

# Council Highlights

## Delegations

### Canola Council of Canada: Clubroot

- Mr. Dan Orchard from the Canola Council of Canada made a presentation to Council regarding clubroot. Clubroot is a common disease that affects the roots of crops like canola, eventually causing the plant's death.
- There is no cure for clubroot, and the best way to control its spread is by monitoring and isolating contaminated soil.
- Council thanked Mr. Orchard for his presentation and accepted the briefing as information.

### Lakeland Interpretative Society: Visitor Information Centre

- Ms. Miranda Romkey, Director of the Lac La Biche Regional Museum & Discovery Centre, and Ms. Marie Warawa, Chair of the Lakeland Interpretative Society, gave a presentation on the Visitor Information Centres in Lac La Biche County.
- Ms. Romkey and Ms. Warawa discussed the number of visitors to the County, as well as the hours that centres in Lac La Biche and Plamondon stayed open to accommodate tourists. Because of the small number of visitors to Plamondon, they suggested that installing a tourism stand for brochures could eliminate the need for a Plamondon Visitor Information Centre.
- Council accepted the presentation as information.

## Urgent Matters

### Retail Gap Analysis Grant

- The Government of Alberta is offering a Retail Gap Analysis grant, which provides funding for municipalities to study which business types they may be missing in their communities. This information could help the County and entrepreneurs diversify the economy.
- The Retail Gap Analysis will cost approximately \$52,000. Council approved matching the Government of Alberta's funding of \$27,235. Administration will proceed with the project.

## New Business

### Permanent 'No Spray' Signage

- The County monitors and controls noxious and prohibited weeds through the County's annual spray program, which is governed by the Integrated Vegetation Management Policy and Procedure. However, some landowners request that ditches in front of their properties remain unsprayed because of potential for leaching into soil. This is especially important for organic farmers, who need to keep herbicides away from their crops.
- Administration modified the policy and procedure to include purchasing permanent 'no spray' signage, which will save resources over the temporary signage that staff have installed in the past.
- Council approved the revised policy and procedure. They also directed Administration to revise section six of the policy with more specific timelines for weed control follow-ups.



## Regular Council Meeting March 27, 2018

### Waste Conversion Facility: Pre-Application Proposal Form for Alberta Innovates

- At December 19, 2017's Regular Council Meeting, Council allocated \$2 million in the 2018 Capital Budget to pursue a Waste Conversion Facility in Lac La Biche County. This money serves as a demonstration of the County's commitment to Phase 1 of the project, subject to the County's ability to obtain other grant opportunities and partners.
- As a first step, the County will submit a pre-application proposal to Alberta Innovates, a research agency. An Alberta Innovates Committee will review the proposal to determine if the project will proceed.
- Council directed Administration to submit the application.

### Main Street Revitalization

- The County's new Tourism Marketing & Economic Development Coordinator is working on an incentive program to help business owners revitalize main street Lac La Biche and Plamondon.
- Council directed administration to begin the process of main street visualization for both urban centres, and to bring that information back to Council for review.