



## **Media Release – For Immediate Release Monday, June 19, 2017**

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### **Commercial and industrial businesses encouraged to participate in Landscaping Recognition Program**

The Planning and Development department is launching a Landscaping Recognition Program for commercial and industrial businesses in the County this summer. The Program's objective is to encourage higher levels of landscaping cooperation among new and existing businesses, and it features a contest to recognize and celebrate the lot that best meets the landscaping standards set out by the County's Land Use Bylaw.

The winner will be selected by the County Landscaping Committee, consisting of Reeve Leanne Beaupre, Councillor Daryl Beeston and other County staff, based on the following criteria:

- Use of landscaping design principles from the County's Land Use bylaw;
- Shows effective year round maintenance;
- Shows effective use of trees, shrubs, and/or perennial planting;
- Makes use of native vegetation;
- Is an industrial or commercial business located within the County.

According to Nick Lapp, Director of Planning and Development, "just by participating, the business wins. This is because effective landscaping enhances property values, creates a healthier and cleaner work environment for employees and customers, ensures the lot is complementary to the streetscape and area character, respects environmental values, and is self-sustaining, low maintenance and reduces overall business costs."

To be eligible to participate, the business must first be nominated. Nominations will be accepted starting July 4, 2017, which is when the form will be available on the County website and at the Community Services Building, the Dunes Fire Hall, the County Administration Building, and from participating businesses.

Nominations will close on August 31, 2017, and a winner will be chosen within one week of this date.

The contest winner will receive a free advertisement in local media outlets, a plaque, a staff barbeque, a write-up in the County Connections newsletter, and an advertisement on a banner that will be used by the County at various events throughout 2017 and 2018.

"In addition to the prizes awarded to the winning business, all participants will receive free advertising and promotion. This includes valuable space on the County's website and frequent mention on County social media pages," continued Lapp.



For Program information, to learn more about the contest participants, and to access a nomination form starting July 4, go to [www.countygp.ab.ca/bestlandscaping](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/bestlandscaping). To view the County's Land Use bylaw, go to [www.countygp.ab.ca/LUB](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/LUB).

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**Media Contact:**

Nick Lapp  
Director of Planning and Development  
780-532-9722