

# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



An Initiative Designed to Keep YOU Better Informed of Council Decisions and Initiatives

**November 30, 2015**

**Wildfire Mitigation Strategy** – Council approved the Wildfire Mitigation Strategy draft presented by Administration. The wildfire mitigation strategy is a formal plan that outlines strategies to minimize the risk of wildfires on crown and other lands within the County. This plan recommends public education, communications and close partnerships with all main stakeholders including Alberta Environment and Parks (formerly Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development), private landowners, community groups, and neighbouring municipalities to apply FireSmart tactics to reduce the risk of wildfire, or if there is a wildfire, to reduce the risk of loss of life and damage to infrastructure.

**Pursuit of Excellence** – City of Grande Prairie Councillors Lorne Radbourne and Kevin O’Toole on behalf of the Pursuit of Excellence Committee requested the County fund the Pursuit of Excellence initiative in the amount of \$10,000 per year for three years. Pursuit of Excellence is a program that provides coaches, officials, athletes and sport organizations who live within a 100 km radius of Grande Prairie with funding assistance and training opportunities to achieve excellence in their chosen sport. The program also aims to further develop sport and showcase the strong partnerships within the region. Council deferred the funding request to budget deliberations.

**Development Permit** – Council approved the development permit subject to specific conditions for two accessory buildings for Kakwa Contracting Operation Ltd. located within the Rural Industrial – Direct Control (RM-DC) District on Lot 1, Block 1, Plan 142 4520; Pt. NW-24-70-13-W6M.

**Hawker Business Park Water Line Project** – Administration provided Council with an update on the Hawker Business Park Water Line Project where developers have requested \$2.5 million in funding to install municipal water services to the Hawker Business Park located east of the Hamlet of Clairmont adjacent to Highway 43 and Range Road 51. Council will determine whether this funding request will be approved in budget deliberations. Administration has confirmed the line will service a significant land base recovery of the County’s investment is possible.

**Developed Trail Survey Results** – Parks and Recreation Manager Megan Schur presented the results of the Developed Trails Survey this summer under them. The survey was available for the public to complete online and through hard copy. Nearly 80 users completed the survey. Some of the key findings revealed that the majority of trail users are from the City. As well, users would like the Wapiti Dunes Trail System extended and other trails in the County connected to others existing trail systems, more unpaved/natural terrain trails developed, and additional waste and dog waste receptacles placed along the trail system.

**Alberta Job Grant** – Zelda Behuniak, Workforce Consultant for the Alberta Ministry of Jobs, Skills, Training and Labour made a presentation about the new Canada-Alberta Job Grant, Workforce Partnerships, Summer Temporary Employment Program, and the Job Creation Incentive Program. These programs aim to closely collaborate with training and labour stakeholders, along with other orders of government to help ensure the Alberta’s workforce has the right skills and resiliency to fully participate in a dynamic economy.

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**Clairmont Agricultural Society Annual Christmas Supper** – Council approved the contribution of \$250 to the Clairmont Agricultural Society's Annual Christmas Supper that's taking place on December 5<sup>th</sup> at the Clairmont Hall.

**2016-2017 Preliminary budget deliberations will be taking place at 10 a.m. on December 1-3, 2015.**

**Next Council meeting will take place on December 7, 2015.**

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