

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY

A G E N D A: County Council Meeting to be held for the purpose of discussing the **Agricultural Service Board**

on

Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 9:00 o'clock A.M.

Held virtually through Electronic Communication Technology: Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84830509879?pwd=QnJ5MmswVXo2RW5TSTBJK2lGcmpDUT09>

Meeting ID: 848 3050 9879 Passcode: 083874

1. Meeting:

1.1 Call to Order.

2. Agenda:

Acceptance of Agenda:
as presented or
subject to additions or deletions.

3. Minutes:

3.1 Adopt minutes of **February 16, 2021** – Agricultural Service Board Meeting. ©

Recommendation: Motion to Adopt.

3.2 Agricultural Service Board Meeting: February 16, 2021 – **Action List.** ©

Recommendation: File for Information.

4. Request for Decision:

4.1 Policy Statement 62-M-02-05 Mowing Program. ©

4.2 Bellis 4-H Belt Buckle Sponsorship. ©

4.3 2021 Farmers Appreciation Event. ©

5. Issues for Information:

5.1 ASB Chairman's Report. ©

5.2 Agricultural Department Report. ©

6. Correspondence:

- 6.1 Letter received from Megan Evans, Executive Director, Alberta Invasive Species Council (AISC), dated January 26, 2021 RE: AISC Funding. ©

Recommendation: Councils Decision.

- 6.2 Letter received from Laura Nelson, Executive Director, Farm Safety Centre, dated February 8, 2021 RE: Farm Safety Center Funding. ©

Recommendation: Councils Decision.

- 6.3 Letter received from Connie Huelsman, Agricultural Service Board Chair, Red Deer County, dated March 11, 2021 RE: Provincial ASB Conference. ©

Recommendation: File for Information.

- 6.4 Email received from Keylan Kado, Program Manager, Sustainable Farm Families Alberta, dated March 15, 2021 RE: Farm Safety Centre Rural Health Initiative. ©

Recommendation: Councils Decision.

- 6.5 Email received from Tanis Ponath, Grazing School for Women Committee, dated March 18, 2021 RE: Grazing School for Women Funding. ©

Recommendation: Councils Decision.

- 6.6 Letter received from Adam Fitzpatrick, Agricultural Service Board Chair, Saddle Hills County, dated March 30, 2021 RE: Provincial ASB Conference. ©

Recommendation: File for Information.

7. Delegation(s):

- 7.1 Amanda Mathiot, Cropping Coordinator, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) @9:30am re: LARA Update

8. Executive Session:

9. Date and time of Next Meeting(s):

Adjournment

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY



Minutes of the **Agricultural Service Board Meeting** held on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 9:34 A.M. held virtually online through Electronic Communication Technology: Zoom Meeting and physically in County Council Chambers.

The meeting was called to Order by the Chairperson, Councillor Dan Gawalko in the presence of the following persons:

ATTENDANCE		
<u>Div. No.</u>	<u>Councillor(s)</u>	<u>Tuesday, Feb. 16, 2021</u>
1	Dan Gawalko	Present in Chambers
2	Johnny Cherniwchan	Present in Chambers
3	Craig Lukinuk	Present in Chambers
4	Lorne Halisky	Present in Chambers
5	Randy Orichowski	Present in Chambers
CAO	Gene Sobolewski	Present in Chambers
Assist. CAO	Lydia Cielin	Virtually Present
Finance Manager	Brenda Adamson	Present in Chambers
Ag. Fieldman	Carleigh McMullin	Present in Chambers
Assist. Ag. Fieldman	Amanda Kihn	Present in Chambers
Shop Foreman	Dave Kully	Present in Chambers
Legislative Svcs./R.S.	Patti Priest	Virtually Present
Plan. & Dev. Manager	Jordan Ruegg	Virtually Present
Planning & Dev. Assist.	Kyle Schole	Virtually Present
Natural Gas Manager	Daniel Moric	Virtually Present
Fire Chief	Scott Franchuk	Virtually Present

No Members of the Media were Present.
No Members of the Public were Present.

Amanda Mathiot, Cropping Coordinator, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), was virtually present.

2. Agenda:

357-21: Lukinuk That the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Meeting Agenda for Tuesday, February 16, 2021, be adopted as presented.

Carried Unanimously.

3. Minutes:

358-21: Orichowski That the Minutes of the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Meeting held on Tuesday, December 8, 2020, be adopted as presented.

Carried.

359-21: Halisky That the Action List from the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Meeting held on Tuesday, December 8, 2020, be filed for information.

Carried.

4. Request for Decision:

No Request for Decision.

7. Delegation:

Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA)

Virtually present before Smoky Lake County Council from 9:38 a.m. to 9:51 a.m., was Amanda Mathiot, Cropping Coordinator, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), to provide a verbal update, which included but was not limited to the following points:

- Completed one Environmental Farm Plan within Smoky Lake County.
- Engaged Tower Farms from Smoky Lake County to participate in a Rancher Research Project through a grant funding from Canadian Ag Partnership, for the purpose of increasing the utilization farming technology.
- Applied for the Riparian Action Program (RAP) grant and if the application is successful, will advertise for participation.
- The plan for Year-2021 has been completed and the Year-2020 Annual Report will be released at the Annual General Meeting, scheduled for March 2, 2021.
- Starting to line up the Summer Field Day and will be contacting producers next week seeking plot sites.
- Currently applying for a Hemp permits to allow for a Hemp crop plot site application.
- Core funding of \$2 million is split between 12 associations including LARA from the Provincial Government. LARA received \$177,000.00 in Year-2020 and is expected to receive the same amount for Year-2021.

Amanda Mathiot, Cropping Coordinator, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), virtually left the meeting, time 9:51 a.m.

Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA)

360-21: Lukinuk

That Smoky Lake County send a letter of support to the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Devin Dreesen, for the purpose of lobbying the Provincial Government to continue to provide funding to the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), and carbon copy MLA Glenn van Dijken, MLA David Hanson, MP Shannon Stubbs, Lac La Biche County, Municipal District of Bonnyville and County of St. Paul No.19.

Carried.

Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) - Awareness

361-21: Lukinuk

That Smoky Lake County promote the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA)'s virtual Annual General Meeting scheduled for March 2, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., on social media for public awareness.

Carried.

5. Issues for Information:

Agricultural Service Board Chairperson's Report

362-21: Lukinuk

That the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Chairman's written report from December 14, 2020 and January 18, 2021, in regard to the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), as follows, be accepted for information:

- Included in this agenda package: LARA Minutes from October 26, 2020, and December 14, 2020 as well as LARA's Operating Budget and financial reports.
- ARECA and FARMRITE renewals are coming up will discuss what route the board will take, Charlie Leskiw gave a report on ARECA he is the board rep for ARECA.
- Forage report was given by Stephanie B. patrons have been invoiced for pasture fees still waiting for a few to be paid, more trials to enter in data and sending samples away.
- AESA report by Kellie, applying for CAP and ROAR grants and planning extensions for next year. Asking producers what events they are interested in, lots of interest for a hemp workshop.
- Amanda (*Mathiot, Cropping Coordinator, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA)*) is attending meetings and working on a draft budget for 2021 purchased another bale probe and a new Gravely zero turn mower that will be delivered in spring 2021.
- Upcoming events Soil health academy July 19 - 21 2021
- Wanda Austin board chair attended a RDAR (*Results Driven Agriculture Research*) meeting December 17, 2020 and by late March they should have a new board in place.
- Amanda (*Mathiot, Cropping Coordinator, Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA)*) talked about FarmRITE and a motion was made to join FarmRITE for the sum of \$4,500 dollars for 2021. Amanda also gave the managers report, she has done 5 grant reports and has 3 more to do, January 8, 2021 she attended the FarmRITE meeting and has completed the summer job and grant applications.
- The research report was presented by Amanda and Stephanie they are putting data together for the annual report, sending soil samples out for the liming trials and over 140 producer feed samples have been sent out for testing.
- Kellie gave her report she is working on CAP grants a few EFP coming in, water shed management plan and talking to Bob Bezpalko about hosting a hemp workshop.
- Next LARA meeting is February 22, 2021.
- And the LARA AGM will be held on March 2, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Carried.

One member of the Public virtually joined the meeting, time 10:13 a.m.

Weed Inspector & Secondary Trapper

363-21: Cherniwchan

That Smoky Lake County advertise in the local newspapers, County social media, County grapevine, County website, as well as through the Lakeland College, Olds College and AAAF websites to recruit two (2) Weed Inspectors for the Year-2021 season; and also advertise for a Secondary Trapper contract opportunity, on the County's social media, grapevine, and website.

Carried.

Dave Kully, Public Works Shop Foreman, left the meeting, time 10:17 a.m.

Dave Franchuk, Environmental Operations Manager, virtually joined the meeting, time 10:18 a.m.

Kyle Schole, Planning and Development Assistant, virtually left the meeting, time 10:19 a.m.

Jordan Ruegg, Planning and Development Manager, virtually left the meeting, time 10:21 a.m.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Beaver Dam Removal Best Practice

364-21: Lukinuk That Smoky Lake County promote public awareness on social media, of the Federal best code of practice of removing beaver dams, as publicized by Federal Government, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and updated on July 8, 2020.

Carried.

Agricultural Fieldman Report

365-21: Lukinuk That the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Fieldman's written Report as of February 3, 2021 be accepted and filed for information.

Carried.

6. Correspondence:

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry

366-21: Halisky That the correspondence received by Smoky Lake County from Sharon Stollery, Manager, Farm Safety, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, dated December 1, 2020, in regard to the discontinuation of distributing Farm Safety materials in respect to the Farm Freedom and Safety Act in effect January 31, 2020, and the said materials being available through the OH&S Publications Store, be filed for information.

Carried.

MLA, Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock Constituency

367-21: Cherniwchan That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the letter from Glenn van Dijken, MLA, Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock Constituency, dated December 22, 2020, stating: "Although the 2020 ASB program budget is reduced, Agriculture and Forestry increased program stability through the new five-year renewal under the ASB Grant Program. This five-year agreement replaces the previous three-year grant agreement.", in response to the County's letter dated October 20, 2020 questioning the Agricultural Service Board grant funding delays and reductions.

Carried.

8. Executive Session:

No Executive Session.

Next Meeting

368-21: Halisky That the next Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Meeting be scheduled for **Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.** to be held virtually, through Electronic Communication Technology as per Bylaw 1376-20 and/or physically in County Council Chambers.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

369-21: Gawalko That the Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board Meeting of February 16, 2021, be adjourned, time 10:43 a.m.

Carried.

CHAIRPERSON

S E A L

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER



ASB MEETING ACTION LIST FROM FEBRUARY 16, 2021 AS OF Mar 31, 2021

6
GOALS

97%
GOAL COMPLETION

● Draft ● Not started ● On Track ● Behind ● Overdue ● Complete → Direct Alignment --- Indirect Alignment

COUNCIL MOTIONS/INQUIRY PLAN COUNCIL MOTIONS 2021

Meeti...	Council ...	Goal	Details	Owner	Progress Update	Curr...
2021 02 16 ASB Meeting						
2021/02/16	360-21	→ Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) - Letter of Support	Smoky Lake County send a letter of support to the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Devin Dreeshen, for the purpose of lobbying the Provincial Government to continue to provide funding to the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA), and carbon copy MLA Glenn van Dijken, MLA David Hanson, MP Shannon Stubbs, Lac La Biche County, Municipal District of Bonnyville and County of St. Paul No.19.	Agricultural Fieldman	Carleigh McMullin: Achievements: Letter of Support filled out and returned to LARA March 1st, 2021. Challenges: <i>No value</i> Next Steps: <i>No value</i>	On Track Completed
2021/02/16	361-21	→ Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) - Awareness	That Smoky Lake County promote the Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA)'s virtual Annual General Meeting scheduled for March 2, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., on social media for public awareness.	Communication Technician	Evonne Zukiwski: Achievements: Lakeland Agricultural Research Association AMG advertised on Smoky Lake County Facebook and Twitter accounts on February 18, February 25 and March 2, 2021. Challenges: <i>No value</i> Next Steps: <i>No value</i>	Completed

32

2021/02/16 363-21

Weed Inspector & Secondary Trapper

That Smoky Lake County advertise in the local newspapers, County social media, County grapevine, County website, as well as through the Lakeland College, Olds College and AAAF websites to recruit two (2) Weed Inspectors for the Year-2021 season; and also advertise for a Secondary Trapper contract opportunity, on the County's social media, grapevine, and website.

Agricultural Fieldman

Evonne Zukowski:

Achievements: Weed Inspector Employment Opportunity advertised:
- Posted on the Smoky Lake County website on January 25, 2021

- Scheduled to appear on Smoky Lake County's social media on:

- January 26, 2021
- February 10, 2021
- February 27, 2021
- March 12, 2021

- February Grapevine (published the week of February 8, 2021) in the Redwater Review and Smoky Lake Signal

- March Grapevine (published the week of March 8, 2021) in the Redwater Review and Smoky Lake Signal

- Published in the March 2, 2021 edition of the Redwater Review

Challenges: *No value*

Next Steps: *No value*

Comple

2021/02/16 364-21

Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Beaver Dam Removal Best Practice

That Smoky Lake County promote public awareness on social media, of the Federal best code of practice of removing beaver dams, as publicized by Federal Government, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and updated on July 8, 2020.

Communication Technician

Evonne Zukowski:

Achievements:

- Federal best code of practice of removing beaver dams posted on Smoky Lake County Facebook and Twitter pages- March 1, 2021

Challenges: *No value*

Next Steps: *No value*

Patti Priest:

Achievements: Municipal File: 62-25

Challenges: *No value*

Next Steps: *No value*

Comple

↳ [MLA, Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock Constituency](#)

That Smoky Lake County acknowledge receipt of the letter from Glenn van Dijken, MLA, Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock Constituency, dated December 22, 2020, stating: "Although the 2020 ASB program budget is reduced, Agriculture and Forestry increased program stability through the new five-year renewal under the ASB Grant Program. This five-year agreement replaces the previous three-year grant agreement.", in response to the County's letter dated October 20, 2020 questioning the Agricultural Service Board grant funding delays and reductions.

Legislative
Service Clerk

Patti Priest:


Achievements: For documentation purposes retained for awareness of change to the ASB Grant Program.
Municipal File 62-13

Challenges: *No value*

Next Steps: *No value*

Comple



REQUEST FOR DECISION		DATE	April 13 th , 2020	4.1
TOPIC	Policy Statement 62-M-02-05 Mowing Program			
PROPOSAL	<p>To bring Policy Statement 62-M-02-05 Mowing Program forward to make changes and bring clarity to the guidelines.</p> <p>To include ditch clean-up prior to mowing as part of the mowing policy.</p> <p>To include the different start times of the herbicide mower and the non-herbicide mower.</p> <p>To clarify "one-pass" mowing.</p>			
CORRELATION TO BUSINESS (STRATEGIC) PLAN				
Mowing is a core program under the Weed Control Act section of the Ag Service Board Business Plan				
LEGISLATIVE, BYLAW and/or POLICY IMPLICATIONS		Fulfilling legislative duties under the Weed Control Act of Alberta		
BENEFITS	The Agricultural Fieldman will be able to give mower operators clear direction and expectations, thus leading to a more efficient mowing program.			
DISADVANTAGES				
ALTERNATIVES				
FINANCE/BUDGET IMPLICATIONS				
Operating Costs: N/A		Capital Costs: N/A		
Budget Available: N/A		Source of Funds: N/A		
Budgeted Costs: N/A		Actual Costs: N/A		
COMMUNICATION STRATEGY				
RECOMMENDATION				
That the Smoky Lake County Council amend Policy Statement 62-M-02-04 Mowing Program, as presented.				
Agricultural Fieldman				

NEW



SMOKY LAKE COUNTY

Title: Mowing Program		Policy No.: 28-02
Section: 62	Code: P-R	Page No.: 1 of 2

E

Legislation Reference:	Alberta Provincial Statutes
-------------------------------	-----------------------------

Purpose:	Smoky Lake County will govern the municipal mowing program on developed road allowances and County lands under the Agricultural Service Board.
-----------------	--

Policy Statement and Guidelines:

1. STATEMENT:

- 1.1 Smoky Lake County will mow developed road allowances annually to maintain safe visibility for the travelling public and to improve drainage of infrastructure.
- 1.2 The mowing program promotes effective control of weeds and brush within the municipal right-of-way encroaching the roads surface.
- 1.3 The County will mow County lands on a as needed basis.

2. DEFINITION(S):

- 2.1 **County Lands:** Property owned and/ operated by Smoky Lake County
- 2.2 **Developed Road Allowances:** Road allowances containing a gravel or hard surfaced roadway under the jurisdiction of Smoky Lake County.

3. OBJECTIVES:

- 3.1 Define areas that will be mowed within the right-of-way and on County lands.
- 3.2 Provide the level of right-of-way mowing as set out by the Agricultural Service Board.
- 3.3 The County's desire to achieve the following objectives with its roadside mowing program:
 - to assist with weed control by preventing the seed set of noxious weeds in the right-of-way and to cut any brush regrowth encroaching on the road
 - to enhance road maintenance with minimal gravel loss and allow positive drainage of rainwater to be more efficiently channeled to the right-of-way
 - to increase visibility of wildlife crossing and reduce obstructed visibility of signs at intersections for the safety of the travelling public

Title: Mowing Program		Policy No.: 28-01
Section: 62	Code: P-R	Page No.: 2 of 2

Policy Statement and Guidelines:

- to provide a fire break and reduce the amount of fire load material in right-of-way.
- To prevent drifting on roads, where the blowing snow will travel across the road, rather than being trapped by standing vegetation which will travel across

4. GUIDELINES:

4.1 The mowing program will be developed and planned by the Agricultural Service Board and implemented through the Agricultural Services Department. The defined mowing areas consist of three (3) zones, divided using range road 150 and Highway 855 as boundaries.

4.2 Ditch clean-up and equipment maintenance will commence 2 weeks prior to mowing program start date.

4.3 ~~The Mowing Program will commence in the last week of June and will cease no later than~~ ~~November 1st.~~ One-pass herbicide mowers will begin mowing operation the first week of June for more effective weed control. Non-herbicide mower operations will begin the last week of June. All mowing operations will cease no later than November 1st.

4.4 Mowing Operations consist of three (3) tractors and mowers used to cut grass, brush, and noxious weeds. These mowers are able to accomplish a significant amount of mowing and right-of-way clearing very efficiently when compared to other methods of mechanical control.

4.5 Without limiting the program or its effectiveness, it will generally be planned as following:

4.5.1 Developed Road Allowances: All grassy areas along, oiled, or gravel roads will be mowed once a year with a single pass (one cut) mowing from roads edge to fence/line property line where conditions allow. Which may require several mowing passes to accomplish.

- These secondary passes should be a minimum of 5ft.
- Main roads into lake resorts will only be mowed prior to the July and August long weekends (two seasonal passes per year)
- The Iron Horse Trail shall only be mowed once per season
- It is recognized that inclement weather, such as rain and early winter could prevent completion of the program

4.5 All other mowing requests will be at the discretion of the Agricultural Service Board and added to **Schedule "A" Approved Additional Mowing**

SCHEDULE "A"
APPROVED ADDITIONAL MOWING

Metis Crossing

Smoky Lake Rodeo Grounds

Smoky Lake Air Strip

Hamlin Ball Diamonds

Waskatenau Ball Diamonds

Bellis Ball Diamonds

Bonnie Lake Enviro Reserve 7921626

Section 62

Policy 28-01

	Date		
Approved	May 24, 2018	#581-18 - Page # 13130	Chief Administrative Officer
Amended			
Amended			
Amended			
Amended			

Original



SMOKY LAKE COUNTY

Title: Mowing Program	Policy No.: 28-02
Section: 62	Code: P-R
	Page No.: 1 of 2

E

Legislation Reference:	Alberta Provincial Statutes
-------------------------------	-----------------------------

Purpose:	Smoky Lake County will govern the municipal mowing program on developed road allowances and County lands under the Agricultural Service Board.
-----------------	--

Policy Statement and Guidelines:

1. STATEMENT:

- 1.1 Smoky Lake County will mow developed road allowances annually to maintain safe visibility for the travelling public and to improve drainage of infrastructure.
- 1.2 The mowing program promotes effective control of weeds and brush within the municipal right-of-way encroaching the roads surface.
- 1.3 The County will mow County lands on a as needed basis.

2. DEFINITION(S):

- 2.1 **County Lands:** Property owned and/ operated by Smoky Lake County
- 2.2 **Developed Road Allowances:** Road allowances containing a gravel or hard surfaced roadway under the jurisdiction of Smoky Lake County.

3. OBJECTIVES:

- 3.1 Define areas that will be mowed within the right-of-way and on County lands.
- 3.2 Provide the level of right-of-way mowing as set out by the Agricultural Service Board.
- 3.3 The County's desire to achieve the following objectives with its roadside mowing program:
 - to assist with weed control by preventing the seed set of noxious weeds in the right-of-way and to cut any brush regrowth encroaching on the road
 - to enhance road maintenance with minimal gravel loss and allow positive drainage of rainwater to be more efficiently channeled to the right-of-way
 - to increase visibility of wildlife crossing and reduce obstructed visibility of signs at intersections for the safety of the travelling public

Title: Mowing Program		Policy No.: 28-01
Section: 62	Code: P-R	Page No.: 2 of 2

Policy Statement and Guidelines:

- to provide a fire break and reduce the amount of fire load material in right-of-way.
- To prevent drifting on roads, where the blowing snow will travel across the road, rather than being trapped by standing vegetation which will travel across

4. GUIDELINES:

4.1 The mowing program will be developed and planned by the Agricultural Service Board and implemented through the Agricultural Services Department. The defined mowing areas consist of three (3) zones, divided using range road 150 and Highway 855 as boundaries.

4.2 The Mowing Program will commence in the last week of June and will cease no later than November 1st.

4.3 Mowing Operations consist of three (3) tractors and mowers used to cut grass, brush, and noxious weeds. These mowers are able to accomplish a significant amount of mowing and right-of-way clearing very efficiently when compared to other methods of mechanical control.

4.4 Without limiting the program or its effectiveness, it will generally be planned as following:

4.4.1 Developed Road Allowances: All grassy areas along, oiled, or gravel roads will be mowed once a year with a single pass (one cut) mowing from roads edge to fenceline where conditions allow.

- Main roads into lake resorts will only be mowed prior to the July and August long weekends (two passes per year)
- The Iron Horse Trail shall only be mowed once per season
- It is recognized that inclement weather, such as rain and early winter could prevent completion of the program

4.5 All other mowing requests will be at the discretion of the Agricultural Service Board and added to **Schedule "A" Approved Additional Mowing**

SCHEDULE "A"
APPROVED ADDITIONAL MOWING

Metis Crossing

Smoky Lake Rodeo Grounds

Smoky Lake Air Strip

Hamlin Ball Diamonds

Waskatenau Ball Diamonds

Bellis Ball Diamonds

Bonnie Lake Enviro Reserve 7921626

	Date		
Approved	May 24, 2018	#581-18 - Page # 13130	<hr/> Chief Administrative Officer
Amended			
Amended			
Amended			
Amended			

Fence line



Property line



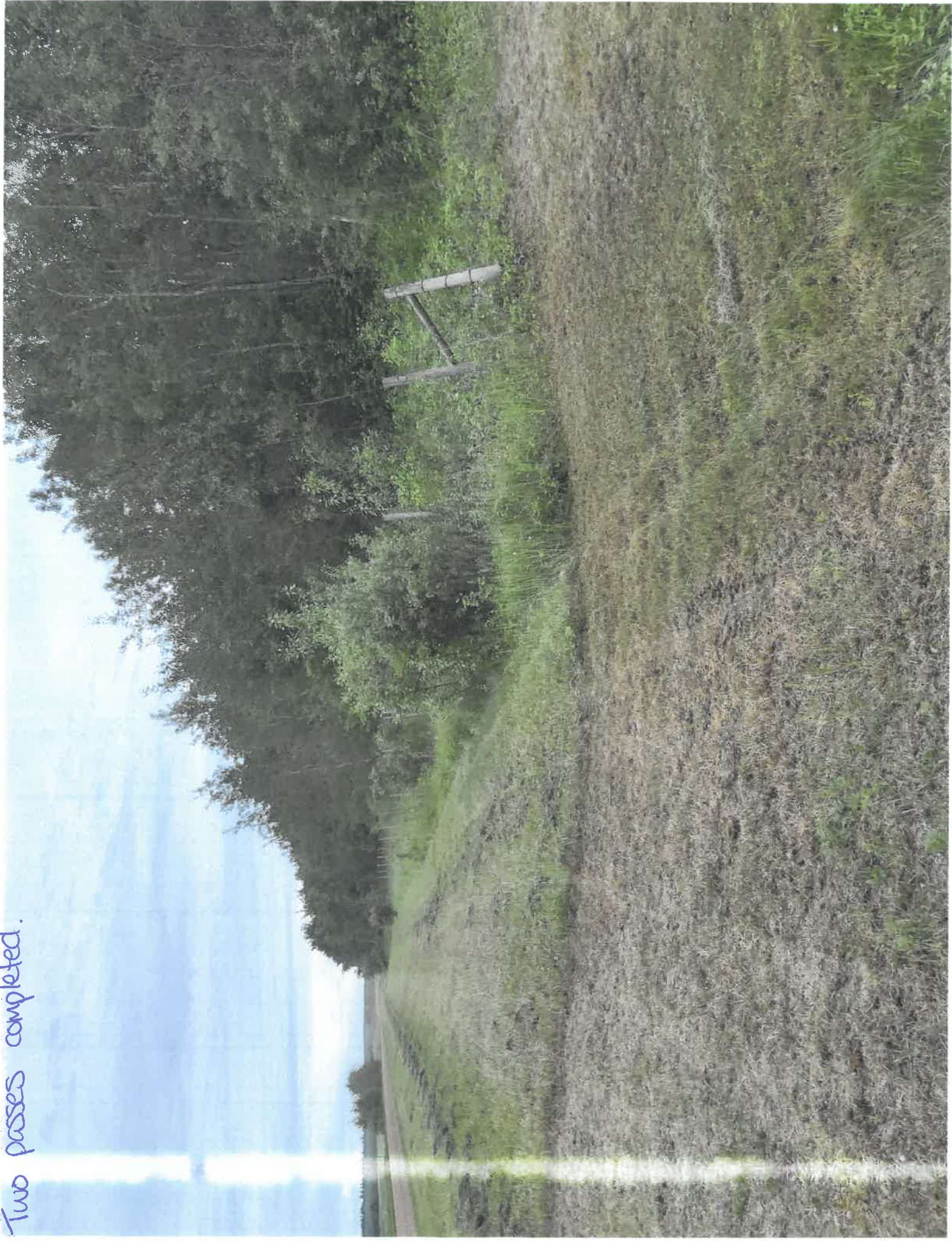




one pass with approx. 5 ft left to the fence line.



Two passes completed.





REQUEST FOR DECISION		DATE	April 13, 2021	4.2
TOPIC	Bellis 4-H Buckle Sponsorship			
PROPOSAL	Smoky Lake County sponsor the Bellis 4- H Beef Club by purchasing the buckles for the Achievement day in 2021.			
CORRELATION TO BUSINESS (STRATEGIC) PLAN				
LEGISLATIVE, BYLAW and/or POLICY IMPLICATIONS				
BENEFITS				
DISADVANTAGES				
ALTERNATIVES		None		
FINANCE/BUDGET IMPLICATIONS				
Operating Costs:		Capital Costs:		
Budget Available: \$1000.00		Source of Funds: ASB Operational Budget		
Budgeted Costs:		Actual Costs:		
INTERGOVERNMENTAL INVOLVEMENT/IMPLICATIONS				
COMMUNICATION STRATEGY				

RECOMMENDATION	
<p>That the Smoky Lake County donate by purchasing the belt buckle prizes for the Bellis 4-H Beef Club in support for their achievement day that will be held in Waskatenau on June 11th, 2021 for a total cost of \$750.</p>	
Agricultural Fieldman	



March 7, 2021

Smoky Lake County
Box 310
Smoky Lake TOA 3L0

Dear Smoky Lake County Council,

The Bellis 4-H Beef Club thanks you for sponsoring the past trophy buckles for our Achievement Day Events. We really appreciated the sponsorship and those who came to the shows to support the members and presented the buckles.

This year our club has 13 members and 1 cleaver members. We will have many market steers at the show and sale, as well as several female projects. This year due to Covid we have not had as many opportunities to volunteer because of all the community events that were cancelled. However we did help the venders at the farmer's market during the Smoky Lake pumpkin fair. Luckily we were able go skiing as a winter fun activity for the club at the Long Lake Ski Hill. It was really fun, and everyone enjoyed it. We also plan on participating in hi-way cleanup on May 1st. The members are planning a workshop to help new members learn things they may not know such as showmanship, grooming, feeding, and training their animal. Although we couldn't have our achievement day last year because of Covid we are hopeful this year we will be able to hold our show and sale on June 11th, 2021 in Waskatenau. We will have a plan B in case the restrictions won't allow us to use the arena. And we are prepared to hold the event in other ways and we will be awarding buckles and prizes to the members.

On behalf of the Bellis 4-H Beef Club I would like to ask the Smoky Lake County to consider sponsoring the trophy buckles for our show and sale again at a cost of \$750. The money will go toward the 4 trophy buckles, Grand Champion Steer, Reserve Champion Steer, Supreme Female, and Reserve Female. This year our show will be held at Waskatenau arena on Friday, June 11th, 2021. These buckles have been highly appreciated in the past and if you could consider sponsoring again that would be great support for our club.

Sincerely,

Justin Cherniwchan

President, Bellis 4H Beef Club



REQUEST FOR DECISION		DATE	April 13 th , 2021	4.3
TOPIC	2021 Farmer Appreciation Event			
PROPOSAL	<p>Smoky Lake County holds a Farmer Appreciation event annually in June in conjunction with the Bellis 4-H Beef Club Achievement Day. Smoky Lake County would sponsor the 4-H belt buckles for the last few years.</p> <p>In 2020 no event was held due to Covid-19 regulations. The Bellis 4-H Club is planning to hold their Achievement day on June 11, 2021 in Waskatenau. We are looking for direction on whether to proceed with an event in 2021 with ever changing Covid-19 restrictions.</p>			
CORRELATION TO BUSINESS (STRATEGIC) PLAN				
LEGISLATIVE, BYLAW and/or POLICY IMPLICATIONS				
BENEFITS				
DISADVANTAGES				
ALTERNATIVES		None		
FINANCE/BUDGET IMPLICATIONS				
Operating Costs: \$8000.00		Capital Costs:		
Budget Available:		Source of Funds:		ASB Operational Budget
Budgeted Costs:		Actual Costs:		
INTERGOVERNMENTAL INVOLVEMENT/IMPLICATIONS				
COMMUNICATION STRATEGY				

RECOMMENDATION	
<p><u>Option 1:</u> That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board sponsor a lunch for the Bellis 4-H Beef Show participants on June 11, 2021.</p> <p><u>Option 2:</u> That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board take no action for an event in 2021 due to Covid-19 restrictions.</p> <p><u>Option 3:</u> That Smoky Lake County Agricultural Service Board make a donation to the Do More Agriculture Foundation for mental health in Agriculture in lieu of a 2021 event with Covid 19-restrictions.</p>	
Agricultural Fieldman	

Meeting of Board of Directors
Zoom Meeting

LARA Minuets of January 18th, 2021

Present:

Phil Amyotte	Dan Gawalko	Colette
Borgun		
Kevin Wirsta	George L'Heureux	Marc Jubinville
Cliff Martin	Carl Agnemark	Wanda Austin
Luc Tellier	Barb Shapka	Murry Scott
Kellie Nichiporik	Stephanie Bilodeau	Amanda
Mathiot		

Recording Secretary: Amanda Mathiot

A. Opening

Wanda called the meeting to order 10:03 am

A. Agenda

Motion 21-01: Dan moved to adopt the agenda as presented. George seconded. **Carried.**

Motion 21-02: Carl moved to adopt the minutes of December 14th, 2020 as presented. Cliff seconded. **Carried.**

B. Business Arising

None

C. Standing Business

A. Chair Report

- a. Attended RDAR meeting on December 17th, 2020.
- b. Late March new RDAR board should be set in place.
- c. Otherwise, things are pretty quiet.

B. ARECA Report (Charlie)

- a. None

C. FarmRite (Amanda)

- a. 2 million dollars per year over the next two years will be split between the 12 organizations, Vance will have more details next week.
- b. RDAR proposals 133 submitted only 20 got accepted. The proposals that did get accepted will not receive money until April. The next round of proposals will do more with crops and livestock stream.
- c. RDAR board elections will be coming up. There will be a total of 10 positions to vote for 7 are producer positions and 3 are positions for the current board members. Both FarmRITE and ARECA are voting parties. FarmRITE, ARECA and AFIN are trying to get together to increase the vote of producer's seats and Vance as continuing board member who know ARA's and FA's.

D. Manager Report (Amanda)

- a. I have completed 5 CAP grant reports and have 3 more CAP reports to complete.
- b. Attended FarmRITE meeting on January 8th, 2021.
- c. Attended WCCSH call on January 14th, 2021. The planning committee has decided to postpone the December 2021 conference. Planning on hosting the conference in December 2022. There will be three Joel Williams webinars to keep people interested and continue to watch for more information on the conference.
- d. Working on putting together the annual report.
- e. Sending out summer job opportunity after the board meeting today.
- f. Currently applying for Canada Summer Jobs Grants for summer students.
- g. Have registered to the AGM's of the Alberta Canola Council, Alberta Wheat Commission, and Alberta Pulse Growers.

E. Research Report (Amanda/Stephanie)

- a. Sent away over 140 feed samples in 2020.
- b. Busy putting together data for the annual report.
- c. Sent out canola seed to SARDA for canola seed size trial.

F. AESA (Kellie)

- a. CAP is closed
- b. Working on Watershed Management Plan
- c. Going to be working on ALMS winter lake Keepers.

G. Financials

- a. Amanda presented the financials
- b. Correct the CAP grant for 2021
- c. Feed analysis were over the budget for 2020, will look into what was LARA's trial portion and what were producers.

H. LFA

- a. Looking into having an AGM and phoning current board members.

Motion 21- 03: Marc moves to adopt the reports as presented. Murry seconded, **Carried.**

4.0 New Business

A. ARECA and FarmRITE memberships

- a. ARECA funds are not clear and are a competition for research dollars.
- b. FarmRITE is an advocacy group made up of bigger associations and colleges

Motion 21-04: Cliff made the **motion** to pay FarmRITE membership of \$4,500 for 2021. George seconded, **Carried.**

Motion 21-05: Marc made the **motion** to table the discussion of 2021 membership of ARECA until the next board meeting. Carl seconded. **Carried.**

B. Upcoming events

- a. Save the date LARA AGM March 2nd, 2021 starting at 7:00pm. Up for election Murray and Laurier, Murray will let his name stand. George will talk to Laurier to see if he will let his name stand. Will start with business and then research presentation.
- b. Kevin Elmy Cover Crops
- c. Joel Williams Webinar Series

5.0 Correspondence

None

6.0 Board of Directors (Closed Session)

A. None

7.0 Closure

Next Board Meeting: February 22nd, 2021 at 10:00 am

Motion 21-06: Wanda moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:23 am

LARA Director

LARA Director

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Alan Hall <ED@areca.ab.ca>
Date: February 17, 2021 at 6:17:27 PM MST
To: Charlie Leskiw <cleskiw20@gmail.com>
Cc: "gdnewmans@gmail.com" <gdnewmans@gmail.com>
Subject: ARECA Support of LARA

Hi Charlie. Thanks for the great discussion this morning. I have pulled the numbers for how ARECA has helped source funds for Associations and specifically LARA this past year. I have also provided some thoughts on what is in the pipeline for the coming year and beyond. Forwarding this on to you as I thought it might be useful background in your discussions with LARA Board next week.

1. ARECA, working with Associations, helped secure last years 2020 core funding of \$2 million for Associations. We hooked up with FarmRItE in that effort. It included several discussions with Alberta Ag at senior levels, including a meeting with Minister. Ultimately Minister was a key piece in getting the 2020 core funding in place for the 12 Associations.

\$177,221 is the amount of 2020 core funding LARA received

2. ARECA (as representing forage and applied research associations in Alberta) worked with Canadian Forage and Grasslands Association (CFGAs) and AFIN (Alberta Forage Industry Network) over the past year in securing their support for the 7 ARECA Association members in the work they were doing in development and demonstration of the new Grasslands Carbon Trading Protocol. Associations fit this into content of some of their extension activities around high performance grazing management, soil health, and carbon sequestration/carbon management.

\$1,500 is the approximate amount of funding LARA received (still some details being worked out on this CFGA program)

3. ARECA with direction and guidance from Member Associations secured funding for a project on Carbon Management in Pastures. This involved soil sampling 50 sites around Alberta, documenting with the individual farm cooperators the farming practices associated with the site, and extension activities. Individual Associations

will each be receiving approximately \$8 - 9,000 each for their work on this project. It varies by association based on number of sites

\$0 for LARA as LARA choose not to be involved in this project.

4. ARECA with guidance and direction from Associations secured funding for a two pronged project. One prong is providing part time "Stettler" type call center support with 4 former Alberta Ag specialists on a part time basis – Neil Whatley (agronomy annual crops), Bill Chapman (agronomy annual crops), Barry Yaremccio (beef cattle production and nutrition), and Grant Lastiwka (forage, grazing and soil health). Farmers are being referred to these specialists by the individual Associations thus helping farmers in knowing their association helped them to link up with a specialist. The specialists will be providing feedback to associations on topics dealt with as a way of helping identify areas for potential extension or adaptive research activities. Association staff can also access these specialists for their own knowledge needs. The second component of this project is providing each involved Association with \$25,000 for them to use in supporting their extension services to their farmers. There are 9 Associations involved and between these two prongs of the project, each Association will be utilizing up to \$35-40,000 of new funding. ARECA is handling all the administration and reporting thus freeing up individual Association Managers of that responsibility (other than for the information ARECA needs to administer finances and report results).

\$0 for LARA as LARA chose not to be involved in this project. LARA, SARDA and Farming Smarter declined to get involved. All the other 9 associations are involved.

5. ARECA has worked with Orphan Well Association to increase awareness among farmers and ranchers of the orphan well reclamation efforts under way, what is involved, things to watch out for, etc.... Currently this is a set of print materials that associations are distributing to farmers in their area, putting on their website and/or newsletters etc. 2 articles to date and 2 more coming. OWA is providing \$1,000 to each participating association to support their help in this outreach awareness effort. As OWA proceeds over the next few years, there may be additional materials, town hall meetings, webinars etc done. When these happen there will be additional funding from OWA to support those activities as well. ARECA has also provided the current articles to Commissions and Rural Municipalities Association for their use in spreading the word on orphan well efforts under way

\$1,000 for LARA. As more activities are undertaken in the coming years, OWA will be providing additional funding to support those as well. ARECA is coordinating this effort.

As we look ahead to the coming year, ARECA is continuing, at the direction of and support from Associations, to secure additional funding. Initiatives in the works include:

1. ARECA and FarmRite working together with John Knapp and RDAR to deal with concerns RDAR has raised and with that secure longer term additional funding from

RDAR. The Working Group has been established with membership from ARECA and FarmRite and will involve significant discussions among all 12 Associations on coming up with plans and solutions to deal with RDAR concerns and expand individual Association efforts and capacity. There will be opportunities to seek significant new funding from RDAR as this process proceeds over the coming year. Results in identifying and implementing any changes needed

Funding for LARA as a result of this initiative is yet unknown

2. ARECA and FarmRite have worked together to secure 2 year core funding support from RDAR for 2021 and 2022. This in turn will hopefully be helpful to individual Associations in securing funding from ASBs, Commissions, private sector, provincial and federal government funding programs.....etc. Funding for 2021 will be same for each association as it was in 2020. The efforts of the Working Group and Associations could lead to additional core funding, over and above the already 2022 funding of \$2 million approved by RDAR.

\$177,221 is the 2021 core funding from RDAR that LARA will receive this year

??????? Is the 2022 funding from RDAR that LARA will receive next year. Although this amount is unknown today (as there may be additional core funding secured later this year or early next year), we do know that there will be at least \$2 million of core funding to support 12 Associations in 2022

3. As indicated above there may be additional OWA funding coming our way

Further funding for LARA from OWA is unknown

4. Canadian Forage and Grassland Association has secured new and significant funding to continue the work on getting the Grasslands Carbon Trading Protocol accepted in regulated markets here in Alberta. It is already accepted in the open markets. The difference in what a farmer/rancher is paid for a tonne of carbon between open and regulated markets is over \$20 per tonne in favor of the regulated markets. This will go higher should the Federal Government continue to push up carbon pricing. On dryland grass, under solid grazing management, probably up to ½ a tonne of carbon is produced annually. On parkland higher rainfall areas of the province this could be up to 1 tonne of carbon per acre annually. Suddenly in regulated markets, if they can be convinced to accept the current Grasslands protocol, this could mean \$10 to \$30 dollars an acre annual revenue stream to the farmer/rancher who is using best management practices. Alberta Environment manage the regulated market here in Alberta. On the current course of how carbon value seems to be going, carbon sequestration could become a significant new revenue source to farmers and ranchers. Early days yet. ARECA is in discussions with CFGA and others with respect to the new projects CFGA has funding for with an eye to creating opportunities for Forage and Applied Research Associations to get involved and receive funding support should they so choose.

New Funding opportunities will be there for LARA with this initiative

5. Alberta Government has approached ARECA to develop and deliver a 2 year extension program to create improved mental health awareness, how to deal with it, and accessing help from various mental health professionals and service providers, among farmers and ranchers. Alberta Government has indicated they will finance this. Negotiations are underway. Unknown at this time what funding might be available to LARA and other associations should they want to be involved

Funding for LARA on this initiative is yet unknown

6. At the direction of Associations, ARECA is developing a proposal with RDAR, Alberta Agriculture and AFIN to create a general information section of Farming the Web that will transfer over high value, relevant materials, links, documents, calculators, webinars, audio visual materialsetc from Alberta Ag (formerly Ropin' the Web). This will be part of Farming the Web website focused on farmers/ranchers and be a useful tool in supporting Association efforts

Funding for LARA under this initiative is yet unknown

7. ARECA, under contract with Government of Alberta, develops and delivers Environmental Farm Plan program and services throughout Alberta. Upwards of 13,000 farmers have their EFP albeit many of these are older and need updating. EFP works closely with local organizations like Associations, ASBs, some companies in delivering these to farmers, ranchers and supply chains. We continue to seek ways of raising new funding to support delivery as our current EFP funding agreements do not provide dollars for delivery. The background to this was the Alberta Government felt that historically they provided core funding grants to Associations and ASB operating grants to rural municipalities. The Alberta Government took the position that in part the core funding grants to Associations and operating grants to ASBs was to help with EFP delivery. Things have changed since that policy was implemented a decade ago.

Funding for LARA for EFP delivery is recognized as needed but as of yet is unknown

8. ARECA is actively exploring new federal government funding opportunities. From discussions to date, we think that there are some good possibilities, particularly on the environment/sustainable resource side of farming/ranching. The federal government is ramping up funding in this area. ARECA is also staying connected with Alberta Ag as they revise the remaining 2 years of CAP programming. This is currently underway and any revisions should be known sometime this spring. Alberta Ag is transferring to RDAR the applied research and extension CAP funding of around \$12 million dollars a year. That still leaves Alberta Ag with over \$30 million per year for the next 2 years of other CAP programming, some of which is relevant to Associations. I have had some initial discussions with senior Alberta Ag folks as they are getting negotiations underway on the next 5 year Ag Policy Framework

programs with the Federal Government. These program will be the successor to CAP and the various Business Risk Management programs run by AFSC. Over the next 2 years priorities will be agreed to and funding programs developed that will be a new 5 year agreement from April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2028. Alberta Ag had the associations in mind when they set up the CAP program, we need to make sure that same is true when they set up the 5 year successor program to CAP

There were some projects that ARECA was prepared to take on, but ultimately did not as Commissions did. These arose from the changes that happened with reduction of Alberta Ag services and programs.

1. ARECA was in the process of developing a CAP proposal in early 2020 to take over the Blue Book. We were proposing to partner this with Commissions and others. However during the early discussions, Alberta Wheat, Barley, Canola, Pulse Commissions decided that they would take on the Blue Book themselves rather than funding a 3rd party to do it. This made sense given the financial situation of the Commissions and the provincial nature of the Blue Book. Hence ARECA stepped back and supported the Commissions going forward. The new 2021 Blue Book is being distributed, likely starting this month. There will be over 10,000 Blue Books distributed to farmers and agribusiness, plus there will also be an on line version. There may be possibilities, under Commissions leadership, to move to a western Canada Blue Book in the next year or two, as currently replicated efforts are occurring in each Province. Time will tell
2. The Alberta Ag program reductions eliminated their support to Regional Variety Trials. ARECA got into discussions with Commissions, seed companies, Alberta Seed Growers and others with an offer to coordinate the cereals and flax RVTs if needed. Ultimately Alberta Wheat and Barley Commissions decided that being as they were already handling the funding of cereals and flax RVTs, that they would go the extra mile and provide the coordination as well. They have hired Dr Sheri Strydhorst who is now an Alberta Wheat Commission employee. Part of what Sheri will be doing is leading the Cereals and flax RVT this year and beyond. Several Associations will be continuing to be contractors for RVT sites and will receive funding to help with that. This may vary a bit between Cereals, Pulses and Canola sites as each of these 3 RVT programs is under different management but do talk and coordinate with each other.

Funding for LARA for RVTs will be available

3. Last year it was looking like the Alberta Agriculture Pulse research and extension program, led by Robyn Bowness, may not have a home. ARECA got involved in some early discussion with Alberta Pulse Growers and Alberta Ag as a possible home for this. Lakeland College got involved around the same time, and in the end Alberta Ag opted to position the program as part of a large effort they were transferring to Lakeland College (both beef and pulses have ended up at Lakeland). This was consistent with the apparent Government policy of transferring their research assets to universities and colleges, rather than looking to the Applied

Research Associations as an alternative. FarmRite had some of the same difficulties, particularly in southern Alberta.

4. Although these three initiatives did not result in any of them being housed with Associations/ARECA/FarmRite, it was helpful in keeping people aware of the capacity, ability and understanding of the Forage and Applied Research capabilities and accomplishments around the province. The good news is all 3 initiatives have found good, well financed homes and will continue to bring significant value to farmers.

Hope this is helpful for your discussions with LARA Board next week. As discussions and planning progresses over the coming weeks/months with Associations/ARECA/FarmRite/John Knapp and Working Group, the future needs of a provincial arm of Associations, what it will be tasked to do in support of the 12 Associations, how it will be governed, and how it will operate will be sorted out.

All the best Charlie

Have a wonderful evening

Alan
403-506-1105

PS – Greg is this along the lines of what we discussed this morning? I will be including some of this in my report at ARECA AGM. I won't get into individual association funding but will speak to the larger picture. Thoughts? Thanks. Alan

Meeting of Board of Directors
Zoom Meeting

LARA Minutes of February 22, 2021

Present:

Phil Amyotte	Dan Gawalko	Laurier B
Kevin Wirsta	George L'Heureux	Marc Jubinville
Cliff Martin	Carl Agnemark	Wanda Austin
Luc Tellier	Barb Shapka	Murry Scott
Ulf Herde	Charlie Leskiw	Kellie Nichiporik
Stephanie Bilodeau	Amanda Mathiot	

Recording Secretary: Amanda Mathiot

A. Opening

Wanda called the meeting to order 10:04 am

A. Agenda

Added ASB funding (Published newsletter article) under LFA Report

Motion 21-07: Luc moved to adopt the agenda. George seconded. **Carried.**

Motion 21-08: Cliff moved to adopt the minutes of January 18th, 2021 as presented. Murray seconded. **Carried.**

B. Business Arising

None

C. Standing Business

A. Chair Report

- a. Attended FarmRITE meeting
- b. Not too much to report on, will have more with upcoming RDAR meetings

B. ARECA Report (Charlie)

- a. Lots of unknown, need to sort out with RDAR going forward.
- b. Recommendation that LARA should consider more formal relationship with Lakeland College.

C. FarmRite (Amanda)

- a. FarmRite voted for John Kolks and Steve Kenyon for producer reps for the RDAR Board, we also nominated Vance Yaremko to stay on the existing board as there are 3 positions for existing board members and 7 positions for producer members.
- b. Two million dollars per year over the next two years will be split between the 12 organizations.
- c. ARECA put funding in jeopardy by putting in proposal before the meeting to discuss funds this create
- d. John Knap is doing consultations with FarmRITE and ARECA to try and create unity to create one organization.

D. Manager Report (Amanda)

- a. I have completed seven CAP grant reports, currently they are in the review stage and we should see payments soon.
- b. Attended multiple FarmRITE and ARECA meetings
- c. Currently finishing LARA presentation for ARECA AGM on February 26th 2021.
- d. Sent in applications to Canada Summer Jobs for three summer students.
- e. Hired three summer students.

E. Research Report (Amanda/Stephanie)

- a. Confirmed regional variety trials for 2021. Alex Fedko is no longer with the Alberta government to head these trials. The Alberta Wheat and Barley commission hired people in his place.
- b. We will be doing La Coop Oats trials again in 2021.
- c. Confirmed regional silage trials as Chinook Applied Research Association and (CARA) and LARA are heading these trials.
- d. Amanda and Stephanie will be sourcing seed for the RST and other LARA trials.

F. AESA (Kellie)

- a. Worked on a couple of EFP's with producers
- b. Been busy doing admin work

G. Financials

- a. Amanda presented the financials
- b. Lac La Biche \$ 60,000 receivable, waiting on cheque to come, only signed agreement with Lac La Biche so far in 2021.
- c. Alberta Canola Council will be receiving \$2,500 for extension events.
- d. Have a credit on hall rental due to in and out money for MLWS. LARA paid for hall and was waiting to be reimburse. Project was instead allocated to the Moose Lake Project.

H. LFA (Luc)

- a. Trying to get patrons on board for LFA AGM.
- b. 390 Heifers going into the pasture.

Motion 21- 09: George moves to adopt the reports as presented. Luc seconded, Carried.

4.0 New Business

A. ARECA membership

Motion 21-10 George made the moves to leave ARECA, Laurier seconded, **Carried**

Motion 21-11 Marc moves that a letter be sent to both ARECA and FarmRITE to support the formation of one association. George seconded, **Carried.**

- a. Board of directors requested the letter be sent to the board before submitting to FarmRITE and ARECA.

B. ASB Funding

- a. Would like to have a conversation about ASB funding before physical year end.
- b. Danny recommended a letter go to MLA's with signatures from municipalities to show support for funding. Kellie will be writing a letter to submit to municipalities.
- c. Will know soon if we receive the funds from 2020 for Kellie's position by the end of the physical year.
- d. Add ASB Funding to next meeting agenda.

C. Upcoming events

- a. Save the date LARA AGM March 2nd, 2021 starting at 7:00pm. Up for election Murray and Laurier, Murray will let his name stand. George will talk to Laurier to see if he will let his name stand. Will start with business and then research presentation.
- b. Mental Health workshop fully booked.
- c. Joel Williams Webinar Series.
- d. Possibility of Hemp Workshop in the future.

5.0 Correspondence

- A. Lamont County approached LARA about a partnership, Kellie asked what they are looking for as we would only be able to do extension with the limited manpower we have.
- B. Previous years we have declined Two Hills County and Athabasca.
- C. Could cause problems with current municipalities as Smoky Lake is still on the fence.

6.0 Board of Directors (Closed Session)

Motion 21-12: Murray moved to go in camera at 11:50 am, Danny seconded. **Carried**

Motion 21-13 Marc moved to come out of camera at 12:39 pm, Cliff seconded. **Carried**

Motion 21-14: Luc motioned a human resource committee be created consisting of the chair and two board members. George seconded. **Carried.**

Motion 21-15 George moved to appoint Marc and Laurier on a temporary basis to this committee. Cliff seconded. **Carried.**

7.0 Closure

Next Board Meeting: March 29th, 2021 at 10:00 am

Motion 21-16: Wanda moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:45 pm

LARA Director

LARA Director



7
GOALS

89%
GOAL COMPLETION

AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD PLAN
(ASB) PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Goal	Progress Update	Current Com...	Start Date	Due Date
Administrative Activity: 100%	<p>NEW Carleigh McMullin:</p> <p>Achievements: Meetings & Training attended February 16th-April 13th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Health & Safety Meeting-February 18th • Quick Meeting with Gene & Dave Kully RE: Tractor quotes- February 18th • Council Meeting-February 25th • Meeting with Gene & Amanda RE: Upcoming season planning- February 26th • Quick Meeting with Carole and Amanda RE: AGMobile/GIS- March 1st • LARA AGM- March 2nd • ASB/Ag & Forestry Updates-March 3rd • Cows & Fish Webinar-March 4th • Departmental Meeting-March 4th • Carleigh attended AAAF Education Committee Meeting-March 5th • ASB/Ag & Forestry Update-March 10th • Cows & Fish Webinar- March 10th • ASB/Ag & Forestry Update-March 17th • NE AAAF Regional Meeting-March 17th • Cows & Fish Webinar-March 18th • Joint Health & Safety Meeting-March 18th • Alberta Invasive Species Council Virtual Conference (Applicator credits included)- March 15th- March 19th • Departmental Meeting -March 22nd • ASB/ Ag & Forestry webinar update- March 24th 	<p>80%</p> <p>80 / 100%</p> <p>2% behind</p>	2017/12/31	2021/12/31

5.2

- Carleigh attended the Disaster Recovery Program Update-March 25th
- Amanda attended the New World Extension Opportunities Rob Saik-March 25th
- Alberta Certified Weed Free Forage Inspector Training- March 30th
- ASB/ Ag & Forestry Update Webinar- March 31st
- ASB/ Ag & Forestry Update Webinar- April 7th
- LARA conference call- April 9th

Ag Department Highlights

- Weed Inspectors have been hired: **both are students**
- Mower operator deadline to apply is April 30th
- Smoky Lake County is back on the organizing committee for Grazing School for Women, planning for a 3 day virtual event details TBD.
- Planning NE AAAF Spring Training Smoky Lake County is in charge of 'Weed School' this year.
- LARA agreement has been signed
- We were successful in our Alberta Conservation Association grant application and will be receiving funds for pond leveler installs
- Trevor Cameron is back

Upcoming Events

- 4-H Achievement day-June 11th, 2021

Challenges: *No value*

Next Steps: *No value*

2021/03/12

Blasting Activity (ASB): 100%

NEW Carleigh McMullin:

Achievements:

- Completing DFO submissions for blasting. These applications are time consuming, and require going to get pictures of each dam that needs to be removed as well as maps. This is something we need to take into consideration for the upcoming season, as we can only pre submit so many because we can't always predict where the beavers are going to dam and where we will have issues.
- E-mailed the DFO asking for clarification on "timing periods", waiting for hear back from them. The importance of this inquiry is that these submissions may only need to be done for Spring blasting, and may not affect our Fall blasting program.

Challenges: *No value*

Next Steps: *No value*

2021/03/29



2020/08/01

2021/12/31

90%
90 / 100%
42% ahead

Mowing Activity (ASB): 100%

NEW Carleigh McMullin:

Achievements:

- Letters were sent directly to landowners for hay permits with a copy of the hay permit to be filled out and returned to us. They must have these returned to us by June 1st otherwise we will be mowing all ditches without applications.

Challenges: *No value*

Next Steps: *No value*

2021/03/15

2017/12/31

2020/12/30

100%
100 / 100%

Safety Activity (ASB)

NEW Carleigh McMullin:

Achievements:

- Attended both February and March Joint Health & Safety Meetings
- Put an inquiry in to Trevor T in regards to chainsaw training for mower operators to help with ditch clean up
- Put another inquiry in to Trevor T for TDG Training for myself and Amanda
- Ordered PPE and chemical for upcoming season

Challenges: *No value*

Next Steps: *No value*

2021/03/12

2020/01/01

2021/12/31

55%
8% behind

(ASB) COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MOTIONS/INQUIRIES

Goal	Progress Update	Current Com...	Start Date	Due Date
Lakeland Agricultural Research Association (LARA) - Letter of Support	<p>NEW Carleigh McMullin:</p> <p>Achievements: Letter of Support filled out and returned to LARA March 1st, 2021.</p> <p>Challenges: <i>No value</i></p> <p>Next Steps: <i>No value</i></p> <p>2021/03/01</p>	100%	2021/02/16	2021/12/31

Weed Inspector & Secondary Trapper

NEW Evonne Zukiwski:

Achievements: Weed Inspector Employment Opportunity advertised:

- Posted on the Smoky Lake County website on January 25, 2021

- Scheduled to appear on Smoky Lake County's social media on:

- January 26, 2021
- February 10, 2021
- February 27, 2021
- March 12, 2021

- February Grapevine (published the week of February 8, 2021) in the Redwater Review and Smoky Lake Signal

- March Grapevine (published the week of March 8, 2021) in the Redwater Review and Smoky Lake Signal

- Published in the March 2, 2021 edition of the Redwater Review

Challenges: *No value*

Next Steps: *No value*

2021/02/23

Tractor and Blade Mount Tender Results

NEW Carleigh McMullin:

Achievements: E-mail sent to Corey Waldner at Ag Land St. Paul on March 1st quoting the motion made by Council on February 25th in order to move forward to order the new 6130M tractor and blade mounts. Arrival date of tractor is June 3rd, 2021 in St. Paul.

Challenges: *No value*

Next Steps: *No value*

2021/03/09

2021/02/16

2021/12/31

100%

2021/02/25

2021/12/31

100%

Amanda Kihn

From: Doug Macaulay <Doug.Macaulay@gov.ab.ca>
Sent: April 6, 2021 10:47 AM
Subject: FW: Moisture situation update as of March 29th 2021
Attachments: Map 1 7-day precipitation accumulations as of March 29 2021.jpg; Map 2 Average monthly precipitation accumulations.png; Map 3 Average semi monthly precipitation accumulations.png

SENT ON BEHALF OF DALE CHRAPKO

From: Ralph Wright <Ralph.Wright@gov.ab.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 12:05 PM
To:
Subject: Moisture situation update as of March 29th 2021

Synopsis

This winter has been very dry, particularly through portions of central Alberta with snow packs province wide, retreating early due to warmer than normal temperatures.

On Sunday and Monday, a major spring storm hit Alberta and generated high winds across most of the province, but it didn't bring quite as much moisture as had been forecast. For much of southern Alberta and the dry central parts of the province, many were hoping to get more moisture into the snow free fields ahead of spring seeding from this system.

Precipitation accumulations over the past 7-days as of March 29, 2021 (map 1)

Over the past week moisture has returned to many areas, with at least 5-10 mm falling across the Peace Region and the north-half of the North East and North West Regions and all along the foothills and through some parts of southern Alberta. This grades to less than 2 mm across much of the Central Region and the south-central portions of the Southern Region (**map 1**).

Perspective

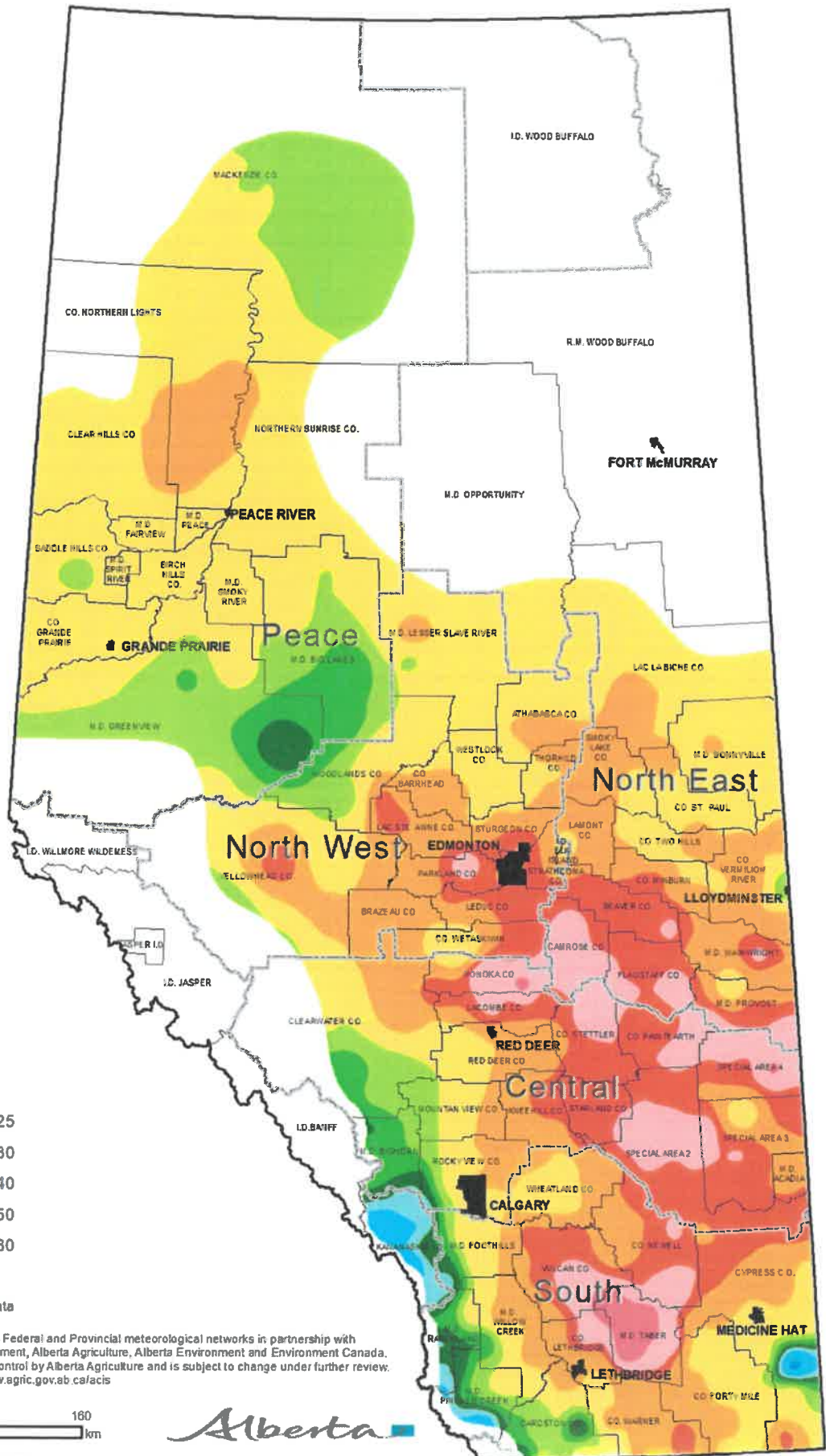
After consulting with Alberta's fire weather meteorologists, it appears that the stable weather patterns that dominated the winter months have now given way to a more unsettled pattern that can be considered more typical for this time of year. Over the next 10-days several disturbances are set to sweep across the province bringing mixed conditions and a least some moisture to most areas.

Seasonal precipitation patterns (map 2 and map 3)

Beyond the 10-day forecast it's difficult to predict with certainty what will happen, but historically the dry winter months give way to improving moisture in April (**map 2**), which first appears across southern Alberta and along the foothills as far north as Grande Cache, late in the month (**map 3**). This trend moves steadily northward through the Peace Region by the end of May. During this time, rainfall accumulations steadily increase province wide, and typically peak across southern Alberta, during the first half of June. For lands lying north of Calgary, extending up through the Peace Region, the peak occurs during the first half of July.

June generally marks a drying trend across Southern Alberta that intensifies into August. In contrast, areas across most of the northern 2/3rds of the province typically receive good moisture through to the end of August.

Ralph Wright
Agro-meteorology Applications and Modelling Unit
780-446-6831



Precipitation Received During the Past 7-days

March 23, 2021 to March 29, 2021 aprox. 2400 hrs

Precipitation (mm)

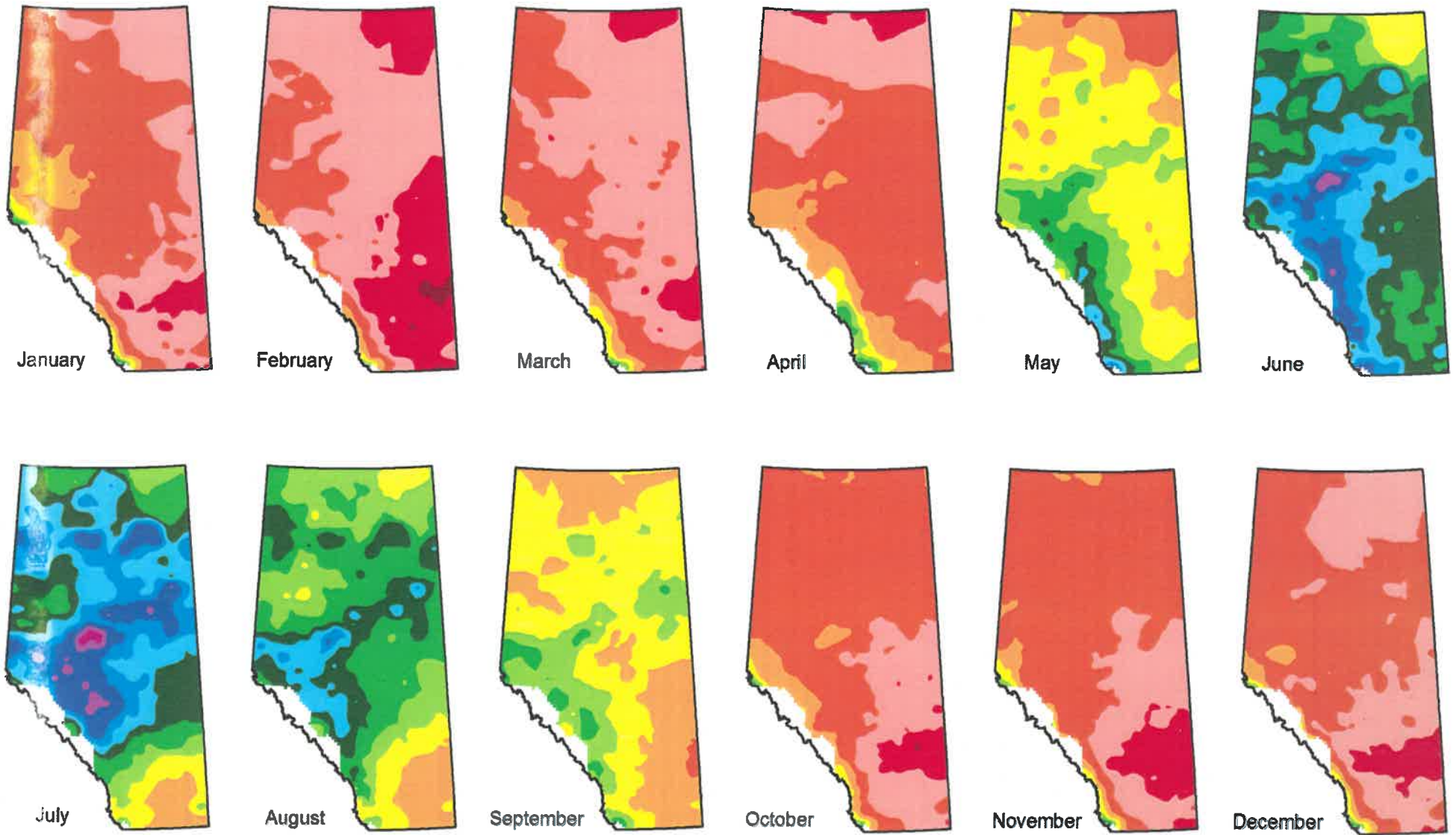
< 1	20 - 25
1 - 2	25 - 30
2 - 3	30 - 40
3 - 5	40 - 50
5 - 10	50 - 80
10 - 15	> 80
15 - 20	No Data

Near-real-time data was collected from Federal and Provincial meteorological networks in partnership with Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, Alberta Agriculture, Alberta Environment and Environment Canada. Data has passed preliminary quality control by Alberta Agriculture and is subject to change under further review. Live station data can be viewed at www.agric.gov.ab.ca/facis



Compiled by Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development, Environmental Stewardship Division, Technology and Innovation Branch
Created on March 30, 2021

Visit weatherdata.ca for additional maps and meteorological data



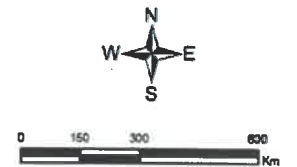
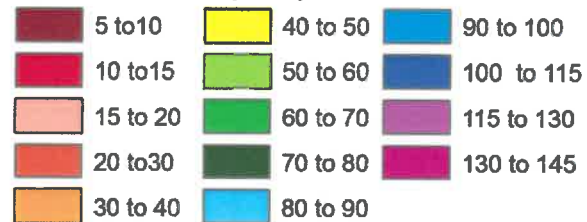
Average Monthly Precipitation in Alberta

for the period 1961-2010

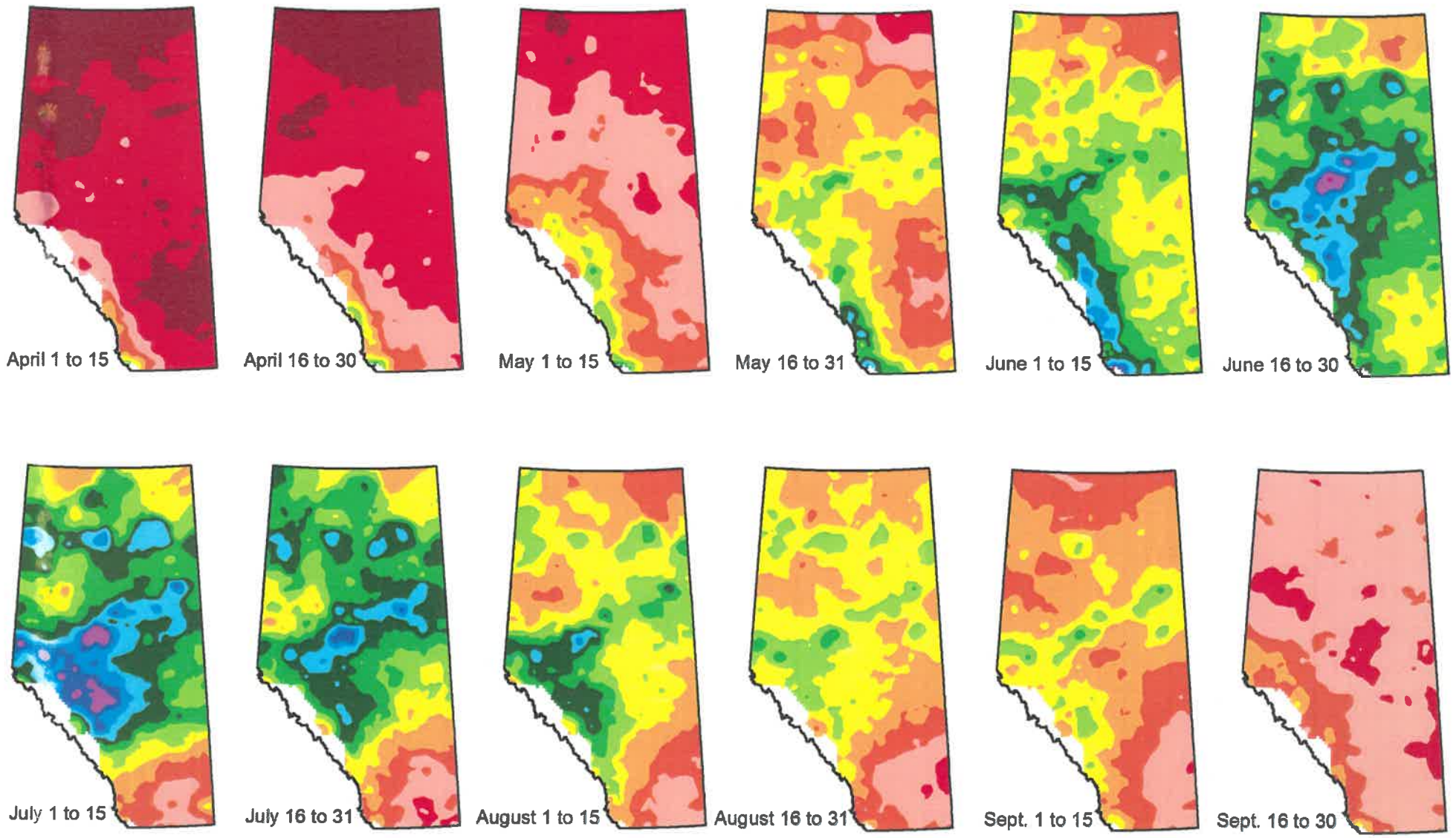
Average based on historical weather data from the 1961-2010 period, interpolated to township centers using AbClim-3.1.

Compiled by Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development, Environmental Stewardship Division, Technology and Innovation Branch
Created on December 09, 2011

Precipitation (mm)



Government of Alberta
Agriculture and Rural Development



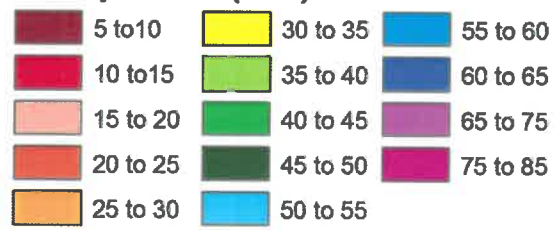
Average Semi-Monthly Growing Season Precipitation in Alberta

for the period 1961-2010

Average based on historical weather data from the 1961-2010 period, interpolated to township centers using AbClim-3.1.

Compiled by Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development, Environmental Stewardship Division, Technology and Innovation Branch
Created on December 09, 2011

Precipitation (mm)



Government of Alberta
Agriculture and Rural Development

Carleigh McMullin

From: FPP.CA / PPP.CA (DFO/MPO) <fisheriesprotection@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 9:13 AM
To: Carleigh McMullin
Subject: RE: Blasting inquiry

Hi Carleigh,

Sorry for the late reply.

The timing window in which no in water work should take place for the Smokey Lake area is between April 16th and July 15th.

If there are cool water species in the water system (like Lake Trout or Lake Whitefish) then there could also be some restrictions on in-water work due to the fall spawning window.

I would also like to note that the interim code of practice for beaver dam removal does not apply if explosives are being used.

As for emergency works, yes the best way forward would to be submit an emergency Request for Review.

Sincerely,

Lilia Schoot Uiterkamp

Biologist | Biologiste

Fisheries and Oceans Canada | Pêches et Océans Canada

Ontario and Prairie Region | Région de l'Ontario et des Prairies

Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program | Programme de protection du poisson et de son habitat

From: Carleigh McMullin <cmcmullin@smokylakecounty.ab.ca>
Sent: March 22, 2021 3:26 PM
To: FPP.CA / PPP.CA (DFO/MPO) <fisheriesprotection@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Subject: Blasting inquiry

Good afternoon,

I have searched the DFO website high and low and I keep coming up empty handed. I would like to know the exact dates that blasting **cannot** take place. I have been told April 16th-June 30th, but I would prefer if I heard that directly from the DFO rather than from another municipality. I have clicked on the 'timing window' hyperlink within the Interim Code of practice: beaver dam removal, and I have been unsuccessful. If someone could please advise.

Another question my Council wanted me to ask was in case of an emergency and we are going to lose a road due to flooding is there any type of work around for municipalities? Or is the only thing option to do an emergency request for review?

Thank you,

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Agreement (“Agreement”) is made effective as of April 15, 2021.

BETWEEN:

Lakeland Industry and Community Association
(hereinafter referred to as the “LICA”)

-and-

Smoky Lake County
(hereinafter referred to as the “County”)

Purpose

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets the terms and understanding between LICA and the County for the installation of two pond levelers at NE-34-61-14 W4 (the ‘Project’).

Background

LICA – Environmental Stewards, is a community-based not-for-profit association that strives to develop an ecologically healthy and environmentally sustainable environment by focusing on environmental monitoring, environmental management, and community education and outreach in the Lakeland region. LICA has received funding under the Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program to develop and deploy beaver coexistence management devices (pond levelers and/or culvert protectors).

Beavers are truly amazing animals! They create fertile ecosystems, making habitat for many other species and providing numerous benefits to humans, animals, and ecosystems alike. Beavers help store, cleanse and manage water, preventing floods and droughts, and improve downstream aquatic health. However, beaver activities can also cause damage resulting in the need for beaver management. Traditional management techniques include lethal trapping, shooting, dam removal, bounty hunting, relocation, nuisance permits, and poisoning. These methods are often costly, do not solve the problem, and prevent the environmental benefits associated with beaver activities. Coexistence methods such as pond levelers and culvert protectors are cost effective and prevent unwanted damage while allowing beavers to remain in their natural environment. Pond levelers involve a pipe through a beaver dam, which mitigate flooding by establishing a maximum water level. Culvert protectors are specifically designed to prevent culvert blockages.

LICA Beaver Management Partnership_ MOU

Warranties from LICA

1. LICA will develop an educational sign that will be placed in a public location chosen by the County and agreed upon by LICA.
2. LICA does not guarantee the pond levelers will prevent unwanted impacts associated with beaver activities and/or keep the impacted beavers in their current location.
3. LICA agrees to oversee the completion of the Project by September 1, 2021, and installation of the educational sign by June 2022.

Warranties from the County

4. The County will assume full liability and ownership for the Project.
5. The County will obtain any relevant permits, approvals, and insurance to conduct the Project.
6. The County is responsible for the procurement of all skilled labour and equipment to develop and deploy the pond levelers and install the educational sign, and will provide LICA with a detailed list of incurred expenses for reporting purposes by December 31, 2021.
7. The County will purchase all materials required to complete the Project.
8. The County will provide photo documentation of the installed pond levelers to LICA.
9. The County will provide maintenance and upkeep for the pond levelers.
10. The County agrees to complete installation of the pond levelers by September 1, 2021.
11. The County agrees to install the educational sign by June, 2022.

Payment and Termination

12. LICA will pay up to a maximum of \$1,200 CAD for costs associated with the Project supported via proof of receipt received before December 31, 2021. Costs may include materials, labour and mileage.
13. LICA will pay a third-party contractor to print and construct educational signage and LICA will purchase hardware for sign installation. Such expenses are excluded from the \$1,200 CAD Project budget disclosed above.

LICA Beaver Management Partnership_ MOU

14. If the County believes at any point that the total cost will exceed the amount agreed to by the parties, they will inform LICA in writing prior to proceeding with the expenses, as soon as practicable, of the revised costs and the reasons why the costs will exceed the amount set out in the Agreement. The parties will attempt to negotiate, in good faith, terms for the completion of the Project, before terminating the Agreement or seeking any other remedy.
15. If at any time the County anticipates that they will not be able to complete the Project by September 1, 2021 and/or sign installation by June, 2022, they will notify LICA in writing as soon as practicable. The parties will attempt to negotiate, in good faith, terms for the completion of the Project, before terminating the Agreement or seeking any other remedy.
16. Subject to any other provisions of this Agreement, either party may terminate this agreement by providing 15 days notice, in writing, to the other.

Duration

The MOU is at-will and may be modified by mutual consent of authorized officials from LICA and the County. This MOU shall become effective upon signature by the authorized officials from LICA and the County and will remain in effect until modified or terminated by any one of the parties by mutual consent.

LICA Beaver Management Partnership_ MOU

Contact information

Lakeland Industry & Community Association
Attention: Tricia B. Fleming, Environmental Coordinator
P.O. Box 8237
Bonnyville, AB T9N 2J5
Tel: (780) 812-2182
Cell: (780) 815-0820
E-mail: watershed@lica.ca

Smoky Lake County
Attention: Carleigh McMullin, Agricultural Fieldman
PO Box 310
Smoky Lake, Alberta T0A 3C0
Tel: (780) 656-3730
E-mail: cmcmullin@smokylakecounty.ab.ca

Lakeland Industry and Community Association:

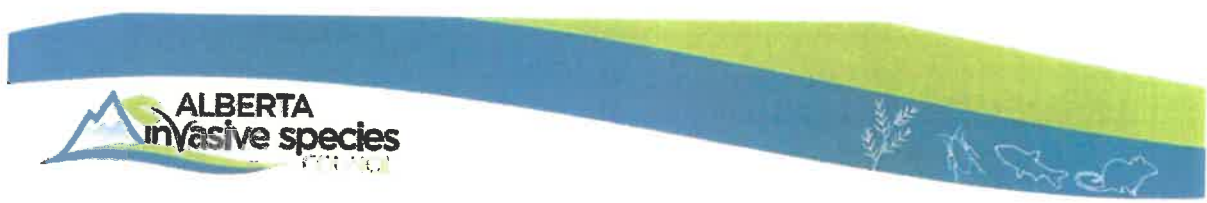
PER _____
NAME:
TITLE:
DATE:

PER _____
NAME:
TITLE:
DATE:

Smoky Lake County:

PER _____
NAME:
TITLE:
DATE:

6.1



PO Box 1925
Blairmore, AB T0K0E0
www.abinvasives.ca

Amanda Kihn
Smoky Lake County
P. O. Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

January 26, 2021

Dear Amanda,

Thank you for your continued support of the Alberta Invasive Species Council. During these uncertain times, the support of organizations like yours is more important than ever.

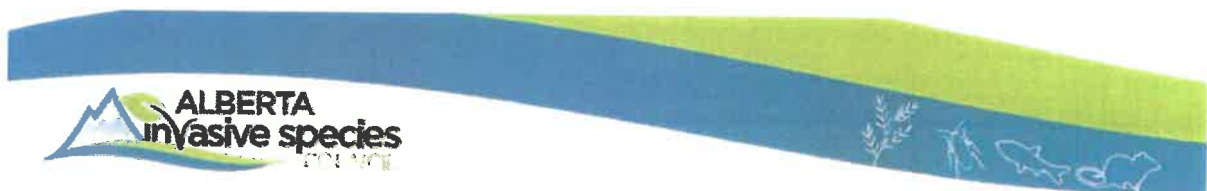
In the past year, like many other organizations, AISC navigated rapidly changing environments and implemented innovative solutions to work toward achieving our goals to protect Alberta from the harmful impacts of invasive species. With your support we were able to:

- Launch a new resource-packed website.
- Revise and reprint the Be Plant Wise Grow Me Instead brochure.
- Attend events to promote awareness of invasive species in Alberta.
- Partner with Canadian and European researchers to support biocontrol research programs for common tansy and oxeye daisy.
- Work with industry, NGO, and municipal partners to adopt the Squeal on Pigs! campaign.
- Work with municipal partners, and NGOs to revitalize the Alberta Certified Weed Free Forage program.
- Work with municipal, NGO and industry partners to begin revision of the Alberta Invasive Plant Identification Guide.
- Maintain almost 150 invasive species factsheets.
- Send quarterly newsletters to over 1,300 subscribers.
- Host our first ever virtual Annual General Meeting and webinar series, which offered professional development credits for certified pesticide applicators.
- Promote EDDMapS Alberta, a free smartphone app that allows users to report invasive plant species. We verify those reports and send them to the local authority for follow-up.
- Create distribution maps for all invasive species reported through EDDMapS.
- Administer the Alberta Biocontrol Release program.
- Promote behaviour change campaigns such as PlayCleanGo, Don't Let It Loose, Clean Drain Dry, etc.
- Poll our membership to learn how we can better serve them and initiate strategic planning efforts.
- Reach thousands of people through our social media posts.

If you or your organization receives value and benefits from AISC's efforts, please review the following options and consider new or continued sponsorship of our organization.



Sponsor Benefit	Bronze Sponsor (\$1,000)	Silver Sponsor (\$2,000)	Gold Sponsor (\$5,000 +)
Access to our invasive species factsheets	✓	✓	✓
Access to quarterly electronic newsletters	✓	✓	✓
Free download and use of EDDMapS Alberta app. Invasive species reports are verified and forwarded to local authorities	✓	✓	✓
Opportunity to participate in working groups, events, or contribute articles to our newsletters and blogs	✓	✓	✓
Reduced price (50%) on annual conference registration fees	✓	✓	✓
Recognition in AISC's website and regular recognition of your generous contribution throughout the year in social media posts, at events, etc.	✓	✓	✓
Logo and recognition in our quarterly newsletter	✓	✓	✓
Annual AISC memberships (includes one vote per membership at AGM)	2	3	4
Article in The Invader newsletter; choose the topic and provide content on one article per year in consultation with the Editor	✓	✓	✓
Advertisement in The Invader newsletter half page once per year at no charge		✓	✓
Booth at AISC's annual in person conference or advertising at virtual events (no charge; first come, first served)		✓	✓
Free conference registration fee			1
Option to direct 50% of your sponsorship dollars to one of AISC's initiatives and be recognized as a sponsor of that initiative: Biocontrol research, EDDMapS Alberta, Grow Me instead, 'Squeal on Pigs!', Weed Free Forage, PlayCleanGo, etc.			✓



If you have any questions about the Alberta Invasive Species Council or sponsorship opportunities, please do not hesitate to contact us. Please let us know if there are other program ideas or sponsor recognition ideas you would like to discuss.

Thank you for your continued support of the AISC and for helping to protect Alberta from the harmful impacts of invasive species, we could not do the work that we do without it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MEGAN EVANS".

Megan Evans
Executive Director





AISC Sponsor Form

Organization Name _____

Contact Name _____ Contact Phone _____

Contact Email Address _____

Sponsorship Level (Bronze, Silver, Gold) _____

Name of Members (2 for Bronze, 3 for Silver, and 4 for Gold):

Add email to newsletter mailing list

Invoice Required

Please return this completed form to execdirector@abinvasives.ca or PO Box 1925, Blairmore, AB T0K0E0. Thank you for your continued support to help protect Alberta from the impacts of invasive species.



6-2

265 East 400 South – Box 291 – Raymond – Alberta – T0K 2S0
Tel: 403 752-4585 – Fax: 403 752-3643 – Website: www.abfarmsafety.com

February 8, 2021

Carleigh McMullin - Agricultural Fieldman
Smoky Lake County
Box 310
Smoky Lake, Alberta
T0A 3C0



Carleigh:

I apologize in advance for the length of this correspondence, but the challenges and changes caused by COVID and other circumstances are many. Out of respect for the long-term relationship between our organizations, a certain amount of detail and explanation are needed at this time.

From the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year in September 2019 until school classes in Alberta were suspended in mid-March 2020 - 40,662 rural children in 339 schools had already received our in-class farm safety presentations. Students in an additional 152 schools were booked for program delivery during the remaining months of the school year.

In April 2020 we began working to add content to our website which would allow students to access interactive farm safety learning tools during the COVID disruption in school attendance. By the first week of May two of the game-based teaching activities typically used in-class had been adapted and made available on our website: abfarmsafety.com
Parent feedback has been very positive.

With the return of in-person program delivery uncertain, the following activities were completed between Apr - Oct 2020

- Hundreds of farm safety related still images gathered over time have been tagged, for improved access/use
- Video resources developed previously by the Centre have been reformatted to allow on-line, web-based access
- Re-formatted video resources have all been tagged, for improved access/use in adapted program delivery
- Safety Smarts materials, models, tools etc. have been gathered from regional instructors across the province
- Sorting and cleaning of models, displays and other in-class teaching materials gathered from regional instructors
- Adaptation of some existing personal experience safety videos to make them more virtual delivery friendly
- Gathering of an additional 18 personal experience safety videos – for use virtually and face to face
- Remake of the Welcome to the Farm video with both female and male youth narrators
- Completion of new K/Gr 1 book – for virtual use. Available in hardcopy when in-person delivery resumes
- Development of 65+ new age and topic specific activity sheets – for virtual and in-person use
- Adaptation of Safety Smarts presentations to make them accessible/usable virtually
- Launch of updated website to better support schools, families and organizations looking for farm safety materials
- Procurement of PPE in anticipation of new disease prevention protocols when in-person delivery resumes

We did not begin reaching out to schools in September 2020, as it seemed apparent that COVID had greatly complicated their day-to-day responsibilities in the new 2020-2021 school year. School contacts begin in October as we inquired about their interest in continued farm safety learning. Without exception schools suggested we wait until 2021 to attempt any sort of outreach again.

Research into virtual delivery possibilities began in October 2020, with the purchasing of video conferencing equipment for November trials. Extensive training of delivery contractors for the anticipated launch of video conferenced (Zoom) Safety Smarts delivery began in December 2020 and continued into January 2021.

In late January rural schools were made aware of our intention to attempt virtual delivery of adapted Safety Smarts presentations. Actual Zoom delivery began on February 1, 2021 and by then 30+ school had already set up delivery schedules. Over the coming weeks we will get a better idea how virtual engagement is working and what improvements are needed to make the most of precious classroom time schools invest. We anxiously await the opportunity to again meet with students in-person, but until that is possible, we will continue with the steep learning curve of the virtual COVID world.

A few other items of note:

In October of 2020, the Farm Safety Centre was informed by GOA representatives that ALL their involvement in and support of farm safety learning and extension would end in December 2020. Their departmental staff were laid off and online resources were withdrawn at the end of the year. Source files for GOA developed materials were recently provided to the FSC and we hope to make them available in the coming weeks and months. GOA requested/required reformatting of files.

In December of 2020, an updated website was launched by the Farm Safety Centre. It is extremely straightforward to navigate and has many new resources available for schools, families, and organizations. Portions are still under constructions, but I would encourage you to spend a few minutes reviewing what is available. We would be happy to promote any of your upcoming happenings in our News & Events section, or on our social media platforms.

In January of 2021, the organization began a strategic assessment of our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and risks/threats. We anticipate some findings by mid-April. Results will be available on our website in "About Us" section. Since inception in the early 1990's the FSC has had eye-to-eye learning moments with more than 780,000 rural individuals. What will and should the next 20+ years include, to continue serving rural Albertans in a meaningful way? This is THE question....

In March of 2021, I will be retiring as Executive Director after 20 wonderful years. I very much appreciate the enriching interactions I have had with exceptional individuals across the province. Jordan Jensen will be stepping in as the new Executive Director. **He can be reached at j.jensen@abfarmsafety.com or 403 593-8960 (cell) or 403 752-4585 (office).**

And lastly, the Farm Safety Centre would again hope that in 2021 your rural municipality will continue its support of our extension efforts. In the past our annual ask has been based on program delivery during the previous year. COVID changed 2020 possibilities. Schools booked for program delivery Mar-June 2020 are detailed on an enclosed document. Annual program delivery totals from 2011-2020 are also enclosed and provide some context for our limited 2020 delivery. A hardcopy of the Safety Smarts 2019-2020 year-end report was mailed out to all municipalities in July 2020. Please connect with me if you would like an electronic copy, or it can be found on our website: abfarmsafety.com

At the discretion of your ASB, and within the financial realities of an economically challenged province, any level of support supplied in 2021 would be greatly appreciated. It was extremely heartwarming, that in 2020, knowing that COVID had impacted in-person program delivery, 48 rural municipalities still supported the Farm Safety Centre. Thank you!

Exactly how farm safety learning will evolve moving forward, is uncertain at this time but our organization is doing all it can to prepare itself to continue helping things go right for farmers and their families across our amazing province.

Sincerely,



Laura Nelson
Executive Director
Farm Safety Centre



265 East 400 South – Box 291 – Raymond – Alberta – T0K 2S0 – Tel: 403 752-4585 – Fax: 403 752-3643
 Email: safetyctr@abfarmsafety.com Website: abfarmsafety.com

School Bookings – Safety Smarts Presentations

March 16 – June 30, 2020

Delivery Impossible - COVID Related School Closure

County/Municipal District	Days Books - School Delivery Mar 16 – June 30	Specific Delivery Dates Booked	Jan 1 - Mar 15 Face to Face Delivery
MD of Acadia	--	--	32 children
Athabasca County *	2 delivery days – 3 schools	Apr 14; June 2	12 children
County of Barrhead	2 delivery days – 2 schools	Apr 9, 21	0 children
Beaver County *	4 delivery days – 4 school	Mar 30, 31; June 2, 9	0 children
MD of Big Lakes	3 delivery days – 2 schoola	Apr 23, 24; May 7	225 children
Birch Hills County	1 delivery day – 1 school	May 14	47 children
MD of Bonnyville	10 delivery days – 4 schools	Mar 23, 24, 25, 26 May 5, 6, 7, 8, 25, 26	673 children
Brazeau County	4 delivery days – 2 schools	Mar 16, 18, 19, 20	0 children
Camrose County	1 delivery day – 1 school	June 9	640 children
Cardston County	3 delivery days – 5 schools	Apr 21, 23; May 5	619 children
Clear Hills County	--	--	61 children
Clearwater County	1 delivery day – 1 school	Mar 26	270 children
Cypress County	--	--	234 children
MD of Fairview	2 delivery days – 2 schools	Apr 17; May 1	159 children
Flagstaff County	3 delivery days – 2 schools	Apr 9, 14, 15	240 children
MD of Foothills	5 delivery days – 1 school	May 11, 12, 13, 14, 15	534 children
County of Forty Mile	4 delivery days – 8 schools	Mar 26; April 2, 7, 22	47 children
County of Grande Prairie	1 delivery day – 1 school	Apr 20	25 children
MD of Greenview	1 delivery day – 1 school	Apr 2	18 children
Kneehill County	1 delivery day – 1 school	Mar 18	323 children
Lac La Biche County	--	--	156 children
Lac Ste. Anne County	4 delivery days – 2 schools	Apr 15, 16, 17, 23	154 children
Lacombe County *	10 delivery days – 5 school	Mar 18, 19 Apr 3, 7, 28, 29, 30 May 26, 27, 28	24 children
Lamont County	1 delivery day – 1 school	Apr 5	117 children

County/Municipal District	Days Books - School Delivery Mar 16 – June 30	Specific Delivery Dates Booked	Jan 1 - Mar 15 Face to Face Delivery
Leduc County	2 delivery days – 1 school	Mar 24, 25	829 children
MD of Lesser Slave River	1 delivery day – 2 schools	May 8	0 children
County of Lethbridge	8 delivery days – 4 schools	Mar 17, 18, 19, 24 April 8, 28, 28, 30	822 children
Mackenzie County	10 delivery days – 7 schools	May	0 children
County of Minburn *	7 delivery days – 6 schools	Apr 6, 30; May 1, 25, 26, 29 June 2	128 children
Mountain View County	6 delivery days – 3 schools	Mar 19; Apr 22, 23, 24 May 4, 5	363 children
County of Newell	--	--	1426 children
County of Northern Lights	--	--	0 children
Northern Sunrise County	--	--	0 children
County of Paintearth	1 delivery day – 1 school	Mar 23	85 children
Parkland County	--	--	471 children
MD of Peace	1 delivery day – 1 school	Apr 20	0 children
MD of Pincher Creek	4 delivery days – 2 schools	Mar 27, 30; May 20, 21	123 children
Ponoka County	--	--	182 children
MD of Provost	3 delivery days – 5 schools	Apr 1, 20, 30	0 children
Red Deer County *	16 delivery days – 8 schools	Mar 23x2, 24x2, 25, 30, 31 Apr 6, 7, 8, 9, 30 May 7, 12, 13, 14	327 children
Rockyview County	7 delivery days – 3 schools	Mar 16, 17; Apr 28 May 19, 20, 21, 22	1484 children
Saddle Hills County	1 delivery day – 1 school	Mar 19	13 children
Smoky Lake County	3 delivery days – 3 schools	May 7; June 1, 2	0 children
MD of Smoky River	--	--	204 children
Special Area 2	2 delivery days – 1 school	Mar 16, 17	359 children
Special Area 3	--	--	18 children
Special Area 4	--	--	67 children
MD of Spirit River	--	--	206 children
County of St. Paul	4 days – 2 schools	Mar 18, 19; Apr 27, 28	438 children
Starland County	--	--	0 children
County of Stettler	--	--	199 children
Strathcona County	6 delivery days – 3 schools	Apr 21, 22, 23 May 14, 20, 21	0 children
Sturgeon County	1 delivery day – 1 school	Apr 3	0 children
MD of Taber	4 delivery days – 3 schools	Mar 31; Apr 1 May 6, 7	19 children
County of Thorhild	1 delivery day – 1 school	May 20	0 children
County of Two Hills	2 delivery days – 3 schools	May 28, 29	70 children
County of Vermilion River	1 delivery day – 1 school	Apr 21	1071 children
Vulcan County	--	--	54 children

County/Municipal District	Days Books - School Delivery Mar 16 – June 30	Specific Delivery Dates Booked	Jan 1 - Mar 15 Face to Face Delivery
MD of Wainwright	9 delivery days – 7 schools	Apr 6, 22, 29 May 20, 21, 22, 29 June 3, 12	329 children
Westlock County	2 delivery days – 3 schools	Mar 20; Apr 21	62 children
County of Wetaskiwin *	2 delivery days – 2 schools	Apr 8; June 9	800 children
Wheatland County	--	--	667 children
County of Warner	4 delivery days – 7 schools	Apr 9, 22; May 5, 26	58 children
MD of Willow Creek	--	--	297 children
Woodlands County	1 delivery day – 1 school	Mar 31	376 children
Yellowhead County	8 delivery days – 5 schools	Apr 7, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24 May 5, 6	0 children



265 East 400 South - Box 291 - Raymond - Alberta - T0K 2S0 - Tel: 403-752-4585 - Fax: 403-752-3643

Email: safetyctr@abfarmsafety.com

Website: abfarmsafety.com

Smoky Lake County

2020 No Schools Visited

2019 "Safety Smarts" Delivery

MD/County Name	School	Date	Classes	Students	Amt. Child	2020 Request	
Smoky Lake County	H.A. Kostash School	21-May-19	6	129			
Smoky Lake County	Smoky Lake Colony School	03-Oct-19	1	11			
Smoky Lake County	Smoky Lake Colony School	27-May-19	1	8			
Totals			3	8	148	\$3.50	\$518.00

2018 "Safety Smarts" Delivery

MD/County Name	School	Date	Classes	Students	Amt. Child	2019 Request	
Smoky Lake County	Holy Family Catholic School	31-May-18	4	63			
Smoky Lake County	H.A. Kostash	26-Apr-18	7	154			
Totals			2	11	217	\$3.50	\$759.50

2017 "Safety Smarts" Delivery

MD/County Name	School	Date	Classes	Students	Amt. Child	2018 Request	
Smoky Lake County	H.A. Kostash School	06-Jun-17	5	103			
Smoky Lake County	Holy Family Catholic School	12-Jun-17	3	57			
Smoky Lake County	Smoky Lake Colony School	11-Sep-17	1	15			
Totals			3	9	175	\$3.50	\$612.50

2016 "Safety Smarts" Delivery

MD/County Name	School Name	Date	Classes	Students	Amt/Child	2017 Request	
Smoky Lake County	H.A. Kostash School	31-May-16	7	171			
Smoky Lake County	Holy Family Catholic School	10-May-16	5	73			
Smoky Lake County	Vilna School	07-Jun-16	6	91			
Smoky Lake County	Smoky Lake Colony School	02-Jun-16	1	10			
Smoky Lake County	Smoky Lake Colony School	22-Sep-16	1	12			
Totals			4	20	357	\$3.50	\$1,249.50

2015 "Safety Smarts" Delivery

MD/County Name	School Name	Date	Classes	Students	Amt/Child	2016 Request	
Smoky Lake County	H.A. Kostash School	22-Apr-15	7	134			
Smoky Lake County	Holy Family Catholic School	13-Jan-15	5	70			
Totals			2	12	204	\$3.50	\$714.00

2014 "Safety Smarts" Delivery

MD/County Name	School Name	Date	Classes	Students	Amt/Child	2015 Request	
Smoky Lake County	H.A. Kostash School	21-Mar-14	6	144			
Smoky Lake County	Smoky Lake Colony School	12-Jun-14	1	12			
Smoky Lake County	Vilna School	03-Nov-14	7	105			
Totals			3	14	261	\$3.50	\$913.50

2013 "Safety Smarts" Delivery

MD/County Name	School Name	Date	Classes	Students	Amt/Child	2014 Request	
Smoky Lake County	Holy Family Catholic School	08-Feb-13	4	84			
Smoky Lake County	Vilna School	29-Apr-13	4	77			
Smoky Lake County	Vilna School	13-Nov-13	6	78			
Smoky Lake County	H.A. Kostash School	05-Apr-13	7	134			
Totals			3	21	373	\$3.50	\$1,305.50

2012 "Safety Smarts" Delivery

MD/County Name	School Name	Date	Classes	Students	Amt/Child	2013 Request	
Smoky Lake County	H.A. Kostash School	29-Feb-12	7	147			
Smoky Lake County	Smoky Lake Colony School	02-Mar-12	2	31			
Smoky Lake County	Vilna School	30-Apr-12	6	95			
Totals			3	15	273	\$3.50	\$955.50

2011 "Safety Smarts" Delivery

MD/County Name	School Name	Date	Classes	Students	Amt/Child	2012 Request	
Smoky Lake County	H.A. Kostash School	01-Mar-11	7	150			
Smoky Lake County	Smoky Lake Colony School	20-Jan-11	1	17			
Smoky Lake County	Vilna School	16-May-11	5	92			
Smoky Lake County	Holy Family Catholic School	18-Oct-11	4	80			
Totals			4	17	339	\$3.50	\$1,186.50

Red Deer County



Agricultural Services

38106 Rge Rd. 275
Red Deer County, AB
T4S 2L9

Phone: 403.342.8654

Email: agriculture@rdcounty.ca

March 11, 2021

RE: PROVINCIAL ASB CONFERENCE

Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee,

Red Deer County Agricultural Service Board would like to express its concern with the Provincial Conference that was held virtually January 21, 2021. Our members have had numerous discussions in the weeks since the provincial conference and we feel that the afternoon resolution session was disorderly and ineffective. Agricultural Service Boards may be losing their voice at a provincial level and we need to ensure that we put forward relevant agricultural concerns that are well researched and well written to regain our seat at the table in discussing provincial matters. We were also concerned with some of the language and attempts at humor from the meeting itself. As a group that reports to the provincial agriculture minister we should hold ourselves to higher standard of professionalism. In addition, there were representatives from other organizations in attendance including speakers, government officials and our Agriculture Minister, and these comments did not improve our standing.

We understand that holding a session of this nature in a virtual setting poses many challenges. However, it is our opinion that excessive time was spent discussing items that were ready for a vote and there were also a number of administrative processes that were either not followed or should have been eliminated to make a more effective use of the attending delegates' time. The Review Committee did call for amendments in advance of the Resolutions Session and yet there were multiple "friendly amendments" from the floor for minor grammar and punctuation that should have been resolved in the review process, or during the call for amendments in advance of the Conference. Also, the seconder of the motion should be determined in advance and included in the resolutions package; too much time was spent on the formality of calling a seconder to the microphone which doesn't impact the discussion or outcome of a resolution.

There were two resolutions regarding the continued registration of 2% Liquid Strychnine, and while the first resolution was carried with little discussion, the second resolution resulted in extended discussion with the mover even attempting to amend it from the floor. Discussion wandered from amending the "Therefore be it resolved" statement to withdrawing the resolution all together. Ultimately the resolution was carried, but much time was exhausted in the process. These resolutions were very similar in nature and the Provincial ASB Resolutions Review Committee should have requested (or insisted that) the sponsors combine them before presenting them both at the Conference.

Red Deer County's ASB believes that resolutions are to raise awareness to agricultural issues and advise the appropriate ministry or agency of our concerns. Far too many resolutions are defeated for minor grammatical or technical concerns yet the original intent is generally supported by ASBs throughout the province. We would like to see the resolutions presented by their sponsoring municipality, hold discussion for and against, then a vote called. This would

Red Deer County



Agricultural Services

38106 Rge Rd. 275
Red Deer County, AB
T4S 2L9

Phone: 403.342.8654

Email: agriculture@rdcounty.ca

eliminate any opportunity for "friendly" amendments and general discussion, and the vote can then be called on the original resolution.

Red Deer County's ASB values our collective voice to communicate matters of concern to the federal and provincial government, but we have been losing confidence in the resolution process in recent years.

Our Ag Service Board has chosen to write letters directly to the Minister to bring awareness to issues; such as,

- Loss of access to "Ropin' the Web"
- Agricultural Impacts of Mandatory Entry Level Training for Class 1 Drivers Licenses
- The federal cancellation of 2% Liquid Strychnine Concentrate

Not only were we able to communicate our concerns in a timely manner but we also received written responses from each ministry contacted within weeks of our letter being mailed. These responses addressed our concerns, and we believe ultimately effected positive change and/or extensions to the benefit agricultural producers.

We feel strongly that the resolution process should be refined to make the most effective use of the regional and provincial sessions and the time each delegate commits to its concern. Is it time that we restructure the resolution process to deliver our concerns to the correct department in a more timely and effective manner?

We eagerly await your response and would like to encourage the ASB PC to investigate more effective options to compile agricultural concerns from the community and advocate them at a provincial and federal level.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Regards,

Red Deer County Agricultural Services Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Connie Huelsman".

Connie Huelsman, Chair

cc: Alberta Agricultural Service Boards
Alberta Association of Agricultural Fieldman

Amanda Kihn

From: Program Manager <programs@abfarmsafety.com>
Sent: March 15, 2021 3:48 PM
To: Amanda Kihn
Subject: Farm Safety Centre RUrAl Health Initiative



265 East 400 South – Box 291 – Raymond – Alberta – T0K 2S0
Tel: 403 752-4585 – Fax: 403 752-3643 – Website: www.abfarmsafety.com

March 15, 2021

Smoky Lake County

Dear Sir or Madam,

First and foremost, all of us here at the Farm Safety Centre want to thank you for your support through the years especially with the Safety Smarts Program. As you know the Safety Smarts Program has been running since 1998, and even though we are in the midst of the pandemic we were able to adapt the program and are able to still bring presentations to schools now.

Today we would like to introduce you to another program offered by the Farm Safety Centre. Sustainable Farm Families is a program we adapted and brought to Alberta in 2014, offering health assessments and education primarily to the farming community. We are now excited to announce that we have adapted this program once again and are now able to offer it to all Rural Albertans.

At this time, we would like to offer to bring one of our workshops to you. Research into the state of rural health has identified several health and well-being disadvantages faced by rural people which negatively impact their quality of life. The Sustainable Farm Families Rural Health Initiative aims to remedy many of these disadvantages by providing rural Albertans who participate in this program with 3 annual, in-depth physical & mental health assessments. In addition to these health assessments, participants are educated about each aspect of the assessment to ensure they fully understand each of their measurements and know how to better manage their health and well-being. Those who participate in this program are only asked to commit 1 hour of their time each year over the course of the 3-year program. Through our adaptations we are following all Covid restrictions policies and procedures.

The preventative approach used by the Sustainable Farm Families Rural Health Initiative takes seemingly healthy people living in rural communities and seeks to either uncover undiagnosed conditions or confirm their healthy status. Since 2014, the Farm Safety Centre has delivered over 130 SFF workshops to more than 1,200 participants across the province. Participant feedback from our external evaluations have identified that 97% of SFF participants felt the workshops were a good investment of their time and that 92% recommended the program to others.

Please see the poster below for more information and booking options or reply directly back to this email. Thank you for your time and hope you have a wonderful day.

Rural Health Initiative



Research into the state of rural health has identified several health and well-being disadvantages faced by rural people which negatively impact their quality of life. The Sustainable Farm Families Rural Health Initiative aims to remedy many of these disadvantages by providing rural Albertans who participate in this program with 3 annual, in-depth physical & mental health assessments. In addition to these health assessments, participants are educated about each aspect of the assessment to ensure they fully understand each of their measurements and know how to better manage their health and well-being. Those who participate in this program are only asked to commit 1 hour of their time each year over the course of the 3-year program.

The preventative approach used by the Sustainable Farm Families Rural Health Initiative takes seemingly healthy people living in rural communities and seeks to either uncover undiagnosed conditions or confirm their healthy status. Since 2014, the Farm Safety Centre has delivered over 130 SFF workshops to more than 1,200 participants across the province. Participant feedback from our external evaluations have identified that 97% of SFF participants felt the workshops were a good investment of their time and that 92% recommended the program to others.

What you can expect in your one-on-one personal health assessment with our Registered Nurses:

- Blood Pressure
- Cholesterol
- Metabolic Age
- Visceral Fat
- Body Mass Index
- Muscle Mass
- Basal Metabolism
- Body Water Percentage
- Bone Density
- Mental Health
- Blood Sugar
- Diabetic Risk
- Mental Health Assessment
- Oxygen Saturation
- Eyesight

SFF workshops are currently being delivered in rural communities throughout Alberta. For more information about this program or to schedule a workshop for your community or organization please contact Keylan Kado. If you would like to register for an existing workshop in your community, please visit www.abfarmsafety.com.

Keylan Kado | Program Manager
Sustainable Farm Families™ Alberta
programs@abfarmsafety.com
Office: (403) 752-4585 | Cell: (403) 330-3967

Amanda Kihn

From: Program Manager <programs@abfarmsafety.com>
Sent: March 18, 2021 12:05 PM
To: Amanda Kihn
Subject: Farm Safety Centre Rural Health Initiative

Hello Amanda,

Thank you for getting back to us. As a host of one of the workshops, the biggest thing for us is needing someone from the hosting group to help champion the cause. For example to help push and spread the word of the workshop to fill up the day. We can take up to 27 people per workshop. So with some ones help we would like to fill all 27 appointments. We would do what we can to help facilitate that and send you as many links or posters needed, we would use our social media as well. As for the assessments they are done 1 on 1 at whatever venue we are at. Provided that we can accommodate 3 separate rooms for privacy and also to be within Covid Restrictions. Our new adapted programs we will set up 27 appointments through the day for people to come in, so there is never more than 8 people in the venue at one time. Participants are only there for up to 1 hour each year of the 3 year program. We are even exploring the idea of blocking 2 hour spots if 2 adults from the same household want to do it together. All our nurses will have proper PPE (personal protective equipment) and we will also provide PPE for all participants. We are looking to move forward with the program throughout the province by mid-April of this year.

Covid has impacted the program a lot and this is why we have adapted to this new delivery approach. In the previous years we would ask participants to give up a whole day. They would come in early in the morning and do their health assessments, then we would gather together as a group of 25 to 30 participants to go over their numbers and what they mean. Then we would have lunch and after spend the afternoon as a group doing some health education and finish about 430 in the afternoon. In the old program the health assessments would only take about 10 min to do. With the new approach each participant will have the time to go over their numbers one on one with the Registered Nurse, ask any questions and discuss any concerns and then work on a action plan made specific for each participant.

Being that you are a county we have 2 different approaches we are looking at. The first is that if you wanted to host it and open it for all those that live in your county is one option. The other option is more of a corporate look into it doing it for the staff and employees of the county. We have a history of doing both such as a Ag. Society but have also done it for the Board for our local County.

There is no cost to it because right now we are funded through the governments CAP program. In the past we have had organizations have helped in some way or another. Some organizations donate the venue, when needed some donated catering (not necessary now due to new adapted delivery). Other organizations have donated a portion of the delivery cost or even the whole portion. We do not push or ask specifically for any payment for each workshop and you or the participants are not obligated in anyway to pay for the workshops. If any donations are made we will issue charitable receipts.

Thanks again for responding back and if this is something you might want to pursue or have any other questions please feel free to reach out.

Keylan Kado



6.5

March 18th, 2021

To Whom it May Concern,

The Original Grazing School for Women is an annual event held in northeastern Alberta. This event attracts women from Alberta and Saskatchewan and promotes sustainable agriculture, long-term livestock management strategies, environmental education and networking with like-minded women. The Grazing School has been a very successful and popular event for the past 18 years.

Like so many others, the challenges faced surrounding COVID-19 were also felt by the Grazing School for Women Organizing Committee. We still wanted to bring the same level of education to our ladies, and in response the committee hosted 2 webinars in 2020 in place of the in-person school.

The Original Grazing School for Women is a partnership between Cows and Fish: Alberta Habitat Management Society, Beaver County, M.D. of Bonnyville, Lamont County, M.D. of Provost, M.D. of Wainwright, County of Two Hills, Smoky Lake County and the County of Vermilion River. The committee is busy planning a 2021 Grazing School. We are planning a 3-part webinar series in June that will cover grazing management, dugouts and shelterbelt establishment and we are optimistic that we will follow up our webinars with a fall field day.

Sponsorship is needed for the 2021 Grazing School. Sponsorship in the form of cash (ranging from \$250 to \$2000.00) or in-kind donation (door prize/gift) will ensure that a unique and memorable event is developed. The committee will work with cash sponsors to ensure dollars provided are directed to areas that best fit the sponsors needs. As a sponsor the organization will receive recognition in all materials published for the event, including, posters, brochures, proceedings, registration packages and on the Original Grazing School for Women website.

If you have any questions, please contact Janice Boden at 780-207-0560 or by email jboden@mdbonnyville.ab.ca. Sponsorship cheques can be mailed to:

Janice Boden

5203 51st Ave

Bonnyville, AB T9N 2A8

Please make cheques payable to the Original Grazing School for Women.

Thank you for taking the time to consider sponsoring the Original Grazing School for Women.

Sincerely,

Tanis Ponath

Grazing School for Women Committee



6.6

March 30, 2021

RE: Provincial ASB Conference

Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee,

Saddle Hills County Agricultural Service Board (ASB) would like to express its dissatisfaction with the January 21st, 2021 Provincial Conference. ASB's play an extremely important role in the sustainability of agriculture within the province, and without valid concerns that we can unite over, we may not be taken seriously. During the conference, there were comments made that were intended in a joking manner but came off very crude and inappropriate. When Provincial Officials and Ministers are in attendance, we should be holding ourselves to a high level of professionalism if we want our voices to be heard and taken seriously.

We understand that organizing large events via online platforms can be challenging, but what unfolded that day was unacceptable. We believe unnecessary amounts of time were spent on items that only required a few minutes. The resolutions session should have lasted an hour or so, not almost three. Having two separate resolutions regarding the continued registration of 2% Liquid Strychnine exhausted copious amounts of time. Calling for unnecessary "Friendly Amendments" on matters of mutual concern simply take away time that could be used for more effective matters.

Saddle Hills County ASB has been effective in sending letters to the Minister and getting timely responses. Therefore, we often don't participate in sending resolutions forward. For matters of mutual concern, we believe it is important for Provincial ASB's to come together through the resolution process.

We would like to encourage the ASB Provincial Committee to investigate more efficient and effective options to compile mutual concerns from the agricultural community, so we can continue to play an effective role in the sustainability of agriculture within the province, and have our voice heard.

Respectfully,

Adam Fitzpatrick
Saddle Hills County, Agricultural Service Board Chair

cc: Alberta Agricultural Service Boards
The Association of Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen

Junction of Highway 49 and Highway 725, RR 1, Spirit River, Alberta, Canada, T0H 3G0
Phone: 780-864-3760 | Fax: 780-864-3904 | Toll Free: 1-888-864-3760



April 6, 2021

Mr. Dan Gawalko, Chair
Agricultural Service Board
Smoky Lake County
Box 310
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

Dear Mr. Gawalko:

Re: Field Visits 2021

The Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Program Team is co-ordinating 15 field visits across Alberta this year, including a visit to your municipality. The purpose of our visit is to strengthen our relationships with ASBs and to fulfill recommendations made by the Office of the Auditor General. This is a unique opportunity for the ASB to highlight programs, accomplishments, and meet with provincial ASB Program staff. In the past, ASBs have felt the visits were beneficial as there are often significant learning opportunities discovered, both by the municipality and by provincial ASB staff.

We would like to schedule a date to meet with the ASB between June and mid-September 2021. We know this is a busy time of year for ASB programs, but, as the objective of our visit is to see your program results, this is most successful when programs are operating.

In regards to Covid-19, our ASB team will comply with provincial as well as any local municipal Covid-19 physical distancing rules in effect on the day of the Field Visit. To ensure compliance, we will work closely with your Agricultural Fieldmen to ensure our team has discussed these protocols and made any necessary modifications to the visit prior to arrival.

A typical field visit is a full day process starting with a short meeting (approximately one hour) with your ASB members, followed by an office and field tour with your Agricultural Fieldman. The primary focus of the field visit is to tour the municipality to see examples of programs implemented under the Legislative and Resource Management Funding Streams of the ASB Grant Program. The field visit focuses on the outcomes and deliverables of your ASB program and we may request to see outcomes of particular programs as part of the field visit. We have also included a "Frequently Asked Questions" document with this letter that provides a general overview of the field visit process. If you have any questions regarding the field visit, please

Mr. Gawalko
April 6, 2021
Page Two

contact Alan Efetha (Provincial ASB Specialist) by telephone: 403-381-5852 or by e-mail: alan.efetha@gov.ab.ca.

Please arrange a time for us to come visit with your ASB. Once you have chosen the date that works best for your field visit please contact Alan, as he will be coordinating the dates for the 15 field visits scheduled this year.

We look forward to the opportunity to connect with you this summer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Doug Macaulay". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Doug Macaulay, Manager
Agricultural Service Board Program

Enclosure

cc: Carleigh McMullin, Agricultural Fieldman

Field Visit FAQs

Why do you do field visits?

The ASB Program has been asked by the Auditor General to conduct a field visits approximately every five years to ensure that the grant dollars we allocate are supporting activities related to enforcement of delegated legislation and environmental extension activities. To accomplish this we conduct a field visit to that focuses on learning more about the ASB's enforcement and environmental programs.

How many field visits do you do every year?

Our goal is to do 15 field visits every year. We select three municipalities per region for a field visit annually. We will be doing 15 field visits in 2021.

What time of year will you come for the field visit?

The field visits are scheduled between late May and September.

What is the process for a field visit?

A field visit consists of two components: meeting with the ASB members and then a field tour with the Agricultural Fieldman.

We prefer to keep the meeting with the ASB members short to allow us to look at as many projects as possible. One to two hours is generally enough time for us to meet with the ASB members. This is their opportunity to ask questions regarding the program and to discuss any concerns.

We want to spend the majority of our time in the field looking at examples of your programs and accomplishments. We want to see examples of your inspection and control programs, environmental projects and anything that you do that is unique in your municipality. We will need time to stop and take pictures of the different projects you are currently working on.

We understand that it may not always be possible to visit with your ASB members as this is the busiest time of year for them. If this is the case, we will arrange to meet with the Fieldman during the spring /summer and then return in the winter to meet with ASB members as needed.

Who will be coming to do our field visit?

A member of the Crop Assurance Programming Section plans to attend every field visit. In some instances another AF staff member may attend the field visit. For example, Plant Bee Health Surveillance Section members have expressed interest in attending some of the field visits to gain a better understand the role of ASBs and agricultural fieldmen.

Should my ASB members come on the “field” portion of the visit?

It is up to each individual ASB to decide whether or not the ASB members come for the “field” portion of the visit.

What will you be looking for?

The purpose of a field visit is to be able to provide proof to the Auditor General that ASBs are using the ASB Grant dollars allocated to them to support programs related to enforcement of delegated legislation and environmental extension. This means we want to see if you have inspection, enforcement and control programs in place related to the *Agricultural Pest Act*, *Soil Conservation Act* and *Weed Control Act* and that you are prepared to assist with the *Animal Health Act*. We will also ask questions to see if you are in compliance with duties related to the *Agricultural Service Board Act*.

For example, questions we may ask:

- Did you provide a report of your activities to your council? What date did you report to council?
- Has the municipality appointed appeal committees for the Acts you are delegated to enforce?
- Do you have policies in place for administering the Acts you are delegated to enforce?

We will provide you with a checklist in advance of the field visit that outlines the requested documents which includes the examples listed below. If possible we are requesting that you send copies in advance of your visit to allow as much time as possible to see examples of your programs and projects.

- Records for your inspection and spraying programs
- Newsletters or other advertisements for extension events you hosted
- Policies
- Form 7 certificates
- Appointment of inspectors
- Inspector ID cards
- Letters issued for enforcement

Typical Field Visit Activities

- Meet in the office to review maps and data related to inspection and application programs
 - Take pictures or get copies of notices issued, maps for spraying programs, examples of newsletters or advertisements for extension events
 - Look at AIMS/other programs that collect data for inspection programs
 - Copies of policies that you work under
 - Certification (i.e. Form 7) or identification
- Tour the shop to look at equipment for programs
 - Herbicide storage
 - Toxicant storage
 - Rental equipment yard
- Meet with inspectors and other ASB Program staff
 - Inspectors may be asked to produce their identification
- Road tour:
 - Look at areas where roadside vegetation program has been completed
 - Roadside seeding
 - Biocontrol projects
 - Fields where notices have been issued/enforcement completed
 - Environmental projects
 - Solar water demonstration sites
 - Riparian sites
 - Bioengineering projects
 - Ag plastics recycling
 - Other activities your ASB may be involved in
 - Tankloader sites
 - Water pipeline
 - Any other project related to enforcement of the Acts or included on your ASB Strategic Plan
 - Problems you are currently managing
 - Areas where a problem has been successfully managed
 - Unique programs/projects you are working on
 - Areas that are unique to your municipality