AS20181214.1009**

MOVED: by Board Member B. Krahn that the Agricultural Service Board approve the proposed amendments to Agricultural Bursaries Policy #62.1.1 (6221) as presented with one additional housekeeping change and forward to County of Wetaskiwin Council for review and final approval.

Carried Unanimously

At the November 2, 2018 Agricultural Service Board Meeting the Board resolved that Board Members J. Bishop, B. Krahn, M. Schmidt, S. Dewald, G. Parker, K. Adair, and S. Majek, Director of Agricultural Services be approved to attend the 2019 Provincial ASB Conference from January 15-18, 2019 in downtown Calgary. (Ref. Resolution #AS20181102.2010)

It has come to the attention of Administration that the 2019 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference which is usually scheduled for the third week in January, has been instead scheduled for the fourth week in January. The Conference will be held from January 21-24, 2019 at the Hyatt Regency Calgary.

Accommodation has been booked for all approved board members at the Hyatt Regency in Calgary, from January 21-24, 2019. Should Board Members be unable to attend the Conference on the actual confirmed dates in the fourth week of January, Administration does have the ability to cancel the accommodations at no cost to the County of Wetaskiwin.

A copy of the agenda is provided for review by the Agricultural Service Board. A general overview is as follows:

- Day 1 - Monday, January 21
  - 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Registration, Reception and Light Supper

Day 2 - Tuesday, January 22
- 6:30 a.m. to 8:15 p.m.
  - Coffee and Breakfast
- 8:30 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.
  - Speakers, Resolution Session, Coffee Breaks and Lunch

Day 3 - Wednesday, January 23
- 6:30 a.m. to 8:15 p.m.
  - Coffee and Breakfast
- 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
  - Speakers, Resolution Session, Coffee Breaks and Lunch
- 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
  - Cocktails, Banquet, Awards, and Charity Auction

Day 4 - Thursday, January 24
- 6:30 a.m. to 8:15 p.m.
  - Coffee and Breakfast
- 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
  - Speakers

There are two options for parking, which are provided for the information of the Agricultural Service Board.

Administration recommended that the Agricultural Service Board accept the date change and the additional information regarding the 2019 Provincial ASB Conference being held in downtown Calgary from January 21-24, 2019 as presented.

Reeve T. Van de Kraats entered the meeting at 9:18 a.m.

Resolution #AS20181214.1010
MOVED: by Board Member S. Dewald that the Agricultural Service Board accept the date change and the additional information regarding the 2019 Provincial ASB Conference being held in downtown Calgary from January 21-24, 2019 as presented and that Administration register and book accommodations for Board Member L. Seely.

Carried Unanimously

There are six (6) resolutions that will be presented at the 2019 ASB Provincial Conference:

1. Resolution 1-19 - Loss of 2% Liquid Strychnine
2. Resolution 2-19 - Wildlife Predator Compensation Program Enhancement
3. Resolution 3-19 - Deadstock Removal
4. Resolution 4-19 - Carbon Credits for Permanent Pasture and Forested Lands
5. Resolution 5-19 - Multi-Stakeholder Committee to Work at Reducing the Use of Fresh Water by the Oil and Gas Industry in Alberta
6. Resolution 6-19 - Step Program Agricultural Eligibility

These resolutions were passed at the 2018 ASB Regional Conferences. Should there be any questions about the resolutions, the Provincial ASB Committee Representative can be contacted by Administration to gather additional information.

Administration recommended that the Board receive the Resolutions
that will be presented at the 2019 ASB Provincial Conference as information.

General discussion ensued on the Deadstock Removal resolution and some of the background.

A request was made that additional information be provided on the Plant Breeder Rights for the Boards review.

Reeve T. Van de Kraats left the meeting 9:32 a.m.

Resolution #AS20181214.1011
MOVED: by Board Member K. Adair that the Board receive the Resolutions that will be presented at the 2019 ASB Provincial Conference as information.

Carried Unanimously

ALUS Information Item
(Information Items)
(Issue #20181129003) File #: 1444-00-00

The ALUS e-newsletter titled The Post, November 2018: Looking Back on a Season of Growth is provided for review by the Agricultural Service Board.

Administration recommended that the Agricultural Service Board accept the ALUS e-newsletter titled: The Post, November 2018: Looking Back on a Season of Growth as information.

Resolution #AS20181214.1012
MOVED: by Board Member S. Dewald that the Agricultural Service Board accept the ALUS e-newsletter titled: The Post, November 2018: Looking Back on a Season of Growth as information.

Carried Unanimously

Next Meeting Date

Resolution #AS20181214.1013
MOVED: by Board Member B. Krahn that the date of the next Agricultural Service Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 13, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

Carried Unanimously

Adjourn

Resolution #AS20181214.1014
MOVED: by Board Member B. Krahn that the meeting adjourn at 9:44 a.m.

Carried Unanimously

__________________________________________________
CHAIRMAN

__________________________________________________
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

MINUTES APPROVED:

Ref: Resolution #
Director of Agricultural Services Report from December 14, 2018 to March 13, 2019 -Report

Meeting Date (Report Reference Only): 2019/03/13

Meeting (Report Reference Only): Agricultural Service Board

Background

Mr. Stephen Majek, Director of Agricultural Services, provided his Director of Agricultural Services Report from December 14, 2018 to March 13, 2019, which is as follows:

"Seasonal Staff for 2019 have been hired with several staff returning from last year. New to the County in 2019 will be three Weed Inspectors, one mower operator, and one groundskeeper. Most of the staff will start on May 1, with the exception of the Mower Operators, who start June 1, and one spray crew member, who starts on April 1.

The Service Board attended the Provincial ASB Conference in Calgary in January where the focus was on mental health, market trends, and soil health.

Strychnine has been ordered for the 2019 season, which may be the last year to get strychnine based products for ground squirrel control. Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has not provided an official position on the review and its future plans for strychnine.

Rental equipment has been serviced and is ready to be used by producers.

Administration completed the changes and updates to the Agricultural Service Board Strategic Business Plan and presented it to Council in December.

Administration has completed some Building Maintenance projects such as updating condenser coils for new air conditioning units to be installed in the spring for the Administration Building and completed construction of 30 picnic tables and 10 outhouses for Parks Department.

The Horticulturist for Leduc County is retiring effective March 29, 2019. The County of Wetaskiwin has an agreement with Leduc that expires December 31, 2020. The County of Wetaskiwin pays approximately $47,000 per year as part of the agreement. Leduc County is exploring their options for a new Horticulturist to fill the current position. They are also investigating the reorganization of the position and having someone for Leduc County only.

Administration has compiled information regarding weed notices from several municipalities which will be talked about later on the agenda.”

Recommendations
Administration recommends that the Agricultural Service Board approve the Director of Agricultural Services Report as presented.

**Recommended Resolution**

that the Agricultural Service Board approve the Director of Agricultural Services Report as presented.
Background

The Sustainable Agriculture Report is as follows:

Alberta Agriculture has requested that their programs be promoted and the following is an overview of the programs.

**Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP)**

Environmental Stewardship and Climate Change Producer Program – New Changes in Effect February 13, 2019

- Funding now available for Commercial Manure Applicators – apply for specific manure application equipment and other items related to improved land application of manure.
- Innovative category – definition clarified, new application form and eligible expenses retroactive to April 1, 2018.
- Revision to “in-kind contribution rule”: caps increased from 25% to 50% for riparian fencing and shelterbelt establishment projects.

**Farm Water Supply**

- Still seeking applications. Require an approved Long Term Water Management Plan before proceeding with project.
- Funding for new wells, dugouts, indirect watering systems on man-made structures and more.
- Special incentives for well decommissioning, well pit conversions

Producer Available Government Programs outside CAP also seeking applications:

**Farm Energy and Agri-Processing Program (FEAP)**

- Farm Energy and Agri-Processing Program (FEAP): December 1, 2018 – March 31, 2019 updated funding list with new items. Funding list subject to change after March 31, 2019.
• New items include, but not limited to: circulation pumps, grid-tied batteries, tire pressure control systems, onboard vehicle load scales.

• Program also includes insulation for new builds and existing buildings.

• This program has some retroactivity to April, 2016.

**Farm Health and Safety Producer Grant Program (2018-2021)**

• For farmers and ranchers with waged, non-family workers and a WCB account.

• 50% cost share on eligible expenses.

• Maximum of $5000 per fiscal year and $10,000 for life of program.

**On Farm Solar Photovoltaics**

• Still accepting applications.

• Grid Tied, Micro-Generation.

• Retro-active to April 15, 2017.

**Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) and EFP Operations Committee**

• Committee input on modifying questions and interactive, online display.

• Update requirement, and perhaps the recent cold weather, have continued area increase in online enrollment. Environmental Farm Plan activities accounted for 10% of Sustainable Agriculture Coordinator time in 2018.

**Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) – Partnership Advisory Committee (PAC)**

• Advertised for new PAC members. Filled County of Wetaskiwin vacancy and calling potential Leduc County producers.

• Participant annual maintenance payments processed.

• Year-end reporting required by ALUS Canada completed.

• Advertisements submitted to the Leduc Representative as a Leduc County producer representative is still required for the PAC. Efforts to date highlight the need for improved ALUS brand recognition in our communities.

• At January 28, 2019 PAC meeting, committee agreed to move ahead with a ‘Multi-Criteria Decision Mapping Process’ facilitated by the GIS department of the Environmental Stewardship Branch of Alberta Agriculture and Forestry. First workshop is scheduled for the afternoon of March 13, 2019.

• Some project inquiries from recent advertising campaign.
Activities

- EFP reviews and support. In person, producer assistance with Long Term Water Management plans and FEAP application reviews.

- Workshop planning. Including multiple conference calls for Farm to Market to Table Conference.

- Training on BookKing Program for online workshop registration.

- Alberta Conservation Association – Conservation, Community, and Education Grant submission (to support ALUS projects).


  
  - The Environmental Approvals System (EAS) is the Government of Alberta’s vision to manage all approvals under all the enactments in one place. The Alberta Energy Regulator developed OneStop, a technology framework for online applications. Alberta Environment and Parks has adapted OneStop to their purposes. After testing in limited regions last fall, all Water Act approvals, amendments and code of practice will be going through the OneStop, online application system starting January 18, 2019. Water licenses do not fall under the new system.

- January 19, 2019 – Beginner Bee Workshop, Nisku Recreation Centre


- January 28, 2019 – ALUS PAC meeting, County of Wetaskiwin.

- February 21, 2019 – Farm Agreements Workshop, Nisku Recreation Centre, 49 attendees.

- February 28, 2019 – March 1, 2019: Farm Market Table Conference, Nisku Inn, approximately 150 attendees.


Recommendations

Administration recommends that the Agricultural Service Board approve the Sustainable Agriculture Report as presented.

Recommended Resolution
that the Agricultural Service Board approve the Sustainable Agriculture Report as presented.
Background

At the August 22, 2018 Agricultural Service Board (ASB) meeting, the Agricultural Service Board resolved that a meeting be set up with Doug Macaulay, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, at the 2019 Provincial ASB Conference to discuss the von Arx weed issue and other ASB topics of concern. (Ref. Resolution #AS20190822.1003)

Administration decided it would be more beneficial to invite Mr. Macaulay to an Agricultural Service Board meeting due to the hectic schedule of Mr. Mcaulay at the 2019 Provincial ASB Conference and that having him at a meeting will allow for more fruitful discussion to occur. Mr. Macaulay will be in attendance to provide information regarding the Weed Control Act and to answer any questions that the Board may have.

Recommendations

Administration recommends that the Agricultural Service Board accept the presentation made by Mr. Doug Macaulay on behalf of Alberta Agriculture and Forestry as information.

Recommended Resolution

that the Agricultural Service Board accept the presentation made by Mr. Doug Macaulay on behalf of Alberta Agriculture and Forestry as information
Background

At the November 2, 2019 Agricultural Service Board meeting, the Board was advised that Agriculture and Forestry was beginning a review of the Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Program starting in the fall of 2018. The goal of the review is to verify previously identified issues, identify any new issues, and identify potential solutions to improve the effectiveness and impact of the ASB grant program. At the November 2, 2019 meeting, the Board resolved to appoint Chairperson J. Bishop and Vice-Chairperson M. Schmidt to participate in the regional sessions once the locations, dates, and times for these sessions are set. (Ref. Resolution #AS20181102.2011)

Chairperson J. Bishop and Vice-Chairperson M. Schmidt both attended a session on February 14, 2019 in Lacombe. Administration asked Chairperson J. Bishop to provide a report on the session, which was provided as follows:

"Mike and myself joined other ASB members from central region as well as A.F. staff to conduct a program review session.

The program's mandate is to:

- support rural development
- manage risk to agriculture
- environmental stewardship
- maintain market access

There are pressures and changes stemming from:

- Social/Demographics
- Technological
- Economical/Financial
- Political

Alberta's agricultural exports are now over $5.4 billion and market access is crucial for sustainability. Our surveillance and inspection programs are vital in maintaining market access. Businesses are attracted to our system due to its reliability and assurance checks."
There was a reoccurring theme throughout the process and that was a need for education and communication and our role as an ASB.

With the increasing use of social media we are seeing how important it is to be involved in the narrative as misinformation spreads at an astounding rate. Education will be key and we need to adopt a proactive approach rather than having to keep reacting to the negative light that is cast upon agriculture in increasing frequency.

My group focused on the Social and Demographics related pressures faced by agriculture today. At the end of the day, each group presented their findings to the whole group and we had further discussion on the top issues.

There is an increase in interest towards how our food gets to the table and there is a big push from younger, urban, consumers to have this information. Here are some efforts we can use to position ASB's to succeed.

1. We need to be stronger advocates.

In order to compete with, and in some cases combat against, special interest groups who professionally lobby the government. Our voice can be drowned out by all the noise these groups can generate and we need to make sure we are heard.

2. Social Media/Trends

We have seen how quickly a picture can spread via social media and a narrative develops without all of the facts. The oil sands is an example for us to learn from, the oil companies were slow to react to the criticism and as a result had to spend millions to show how well they reclaim the land. The public still do not even realize that they are actually in fact cleaning up a natural oil spill and doing the environment a favour. Attacks on our industry will increase in the current culture shift that is happening.

- accusations of inhumane handling and living conditions
- safety of the food
- gmo/antibiotic/hormone
- ever-changing Canada Food Guide based on the latest social trends or loudest advocates
- Carbon tax disproportionately affecting rural, not to mention that it is entirely political and not evidence based.
- the zero cow movements.

3. Education is the key

The only way to effectively insure ourselves is to educate the public with that facts. This will include both urban and rural and there is an increasing need to educate the urban about rural sustainability because that is where all the food comes from. The graphic about hormone levels comes to mind, most people only know the narrative provided thanks to certain fast food chains, but the majority of people do not even know the truth that hormone injected beef has less hormone on the plate than broccoli!
So how are we to accomplish these efforts? One example is from Starland County, they are hosting a screening of the film called "Before the Plate" to help start the conversations. It will be provided free to the public. "Starland County is proud to host this event to help better connect the modern consumer with their food, and bust common myths about modern farming"

Another avenue is our resolutions, they can be brought forward from multiple associations for maximum exposure. Council, ASB's, RMA, Societies. Policy takes time and advocacy will speed it up especially when there are many organizations attacking the same issue it will inevitably rise to the top of the priorities. Letters to MLA's and Ministers further the cause and keeps our priorities front and center. Educating the policy makers from an AG perspective can be done through simple things like farm tours.

Take action.

"Take action" is really the most important step and probably the step that has been missing. Everyone sort of knows what we need to do but for some reason we keep talking about it and not acting.

- provide funding for the education component and develop a communications strategy with our goals in mind. One county has hired a school resource officer to teach about agricultural issues.
- encourage producers to host farm tours and help organize more uptake in the communities. Expand what we are already doing.
- host events such as "before the plate" to educate the public.
- create a policy environment that is business friendly. We do not want to regulate the small operation right out of business.
- think bigger. We may look at joining with other organizations to put on a bigger and better event much like the ASB conference that anyone can come to featuring similar speakers. It has been said many times that "other people need to hear this".

Highlights from some of the other presentations:

- utilize your "key contact" - key contacts are a free resource from the department of A.F. who provide support services and expertise in various fields.
- It was noted it is a very under-utilized service and I can attest I have never seen one. There are ASB's who have their key contact come to every meeting. Some prefer to go at it alone, but why not use another expert? You can request a key contact in a specific area of expertise.
- We need to do a better job of getting the information from conference back to the public.
- telling our story accurately.”

Recommendations

Administration recommends that the Agricultural Service Board accept the report from Chairperson J. Bishop on the Agricultural Service Board Program Review Session as information.

Recommended Resolution
that the Agricultural Service Board accept the report from Chairperson J. Bishop on the Agricultural Service Board Program Review Session as information.
Weed Notice Process - Report

Meeting Date (Report Reference Only): 2019/03/13

Meeting (Report Reference Only): Agricultural Service Board

Background

Through previous discussions by the Agricultural Service Board, Administration was requested to complete research on the Weed Notice process and timelines/deadlines utilized by other rural municipalities. Administration has contacted surrounding municipalities and the following information was obtained:

Strathcona County
- Issue weed notices in the growing season, but wait for plants to be growing prior to issuing a notice.
- Work with landowner to prevent having to issue a notice.
- Issued 1,000 notices per year.
- Had one (1) notice appealed in the past decade with no court appearances.

Sturgeon County
- Issue weed notices in the growing season.
- Work with landowners to prevent having to issue a notice.
- Seventy-nine (79) weed notices issued in 2018 and 130 friendly letters.
- No appeals with no court appearances as well.

Leduc County
- Issue weed notices in the growing season.
- Weed notice issued after two (2) or three (3) years of trying to work with the landowners.
- No appeals with no court appearances as well.

Camrose County
- Issue weed notices during the growing season.
- Work with landowners prior to issuing a notice.
- Perform custom spraying at a reduced cost for herbicide.
- No appeals with no court appearances as well.

Ponoka County
- Issue weed notices during the growing season.
- Work with landowners prior to issuing a notice.
• No appeals with no court appearances as well.

**Red Deer County**
- Issue weed notices during the growing season.
- Will send letters in the fall to producers stating that they are going to be weed noticed in the following year.
- No appeals have been made.

**Parkland County**
- Issue weed notices during the growing season.
- Will send a reminder letter to producers who have an enforcement date upcoming.
- No appeals have been made, but one (1) court case has occurred.

**Brazeau County**
- Issue weed notices during the growing season.
- Issued fifteen (15) weed notices in 2018 with only one (1) actually enforced.
- No appeals with no court appearances as well.
- Rebate program is moving from thirty percent (30%) to sixty percent (60%) coverage in 2019 with no maximum amount.

In respect of the information acquired from neighbouring municipalities, Administration is concerned about issuing notices during the non-growing season (winter) due to the following reasons:

• Potential for more appeals as producers could state no weeds are currently growing in the winter.
• The difficulty in determining whether a producer sprayed for weeds prior to the onset of winter.
• The difficulty in determining whether the producer worked (broke) the pasture or hay meadow as winter makes it difficult to determine with snow on the field.
• Difficulty in guaranteeing that weeds are on the property during the conditions of winter.

**Alternatives**

Options for Consideration by the Agricultural Service Board Include:

1. That the Agricultural Service Board accept the details outlining the process neighbouring municipalities utilize for weed notices as information.
2. That the Agricultural Service Board direct Administration to issue Weed Notices to property owners during the month of January of each year.
3. That the Agricultural Service Board provide Administration with direction on how to move forward with the Weed Notice process.

**Recommendations**
Administration recommends that the Agricultural Service Board accept the details outlining the process neighbouring municipalities utilize for weed notices as information.

**Recommended Resolution**

that the Agricultural Service Board accept the details outlining the process neighbouring municipalities utilize for weed notices as information.
Background

Correspondence was received from Northlands Agriculture dated March 1, 2019 regarding the 2019 Farm Family Awards.

Northlands is proud to once again partner with BMO for the 2019 BMO Farm Family Awards. Since 1969, farm families from Northern and Central Alberta have been recognized by Northlands with this prestigious honour. The County of Wetaskiwin is eligible to nominate a family in 2019.

The Agriculture Industry is an essential industry in Alberta and Northlands recognizes outstanding farm families with the Farm Family Awards, presented by Alberta Motor Association.

The objective of the Farm Family Awards is to recognize outstanding farm families in an area north of Township 34 (Red Deer). The Farm Family Awards honour those who best exemplify the value of the family farm to our rural communities and society by being leaders in the industry. When nominating a Farm Family, municipalities are encouraged to equally consider farming business practices and community involvement. As a note, a Farm Family is considered to be the immediate family currently involved in the family farm operation.

Families are hosted at a gala dinner at Northlands and are recognized for their contributions to the farming community and the agricultural industry. This year, The BMO Farm Family Awards Ceremony will take place during Farmfair International on November 9, 2019 at the Edmonton Expo Centre.

At the March 6, 2007 Council General meeting, Council approved that the rotation system for recognizing future farm families. (Ref. Page #2007/80C)

The rotation system the County of Wetaskiwin follows for recognizing farm families is as follows for the next three (3) years:

2019 - Division 3
2021 - Division 6
2023 - Division 1
This year, the rotation falls for Division 3 to nominate a family for the Farm Family award.

The Submission deadline is May 31, 2019.

**Recommendations**

Administration recommends that the Agricultural Service Board direct Administration and the Division 3 Councilor discuss potential candidates to be nominated for the 2019 Farm Family Awards and that the candidate is selected from Division 3 in accordance with the rotation set out by Council in 2007.

**Recommended Resolution**

that the Agricultural Service Board direct Administration and the Division 3 Councilor discuss potential candidates to be nominated for the 2019 Farm Family Awards and that the candidate is selected from Division 3 in accordance with the rotation set out by Council in 2007.
March 1, 2019

Reeve Terry Van de Kraats  
County of Wetaskiwin  
Box 6960  
Wetaskiwin, AB T9A 2G5

Dear Reeve Van de Kraats,

Northlands is proud to once again partner with BMO for the 2019 BMO Farm Family Awards. Since 1969, farm families from Northern and Central Alberta have been recognized by Northlands with this prestigious honour. All rural municipalities north of Red Deer are eligible to nominate a deserving farm family on either an odd or even year. The County of Wetaskiwin is eligible to nominate a family in 2019.

This year, the BMO Farm Family Awards Ceremony will take place during Farmfair International on November 9, 2019 at the Edmonton Expo Centre. Further details will be forwarded to you closer to the date. Each municipality is invited to send a representative and guest to this event.

I have included a hard copy of the application, which was also emailed to smajek@county.wetaskiwin.ab.ca on March 1, 2019. Completed applications are to be returned to Northlands by May 31, 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 780 471 7246 or ksekurazagar@northlands.com with any questions.

Regards,

Kimberly Sekura-Zagar  
Agriculture Coordinator

cc. Stephen Majek
Submission Guidelines & Nomination Form

County/MD Name: ____________________________

November 2019
Edmonton EXPO Centre

Submission Deadline: Friday, May 31, 2019
THE FARM FAMILY – Leaders in the Industry

The objective of the Farm Family Awards is to recognize outstanding farm families in an area north of Township 34. The Farm Family Awards honor those who best exemplify the value of the family farm to our rural communities and society by being leaders in the industry.

Note: The Farm Family is considered as the immediate family currently involved in the family farm operation.

To be eligible for nomination, the Farm Family must meet the following criteria. Please check off each characteristic as you confirm their validity.

The Farm Family must:
- Be an active farm family unit where agriculture is the major source of income

The Farm Family should:
- Increase awareness of agriculture and maintain a high standard in their agriculture business
- Promote the agriculture community through involvement and rural citizenship
- Be proactive in new agricultural technologies
- Act as a role model to the rural community
- Be deserving based on equal recognition of agricultural and community involvement

Please use the following to assess Farm Family Awards candidates. There are two criteria – THE FARM and THE COMMUNITY. Local conditions may suggest additional selection criteria, however these are the basic ones to be considered. Each of the two criteria should receive equal weight when making a decision.

THE FARM FAMILY

Please ensure that the information is correct before submission and it is the direct contact information for the family.

Name of Farm or Farm Unit: ____________________________

Primary Farm Partner 1: ____________________________
  Last Name: ____________  First Name: ____________

Primary Farm Partner 2: ____________________________
  Last Name: ____________  First Name: ____________

Primary Farm Partner 3: ____________________________
  Last Name: ____________  First Name: ____________

E-Mail Address: ____________________________  Phone: ____________________________

Mailing Address: ____________________________  City/Town: ____________________________

Province: ____________________________  Postal Code: ____________________________

Farm Website (if applicable): www. ____________________________

Names of immediate family members actively engaged in the current farming operation:

<table>
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<th>Full Name: (First/Last)</th>
<th>Relationship</th>
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<th>Gender: (MF)</th>
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</tbody>
</table>

Please ensure that the information is correct before submission and it is the direct contact information for the family.
Be sure to consider the WHOLE FAMILY CURRENTLY FARMING, not just one member. Describe the following in detail. Additional information may be added on separate pages. DEADLINE: Friday, May 31, 2019.

ABOUT THE FAMILY

Each year, farm families from North/Central Alberta communities are selected as the recipients of the Farm Family Awards. These awards recognize families who best represent the values of the family farm within their rural community.

Tell us about the family on this application form and how they demonstrate these values within your community.

Please provide a short family bio (300 words max). Please include this as a separate TYPED document.

Include information such as the history of the farming operation, length of time in the community, how the family acts as models in the community, and how the family spends time together.
Nomination Form

THE FARM

Type of Farming Operation: ____________________________________________________________

Scale of Operation (# of acres, head, etc.): ____________________________________________

Use of modern farming practices & technologies (please give examples):

Soil conservation practices (please give examples):

Involvement in self-improvement programs (e.g. extension courses, 4-H programs, short courses, etc.):

General appearance / upkeep of farmstead (Buildings, Machinery, Yard/Driveway):

Any additional information:
ORGANIZATIONS & SPECIAL PROJECTS

Please list family members involved, positions, responsibilities, and length of membership. Include involvement in any business, government, agriculture, church, youth, or service clubs, associations, and groups.
AWARDS

Please list any awards won and include year and name of recipient. Include awards in relation to business, government, agriculture, church youth or service clubs, associations and groups.
FAMILY NOMINATION FORM

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

GATE SIGN

In the event that this family is chosen as a Farm Family Award recipient, please indicate the EXACT wording and correct spelling (Family or Farm Name) they would like on their gate sign. Only one line of print allowed. Print size will vary with the number of letters requested. Please select only one format.

Example Gate Sign: FAMILY NAME

Example Gate Sign: FARM NAME

PLEASE PRINT GATE SIGN NAME AS IT WILL APPEAR ON THE SIGN:

LOCAL MEDIA

A news release will be mailed following the announcement of the Farm Family Awards recipients. Please list the exact name of the major local paper or other relevant publications serving the Farm Family area. An email address must be included.

Publication 1:

Contact:
Phone:
E-Mail:

Publication 2:

Contact:
Phone:
E-Mail:

Publication 3:

Contact:
Phone:
E-Mail:

M.L.A.

Please list your current Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) & Member of Parliament (MP).

AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD

This application is submitted by

Service Board Name:

Contact:
Address:
Phone:
E-Mail:

Signature, Chairman Agriculture Service Board:
FAIRMAMILY
AWARDS Nomination Form

COMPLETION CHECKLIST

Please ensure you have included all of the following information in this nomination form:

☐ The Farm Family
☐ The Farm
☐ The Community
☐ About the Family
☐ I have attached a Family Bio (300 word maximum)
☐ Additional Information

☐ I give Northlands permission to send me information regarding Northlands events and promotions.

I hereby certify that I have confirmed the above information and that it is true to the best of my knowledge.

County/MD Rep __________________________ Signature __________________________ Date ____________

Family Rep __________________________ Signature __________________________ Date ____________

CONTACT

Please email the completed application to Kimberly Sekura-Zagar at ksekurazagar@northlands.com

Or completed applications can be sent via mail to:

NORTHLANDS
Northlands Agriculture
Suite 132, 2593 Broadmoor Blvd
Sherwood Park, AB T8H 0G1
Attention: Kimberly Sekura-Zagar

Kimberly Sekura-Zagar
Phone: 1.780.471.7300
Toll Free: 1.888.800.7275
E-Mail: ksekurazagar@northlands.com

Deadline: May 31, 2019
farmfairinternational.com
Class 1 Driver Requirements for Farmers – Letter from Brazeau County - Report

Meeting Date (Report Reference Only): 2019/03/13

Meeting (Report Reference Only): Agricultural Service Board

Background

The County of Wetaskiwin received a letter from Brazeau County Agricultural Service Board Chairperson Sara Wheale dated February 20, 2019 regarding Class 1 Driver Training Requirements for Farmers that was addressed to the Honourable Brian Mason, Minster of Transportation.

The letter reads as follows:

"On behalf of the Brazeau County Agricultural Service Board (ASB), we are writing to request that agricultural producers be exempt from the Class 1 commercial driver training requirements. Agriculture is one of Brazeau County’s key industries with 655 farm operators reported in the 2016 census. The ability to get their products to market is essential for all 57,605 of Alberta’s producers. The new Class 1 driver training requirements are an added cost and time commitment for producers looking to obtain their class 1 license. Margins and time are already tight for agricultural producers.

We understand and agree that the safety requirement for Class 1 drivers licensing is of utmost importance for all of our citizens, however, we feel the requirement should not be the same for commercial drivers compared to agricultural producers due to the distance and frequency differences in the industries.

Saskatchewan has provided an “F” exemption for farmers on their Class 1 licenses. Brazeau County’s ASB encourages the Ministry of Transportation to implement a similar exemption for Alberta’s agricultural producers.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.”

Administration notes that they have not been able to gather any further information regarding this matter, except for what was provided by Brazeau County in their letter to Minister Mason.
Alternatives

Options for Consideration by the Agricultural Service Board include:

1. That the Agricultural Service Board accept the letter received from Brazeau County addressed to the Minister of Transportation regarding Class 1 Driver Training Requirements for Farmers as information.
2. That the Agricultural Service Board approve writing a letter to the Minister of Transportation regarding Class 1 Driver Training Requirements for Farmers.

Recommendations

Administration recommends that the Agricultural Service Board accept the letter received from Brazeau County addressed to the Minister of Transportation regarding Class 1 Driver Training Requirements for Farmers as information.

Recommended Resolution

that the Agricultural Service Board accept the letter received from Brazeau County addressed to the Minister of Transportation regarding Class 1 Driver Training Requirements for Farmers as information.
February 20, 2019

The Honorable Brian Mason  
Minister of Transportation  
6519-112 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5W 0P1

Dear Minister:

RE: Class 1 Driver Training Requirements for Farmers

On behalf of the Brazeau County Agricultural Service Board (ASB), we are writing to request that agricultural producers be exempt from the Class 1 commercial driver training requirements.

Agriculture is one of Brazeau County’s key industries with 655 farm operators reported in the 2016 census. The ability to get their products to market is essential for all 57,605 of Alberta’s producers. The new Class 1 driver training requirements are an added cost and time commitment for producers looking to obtain their class 1 license. Margins and time are already tight for agricultural producers.

We understand and agree that the safety requirement for Class 1 drivers licensing is of utmost importance for all of our citizens; however, we feel the requirement should not be the same for commercial drivers compared to agricultural producers due to the distance and frequency differences in the industries.

Saskatchewan has provided an “F” exemption for farmers on their Class 1 licenses. Brazeau County’s ASB encourages the Ministry of Transportation to implement a similar exemption for Alberta’s agricultural producers.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Sara Wheale  
Brazeau County ASB Chairperson

SW/dm

cc: Oneil Carlier, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry  
Mark Smith, MLA for Drayton Valley-Devon  
Brazeau County Council  
Alberta’s Agricultural Service Boards
The Alberta government, in a rare positive response to a concern of agriculture organizations, extended the March 1 deadline by which farm workers were to receive mandatory semi-trailer truck driver training and testing. The new date is March 1 2020. Farm groups pointed out there was not enough time before the start of the peak spring season.
Farm Safety Centre – Funding for 2019 - Report

Meeting Date (Report Reference Only): 2019/03/13

Meeting (Report Reference Only): Agricultural Service Board

Background

Correspondence was received on January 9, 2019 from the Farm Safety Centre regarding funding for 2019.

During 2018 a total of 52,007 children in the rural and remote regions of Alberta received in-class Safety Smarts messages. The generosity of many Albertans continued to make this unique extension effort possible. In 2018, more than 290 entities made cash contributions to support this historically successful farm safety initiative and the Farm Safety Centre is grateful for each and every dollar donated. Fifty-nine (59) of these contributions came from Alberta’s Counties and Municipal Districts (MD’s).

2018 was not an easy year, with the tightening economy impacting both corporate and government contributions. The Farm Safety Centre acknowledged with sadness that was necessary to contract delivery efforts in 2018 to match funds available, so some children were missed. The Farm Safety Centre followed the motto taught by many grandparents “Use it up – Wear it Out – Make it do – Or do without. Farm Safety anticipates renewed reach (60,000+) in 2019 as a long awaited source of grant funding is expected soon.

The continued commitment of Counties and MD’s across Alberta kept the Safety Smarts program viable this last year. The Farm Safety Centre requests that sincere thanks be given to each Agricultural Service Board. The Farm Safety Centre’s budget realities make it impossible for Farm Safety to support all requests, and therefore are hopeful that the County of Wetaskiwin may again have funds available to support program delivery in 2019.

The Farm Safety Centre’s 2019 request, based on 2018 delivery to 2,224 children at $3.50 per student, is $7,784.00.

Each contribution, of any amount, is greatly appreciated and the Farm Safety Centre acknowledges the generous contributions received from the County of Wetaskiwin in previous years.

The power of the Safety Smarts program comes from consistent, reinforced, face to face sharing. Hundreds of rural schools allow time for this program each year because they hear of
the close calls and near misses and recognize the importance of their students receiving consistent best practice safety messaging.

The Farm Safety Centre indicated that investing in our children now is a wise investment in the future. Influencing their personal attitudes and actions as they grow and mature will pay significant dividends as they move forward and become the decision makers of tomorrow.

Regarding the request made by the Farm Safety Centre, Administration notes that funding to the organization is already covered under the Grants to Organizations Policy #12.3.2 of the County of Wetaskiwin. As per Policy #12.3.2, the Farm Safety Centre Safety is currently provided $2,600.00 annually for the Safety Smarts Program.

**Recommendations**

Administration recommends that the Agricultural Service Board accept the request for funding from the Farm Safety Centre as information as funding for the Farm Safety Centre is already covered under the Grants to Organizations Policy #12.3.2 of the County of Wetaskiwin.

**Recommended Resolution**

that Council approve the Agricultural Service Board accept the request for funding from the Farm Safety Centre as information as funding for the Farm Safety Centre is already covered under the Grants to Organizations Policy #12.3.2 of the County of Wetaskiwin.
January 9, 2019

Steve Majek – Agricultural Fieldman
County of Wetaskiwin
Box 6960
Wetaskiwin, AB T9A 2G5

Steve:

During 2018 a total of 52,007 children in the rural and remote regions of Alberta received in-class Safety Smarts messages. The generosity of many Albertans continued to make this unique extension effort possible. In 2018 more than 290 entities made cash contributions to support this historically successful farm safety initiative and we are grateful for each and every dollar donated. (see enclosed list) Fifty nine of these contributions came from Alberta’s Counties & MD’s. (record enclosed)

2018 was not an easy year, with the tightening economy impacting both corporate and government contributions. We acknowledge with sadness, that it was necessary to contract our delivery efforts in 2018 to match funds available, so some children were missed. We followed the motto taught by many of our grandparents “Use it up – Wear it out – Make it do – Or do without. We anticipate renewed reach (60,000+) in 2019 as a long awaited source of grant funding is expected soon.

The continued commitment of Counties and MD’s across Alberta kept the Safety Smarts program viable this last year. Please pass on our sincere thanks to your ASB’s. While your own budget realities make it impossible to support all requests, we are hopeful that the County of Wetaskiwin may again have funds available to support program delivery in 2019.

Our 2019 request, based on 2018 delivery to 2224 children @ $3.50/student, is $7784.00 (see enclosed delivery details)

Each contribution, of any amount, is greatly appreciated and we acknowledge the generous contributions received from the County of Wetaskiwin in previous years.
All contributions are recognized under "Supporters" on our website – abfarmsafety.com

The power of the Safety Smarts program comes from consistent, reinforced, face to face sharing. Hundreds of rural schools allow time for this program each year because they hear of the close calls and near misses and recognize the importance of their students receiving consistent best practice safety messaging.

Investing in our children now is a wise investment in the future. Influencing their personal attitudes and actions as they grow and mature will pay significant dividends as they move forward and become our decision makers of tomorrow.

Thank your ASB for considering our 2019 request. Their interest in a strengthened and safe rural Alberta is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Laura Nelson
Executive Director
Farm Safety Centre
## 2018 "Safety Smarts" Delivery

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<th>MD/County Name</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Classes</th>
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89  2224  $3.50  $7,784.00
### Farm Safety Centre

#### Safety Smarts

**Rural Municipality School & Student Totals**

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Total 2006 contributions – from 1 County/MD $ 1,000
Total 2007 contributions – from 6 Counties/MD’s $ 5,100
Total 2008 contributions – from 2 Counties/MD’s $ 3,000
Total 2009 contributions – from 3 Counties/MD’s $ 4,500
Total 2010 contributions – from 29 Counties/MD’s $ 51,370
Total 2011 contributions – from 20 Counties/MD’s $ 41,986
Total 2012 contributions – from 40 Counties/MD’s $ 80,529
Total 2013 contributions – from 46 Counties/MD’s $ 96,725
Total 2014 contributions - from 49 Counties/MD’s $103,042
Total 2015 contributions – from 53 Counties/MD’s $112,104
Total 2016 contributions – from 54 Counties/MD’s $121,613
Total 2017 contributions – from 56 Counties/MD’s $127,907
Total 2018 contributions – from 59 County/MD’s $129,916
# 2018 Contributions

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<td>East Raymond Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>October 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fountain Tire</td>
<td>July 23</td>
<td>Standoff Colony Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>October 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EQUS REA Ltd.</td>
<td>August 3</td>
<td>Suncrest Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>October 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal District of Foothills</td>
<td>August 7</td>
<td>Wintering Hills Colony Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>October 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairview Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>August 9</td>
<td>Old Elm Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>October 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm Credit Canada— (Alberta offices)</td>
<td>September 19</td>
<td>Cameron Farms Colony Ltd.</td>
<td>October 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal District of Peace</td>
<td>September 21</td>
<td>Green Acres Colony Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>October 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elmspring Farming Company Ltd.</td>
<td>October 3</td>
<td>Miami Colony Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>October 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verdant Valley Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>October 3</td>
<td>Milford Colony Farming Company Ltd.</td>
<td>October 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brant Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>October 4</td>
<td>Neudorf Colony Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>October 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairview Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>October 4</td>
<td>Holt Colony Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>October 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverbend Colony Farms Ltd.</td>
<td>October 4</td>
<td>Starland Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wild Rose Colony Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
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<td>Loughheed Charitable Trust</td>
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<td>Bentley Colony Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>October 9</td>
<td>Murray Lake Colony Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>November 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gadsby Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>October 9</td>
<td>Special Area 2</td>
<td>November 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Bend Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>October 11</td>
<td>Special Area 3</td>
<td>November 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutterian Brethren Church of Hillview (Rosebud)</td>
<td>October 11</td>
<td>Special Area 4</td>
<td>November 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutterian Brethren of the Little Bow (Vulcan)</td>
<td>October 11</td>
<td>Beaverlodge &amp; District Agricultural Society</td>
<td>November 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parkland Colony Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>October 11</td>
<td>Prairie Home Colony Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>November 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutterian Brethren Church of Spring Point (Pincher Creek)</td>
<td>October 11</td>
<td>Bruce Agricultural Society</td>
<td>November 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willow Creek Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>October 11</td>
<td>Town of Carstairs</td>
<td>November 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BHills Farming Co. Ltd. (Birch Hills)</td>
<td>October 15</td>
<td>Town of Sexsmith</td>
<td>November 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutterian Brethren Church of Riverside</td>
<td>October 15</td>
<td>Winfield &amp; District Agricultural Society</td>
<td>November 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ewelme Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>October 15</td>
<td>Town of Sexsmith</td>
<td>November 14</td>
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</table>
## 2018 Contributions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Event Date 1</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
<th>Event Date 2</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rich Valley Agricultural Society</td>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>Town of Thorsby</td>
<td>November 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutterian Brethren Church of Wilson</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>Village of Beiseker</td>
<td>November 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Valley Agricultural Society</td>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>The Buffalo &amp; District Agricultural Society</td>
<td>November 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutterian Brethren Church of Wilson</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>Roundhill &amp; District Ag</td>
<td>November 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Valley Agricultural Society</td>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>Rural Municipality of Manitou Lake (Marsden SK)</td>
<td>December 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hutterian Brethren Church of Wilson</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>Village of Warburg</td>
<td>December 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Valley Agricultural Society</td>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>Village of Glendon</td>
<td>December 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutterian Brethren Church of Wilson</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>Rosemary Community Agricultural Society</td>
<td>December 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Valley Agricultural Society</td>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>Pioneer Agricultural Society (Warburg)</td>
<td>December 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Valley Agricultural Society</td>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>Town of Oyen</td>
<td>December 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutterian Brethren Church of Wilson</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>Sunshine Colony Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>December 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Valley Agricultural Society</td>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>Noblesford Agricultural Society</td>
<td>December 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutterian Brethren Church of Wilson</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>Town of Pincher Creek</td>
<td>December 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Valley Agricultural Society</td>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>Roseglen Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>December 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutterian Brethren Church of Wilson</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>Town of Vauxhall</td>
<td>December 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Valley Agricultural Society</td>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>Della and District Agricultural Society</td>
<td>December 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutterian Brethren Church of Wilson</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>CSpring Farming Co. Ltd. (Crystal Spring)</td>
<td>December 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Valley Agricultural Society</td>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>Nickle Family Foundation</td>
<td>December 6</td>
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<td>Hutterian Brethren Church of Wilson</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>Village of Gadsby</td>
<td>December 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Valley Agricultural Society</td>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>Hutterian Brethren Church of Three Hills</td>
<td>December 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutterian Brethren Church of Wilson</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>Miltow Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>December 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Valley Agricultural Society</td>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>Summer Village of South View</td>
<td>December 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutterian Brethren Church of Wilson</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>Clyde and District Agricultural Society</td>
<td>December 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Valley Agricultural Society</td>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>River Road Farming Co. Ltd. (Milk River)</td>
<td>December 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutterian Brethren Church of Wilson</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>Village of Pycroft</td>
<td>December 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Valley Agricultural Society</td>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>Leedale Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>December 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutterian Brethren Church of Wilson</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>Red Willow Agricultural Society</td>
<td>December 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Valley Agricultural Society</td>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>Summer Village of Silver Sands</td>
<td>December 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutterian Brethren Church of Wilson</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>Cross Agricultural Society</td>
<td>December 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Valley Agricultural Society</td>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>Barrhead Exhibition Association and Agricultural Society</td>
<td>December 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutterian Brethren Church of Wilson</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>Vauxhall Agricultural Society</td>
<td>December 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Valley Agricultural Society</td>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>Tulliby Lake &amp; District Ag Society</td>
<td>December 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutterian Brethren Church of Wilson</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>Wataskiwin Agricultural Society</td>
<td>December 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Valley Agricultural Society</td>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>Rocky View County</td>
<td>December 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hutterian Brethren Church of Wilson</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>Division Three Agricultural Society (Patricia)</td>
<td>December 21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 2018 Contributions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spring Ridge Holdings Ltd.</th>
<th>December 21</th>
<th>Summer Village of Island Lake</th>
<th>December 27</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Village of Clyde</td>
<td>December 27</td>
<td>Edberg &amp; District Agricultural Society</td>
<td>December 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clear Lake Colony Farming Co. Ltd.</td>
<td>December 27</td>
<td>Colchester &amp; District Agricultural Society (Sherwood Park)</td>
<td>December 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Crette Agricultural Society</td>
<td>December 27</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A Total of 291 Contributions Received

- **Agricultural Societies**: 80
- **Hutterite Colonies**: 70
- **Towns/Villages/Summer Villages**: 65
- **Alberta Counties & Municipal Districts**: 59
- **Corporations**: 11
- **Saskatchewan Rural Municipalities**: 3
- **Foundations**: 2
- **Endowment**: 1
GRANTS TO ORGANIZATIONS POLICY #12.3.2

POLICY STATEMENT

The Council of the County of Wetaskiwin No. 10 believes that certain amounts of money should be included in its Municipal Budget each year for payments of grants to certain charitable organizations, individuals, and institutions and societies.

PROCEDURES

1. The amounts of money to be included in the budget shall be determined by Council and as attached as Schedule “A”.

2. Payment of grants approved in the attached Schedule “A” will be made upon receipt of request by the County Administrator.
### Institutions & Societies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Royal Canadian Legion Remembrance Day Wreaths (Wetaskiwin, Millet, Mulhurst, Ma-Me-O Beach, Winfield &amp; Alder Flats) $125.00 each or the equivalent to a #24 Wreath</td>
<td>$750.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canteen Curling Bonspiel</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetaskiwin &amp; District Victim Services</td>
<td>$7,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm Safety Centre Safety Smarts Program</td>
<td>$2,600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STARS ($1.00/capita based on population of the current Federal census)</td>
<td>$10,866.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Fallen Heroes Foundation (Silver)</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetaskiwin &amp; County Sports Hall of Fame</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$22,066.00</td>
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</tbody>
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### FCSS Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leaders of Tomorrow</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seniors Wellness Conference</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lakedell Ladies Conference</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteer Week Committee</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wetaskiwin &amp; District Victim Services</td>
<td>$5,031.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leduc &amp; District Victim Services</td>
<td>$3,691.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$10,572.00</td>
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</table>
Recycling Pilot Tackles Agricultural Waste - Report

Meeting Date (Report Reference Only): 2019/03/13
Meeting (Report Reference Only): Agricultural Service Board

Background

On January 21, 2019, a media release was received from the Government of Alberta regarding a recycling pilot regarding agricultural waste. Alberta Agriculture and Forestry is helping fund a three-year pilot program that will recycle agricultural plastics.

The Alberta Beef Producers will use the $750,000 grant to coordinate the recycling program on behalf of the Agricultural Plastics Recycling Group (APRG) – Twenty (20) stakeholder organizations ranging from commodity associations and rural municipalities to retailers.

The Alberta Agricultural Plastics Recycling Pilot Program is aimed at:

- Recycling grain bags and twine
- Researching markets for other agricultural plastics not included in the pilot program
- Conducting a waste characterization study to determine agricultural plastic volumes
- Surveying producers to get feedback
- Educating producers on the program and how to recycle their plastics

Oneil Carlier, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, was stated as saying that “Making agriculture more efficient and environmentally sustainable is a win for everyone. Not only are we tackling the longstanding problem of wasted twine and agricultural plastics, we’re working with partners to find policy solutions that really work. This pilot program is shaping a move toward an environmentally sustainable future for our province.”

The pilot will determine the financials, logistics, and operations of recycling agricultural plastics that could help inform a future policy solution to the issue.

Al Kemmere, Chairman, Agricultural Plastics Recycling Group, stated that “The Alberta government’s commitment to the pilot program is a welcome announcement. The APRG will explore an on-the-ground assessment of ag plastics on the provincial landscape to support the environmentally sound end use of these materials.”

Assare Grinde, Director, Alberta Beef Producers, and executive member, Agricultural Plastics Recycling Group, stated that “We would like to thank the Alberta government for supporting the
agricultural industry in our efforts to recycle our waste plastics. We are excited to start working out the details of the program and will send more information to producers as soon as possible.” Neil Gorda, director, Region Four, Alberta Barley, and executive member, Agricultural Plastics Recycling Group states: “There is strong support for this program from the agriculture sectors in Alberta. We look forward the rollout of this much-needed initiative and appreciate and speedy response and support from the Alberta government.”

A Government of Alberta study in 2012 revealed that around fifty percent (50%) of agricultural producers were burning their agricultural plastics on-farm. Sending plastics to a landfill was also a common method of disposing of agricultural plastics.

Saskatchewan ran a pilot program from 2011 to 2017 and is now operating the first regulated recycling program in Canada for grain bags. Alberta’s pilot program includes both grain bags and twine.

On January 22, 2019, the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) released a Bulletin titled: “Funding for Agricultural Plastics Recycling Pilot Project Announced”.

The bulletin advised that moving forward, the APRG will hire a program operator to collect and recycle the grain bags and twine. Municipalities interested in hosting collection sites are encouraged to watch for future announcements.

On February 13, 2019, the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) released a Bulletin titled: “Agricultural Plastics Recycling Pilot Program Updates”.

The bulletin advised that those interested in becoming the program operator for the three-year agricultural plastics recycling pilot program were encouraged to submit an expression of interest through Alberta Purchasing Connection.

The bulletin also advised that in response large amount of interest in the program, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry announced an additional $250,000 in funding on February 6, 2019, bringing the total to $1 million for the pilot program. These funds will allow for additional collection sites to be included in the pilot program.

On February 13, 2019, the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) released a Bulletin titled: “Agricultural Plastics Recycling Group Website Launched”.

The bulletin advised that the Agricultural Plastics Recycling Group (APRG) is responsible for implementing the Agricultural Plastics Recycling Pilot Program (APRPP). The APRG launched its own website where information on APRPP will be shared, including updates on program implementation.
Recommendations

Administration recommends that the Agricultural Service Board accept the correspondence on the Agricultural Plastics Recycling Pilot Program as information.

Recommended Resolution

that the Agricultural Service Board accept the correspondence on the Agricultural Plastics Recycling Pilot Program as information.
Recycling pilot tackles agricultural waste

January 21, 2019 Media inquiries

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry is helping fund a three-year pilot program that will recycle agricultural plastics.

The Alberta Beef Producers will use the $750,000 grant to coordinate the recycling program on behalf of the Agricultural Plastics Recycling Group — 20 stakeholder organizations ranging from commodity associations and rural municipalities to retailers.

The Alberta Agricultural Plastics Recycling Pilot Program is aimed at:

- recycling grain bags and twine
- researching markets for other agricultural plastics not included in the pilot program
- conducting a waste characterization study to determine agricultural plastic volumes
- surveying producers to get feedback
- educating producers on the program and how to recycle their plastics

“Making agriculture more efficient and environmentally sustainable is a win for everyone. Not only are we tackling the longstanding problem of wasted twine and agricultural plastics, we’re working with partners to find policy solutions that really work. This pilot program is shaping a move toward an environmentally sustainable future for our province.”

Oneil Carlier, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry

The pilot will determine the financials, logistics and operations of recycling agricultural plastics that could help inform a future policy solution to the issue.

“The Alberta government's commitment to the pilot program is a welcome announcement. The APRG will explore an on-the-ground assessment of ag plastics on the provincial landscape to support the environmentally sound end use of these materials.”

Al Kemmere, chairman, Agricultural Plastics Recycling Group
"We would like to thank the Alberta government for supporting the agricultural industry in our efforts to recycle our waste plastics. We are excited to start working out the details of the program and will send more information to producers as soon as possible."

Assar Grinde, director, Alberta Beef Producers, and executive member, Agricultural Plastics Recycling Group

“There is strong support for this program from the agriculture sectors in Alberta. We look forward to the rollout of this much-needed initiative and appreciate the speedy response and support from the Alberta government.”

Neil Gorda, director, Region Four, Alberta Barley, and executive member, Agricultural Plastics Recycling Group

Quick facts

- A Government of Alberta study in 2012 revealed that around 50 per cent of agricultural producers were burning their agricultural plastics on-farm. Sending plastics to a landfill was also a common method of disposing of agricultural plastics.
- Saskatchewan ran a pilot program from 2011 to 2017, and is now operating the first regulated recycling program in Canada for grain bags. Alberta’s pilot program includes both grain bags and twine.

Related information

- Agricultural Plastics Recycling Pilot Program

Media inquiries

media@gov.ab.ca

780-422-4905
Funding for Agricultural Plastics Recycling Pilot Project Announced

The Agricultural Plastics Recycling Group (APRG) received $750,000 from Alberta Agriculture and Forestry for three-year pilot.

On January 21, 2019, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry announced a $750,000 grant for the Alberta Agricultural Plastics Recycling Pilot Program. The three-year pilot will target recycling grain bags and twine, as well as research on uses for other recycled agricultural plastics. Moving forward, the APRG will hire a program operator to collect and recycle the grain bags and twine. Municipalities interested in hosting collection sites are encouraged to watch for future announcements through Contact.

The APRG is made up of over 20 stakeholder groups representing municipalities, agricultural producers, non-profits, recyclers, and retailers, including RMA. For a full list of members or more information click here.

For more information on the Government of Alberta’s announcement click here.

For enquiries, please contact:

Warren Noga
Policy Analyst
warren@RMAAlberta.com

Matt Dow
Policy Analyst
matt@RMAAlberta.com

Tasha Blumenthal
Director of External Relations & Advocacy
tasha@RMAAlberta.com
Agricultural Plastics Recycling Pilot Program Updates

Expression of Interest for Program Operator Released and Additional Funding Announced

Expression of Interest for Program Operator Released

Those interested in becoming the program operator for the three-year agricultural plastics recycling pilot program are encouraged to submit an expression of interest through Alberta Purchasing Connection. Click here to access the application and for more details. All expressions of interest must be received by 12:00pm on Monday February 25, 2019. Late submissions will not be accepted.

For more information on the Agricultural Plastics Recycling Pilot Program, click here.

For municipalities interested in hosting a collection site, please continue to watch Contact for a coming announcement regarding the application process.

Additional Funding Announced

In response to the large amount of interest in the program, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry announced an additional $250,000 in funding on February 6, 2019, bringing the total to $1 million for the pilot program. These funds will allow for additional collection sites to be included in the pilot program.

For enquiries, please contact:

Matt Dow
Policy Analyst
matt@RMAlberta.com

Warren Noga
Policy Analyst
warren@RMAlberta.com

Tasha Blumenthal
Director of External Relations & Advocacy
tasha@RMAlberta.com
Agricultural Plastics Recycling Group Website Launched

The Agricultural Plastics Recycling Group (APRG) is responsible for implementing the Agricultural Plastics Recycling Pilot Program (APRPP). The APRG has launched its own website where information on the APRPP will be shared, including updates on program implementation.

To visit the website, click here.

For enquiries, please contact:

Warren Noga
Policy Analyst
warren@RMAAlberta.com

Matt Dow
Policy Analyst
matt@RMAAlberta.com

Tasha Blumenthal
Director of External Relations & Advocacy
tasha@RMAAlberta.com
Agricultural Bursary Thank You Correspondence - Report

Meeting Date (Report Reference Only): 2019/03/13

Meeting (Report Reference Only): Agricultural Service Board

Background

On November 2, 2018, the Agricultural Service Board resolved to award six (6) Agricultural Bursaries, to Wilson Schulz, Jesse Senz, Laura Haenni, Anne Germain, Hasse van der Kamp and Cole Schwengler, who have not previously received the Agricultural Bursary. (Ref. Resolution #AS20181102.2009)

Administration has received the following thank you correspondence from Ms. Haenni, Ms. Germain, and Mr. Schulz, which were as follows:

"I'd like to thank you for awarding me with the Wetaskiwin County Agricultural Bursary for 2018. It is a big help and reduces some stress financially. I appreciate the time you and the department take to make this scholarship available." - Laura Haenni

"Thank you for supporting me as I pursue a Bachelor of Science in Agribusiness. It is fantastic to have the agricultural service board partnering with students to help progress agriculture and help feed the world. Thank you for your generosity through the giving of the bursary." – Anne Germain

"Thank you so much for the Agricultural Bursary. I appreciate the help funding my studies, and am deeply grateful. I hope 2019 is a great year for you and the county." - Wilson Schulz

Recommendations

Administration recommends that the Agricultural Service Board accept the thank you correspondence from Ms. Haenni, Ms. Germain, and Mr. Schulz regarding their selection as a 2018 Agricultural Bursary recipient as information.

Recommended Resolution
that the Agricultural Service Board accept the thank you correspondence from Ms. Haenni, Ms. Germain, and Mr. Schulz regarding their selection as a 2018 Agricultural Bursary recipient as information.
To whom it may concern,

I'd like to thank you for awarding me with the Wetaskiwin County Agricultural Bursary for 2018. It is a big help and reduces some stress financially. I appreciate the time you and the department take to make this scholarship available.

Sincerely,

Laura Haenni
The County of Wetaskiwin, ASB

Thank you for supporting me as I pursue a Bachelor of Science in Agribusiness. It is fantastic to have the agriculture service board partnering with students to help progress agriculture and help feed the world. Thank you for your generosity through the giving of the bursary.

Yours Sincerely,
Anne Germain
Anne Germain
All photos taken at 1NW-5-4G-27-Ctwo/german's home quarter
Wilson

The country is a great year for you and am deeply grateful. I hope 2019 the help funding my studies, and Agricultural Bursary. I appreciate thank you so much for the

Dear Stephen,
ALUS Information Item - Report

Meeting Date (Report Reference Only): 2019/03/13

Meeting (Report Reference Only): Agricultural Service Board

Background

The ALUS e-newsletter titled: The Post, December 2019: Season’s Greetings! is provided for review by the Agricultural Service Board.

Recommendations

Administration recommends that the Agricultural Service Board accept the ALUS e-newsletter titled: The Post, December 2019: Season’s Greetings! as information.

Recommended Resolution

that the Agricultural Service Board accept the ALUS e-newsletter titled: The Post, December 2019: Season’s Greetings! as information.
Season's greetings from all of us at ALUS Canada!

[Click image to watch the video]
In this issue

- Put a forest under the tree
- The next generation of conservation in the West
- Profile series: Meet an ALUS participant
- ALUS in the news
- ALUS online community

What is ALUS?
ALUS Canada, A Weston Family Initiative, is a national program helping farmers and ranchers produce cleaner air, cleaner water, more biodiversity and other ecosystem services in their communities. As a recent Alberta Emerald Award-winner, and guided by a Clean16 Award-winning team, ALUS Canada is a recognized leader in sustainability that is revolutionizing the way Canadians support the environment. For more, visit ALUS.ca

ALUS Canada

New Acre™
Project.
A Weston Family Initiative

Make a difference. Make an acre.

DONATE NOW: Click here to help create a healthy landscape that sustains agriculture, wildlife and natural spaces for all Canadians, one acre at a time.

It's not too late...
Put a forest under the tree this year!
How do you fit a forest under the tree?

This holiday season, you can help make acres of cleaner air, cleaner water and wildlife habitat across Canada.

Make a gift in someone’s name at ALUS.ca

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You have until the stroke of midnight, December 31, to make a difference on the ground this holiday season. Donate online and get a charitable tax receipt for this year—while also helping to make acres of cleaner air, cleaner water and wildlife habitat across Canada. Make a gift in someone’s name via our Canada Helps page, and you can send them a special ALUS Canada e-card celebrating water, trees or pollinators.

Take a look at the options here...

Thank you for supporting ALUS Canada, A Weston Family Initiative. Every dollar you contribute is multiplied on the ground by ALUS farmers, ranchers and communities. ALUS has disbursed nearly $6.5 M in funding to support more than 18,500 acres enrolled in the ALUS program, with 575 participants from 21 communities across five provinces. With your support, the ALUS program will continue to grow each year, helping more farmers and ranchers produce ecosystem services in their communities. Thanks again for helping ALUS sustain agriculture, wildlife and natural spaces for all Canadians—one acre at a time!

The Next Generation of Conservation in the West
On November 26, a group of 20 Alberta business leaders joined ALUS Canada supporters and senior staff to celebrate ALUS' strong presence in Alberta, where ranchers produce cleaner air, cleaner water and wildlife habitat for all. The event, at Calgary's storied Ranchmen's Club, was co-hosted by ALUS Canada's Board Director, Larry Kaumeyer and long-term ALUS supporter David Bissett. "The results in Alberta show that we can achieve landscape-scale improvements by engaging with the farm communities," said CEO Bryan Gilvesy. "There is very strong community support for ALUS here and that the potential for expansion is huge." [Read the story here.]

Profile series: Meet an ALUS participant
Meet the latest producers in our profile series! In Ontario, ALUS Lambton participant Scott and Susan Stephens maintain eight ALUS projects on 25 acres of environmentally sensitive land, including riparian and floodplain areas. Each ALUS project helps the environment in many ways. Their tallgrass prairie projects protect soil health while creating beneficial pollinator habitat, while their wetland and riparian projects help improve fish habitat, water quality and quantity in the adjacent Black Creek, a major tributary to the Sydenham River, and thereby contribute to a healthier ecosystem in the Great Lakes region for future generations. Read more...
Top 10 articles on ALUS this past season, in reverse chronological order:


4. “Ag board given program reviews” by Dan Singleton, Mountain View Gazette, Nov 27 2018. LINK: https://www.mountainviewgazette.ca/article/ag-board-given-program-reviews-20181127


ALUS Online Community

There's a lot happening each week in the ALUS social media community. Check us out! Follow ALUS on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube to stay up to date. As a teaser, this was our most popular social media post this season:

ALUS Canada @ALUSCanada
Pollinators are the perfect present! This holiday season, you can help make acres of cleaner air, cleaner water and wildlife habitat across Canada and dedicate your gift to someone on your list:
http://ow.ly/5vFm30mKUHm - #givewater #givetrees #givebees #givegreen #giveCanadian pic.twitter.com/HzxpkwvVXh

Your Tweet has earned 38,541 new impressions!
Don't miss out! SUBSCRIBE to The Post by clicking this blue box. In each issue, you'll learn how ALUS projects produce ecosystem services across Canada, meet the farmers, ranchers and partners who make ALUS possible, and see the difference your support makes on the ground.

Forward to a friend

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Our mailing address is:
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Foundational Partner

DELTAWATERFOWL

ALUS
Canada

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